



GLOBAL IMPLEMENTATION SOCIETY

Promoting the development & integration of effective implementation, improvement, and scaling practices in human service settings to improve outcomes for children, families, individuals, and communities worldwide.

Member Newsletter

November 2020, Issue #2

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Just over a year ago, 450 implementation enthusiasts gathered in Glasgow, Scotland for the 2019 Implementation Conference. After a full day of pre-conference masterclasses, the conference was opened with a reception for delegates in Glasgow's historic and ornate City Chambers, with the songs of a Scottish balladeer, a welcome from Glasgow's Lord Provost, and bagpipes to send us off with colleagues for dinner throughout the Centre City. Implementation researchers, practitioners, and policy makers, from around the world, connected with people for whom implementation is an area of significant interest or deep passion.

The world has shifted since then. Many of us have experienced more than six months of restrictions, limiting our "normal lives." Most of us have settled into new ways of working and connecting that comply with physical distancing. And as expected, with disruption, comes creation. We are finding new and innovative ways to continue with our implementation research, our implementation practice, and our implementation learning.

Across the membership of the Global Implementation Society, we are hearing about creative responses to 'doing implementation' under Covid-19 conditions. We have members who are enhancing their teaching, coaching, and data collection, as they make more effective use of virtual technologies. We also have members reaching out to 'thought partners' for guidance and strategies to support sustainment of implementation efforts in the midst of political and social turmoil.

As a global organisation, we are learning how to make better use of virtual technologies to bring us together for learning and thinking and acting is a priority. Members are engaged in various way to share work and learning, to connect and seek perspectives to identify new solutions, and to contribute to the Society and the field of implementation science.

So, we would like to ask you --

- *Would you like to be involved in shaping the future of the Global Implementation Society? Learn more about the Society's committees by going to the 'About' tab on the [GIS website](#).*
- *Do you have an idea for a manuscript to be submitted to the official journal of the Global Implementation Society, the journal of Global Implementation Research and Applications? [Learn more](#)*
- *Would you like to join or form a 'special implementation interest group? Reach out to the [Professional Learning Committee](#) to learn more about what's already forming or how to get something started.*
- *Would you like to be meeting with and learning from implementation enthusiasts in your part of the world! Reach out to the [Membership and Communications committee](#). They can help you get connected with your local network, if one already exists, or think with you about how to start a regional implementation network near you.*
- *Do you have colleagues who you think may be interested in joining the Global Implementation Society? Encourage them to [join us](#). And if your colleagues live in the Global South, and the membership fees are a barrier to joining, please contact the Membership and Communications committee, as GIS seeks to overcome barriers, to be an inclusive and welcoming community that reflects the diversity of our global population.*

This is a complex world, and it is going to take all of us, working together, to make the socially significant improvements we seek for and with the citizens of our communities and the broader global community.

Thank you for your contribution to the Global Implementation Society.

Warm regards,

Melissa Van Dyke, Board President
Global Implementation Society

COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES

If you are interested in volunteering to serve on a committee, contact one of the co-chairs using the link in their name.



Co-chairs: [Aaron Sawyer](#) & [Kea Turner](#)

The PLR Committee is hosting a webinar on scaling up interventions on November 12 (see below) with Laura Ghiron, Alexis Ntabona, and Charles Kabiswa. The speakers will discuss their experiences with the Expand Net Framework as a tool to promote intervention scale in Uganda and DRC.

The PLR committee is also working on planning for the [GIC 2021 conference](#). We have secured the keynote speaker and most invited workshop speakers for the conference. Our event coordination team, Kesselman-Jones, is in the process of posting speaker information. The call for abstracts for visual storyboard sessions is live!



Co-chairs: [Paul Tortolani](#) & [John Øvretveit](#)

The Professional Standards Committee is providing two sessions at the Global Implementation Conference on using the newly published Implementation Facilitator Competencies. The first will be on self-assessing your competencies and the second will focus on the conditions and developmental experiences that enable facilitators to develop their competencies.

The committee is also beginning work on a guide for self-assessing your facilitation competencies.

Lastly, a webinar is being developed on the competencies that will be hosted in early December. (See below)



Implementation shapes global quality improvement and change efforts in differing disciplines and settings. Participants in these endeavors can now learn from each other's research, experiences and perspectives through the official journal of the GIS, Global Implementation Research and Applications.

The journal:

- Is for consumers and stakeholders, practitioners and policy makers, administrators, purveyors, and researchers from any discipline or setting
- Seeks rigorous studies, perspectives, experiences, commentaries, book reviews and other types of submissions from any discipline, global region or setting.
- Offers support to potential authors for whom English is not their primary language, as well as support for APA formatting and style.
- Quarterly publication begins in 2021.
- Support provided for whom English is not their primary language, as well as support for APA formatting and style.

Free access for GIS members!



Co-chairs: [Bindu Patel](#), [Peggy McElgunn](#), or [Janey McMillen](#)

The Committee has been busy these past few months increasing the communication that members receive.

Members should now be receiving monthly email communications in the middle of each month providing updates on major activities of GIS, member spotlights, and information on implementation science-related events, employment and fellowship opportunities, and resources. If you aren't receiving these emails, please let us know by sending an [email](#).

We have also been establishing updated social media accounts (special thanks to member Kennedie Clay!) so please visit GIS on twitter, LinkedIn, and Facebook for the latest on GIS happenings!

We are continuing to work on updating the GIS website and on increasing membership and its benefits.



Engage with the Journal

To contribute expertise as a manuscript reviewer, use the QR code to the left or go to <https://forms.gle/hHC7FCLdM7ZhWvzW9>

Submit a manuscript



A GLOBAL VIRTUAL EVENT

Addressing equity in implementation:

Building capacity in research, practice, and policy across the globe

May 3 - 6, 2021

Global Implementation Conference

GIS is hosting its first Global Virtual Event on May 3-6, 2021! The Global Implementation Conference (GIC) is one of the world's leading implementation conferences. Hosted biennially by the GIS, the conference aims to promote implementation science, practice, and policy and their active application in human services to contribute to socially significant benefits to people and society.

The theme for this conference is **ADDRESSING EQUITY IN IMPLEMENTATION: Building Capacity in Research, Practice and Policy Across the Globe**. We are currently finalizing a dynamic list of invited speakers for panelists and workshop leaders. You can learn more about some of the exciting presentations we have planned on the [GIC website](#).

Our hope is to maximize participation from across the globe and highlight the breadth and depth of implementation research, practice, and policy work that is creating impact in diverse fields, such as social work, mental health, education, public health, and medicine. We strongly encourage GIS members to submit an abstract for a virtual storyboard presentation. This format includes a visual abstract (like a poster), a 2-3-minute video summary, and opportunities to chat with other attendees. Submit your abstract before November 22

Submit an Abstract



GLOBAL IMPLEMENTATION SOCIETY - LATIN AMERICA INITIATIVE

In an effort to strengthen implementation science, across the global south, GIS has begun to create Regional Networks in Latin America, Africa and Asia. The first virtual networking event occurred on August 25th, 2020 with 101 participants from 13 Latin American countries. The keynote speaker was Dr. Dean Fixsen who presented on the adaptation and fidelity dimensions using examples related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next step for the Latin American network (GIS LATAM) is to meet in November to work through plans on how to establish a regional GIS initiative using inputs from the August event. Current themes include the characterization of Latin American practices, policies and research informed by implementation science, context specific factors for adapting evidence-based programs, how to address participatory methodologies for community engagement and capacity building throughout the region. It is also important to mention that as part of the GIS-LATAM initiative there is a new "special interest group in south to south collaboration". If you want to participate in GIS-LATAM email GIS-LATAM@globalimplementation.org

UPCOMING GIS WEBINARS

There are only two webinars remaining in 2020:

November 12th, 8:00 am - 9:30 am PST

- Title: Applying the ExpandNet/WHO framework, tools, and approach to

support scale up of health and development interventions in Uganda and the DRC

- Speakers: Laura Ghiron & Alexis Ntabona

Summary: This webinar focuses on strengthening development impact by ensuring that evidence-based interventions are sustainably scaled up to serve more people and influence policy and program development.

Members of ExpandNet - which is a global network of health and development professionals that seek to advance the practice and science of scale up - will share a systematic framework and approach for scaling up evidence-based interventions across a range of development sectors.

[REGISTER](#)

December 4, 2020, 10:00-11:30 am EST

- Title: Competencies for Implementation Facilitators
- Speakers: John Øvretveit & Paul Tortolani

Summary: Whether you are an Implementation facilitator, scientist, researcher, policy or program specialist, this webinar is certain to help you better understand the important qualities and strengths necessary for implementation facilitation. It will help participants self-assess their own competencies in addition to supporting managers to recruit staff or contract services to facilitate implementation. Please review the GIS Competencies for Implementation Facilitators. [REGISTER](#)



MEMBER RESOURCE

The GIS Competencies and Standards Committee has recently released the [GIS Competencies for Implementation Facilitators](#). The competencies can be used to self-assess strengths and weaknesses in five key domains:

1. knowledge about evidence-based intervention and implementation methods
2. diagnosis and data analysis
3. implementation teams
4. building relations and motivation
5. facilitating change

The competencies were developed to help those in low resource settings at the start of their implementation experience ("beginner") as well as for "intermediate" and "more expert" implementation facilitators. The competencies can be used by multiple stakeholders such as managers recruiting staff to facilitate implementation, developers of programs and courses for practical implementers, and funding agencies needing to understand the capacities necessary for innovation implementation. A webinar on the competencies will be held December 4 from 10:00-11:30 am EST.



Global Implementation Society

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The Global Implementation Society (GIS) promotes and establishes coherent and collaborative approaches to implementation practice, science, and policy. The GIS promotes the development and integration of effective implementation, improvement, and scaling practices in human service settings in order to improve outcomes for children, families, individuals, and communities worldwide.

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