



INTERNATIONAL  
SOCIETY FOR PROSTHETICS  
AND ORTHOTICS

# ISPO Biennium report 2015 - 2017



[www.ispoint.org](http://www.ispoint.org)

16<sup>th</sup> ISPO World Congress  
Cape Town, 8-11 May 2017





# ISPO World Congress 2017 Cape Town



Scientific Programme:

**21** instructional courses

**57** symposia

**550** scientific papers & posters



Key Lectures:

Knud Jansen Lecture:  
Claude Tardif

IC2A Motivational Lecture:  
Giles Duley

Keynote Speakers: Bob Gailey,  
Saeed Zahedi, Malbona Matsoso



Prizes:

The *first* Blatchford Team Award  
Forchheimer Prize

World Congress Best Paper  
and Poster Prizes



Specials:

WHO GATE Symposium  
Launch of WHO Standards of  
Prosthetics and Orthotics Service  
Provision





## President's Foreword

It is my pleasure to present the Biennium Report for the period 2015-2017 that culminates with the Society's flagship event: the ISPO World Congress held biennially, this time in Cape Town, South Africa. I would like to also take the opportunity to welcome all the delegates who are attending the 16<sup>th</sup> ISPO World

Congress in Cape Town. The highlights of the congress are seen on the opposite page in this document.

**“Lofty Oaks from Small Acorns grow”**  
(Lewis Dunscombe, 1711-1730)

The Society started in 1970 with a few hundred members and 3 National Member Societies. Today, in its 47<sup>th</sup> year, it has around 3,500 members in over 100 countries and 71 National Member Societies – it is truly global and with it comes the responsibility to advance Prosthetic & Orthotic Services worldwide. We remain committed to this goal.

This is the first time that our World Congress is being held in the African continent. We have tried hard to have as much involvement with the clinical professions and the professional decision makers as possible, with the hope that our presence here will make a positive impact on the services now and in the future - that there is a legacy of the visit and the World Congress, and plans for further development in the services in the whole continent. That is part of our strategic policy and global plans in the middle to long term. The launch of the ISPO-FATO Council is one such initiative to drive the collaboration and the services regionally, recognising that different parts of the world may have different priorities at any particular time and that the local developments may be at different stages in different parts of the world.

**“Sticks in a Bundle don't break”**  
(A Bondei Proverb)

The aims of the Society are similar to the WHO's flagship project launched over 3 years ago – the GATE initiative (Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology), and ISPO is a close collaborator with WHO. For the last 3-4 years, the Society has had an official relationship with WHO working closer together than ever before in its history.

The World Congress in Cape Town has a double symposium on its opening day with high-level speakers to re-enforce the GATE message. The WHO Standards for Prosthetic & Orthotics Services, developed with our collaboration and funded by USAID are also being launched at our World Congress. It is hoped to set and raise service standards on all continents.

The advocacy campaign #ISPOWER has helped establish closer collaboration with several NGOs in rehabilitation within our Open Board membership, reaching a total of 17 of the best established international organisations. This supports the WHO plans of 'Rehabilitation 2030 – A Call for Action' launched by WHO in Geneva a few months ago.

**“Education is the most powerful weapon that you can use to change to the world”**  
(Nelson Mandela, 1917-2007)

Education remains the main thrust of our established activities. For long, we have had Category I, II & III training, but it is essential to move along with current global needs and maintain standards internationally recognised and parallel to other disciplines, especially allied health professionals. To this effect the Education Standards Sub-committee is progressing with the update of the education standards, alongside the review of the P&O professions within the ILO Classification of Occupations. The Society remains the established leader in P&O education and training worldwide.

Our Scientific Committee may be our youngest standing committee, but has rapidly become one of its most active groups as illustrated by the list of projects in this report.

**“Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work”**  
(Vince Lombardi, 1913-1970)

The work, activities and achievements of our Society have been dependent on every individual member's efforts, however small that may have been. We are grateful to all and many more for their hard work, expertise and dedication - all working towards the Society's vision of a world where every person has an equal opportunity for full participation in society.

At the centre of all our work is the patient, user and friend. It is to acknowledge and reflect our dedication to them, that we have this year launched the IC2A Lecture in our congress opening ceremony.

I am humbled to have been given an opportunity to serve as the Society's President and am most grateful for your support over the years. I wish you and ISPO continued success in all its endeavours.

Best wishes,

**Rajiv Hanspal,**  
ISPO President  
April 2017



# Table of Contents

President's Foreword .....	3
ISPO's Vision and Mission .....	4

<b>Education</b>	<b>5</b>
ISPO Evaluation and Recognition of P&O Training Programs .....	6
New Standards for the Training of P&O Professionals .....	8
eLearning .....	9
Short Courses .....	10

<b>Exchange</b>	<b>12</b>
ISPO World Congress .....	12
Regional Meetings .....	14
Publications .....	16

<b>Support</b>	<b>18</b>
Advocacy .....	18
Collaboration .....	20

<b>Innovate</b>	<b>24</b>
ISPO Scientific Committee .....	24

<b>Society</b>	<b>26</b>
Membership .....	26
ISPO Member Society Activities .....	28
Structure of ISPO International .....	31
Outlook 2017-2019 .....	34

## **ISPO's Vision**

***ISPO contributes to a world where all persons have equal opportunity for full participation in society.***

## **ISPO's Mission**

*To improve the quality of life for persons who may benefit from prosthetic, orthotic, mobility and assistive technology by:*

- *Promoting multidisciplinary practice;*
- *Facilitating professional education to provide quality care;*
  - *Promoting research and evidence-based practice;*
  - *Facilitating innovative and appropriate technology;*
- *Fostering international collaboration and consensus;*
  - *Facilitating knowledge exchange.*

**[www.ispoint.org](http://www.ispoint.org)**

# Education



ISPO Education Committee Chair  
Bryan Malas

*As we come to the close of another biennium we pause to reflect on the activities of the education committee and lean forward in anticipation of what is in store for the next two years. The education committee continues to function with a Core Education Committee at the helm and supported by five subcommittees that include standards/guidelines, eLearning and Category subcommittees I, II and III. Recently the Global Educators Meeting (GEM) working group was formalized to support future GEM meetings. On-going activities continue to centre around P&O*

*Program evaluation and recognition and over the last two years included 38 site visits of P&O training programs across 24 countries. By far the greatest activity and attention this biennium has been focused on the development of new P&O training standards. These new standards will bring added clarity to the different levels of training, utilize more conventionally accepted terminology and incorporate a refined recognition process to improve the speed and delivery of the reporting process for training programs seeking consultation, first time recognition or ongoing recognition.*

*In this ensuing education section, you will be able to read an expanded description of current and upcoming activities. These activities would not be possible were it not for the efforts of the many volunteers that make up the Education Committee. I would like to personally thank them for their hard work and thank the ISPO membership for their continued support of the Education Committee.*

Bryan Malas

The ISPO Education Committee takes this opportunity to thank the evaluators that have been involved in ISPO activities during the biennium 2015-17:

Aziz Ahmad, Adama Amah, Nathalie Anglehart, Daniel Blocka, Monica Gisela Castaneda, Rowan English, Elaine Figgins, Anthony Francis, Daniel Frenking, Ritu Ghosh, Sepp Heim, Lise Hjelmstrom, Fred Holtkamp, Sisary Kheng, Hung-Hei Kwan, Aaron Leung, Catherine McConnel, Chathuranga Munasinghe, Nicolás Muñoz, Joseph Nagels, Desire Ngendahayo, Samuel Nkhoma, Marlo Ortiz, Achille Otou-Essono, Alain Plouffe, Wesley Pryor, Nerrollyn Ramstrand, Shin Sasaki, Bakht Sarwar, Christian Schlierf, Sandra Sexton, Harold Shangali, Claude Tardif, Catherine Vallée, Carlos Zelaya.

## ISPO Evaluation and Recognition of P&O Training Programs

On request, ISPO evaluates P&O education programmes and associated professional pathways worldwide against its standards for the training of prosthetics and orthotics professionals. Through a detailed revision of the entire training program, which includes assessments of the student entry requirements, teaching content, clinical training, quality and administrative procedures, ISPO determines a program's qualification to obtain ISPO Category I and II recognition. The Education Committee furthermore assists with the establishment and development of P&O training programs around the world by providing advice and expertise to governments, universities and other training institutions.

During biennium 2015-17 the ISPO activities around the evaluation and recognition of P&O education programs have continued to increase. To date, ISPO has granted recognition to over 50 P&O training programs and professional pathways across the world, resulting in over 3,800 graduates receiving an ISPO certificate that provides evidence of the quality of their education.

**Overall Status -  
Recognition of P&O  
Training Programs:**

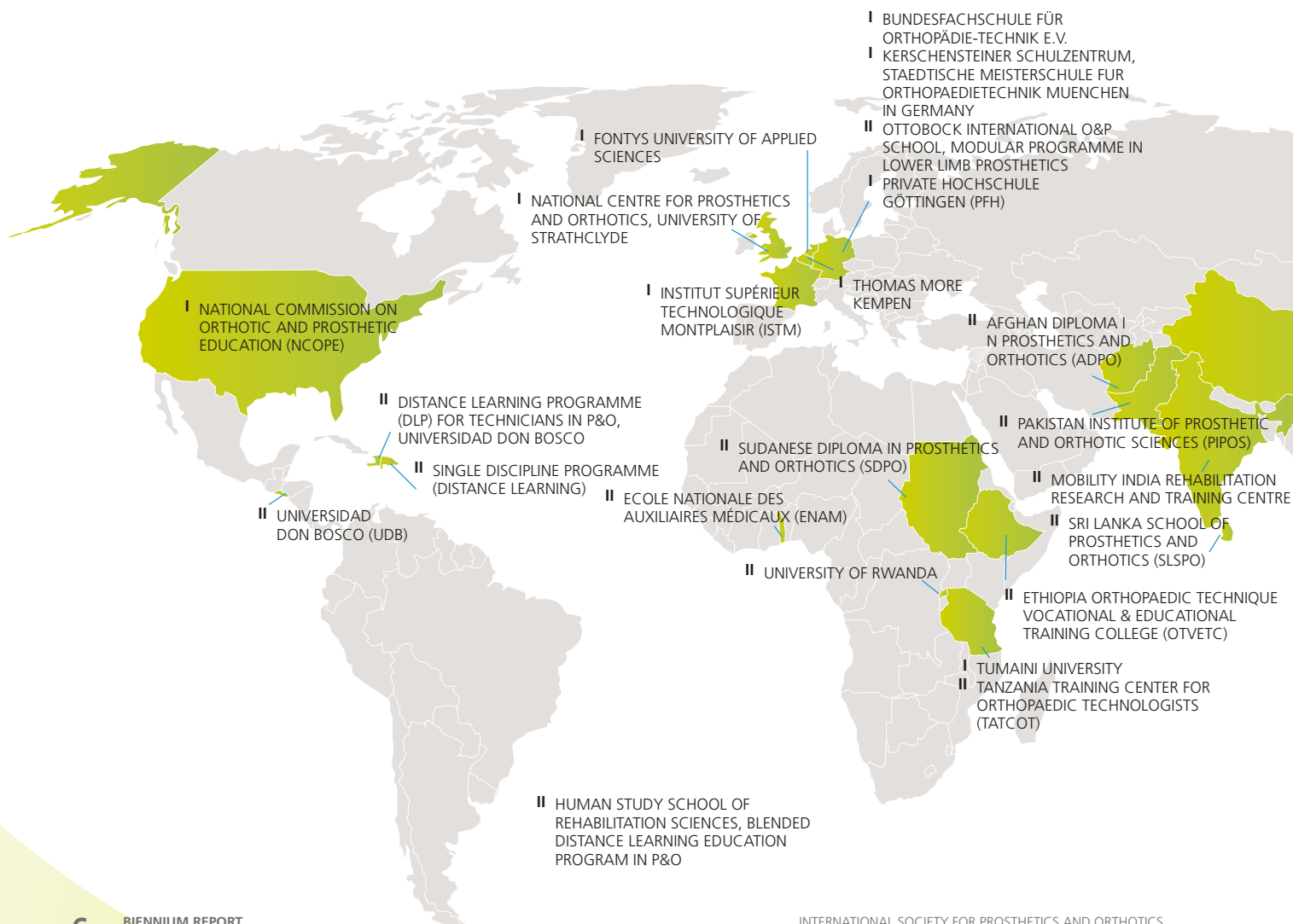
**17** Category I

**33** Category II

More than **3,900**  
graduates from ISPO-recognized  
training programs



Human study P&O Training Program



## Education Committee work during the Biennium 2015-17:



**38** onsite visits to P&O training programs in 24 countries



**16** Consultations



**13** renewed recognitions for Category I



**10** renewed recognitions for Category II



**2** newly recognized training programs

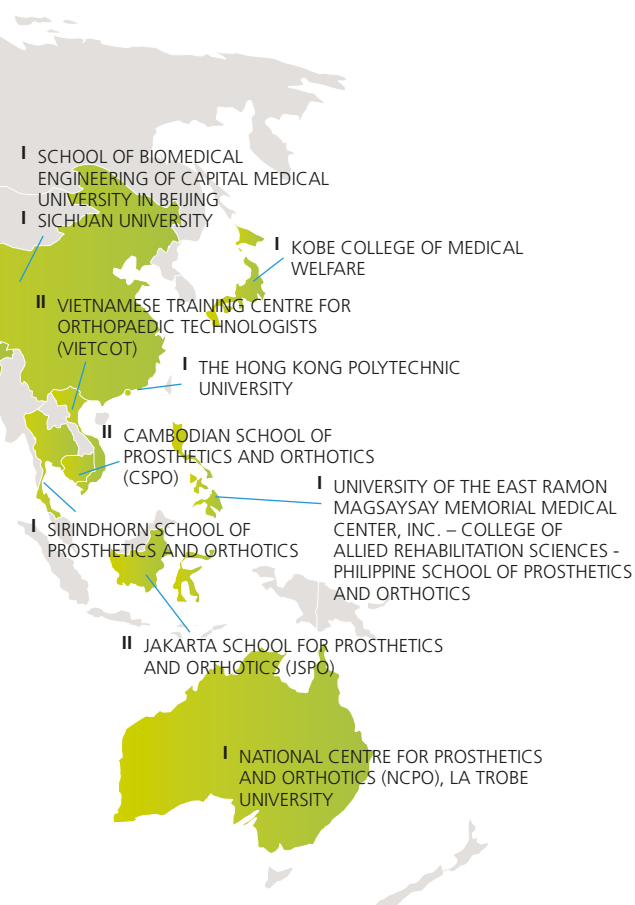


## School Profile: University of Rwanda

The Prosthetics and Orthotics Department was started in September 2011, with a vision to make the College of Medicine and Health Sciences a centre of excellence in the training and development of orthopaedic technologists not only in Rwanda, but also in the region.

The advanced Diploma Programme in Orthopaedic Technology has so far graduated 18 students, while 36 are currently enrolled. The full-time, 3-year course intends to direct students using learner-centred and problem-based approaches, besides practical demonstrations and clinical placements at various clinics and workshops in the country. The curriculum is competence-based, whereby the essential modules have been developed to fulfil the requirements to work as an Orthopaedic Technologist (ISPO Category II).

The course was granted ISPO-recognition as Category II training programme in June 2014, to be renewed in three years. To date it remains one of two ISPO-recognised programmes in the East African Region and is among the few accredited programmes in Africa, only 5 years since its inception. This milestone was a motivating factor to both the University and the students. Future plans include admitting international students, developing a Bachelor of Sciences Degree in Prosthetics and Orthotics, as well as developing a centre of excellence in Biomedical Engineering and E-Health with the help of the African Development Bank. The initial key programme areas include Prosthetics and Orthotics with the key mission to develop demand-driven programmes for social economic development, to create and transfer knowledge through research and innovation ecosystems, and to support service delivery.





## New Standards for the Training of P&O Professionals

ISPO has been working towards quality assurance in P&O services and education since its inception in 1970. In response to the challenges of developing an appropriately trained workforce to deliver P&O services, WHO and ISPO have established standards for the training of prosthetic/orthotic service providers, which have been in place since 1991.

Historically the P&O occupations have been classified into 3 Categories. These classifications have defined the profile of individual P&O occupations and have served as a benchmark for training programmes as well as an important catalyst for improvements in education and services delivery. As part of the ongoing review and revision of its standards, work towards **updating the established standards** began in 2010 and concluded into **the development of new standards**.



ISPO Standards Committee: Carson Harte, Christiane Rauch, Bryan Malas, Helen Cochrane, Rune Nilsen, Hung-Hei Kwan

Led by Carson Harte and Helen Cochrane, the ISPO Standards Subcommittee has followed a thorough multistep process to consult key stakeholders and inform recommendations to implement the following steps:

### Process of Development of ISPO P&O Training Standards:

- Surveys to membership and prosthetic/orthotic educators
- Focus groups with educators
- Literature review
- Review of ILO Standard Classification of Occupations
- Consultation with key stakeholders (e.g. WHO, USAID, ICRC, Exceed, HI)
- Pilot evaluation

The new Standards will be aligned to **the WHO Standards for P&O Service Provision**, which will be launched at the ISPO World Congress in Cape Town, South Africa in May 2017.





## eLearning



The ISPO **eLearning Lecture Series**, accessible through the members-only pages of the ISPO website, seeks to provide access to, and archive key lectures in broad discipline areas from around the world. Reflecting the Society's multidisciplinary emphasis, it promotes a balance of thematic areas, including lectures on research results, clinical findings, topics of general interest, and contributions from the industry. In biennium 2015-17, the series has been complemented with recordings of keynote speeches and lectures from the ISPO World Congress 2015 that took place in Lyon, France.

The EU Leonardo project **TrainOrthot\***, which has been successfully completed in 2013 with the development of a transnational online course designed to provide tailor-made vocational education and training for professionals in the field of foot pathology therapy, and was rolled out during biennium 2015-17. As one of the consortium partners in the project, ISPO assisted with the promotion of the **e-course on "Biomechanical Assessment of Foot Pathologies, Design and Manufacture of Orthotic Solutions"** which was targeted at prosthetists, orthotists and orthopaedic technologists. Two editions of the e-course were run in March 2015 (English) and October 2016 (Spanish).



## ISPO Global Educators Meeting 2018

Building on the success of the first ISPO Global Educators Meeting (GEM) that took place in June 2014 in Kobe, Japan, ISPO has started working on the second GEM, which will take place in September 2018 in Göttingen, Germany. Besides the main objectives to discuss, coordinate and share knowledge and best practices about P&O education-related activities, to strengthen and deepen the P&O profession globally through improved P&O education, and to enhance communication and collaboration between P&O schools across the globe, the GEM2018 will focus on the new ISPO training standards and the interrelated modified recognition process.



\* Project number: 2011-1-SK1-LEO05-02875.

The content of the publication is the sole responsibility of the publisher. The European Commission is not liable for any use that may be made of the information.

## Short Courses

Through Short Courses, ISPO provides teaching and training to professionals in the field of prosthetics and orthotics and related areas, with a special focus on emerging and developing countries. They provide an opportunity for ISPO members and professionals in general to keep abreast of current issues and professional standards for the care of people with physical disabilities.

In biennium 2015-17, five ISPO Short Courses were organized:

### Short Course on the Orthotic and Therapeutic Management of Stroke Patients:

September 2015 – Yangon, Myanmar

The ISPO Member Society in Myanmar and the Myanmar Society of Rehabilitation Medicine organized this four-day Short Course, comprised of theoretical presentations and hands-on workshops. With 62 participants, the course confirmed the effective result of a multi-disciplinary team approach in the management of stroke patients.



Roy Bowers demonstrates Orthotic fitting process



Judy Ranka demonstrates Occupational Therapy treatment

### Short Courses on the Orthotic Management of Cerebral Palsy:

November 2015 – Kigali, Rwanda

Organized by ISPO Rwanda, together with the College of Medicine and Health Sciences (University of Rwanda) and with the support of ISPO International, ISPO Sweden, Handicap International, CBM, Allard international and HVP Gatagara, this course gathered 90 participants from three East African countries and different districts of Rwanda. The program, consisted of two-day theoretical sessions and two-day workshops.



Participants during the workshop



ISPO faculty and local organisers in Rwanda

ISPO takes the opportunity to thank the Short Course faculty that have been delivering the ISPO Short Course during the biennium 2015-17:

Hans Arendzen, Jules Becher, Eline Bolster, Roy Bowers, Annemieke Buizer, Elizabeth Condie, Peter de Groot, John Fisk, Tom Gort, Ranganath Gangavelli, J.J.M. Geytenbeek, Olle Hjelmstrom, Nick Meijer, Niels Passchier, Karen Pavri, Judy Ranka, Sanjeev Sabharwal, Mark Smith, Els Spaargaren, Mirjam Van Eck, Mathew Varghese.



### November 2015 – Santander, Spain

The Spanish Children's Rehabilitation Society held a course that consisted of two-day theoretical session and one-day hands-on workshop, demonstrating different orthotic and therapeutic techniques in the management of cerebral palsy. Topics covered during the event included the prognosis for ambulation, treatment options or preparing a model of cast.



Short Course organizing team in Spain

### November 2016 - Kathmandu, Nepal

ISPO's partner Handicap International organized this Short Course which was attended by over 30 participants. The theoretical and practical trainings covered a wide range of topics and achieved the set objective to build up the comprehensive multidisciplinary team approach for the management of cerebral palsy.



Short Course organizing team in Nepal



Patient demonstration

### Short Course on Polio:

#### October 2016 – Dushanbe, Tajikistan

ISPO collaborated with the WHO Disability Rehabilitation Team in Tajikistan to organize a four-day intensive course on poliomyelitis rehabilitation management for 62 participants who, in their work as physical and occupational therapists, nurses, orthotists, psychiatrists and orthopaedic surgeons, are responsible for the management of polio in Tajikistan. 32 children and adults with polio participated in the training, which had as key recommendation to follow an integrated multidisciplinary approach to rehabilitation.



Short Course on Management of Polio in Tajikistan



Since its inception in 1970,  
ISPO has delivered

**74**

**Short Courses**

and Workshops on the following  
topics, amongst others:

- Lower Limb Amputation
- Neuropathic Disabilities
- Cerebral Palsy
- Stroke
- Poliomyelitis
- Club Feet



# Exchange

## ISPO World Congress 2015:



**4,500** participants



from **117** different countries



**3** keynote lectures



**280** oral presentations



**21** instructional courses



**55** symposia



over **250** poster presentations



**22** exhibitor workshops



**174** exhibitors



**25** travel grants

## ISPO World Congress

Since its inception in the early 1970s, ISPO has organized triennial and since 2013, biennial World Congresses around the globe. As ISPO's flagship meeting, the ISPO World Congress is a unique interactive forum where the global community of professionals involved in the care of persons in need of prosthetic, orthotic, mobility and assistive devices comes together to learn about the latest scientific and clinical advances, products, innovative technologies, designs and materials in prosthetic and orthotic care.

### ISPO World Congress 2015



Hosted from 22-25 June 2015 in Lyon by ISPO France led by Jean-Pierre Lissac, the 15<sup>th</sup> ISPO World Congress welcomed, with over 4,500 participants from 117 different countries,

the highest number of participants ever.

With the congress theme of **Assessment, Integration & Mobility** (AIM), the congress offered a unique platform for the P&O community to gather and enhance professional development through discussion and exchange.

The traditional Knud Jansen lecture, presented during the Congress Opening Ceremony, was delivered by Chapal Khasnabis, Technical Officer at the World Health Organization (WHO). He addressed assistive technology and the role it plays



*Forchheimer Prize Winners at Closing Ceremony*

and will continue playing in improving the lives of people with reduced mobility, and reflected on the WHO initiative of Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology (GATE).

The rich congress program comprised 3 keynote lectures delivered by Jules Becher, Jean Dubousset and Malcolm MacLachlan, 280 oral presentations, 21 instructional courses, 55 symposia, over 250 poster presentations, as well as 22 exhibitor workshops. In the attached exhibition, 136 companies and 38 non-commercial exhibitors presented their products and activities to the audience.

Best Paper and Poster Prizes were awarded in the categories of clinical treatment (Raoul Bongers), technology (Arezo Eshraghi), psychosocial science (Brian J. Hafner) and education (Ritu Ghosh, Vennila Masilamani), and the Forchheimer Prize was presented to Veerle Creylman and team from the KHKempen University College Geel for the most outstanding paper on objective clinical assessment, clinical evaluation or clinical measurement published in Prosthetics and Orthotics International during the years prior to the congress.

ISPO supported the attendance of participants from countries in less resourced settings with the funding of 25 travel grants and complimentary registrations.



World Congress 2015 Exhibition Opening: Bengt Söderberg, ISPO President 2013-15, Rajiv Hanspal, ISPO President 2015-17, and Jean-Pierre Lissac, ISPO France President



ISPO World Congress 2015 opening ceremony

## ISPO World Congress 2017



The 16<sup>th</sup> ISPO World Congress takes place in Cape Town, South Africa between 8-11 May 2017.

Being held for the first time on the African continent, ISPO hosts the 16<sup>th</sup> edition with the theme Assistive Technology for All, to reflect ISPO's vision of "a world where all people have equal opportunity for full participation in society" by ensuring increased access to assistive technology for users worldwide.

Besides the Knud Jansen lecture, which will be presented by Claude Tardif, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the program includes 3 high-level keynote lectures, 21 instructional courses, 57 symposia and 550 papers that are presented in scheduled free paper sessions and in the poster area.

In addition to an extended scientific program, the 2017 World Congress is introducing new features: an inspirational lecture during the Congress Opening Ceremony, sponsored by the International Confederation of Amputee Associations (IC2A), as well as a special "GATE Symposium on Assistive Technology for All" with high-level speakers and participants from governments and leading international institutions, which is hosted jointly by the WHO and ISPO, with the support from USAID.

## ISPO World Congress 2019

The 17<sup>th</sup> ISPO World Congress will be held in Kobe, Japan from 5-11 October 2019. Japan playing a cutting edge role in the field of robotics engineering, and with the Congress held not even one year ahead of the Paralympics 2020 in Tokyo, Japan, the event promises to deliver exiting content.

### Acknowledgement

ISPO would like to thank its partner *Leipzig Messe*, in particular Helene Zapf and Klaus Ernst, for their great efforts and achievements in organizing and managing the successful exhibitions at our World Congresses.



## Regional Meetings

ISPO values the exchange of science and knowledge and provision of education in the form of organized meetings or conferences and supports Regional Meetings especially in the years between the World Congresses. Thus, various important regional initiatives are being undertaken by ISPO Member Societies and related professional organizations, which contribute greatly to the advancement of the P&O and related professional communities.

### Uniting Frontiers P&O Workshop Week 6-10 June 2016 - Universidad Don Bosco, El Salvador

The Uniendo Fronteras organizing committee, in conjunction with the P&O School from Don Bosco University in El Salvador, noticed the need for technical-hands-on workshops in the region. The school offered its facilities for this five-day event with a rich scientific and multidisciplinary programme and technical hands-on demonstrations in prosthetics and orthotics. The 2016 Uniting Frontiers P&O Workshop Week was attended by 144 participants from 16 countries and exhibitors from 14 different companies.

### The African Federation of Orthopaedic Technologists (FATO) 8<sup>th</sup> International Congress,



Uniendo Fronteras 2016 - Hands-on workshop



Uniendo Fronteras 2016 - Hands-on workshop

### 21-26 August 2016 – Lomé, Togo



FATO Congress 2016 - ISPO representative Jan-Hendrik Swiegers with a delegate at the ISPO booth

FATO's 8<sup>th</sup> International Congress was held under the theme "Together for the future". More than 300 participants coming from 40 countries and 30 African and international institutions participated in the event. The opening remarks were presented by Professor Moustafa Mijiyawa from the Ministry of Health & Social Protection of Togo. The congress program comprised 14 thematic symposia, 4 plenary sessions, 4 sessions of oral presentations and 4 workshops, as well as the general assemblies of FATO and of the African Organization for the Development of Centers for Disabled People (OADCPH). The various sessions allowed the rehabilitation professionals, service providers and technical/financial partners to exchange about the situation of rehabilitation in Africa, its challenges and possible solutions, with a view to creating a sustainable future in which the best possible services for people with disabilities in Africa are provided.



FATO Congress 2016



## ISPO European Congress, 6-8 October 2016 – Rotterdam, The Netherlands

About 200 delegates, mainly from Europe but also other continents, were present at the ISPO European Congress that took place in October 2016 on a former cruise ship in Rotterdam. Organised by the ISPO Member Society of the Netherlands, in collaboration with the Member Societies of Belgium, Norway and Sweden, the event was aimed specifically at European professionals, who had the opportunity to participate in the numerous lectures about the latest measurements, test high tech materials and techniques, as well as visit the expositions of European P&O suppliers. A prominent topic of the congress was the growing use of video gait analysis in European clinical practice and research, and highlights included speaker Deirdre Desmond of Maynooth University in Ireland explaining how P&O can help people dealing with the altered life after an amputation, and keynote speaker Filippo Santoni de Sio of Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands giving a talk about enabling techniques in medical care and sports in a philosophic perspective. The keynote lecture was given by Stefania Fatone from Northwestern University in Chicago.



European Congress 2016 Rotterdam



European Congress 2016 Rotterdam

## The Asian Prosthetic and Orthotic Scientific Meeting 2016 (APOSM 2016), 4-6 November 2016 – Seoul, South Korea

Hosted by ISPO South Korea, the Korean Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics and the Korean Orthotics and Prosthetics Association, APOSM 2016 gathered over 700 participants from 25 different countries, who shared their research and knowledge and helped to raise the spectrum of the field of Prosthetics and Orthotics. The theme of the meeting was "New Horizons in Prosthetics & Orthotics" and focused on the latest developments and trends related to P&O, as well as current issues and future outlook. The congress program featured 2 plenary lectures, 8 symposia, 4 free paper sessions, 2 luncheon seminars, 100 posters and several social events. The ISPO Executive Board held a face-to-face meeting in the fringes of the event, and actively contributed to the APOSM scientific program.



APOSM 2016 - ISPO Executive Board in Seoul



APOSM 2016

## Publications



ISPO Publications Committee Chair  
Friedbert Kohler

*In accordance with its mission, ISPO publishes peer reviewed information in journal, text, and electronic formats. The*

*Society's official journal Prosthetics and Orthotics International (POI), one of the major international scientific publications in the field of prosthetics and orthotics, has continued to improve greatly in terms of outreach and quality under the leadership of Tim Bach, who has been Editor-in-Chief since July 2015.*

*ISPO's members and stakeholders are kept up-to-date on Society developments through the eUpdates, social media and the website.*

Professor Friedbert Kohler

### Prosthetics and Orthotics International (POI)

The flagship scientific publication of ISPO is *Prosthetics and Orthotics International*, a multidisciplinary journal targeted at professionals interested in the medical, clinical, rehabilitation, technical, educational and research aspects of prosthetics, orthotics and rehabilitation. The Journal publishes original research reports, literature reviews, clinical case studies, clinical notes, technical notes and letters. (Tim Bach)



POI Editor-in-Chief Tim Bach

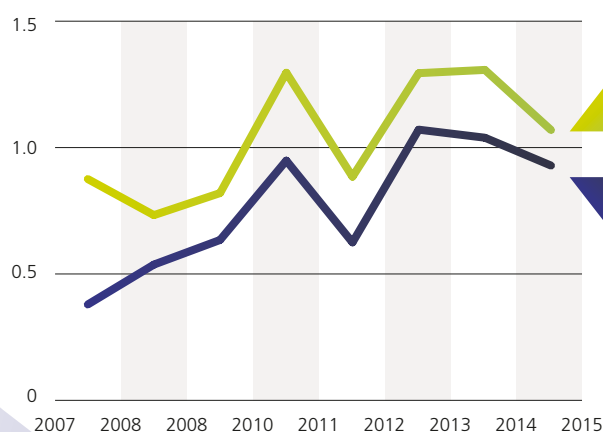
### Recognition and Impact

Recognition of the clinical and scientific importance of the journal as measured by readership has increased greatly.

The Impact Factor (IF), which measures the influence of articles previously published on current research, has remained relatively high. These measures were down slightly from 2014 but the IF has remained relatively constant and well above historical levels.

Because of the current status of the journal, a larger number of high quality manuscripts from experienced researchers is being attracted. In 2016 we received 225 new manuscripts, a 26% increase over 2015. Publication in the Journal has become much more competitive: only 32% of submitted manuscripts were accepted in 2016. The size of the journal was increased substantially in 2016 to accommodate the large number of high quality manuscripts that were accepted for publication.

The quality of the journal is improving and as a result the IF is expected to rise in years to come to reflect the improved quality of published articles.



Five-year  
Impact Factor:  
**1.069**

2015 Impact  
Factor:  
**0.93**



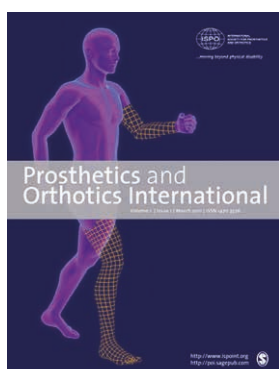
### 2016 Data

Downloads from journal  
website: **+40%**  
from 2015

Total downloaded articles:  
**191,000**

Total website visits:  
**370,000**

## A new Web platform for POI



Early in 2017 a new POI website was launched. The new design optimizes the article reading performance with a clean uncluttered look and intuitive design. SAGE, the publisher changed the hosting platform to be able to design the site using more flexible technology that enables to rapidly update the site as user's needs evolve.

The website now has a fully responsive design across all platforms that will automatically resize to fit the screen size of a user's chosen device, which helps promoting higher rankings of POI content in Google search results and therefore increases to visibility of work published in POI.

## Publishing in POI

The journal welcomes contributions from authors and research groups from around the world. Authors receive feedback from senior reviewers and editors in a double-blind review process aimed at selecting the highest quality manuscripts and offering authors constructive feedback to improve their articles. They receive wide exposure through distribution of the journal to all members of the Society and through library subscriptions available in thousands of institutions around the world. Rapid on-line publication in OnlineFirst means that new knowledge is rapidly available to the wider scientific and clinical community.

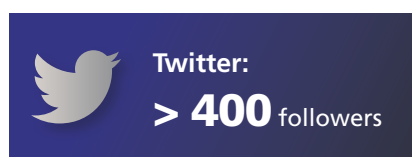
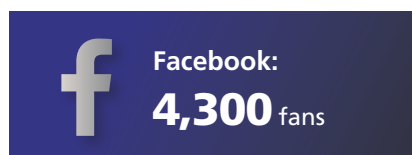
In 2016, just under half of the original submissions to the journal were from non-English speaking countries. The Society supports scientists and authors from non-English backgrounds to improve the quality and presentation of their work through the IPOS (Improving Prosthetic and Orthotic Sciences) program.

## eUpdate

The eUpdate is ISPO's bi-monthly newsletter that informs the entire membership and stakeholders about latest developments in and around the Society. News and updates are provided on the activities of ISPO and its Member Societies. With the help of the respective Member Societies, the eUpdate is being translated into Chinese, Spanish and German.

## Social Media

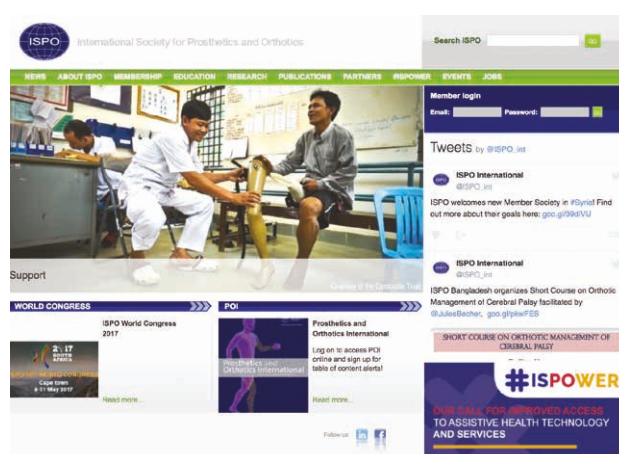
ISPO has increased its social media visibility in the past few years, thereby keeping the P&O community updated on the latest news from ISPO, its Member Societies and partners, upcoming events and other important matters relevant to the field.



## Website

The ISPO website [www.ispoint.org](http://www.ispoint.org) is the Society's window to the world, and as such the most important channel to convey information and updates about the work of the organisation, to provide resources to members and to engage them in a user-friendly and meaningful way.

The ISPO Office, together with an external provider, has been working on the development of a new website and fully integrated membership management system. Aimed at offering a greatly enhanced user experience, and improving internal administrative processes, the system will be launched in 2017.





# Support



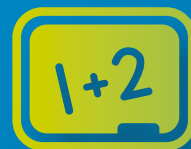
**1/5**

of the world's poorest people are disabled



**650 mio**

There are more than 650 million children with disabilities worldwide, nearly 80% of them in developing nations



**< 5%**

Less than 5% of disabled children in developing nations have the opportunity to go to school

Source: WHO

## Advocacy

ISPO International is working to raise public and decision makers' awareness and understanding of the importance of assistive health technologies (AHT) in helping to transform the lives of persons with impaired mobility and integrate them into society.

A comprehensive strategic review of ISPO's activities was carried out in 2016 and it was decided by the Executive Board that a strategic priority for the society in the coming years should be **Advocacy** to raise awareness of the P&O profession and the value of access to high-quality AHT and care for users.

**//** *Advocating with a personal story is not just a call to 'Insert Story Here'.*

(John Capecci & Timothy Cage, Living Proof: Telling your story to make a difference)

The following key priorities the period 2016-2019 were identified:

- Drive policy developments in the P&O and rehabilitation field at international and local levels
- Drive recognition of the P&O and rehabilitation profession at international and local levels
- Develop and implement P&O service provision standards at international and local level

To this end, ISPO leadership seeks to create a global movement around improved access to assistive health technology and P&O care, social inclusion and mobility for P&O users and provide a central platform around which local and national players can build.

### Advocacy & Awareness

- Awareness-raising activities
- Targeted advocacy
- Building strategic collaborations

**//** *Some people are imprisoned by their Disability. They must be freed."*

(Rajiv Hanspal, 2017)

## #ISPOWER



#ISPOWER is ISPO's call to action for improved access to P&O devices & care to help people with impaired mobility contribute fully

to society.

Launched in 2015, the #ISPOWER campaign focused on five pilot countries, relying on the support of the ISPO Member Societies located in these countries. ISPO Brazil, ISPO France, ISPO Pakistan, ISPO Rwanda and ISPO South Africa were selected to launch the campaign and receive guidance from ISPO International to get it off the ground in their respective areas.

Activities undertaken in these countries aim to form a source of inspiration for other countries as the campaign expands further down the road.

#ISPOWER positions ISPO as leading authority for access to quality assistive health technology and P&O care for users worldwide. In addition, it promotes the independence and empowerment of people with impaired mobility through actions which support equal access to pursuing education, professional ambitions and social activities. Finally, it aims to develop a more contemporary image through telling personal and human stories of users – both success stories, and stories of adversity – to present the issues of P&O and AHT usage in a more understandable and connecting way.



ISPO Pakistan promoting #ISPOWER



ISPO Rwanda campaigning for #ISPOWER

## Recent activities

### Case stories

Because it is important to show the real-life impact of your work as P&O professionals, ISPO developed a case stories' series that have been widely divulged and picked up by partners and followers of the #ISPOWER campaign. Most recently, in 2016, ISPO has cooperated with Handicap International to spread the stories of 5 users of P&O devices from around the world. Inspiring tales of strength and resilience – take a look on the ISPO website.

### Paralympics 2016



ISPO Brazil at the Paralympics

Due to the great work of ISPO Brazil, #ISPOWER's presence was noticed during the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. ISPO Brazil distributed #ISPOWER branded material and t-shirts, driving people's curiosity to the campaign's website and social media profile.

ISPO also had the pleasure and honour to interview Stéphane Molliens, a French tennis table gold medallist Paralympian. Stéphane told us about his path towards success in the sport, the support he got along the way and left a strong video message of support to #ISPOWER and all of us!

### International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2016

ISPO could not let the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) 2016 pass by unmarked. On 3 December 2016, ISPO and #ISPOWER released a strong call for action to international and national governmental stakeholders. Special appreciation goes out to ISPO Pakistan for the activities it organized on the occasion of the IDPD!

### Get involved

ISPO International's Advocacy team has put together a package of tools that partners and followers can use to spread #ISPOWER's message! From template presentations to position papers, social media guidelines and visual material, check out the resources available on [ispower.info](http://ispower.info).

## Collaboration

### GATE

*It is indeed a great pleasure to acknowledge ISPO's long-term collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO). We appreciate ISPO's dedication to the work of WHO, especially to promote the activities related to rehabilitation and Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology (GATE). WHO also deeply acknowledges ISPO's cooperation and support to develop the WHO Priority Assistive Products List (APL), which was launched during 69 World Health Assembly (2016). WHO is looking forward to working with ISPO to launch the WHO Standards for Prosthetics and Orthotics and GATE symposium during the 16th ISPO World Congress, Cape Town, South Africa.*

Chapal Khasnabis, Programme Manager, Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology (GATE), World Health Organization



ISPO is a close partner to the WHO's global initiative - Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology (GATE). Established in 2014, ISPO has been working with the WHO throughout

the conception and implementation of the GATE initiative especially by contributing to WHO's activities in the framework of GATE with its international network and advocating for increased access to Assistive Health Technologies (AHT) through its global network.

The GATE initiative has one overarching goal: to improve access to high-quality affordable assistive products globally. To achieve this, the GATE initiative will focus on four interlinked activities (4P):

1. Policy: assistive technology policy framework
2. Products: Priority Assistive Products List
3. Personnel: assistive products training package
4. Provision: assistive products service delivery model

ISPO contributes to this important initiative by:

- Promoting a multidisciplinary approach for clinical aspects to improve the access to high-quality affordable assistive health products such as prosthetics & orthotics devices, wheelchairs and other mobility devices
- Developing appropriate human resources to ensure quality service provision.
- Leveraging ISPO international networks for operationalization of WHO's GATE initiative.
- Using the ISPO international network to raise awareness on existing issues for people with disabilities

We expect that as a result, countries will be enabled to develop or update, implement, monitor and evaluate national policies on better access to health technologies; and thus to strengthen their evidence-based selection and rational use.

- Access to health technologies including assistive health products is an essential part of universal right to health.
- Only 1 in 10 persons who need assistive health technology or assistive health products actually gets it.
- Without access to assistive technology, people remain confined to their homes or institutions – excluded from the outside world, having poor health, locked into poverty and isolation.
- SPO commits to continue working in partnership with the WHO on programme such as GATE, and on development of new Standards to improve access to high quality affordable technologies and devices, which will create a new world for millions of people in need.



From left to right: Birgit Krausse (ISPO Head Office), Bengt Söderberg (ISPO Past President), Carson Harte (ISPO Executive Board), Rob Horvath (USAID), Anders Eklund (Consultant), Friedbert Kohler (ISPO President-Elect), Sandra Sexton (Consultant), Chapal Khasnabis (WHO), Rajiv Hanspal (ISPO President), Sara Martin (ISPO Head Office), Andrea Pupulin (WHO), Claude Tardif (ICRC)



## Collaboration with USAID: Rehabilitation of People with Physical Disabilities in Developing Countries



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Since the mid-1990s, ISPO has had the great privilege of partnering with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) on a number of projects. With support from the USAID Leahy War Victims Fund, ISPO has made important advancements in strengthening the capacity of rehabilitation professionals, establishing product and service delivery standards, and ensuring greater global reach.

The most recent initiative Rehabilitation of People with Physical Disabilities in Developing Countries (2008 to 2015) awarded scholarships to individuals from thirty-four less resourced countries for professional P&O training at ISPO-recognized schools; assessed the impact of such training; and enhanced P&O service provision through the publication of worldwide standards, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO).

### Standards for Prosthetics and Orthotic Service Provision

In 2015, ISPO, in partnership with WHO and with support from USAID, began the design and development of a new set of guidelines, **Standards for Prosthetics and Orthotic Service Provision**. ISPO and WHO will proudly launch these guidelines at the ISPO World Congress in Cape Town, South Africa in 2017.

The proposed Standards will support UN Member States to implement the Convention on the Rights for Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), in particular, Article 20 (Personal Mobility) and 26 (Habilitation and Rehabilitation). It will also support the WHO's Global Disability Action Plan 2014-2021 and its Objective 2, to strengthen and extend rehabilitation, habilitation, assistive technology, assistance and support services, and community-based rehabilitation.



ISPO-GATE Strategic Meeting - Brussels Sept 2015

By providing guidance and mentorship to stakeholders in all countries with regard to the development and expansion of quality P&O services, the Standards are a significant milestone for the entire P&O sector, particularly in developing countries where poverty and disability are closely associated.



*For over 25 years, USAID has invested in establishing, promoting and improving physical rehabilitation and assistive technology standards, training, and services in less resourced countries. USAID is grateful to the US Congress and in particular Senator Patrick Leahy for making this possible. USAID is proud of the critical work it supports in the area of prosthetics and orthotics. In many instances, these efforts have resulted in a dramatic increase in access to such devices, particularly in conflict-affected countries. They have also increased awareness of the need to include assistive devices in the global health agenda evidenced, in part, by the World Health Organization's Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology initiative.*

Rob Horvath, Chief, Empowerment and Inclusion Division, USAID



### Impact Assessments – successful completion:

Assessment of graduates from  
**7** ISPO-recognized programs  
**6** impact assessment reports on 13 countries

Assessment recommendations focused on the following themes:

- Leadership and Governance
- Workforce
- Service Provision
- Practice and Technology



### Scholarship Program – successful completion:

**112** scholarship recipients  
From **34** different home countries

**17** prosthetists/orthotists (ISPO Category I)

**95** orthopaedic technologists (ISPO Category II)

## ISPO Open Board: International partnerships with shared goals

Throughout the past biennium, ISPO International has signed memorandums of understanding (MoUs) with several international organizations. These organizations are members of the ISPO Open Board, a body created with the goal of exchanging information and expertise on topics of common interest.

The organizations with which ISPO has signed a MoU are the following:



ISPO President Bengt Söderberg and IC2A President Nils-Odd Tønnevold signing the MoU at the ISPO World Congress 2015





## ISPO Council of Industry Partners

In 2013, ISPO launched the ISPO Council of Industry Partners to provide a forum for ongoing networking and learning that allows and feedback to ISPO regarding potential ways to collaborate with industry partners worldwide, with the ultimate objective of benefiting P&O users across the world.

Today the Council is 8 members strong who come together for strategic dialogue, joint exploration of common challenges in the P&O fields.

The Council is open to companies active in the P&O or related fields, by either manufacturing P&O devices and/or by providing P&O and rehabilitation services. Member companies represent different lines of business and regions to promote rich dialogue.

Members of the Council benefit face-to-face general meetings with ISPO leadership, meetings with special invited guests such as representatives of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID); conference calls, exposure on the ISPO web site. The ultimate goal is to identify shared goals to improve P&O care delivery to the benefit of users, from both the professional's and the industry's point of view.

Current members of the ISPO Council of Industry Partners:

- Becker Orthopedic
- Chas. A. Blatchford & Sons Ltd
- CR Equipements
- Fillauer LLC
- Össur hf
- Otto Bock HealthCare GmbH
- Profit Technologies JSC
- Proteor



# Innovate



ISPO Scientific Committee Chair  
Man-Sang Wong

*The ISPO Scientific Committee, being responsible for all matters of ISPO relating to science - research, development and knowledge translation - seeks to strengthen ISPO's contribution to creation and dissemination of science in P&O, oversees the Society's scientific activities and makes recommendations to the Executive Board with regards to the scientific policy of ISPO."*

Man-Sang Wong

## ISPO Scientific Committee

### Activities

#### 1. Organization of Consensus Procedure on P&O Topics

With the objective to establish agreement on global clinical guidelines for main areas of interest in P&O, ISPO is organizing consensus procedures, currently on the following topics: Lower Limb Amputation and Cerebral Palsies and Orthotic Intervention. Following the conduction of systematic reviews of the literature, the organization of expert consultation rounds and face-to-face meetings, the final outcomes are being reported and published on the internet and at World Congresses.

##### Consensus Procedure on P&O Topics:

- Lower Limb Amputation
- Cerebral Palsies and Orthotic Intervention

#### 2. Organization of ISPO's Prizes & Awards

With the aim to motivate P&O researchers to deliver high quality research, ISPO awards several prizes by recognizing outstanding achievements in P&O research and development. The Scientific Committee is responsible for assessing the Brian & Joyce Blatchford and Forchheimer Prizes through reviewing nominations and making recommendations to the Executive Board, and is consulting on the SAGE prize and ISPO World Congress awards.

##### ISPO Prizes:

- Brian & Joyce Blatchford prize
- Forchheimer prize
- SAGE prize
- ISPO World Congress awards

*"I am one of those who think like Nobel, that humanity will draw more good than evil from new discoveries."*  
(Marie Curie, 1867-1934)

### 3. Organization of Mentorship Program for novice P&O Researchers

The Scientific Committee has established a platform of communication between mentors and mentees, and set up a template for research methodology, with a view to encourage, assist and support novice P&O researchers to achieve a level of quality that meets the ISPO standards of dissemination, such as the ISPO World Congress and Prosthetics & Orthotics International.

#### ISPO Mentorship Program:

- 20 mentees
- 10 Mentors (Man Sang Wong, Harmen van der Linde, Edward Lemaire, Jaap Harlaar, Magnus Lilja, Hans Henning Wetz, Marco Cavallaro, Arezoo Eshraghi, Lauren Fortington, Saeed Zahedi)

### 4. Development of ISPO Guidelines for Reporting Research on P&O

In order to increase the quality of P&O research papers to be meaningful for the clinical community, the Scientific Committee is establishing core datasets and guidelines for P&O research methodology. To date, recommendations for reporting subject information in lower limb prosthetics, stride parameter database and minimum core datasets have been made, and the current literature according to the standards and publications in POI has been analyzed. A research guideline for orthotics will be developed.

### 5. Improvement of Lexicon (or similar) Platform

The Society is considering plans for the Lexicon platform and database, which currently sits on the ISPO Canada website, or a similar resource to be available on the ISPO international website.

### 6. International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Liaison Board

One of the key roles of ISPO has been to provide education and training for best practice for the multidisciplinary team who look after rehabilitation of physically disabled persons. Standards are developed to provide the process of sharing the best pathway for MDT to ensure highest quality of care. They describe the method, procedures for verification and validation, and enable accurate, consistent communication in dissemination, and provision of care pathways. ISPO has established links with ISO, led by Professor Saeed Zahedi, ISPO's representative who facilitates communications and collaboration between ISPO and ISO.

### 7. Data for Assistive Technology Assessment (DATA)

The Scientific Committee plans to review different available databases in P&O and to assess the possibility of integrating these datasets into a common platform for big data analysis.

### 8. Cochrane Rehabilitation

'Rehabilitation' has been recently approved as a new field within the Cochrane network. This exciting news will result in the facilitation of further research collaborations, and will give ISPO an excellent forum to contribute to and be leaders in the corresponding P&O aspects.

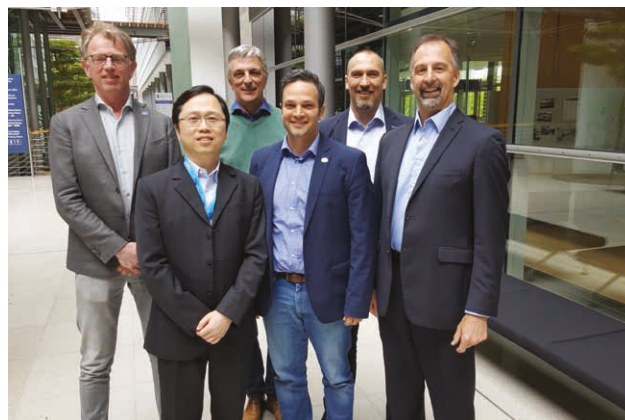
#### MovAiD Project



Since September 2015 ISPO has been involved in the cross-disciplinary project "MovAiD – Movement Assisting Devices: Manufacturing of personalised kineto-dynamics parts and products for workers, elderly and children". Funded by the European Union Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme, the project gathers a consortium of 13 partners and aims to develop technologies assisting the manufacturing of intelligent, 'passive' and highly personalised kineto-dynamic equipment to enhance or compensate human movements.

ISPO's role consists in coordinating the project's communication and dissemination efforts, thereby leveraging on its extensive international network of multidisciplinary professionals. Several communication tools have already been developed including the MovAiD, website, social media, leaflets, newsletters and posters. For more details, visit <http://movaid.eu/>.

The MovAiD project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement No. 680754.



From left to right: Jaap Harlaar, Man-Sang Wong, Harmen van der Linde, Marco Cavallaro, Magnus Lilja, Edward Lemaire. Not in photo: Saeed Zahedi

# Society



Presence in **118**  
countries



**3,308** members



**71** Member  
Societies

## New Member Societies formed during biennium 2015-17:

Bangladesh, Malaysia, Palestine,  
Qatar, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand  
and Ukraine



## Membership

### Membership development

ISPO's presence around the world continues to increase, having expanded to members in 118 countries all over the world. With over 3,300 members (including individual professionals, institutions and organizations) at the end of 2016, ISPO represents an international multidisciplinary network and provides an efficient platform for timely scientific exchange, debate and communication.

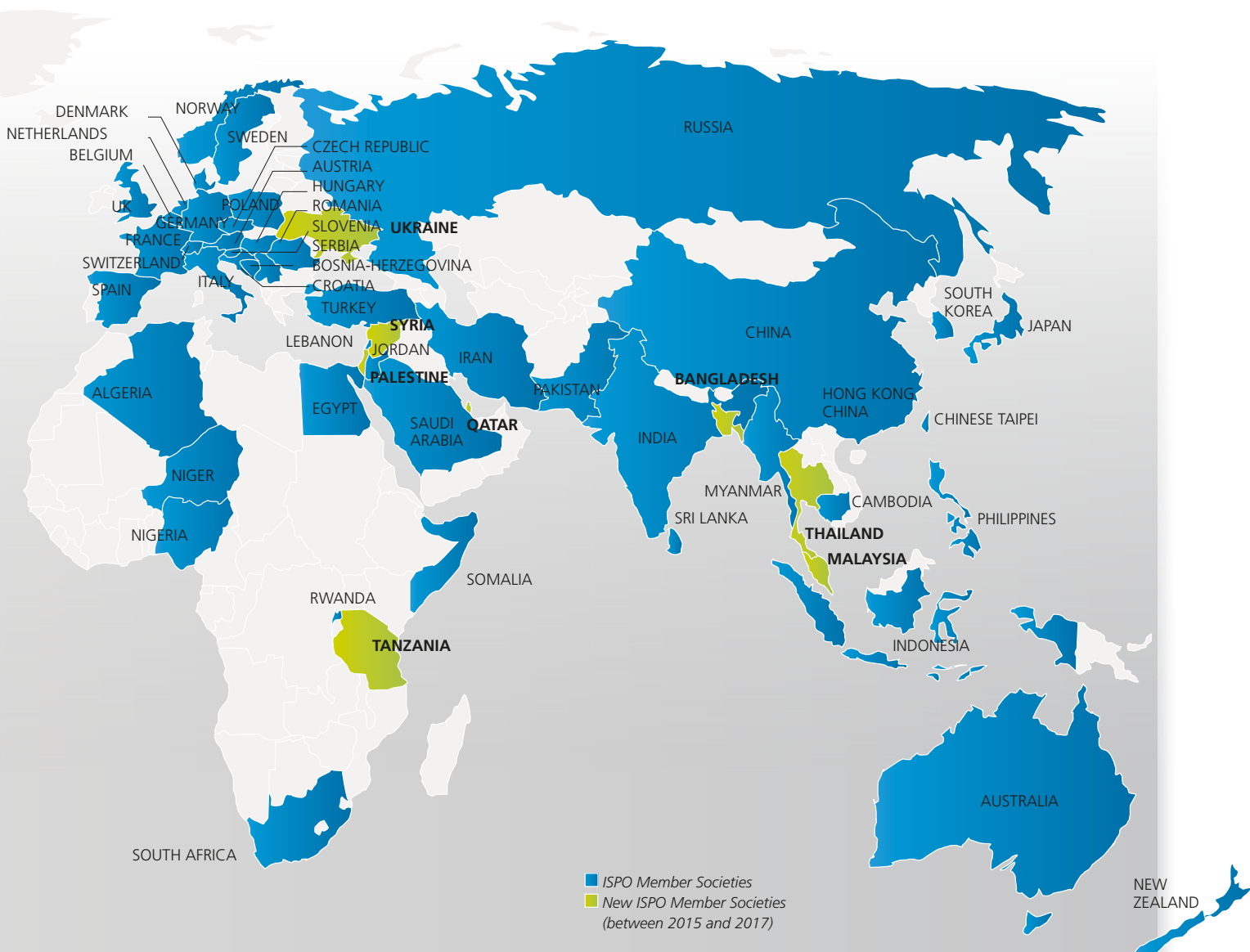
The Society will continue to strive, retain and further grow its membership and continue to work on expanding its added-value and enhance the balance of the different professions that are represented in the organization.

### ISPO Member Societies

All ISPO members in a country or region where no ISPO Member Society exists yet are encouraged to join and form an ISPO Member Society to facilitate local ISPO activities, promote the profession and participate in ISPO governance through representation on the International Committee.

Following the approval of 7 new Member Societies during the biennium 2015-17, ISPO now counts 71 Member Societies across the globe. Having been started with only 3 Member Societies in the 1970s, it is very encouraging to see the dynamism and commitment of colleagues, who have built and are keen to further grow the network of P&O and related professionals in their countries.





## Twinning

ISPO encourages its Member Societies to engage in twinning activities, with the aim to build a long-term personal relationship and cooperation between two Member Societies, usually with one located in a less resourced context that receives assistance with its development and growth from its partner through the provision of guidance, sharing of experiences and knowledge, collaboration on projects, etc.

Successful twinning activities have been observed between ISPO Norway and ISPO Cambodia, as well as ISPO Sweden and ISPO Rwanda.

## International Committee

The ISPO International Committee (IC), composed of representatives of the 70 Member Societies, as well as the Executive Board, has held two meetings during biennium 2015-17: at the ISPO World Congress in June 2015 in Lyon, France, and at OT World Congress and Trade Show in May 2016 in Leipzig, Germany. Updates were provided on the various international activities and initiatives, and Member Societies were given the opportunity to present their achievements at local and regional level. The IC meeting in Lyon was the biggest ever with 74 participants and a representation of 34 Member Societies.

## ISPO Member Society Activities

ISPO Member Societies are the backbone of ISPO International. In biennium 2015-17 they organized a great number of education, capacity building and awareness raising initiatives at local level all over the world, showing their great efforts, hard work, passion and commitment towards the mission of ISPO. Exchanges, partnerships and collaborations are fundamental features of ISPO Member Societies that joined forces for common projects to reach mutual goals.

*The following content is based on information received from the respective Member Societies in response to our survey and in time for publication.*

### America



#### Canada

ISPO Canada organized its biennial symposium in Toronto in October 2015, entitled "From Evidence to Action" with international speakers who presented on the topic of evidence-based practice to 145 participants.

#### Dominican Republic

ISPO Dominican Republic organized two scientific meetings on the "Rehabilitation process in lower limb amputee patients, and rehabilitation of the hand tendon injuries" targeted at rehabilitation doctors, P&O professionals, PTs and OTs, and on "Surgical procedures in lower limb amputation, rehabilitation and fitting of the lower limb amputee patient", as well as a conference in collaboration with the Dominican Society of Physiatry.

ISPO Dominican Republic met with the Director of the Rehabilitation Department at the Public Health Ministry, with regards to the recognition of P&O as a health profession. Those activities have a major impact on P&O services in the country, contributing to improved work relationships and integration of rehabilitation professionals, P&Os and surgeons.

#### United States

US ISPO arranged numerous activities and events. A bilateral partnership with Cuba brought a group of 40 US-professionals to Havana in January 2015, visiting rehabilitation hospitals and fabrication centers, and meeting with the Minister of Health and renowned Cuban healthcare and P&O leaders.

In October 2015, US ISPO organized its 4<sup>th</sup> Skills for Life Workshop in Houston, Texas with 350 attendees from eight countries. Taking place every three years, the workshop is a unique event dedicated to the specifics and challenges of bilateral upper limb loss amputees.

In January 2016 US ISPO held the 17<sup>th</sup> Pacific Rim Conference in Kauai, Hawaii. This biennial multidisciplinary event attracted attendees from the US, Canada, Mexico, Australia and Japan.

### Europe



#### Austria

ISPO Austria organized its 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Anatomy lectures, including practices in the dissection room, in September 2015 and 2016 in Innsbruck, gathering 87 and 109 participants respectively.



ISPO Austria leadership

Their Annual Conferences were held November 2015 and 2016 in Salzburg with 66 and 62 participants respectively, on the topics of "P&O in the Hospital" and "Standards in P&O".

ISPO Austria attended OTWorld in Leipzig in May 2016 where it took part in the organizing committee as well as the Global Networking Area.

#### Belgium

ISPO Belgium held a Conference in March 2015 and is engaging in advocacy activities with regards to the recognition of orthopaedic centers and the curricula of CPO education in the country.

#### Czech Republic

ISPO Czech Republic organized its 6<sup>th</sup> Alumni Conference of the Department of Physiotherapy in June 2016, gathering 85 participants at the Palacky University in Olomouc.

#### France

The ISPO Member Society in France, who successfully hosted the ISPO World Congress 2015 in Lyon, continues to attract a large number of delegates to its national meetings. Held in Lille in November 2016, the event gathered 1072 participants, 58 European speakers and 40 exhibitors over two days.

Furthermore, ISPO France organizes continuing education programs, and publishes its successful Journal de l'Orthopédie since now 15 years on a quarterly basis, having a dedicated website through which the journal archives are accessible to ISPO France members. The Member Society is also highly effective on social media with over 2500 followers on both Facebook and LinkedIn.

#### Germany

ISPO Germany organizes its national Conference every two years, and is providing financial support to several professionals in the developing countries.

#### Hungary

ISPO Hungary organized a one-week training course on the „Basics of prosthetics and orthotics" in October 2015 at the

Medical University of Debrecen with 20 participants, and again in February 2016 at the Medical University Budapest, gathering 58 medical doctors, P&Os and physiotherapists.

ISPO Hungary is actively advocating to raise awareness on the importance of education for medical doctors, physiotherapists and P&Os in the field of assistive technologies.

### Italy

ISPO Italy organized eight workshops during the biennium, and has held its 2<sup>nd</sup> national Congress in February 2017 in Bologna, as well as a two-day educational event on lower limb amputation and prosthetics in March 2017 in Rome.

### Netherlands

The Annual Congress of ISPO Netherlands was held in 2015 on the topic of "Charcot foot masterclass: prostheses and orthoses - a multidisciplinary approach". In addition, it organized two symposia on quality assessment in rehabilitation aids in collaboration with NVOS/Orthobanda and an expert course on lower limb prostheses. In 2016, ISPO Netherlands hosted the ISPO European Congress, organized in collaboration with ISPO Belgium, Norway and Sweden.

### Norway

ISPO Norway organized events on "Sport activities, rehabilitation and assistive devices" in 2015 and on "Video Vector Analysis used as a clinical tool" in 2016, with international lecturers and addressed to an interprofessional audience for members and non-members.

ISPO Norway attended international congresses, participated in the ISPO Standards Committee and national projects like the National Professional Council in P&O, and supported students with scholarships.

In 2016 ISPO Norway started a Twinning Initiative with ISPO Cambodia, which has already resulted in two teaching opportunities and a number of educational events.

### Poland

In 2015 and 2016, ISPO Poland organized three short courses: in the field of orthotics on "Possibilities of orthopedic devices to improve children's posture and mobility" and an "Interdisciplinary workshop - planning the rehabilitation process to achieve better mobility in patients with cerebral palsy" and in the field of prosthetics on the "Lower Limb Prosthetic Interdisciplinary Team Approach".

### Switzerland

ISPO Switzerland, through its own P&O Society APO, holds congresses, participates at OT World in Leipzig every two years and maintains international activities such as development projects and training programs.

### Turkey

ISPO Turkey organized various scientific activities throughout the biennium: a CAD-CAM Course in November 2015 in Ankara gathering 85 participants, its 9<sup>th</sup> National Congress

in October 2015 in Ankara with 180 attendees, a Linx/Microprocessor knee joint workshop in January 2016 in Ankara with 105 participants and a P&O Symposium in April 2016 in Istanbul with 75 attendees.

In addition, ISPO Turkey assisted in updating the programs in vocational schools of health services and held a workshop on training standards in May 2016 in Şanlıurfa with 130 participants and in November 2016 in Istanbul with 100 participants.

A two-year P&O training dedicated to 16 Syrian students was organized in collaboration with Human Study, NSPPL and Ankara University. Furthermore, ISPO Turkey contributed to the development of the Priority Assistive Product List of the WHO.

### UK

ISPO UK organized a joint meeting with TIPS and its national conference in 2016 in Glasgow, which were very successful, as well as its annual meeting 2015 at Oxford University, which was very educational for future in rehabilitation in O&P.

From the advocacy prospective, ISPO UK was actively involved in the #ISPOWER campaign and engaged in UN and WHO GATE activities. ISPO UK members are active in the ISPO Scientific and Protocol Committees and MovAiD project group, and support the work of various research networks in O&P and the Royal Academy of Engineering, BAPO, BSRM, Royal Colleges and BAPCAR.

## Middle East and Africa

### Israel

ISPO Israel, newly established in May 2016, held its 1<sup>st</sup> internal professional meeting in July 2016 at the orthopaedic rehabilitation department of Sheba Medical Center, gathering 35 participants.

ISPO Israel also attended the RSTU 2016 PM&R Conference and is following up closely with the Ministry of Health to speed up the final approval to establish an academic school for CPOs in the country.

### Jordan

ISPO Jordan organized three workshops during the biennium, in collaboration with different P&O companies: on silicone liners with Össur, on advanced lower limb prosthesis with Blatchford, and on the bionic hand with Steeper.



*Rajiv Hanspal, ISPO President, awarding the George Murdoch Silver Medal to David Moser, Head of Research at Chas Blatchford & Sons Ltd., at the ISPO UK Meeting 2016*





## Niger

ISPO Niger participated in two courses in Togo, and also attended the FATO Congress in 2016 in Togo, besides meeting with several Ministers of Niger to discuss the P&O situation.

## Nigeria

ISPO Nigeria is planning to hold a workshop on upper limb prosthesis in 2017.



ISPO Palestine

## Palestine

The newly established ISPO Member Society in Palestine is developing its network and communication to raise awareness and initiate future activities that can have impact on local P&O services. Links with several organizations have already been established.

ISPO Palestine participated in an ICRC Symposium that is being held bimonthly at the Ministry of Health in Ramallah, as well as Expo Palestine for disabilities, and provided technical support to two international academic projects in mechanical and biomedical engineering.

## Rwanda

ISPO Rwanda, chosen as one of the pilot countries for the #ISPOWER campaign, held information sessions for its members to strengthen their knowledge and skills in line with the initiative's mission and objectives, and organised various activities during the Disability week and the International Day of Persons with Disability on 3 December 2015.

## Tanzania

ISPO Tanzania, also newly established in biennium 2015-17, is developing a proposal for a conference to be held in September 2017, and is seeking twinning links with other Member Societies.



ISPO Somalia

They engaged in several advocacy activities with a view to include P&O devices in the priority payment lists of different health fund schemes. In collaboration with the Association for Prosthetists and Orthotists in Tanzania, a meeting was arranged with the Deputy Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children

to voice concerns and challenges in P&O service delivery in Tanzania, including the revival of dormant rehabilitation centers in the country.

## Asia and Oceania



## Bangladesh

The ISPO Member Society in Bangladesh, newly created in 2016, organized the mobile camping and a P&O education program for members in December 2016 with the support of Handicap International.

ISPO Bangladesh engaged in awareness activities on the International Disability Day on 3rd December 2016 and is creating a brochure to increase awareness on the P&O profession.

Two ISPO Bangladesh representatives joined the APOSM Conference in Seoul, Korea in November 2016.



ISPO Bangladesh 2nd AGM

## China

ISPO China organizes its China International Assistive Products Exposition every year, which showcases the development of assistive products industry in China and enables Chinese companies and associations to acquire knowledge of the development of the global assistive products industry.

ISPO China assisted the Ministry of Civil Affairs to draft and edit a State Council document on: A Number of Opinions on Accelerating the Development of Assistive Products Industry. A 6<sup>th</sup> Executive Council Meeting was held to study the spirit of the document and discuss the vision of the Assistive Products Industry.

## Malaysia

ISPO Malaysia, new Member Society formed in 2016, held its official launching ceremony in Kuala Lumpur in December 2016, including a rich program with quality technical information presented to over 40 delegates from the P&O and rehabilitation community, including patients.

## Philippines

ISPO Philippines has collaborated with the national health insurance agency Philhealth to ensure that patients must be seen by an ISPO Category I professional in order to benefit from a reimbursement on P&O devices.

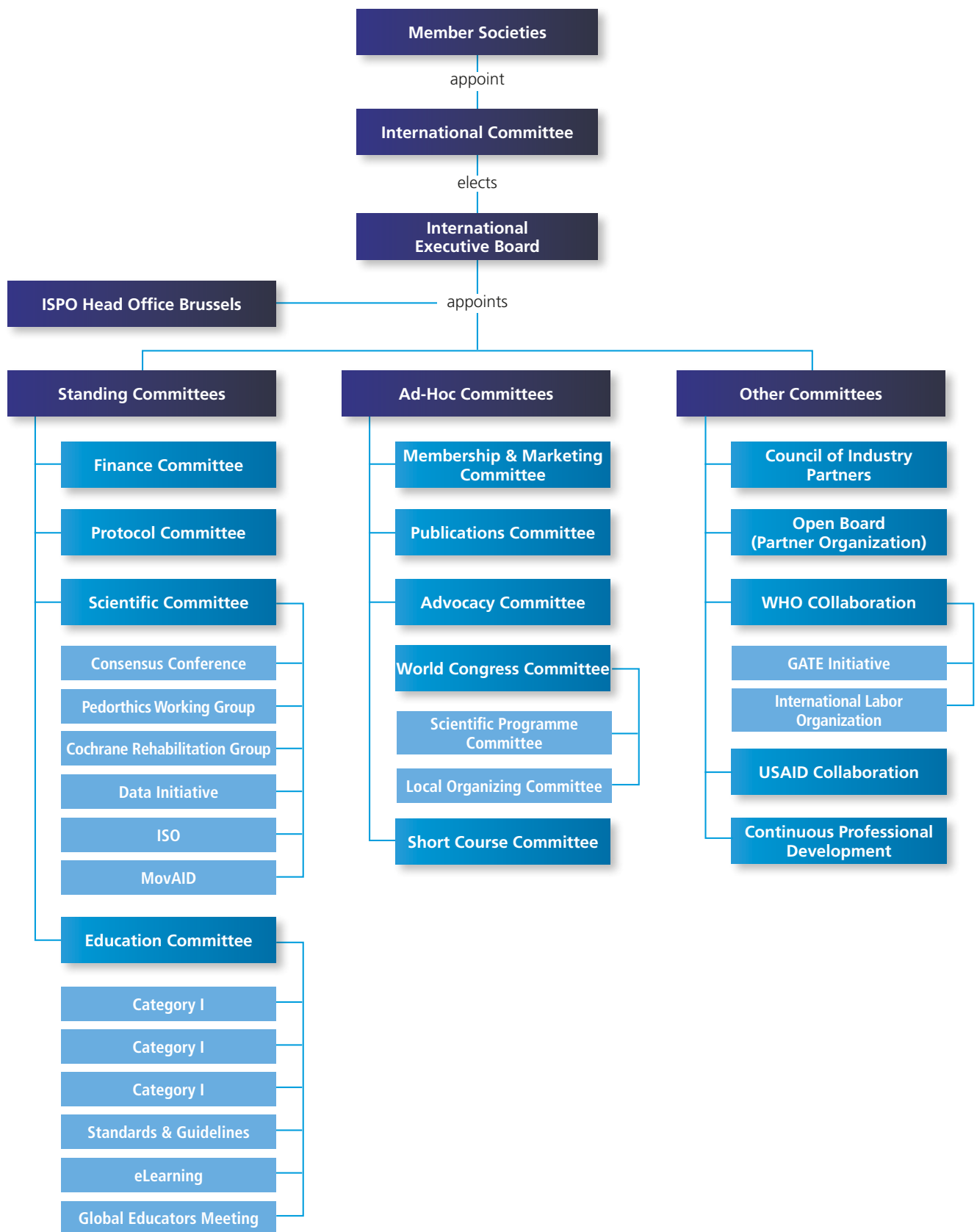
The Member Society will advocate for the implementation of the P&O standards and the establishment of the profession within the national licensing body.

## Sri Lanka

ISPO Sri Lanka relaunched the diabetic foot program with the WHO funded project Nirogi Lanka.

The Member Society is trying to advocate for the recognition of the P&O profession as an ancillary profession for medicine with the Ministry of Health.

# Structure of ISPO International



## ISPO International Executive Board (2015-2017)



**Rajiv Hanspal**  
United Kingdom  
President



**Friedbert Kohler**  
Australia  
President-Elect



**Bengt Söderberg**  
Sweden/  
Thailand  
Past President



**Laura Burgess**  
United Kingdom  
Secretary



**Terry Supan**  
United States  
Treasurer



**Karen Andrews**  
United States  
Member



**Takaaki Chin**  
Japan  
Member



**Carson Harte**  
UK/South East  
Asia  
Member



**Edward Lemaire**  
Canada  
Member



**Rodolfo Marlo Ortiz Vazquez del Mercado**  
Mexico  
Member



**Man-Sang Wong**  
Hong Kong  
(China)  
Member

## Obituary

A note of remembrance goes to Professor John Hughes OBE who sadly passed away in November 2015. He served ISPO for many years and in different functions: Co-editor of the journal *Prosthetics and Orthotics International* (1977-2005), Honorary Secretary (1974-1983), President (1986-1989) and Education Committee Chair (1989-2004).



As Director of the National Centre for Training and Education in Prosthetics and Orthotics of the University of Strathclyde he was instrumental in designing high-level P&O education in the UK. In his work for ISPO, he established close working relationship with international agencies and steered the development of standards for education and training for P&O personnel in industrial and low-income countries.

John made a profound mark on the prosthetics and orthotics profession and the resulting treatment of people with disabilities. He was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire in 2000 for his services to P&O education both nationally and internationally.

## Acknowledgement to the Volunteers

On behalf of the global P&O community, ISPO extends its gratitude to its leaders for their foresight, dedication and commitment to contribute to ISPO's mission, and to the ISPO Committee members who ensure the success and progress of the Society's activities and programmes. The ISPO leadership and Committee members are made up of volunteers selected from the membership by the Member Societies, and charged with the responsibility of leading and directing the Society and overseeing its activities.



## ISPO Office Staff



**Julie Cooper**  
Strategic Advisor  
- Advocacy  
and Overall  
Operations



**Birgit Krausse**  
Head of  
Operations



**Sara Martin**  
Advocacy  
Manager



**Lorela Lohan**  
Society  
Coordinator



**Giorgia Manuzi**  
Education and  
Marketing  
Coordinator



**Mujahid Zaman**  
Society and  
Membership  
Administrator



**Kasia Duchna**  
Marketing and  
Communica-  
tions  
Administrator



**Giulia Miotto**  
Congress  
Coordinator



**Keren Moses-Deront**  
Congress  
Director



**Michael Podt**  
Congress  
Manager

ISPO would also like to acknowledge the work of the former staff members, who have contributed during biennium 2015-17:



**Adeline Prieur**  
Advocacy and  
Communica-  
tions Manager



**Nuno Loureiro**  
Education and  
Marketing Coor-  
dinator



**Daniel Smith**  
Society Adminis-  
trator



*In my time as Strategic Director, the ISPO Head Office based in Brussels, Belgium has grown from strength to strength with a team of multinational professional staff that administer the important business of ISPO International with efficiency and commitment to support ISPO's increasing activities and to positively impact the society and all of its work. Such efficiency combined with the energy and passion of the ISPO leadership has brought ISPO one step closer to realizing its vision of a world where all people have equal opportunity for full participation in society."*

Julie Cooper

## Outlook 2017-2019

In the last biennium ISPO has consolidated its place as a lead international multidisciplinary professional organisation for individuals with a disability, particularly those who require assistive technology.



The outlook for ISPO over the coming biennium and beyond presents a large number of opportunities to build on the solid foundation that we currently have. As we look to the future, ISPO with its national Member Societies and individual members will be well placed to face the numerous challenges we face.

Inclusion in the partnership for the successful establishment of the Cochrane Rehabilitation field is indicative of the international network and reputation that ISPO has developed. It is only one step in many that will result in further strengthening of the scientific and evidence base of our professions and services, which will be fundamental to drive further advances in the provision of P&O services in particular, and assistive technology in general, to individuals with a disability.

Working more closely with consumers and advocating for those who benefit from assistive technology has been a central feature of ISPO throughout its history. Incorporating end users in our opening ceremony and developing an advocacy campaign has given increased impetus to ensuring that we continue to primarily focus on the needs of our patients and those who need assistive technology.

Our cooperative relationships with our partners have been given new impetus through the WHO rehabilitation 2030 initiative. One of the outcomes of this initiative is that the various organisations would work together to have a greater impact on the needs of those with disabilities.

To ensure that we best meet the demands of the future, we will need to continue to work together and to further facilitate collaboration, we would envisage that regional groupings and partnerships, within the framework of ISPO, will play a greater role. Regional groupings generally have more in common and are able to support each other resulting in greater success.

On this background I encourage all ISPO members, and the many others who share the vision of ISPO to continue to work together at the local, national, regional and international level. Past achievements rest on the efforts of our predecessors and your contributions. Future improvements will be forged as a result of our efforts, and the efforts of those who join with us to work to achieve our great vision.

I look forward to working with many of you to continue to build upon the ISPO heritage which is given to us.

Best wishes,

**Friedbert Kohler**  
ISPO President-Elect



**3,308**

individual members



Presence in

**118**

countries



**15**

professions represented



**428**

volunteers conducting  
activities worldwide  
in 70 ISPO Member Societies

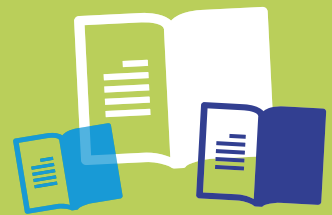


**16**

World Congresses

**9**

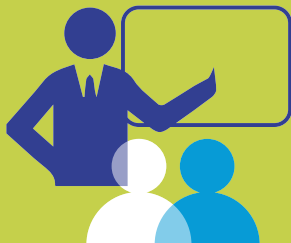
**58** Short Courses  
Consensus Conference  
conducted since 1970



ISPO's scientific journal POI was  
accessed close to

**200,000**

times in 2016



**50**

ISPO recognized P&O training  
programmes around the world



**3,900**

graduates certified by  
ISPO as category I or II  
professionals to date



**112**

scholarships successfully  
completed under the 2008-2015  
USAID funding programme



In relationship with

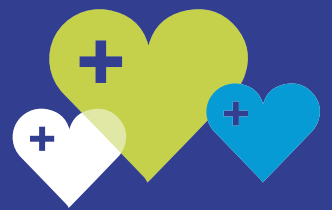
**17**

international partner organizations  
through its Open Board



**8**

multinational companies in its  
Council of Industry Partners



**1,265,800**

patients & users receiving high  
quality treatment delivered by  
ISPO certified graduates





INTERNATIONAL  
SOCIETY FOR PROSTHETICS  
AND ORTHOTICS

[www.ispoint.org](http://www.ispoint.org)

**International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO)**

22-24 Rue du Luxembourg  
1000 Brussels  
Belgium

[ispo@ispoint.org](mailto:ispo@ispoint.org)