

[illegible]

ISPO Mission

The International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO) is a global multidisciplinary organization aiming to improve the quality of life for persons who may benefit from prosthetic, orthotic, mobility and assistive devices by:

- *Ensuring quality care and education of professionals for the benefit of patients around the world;*
- *Promoting research and evidence-based practice;*
- *Facilitating innovative and appropriate technology development;*
- *Promoting international collaboration and consensus building; and*
- *Fostering exchange, high-quality knowledge and networking.*

Its members are prosthetists and orthotists, prosthetic and orthotic (P&O) technicians, orthopedic surgeons, rehabilitation doctors, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, orthopedic shoemakers, nurses, biomechanical/rehabilitation engineers and other professions related to P&O.

For 45 years, ISPO has – primarily through its Member Societies (MS) – provided an effective platform for the exchange and communication on all aspects of the science, practice and education associated with the provision of prosthetic and orthotic care, rehabilitation engineering and related areas.

The Society now gathers more than 3,500 members in over 100 countries and counts 62 Member Societies with no less than 12 Member Societies newly created over the last two years.

ISPO Vision

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

www.ispoint.org

President's Foreword



Since its creation in 1970, the ISPO platform and its global importance is steadily growing:

After 45 years of activity, ISPO now boasts more than 60 Member Societies (MS), gathers more than 3,500 members in over 100 countries, is in official relationship with key international

organizations such as the United Nations (UN) and the World Health Organization (WHO) and appreciates a valuable working relationship with all its partners.

Working hard towards global recognition of the P&O profession

Building these global networks is essential for the future development of Prosthetic and Orthotic (P&O) rehabilitation for all patients that are in need.

Indeed, in our daily practices, we all do our best and work very hard to provide a good service to our patients and improve the field of P&O. However, without the recognition from local authorities, governments and international organizations, we get nowhere.

It is for this reason that ISPO has, over the past years, worked with the UN and the WHO to foster recognition of our profession by national governments in UN/WHO Member Countries.

The recently launched WHO GATE (Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology) initiative, of which P&O is an important element, will commence implementation in 2016 and is a key milestone towards this objective. It is anticipated that GATE will address many of the obstacles our profession is faced with today and ISPO is working hand in hand with the WHO to represent the P&O's voice in these discussions.

A leader in P&O education

Education is a corner stone of ISPO's work and the Education Committee is constantly looking to expand its activities. ISPO is a global leader in P&O education: in addition to holding the first Global Educators Meeting (GEM) in 2014, it is ISPO at present who, together with the WHO, sets the standards for education of all P&O professionals around the world. A fantastic piece of work that initially started back in 1990!

Of course, you, as Member Societies, play a central role in postgraduate education. Did you know that throughout ISPO's network of Member Societies, around 12,000 people are being trained on P&O related topics every year?

A responsible society

Sound finances are essential to any society's development, and ISPO is adamant to allocate its limited resources to priority projects in line with its mission and vision, while at the same time securing the future of ISPO. I believe we act as a responsible society and are recognized as a reliable partner worldwide.

The roots of the ISPO tree

This report, which summarizes ISPO's activities over the past two years (2013-2015) highlights ISPO's key achievements; nevertheless, the most important work lies with all of you, providing good service to patients and continuing to learn and develop the P&O field.

Without all the hard working local affiliates, board and committee members, and all the other players who, in one way or another contribute to ISPO during their spare time on a voluntary basis, ISPO would not be where it is today.

Be proud of your work! Be proud of being part of this extraordinary global organization that is ISPO, as part of which we have shown and continue to demonstrate that we can work together globally, regardless of politics, cultural differences, language barriers, etc. towards one common aim: raising the quality of the service to the patient.

I am very proud to have had the opportunity to represent you all over the last two years as President of ISPO. Thank you very much for your confidence and trust.

I sincerely and wholeheartedly thank all of you for your never ending support over the years and willingness to continue to support and develop ISPO.

Warmest wishes,

Bengt Söderberg
ISPO President

Table of Contents

President's Foreword	3
Education, Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and Global Educators Meeting (GEM)	5
Consensus Conference on Lower Limb Amputation	9
Short Courses	10
USAID funded agreement: Rehabilitation of Physically Disabled People in Developing Countries	12
World Congress	14
Publications	15
Council of Industry Partners	17
International Collaboration	18
Advocacy Activities and Awareness Raising Campaign #ISPOWER	20
Research Activities and IPOS Program	22
ISPO Member Societies' Activities	23
Membership	26
Governance	27
ISPO International Leadership	28
Staff	29
Outlook 2015-2017	30

Education

ISPO activities around the evaluation and recognition of P&O education programs have continued to increase during the biennium 2013-15.

To date, ISPO has granted recognition to 15 Category I and 23 Category II training programs and professional pathways, which require regular follow-up and re-evaluation. As a result, more than 3,200 graduates of ISPO-recognized training programs have received an ISPO Category I or II certificate worldwide, giving evidence for the quality of their education.

In an effort to meet the increasing demand for ISPO recognitions, the Education Committee will continue to improve its processes and further formalize the recognition program during the next biennium. Through onsite trainings during site visits, as well as online learning, new evaluators will be recruited and educated.



Meeting of the ISPO Education Committee, Chicago, November 2014.

Category III professionals

Furthermore, recognizing that P&O technicians are an essential element in the overall provision of P&O services worldwide, in early 2015, the Education Committee adopted a position statement on Category III professionals, acknowledging the need for a formal evaluation and recognition process for their training.

Based on the Category III training standards developed by ISPO International in 2000, ISPO will aim to respond to the growing demand for well-trained technicians and a new Category III Subcommittee will be formed to establish a formal process to evaluate and recognize Category III training programs.

Background: Recognition of Training Programs in Prosthetics and Orthotics (P&O)

In collaboration with the World Health Organization, ISPO has developed and promotes guidelines for the training of prosthetics and orthotics professionals:

- **ISPO Category I** (Prosthetists/Orthotists);
- **ISPO Category II** (Orthopedic Technologists); and
- **ISPO Category III** (Orthopedic Technicians).

Upon request, ISPO, through its Education Committee, evaluates P&O education programs and associated professional pathways worldwide against its standards through a detailed revision of the entire program, including student entry requirements, teaching content, clinical training, quality and administrative procedures, with a view to reach ISPO Category I and II recognition. The Education Committee also helps to establish and develop P&O training programs around the world by providing advice and expertise to Governments, Universities and other training institutions.



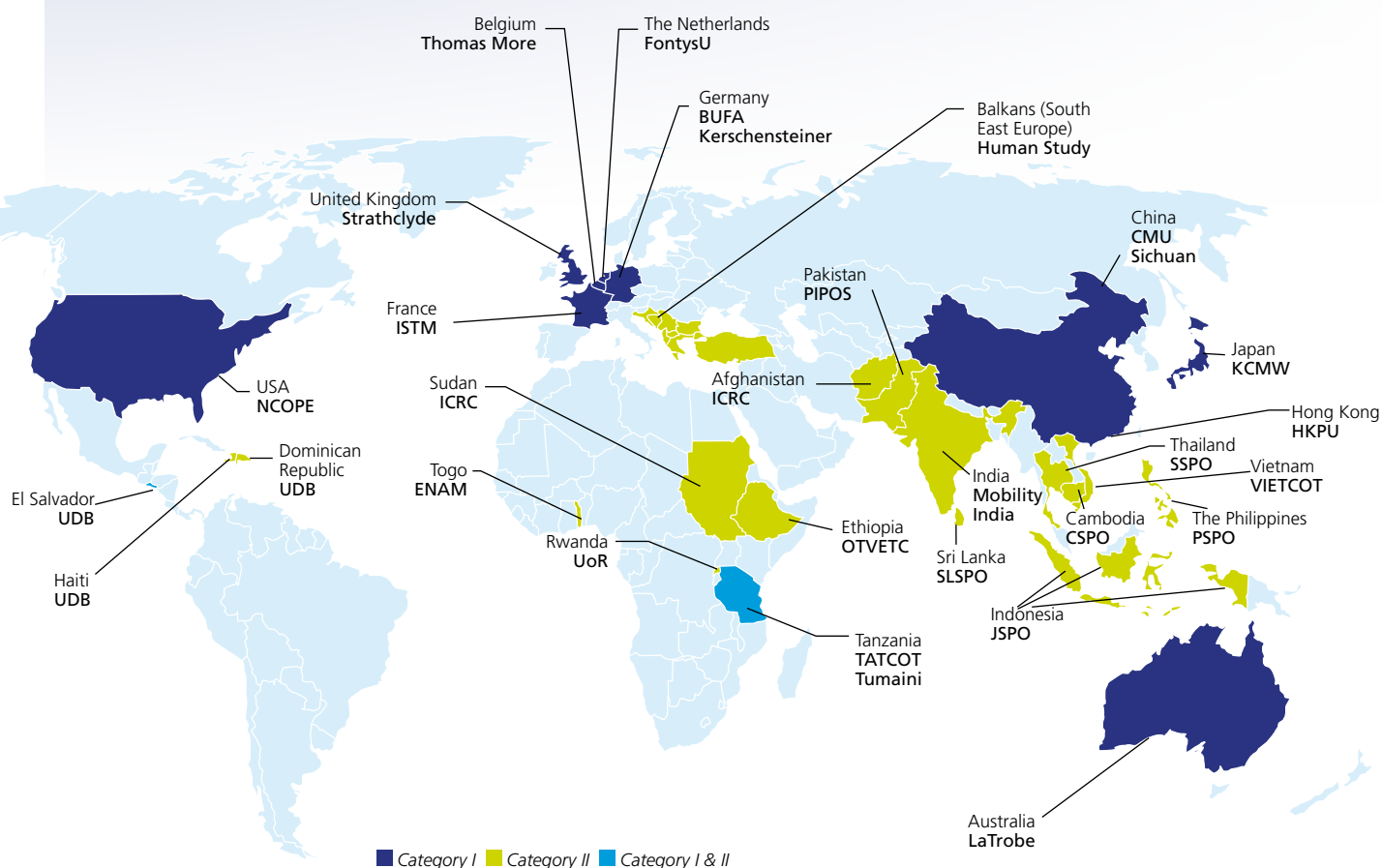
INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY FOR PROSTHETICS
AND ORTHOTICS

ISPO-recognized P&O training programs

During the biennium 2013-15, 41 onsite visits took place in 27 countries to consult and evaluate P&O training institutions. ISPO has awarded or renewed ISPO recognition to 15 Category I and 23 Category

11 training programs, and consulted a further 16 programs in the recognition process.

6 new training programs were recognized in Ethiopia, the Philippines, Thailand, Rwanda, Haiti and India.



The ISPO Education Committee takes this opportunity to thank the evaluators involved in ISPO activities during the biennium 2013-15, without whom these activities would not have taken place:

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| - Nathalie Anglehart | - Carson Harte | - Desire Ngendahayo | - Mary Scott |
| - Karl Becker | - Sepp Heim | - Achille Otou-Essono | - Sandra Sexton |
| - Dan Blocka | - Lise Hjelmstrom | - Alain Plouffe | - Harold Shangali |
| - Helen Cochrane | - Fred Holtkamp | - Michael Rechsteiner | - Claude Tardif |
| - Rowan English | - Hung-Hei Kwan | - Gordon Ruder | - Heinz Trebbin |
| - Elaine Figgins | - Aaron Leung | - Kazuhiro Sakai | - Mitsuhiro Uchida † |
| - Anthony Francis | - Favio Montane | - Bakht Sarwar | - Catherine Vallée |
| - Ritu Ghosh | - Joseph Nagels | - Shin Sasaki | |
| - Monica Gisela | - Bill Newman | - Christian Schlierf | |

Education standards & guidelines

Throughout the biennium, the ISPO Education Committee, through the Standards and Guidelines Subcommittee, continued its work of revising and updating the ISPO 'Guidelines for Training Personnel for Prosthetics and Orthotics Services' to reflect developments in the field.

An online survey was sent to P&O professionals to:

- Assess education standards in view of the challenges currently faced by P&O professionals in their daily activity;
- Determine educational needs in the various geographic regions that ISPO works in; and
- Get insights on current trends in the professional practice.

The results were analyzed by a professional statistician and thoroughly discussed amongst P&O educators at the ISPO Global Educators Meeting held in June 2014. A summary document will be published in ISPO's official journal *Prosthetics and Orthotics International* (POI). The survey outcomes will form the basis to update the standards and formulate recommendations.

eLearning

The ISPO eLearning Lecture Series, accessible through the members-only pages of the ISPO website, seeks to provide access to, and archive, some key lectures in broad discipline areas from around the world.

Reflecting the Society's multidisciplinary emphasis, the Series promotes a balance of thematic areas, including lectures on research results, clinical findings, topics of general interest, and contributions from the industry.

eLectures already made available as part of the ISPO eLearning offering include:

- ISPO World Congress 2013 recordings;
- ISPO International Workshop on Lower Limb Amputation Surgery and Related Prosthetics (2009);
- ISPO Global Educators Meeting 2014 recordings.

The eLearning Subcommittee of the ISPO Education Committee welcomes proposals from ISPO Member Societies and solicits contributions from national and regional meetings, World Congresses and directly from presenters.

Continuous Professional Development (CPD)

During this biennium a Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Working Group was formed under the leadership of Hung-Hei Kwan. Having started researching on existing CPD systems around the world, the group will continue its work in the next biennium. Its objective is to implement CPD systems for ISPO Category I and II accredited graduates/practitioners in those countries and regions where no such system is in place to help them maintain their professional standard.

Successful completion of EU Leonardo project and development of eLearning course "TrainOrthot"*



The EU Leonardo project TrainOrthot* was successfully completed in 2013 with the development and launch of a transnational online course designed to provide tailor-made vocational education and training for professionals in the field of foot pathologies, which has been recognized as a problem among Europe's population affecting a high percentage of people between the age of 40 and 70 years, who require skill improvement and competency development from the professionals treating them.

The TrainOrthot project partners - the Slovakian Association of Orthopedic Technicians (APTO), Tomáš Bat'a University Zlín (Czech Republic), the Instituto de Biomechánica de Valencia (Spain), the University of Salford (UK) and ISPO - developed four tailor-made e-courses to accommodate the needs of Slovak, Czech, Spanish and English speaking prosthetists, orthotists and orthopedic technologists, intending to enhance their proficiency in the diagnostic of the main foot pathologies and orthopedic prescriptions, with a special focus on the design and manufacture of footbed, cast and shoe solutions.

In March 2015, the Instituto de Biomechánica de Valencia, with the assistance of ISPO, ran a first edition of the e-course in English, which was offered at a discount to ISPO members. Further editions are planned in the future.

*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.

ISPO Global Educators Meeting 2014



Educators attending the Global Educators Meeting 2014



Masao Watanabe, member of the Kobe college host team



GEM 2014

In June 2014, the sun-filled city of Kobe (Japan) received over 130 P&O education professionals on the occasion of the first ever Global P&O Educators Meeting (GEM).

Members of the GEM Working Group

Dan Blocka	Achille Otou-Essono
Rowan English	Nerrolyn Ramstrand
Anthony Francis	Shin Sasaki
Carson Harte	Christian Schlierf
Rosie Jované C	Mary Scott
Birgit Krausse	Eiji Tazawa
Hung-Hei Kwan	Mitsuhiko Uchida †
Nuno Loureiro	Mami Yamashita
Bryan Malas	

Organized by ISPO International, with the outstanding support of ISPO Japan, the Kobe College of Medical Welfare and the Jikei Group of Colleges, the meeting gathered representatives from P&O training institutions, accrediting bodies, non-governmental and international organizations, as well as governmental bodies and industry.

In addition to aiming to discuss, coordinate, initiate and share P&O education-related activities, the GEM's main objective was to strengthen and deepen the P&O professions globally, through improved P&O education, and with an increased communication and collaboration between P&O schools across the globe.

Participants discussed issues pertaining to the future of P&O education, the ISPO/WHO Standards & Guidelines, the best educational methods to guarantee effective and efficient learning and other topics in over 20 different sessions.

The outcomes of the different discussions have been formulated into a set of recommendations that have been included in the GEM final report.

The final report, pictures and videos from the GEM are available on the GEM website at www.ispo-gem2014.org.

Finally, a note of remembrance goes to **Mitsuhiko Uchida**, the initial local strength in the GEM Working Group, who gave the event a place to be, and who sadly left us on 11 February 2014. His tragic and untimely passing left a void in the P&O



profession that can never truly be filled. Much of the success of the GEM can be attributed to Mitsu and his efforts to secure funding and hospitality preparation. It is for this and many other reasons that the Global Educators Meeting has been dedicated to the memory of Mitsu Uchida.

The next GEM is planned to be held in 2018.

Consensus Conference on Lower Limb Amputation

Between 5-7 February 2015, ISPO held a Consensus Conference on Lower Limb Amputation in Basingstoke, (UK).

Gathering 27 experts from Europe, the United States, China and Japan, the conference focused on lower limb amputation due to vascular problems and more specifically on:

- Surgery: indications for surgery, what is an adequate moment in time, how to decide on the level of amputation;
- Post-operative management: what are the goals, what is the preferred stump treatment, what are the differences based on the local situation (worldwide);
- Rehabilitation: specific programs; which disciplines are involved;
- Prosthetic prescription: basic principles, differences based on socio-economic aspects.

The conference will lead to the production of the following deliverables:

- Conference main report;
- Summary with the remaining questions for research;
- Recommendations for clinical practice;
- Journal publication and short courses;
- Feedback round after 4 years and a yearly public consultation round, with additional report.

Blatchford, Össur, Ottobock and Proteor kindly supported the conference, and ISPO thanks them for their commitment.



Consensus Conference in Basingstoke (UK), February 2015.

Short Courses

Short Courses are a fundamental part of ISPO educational activities, through which ISPO provides teaching and training to professionals in the field of prosthetics and orthotics and related areas. Traditionally held following Consensus Conferences, ISPO Short Courses aim to keep ISPO members and professionals in general informed of current issues and professional standards related to the care of people with physical disabilities.

During the biennium 2013-2015, ISPO has held and supported the following Short Courses:

Management of Stroke **January 2013 – Colombo, Sri Lanka**

Jointly organized by Handicap International, the Sri Lankan Ministry of Health and the national associations for prosthetics and orthotics (SLAPO), physiotherapy (SLSP), occupational therapy (SLSOT), the Sri Lanka School of Prosthetics and Orthotics (SLSPO) and ISPO, the short course and hands-



ISPO Short Course on stroke in Sri Lanka



Hands-on workshop, ISPO Short Course, Sri Lanka.

on workshop gathered 83 participants from four South Asian countries. The ISPO faculty working around Task Officer Liz Condie covered topics such as early post-stroke therapy and the principles and biomechanics of normal and stroke gait, as well as lower limb orthotic management.

Management of Stroke **August 2014 – Bangkok, Thailand**



Judy Ranka, member of the multidisciplinary and international ISPO faculty.



Roy Bowers, member of the ISPO faculty.



Liz Condie (third from right) and her team with some members of the local organizing group.

The Sirindhorn School of Prosthetics and Orthotics (SSPO) in Bangkok organized and hosted a short course on the treatment of stroke. Over 250 participants from 15 countries learned about contemporary post stroke medical, therapeutic and orthotic management, and saw a variety of multi-discipline hands-on demonstrations including negative model plaster casting, brace fabrications and fittings, delivered by local experts and the international ISPO faculty headed by Task Officer Liz Condie.

Management of Cerebral Palsy May 2013 - Kabul, Afghanistan



Jules Becher, member of the multidisciplinary and international ISPO faculty and Short Course participants.



Nienke Bergsma from the ISPO faculty.

Organized by the Afghanistan Association for Physical Therapy (AAPT), the Afghanistan National Society of Orthotics and Prosthetics (ANSOP), Handicap International and ISPO in the framework of the European Union funded project "Towards Disability Inclusive Development through a Strengthened Rehabilitation Sector in South Asia", this short course and subsequent hands-on workshops brought together 68 participants from 3 South Asian countries around the ISPO faculty headed by the ISPO Task Officer Jules Becher.

Management of Cerebral Palsy November 2013 – San Jose, Costa Rica

ISPO Costa Rica, in cooperation with Uniting Frontiers, held a short course on the multidisciplinary management of children with cerebral palsy. Led by ISPO Task Officer Jules Becher, this Short Course gathered participants from Costa Rica and surrounding countries, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Panama, Mexico, Guatemala, and even Spain.

Rehabilitation of the Diabetic Foot June 2014 – Jakarta, Indonesia



ISPO Short Course organizing team

Organized by Exceed, the Indonesian Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Association (PERDOSRI) and ISPO, this short course on the diabetic foot and its rehabilitation gathered more than 350 participants from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore and saw the creation of the new ISPO Member Society in Indonesia.

USAID funded agreement: rehabilitation of physically disabled people in developing countries

The biennium has seen the progression of ISPO's collaborative agreement with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Program goal

The program aims to facilitate the rehabilitation of persons with physical disabilities in developing countries. This will be accomplished through the following objectives:

1. Award 113 scholarships for professional training for prosthetists/orthotists and orthopaedic technologists.
2. Assess the impact of Category I and II training on the end user of prosthetic and orthotic devices, the quality of prosthetic/orthotic treatment, and service provision systems.
3. In collaboration with WHO, publish a new guideline for prosthetic and orthotic services.

Scholarship program

ISPO's popular scholarship program is due for completion in 2015. Following on from the success of a previous USAID funded program, this particular program has, since 2010, granted scholarship awards to selected ISPO recognized training courses to support 118 individuals. 114 are expected to successfully graduate by the end of 2015. With four students withdrawing from the program this gives a 96% progression rate to date.

ISPO believes the success of the students in progressing through their studies in this program is due to the adherence to selection criteria for candidates who have good to very good pre-entry grades in Science subjects and Mathematics, or equivalent, and proven ability in the language of tuition (English, French or Spanish). Expressing the commitment and passion to work with people with disabilities in their home country after graduation is also crucial to their advancement.



Graduate profile: Nitah Eshiloni (shown right) from Zambia, is one of the people who benefited from scholarship support. Nitah recently graduated from the ISPO Category II course at the Tanzania Training Centre for Orthopedic Technology. Nitah says *"I am looking forward to delivering my skills to help and work with physically challenged people. In addition to this, I will gain more experience through the different challenges which will present themselves and make a difference in the Prosthetics and Orthotics world in Zambia while working hand in hand with the Orthopedic Technologists in the country. I am also looking forward to furthering my studies and growing in the field"*.

On average, it is expected that Nitah and her fellow graduates care for about 250 clients each annually, meaning that graduates from this program can potentially assist over 28,500 people with disabilities each year once they begin their postgraduate clinical practice in developing countries.



INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY FOR PROSTHETICS
AND ORTHOTICS

Impact assessments

Over the years, there has been sustained investment of resources by ISPO, USAID and other non-government and governmental agencies.

These investments have included workforce capacity building activities, including the publication of standards of professional education and patient care, training program evaluations and professional scholarship provision. Today, ISPO certifies prosthetists/orthotists (ISPO Category I) or orthopedic technologists (ISPO Category II) graduating from ISPO evaluated courses of study. A series of Prosthetic and Orthotic impact assessments, performed in 13 countries around the world, were conducted to find out about the impact of training personnel to ISPO Category I and II standards.

ISPO found that the establishment and strengthening of basic and appropriate prosthetics/orthotics services for people with physical disabilities has been achieved. However, it was determined that services were under pressure and only able to meet the demand of 1 in 10 persons with disabilities who required them. Furthermore, there is an additional complexity of neglected disability in developing countries due to poverty, conflict and/or inadequate health systems and the workforce is struggling to assess and treat people with complex conditions.



The right prosthetic/orthotic service can empower the user. In our impact assessment, we met Alfonso, who was able to work with the assistance of prosthetic legs.

There is a desperate need for additional and new, creative solutions so that personnel, technology and services better meet the need/demand of people with disabilities in these developing countries.

Prosthetics and Orthotics service guidelines

Supported by USAID, ISPO has over the course of the biennium, been working to advocate for and propose new Prosthetics and Orthotics service guidelines. The work has involved a preliminary scoping of the literature and exploratory background work to determine the need and the potential audience for such guidelines. ISPO strongly supports the formation of WHO guidance on how to develop, expand, and improve the quality of prosthetics and orthotics services. The key objectives of Prosthetics and Orthotics guidelines would be to:

- Determine optimal models of prosthetics and orthotics services;
- Improve access to high quality affordable prostheses and/or orthoses (prosthetics/orthotics products);
- Develop more appropriate human resources (prosthetists and/or orthotists);
- Assist to develop national policies and programs including financing/business models.

World Congress

Through its meetings, ISPO aims at stimulating, promoting and disseminating multidisciplinary prosthetic and orthotic science, care and education and building the P&O community.

Since its inception in the early 1970s, ISPO has organized triennial and now biennial World Congresses around the globe. Hosted by an ISPO Member Society, this premiere global event serves as a forum for presentations and discussions of advances and findings in clinical, technical and basic research. It combines free paper presentations, instructional courses, symposia, and poster sessions with a large trade and scientific exhibition, and permits personal contacts between participants on informal and social occasions.

14th ISPO World Congress 2013



Held in Hyderabad, India, from February 4-7 2013, the 14th ISPO World Congress welcomed 1,800 participants from 85 countries across the globe. The host country was very well represented

with more than 500 Indian delegates visiting the congress and tradeshow.



Opening ceremony

Under the slogan "Inclusion, Participation and Empowerment", the global P&O community gathered in Hyderabad to learn about the latest advancements, products, facilities and assistance available in prosthetic and orthotic care.

The top class scientific program consisted of 17 topics addressed in over 100 posters, 260 oral



Jan Geertzen, ISPO International president 2010-2013 and Carson Harte, CEO of Exceed, Knud Jansen lecturer 2013.

presentations presented in 27 instructional courses, 21 symposia, 56 free paper sessions as well as 16 exhibitor workshops.



ISPO World Congress 2013 exhibition opening

15th ISPO World Congress 2015

The ISPO World Congress' 15th edition will take place in Lyon, France on June 22-25, 2015.



This edition's theme "AIM - Assessment, Integration & Mobility" – phrases

ISPO's drive on how to broaden and advance Prosthetic & Orthotic (P&O) services focused on the improvement of quality of life for users of P&O devices. The program features four key-note lectures, 56 symposia, 24 instructional courses, and 520 papers – to be presented in scheduled paper sessions and in the poster area.

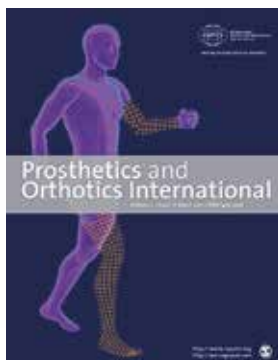
16th ISPO World Congress 2017

The ISPO World Congress 2017 will take place in Cape Town, South Africa, on May 8-11, 2017.



It will be the first ISPO World Congress held on the African continent.

Publications



ISPO's scientific journal ***Prosthetics and Orthotics International*** (POI) is an international, multidisciplinary journal targeted at all professionals who are interested in the medical, clinical, rehabilitation, technical, educational and research aspects

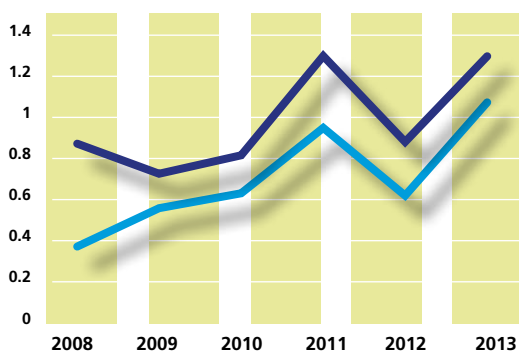
of prosthetics, orthotics and rehabilitation engineering, as well as related topics.

POI publishes peer reviewed articles, experimental and clinical research papers, case studies, technical notes, reports on prosthetics, orthotics and rehabilitation engineering practice, as well as book reviews. Since 2013, the journal is published 6 times a year.

Increased recognition from the field

Downloads to the journal increase each year, with a 12% growth from 2012-2013 and a healthy 14% increase between 2013 -2014. In total, over 115,000 articles were downloaded by readers across the world and close to 200,000 people visited the POI webpages in 2014.

In 2013, the POI Impact Factor (IF) has risen to its highest ever position: 1.073. POI is now ranked 40 out of 67 in the SCI Orthopedics category and 44 out of 63 journals in the SCI Rehabilitation category. This evolution illustrates increased recognition of the ISPO journal from the field and improved relevance and quality of POI articles.



■ 5 Year Impact Factor ■ Impact Factor

A wide range of authors from multiple disciplines

During the last few years, the journal has transformed in terms of the number of submissions as well as its scope of content. The editorial team wanted the journal to be attractive to a wide range of authors from multiple disciplines and areas of topics. In particular, there has been a conscious effort on receiving submissions from non-English speaking and developing countries – an ethos which strongly equates with ISPO's aims and objectives. The quality of submissions continues to increase, and it is noted that fewer case reports were submitted in the last 12 – 15 months – an observation deemed important when hierarchy of evidence and impact is considered.

Publishing in *Prosthetics and Orthotics International* (POI)

The editorial team will continue to publish clinical research in order to maximize the journal's appeal to clinicians, academics and scientists. By publishing in POI, authors can now expect:

- Peer reviews by prestigious editorial faculty, with first decision in under five weeks;
- Rapid (online) publication five weeks after acceptance of manuscript;
- High visibility – with the journal available in thousands of institutions throughout the world;
- All articles published online ahead of print on <http://poi.sagepub.com/>

ISPO is pleased to report that, as per the results of a recent survey, published authors have a very positive experience when publishing in POI, with 98% claiming that they would choose to publish in the journal again. The five reasons given as being most important when deciding to publish a paper in ***Prosthetics and Orthotics International*** are:

- Subject specialty to fit;
- Internationality of journal;
- Availability of an online submission and peer review system;
- Availability of a Publish Ahead of Print service;
- Reputation of publisher.

Bringing POI closer to ISPO members and readers



ISPO and POI publisher SAGE are working closely to ensure members are kept up to date with the latest POI news and research with regular sections in the ISPO e-Update newsletter. Thanks to promotion on the ISPO website and other communication channels, an increasing number of members are further signing up to receive the e-table of contents alerts for notification when each issue is published. The journal regularly features in email and social media marketing campaigns to contacts throughout the globe, with selected articles and special issues showcased to encourage higher visibility, engagement and readership.

POI Editor-In-Chief



Since January 2011, POI has been edited by Dr. Sarah Curran, Program Director (Podiatry), Cardiff School of Health Sciences, Wales. Over the past five years, Sarah has put her heart and soul in actively developing the journal, which has gained increased popularity within the professional community, increasing in frequency, usage and impact.

Sarah has now decided to step down as POI editor and an ad-hoc appointment committee is currently in the process of appointing her successor. Over her tenure, POI has significantly strengthened its position as the leading multidisciplinary journal for all professionals who have an interest in the medical, clinical, rehabilitation, technical, educational and research aspects of prosthetics, orthotics and rehabilitation engineering. We thank Sarah sincerely for the fantastic job she has performed and wish her every success in the future.

Other ISPO publications – ISPO eUpdate

Additional ISPO publications like the ISPO bi-monthly eUpdate sent to more than 6,000 P&O professionals all over the world, continue to generate increased interest from the field. With the help of the respective Member Societies, the eUpdate is now translated into Chinese, Spanish and German.

Copyright/Translation policy

In an effort to ensure control over ISPO publications' use and circulation, the ISPO Publications Committee reviewed and updated the ISPO copyright and translation policies which foresee that all requests for translation and reuse of ISPO materials (such as news items, newsletters, images, etc.) are to be approved by the ISPO Publications Committee and has established an official application procedure for the use or translation of ISPO material.

ISPO & Social media

ISPO's group on **LinkedIn** now gathers more than 4,000 P&O professionals, and ISPO's **Facebook** page boasts 1,600 followers in addition to its own pictures gallery on **Flickr**. The social media outlets are being increasingly used as a platform for live updates during ISPO events (e.g. the coverage done at the Global Educators Meeting in June 2014 was very well received by the ISPO Facebook community).



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 for strategic dialogue, joint exploration of common challenges in the P&O fields 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.

Following an official kick-off meeting in November 2013 in Lyon gathering members of the ISPO Executive Board, industry partners and special guests - representatives of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Industry Council has held regular e-Meetings and a yearly face-to-face meeting to exchange knowledge, expectations and identify concrete ways for cooperation.

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 from numerous advantages, such as one face-to-face general meeting with ISPO leadership per year, exposure on the ISPO website, free copies of POI and reduced registration rates at ISPO international events.



International Collaboration

Partner organizations

ISPO recognizes the importance of collaborations with interested partners active on the international scene to improve the quality of life for persons who may benefit from prosthetic, orthotic, mobility and assistive devices on a worldwide basis.

With a view to further formalizing cooperation with its Open Board members, ISPO has signed a series of Memoranda of Understanding to foster exchange of information, cross-promotion and increased cooperation on dedicated projects.



ISPO in official relations with the WHO

The World Health Organization (WHO) Executive Board has, at its 134th session held January 2014, confirmed its wish to maintain ISPO in official relations with the WHO following the review of the report on the collaboration between the two organizations during the period 2010-2013.

Through its activities, ISPO contributes to several of WHO's strategic objectives:

- Prevent and reduce disease and disability;
- Publish knowledge and evidence to support health decision-making;
- Develop international norms and guidelines for the training of healthcare professionals, as well as the use of medical products and technologies.

ISPO looks forward to a successful continuation of this important partnership and joint work, and is particularly keen to contribute to WHO's newly launched initiative, 'Global Cooperation on Assistive Health Technology'.

Sponsoring & twinning

In recognition of the disparities around the world and in an effort to enhance collaboration within the ISPO network of professionals and organizations, ISPO has worked to facilitate:

- Sponsoring of ISPO memberships for individuals in less resourced countries;
- Twinning between ISPO Member Societies.

ISPO Member Societies engaging in twinning activities:

- ISPO Sweden and ISPO Canada with ISPO Rwanda, for the organization of a workshop on the Manufacturing of Ischial Containment Socket (March 2014, Rwanda). Taking place at the Inkurunziza Rehabilitation Centre in Kigali (Rwanda), the workshop gathered 8 orthopaedic technologists. Building on this success, a similar workshop took place on 29 July 2014 on the orthotic management of club foot, at the Inkurunziza Rehabilitation Centre.
- ISPO Norway with ISPO Cambodia, for the exchange of technical and professional knowledge that would improve the way ISPO Cambodia works in the field.

ISPO Nigeria has also expressed interest in partnering with an experienced ISPO Member Society.



Workshop on the Manufacturing of Ischial Containment Socket organized in March 2014 in Rwanda.



Advocacy Activities and Awareness Raising Campaign

As a non-governmental organization in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO), ISPO has enjoyed a longstanding and fruitful collaboration with the WHO. Building on this relationship, ISPO and the WHO held a meeting in April 2013 to review previous work between the two organizations and agree on common future priorities.

Conscious of the urgent need to undertake concrete actions to improve access to mobility devices worldwide, ISPO and the WHO agreed on a number of activities for the period 2013 – 2016 including especially:

- To support the development of the WHO Rehabilitation Guidelines, especially on Assistive Technology; and
- To develop Prosthetics and Orthotics Service Guidelines (as part of ISPO's Collaborative Agreement with USAID) – including a review of the WHO/ISPO Guidelines for Training Personnel in Developing Countries for Prosthetics and Orthotics Services.

Further, in May 2013, ISPO took part in the 66th World Health Assembly (WHA) (which put disability on its agenda for the first time since 2005) where it made an official statement encouraging the WHA to prioritize access to assistive technologies and promote a global initiative to increase the access to quality assistive devices including prostheses, orthoses, wheelchairs and other mobility devices for persons with disabilities and older people.

In September 2013, together with Exceed, the International Disability Alliance, the Nippon Foundation, Rehabilitation International, USAID, UNICEF and Walk Free Philippines, ISPO supported the Republic of the Philippines, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the World Health Organization (WHO), in organizing the "Assistive Technology Opens Doors" event.

Held in the fringes of the United Nations High-Level Meeting on Disability and Development, the event gathered Heads of State and Governments



Nils-Odd Tønnevoll reading out ISPO statement at the World Health Assembly meeting, May 2013.

to discuss disability and development under the theme "The way forward, a disability inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond".

The event drew on good technical and economic practices from a broad range of stakeholders, including especially the Republic of the Philippines where Exceed has established an ISPO recognized school that trains P&O professionals.

Items addressed included:

- Key challenges in improving access to Assistive Technology (AT);
- Actions for the global community to support Member States in fulfilling their obligations related to AT;
- Improving development funds' contribution to funding assistive devices – as a basic need.
- Stimulating global action on AT;
- Involving persons with disabilities, their families, and organizations in the process.

Following the event, the meeting partners - including ISPO - committed to foster global cooperation on Assistive Technology (AT) to ensure increased access to assistive technology for the 1 billion people who currently experience some form of disability.

A resulting **Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology (GATE)** initiative was launched aiming to provide a more formalized international cooperation and include AT in the forthcoming international normative framework on disability and development.



Since then, the WHO held the first GATE meeting in June 2014 gathering all interested stakeholders and agreeing on the creation of 4 working groups focusing respectively on advocacy, research, norms and standards and innovation. P&O will be looked at as part of a specific P&O subgroup on each of these topics.



First GATE meeting, June 2014

In addition, an online discussion platform was launched to allow ongoing live exchange between stakeholders.



Chapal Khasnabis, WHO, initiated and leads the Global Assistive Health Technology (GATE) initiative.

Thanks to its close relationship with the WHO, ISPO aims to be involved in every step of the GATE initiative and will work hard to represent the interests of P&O professionals and their patients.

ISPO Awareness raising campaign



In June 2015, ISPO launches its #ISPOWER campaign aimed to raise public and decision makers' awareness and understanding of the importance of assistive health technologies in helping to transform the lives of persons with impaired mobility and integrate them into society.

#ISPOWER further aims to:

- Create a global movement around improved access to assistive health technology and P&O care, social inclusion and mobility for P&O users;
- Set up a central platform around which all players – international and regional organizations, ISPO Member Societies, local user groups, etc.- can build.
- Provide an additional global vehicle to help P&O users raise their voice and step up their activities;
- Stimulate ISPO Member Society advocacy/ awareness activities by providing them with materials as well as usage guidance;
- Foster knowledge exchange, information sharing, partnerships, etc. amongst P&O professionals across the world.

Key facts and figures

- Around **354 million*** people (**0.5 %** of the world's population) are estimated to be in need of prosthetic and orthotic devices. Only **5 to 15%*** of the existing demand for prosthetic and orthotic devices is being met.
- The need for mobility devices is likely to increase due to the spread of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes as well as the increasing aging population.

* Source: WHO

Research Activities

Quantitative analysis of human locomotion is an important tool for evidence-based practice in prosthetics and orthotics care. To help interpret motion analysis results, the ISPO Scientific Committee launched the Gait Outcomes (GO) Initiative aiming to maintain and make available databases of research and clinical analyses outcomes from the literature that can be used for comparisons to motion analysis results from the clinic or in research studies.

ISPO members and people working in the prosthetics and orthotics field are encouraged to join this initiative by:

- Sharing the GO documents and databases with colleagues to help disseminate this knowledge;
- Sending relevant publications to the ISPO Scientific Committee for inclusion in the databases;
- Contributing by expanding the database with results from the literature;
- Sharing data from clinical facilities that is not available in the literature.

The first GO document assembles and provides statics on level walking stride parameters for unilateral transtibial and transfemoral amputees. Stride parameters include measures such as walking speed, stride length, and cadence. The document is in Excel spreadsheet format to enable easy sharing and access.

IPOS Program

Increased promotion of P&O scientific developments has been emphasized as a priority by the ISPO Scientific Committee (SC) since its establishment in 2010. Indeed, it is generally agreed that current scientific practices related to P&O are still in their early stages. However, evidence-based practices are highly important to sustain and develop high quality P&O care and such quality care can only be achieved based on the implementation and publication of high level, well conducted scientific studies.

In view of the above, ISPO has initiated the IPOS program to support new researchers in

enhancing their knowledge of basic procedures and requirements for publication in conference proceedings or research/clinical journals related to prosthetics and orthotics.

IPOS will thus contribute to improving the scientific contributions at the ISPO World Congress with a view to – in the longer term – raise the level of scientific practices related to P&O services in general.

ISPO, through its Scientific Committee, coordinates applications from Mentors and Mentees and sets up one-to-one mentorships.

ISPO Member Societies' Activities

ISPO Member Societies are the blood of ISPO International. Over the last two years a high number of education and awareness raising initiatives have taken place in various parts of the world owing to the hard work, passion and professionalism of ISPO Member Societies and their representatives. In addition, through bi-lateral exchanges, twinning and other cooperation mechanisms, a number of collaborative projects have emerged thanks to ISPO MS joining forces.

This section provides only a snapshot of some ISPO Member Societies' activities. Much more is happening on the ground!

Education, capacity building

ISPO Hungary organized a "Basics of Prosthetics and Orthotics" 4-day-training course (22 hours) for orthopedic, traumatology and rehabilitation specialists candidates at the Medical University of Budapest and Medical University of Debrecen.

ISPO Rwanda facilitated a workshop on "Manufacturing of Ischial Containment Socket". Together with the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, ISPO Rwanda will be organizing an ISPO Short Course on "Orthotic Management of Cerebral Palsy" on November 9-11, 2015.

ISPO UK held its Annual Scientific Meetings (in Blackpool in 2013 and London in 2014) gathering high level speakers and more than 200 attendees.

ISPO Turkey organized a "Voluntary Lower Limb Prosthetic Training Service" for Syrian technicians on the Turkish-Syrian border between January 6-31 2014. In addition, the Eastern European Regional Congress in Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO-EPO2014) was held between October 16-18, 2014.

ISPO Turkey has further organized a number of symposia and workshops on topics such as orthoses on spina bifida, scoliosis and diabetic foot etc.

A P&O certificate training has just been started by ISPO partner Human Study, in collaboration with ISPO Turkey, NSPPL and Sequa at Ankara University Prosthetics and Orthotics Laboratory with a view to receiving ISPO Cat II recognition.

ISPO Australia's Advanced Instructional Courses for 2013 and 2014 were both highly successful: - "Designing, aligning and tuning the AFO-footwear combination" with Elaine Owen as facilitator and a "Cerebral Palsy Masterclass" with multiple guest presenters. Both attracted a capacity enrolment of multidisciplinary clinicians from all parts of Australia.

ISPO Australia's Outreach Committee has worked to re-establish a temporary operational rehabilitation centre in Tungaluru following a fire at the end of 2012 which had destroyed the workshop. They have also assisted with the planning and development of the new center which building should be completed towards the end of 2015.

ISPO Canada organized its biennial symposium in Toronto in October 2013. **ISPO Czech Republic** organized their 4th conference on June 20, 2014, in Olomouc with 10 speakers and 87 participants. A hand surgery and thermoplastic splints seminar was also held on January 18-19, 2014 in Ostrava.



ISPO Czech Republic 4th conference, Art Centre of Palacký University, Olomouc.

ISPO Pakistan organized a short course on "Orthotic Management of Cerebral Palsy" on May 3-4, 2014, a one day seminar on "Assistive Technology for Persons with Disabilities" on June 12, 2014 and a short course on "Orthotic Management of Scoliosis" on October 11-12, 2014.



ISPO Pakistan leadership, short course on Orthotic Management of Scoliosis, Peshawar (Pakistan), October 2014.

ISPO Sri Lanka has worked on developing programs giving multidisciplinary training and organized in 2013 a short course and a workshop on "Orthotic and Therapeutic Management of Stroke Patients", and a "Scientific Paper Writing Workshop on Orthotic Management of CP". In 2015, ISPO Sri Lanka held a "Diabetic Footcare" training.



Participants to the ISPO Sri Lanka workshop on Diabetic Footcare.

ISPO Norway offers a stipend that members can apply for twice a year, to promote and support professional development amongst the Norwegian ISPO Society's members. In 2013, the stipend supported a physiotherapist and a prosthetist/orthotist who both worked on a Master's degree.

ISPO Norway held yearly seminars covering different topics each year: "Lower Limb Socket Design and Rehabilitation" in 2013 and "The Foot in Diabetes - Rehabilitation and Prosthetic and Orthotic Management" in 2014.

ISPO Sweden has organized two 2-day courses on amputation and prosthetics (130 attendees) and outcome measures (50 attendees) and two 1-day courses on orthotics for upper extremity neurological disorders (40 attendees) and ICF and ISO definitions (50 attendees).

ISPO South Africa (SA) hosted the "Africa Unite Rehabilitation Congress" in Cape Town in September 2014, which attracted over 220 delegates to the three day event. In addition, ISPO SA had a delegation attend the biannual FATO Congress held in October 2013, in Yamoussoukro, Cote d' Ivoire, which cemented relationships with colleagues in Africa. Seven South African individuals attended the five-day event.

Awareness raising

ISPO Pakistan worked hard to raise awareness amongst the general public, professionals and persons with disabilities about the importance and the role of ISPO and prosthetic/orthotic services in Pakistan. Key activities included celebration of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities in 2012, 2013 and 2014, of the World Cerebral Palsy Day in 2013 and 2014 and of the Pakistan Prosthetic and Orthotic Day on January 14 2014. Furthermore, ISPO Pakistan organized a solidarity visit to the bomb blast victims of All Saints Church, to the Qissa Khawani and FATA Secretariat bus blast. An official slogan and flag launch for ISPO Pakistan "Moving for Change to Enable people with Disabilities" was created and ISPO Pakistan set up its presence on Social Media (Facebook), etc.



Wheelchair race winner receiving trophy from ISPO Pakistan leaders on International Day of Persons with Disabilities, Peshawar (Pakistan), December 2014.

ISPO Sri Lanka has worked on creating awareness about Prosthetics and Orthotics in the local community and its benefits and ensured publication of the biannual journal on Prosthetics and Orthotics.

Collaboration

In line with its mission and as part of a twinning partnership with **ISPO Sweden**, **ISPO Rwanda** donated books to the Department of Prosthetics & Orthotics of the University of Rwanda, for students consultation. Thanks to the NGO Prosthetics Hope International and ISPO partner Physicians for Peace, ISPO Rwanda could recently provide two trans-femoral amputees with prostheses worth a total of USD 2,000.

ISPO Sweden, ISPO Canada and ISPO Germany have worked together to support ISPO Rwanda in successfully implementing their activities.



Mr. Ernest and Rama, the beneficiaries of the two TF prostheses provided freely by ISPO Rwanda and partners.

ISPO Norway has established a twinning project with ISPO Cambodia and supported ISPO Cambodia's seminar in Prey Veng on December 26 -27, 2014 with a lecturer from Norway.



ISPO Norway representative lecturing at ISPO Cambodia Annual Congress.

ISPO Central America

ISPO Panama, ISPO Costa Rica, ISPO Guatemala, ISPO Dominican Republic, ISPO Mexico, ISPO El Salvador and ISPO Honduras have worked in close collaboration resulting in the formation of the ISPO Uniting Frontiers.

In parallel, AMESUR, composed of ISPO branches in South America - **Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, Colombia** and **Ecuador** was formed and as a result of these two groups, the Latin American Council/ Board of ISPO was established.

The Latin American Council of ISPO undertakes efforts to promote continuous education for P&O professionals. It also coordinates the collaborative

work amongst all Latin American countries that have taken on the task of translating the ISPO eUpdate on a rotational basis for the benefit of all Spanish-speaking members of ISPO.



6th Uniendo Fronteras Forum, Quito (Ecuador), October 2014.



This regional collaboration in turn has enabled continuation of the bilingual magazine "Uniting Frontiers" and the "Uniting Frontiers Forum".

Mutual support has also allowed the establishment of new ISPO Member Societies while maintaining existing ones and increasing the total number of associate members representing different sectors (P&O, PT, OT, Medical Specialists, Students and Representatives from related industries / manufacturers, distributors and NGOs).

The ISPO Member Societies in Latin America further successfully coordinated events with ISPO US and the American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association (AOPA), expanding with them the network of professional collaboration.

Work is already moving forward on the organization of the 7th "Uniting Frontiers Forum" in conjunction with the Latin American Medical Rehabilitation Association (AMLAR) - an event to be held in August 2016 in San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

ISPO US was involved in the organization of numerous events including the PacRim conference 2014 and the Uniendo Fronteras Ecuador Conference 2014. ISPO US further held the Cuba Educational Tour 2015, a tour featuring visits to rehab facilities, P&O facilities, hospitals with professional lectures and interchange and hosted the special workshop "Skills for Life" 2015 on bilateral upper extremity amputations gathering both patients and professionals.

ISPO Chinese-Taipei took part in the organization of the Asian Prosthetic and Orthotic Scientific Meeting 2014 (APOSOM 2014) which took place in Taipei, Taiwan on November 28-30, 2014. The ISPO International Executive Board was kindly invited to participate in the event.

Membership



■ ISPO Member Societies ■ New ISPO Member Societies (between 2013 and 2015).

ISPO Member Societies

All ISPO members in a country or region where no ISPO Member Society exists yet are encouraged to join together 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.

It is very encouraging to see the dynamism and commitment of colleagues, who are keen to build and grow the network of P&O and related professionals in their countries. Interest to form ISPO Member Societies has been received from professionals in ten other countries, so the positive developments are continuing.

Membership development

ISPO has witnessed a 7% growth in membership numbers during this biennium. Presence of ISPO members has been expanded to 110 countries worldwide. Following the approval of 12 new Member Societies, ISPO counts 62 Member Societies across the globe at the beginning of 2015.

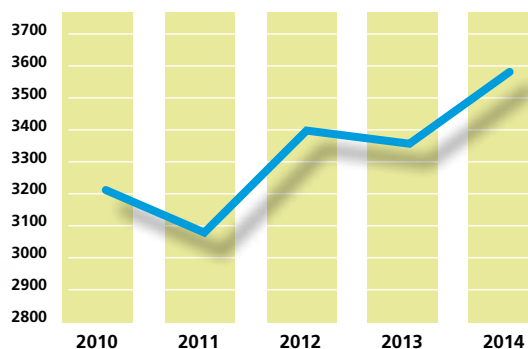
With over **3,500 members** (individual professionals as well as institutions and organizations) at the end of 2014, ISPO represents a wide international

multidisciplinary network and provides an efficient platform for timely scientific exchange, debate and communication.

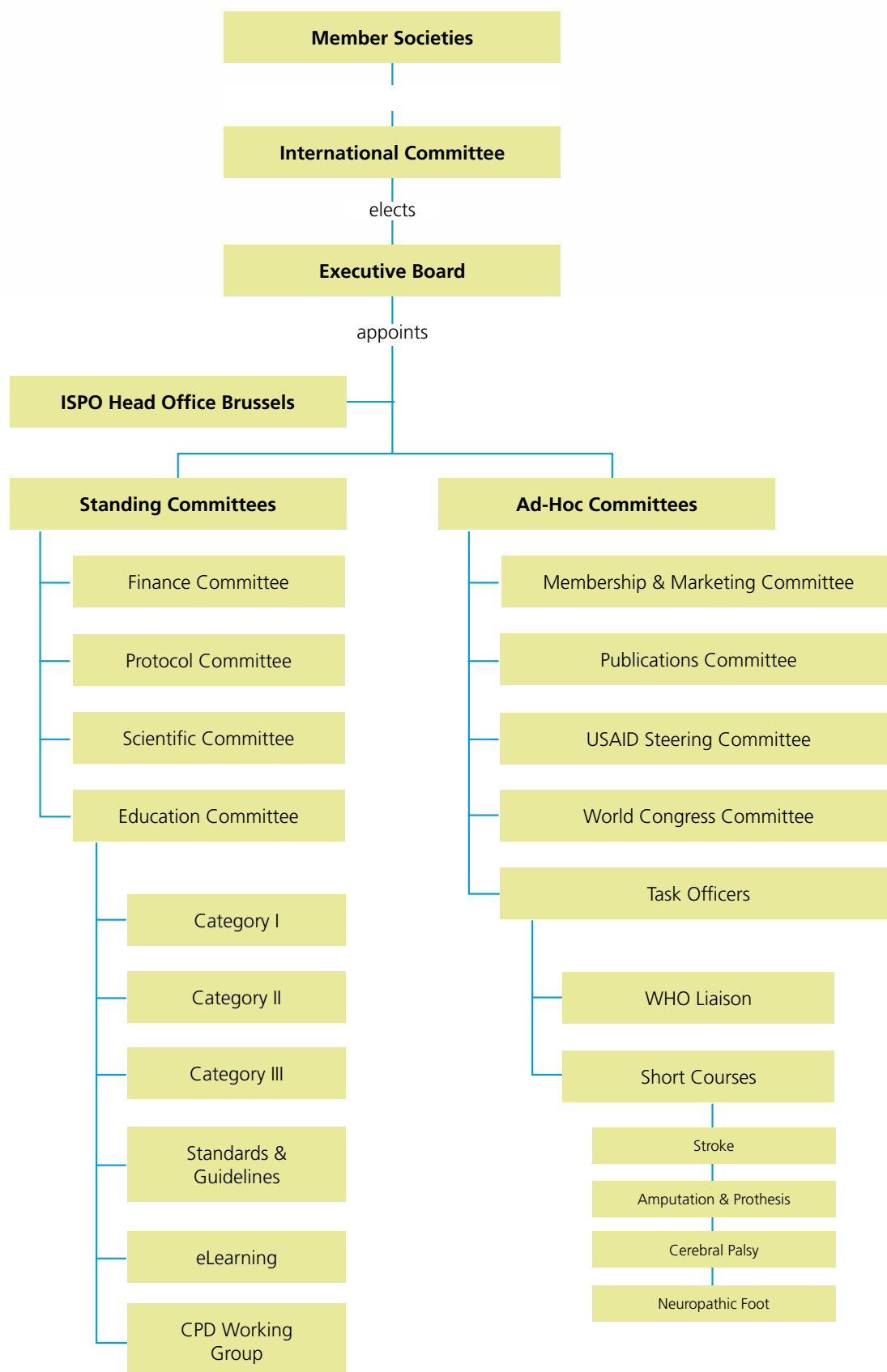
ISPO has a retention rate of about 71%. To boost timely renewals, ISPO undertakes yearly electronic renewal campaigns.

The Society will continue to strive to retain and further grow its membership in developed countries, while also seeking to strengthen its representation in the emerging world. Also, the balance of the different professions that are represented in the organization shall be further enhanced. Finally, ISPO will continue to work on expanding ISPO membership's added-value.

TOTAL ISPO MEMBERS



ISPO Governance structure



ISPO International Leadership

On behalf of the global P&O community, ISPO extends its thanks to its leaders for their foresight, dedication and commitment to contribute to ISPO's mission, and also to the ISPO committee members who ensure the success and progress of the Society's activities and programs. 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 International Executive Board (2013-2015)



Bengt Söderberg
(Sweden/Thailand) – President



Rajiv S. Hanspal
(United Kingdom) – President Elect



Jan H. B. Geertzen
(Netherlands) – Immediate Past President



Nils-Odd Tønnevoll
(Norway) – Treasurer



Friedbert Kohler
(Australia) – Secretary



Laura Burgess
(United Kingdom) – Member



Takaaki Chin
(Japan) – Member



Carson Harte
(United Kingdom/ South East Asia) – Member



Rosie Jované C.
(Panama/USA) – Member



Harmen van der Linde (Netherlands) – Member



Man-Sang Wong
(Hong Kong) – Member

ISPO Committee Chairs and Task Officers

Education Committee – Bryan Malas (USA) – Chair

Finance Committee – Nils-Odd Tønnevoll (Norway) – Treasurer

Scientific Committee – Harmen Van der Linde (Netherlands) – Chair

Protocol Committee – Rajiv S. Hanspal (United Kingdom) – Chair

Publications Committee – Dirk Böcker (Germany) – Chair

Membership and Marketing Committee – Friedbert Kohler (Australia) – Chair

World Congress Committee – Bengt Söderberg (Sweden/Thailand) – Chair

USAID Steering Committee – Rosie Jované C. (Panama/USA) – Chair

Short Course Task Officer – Takaaki Chin (Japan)

Task Officer Stroke – Elizabeth Condie (United Kingdom)

Task Officer Amputation & Prosthetics – Harmen van der Linde (Netherlands)

Task Officer Cerebral Palsy – Jules Becher (Netherlands)

Task Officer Neuropathic Foot – Carolina Schiappacasse (Argentina)

ISPO-WHO Liaison Officer – Carson Harte (United Kingdom)

Staff

Since January 2010, ISPO International is administered out of a Head Office in Brussels, Belgium, and run by a multinational team of professional staff allocating part of their time to ISPO, thus totaling the equivalent of 3 Full Time Employees (FTEs).



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



Head of Operations
Birgit Krausse



**Advocacy &
Communications Manager**
Adeline Prieur



Advocacy Manager
Sara Martin



Society Coordinator
Nuno Loureiro



Membership Administrator
Daniel Smith



Society Administrator
Giulia Miotto

For the organization of the ISPO World Congress 2015, the team expanded and further included:



Congress Director
Keren Moses Deront



Congress Manager
Michael Podt

Outlook 2015-2017



Over the last two years, ISPO has ensured that it is involved in key international discussions led by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations (UN) in relation to Assistive Health Technology (AT) by organizing events, participating in meetings, making official statements, etc. ISPO has made significant progress over the last two years and has certainly achieved increased recognition from its partners on the international scene.

However, more than ever before we need to continue working with global stakeholders to meet our patients' growing needs and improve their care and functional ability.

It is estimated that currently only 5%-15% of the people who require assistive devices and technologies actually have access to them. In 2050, it is anticipated that there will be 2 Billion people in need of Assistive Devices. Only 1 in 20 would have access to them*.

In addition, people with disabilities have the same, if not greater general health care needs. They are three times more likely to be denied health care and four times more likely to receive unsatisfactory treatment*.

ISPO endeavours to raise global awareness and campaign to sensitize governments, users and P&O professionals to the importance of working together to address people with disabilities and their need for adequate assistive devices. In addition, ISPO will take an active part in the WHO GATE initiative aimed at providing a platform for global cooperation on the matter.

ISPO, with its unique global network of Member Societies is in a privileged position to shape the international agenda for people with disabilities and access to AT.

I would like to invite all ISPO Member Societies to continue working with passion and dedication.

You form the core of ISPO and it is only with your involvement, creativity and professionalism that we will be able to change the lives of our patients. ISPO International will continue to do its utmost to support you in your efforts.

Warmest wishes,
Rajiv S. Hanspal
ISPO President-Elect

*Source: WHO



3,588

individual members



Presence in

110

countries



12

professions represented



In relationship with

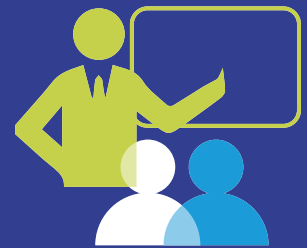
15

international partner organizations
through its Open Board



9

multinational companies in its
Council of Industry Partners



38

ISPO recognized P&O training
programmes around the world



15

World Congresses

54

Short Courses

8

Consensus Conferences

conducted since 1970



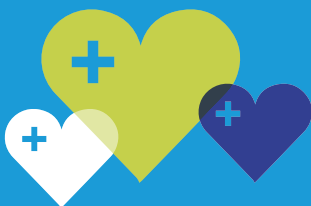
118

scholarships granted under
the 2008-2015 USAID
funding programme



3,272

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



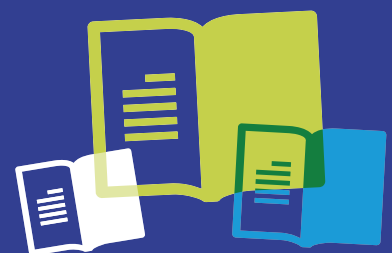
1,145,200

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



336

volunteers actively conducting
ISPO Member Societies'
activities worldwide



7,700

institutions accessing ISPO's
scientific journal *POI* worldwide



INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY FOR PROSTHETICS
AND ORTHOTICS

www.ispoint.org

International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO)

22-24 Rue du Luxembourg
1000 Brussels
Belgium

ispo@ispoint.org