



International Society for  
Prosthetics and Orthotics

# 2023–2025 Biennium Report

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2023

2025

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# 01. About ISPO

# About ISPO

The International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO) is a global, multidisciplinary, non-governmental organisation aiming to improve the quality of life for persons who may benefit from the rehabilitation practice of prosthetic, orthotic, mobility, and assistive technology. ISPO is sometimes misunderstood as representing only prosthetists and orthotists, but, in fact, it is far more inclusive than that. 'P' and 'O' stands for Prosthetics and Orthotics and, for more than 50 years, ISPO has provided an effective platform for the exchange and communication on all aspects of the science and practice associated with the provision of mobility products (prostheses, orthoses, wheelchairs) rehabilitation engineering, wheelchairs and related areas, such as therapy. Membership is multi-disciplinary and thus includes professionals of all disciplines with an interest in the subject and the service.

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## ISPO Vision

A world where all people have equal opportunity for full participation in society.

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## ISPO Mission

To enhance the quality of life for everyone who may benefit from prosthetic, orthotic, mobility, and assistive devices by:

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

# ISPO Values

ISPO Strategic Plan 2024-2030 is based on the following values:



## **INCLUSION:**

We welcome all nations, regions, age groups, genders, and abilities to take part in ISPO activities and actions.



## **EXCHANGE:**

We value the exchange within ISPO and beyond, with the wider community, and we recognize and acknowledge the strength that comes from the diversity of approaches.



## **COLLABORATION:**

We value the transformative impact of collaboration. We partner with others who share our values and objectives, believing that we can achieve something bigger than we could alone.



## **LEADERSHIP:**

We aspire to lead efforts to advance equitable access to quality rehabilitation and prosthetic, orthotic, orthopaedic footwear, wheelchair care.



## **EDUCATION AND CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

We value education and continuous professional development to ensure appropriate and quality services.



## **TRANSPARENCY:**

We strive for efficiency, effectiveness, and meaningful results across our work, and we are accountable for our efforts. We value transparent relationships with our National Member Societies, members, and partners.

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social media



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# 02. Foreword

# Foreword from the 2023–2025 President

## David Constantine



Welcome to the ISPO Biennium Report. May I start by saying what a privilege it has been to be The President of ISPO for the last two years. I have thoroughly enjoyed the role. The support I have

been provided by my colleagues on the Board, staff at our Secretariat office and all the Committees has been invaluable to help me throughout. Without this collaboration and commitment by volunteers, this job would not be possible.

Highlights of this Biennium have been creating a “leadership team” of the Past President Claude Tardif, President-elect Sandra Ramdial our Treasurer Jon Batzdorff and more recently Bryan Malas, President from 2027. We meet weekly to discuss issues and are able to make plans to put to the board for a final decision. This has worked extremely well and has helped me enormously. I really appreciate their experience and knowledge of the sector but also the workings of ISPO.

The Board and Committee Chairs and all their committees have been an invaluable help in keeping the organisation committed to supporting the sector for those requiring rehabilitation in the field of mobility and the allied services that enable people become mobile and independent in society.

This biennium we decided to take the day-to-day administration of the society out of the hands of the company we used in Brussels for the last 10 years and take on three contract consultants, two from the original company and one new to the organisation. This started in October 2024 and is working extremely well. We are currently finishing up a transition phase where the day-to-day running of the organisation and support on a weekly basis will be handled by these three people. One of the staff from the original office has been hired solely to focus on the key role of ISPO Accreditation and Auditing of international prosthetics and orthotics schools. Something ISPO is known and respected for. We have also taken on a bookkeeper and a new auditor, and we have transitioned to a piece of international bookkeeping software which is making our financial management, reporting, transparency more efficient. Jon Batzdorff our treasurer has worked tirelessly to get this done.

Other achievements is a renewed focus on the “professional recognition” of the prosthetic and orthotic occupations globally so that the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the WHO Workforce Recognition team will promote the fact that fully trained prosthetists and orthotists are worth much more than the current rate that many Ministries of Health, particularly in low-income countries. Currently many ministries of health only pay what ILO recommends which is not a living wage, particularly for somebody who has spent three years studying prosthetics and orthotics. The wheels of UN agencies turn slowly, but there have been a number of key steps forward in the last year. My thanks to Bryan Malas for volunteering to rekindle previous work on this and take up the mantle and continuing to push the agenda forwards.

One of the things I really wanted to address from the beginning of my presidency is the ease of joining and rejoining ISPO. It became clear that the database we run in the background of the website is suitable and viable, however our website was not suitable for running the front engine of the membership database. As many of you will have experienced, it was not easy to renew your membership in 2024. Our new consultant who has a great deal of experience in IT and systems has been invaluable in helping us do this. We are creating a new website suitable for fronting many of ISPO's activities seamlessly.

During my time as President, I have been invited by many conferences and National Member Societies to represent the Society which I have been very proud to do. In November 24 I attended the first Arabic Regional Congress held in Amman. It was a great success much of which was to do with the hard work of ISPO board member, Raed Aktabar and his regional team.

I hope to see many of you in Stockholm and although I have mentioned a few names there are plenty of unsung heroes, too many to mention, that help the society run and retain success in the sector.

**David Constantine**  
President ISPO 2023–2025

# 03. Acknowledgement

# Acknowledgement

As the President, I would like to thank and recognise the support of everyone who contributed to the success of the ISPO Committees activities during the biennium 2023–2025.

## Advocacy and Awareness Committee

Zia Ur Reham – Chair (Pakistan)  
Elizabeth Mansfield (USA)  
Jean Pierre Lissac (France)  
Anas Shtiwi (Jordan)  
Michelle Jamin (USA)  
Yeti Raj Niraula (Nepal)  
Mahmoud Alfatafta (Jordan)

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## Continuous Professional Development Committee

Kazuhiro Sakai – Chair (Japan)  
Youssef Salam (Lebanon)  
Laura Burgess (UK)  
Lana Van Neikerk (South Africa)  
Maryam Maleki (Iran)  
Adolfo Granados (Costa Rica)  
Akouetevi Ahego (Togo)  
Dhanny Widhata (Indonesia)  
Sudarsan Swain (Malaysia)  
Shoko Nireki (Japan)  
Jean Pierre Lissac (France)

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## Education Committee (and subcommittees)

Helen Cochrane –Chair (Canada)  
Mary Scott (UK)  
Linda Laasko (Canada)  
Robin Seabrook (USA)  
Christian Schlierf (Germany)  
Alaa Alabaidi (Iraq)  
Joshua Utay (UK)  
David Rusaw (Sweden)  
Barbara Rau (Switzerland)  
Gerald Stark (USA)  
Ashley Mullen (USA)

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## Accreditation Subcommittee

Linda Laasko – Chair (Canada)  
Robin Seabrook (USA)  
Shin Sasaki (Japan)  
Fred Holtkamp (Netherlands)  
Monica Gisela Castaneda (El Salvador)  
Pearl Boshof (South Africa)  
Ian Adam (UK)  
Mamta Agarwal (India)  
Suci Nazier (Indonesia)  
Roy Bowers (UK)  
Sisary Kheng (Cambodia)  
Zia Ur Rehman (Pakistan)

**Auditors Training and Recruitment Subcommittee**

Mary Scott – Chair (UK)  
 Stephney Weerasinghe (Sri Lanka)  
 Anarème Kpandressi (Togo)  
 Rowan English (Australia)  
 Abdullah Fatlawi (Jordan)  
 Fabian Pedraza Quintero (Colombia)  
 Nicolas Munoz Buderus (Spain)  
 Bashar Al Qaroot (Jordan)  
 Sheyla Faulin (Indonesia)  
 Nizar Akhtar (Pakistan)

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**Global Educators Meeting Subcommittee**

David Rusaw – Chair (Sweden)  
 Ashley Mullen (USA)  
 Mary Scott (UK)  
 Dan Blocka (Canada)  
 Christian Schlierf (Germany)  
 Megan Castille (USA)  
 Sally Kenworthy (USA)  
 Jared Howell (USA)  
 Elizabeth Mansfield (USA)

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**Education Research Working Group**

Ashley Mullen – Chair (USA)  
 Dan Blocka (Canada)  
 David Rusaw (Sweden)  
 John Brinkmann (USA)  
 Cody McDonald (USA)  
 Keirra Falbo (USA)  
 Tanyaporn Rakkhangboon (Thailand)

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**Finance Committee**

Jon Batzdorff – Chair (USA)  
 Anton Johannesson (Sweden)  
 David Constantine (UK)  
 Sandra Ramdial (Canada)  
 Claude Tardif (France)  
 Bengt Soderberg (Sweden)  
 John T. Brinkmann (USA)

**Membership Committee**

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 Gerald Stark (USA)  
 Mariette Deist (South Africa)  
 Tjerk de Ruiter (Netherlands)  
 Vibhor Agrawal (USA)  
 Ayman Amer (Egypt)  
 Anarème Kpandressi (Togo)  
 Favio Montane (Argentina)  
 Pooja Mukul (India)  
 Elizabeth Mansfield (USA)  
 Isabel Daniela Barca (Mexico)  
 Seng-iad Sirirat (Thailand)  
 Omar Al Jamal (Jordan)

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**Protocol Committee**

Claude Tardif – Chair (France)  
 Sandra Ramdial (Canada)  
 Beth Sheehan – Election Officer (Australia)  
 John Chad Duncan (USA)  
 Markanda Chandra Dash (India)  
 Erik Princen (Netherlands)  
 Mohammed Awad (Egypt)

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**Publication Committee**

Vibhor Agrawal – Chair (USA)  
 Jon Batzdorff (USA)  
 David Boone – POI Editor-in-Chief (USA)  
 Kirsten Abel (Germany)  
 Elizabeth Mansfield – ISPower Editor-in-Chief (USA)  
 Hiroshi Hashimoto (Japan)  
 Huthaifa Atallah (Jordan)

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**Scientific Committee**

Helena Burger – Chair (Slovenia)  
 Matthew Justin Major (USA)  
 Arezoo Eshraghi (Canada)  
 Ulla Hellstrand Tang (Sweden)  
 Dick H. Plettenburg (Netherlands)  
 Manunchaya Samala (Thailand)  
 Man-Sang Wong (Honk Kong SAR, China)  
 Alex Chadwell (UK)  
 Saaed Zahedi (UK)  
 Kengo Onishi (Japan)  
 Cleveland Barnett (UK)

# 04. Biennium Highlights

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## ISPO 2024–2030 Strategic Plan

To ensure that ISPO continues to serve its members and advance the field of mobility products and related services, ISPO needs to have a clear vision of where it is heading in the coming years.

The ISPO 2024–2030 strategic plan builds on the strengths of the Society, on the previous plans, drawing on the work and consultation undertaken during that process. The new plan has been developed in close consultation with National Member Societies as well as with the ISPO collaborating partners. The ISPO 2024–2030 Strategic Plan will build and maintain a strong strategic foundation that will support our ability to achieve our purpose and vision and improve our ability to adapt our approach to respond to the opportunities and challenges. It will also enable ISPO to respond to the needs of our NMS and our members and to the evolving context of rehabilitation and assistive technology.

The ISPO 2024–2030 Strategic Plan identified five (5) strategic pillars around which operational activities will be developed.

### 01 **STRATEGIC PILLAR 1:** Leading and shaping the debate.

### 02 **STRATEGIC PILLAR 2:** Strengthening collaboration and exchange.

### 03 **STRATEGIC PILLAR 3:** Raising awareness.

### 04 **STRATEGIC PILLAR 4:** Empowering National Member Societies.

### 05 **STRATEGIC PILLAR 5:** Improving ISPO management and efficiency.

[Learn more about the ISPO 2024–2030 Strategic Plan](#)

## Refreshing ISPO corporate identity

Since its foundation in 1970 by Knud Jannsen, the society has had almost the same brand and livery for all that time. One could argue that old well-established brands are instantly recognisable and have stayed the same for many years. However, even the most famous brands very subtly update themselves over the space of 50 years.

The ISPO brand has advantages in fact that it's easy to recognise for those in the sector of prosthetics and orthotics and rehabilitation and the globe icon speaks to the importance of the international make up of all the national member societies.

The biennium we realised that even though the logo was very recognisable it was in need of a "refresh", however we were very conscious that we didn't want a radical change, both in terms of the name and the logo. One of drivers for this was that we have made so many changes, both in the management, the digital tools and website, among others, that the brand needed to reflect that. It was also very clear there was no consistency in all the background information in terms of use of fonts, layout of documents, presentations and publications and were open to everyone's interpretation of what "looked right" to them. One cannot run a brand consistent organisation on that basis which is why we put it to the board that we had an update.

As a result, we have a logo, very similar to the previous one, templates for PDFs, letters, publications and presentations in PowerPoint and importantly a clear set of brand guidelines for all to use.

When a brand is consistent, the public don't even notice. When it isn't, it not only looks unprofessional but can be seen to be different everywhere.



## Implementing a new managerial model for ISPO

As many of you know for the last number of years the Society has engaged a “fulfilment” company based in Brussels to support all the back office secretarial and administration functions to keep society running as a voluntary organisation. This company was obviously paid and, for the first number of years, offered the support ISPO wanted and needed. In 2022 however it was taken over by another company and of the six or seven staff assigned part-time to ISPO activities, it became very clear that we were not getting the services we required in a consistent and timely manner and costs were rising for what we felt were inadequate services which made the organisation look unprofessional.

The ISPO Executive Board took the decision to move away from that model and since April 1st, 2025, the day-to-day operations of ISPO has been managed by team of three (3) contracted persons supported by an “Interim Society Coordinator”. In the second part of 2025, it is planned to recruit a “Head of Secretariat”, who will manage the Secretariat, act as the link between the President, the leadership team and the board, committee chairs and presidents of national member societies.

The name Secretariat is deliberate as we wanted to move away from the concept of people calling the company in Brussels “Head Office”. Originally, there was an office in Denmark, where ISPO is registered. When the administration and secretarial services were contracted to a company in Brussels, the name remained and therefore became, in people’s minds, where decisions were made. This was never the case and created a great deal of confusion. The decision-making is done by the President, the leadership and the board. The Secretariat works to the requests of that team and reports back to them. Some of you may notice that a couple of the names from the Brussels office remain the same and that is because we were lucky enough to handpick the people we felt were efficient and team players for the society.

## Special Interest Groups

While the discussions started at the 19th ISPO World Congress in Guadalajara (Mexico), the Special Interest Groups became a reality during the biennium with the establishment of two special interest groups, the Special Interest Group for Upper Limb (SIGUL) and the Special Interest Group on Bone Anchored Limbs (SIGBAL).

SPO Special Interest Groups (SIG) are where like-minded individuals with a shared passion and expertise come together to drive meaningful change and innovation in their respective fields. The SIG groups provide a dynamic platform for collaboration, discussion, and problem-solving within specialized areas of interest. Whether you’re a prosthetist, technician, rehabilitation specialist, physiotherapist, occupational therapist, surgeon engineer researcher, patient, or simply curious about a particular subject, you’ll find a thriving community here to connect with.

The **Special Interest Group for Upper Limb (SIGUL)** strives to serve as a platform for all involved with persons with upper limb difference (not limited to prosthetists, technicians, rehabilitation specialists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, surgeons, engineers, researchers, students and patients) for further collaboration, and to increase exchange of knowledge. The group can serve as a place to identify common international themes, to share best practices, and to inform the focus for conferences.

## The founding members of SIGUL are:

Corry van der Sluis	Rehabilitation Physician (Netherlands): president
Alix Chadwell	Biomedical Engineer (UK): vice-president
Dick Plettenburg	Biomechanical Engineer (Netherlands): secretary
Kengo Ohnishi	Electrical Engineer (Japan): member
Liselotte Hermansson	Occupational Therapist (Sweden): member
Sandra Ramdial	Prosthetist (Canada): member

The **Special Interest Group on Bone Anchored Limbs (SIGBAL)** will focus on persons with both upper and lower limb amputation who may be candidates for a bone-anchored limb. A bone anchored limb is an innovative method of attaching artificial limbs to the human body. In SIGBAL, the members work together to provide optimal care for persons with limb amputation. The membership may consist of, but not be limited to, prosthetists, technicians, rehabilitation specialists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, surgeons, engineers, and researchers.

## The founding members of SIGBAL are:

Rickard Bråneemark	Surgeon (Sweden): president
Jan Paul Frölke	Surgeon (Netherlands): vice president
Jason Stoneback	Surgeon (United States): secretary
Laurent Frossard	Laurent Frossard, Scientist (Australia): scientific committee
Mitch Grant	Expert User (Australia): member
Ruud Leijendekkers	Ruud Physiotherapist (Netherlands): member
Marta Geada	CPO Member (Australia): member

ISPower  
e-magazine

Elizabeth Mansfield,  
ISPower Editor-in-Chief



While Prosthetics and Orthotics International (POI) remains the main journal of ISPO, ISPO is launching, during the 20th World Congress, a second publication “**ISPower**”. **ISPower** is the online magazine of the International Society of Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO), created as a global platform to disseminate knowledge, share perspectives, and foster interdisciplinary dialogue in the fields of prosthetics, orthotics, mobility, and assistive technology. Published three times a year, the magazine serves a wide-ranging audience including clinicians, researchers, engineers, educators, students, policymakers, industry professionals, and individuals with lived experience.

Rooted in ISPO’s mission to enhance mobility and improve the quality of life for people worldwide, ISPower offers in-depth, theme-based content that addresses current trends, challenges, and innovations across the field. Each issue is organised thematically – the inaugural issue’s theme being ‘Personnel’—and features peer-informed articles, member profiles, interviews, and institutional updates that reflect the diversity, depth, and evolving priorities of

the global O&P and assistive technology community. Readers will also find dedicated sections that highlight the work of ISPO’s committees and special interest groups, offer advertising and classified opportunities for professional networking, and spotlight upcoming events, global initiatives, and member-led projects. In addition, interactive elements and engagement opportunities—such as surveys, polls, and reader submissions—ensure that the magazine remains responsive to the needs and voices of its audience.

By bringing together science, lived experience, and global collaboration in one accessible format, ISPower reinforces ISPO’s commitment to evidence-informed practice, professional development, and inclusive knowledge exchange. It is both a professional resource and a reflection of the shared values and vision that unite the international assistive technology and rehabilitation community.

ISPower is more than a publication—it is a collective voice, a catalyst for change, and a celebration of the people and ideas shaping a more inclusive and mobile world. It encourages ongoing learning, connection, and collective progress in the global effort to enhance lives.

# 05. ISPO Activities

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## Education Committee

Helen Cochrane,  
Chair of the Education Committee



The ISPO Education Core Committee is responsible for ISPO activities at the level of entry-level education for prosthetic and orthotic occupations. The Education Core focuses on directing policy and coordinating and directing the work of the Education Sub-Committees (Accreditation Sub-Committee, Auditors Training and Recruitment Sub-Committee, Education Standards Sub-Committee, Global Educator Meeting GEM Sub-Committee) and Working Group (Research & Education Working Group).

## Accreditation programme

Every year a growing number of programmes worldwide choose to seek ISPO accreditation. This accreditation is designed to ensure that prosthetic and orthotic programmes have the infrastructure and resources in place to guide students to become entry level practitioners who are able to increase access and provide adequate quality of prosthetic and orthotic services. To date, ISPO has granted accreditation to over 55 prosthetic and orthotic training programmes and professional pathways, resulting in over 10,400 graduates who receive an ISPO certificate that provides evidence of the quality of their education.

During the biennium, 20 audit visits were done (12 onsite audits and 8 online audits) in 17 countries.

	DATE	NAME OF TRAINING PROGRAMME	ONSITE OR VIRTUAL	COUNTRY
2024	May	University of Strathclyde	Onsite	UK
	May	Cambodian School of Prosthetics and Orthotics (CSPO)	Virtual	Cambodia
	Mar	Bundesfachschule für Orthopädie-Technik (BUFA)	Onsite	Germany
	Feb	Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM)	Onsite	Mexico
	Feb	Human Study P&O Program	Virtual	Germany
2025	Oct	Human Study POT	Virtual	Germany
	Sept	Mobility India (MI) BPO, Rehabilitation Research and Training Centre	Virtual	India
	Sept	Hong Kong Polytechnic University (HKPU)	Onsite	Hong Kong
	July	Städtische Meisterschule für Orthopädietechnik München (MSOT)	Onsite	Germany
	July	Jakarta School of Prosthetics and Orthotics (JSPO)	Onsite	Indonesia
	June	Erbil Polytechnic University	Virtual	Iraq
	June	Afghan Diploma for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ADPO)	Virtual	Afghanistan
	May	Metropolia University	Onsite	Finland
	Mar	Niigata University of Health and Welfare	Onsite	Japan
2023	Nov	Australian Orthotic Prosthetic Association	Onsite	Australia
	Oct	Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje – Design and Metrology Centre (SENA)	Onsite	Colombia
	July	Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Sana'a University	Virtual	Yemen
	July	Ecole Nationale des Auxiliaires Médicaux (ENAM)	Onsite	Togo
	May	China Civil Affairs University (CCAU)/ former BCSCA (China)	Virtual	China
	May	Orthotics Prosthetics Canada (OPC) – Pathway	Onsite	Canada

## Global Educators Meeting (GEM)

ISPO initiates Global Educators Meetings (GEMs) to foster discussion on the needs and strategies for the future of P&O education, and to encourage and facilitate collaboration between P&O education programmes and pathways. The meetings take place every two years and provide P&O education programmes and pathways with the opportunity to showcase their activities; and create an environment to build on existing professional relationships and develop new ones.

### Global Educators Meeting 2024

David Rusaw,  
Chair of the GEM 2024



The fourth ISPO Global Educators Meeting (GEM 2024) took place in October 2024, hosted by Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas (USA). The theme for GEM 2024 was: Innovate. Collaborate. Educate, with a programme developed collaboratively using the many responses of the GEM Educators' Survey that was circulated via ISPO. This theme provided a fantastic platform for global educators to explore and contribute to developing prosthetics and orthotics education. Approximately 120 individuals from over 20 countries registered for GEM 2024. Participants included programme management, educators, administrators, accrediting bodies plus representatives from international and non-governmental organisations.



The programme covered a wide range of topics and included keynote addresses, on each of the 3 days, from influential persons involved in P&O education. A new innovation in GEM 2024 was the introduction of ISPO Education Accreditation Auditor Training as a 4th day in the schedule for a limited number of participants.

# GEM 2024

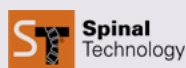
Innovate. Collaborate. Educate



GEM 2024 was deemed successful based on the positive feedback from participants. However, the outcome of on-going activities will define the full impact of the meeting. What is certain is that those involved in P&O education globally came together in another historic meeting to discuss matters that are important to them, their students and the profession at large.

During the 4th ISPO Global Educators Meeting, the **Louise Puli**, PhD candidate at Monash University and faculty at Human Study, has been awarded the **2024 Education Research Fund** a \$10,000.00 grant from ISPO to support her research on "Explore the opinions of stakeholders regarding competency standards for mobility assistive products".

ISPO would like to extend a thank  
you to the GEM 2024 sponsors.



## The next Global Educators Meeting will be hosted by the Mahidol University (Bangkok, Thailand) on March 23 – 25, 2025.



[GEM 2026 Website](#)

The 5th Global Educators Meeting (GEM) will be hosted by the Sirindhorn School of Prosthetics and Orthotics, Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital at Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand, March 23–25, 2026.

GEM 2026 will be an exciting opportunity for international collaboration between Prosthetics and Orthotics

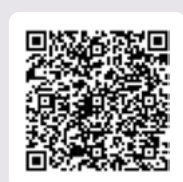
(P&O) Educators that is committed to ongoing knowledge exchange, professional development, and supportive learning. The meetings take place every two years, give P&O education programmes the opportunity to showcase their activities, and allow educators to connect with peers to discuss future needs and strategies of P&O education.

The theme of GEM 2026 is **"From Local Roots to Global Reach: Building Educational Bridges"**. This theme was developed collaboratively using the results of the GEM 2024 meeting survey, the GEM Subcommittee, and the local organizing committee. The theme offers a framework for educators to share best practices, scholarly work, and solutions designed to support the future of P&O education. The program subcommittee is looking forward to submissions supporting the theme, including those related to global perspectives and curriculum innovation, technology and teaching in P&O, and collaboration in P&O education.

A call for abstracts will be released in the late summer of 2025.

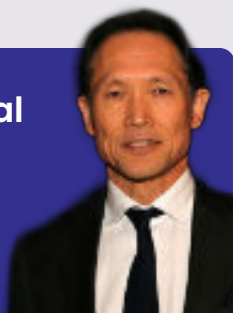
We will announce this via the various channels available to us as P&O educators, including ISPO, so please watch for this. If you have not previously signed up to the P&O educators' mailing list, please do so now so you do not miss out on important information.

[Sign up here or by scanning the QR code:](#)



## Continous Professional Development Committee (CPD)

Kazuhiro Sakai,  
Chair of the CPD Committee



The mission of the ISPO CPD Committee is to develop and maintain a strategic continuous education plan for the Society; developing core educational content; providing guidance on topics and content for workshops, symposia, and conferences that meet the “body of knowledge transfer” and continuous education needs of members worldwide; providing guidance on the delivery formats and methods to facilitate global delivery of core educational content; implementing instructor review and approval processes as defined in the standing rules; and providing guidance on the use of relevant education from other allied organizations.

## ISPOLearn

In order to make continuing education accessible for all and by all, ISPO launched in 2022, the “**ISPOLearn**”. This learning resource comprising a repository of case studies, webinars, symposia, courses, and other learning modules, which facilitate the expansion of knowledge for ISPO members at a click of a button. ISPOLearn is accessible to all ISPO members and partners to contribute, utilise and facilitate knowledge exchange. If you want to contribute: [Submitting content for ISPOLearn](#)

ISPO signed an agreement with **Physiopedia**, an evidence-based and continually updating knowledge resource, in which ISPO members are granted a 30% discount to join **Physiopedia Plus**, while Physiopedia members are granted a 20% discount to join ISPOLearn.

## Webinars

During the biennium, the ISPO CPD Committee organized 6 webinars covering a variety of topics. Access to the webinars is free for ISPO members and a minimum fee is charged for non-ISPO members and recording are available afterward on ISPOLearn.

DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKERS
November 2023	Subischial sockets for persons with Transfemoral amputations	Stefania Fatone Ryan Caldwell
March 2024	Overcoming Limb Loss	Ana Paulina Chavira Christoffer Lindhe
August 2024	Wound Management in Lower Limb Amputations	Anton Johannesson
September 2024	Coping with Technology shift in P&O	Daniel Blocka Gerald Stark Nicolas Munoz
November 15, 2024	WHO Standards for Prosthetics and Orthotics	Kylie Shae Claude Tardif Monica Castaneda
May, 2025	3D Printing in P&O, Opportunities vs. Challenges, Open Dialogue	Ahmad Najwa Brent Wright Helen Victor Hugh Sheridan Dan Blocka Ajaaz Zargar Abder Banoune

Short Courses

As a fundamental part of its mission, ISPO has been involved with the coordination and organization of educational activities for its members since its inception. By conducting ISPO Courses, ISPO provides teaching and training to professionals in the field of prosthetics and orthotics as well as related areas, with a special (but not exclusive) focus on emerging and developing countries. These courses have taken many different forms and continue in their evolution to further the importance of keeping ISPO’s members, and rehabilitation professionals in general, abreast of current issues and professional standards for the care of people with physical disabilities. Short courses can be organized onsite and online.

Onsite/online short courses are by ISPO in coordination with a local organizer. The local organizer could be the local National Member Society (NMS) of ISPO and/or other ISPO partners, training institutions or national/international NGOs.

During the biennium, ISPO conducted one short course:

Stoke Management (onsite)  
India – September 17-20, 2024

The course included a 3-days workshop plus a one-day seminar. The course was organized in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and was held at the Indian Spinal Injuries Centre (ISIC) in New Delhi.

The three-day workshop course included presentations on multi-disciplinary approach on stroke management, and practical hands-on demonstrations and training on orthotic management of stroke patients for the lower limb as well as the upper limb. During the one-day seminar, organized after the 3-days workshop, both online and onsite presentations were conducted.



ISPO SHORT COURSE FACULTY
Aideen Steed, Physiotherapist (UK)
Paul Charlton, Orthotist (UK)
Sudarsan Swain, Prosthetist/Orthotist (Malaysia)
ADDITIONAL ISPO INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS (FOR THE SEMINAR)
Sumiko Yamamoto (Japan)
Soji Tanaka (Japan)
Kazuhiro Sakai (Japan)

The 3-days workshop was attended by 21 participants (10 prosthetists/orthotists and 11 physical therapists), while the seminar was attended by more than 50 participants.



# 06. EXCHANGE

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## ISPO World Congress – knowledge interaction on a global scale

As ISPO's flagship meeting, the ISPO World Congress is a unique interactive forum for the global community of professionals involved in the care of persons in need of prosthetic, orthotic, mobility and assistive devices. They can come together to learn about the latest scientific and clinical advances, products, innovative technologies, designs and materials in prosthetic and orthotic care.

Following its establishment in the 1970s, ISPO organised triennial congresses until 2013, when the ISPO World Congress started to be held every two years. Here is a roundup of the 2023 edition and what's expected for the congress in 2025.

### ISPO 19th World Congress 2023



The 19th World Congress of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics was held in Guadalajara, Mexico from 24–27 April 2023, under the guiding theme “The Art and the Science”. The event theme “The Art and the Science”, brought together two important aspects of prosthetic, orthotic, wheelchair and other mobility products care. The “Art” refers to elite craftsmanship and clinical experience that is applied when providing appropriate services for assistive technology consumers and to personalisation and artistic aspects of device design that incorporates the user's personality and feelings, moving an assistive device beyond just a piece of technology, while the “Science” incorporates innovation, evidence, and knowledge translation across the spectrum of services to enable end-users to receive appropriate services at the right time, the right place, and the right cost. The congress attracted over 1'500 participants from 73 countries. The congress programme comprised 5 keynote lectures (including Knud Jansen and IC2A Inspirational Lectures), 201 free papers presented in 41 free paper sessions, 26 instructional courses, 31 symposia (including the launch of the WHO Wheelchair Provision Guidelines), over 60 poster presentations, as well as 13 exhibitor workshops. In the exhibition area, 91 exhibitors from 20 countries participated in the exhibition and 18 organisations attended in the International Community Area.

The prestigious Knud Jansen Lecture, as is traditional, was presented during the Opening Ceremony, by **Rosielena Jovane C.** During her lecture, she presented “Art & Science: An equation that requires passion!”.

#### Other keynote speakers included:

- Sophie de Oliveira Barata and Chris Parsons: “The Alternative Limb Project: The path to self-expression – 10 years on”
- Professor Nachiappan Chockalingam: “Modelling, models and masterpieces: Translating research into clinical practice”
- Professor Stefania Fatone: “The Northwestern University sub-ischial socket: A journey from idea to development, research, dissemination, and implementation”
- Ana Paulina Chavira for the International Confederation of Amputee Associations (IC2A) Inspirational Lecture “Learning to fall... and rising up”.

The Sepp Heim Award was initiated by ISPO in 2019 in honour of Sepp Heim's significant lifetime contributions to ISPO and acknowledges institutions or individuals who have made a significant contribution to the development and/or provision of appropriate mobility device services in less resourced settings. The 2023 award winner was **Sandra Sexton** from the United Kingdom.

The Brian and Joyce Blatchford Team Prize for Innovation was set up by the Blatchford family and honours a team that has an outstanding record of innovative achievement in the field of prosthetics and/or orthotics. **Joan Sanders** and her team from the University of Washington in Seattle were awarded this year's prize for their dedicated work on innovative technologies for socket interfaces

2023 ISPO 19TH WORLD CONGRESS COMMITTEE	
Claude Tardif – Chair (France)	
Marlo Ortiz (Mexico)	
David Constantine (UK)	
Edward Lemaire (Canada)	
Jon Batzdorff (USA)	
Deirdre Desmond (Ireland)	
David Rusaw (Sweden)	
2023 ISPO 19TH WORLD CONGRESS SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE	
Deirdre Desmond – Chair (Ireland)	
Jacqueline Hebert (Canada)	
Corry van der Sluis (Netherlands)	
Cleveland Barnett (UK)	
Laura Coffey (Ireland)	
Carlos Galvan Duque Gastélum (Mexico)	
Luphiwo Mdzana (South Africa)	
Phil Stevens (USA)	
2023 ISPO 19TH WORLD CONGRESS LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE	
Marlo Ortiz – Chair (Mexico)	
Manuel Covarrubias (Mexico)	
Manuel Duran (Mexico)	
José Carlos Díaz Mexico)	
Paulino Hernandez Alvarado (Mexico)	
Rajiv Kalsi (Canada)	
Linda Laakso (Canada)	
William Miller Canada)	
Jon Batzdorff (USA)	
Elizabeth Mansfield (USA)	

## ISPO 20th World Congress 2025



The ISPO. 20th World Congress will take place in 2025 in Stockholm, Sweden, and will be jointly hosted by the ISPO Member Societies of Sweden, Norway, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.

Its theme will be ‘Science in Practice, Practice in Science: Collaboration and innovation towards sustainable rehabilitation’. Through the guiding theme, it is hoped to open up discussions around best practices which can lead towards sustainable rehabilitation. Reciprocal exchange between science and practice characterizes ISPO. Practice must be informed by science, but science must similarly be informed by practice.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs, also known as the Global Goals) are 17 goals with 169 targets that were adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015. They were a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. In this Congress, we will explore how the international ISPO community can support the achievement of the SDGs. This may be through the sharing of best practice, development of novel devices, innovation and new technology, education, provision, or many other forms. Sustainability is attained in many ways, from reduction of inequalities to responsible consumption and industry involvement, and we are keen for the Congress Programme to capture all aspects.

Collaboration and innovation are key elements for reaching these goals. It is by working together that we will improve access to appropriate rehabilitation and mobility product services. The 4 nations who have come together to organise this congress offer science-based innovation for evidence based best practice, which is key to the delivery of the SDGs. When working together “the outcome is greater than the sum of each part”.

## ISPO 21st World Congress Bangkok (Thailand)



## ISPO Executive Board members participation in meeting, conferences, webinars 2023

	DATE	EVENT	ISPO REPRESENTATIVE
2023	August	Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe (AAATE) – online presentation	David Constantine
	October	South African Orthotic and Prosthetic Association (SAOPA) – online presentation	Sandra Ramdial
	October	39th Scientific Meeting of the Japanese Society of Prosthetics and Orthotics	Kengo Onishi
	November	1st Asia Regional P&O Meeting (Phnom Penh, Cambodia)	Nasrul Anuar Abd Razak
2024	January	ISPO Norway Scientific Meeting	Anton Johannesson
	February	Meeting with Cambodia authorities	David Constantine
	February	ISPO Sweden Lower Limb Amputation Course	Anton Johannesson
	March	50th American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists Meeting (Chicago, USA)	Jon Batzdorff
	March	Sandra Ramdial was honoured with the Women Who Advance Associations 2024 Award in recognition of her significant contributions to ISPO and her forward-thinking leadership within the association sector	Sandra Ramdial
	April	European Society for Physical Rehabilitation Medicine congress (Ljubljana, Slovenia)	David Constantine
	April	George Brown College Grand Rounds – online presentation	Sandra Ramdial
	May	2nd Nepal Prosthetics Orthotics Conference – online presentation	David Constantine
	May	OT World (Leipzig, Germany)	All EB members
	July	WHO Regional Meeting on accelerating access to rehabilitation services and assistive technology in Southeast Asia (Dhaka, Bangladesh)	Nasrul Anuar Abd Razak
	August	BioMed-APOSM 2024 (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)	David Constantine, Kengo Onishi, Nasrul Anuar Abd Razak
	August	ISPO Asia NMS Meeting (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)	Nasrul Anuar Abd Razak
	August	ISPO Canada strategy session face-to-face (Fredericton, Canada)	David Constantine
	August	OPC/ISPO conference (Fredericton, Canada)	David Constantine
	September	SITNET and ISPO Sweden Conference (Jönköping, Sweden)	David Constantine
	September	American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association Conference (Charlotte, USA)	Jon Batzdorff
	September	ISPO Malaysia / ISPO Egypt Webinar	Nasrul Anuar Abd Razak
	October	Türkiye Scientific Association of Prosthetics and Orthotics – online presentation	David Constantine
	October	Conference on complex rehabilitation technology – Seating specialism (Bangalore, India)	David Constantine
	November	1st ISPO Arabic Regional Congress for P&O, (Amman, Jordan)	David Constantine, Claude Tardif, Youssef Salam, Nasrul Anuar Abd Razak, Raed Alkhatab
	November	40th Scientific Meeting of the Japanese Society of Prosthetics and Orthotics (Fukuoka, Japan)	Kengo Onishi
	December	ISPO Thailand Webinar	Nasrul Anuar Abd Razak
	December	ISPO Egypt Webinar	Gerald Stark
	December	2nd Asia Regional P&O Meeting (Phnom Penh, Cambodia)	Nasrul Anuar Abd Razak
	December	2nd CDT P&O Conference (Glasgow, UK)	David Constantine
2025	February	ISPO Saudi Arabia Webinar	Nasrul Anuar Abd Razak
	May	Turkish Orthopaedic Prosthetists and Orthotists Association Congress (Antalya, Turkey)	Anton Johannesson

## Publication

Vibhor Agrawal,  
Chair of the Publication Committee



The mission of the ISPO Publication Committee is to oversee and evaluate all publications efforts of the ISPO from a business, organizational, and financial point of view; represent the interests of the Society towards partners and vendors in ISPO publication efforts; and assist the Society, editors, and editorial teams in their overall support of ISPO's mission.

## Prosthetics and Orthotics International (POI)

David Boone



ISPO's journal, Prosthetics and Orthotics International (POI), is one of the major scientific publications in the field of prosthetics and orthotics. This international, multidisciplinary journal is targeted at all professionals who have an interest in the medical, clinical, rehabilitation, technical, educational, and research aspects of prosthetics, orthotics, and rehabilitation engineering, as well as related topics.

Published six times a year by Wolters Kluwer, POI contains review articles, original research reports, case studies and case series, clinical and technical notes, and book reviews pertinent to prosthetics, orthotics, and rehabilitation engineering practices. Special issues on specific topics of interest to the journal's readership, information about ISPO activities, and the reports of ISPO consensus conferences and working groups are also published along with the abstracts of ISPO World Congresses.

"Prosthetics and Orthotics International (POI)" is essential to the growth and health of ISPO. The POI team works every day to ensure that we give voice to the depth and breadth of ideas and research findings that span our global organization. To give one an appreciation of the scale of the work of POI, our team generated and tracked 12,395 emails with authors in 2024 and we invited 1,208 external reviewers for 215 submissions made from 34 different countries distributed across all regions of the world. POI is truly an international community effort.

POI publishes all accepted and completed articles "Online First" in advance of an assigned issue, with a digital object identifier (DOI) number for referencing and PubMed indexing. While it takes some time for each manuscript to work through the process, a new POI article is published on average every 3.8 days after having spent an average of 76 days in the editorial process. In 2024 POI had a rejection rate of 32%, in line with previous years.

We work each day to ensure that the publication's content is of high quality and that requires the ongoing diligence and dedication of the entire team: the authors, editors and publishers that produce the journal every two months. A recent improvement in our editing capabilities is to help flag text for possible plagiarism or lack of originality. Every incoming manuscript now is processed by an automated checker for plagiarism and originality against previously published works and given a % similarity score. This is a new step in our process before assignment of associate editors and reviewers. Highly similar language is highlighted and cross referenced for the Editors. The calculation of impact factor was changed by Web of Science, and while our latest score is lower at 0.8, POI tracked with the change of all journal and it remains in the second quartile of all journals in Rehabilitation. To bolster our impact going forward, we worked to increase the page quantity per volume of POI. Increasing the number of pages in 2024 by 80, to a total of 730 pages per year, which is the equivalent of almost one additional issue per year! This was done at the request of the Editor in Chief to increase the number of articles that could be cited with a volume and issue number thereby increasing our chances of current citations that influence the new impact factor calculation of POI.

## POI Editorial Board

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# 07. SUPPORT

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## Advocacy and Awareness

Zia Ur Rahman,  
Committee Chair



The mission of the ISPO Advocacy and Awareness Committee is to guide and oversee ISPO advocacy activities including developing/implementing/ revising the ISPO Advocacy Strategy, use of social media, etc. Awareness-raising and advocacy are overlapping concepts. Awareness-raising can be considered as an activity to generate concern about an issue among different groups of stakeholders while advocacy is a form of awareness-raising, but one that aims to change attitudes, policies and practices.

## Raising the voice at the United Nations Conference

The ISPO President was invited by the World Health Organisation (WHO) to participate in and speak at two side events organized during the 58th Session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD58), in April 2025:

- Health, well-being, and inclusion for all through equitable access to assistive technology
- Advancing health equity: universal access to health products



During his addresses he highlighted the importance of access to assistive devices both for equity and quality of life for the future in the ageing global population.

## International Prosthetics and Orthotics Day

On November 5, 2022, ISPO launched the first International Prosthetics and Orthotics Day. This date corresponds to the date ISPO was established in 1970. International Prosthetics and Orthotics Day is aimed at highlighting and raising awareness of the importance for those needing prostheses and orthoses and the need to provide further resources to ensure equitable and appropriate access to prosthetic and orthotic services.



Access to appropriate and quality prosthetics and orthotics services enables and empowers

- **Enables** – access to prosthetics and orthotics services allows people to live healthy, productive, independent, and dignified lives and to learn, work and take part in society and the development of their countries.
- **Empowers** – access to prosthetics and orthotics services provides the opportunity to determine their own future and fully participate in community life.

The International Prosthetics and Orthotics Day is celebrated each year on November 5th and each year, ISPO campaign highlight the importance of one of the four pillars (Policy, Products, Personnel and Provision) that need to be addressed to ensure access to equitable, appropriate and high-quality prosthetics and orthotics services.



In 2023, the campaign focussed on the necessity to reinforce the prosthetics and orthotics ecosystem. Improving access to prosthetic and orthotic services requires a people-centred ecosystem. The WHO 5'P' people-centred model provides an overview of the P&O system. The five interlinked areas of P&O are: **People-centred, Policy, Personnel, Products and Provision**. None of these areas on their own constitute the system. The P&O ecosystem is created by the relationships and interactions between these areas.



In 2024m the campaign focussed on "Personnel", highlighting that prosthetics and orthotics services should be provided by competent, adequately trained workforce.



# ISPO Advocacy for Proper Alignment and Reclassification of the Prosthetics and Orthotics Profession

Bryan Malas,  
Task Officer

ISPO has actively sought opportunities to promote policy changes to expand and strengthen the prosthetics and orthotics profession, ensuring sustainable resources for individuals in need of these services. A key focus of this biennium has been advocating for the re-alignment and reclassification of the profession by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and World Health Organization (WHO).

Currently, the P&O profession is classified at the technician level only within the ILO's International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO), equating prosthetists and orthotists with dental prosthetic technicians. The profession lacks recognition at the associate level and is not positioned alongside other allied health professionals such as physiotherapists or occupational therapists, which diminishes its perceived importance and scope and ability to secure needed resources.

During this biennium, ISPO prioritized providing ILO with comprehensive evidence to support reclassification. The ultimate goal is to update the 2028 ISCO publication to recognize prosthetists and orthotists at a higher skill level, aligning with their responsibilities and education standards. Evidence gathered included workforce data, education standards, graduation rates, service delivery needs, and terminology alignment. This effort culminated in a 2024 workforce study, building on a 2017 survey, with responses from 82 countries—57% more than in 2017.

Key findings revealed a 58% increase in global P&O professionals, from 47,474 in 2017 to 112,003 in 2024. The growth was particularly notable among in-demand roles: prosthetists and orthotists increased by 32%, while technicians surged by 57% (see table 1).

ISPO SURVEY	PROSTHETISTS/ ORTHOTISTS	ASSOCIATE PROSTHETISTS/ ORTHOTISTS	PROSTHETIC/ORTHOTIC TECHNICIAN	TOTAL
2024	52240	27879	31,884	112,003
2017	35,785	No Results	13,370	47,474

Table 1 Comparison of Global Survey Results 2017 vs. 2024

Based on this evidence, the ILO working group has recommended reclassifying the P&O profession at a higher skill level. This proposal is now subject to a global consultation to determine if the changes will be incorporated into the 2028 ISCO publication.

Additionally, ISPO is collaborating with WHO to realign the profession within the WHO National Health Workforce Accounts (NHWA). Together, we developed a five-part data collection template to assess the scope of the profession across 20 countries. Similar to the initiative with the ILO, the goal is to achieve proper reclassification of the prosthetics and orthotics profession in the upcoming NHWA publication.

Proper reclassification of the prosthetics and orthotics profession is essential to addressing global health needs. Accurate data and recognition within the ISCO and NHWA frameworks will encourage government agencies to allocate resources, expand services, and enhance access to prosthetic and orthotic care for individuals worldwide.

## Collaboration & Partnerships

For over 50 years, ISPO has provided an effective platform for the exchange and communication in all aspects of the science, practice and education associated with the provision of mobility products, rehabilitation engineering and related areas. ISPO recognises the importance of collaborations with interested partners to improve – on a worldwide basis – the quality of life for persons who may benefit from the rehabilitation practice of prosthetic, orthotic, wheelchairs and related areas.

ISPO believe that working together can create greater outcomes than to work alone. ISPO also believe that the sum of the whole is larger than the sum of each part. Working together collaboratively with other organisations results in greater achievements.

## World Health Organization

ISPO is a non-state actor in official relation with World Health Organization (WHO). As set out in paragraphs 50–66 of the WHO Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors, “Official relations” is a privilege that the Executive Board may grant to nongovernmental organizations, international business associations and philanthropic foundations that have had and continue to have a sustained and systematic engagement in the interest of the Organization. The aims and activities of all these entities shall be in conformity with the spirit, purposes and principles of WHO’s Constitution, and they shall contribute significantly to the advancement of public health.

Through its activities and support to WHO, ISPO contributes to several areas, including Assistive technology, Rehabilitation, Health Workforce and Rehabilitation Workforce.

During the biennium, ISPO continued to support the following WHO initiatives

### REHABILITATION 2030

The Rehabilitation 2030 initiative draws attention to the profound unmet need for rehabilitation worldwide and highlights the importance of strengthening health systems to provide rehabilitation.



### WORLD REHABILITATION ALLIANCE (WRA)

ISPO is a founding member of the World Rehabilitation Alliance (WRA) an WHO global network of stakeholders whose mission is to support the implementation of the Rehabilitation 2030 Initiative through advocacy activities. It focuses on promoting rehabilitation as an essential health service that is integral to Universal Health Coverage and to the realization of Sustainable Development Goal 3 Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.



### GLOBAL COOPERATION ON ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY (GATE)

The Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology (GATE) is a World Health Organization (WHO) initiative, drawing together people who share the GATE vision: a world where assistive technology is universally accessible to everyone, everywhere



### ATSCALE – THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

ATscale, the Global Partnership for Assistive Technology, is a cross-sector global partnership with a mission to transform people’s lives through AT. It catalyses action to ensure that, by 2030, an additional 500 million people in low- and middle-income countries get the life-changing assistive technology they need.



### THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE OF ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY ORGANIZATIONS (GAATO)

GAATO as a global umbrella organisation of established regional, national and international professional organisations in this field, aims to contribute to these global efforts by bringing together the wealth of expertise of more than 15,000 professionals and academics in the field of Assistive Technology, to channel and use that expertise towards breaking down barriers and building bridges to help realise the dream of an inclusive world where persons with disabilities have equal opportunities.



### THE EUROPEAN WOUND MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (EWMA)

The European Wound Management Association (EWMA) is a European not-for-profit umbrella organisation, linking national wound management organisations, individuals and groups with interest in wound care. The association works to promote the advancement of education and research into native epidemiology, pathology, diagnosis, prevention and management of wounds of all aetiologies.



### THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF WHEELCHAIR PROFESSIONALS (ISWP)

The International Society of Wheelchair Professionals (ISWP) was established to address the global need for appropriate wheelchairs and related services. ISWP aims to professionalize wheelchair services globally, benefiting both wheelchair users and service providers.



### THE GLOBAL DISABILITY INNOVATION HUB (GDI HUB)

GDI Hub is a research and practice centre driving disability innovation for a fairer world.



### THE WORLD FEDERATION OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST (WFOT)

WFOT is the official international organisation representing the occupational therapy profession. We set the standard for occupational therapy education internationally and promote excellence in research and practice.



### WORLD PHYSIOTHERAPY

Founded in 1951, World Physiotherapy is the sole international voice for physiotherapy. We represent more than 600,000 physiotherapists worldwide, through our 129 member organisations.



### INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF AMPUTEE ASSOCIATIONS (IC2A)

The International Confederation of Amputee Associations (IC2A) is an alliance that shares experiences, knowledge and best practice to inspire improvement in the quality of life of amputees and individuals born with limb deficiency.



## Global Partnership Exchange (GPEx)

Exchange (GPEx, the ISPO leadership and representatives from the partner organisations used this opportunity to provide updates on their work and discuss potential collaboration opportunities. The purpose of GPEx is to provide a forum for on-going networking that enables strategic dialogue about common challenges in the field of rehabilitation and assistive technology (with an emphasis on mobility devices such as prostheses, orthoses, and wheelchairs). The overarching goal of GPEx is to improve the quality of life for persons who may benefit from mobility and assistive devices.

Over the years, the ISPO GPEx has grown significantly, with several member organisations from across the globe now involved. During the biennium, three organisations joined the ISPO GPEx: Prosthetika, Proxetics and Narayan Sava Sansthan).



# 08. INNOVATE

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## Scientific Committee

Helena Burger,  
Chair of the Scientific Committee



The mission of the ISPO Scientific Committee (ISPO-SC) is to oversee all matters relating to science (research, development & knowledge translation). In particular, the ISPO-SC aims to:

- Strengthening ISPO's contribution to creation and dissemination of science in P&O
- Oversee the scientific activities of the Society as directed by the ISPO Executive Board
- Make recommendations to the ISPO Executive Board about the scientific policy of ISPO.

## ISPO Dictionary

During the biennium, the [ISPO Dictionary](#) was launched. The ISPO Dictionary is a living document with consensus definition of the terminologies commonly used in the ISPO community. The dictionary was prepared by a working group of the ISPO Scientific Committee with extensive consultations and developed for better communication and less confusion in the ISPO community among different stakeholders for administrative, clinical, industrial, scientific and technological purposes. The Dictionary aims to include medical and engineering terminology, abbreviations, prefixes and suffixes commonly used in the ISPO community while the individual institutions, professional bodies, NGO's, companies and their products will not be contained within.

When compiling the dictionary, grateful use was made of terminologies and definitions from the databases 'Dictionary of P&O' collated by Dr. Youssef Salam (Lebanon); 'Lexicon' collated by Dr. Edward Lemaire (Canada); ISO; ICF; WHO & other related bodies.

ISPO DICTIONARY WORKING GROUP
<b>M. S. Wong</b> (Hong Kong)
<b>Matthew Justin Major</b> (USA)
<b>Dick H. Plettenburg</b> (Netherlands)
<b>Stella Thai</b> (USA)
<b>Nerrolyn Ramstrand</b> (Sweden)
<b>Tzaki Siev-Ner</b> (Israel)

## ISPO Research Mentoring Programme: IPOS (Improving Prosthetic and Orthotic Sciences)

This mentorship programme was established by the ISPO Scientific Committee in 2013, which aims to support junior researchers in enhancing their knowledge and skills of basic research procedures and preparation for publication through individual mentoring by an experienced scientist. The IPOS Programme relies on a (signed) mentorship agreement whereby a research supervisor (Mentor) will coach a novice researcher (Mentee) on topics ranging from research proposal preparation and implementation of research project to writing manuscript for publication. Mentors may also offer insight and guidance into study opportunities, networking, and funding opportunities (including grants and studentships).

If you are interested to become a "Mentor" or to register as a "Mentee", more information are available on ISPO Website: [ISPO Research Mentoring Programme](#)

## Survey of Areas of Research Priorities

The Scientific Committee has launched a survey to list a of global research priorities in the field of prosthetics, orthotics, wheelchair, and assistive products with the objective of to develop consensus on priority areas of research that can utilized for the optimal benefit of the sector.

## LEAD & COMPASS Project, Phase 2

In 2021, ISPO completed Phase 1 of the Consensus on Outcome Measures for Amputation and Prosthetic Services (COMPASS) and Lower Extremity Amputation Dataset (LEAD). The aims of the project were:

- Define, achieve global convergence, build consensus and disseminate recommendations for Prosthetic Outcome Measures (OM): Defining and aligning OM with the needs of the international community
- Define, build consensus and disseminate recommendations for a Core Data Set (CDS) to standardize data collection worldwide: Defining the CDS useful to industry, implementers and policy-makers

The final report and the key recommendations will be available on the ISPO website.

The ISPO LEAD & COMPASS, Phase 2 started in 2023 with the financial support from ATscale. The project aims to improve and standardize data collection for Lower Limb Absence (LLA) care through piloting of a dataset (LEAD) which includes a set of outcome measures (COMPASS). This standardization is important for enhancing evidence-based decision making and collecting useful data which can ultimately improve outcomes across diverse healthcare settings.



ISPO would like to thank ATscale for its generous financial contribution to the **LEAD & COMPASS 2** project.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project's core purposes are to pilot the LEAD & COMPASS and develop a robust data collection system that can be implemented across different countries.

To date, the project team has achieved several key milestones, including obtaining ethical approval from the UNSW Human Research Ethics Committee and developing a customized data collection application featuring interfaces for collecting LEAD & COMPASS data within clinical settings. The pilot phase encompasses three valued partner sites:

- **Papua New Guinea:** Partnership established with the National Orthotics Prosthetics Service and Ministry of Health, with ethics approval successfully secured
- **Cambodia:** Collaboration with Kampong Cham Physical Rehabilitation Centre, supported by Humanity and Inclusion and the Persons with Disability Foundation, with ethics approval now in place
- **Thailand:** Working with the Sirindhorn School of Prosthetics and Orthotics at Mahidol University, with ethics approval pending

Each site will recruit approximately 30-40 adult participants with lower limb amputations

## MOVING FORWARD

With ethics approvals progressing well, the team is now finalizing site-specific implementation protocols and preparing for data collection. It is hoped this pilot will allow for any needed refinement of the LEAD & COMPASS data items and demonstrate the worth of such an initiative. By standardizing data collection internationally, the LEAD & COMPASS 2 project represents a significant advancement toward evidence-based practice in prosthetic and orthotic care, with potential long-term benefits including the possible future formation of an international registry for people with lower limb absence.

# WHO Priority Assistive Technology (APL) revision

In partnership with the Global Disability Innovation Hub (GDI-Hub), the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO) has contributed to the World Health Organization’s (WHO) revised Assistive Products List (APL) through a comprehensive and large-scale systematic review of reviews for orthotic and prosthetic devices, focusing on their associated need, benefit and risk. This rigorous approach has been completed to feed into the WHO selection process and help ensure evidence-based recommendations for assistive products globally.

The review process involved database searching that identified 12,718 articles which had their titles and abstracts screened, with 356 having the full text reviewed. After this screening a total of 194 studies were included in the final qualitative synthesis. The narrative syntheses were aligned to relevant International Standards Organization (ISO) definitions of both orthotic and prosthetic devices. Thus, a total of 47 separate narrative evidence reviews were produced to align to the WHO protocol which has various subheadings aligned to the major themes of need, benefit and risk. This review represents the current state of the evidence base across various populations and contexts.

The findings from this review will inform the process that WHO is conducting to update the Assistive Products List, helping to prioritize products with strong evidence of effectiveness and need while accounting for any risks. As such this work supports the shared goal of WHO, ISPO and GDI Hub of improving global access to high-quality assistive technology, particularly in low- and middle-income countries where need often exceeds availability. Other groups of researchers will conduct similar reviews for other assistive products allowing evaluators to decide on the composition of the revised APL with reference to evidence that exists for each product.

ISPO gratefully acknowledges the variety of experts in ISPOs network that have agreed to be consulted and assist this process and looks forward to publication of the findings in both peer reviewed journal articles and through WHO reports.

ISPO LEAD & COMPASS PROJECT AND APL PROJECT TEAM
Prof. Friedbert Kohler
Gregory Halford
Martina Lukin

# 09. SOCIETY

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## Membership Committee

Anton Johannesson,  
Chair of the Membership Committee

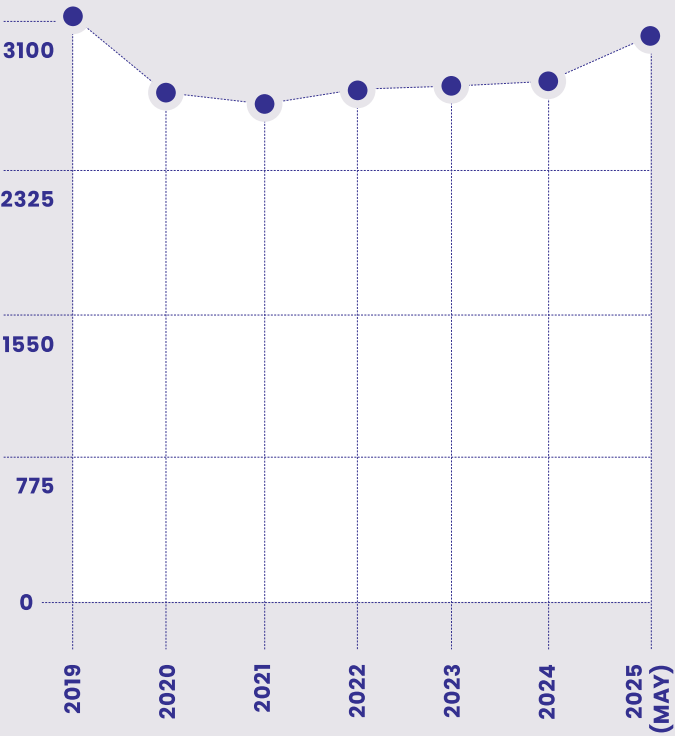
The mission of the ISPO Membership Committee is to strengthen and increase ISPO’s membership worldwide through the provision of relevant membership benefits and the conduction of targeted membership campaigns, and to enhance the Society’s member engagement. Primary focus is on:

- Supporting ISPO member societies in their effort to be more successful and impactful locally
- Increasing the collaboration between ISPO International and member societies
- Advising ISPO International on matters of membership recruitment and retention
- Increasing the visibility of the Society and the recognition of its programs and activities worldwide
- Develop and update benefits package for members (all categories) making it worthwhile to stay as or become a member

## Membership

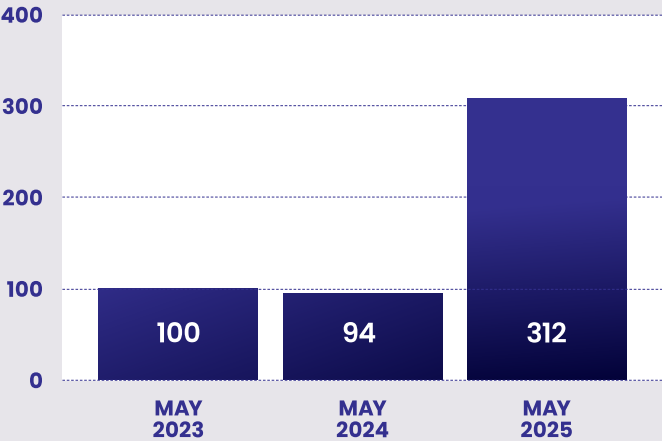
Membership is open to all individuals, associations, organizations, and institutions with an interest in prosthetics, orthotics, wheelchairs, assistive devices, rehabilitation engineering and related subjects. ISPO membership includes all rehabilitation professionals (i.e., prosthetists and orthotists, prosthetic and orthotic technicians, orthopaedic surgeons, rehabilitation doctors, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, pedorthists, biomechanical/ rehabilitation engineers, etc.) along with industry partners and users of assistive technology services.

Through the efforts of the Membership Committee, our membership has now returned to the post-Covid level. At the end of May 2025, ISPO had 3’045 members from 93 countries.



Student’s Campaign

In February 2025, ISPO launched a targeted campaign to attract students to join ISPO. While it is too early to see the impact of the campaign, we can already see in significant increase of students who have jointed ISPO.



FELLOWSHIP OF ISPO
Bengt Söderberg (Sweden)
Friedbert Kohler (Australia)
Jan Geertzen (Netherlands)
Klaas Postema (Netherlands)
Man-Sang Wong (Hong Kong)
Rosielena Jované C. (Panama)
Edward Lemaire (Canada)
Chapal Khasnabis (India)
Dan Blocka (Canada)
Hung-Hei Kwan (Hong Kong)
Jules Becher (Netherlands)
Madhouraj Balakrishnan (India)
Rajiv Hanspal (UK)
William J. Barringer (USA)
Saeed Zahedi (UK)
John Sullivan (UK)

Fellowship of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics is a special designation of individual ISPO members who have been registered with the Society for at least ten years and who have contributed to a high degree to the mission and goals of ISPO, or to the enhancement of P&O services in general, by personal achievement, integrity, reputation, and activities, including advancements in education, training, or research.

Member Societies

ISPO is structured into Member Societies (MS) that represent a country or region. Each MS is independent and implements activities that will further reinforce the ISPO mission and objectives within the MS country or region. At the end of the biennium, 72 member societies compose the ISPO network.

ISPO Member Societies elect representatives from their membership to serve on the International Committee (IC). In addition to the MS representatives, the IC includes the Executive Board and other ISPO leadership.

International Committee evaluates ISPO activities, advises the Executive Board as appropriate, and ensures that ISPO policies and plans reflect the various professional disciplines and interests, cultural identity, and geographical distribution of the ISPO membership. The International Committee as well elects the ISPO Officers (President, President-Elect, Treasurer) and Executive Board members. The International Committee met twice during the biennium; in May 2024 and in June 2025.



## Finance Committee

Jon Batzdorff,  
Chair of the Finance Committee

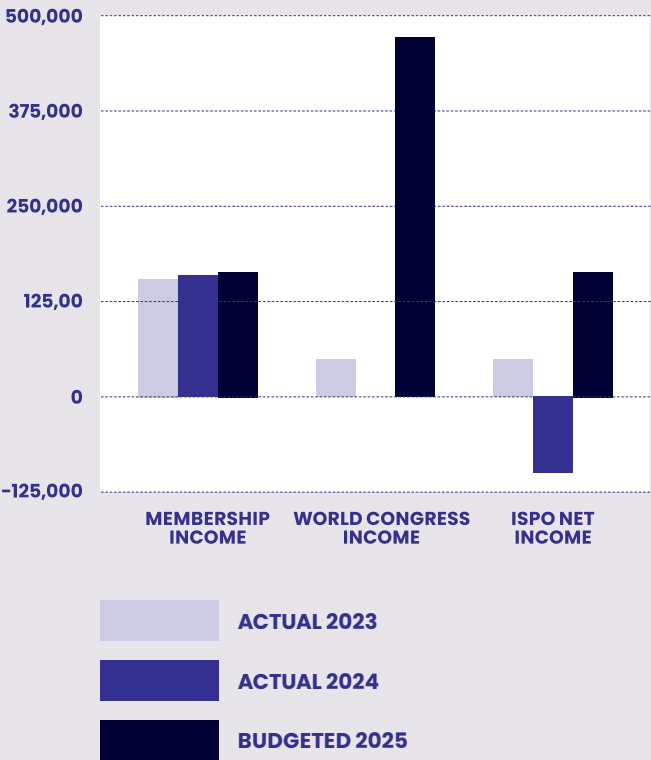
The ISPO Finance Committee mission is to guide and oversee the Society's financial activities, as directed by the Executive Board, and make appropriate financial recommendations to allow the Society to be as active as possible while safeguarding its financial health. Activities are directed by the Society's Fiscal Policies.

The 2023-2024 Biennium was financially challenged by the shadow of the COVID19 Pandemic which saw ISPO having a "virtual" World Congress in 2021, accompanied by a significant drop in ISPO membership resulting in an unprecedented drop in revenue. In 2023 the World Congress in Guadalajara was far more successful than the virtual 2021 Congress, but not yet back to the pre-pandemic revenues. The biennium financial picture reflects this anticipated dip and rise in revenues.

### 2023 TO 2025 FINANCES

- As a non-profit organization, the financial goal of ISPO is to generate sufficient income to pay for its expenses and to only retain enough in reserve for emergency conditions.
- Most of ISPO income has been generated from Membership Fees and from the World Congress net income.
- Since 2023, membership income has gradually returned to pre-pandemic levels.
- World Congress' net income is generated every two years and is returning to pre-pandemic levels.
- ISPO net income always has been negative in non-Congress years and positive in Congress years. For ISPO to be financially sustainable, net income in each Congress year must be at least equal to the loss in the non-Congress year. 2025 is expected to generate a sufficient net income to overcome the loss of 2024.

## INCOME 2023,2024,2025 (Euros)



## 2023 Audit Report

ISPO hired Revision, Ry, & Hammel to conduct an independent audit of its accounts, and accounting practices to assure that we are following Danish law and standard accounting practices. They completed the audit for 2023 and determined that ISPO is compliant with the following statement: "Based on the work we have performed, we conclude that Management's Review is in accordance with the Financial Statements and has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Danish Financial Statement Acts. We did not identify any material misstatement of Management's Review."

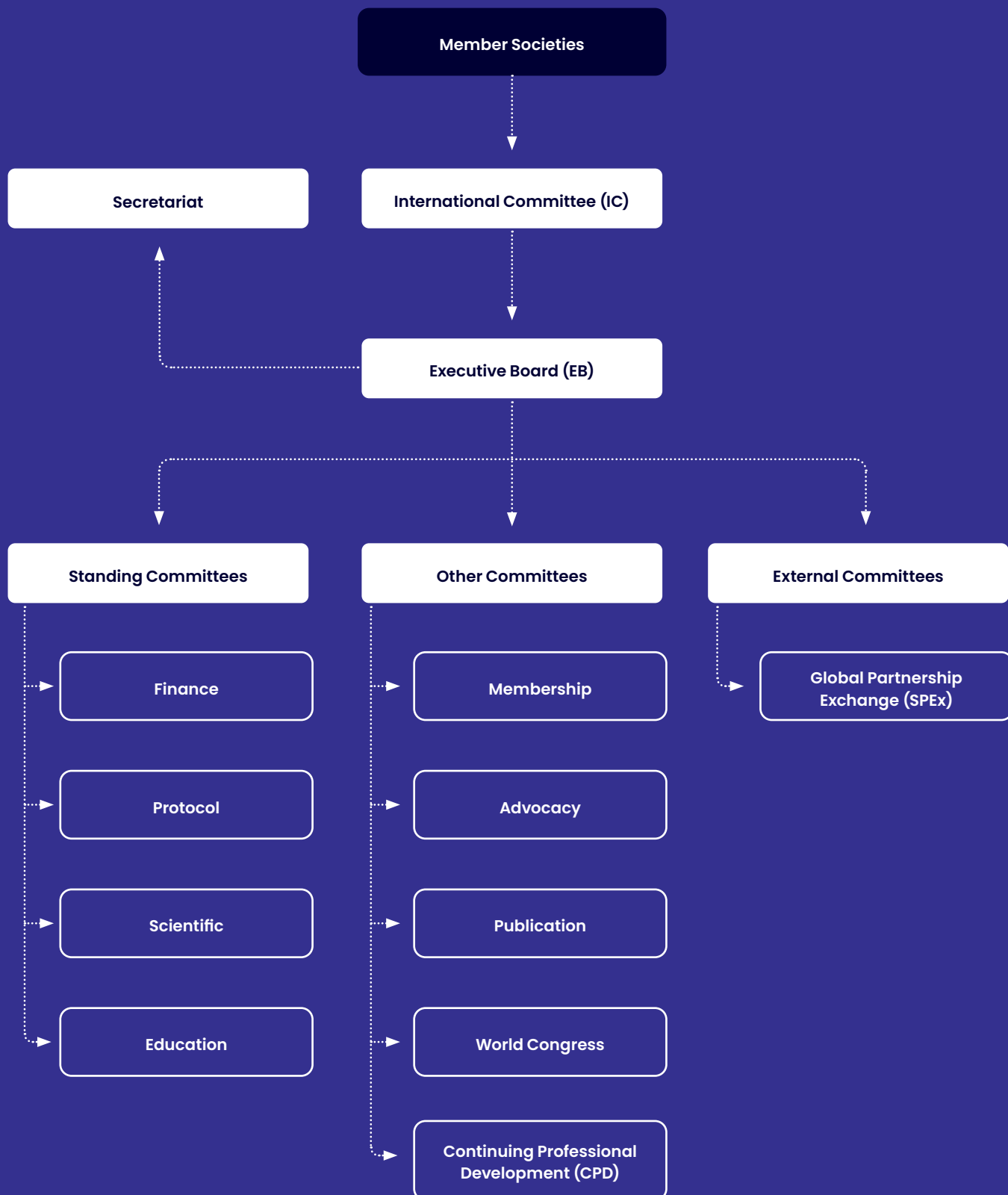
## Five Year Projection

The budgeted net income in 2025 (Congress year) is projected to equal or exceed the loss that occurred in 2024 (non-Congress year). This balance assures sustainability. Barring any unforeseen challenges, ISPO's five-year outlook is healthy.

# 10. ISPO Governance

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## ISPO Organigramme



## ISPO Executive Board 2023–2025



**David Constantine**  
United Kingdom  
President



**Sandra Ramdial**  
Canada  
President-Elect



**Claude Tardif**  
France  
Past President



**Jonathan Batzdorff**  
United States  
Treasurer



**Anton Johannesson**  
Sweden  
Member



**Kengo Onishi**  
Japan  
Member



**Nasrul Anuar Abd Razak**  
Malaysia  
Member



**Youssef Salam**  
Lebanon  
Member



**Gerald Stark**  
United States  
Member



**Raed Alkhattab**  
Jordan  
Member

## Secretariat Team



**Charlemagne Geron**  
Education and  
Accreditation  
Administrative Assistant



**Krithika Kandavel**  
Digital and Membership  
Services Manager



**Mihaela Nagy**  
Secretariat Manager

# 11. Outlook 2025-2027

ISPO Executive Board 2025-2027

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## Outlook 2025-2027



As I step into the role of ISPO President, I plan to continue the great work of previous presidents, boards, committees, partners and members. It will be important for me, along with the Executive Board, to ensure that ISPO fulfills its mission, remains financially

viable, and operates effectively and efficiently to serve its members and the entire global community.

My goals for ISPO have been shaped by the invaluable feedback from you, our members and partners, in creating our strategic plan. Together, we have identified the areas where ISPO can make the most significant impact, and I am eager to continue to lead our efforts to address some of these priorities:

- strengthening global standards and practices with organizations like the WHO and ILO, ensures our work addresses worldwide challenges
- enhancing education and accreditation programs develops a well-trained workforce that can deliver high-quality care and services wherever they are needed
- advancing initiatives through innovation and research generates new ideas improving outcomes for individuals relying on prosthetics, orthotics and other assistive technologies

One of the greatest strengths for ISPO is the ability to bring together an international community of healthcare professionals, from various disciplines and backgrounds, representing the entire sector and not just a single profession. With your involvement, I plan to break down barriers and expand access to services for underrepresented and underserved populations.

It is important to create opportunities for all of us to network and share knowledge. I am excited to continue the work, with other founding members, who launched two special interest groups – one for Bone Anchored Limbs (SIGBAL) and another for Upper Limb (SIGUL). Future ISPO special interest groups can be formed by bringing together professionals from around the world, with a shared passion to drive meaningful change and innovation.

Investing in our students and young professionals by providing opportunities for learning, mentorship, and leadership, ensures that ISPO will continue to grow and evolve through the next generation of passionate individuals.

Thank you for your continued insights and commitment to shaping the future of ISPO. I encourage you to stay engaged by contributing to our committees, special interest groups, board activities, and other important initiatives. I look forward to working together and making a lasting impact in the lives of those we serve.

**Sandra Ramdial**

President-Elect ISPO 2023-2025

## ISPO Executive Board 2025–2027



**Sandra Ramdial**  
Canada  
President



**Bryan Malas**  
USA  
President-Elect



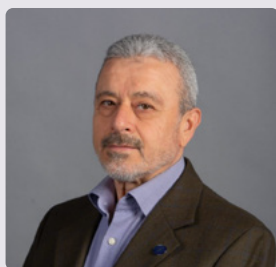
**David Constantine**  
United Kingdom  
President



**Jonathan Batzdorff**  
United States  
Treasurer



**Nasrul Anuar Abd Razak**  
Malaysia  
Member



**Youssef Salam**  
Lebanon  
Member



**Gerald Stark**  
United States  
Member



**Raed Alkhattab**  
Jordan  
Member



**Corry van der Sluis**  
Netherlands  
Member



**Deirdre Desmond**  
Ireland  
Member



**Shin Sasaki**  
Japan  
Member

12.

# Historical highlights

# Historical Highlights



ISPO is established as a non-governmental organisation in Copenhagen, Denmark.

1970

1972

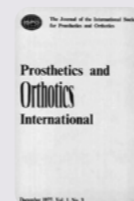
The ISPO Bulletin, ISPO's first official international newsletter is launched. Nigeria, USA and UK join ISPO as the first three National Member Societies.

1974

The first ISPO World Congress is organised in Montreux, Switzerland. The first ISPO short course focuses on Amputation Surgery and Prosthetics, and takes place in Rungsted, Denmark.

1977

2nd ISPO World Congress takes place in New York, USA. Charles Radcliff presents the first Knud Jensen Lecture. ISPO takes over the editorship and responsibility of the scientific journal Prosthetics and Orthotics International (POI).



1980

The 3rd ISPO World Congress takes place in Bologna, Italy.

1983

The 4th ISPO World Congress is held in London, UK.

1986

The 5th ISPO World Congress is organised in Copenhagen, Denmark.

1989

The 6th ISPO World Congress takes place in Kobe, Japan.

1990

The first ISPO Consensus Conference on Amputation Surgery takes place in Scotland, UK.

1992

The 7th ISPO World Congress is held in Chicago, USA.

1994

2nd ISPO Consensus Conference on lower limb orthotic management for cerebral palsy (Durham, USA).

1995

The 8th ISPO World Congress takes place in Melbourne, Australia. 3rd ISPO consensus conference on appropriate prosthetic technology for developing countries (Phnom Penh, Cambodia).



1997

4th ISPO Consensus Conference on Poliomyelitis (Hammamet, Tunisia).

1998

The 9th ISPO World Congress takes place in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

2000

5th ISPO Consensus Conference on Appropriate Prosthetic Technology for Developing (Moshi, Orth Tanzania).

The 10th ISPO World Congress is held in Glasgow, UK.

2001



The 11th ISPO World Congress is organised in Hong Kong.

2003

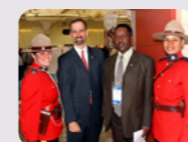
6th ISPO Consensus Conference on Orthotic Management of Stroke Patients (Ellecom, Netherlands).

2004

2006

7th ISPO Consensus Conference on Appropriate Lower Limb Orthotics for Developing Countries (Hanoi, Vietnam). 8th ISPO Consensus Conference on Wheelchairs in the Developing World (Bangalore, India).

2007



The 12th ISPO World Congress takes place in Vancouver, Canada. ISPO establishes an official relationship with the World Health Organisation (WHO).

2008

ISPO starts accrediting schools and training programmes. The 9th ISPO Consensus Conference on Cerebral Palsy (Oxford, UK). On the occasion of the 21st World Congress of Rehabilitation International, WHO, USAID, ISPO and Disabled Peoples' International launched the Guidelines on the provision of manual wheelchairs in less resourced settings.

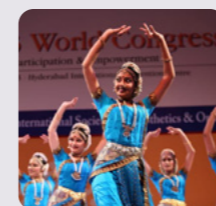
2009

ISPO officially establishes the Open Board formalising its cooperation with international partners (now GPEx).

2010

The 13th ISPO World Congress is held in Leipzig, Germany.

2013



The 14th ISPO World Congress is held in Hyderabad, India.

2014

The 1st ISPO Global Educators Meeting (GEM) is organised in Kobe, Japan.



2015

The 15th ISPO World Congress takes place in Lyon, France.

2017

The 16th ISPO World Congress is held in Cape Town, South Africa. Launch of the WHO Standards for Prosthetics and Orthotics. Launch of the IC2A Inspirational Lecture at presented by a prosthetic user at the ISPO World Congress. The first lecture was delivered by Giles Duley.

2018

Launch of the ISPO Education Standards for Prosthetic and Orthotic Occupations. 2nd ISPO Global Educators Meeting (GEM), in Gottingen, Germany.

2019

The 17th ISPO World Congress is held in Kobe, Japan.



2020



ISPO celebrates its 50th Anniversary.

2021

The 18th ISPO World Congress is held virtually.



2022



Launch of International Prosthetics and Orthotics Day - November 5th. The 3rd ISPO Global Educators Meeting (GEM) is held virtually.

2023

The 19th ISPO World Congress is held in Guadalajara, Mexico. Launch of the WHO Wheelchair provision guidelines. Launch of the WHO Standards for Prosthetics and Orthotics: Assessment Package.



2024

Launch of the 2 first ISPO Special Interest Groups (SIG): the Special Interest Group on Upper Limb (SIGUL) and the Special Interest Group on Bone Anchored Limbs (SIGBAL). The 4th Global Educators Meeting (GEM) is held in Houston, USA.

2025

The 20th ISPO World Congress is held in Stockholm, Sweden.



**International Society for  
Prosthetics and Orthotics**

**ispoint.org**

2023

2025