

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PROSTHETICS AND
ORTHOTICS**

International Committee Meeting No. 15

27-28 July 2007, Vancouver

President Shangali called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM and welcomed those present. Each person introduced themselves to the body and identified their National Member Society and ISPO role. The meeting was recessed by the President at 4:45 PM on 27 July and then reconvened at 9:10 AM on 28 July.

1. NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Australia	Friedbert Kohler
	Wes Pryor
Austria	Franz Landauer
Belgium	Louis Peeraer
Canada	Edward Lemaire
	Steven Hale
Chile	Augustín Gutierrez
Chinese Taipei	Alice May-Kuen Wong
Finland	Seppo Mäenpää
Germany	Hans-Henning Wetz
Hong Kong	Hung-hei Kwan
	Arthur FT Mak
Hungary	Peter Farkas
	Lajos Agoston
India	P.S. Danntala
Japan	Eiji Tazawa
	Mitsuhiko Uchida
Korea	
the Netherlands	Harmen van der Linde
New Zealand	Graham Flanagan
Pakistan	Bakht Sarwar
Panama	John Craig (for Rosie J. Jované)
Slovenia	Helena Burger
	Crt Marinček
Sweden	Bengt Soderberg
Turkey	Serap Alsancak
	Sabri Atesalp
UK	Robin Luff
	Paul Charlton
USA	Robert Kistenberg

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Belgium	Piet Herregods
China	Jin Ergang
	Cai Weiyi
Chinese Taipei	Simon FT Tang
Croatia	Miroslav Jelic
	Zeljko Getos
Czech Republic	Miroslav Janura (for Petr Krawczyk)
Denmark	Søren Bødtker
	Hans-Henrik Renzius Rasmussen
France	Jean-Pierre Lissac
Germany	Raimund Forst
India	Vinod Bhanti
Netherlands	Jaap Harlaar
New Zealand	Cherry Ann Holiday
Slovakia	Robert Wagner
Sweden	Anders Stenström

2. MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD IN ATTENDANCE

EB Member	Blocka, Dan
Task Officer	Bougie, Theo
Task Officer	Condie, David
Task Officer	Constantine, David
EB Member	Fisk, John
New EB Member	Geertzen, Jan
New EB Member	Harbo, Mads
EB Member	Heim, Sepp
New EB Member	Hodge, Margaret
Task Officer	Jacobs, Norman A.
EB Member	Jensen, Steen
EB Member	Kuppevelt, Dirk van
EB Member	Menager, Domenico
EB Member	Michael, John
ISPO Office Manager	Petersen, Niels
Task Officer	Raab, Wilfried
EB Member	Shangali, Harold
EB Member	Carolina Schiappacasse
EB Member	Friedbert Kohler
EB Member	Trebbin, Heinz
EB Member	Tøndevold, Erik

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

EB Member	McHugh, Brendan
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International Consultant

Rodriguez, File Mele

4. INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 13

4.1 Minute

The minutes were accepted as previously corrected.

4.2 Matters Arising

The President suggested that Matters Arising be discussed under Any Other Business after the body has heard all of the information of to be presented at this meeting. The members present were in agreement.

5. INTERIM MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE No. 14(i)

5.1 Minutes

The minutes were accepted as previously corrected.

5.2 Matters Arising

The President suggested that Matters Arising be discussed under Any Other Business after the body has heard all of the information of to be presented at this meeting. The members present were in agreement.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Shangali presented his official report to the members present, emphasizing the major challenges and accomplishments faced during this past triennium. Key points included the successful restructuring of the Copenhagen office based on the recommendations of external consultants and the recent physical move of the office to a less expensive venue a short distance from the prior headquarters. The retirement of Asa Larsson, after many decades of loyal service to the Society, was noted with appreciation. Several of the numerous activities supported by the Leahy War Victims Fund and the Society were briefly discussed. The decades of effective service as Editors of the journal by John Hughes and Norman Jacobs were also gratefully noted, along with notification that Margrit Meier PhD will become the new Editor in January 2008. Details on these matters and many others can be found in the full report.

Robin Luff pointed out that the statement accepting the present nominating process seems to be contradicted by the subsequent statement that the Board is looking into a more democratic procedure.

[EB\(O\)79.3 -
President
Report.doc](#)

7. ISPO POLICY AND ACTIVITIES

7.1 Financial Statement

[I&E ISPO
2001-
2006.pdf](#)

Erik Tondevahl presented a PowerPoint summary of the financial results for this triennium and advised that copies of the audited financial report are now available for inspection and will be published in a future issue of **POI**. In short summary, the Society is stable and has maintained the historic level of reserves while substantially increasing its activities, in large part due to successful competition for external grant funding. Overall, expenses for the past two trienniums have been equal to income. Dues have not been increased for the past 15 years.

Questions were raised about whether it would be prudent to increase the operating reserves. Bengt Soderberg advised increasing efforts for sponsorship and external grants and John Fisk clarified that the Board is pursuing both of these income streams. Ed Lemaire suggested consideration of an “electronic only” option for the journal at a reduced rate, and a higher fee for all others. Robin Luff reminded the group of the UK experience in doubling dues, which resulted in a loss of two members initially and an overall increase in memberships the following year. Friedbert Kohler commented that the de facto lowering of dues due to inflation has not attracted new members so it would seem prudent to have regular increases that keep up with inflation. Eiji Tazawa reminded those present that overall membership can be increased by having the National Member Societies grow their membership. Harmon van der Lindh expressed the need for more active NMS that sponsor courses and other activities of interest to members to both maintain and grow members.

7.2 Education Committee Report

Dan Blocka presented an overview of the many activities conducted by the Education Committee during this triennium. More information is contained within the written report. The revised Guidelines for Category II Training have proven to be very effective in expanding ISPO’s activities and influence in the world with 15 Cat II schools currently recognized by ISPO in one manner or another. Progress has also been made in Cat I accreditation with four institutions recognized at this level and several more with active interest. Due to the scope of activities, sub-groups have been formed to focus in different areas such as Distance Learning, Cat I, and Cat II. The future focus should incorporate wheelchair technology and orthopaedic footwear.

7.3 Membership Report

Dirk van Kuppevelt discussed membership trends based on a review of the past decade’s experience. In this triennium, membership has been steadily

[EB79.4 -
Membership.
doc](#)

increasing in both industrial and non-industrial countries and overall it is slightly ahead of the prior triennium. Feedback was solicited on five recommendations of an ad hoc committee to increase membership:

1. Increasing membership cost in Industrial countries only
2. Offering a discount for advance payment of triennial dues
3. Twinning between Industrial Countries and Non-Industrial Countries
4. Sponsorship by Industrial Countries of Non-Industrial Countries
5. Web site should be increasingly interactive and useful to members

General comments were in favor of these recommendations. The most unique feature of ISPO is that it is multidisciplinary so it would be logical to emphasize this. The greater the perceived value of membership, the more who will sign up, so to increase ISPO activities should attract more members. Increasing Institutional Memberships, based on the model of the Swedish NMS, could be useful. It is important to increase not only membership in existing countries but also to have more country memberships as well. Our traditional focus on P&O devices may discourage other disciplines from joining. Making our focus more explicitly on the care of persons with disability would help address this and reflect the growing acceptance of the ICF classification by the WHO. It was strongly suggested that the new Board consider the triennial dues issue at the meeting the Saturday after the Congress ends in hopes this could soon be implemented.

7.4

Publicity and Publications

7.4.1 Publications Committee Report

Carolina Schiappacasse highlighted the activities of this Committee. One of the major achievements was successful outsourcing of the publication to **POI** to *Informa Healthcare*, which has increased visibility of the journal and income to the society. Back issues will be posted for free on the web site in the future. The winner of the Forchheimer Prize for the best published article has been determined and will be awarded at the Congress next week.

Eiji Tazawa has created an electronic history of ISPO that will be made available to all members. Contributions from NMS are welcomed directly to Eiji. *OrthoLetter* has not been published due to a series of personnel and equipment changes but the current issue is now ready for e-press. Contributions from NMS are solicited. Development of the web site was another major development of this group and it is gradually becoming more useful and interactive. Some sections are password protected such as recent issues of **POI**. NMS can use this site to create their own web

page for free, or can choose to link existing NMS sites to the ISPO gateway.

Ed Lemaire suggested “pushing emails” to remind members of new web content and Heinz Trebbin confirmed that this will be implemented. Carolina Schiappacasse reminded NMS to keep contact information and especially email addresses updated with the head office so that all communications will be received. Appreciation was expressed for the publication of a summary of the most recent Consensus Conference in **POI** along with concern about obtaining out-of-print reports. Carolina advised that the intention is to scan and post such documents in the future.

7.4.2 **ISPO Web Page** (www.ispo.ws)

Heinz Trebbin demonstrated some of the features of the ISPO web site and asked for input and submissions to make it more interactive and relevant. Members present made several helpful suggestions that were noted and will be implemented. The general consensus was that this Home Page is a good beginning and that further development is highly desired.

7.5 **Leahy War Victims Fund Grant**

[LWVFSemiannual-080707.doc](#)

Steen Jensen briefly highlighted some of the more recent activities under this external grant, all of which were directly relevant to ISPO’s mission. A substantial portion of the grant effort has been to provide scholarships to worthy students attending Cat II accredited programs and to provide computer laptops to permit access to Distance Learning resources. To date, 7 students from 107 recipients have failed so the overwhelming majority of students have been successful. Details are available in the written Annual Report.

7.6 **Standards Report**

Paper IC15.7.6 [IC15.7.6 - Standards.pdf](#)

Theo Bougie updated the group on progress in the Standards Task Group, as explained in more detail in the report provided. Five years of work have resulted in substantial updates in the classification and terminology regarding assistive products for persons with disabilities, which includes definitions based on the ICF from WHO, that has been published as ISO 9999 2007. An Instructional Course has been planned on this topic for the World Congress.

Work is ongoing on medical and technical terminology by Working Group 1 & 2 and the CAPO Lexicon has been updated to reflect ISO TC168 terminology. WG 3 & 5 are discussing the differences between the test methods for ISO 22675 and ISO 10328 seeking to reconcile these into one

ultimate standard. Theo clarified that while the ISO standards are “neutral” and intended only to provide a common terminology and test standard but the ICF’s focus on function makes it more suitable for social functions including reimbursement regulations in some countries.

7.7 Consensus conferences and Outcomes Papers IC15.7.7.5;7.7.5A [IC15.7.7.1 - Course Coordinators Report.doc](#)

John Fisk summarized the activities in this realm over the past triennium, noting with concern the fact that some planned courses had to be deferred due to budgetary concerns. Details can be found in the written reports by John Fisk and other Task Officers. He emphasized the importance of modeling the courses to reflect the team philosophy but noted the lack of physician attendance at many courses and in many developing countries. Because it appears that many orthotists operate without any practical medical consultation, it may be particularly helpful to consider future courses that teach basic skills including taking an accurate impression, properly aligning joint mechanisms, and similar tasks.

The Curriculum Design and Teaching Techniques courses have been well received in Phnom Penh and Moshi and a follow-up course is planned in Phnom Penh for 2008. A consortium of philanthropic groups that includes ISPO will be presenting a course on the Ponseti method in Uganda in 2008. Suggestions for the future can be found in the PowerPoint presentation.

David Condie reviewed the history of his work over the years as a Task Officer for Orthotics, as contained in his appendix to the submitted report. David followed the successful model from the ISPO Amputation Consensus Conference and held a CC on Orthotic Management of Patients with Cerebral Palsy in 1994. Subsequently, eight educational courses based on these findings were conducted throughout the world. The ideal model seems to a course + workshop format that included hands-on practical sessions for each subset of the rehabilitation team. A standardized evaluation protocol has been developed and distributed without charge to approximately 50 persons.

A proposal for a Consensus Update course has been submitted to further advance this topic. Because this pathology is not decreasing worldwide, it would seem very important to continue this effort in the coming triennium.

Discussion suggested that a focus on the management of post-polio syndrome would be very useful as would one on diabetic foot care, which is being piloted in Tanzania later this year.

7.7.1 Courses

7.7.2 Community Based Rehabilitation

Wilfried Raab presented a PowerPoint talk about collaborative CBR activities in North Vietnam during this triennium that was intended as a pilot program. A survey revealed that cerebral palsy, club foot deformity, and poliomyelitis were the most common diagnoses that resulted in physical disabilities. Posters were developed to create social awareness about these problems and displayed in the health centers in the region. A micro-credit program was established to provide a single cow to disabled young adults to enable them to generate a small annual income.

Ponseti training and follow-up have also been initiated. In 2006, five years of further funding was approved. This project was furthered by the ISPO Consensus Conference in LLO conducted in Hanoi in 2006 and demonstrates one effective way to provide CBR. It is recommended that ISPO conduct a survey to measure the effectiveness of CBR efforts in other countries to permit comparisons.

7.7.3 Lower Limb Orthotics Consensus Conference

7.7.4 Wheelchairs Consensus Conference

Norman Jacobs reviewed these two successful Consensus Conferences held in 2006 in Hanoi and Bangalore with support from the LWVF. The results have been or will be published in **POI** and are expected to become freely available online. The new Board will consider the recommendations at their upcoming meeting. Jan Geertzen noted that almost all of the recommendations apply just as well to the developed as to the developing world.

7.7.5 Suggested Future Activities

Harmen van der Linde reported on the submission to the Board of a proposal for a Consensus Conference on Lower Limb Amputation and Prosthetic Prescription, to be developed in collaboration with the Scientific Committee. John Fisk noted the possibility of obtaining partial support from industry and the geographic variations in current practice. Robin Luff advised that he is part of a group in the UK that is well on the way to a similar result and offered to share that information with the planners.

7.8 Consumers Report

David Constantine presented his consumers report via a PowerPoint that emphasized the model of the very successful recent Consensus Conference

[Constantine
Consumer
Rpt.pdf](#)

on Wheelchairs. He noted the effectiveness of taking a broad approach that includes all stakeholders including users, providers, governmental and funding agencies. Details can be found in the file.

7.9 Scientific Committee

[SC summary July 2007.doc](#)

Harmen van der Linde informed the body of the work of this new committee. Two brainstorming meetings have been conducted to date with the minutes posted on the ISPO web site. They are currently seeking a grant writer and a funding source to support this activity to compete for grants from the European Committee.

Robin Luff noted that at present it appears to be a Euro-centric group. Dan Blocka clarified that this was done to keep initial costs low but the plan is to expand the membership and focus over time to make it a worldwide endeavor in the future.

7.10 Ad Hoc Committee for Low Income Countries

[EB 79 IC Meeting - OPNIC.pdf](#)

Heinz Trebbin made a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the work of this group in this triennium. Much of their effort has been to collate existing information that has already been developed into a usable format for the support of ISPO activities in developing countries.

Crt Marincek commented on the problem of disposing of used equipment that is inappropriate for developing worlds and advised that ISPO should caution against this. David Constantine noted that the Wheelchair Consensus Conference determined that all donations, whether new or not, should be based on specific criteria that are relevant to the environment and the users.

7.11 International Consultant Activities

7.11.1 Central and South America

[EB\(O\)79.6.1-Central and South America.doc](#)
[EB\(O\)79.6.1 A - Central and South America.doc](#)

Samual Ivan Montero reviewed the joint activities in the Central, South American, and Caribbean region. Details are contained in the associated report. The recent successful 2nd United Frontiers meeting was noted. This has led to interest in El Salvador, Ecuador and Venezuela in forming new ISPO NMS and the Dominican Republic is the process of organizing a new NMS. In summary, there is a strong sense of collaboration within this region and increasing activities.

Chapal Khasnabis informed the group that there is an interest from WHO in a regional meeting in Latin America. Carolina Schiappacasse will follow up on this opportunity for collaboration.

7.11.2 Middle East

No report submitted.

7.11.3 Central and Eastern Europe

Crt Marincek described the activities in this region, as explained in more detail in his report. The ongoing support of ISPO is appreciated and will assist in continued development of this region.

[EB\(O\)79.6.3 - Central and Eastern Europe.doc](#)

7.11.4 Africa

No report submitted.

7.11.5 South East Asia

Carson Harte presented the report of Mary Scott on this region since her arrival has been unavoidably delayed. In the past triennium, a number of projects have been completed and there is now awareness of ISPO and growing interest in collaboration throughout the region. The several successful schools in SE Asia are major contributors to the growth of ISPO in this part of the world.

[IC15.7.11.5 - South East Asia.doc](#)

Eiji Tazawa advised that students and staff from many of the schools in this region will be at the World Congress with the support of the Nippon Foundation. He encouraged members to visit the booth shared by these programs to welcome the members personally.

7.11.6 South Pacific

Wes Pryor gave a [PowerPoint presentation](#) summarizing work undertaken during this triennium, noting the massive geographic distance separating the many sparsely populated islands in the region. They have forged an effective collaboration with other interested groups focusing on strengthening rehabilitation services in the Marshall Islands. Among other activities, a Stroke Workshop was conducted in Kiribati. There is a well developed plan for the next triennium that includes broadening their focus. Details are found in the submitted written report and on the NMS web site.

[EB\(O\)79.6.6 - South Pacific.pdf](#)

7.12 International Organisations Update

7.13 World Congresses

7.13.1 Vancouver 2007

Ed Lemaire reminded those present to be seated in the reserved section at the front of the auditorium in advance of Opening Ceremonies, which will begin with a procession of the flags of all NMS. Tickets are still available for the Gala Reception but must be purchased by Monday morning.

There are approximately 1300 pre-registrants from more than 60 countries thus far so it appears that this will be another successful event for ISPO. There was a very good response to the reduced Registration Fee for person from developing countries. Exhibit space has sold out with Otto Bock and Ossur as Diamond Sponsors of the Congress. Over 500 abstracts were submitted and the scientific program is full. The Consumer Program is also very well organized under the leadership of the War Amps of Canada.

7.13.2 Leipzig 2010

Hans-Henning Wetz highlighted the state of the planning for the 2010 World Congress in Germany, May 9-15, 2010, which will be conducted in collaboration with the German ISPO MNS and the BIV. Deliberations are going well and planning is quite advanced already.

7.13.3 Invitations 2013

John Fisk invited proposals from the NMS to host the World Congress in 2013.

[IC15.7.13.3 - Congress Guidelines \(September 2003\).doc](#)
[IC15.7.13.3A - ISPO World Congress - Finance \(January 2006\).doc](#)

8. NATIONAL MEMBER SOCIETIES' REPORTS

8.1 Argentina

No report submitted.

8.2 Australia

Friedbert Kohler highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. The record attendance at their meetings is indicative of their long term success, with more attendees at their congresses than members of ISPO. Their international activities and twinning activities have been quite successful. Maintaining a multidisciplinary focus and actively conducting multiple activities are major goals of the ANMS. They have recently created a self-sustaining investment account that

[IC15.8.2 - Australia.doc](#)

supports a research scholarship. They have a very active web site that includes the ability for members to pay dues using a credit card. They have been using a professional meeting organizing group and have found this very effective as the move the venue to different widely-distant cities across their country.

8.3 Austria

[IC15.8.3 - Austria.doc](#)

Franz Landauer highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. This included planning for the 2010 World Congress, scientific lectures, and serving as an expert in a legal matter between an orthopaedic shoemaker and an insurance company.

8.4 Belgium

[IC15.8.4 - Belgium.doc](#)

Louis Peeraer highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. The focus on joint conferences with other interested groups, which has been effective in increasing awareness and interest in ISPO. It has proven difficult to attract P&Os to attend scientific meetings on weekends but weekday meetings are difficult for the physicians to attend.

8.5 Brazil

No report submitted.

8.6 Canada

Ed Lemaire the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. The work of organizing the Congress has been their major focus this triennium. Membership has tripled due to interest in the Congress. Member retention will be an important task for this triennium. The online Lexicon has been translated into multiple languages and will be updated to incorporate ISO terminology.

8.7 Chile

[IC15.8.7 - Chile.doc](#)

Augustín Gutierrez highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. They hosted a successful ISPO Instructional Course on Cerebral Palsy and the 5th Regional Latin American Congress. New Board members have been recruited. The closing of the local training program at the end of this year is a concern because this means that only University level education will be possible in the future.

8.8 China

[IC15.8.8 - China.doc](#)

Report submitted.

8.9 Chinese Taipei

[IC15.8.9 -
Chinese
Taipei.pdf](#)

Alice May-Kuen Wong gave a [PowerPoint summary](#) that highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. Because formal education in P&O is not available in Taiwan, the ISPO NMS provides basic and advanced continuing education courses. A national certification program was established by the ISPO NMS in 2005.

8.10 Colombia

No report submitted.

8.11 Croatia

No report submitted.

8.12 Czech Republic

No report submitted.

[IC15.8.12 -
Czech
Republic.doc](#)

8.13 Denmark

No report submitted.

8.14 Finland

No report submitted.

8.15 France

No report submitted.

8.16 Germany

Hans-Henning Wetz highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. In addition to their usual conferences, often in collaboration with neighboring NMS, they are undertaking a series of consensus conference in the next triennium. Active participation in the planning for the next World Congress will also be a major activity.

[IC15.8.16 -
Germany.doc](#)

8.17 Hong Kong

Hung-hei Kwan highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. They have sponsored attendees to the Korean meeting

[IC15.8.17 -
Hong
Kong.doc](#)

and to this World Congress as part of their twinning activities.

8.18 Hungary

[IC15.8.18 - Hungary.doc](#)

Peter Farkas highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report, noting that their membership has been steadily increasing in this triennium. Appreciation was expressed for the ongoing support from Task Officer Crt Marincek. He asked those present to consider a venue for the 2016 World Congress in Eastern Europe.

8.19 India

[IC15.8.19 - India.doc](#)

P.S. Danntala highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report, noting the steady growth of this Society. They have conducted a number of meetings in this triennium to increase visibility of ISPO and to attract potential members. The achievement of Category II status for the school is noteworthy and accreditation at a Category I level is being pursued.

8.20 Iran

No report submitted.

8.21 Japan

[IC15.8.21 - Japan.pdf](#)

Mitsuhiko Uchida highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. They have successfully recruited 15 new younger members which is encouraging since their overall membership has been declining as older members retired. In addition to several educational collaborations, more than 90 members supported the 2006 Korean meeting by their attendance.

8.22 Jordan

No report submitted.

8.23 Korea

[IC15.8.23 - Korea.pdf](#)

?? highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. The decision by the Board to defer implantation of the higher member fees was felt to have contributed to the significant growth of this young society.

8.24 Lebanon

No report submitted.

- 8.25 Lithuania
No report submitted.
- 8.26 Netherlands [IC15.8.26 - Netherlands.pdf](#)
Harmen van der Linde highlighted two key aspects of the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. Rehabilitation doctors are by far the largest percentage of NMS members with very few therapist members. They look forward to achieving Category I accreditation in the future for their P&O training program.
- 8.27 New Zealand [IC15.8.27 - New Zealand.doc](#)
Graham Flanagan highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. Many of their activities are collaborative with the Australian NMS and they are looking to LaTrobe University for assistance in establishing the first in-country P&O training program, which will be at a Category I level.
- 8.28 Pakistan
No report submitted.
- 8.29 Panama
John Craig highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. The concerns of Panama were noted with general agreement and will be forward to the new Board for action. Louis Par suggested creation of a "How to Form a NMS" information packet.
- 8.30 Romania
No report submitted.
- 8.31 Russia
No report submitted.
- 8.32 Serbia
No report submitted.
- 8.33 Slovakia
No report submitted.

- 8.34 Slovenia [IC15.8.34 - Slovenia.doc](#)
- Helena Burger highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. Despite their small numbers, they have been very active and have conducted several meetings and technical projects. Much of this information will be presented at this World Congress.
- 8.35 Sweden [IC15.8.35 - Sweden.doc](#)
- Bengt Soderberg highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. Their novel “clinic membership” structure has increased the overall membership by 15% each year and has greatly increased the visibility of the journal and the Society. They have been successful in obtaining recognition by the government as health care professionals and are working on projects to record uniform diagnoses and to create a national database with information about amputation, prostheses, rehabilitation & outcomes. Their web site has been updated significantly.
- 8.36 Switzerland
- No report submitted. ?? explained that most people are members of the country association, which is very active, but only a few also join ISPO.
- 8.37 Turkey [IC15.8.37 - Turkey.doc](#)
- Serap Alsancak highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. They have sponsored a number of activities in this triennium including educational conferences, publication of standards, and draft legislation on licensing of P&O.
- 8.38 UK [Report to ISPO International Committee 270707 UK.doc](#)
- Robin Luff presented a [PowerPoint presentation](#) that highlighted the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. Despite numerous fiscal and political challenges, and in the face of doubling the cost of dues, UK NMS membership has continued to increase. They are collaborating with Norwegian colleagues at their next annual meeting with the goal of helping to facilitate rejuvenation of the Norwegian Society.
- 8.39 Uruguay
- No report submitted.
- 8.40 USA [US NMS Report](#)

Rob Kistenberg gave a [PowerPoint Presentation](#) highlighting the activities of this NMS based on the submitted report. Membership has been relatively stable but did not increase this year despite the World Congress. They have become more active in organizing meetings in this past triennium, in part to generate more operating income to permit other activities. The most recent collaborative meeting with Mexico was successful and a Pacific Rim meeting is being planned. A meeting in collaboration with the Dominican Republic is being organized for January 2009. Based on voluntary member donations, scholarships to ISPO are offered to students who are potential future members of ISPO. Financial support was made to 3 new NMS in the region to defray the initial costs of organization. They are trying a pilot program called the Prosthetic & Orthotic Component Clearinghouse to screen and match donated items to interested philanthropic entities. [v2.doc](#)

9. CONSTITUTION

9.1 Amendments

John Michael reported to those present that the Board had responded to the suggestions from previous IC meetings and the constitution has been modified to limit the terms of the Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, and Task Officers in accordance with the wishes of the NMS representatives.

[IC15.9.1 - Proposed amendments to Constitution.doc](#)

9.2 One NMS per Country?

John Michael asked those present for feedback to the Board on this issue. In particular, would there would be support for making it possible to have more than one member society within a particular country. There was general opposition to this idea and no support was expressed except to consider “individual memberships” or other variations that would retain the historic ISPO desire to encourage countries to work out internal conflicts constructively and to have one national Society.

10. EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS

10.1 Election 2007-2010

John Michael reported to those present on the recent successful nomination and election of officers, noting that some nominees and some elected officers were nominated by the NMS and not by the Nominations Committee.

[IC15.10.1 - Executive Board Election 2007.doc](#)

10.2 Election Schedule 2010-2013

John Michael reviewed the general schedule for election activities for the

[IC15.10.2 - Schedule for Election of](#)

coming triennium, which has been designed to emphasize the ability of the NMS to provide nominations. Those present were supportive of such efforts to open up the process and to encourage wider participation.

[Executive Board 2010-13.doc](#)

11. FUTURE POLICY REGARDING INTERIM MEETING

President Shangali and Incoming President Blocka invited those present to provide suggestions to improve the process of these meetings. One of the major initiatives of the new Board starting very early in the new triennium will be to find ways to restructure all of the Society's meetings to make better use of electronic communication options. For example, it may prove practical to have "information exchange" virtual meetings over the Internet in advance. On-site meetings would then focus primarily on discussion, debate, and decision-making. One primary goal in the new triennium will be to make the necessary organizational and administrative meetings of the Society more efficient, productive, and cost-effective.

12. ISPO OFFICE

The restructuring of the Head Office and its move to a less expensive location have been completed but efforts to reduce Society overhead costs will remain a major focus in the new triennium. Outsourcing of the journal has proven to be effective in reducing costs, continuing to generate net income, and increasing circulation. Other opportunities for outsourcing of head office operations will be explored.

13. FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR ISPO (PROPOSED PLANNING MEETING)

Carolina Schiappacasse informed those present that it will be recommended to the new Board that a professionally moderated strategic planning meeting be conducted in the next few months to reflect on the goals and accomplishments of ISPO, the challenges to be faced, and to create a plan for the future evolution of the Society. General support was expressed for this concept.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Matters arising from IC14

John Michael reminded the NMS that suggestions for fund raising should be submitted to the Chairman of the Finance Committee, Erik Tøndevold [IC14.7.1] and confirmed that the recommendation to appoint an Office Manager to assume much of the present work of the Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary [IC14.13.2] had also been accomplished, but clarified that most of the clerical work was being done by the new staff in the office so that Niels Petersen could focus on

the financial matters since he is expert in that area.

Bengt Soderberg suggested identification of one major goal per triennium as a major focus of all ISPO societies, with a new focus in subsequent periods. He noted that the American “Bone and Joint Decade” was one example of such a concerted focus.

Chapal Khasnabis advised ISPO to publicize its many successes, which would increase the influence of the Society in other spheres. He stated that ISPO has been very successful in its projects but has not effectively marketed them to other groups.

Paul Charlton commented on the success of ISPO UK in collaborating with PT groups to provide multidisciplinary education. This is one way to reach out to potential multidisciplinary members.

P.S. Danntala requested an ISPO focus on major health issues such as Spinal Cord Issues and Diabetic Foot management in the coming triennium, as these are major problems throughout the world and particularly in developing countries.

Friedbert Kohler discussed aspects of the International Classification of Functioning using a [PowerPoint](#) format, suggesting that much work is underway worldwide to identify and validate “brief core sets” of evaluation tools based on the ICF system. These data sets can be used in both research and clinical care. The Board should consider whether ISPO would be interested in being a collaborating partner in this process. More information is available on the internet and anyone seeking more details is encouraged to contact Mr. Kohler for assistance.

President Shangali adjourned the meeting at 5:05 PM on 28 July 2007, thanked the NMS for their continuing input and support over the past three years, and invited all present to enjoy the World Congress.