

Interim Report to the International Committee (IC16)  
Bangkok, February 2009

## ISPO <Australia >

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### 1. List of Executive Committee members

The Australian National Member Society (ANMS) of ISPO has an executive committee which coordinates all activities of the ANMS. Reporting to the executive are the outreach, scientific and education and the finance subcommittees which plan and carry out the day to day functions of ISPO ANMS. Each subcommittee has regular meetings generally timed to precede the executive meeting to enable continuous and efficient function and reporting.

The members of the executive committee are:

Name	Function	Profession	Place of work	Length of committee service
Friedbert Kohler	President	Rehabilitation Physician	Sydney	4 years
Michael Dillon	Vice president;  Chair Scientific and Education committee	Prosthetist/Orthotist	Melbourne	5 years
Sarah Anderson	Secretary	Prosthetist/Orthotist	Melbourne	3 years
Cameron Ward	Treasurer, Chair finance committee	Prostehstist/Orthotist	Sydney	3 months
Leigh Clark	Chair of outreach committee	Prosthetist/Orthotist	Adelaide	3 months
Sue Foss	Member	Prosthetist/Orthotist	Brisbane	4 years
Anton Karak	Member	Prosthetist/Orthotist	Melbourne	12 years
Stephen Chung	Member	Rehabilitation Physician	Sydney	3 months
Renee MacKenzie	Member	Prosthetist/Orthotist	Melbourne	6 months
Caroline Roffman	Member	Physiotherapist	Perth	3 months

## **2. Dates of committee meetings (August 2007-2009)**

Since the last International meeting in July 2007 committee meetings have taken place as outlined below:

- a. Executive Committee meetings were held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2007, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2007, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008, 8<sup>th</sup> August 2008 and 19<sup>th</sup> November 2008
- b. The Outreach committee met on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2007 and 13<sup>th</sup> February 2008. The outreach committee was a little unsettled with an exodus of members overseas. It has regrouped and will again function in a more cohesive manner with a new chair. Unfortunately the chair was a co-convenor of the Annual scientific meeting and could not commence taking on the role of chair of the outreach committee until after the Annual Scientific Meeting in Adelaide.
- c. The science and education committee met on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2007, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2007, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2008, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2008, 24<sup>th</sup> June 2008, 24<sup>th</sup> July 2008, 26<sup>th</sup> August 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008 and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008. The science and education committee has been very productive and reviewed and revised its terms of reference, recommended and worked through the implementation of a number of new awards and developed and strategic plan for the next 3 to 5 years.
- d. The finance committee meets ad hoc to review and revise investment strategy.

Generally the meetings are conducted by teleconference in view of the distances between the individual members involved

## **3. List of conferences/scientific meetings/seminars/etc.**

(event, dates, place, topics, numbers attending)

*2007:* No meeting

*2008:* Annual Scientific meeting: 20-22 November 2008, at The Stamford Grand Hotel, Glenelg, Adelaide, South Australia

Major Theme: Towards Evidence Based Care in Prosthetics and Orthotics

Attendance: 186

Meeting highlights:

1. Dr. Nerrolyn Ramstrand of Jönköping University, Sweden, was the invited keynote speaker and gave several comprehensive and thought provoking presentations on integrating the evidence base into clinical practice.
2. Prof. Maria Crotty, addressing Outcome Measurement and Clinical Justification in everyday clinical practise and the rehabilitation setting.
3. Dr Saravana Kumar presented on the role of case studies and clinician expertise in contributing to the P&O evidence base.
4. A/Prof. Tim Bach presented a workshop on the Critical Appraisal of Literature.
5. A Consumer Special Interest Session focussed on overcoming barriers and empowering people with disabilities to participate at varying levels.
6. The scientific sessions were supported by an exciting social programme.

*2009:* Meeting Planned for 11-14<sup>th</sup> November 2009, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia

## **4. Developments in the prosthetic/orthotic service in your country**

There have been no major developments or changes in P&O services in the last 18 months.

## **5. An update of prosthetic/orthotic and related professional education in your country**

The major change in education of P&O in Australia is the introduction of a four year masters degree in P&O at La Trobe University; the only university that provides a P&O qualification in Australia. This has commenced intake in 2009 and is a change form the previous Bachelor program. The first year of the

new curriculum will be a common foundation learning year for all allied health professions. The second, third and fourth years providing orthotics and prosthetics teaching.

#### **6. International links such as twinning and collaborative meetings**

Close links continue to exist between ISPO Australia and ISPO New Zealand, with significant attendances and contributions from the New Zealand ISPO members to the ISPO Australia Annual scientific meetings.

Cooperative work has commenced with Motivation Australia to increase opportunities for development and outreach in the South Pacific.

The Tungaru Rehabilitation Service of Kiribati continues to be supported.

#### **7. Any additional information you wish to share with other National Member Societies**

ISPO ANMS has been working on several initiatives to improve services to membership and attract new members. These include but are not restricted to:

- i. Reviewing, streamlining, updating and modifying terms of reference of subcommittees and positions in the executive to enhance performance of the executive and ISPO ANMS as a whole,
- ii. Including and placing increasing emphasis on consumer participation sessions in the Annual Scientific meeting
- iii. Establishment of a scholarship for research and advertising for the second round of this scholarship
- iv. Establishment of further awards for presentations at the ASM to increase and encourage participation from other allied health, nursing and medical professions
- v. Continuation of actively seeking multidisciplinary representation on the executive, subcommittees and conference convening committees
- vi. Developing plans for the next three to five years in various aspects of activity