



## ISWP Training Working Group August 28, 2019 Meeting Recap

The ISWP Training Working Group Integration Subcommittee met by conference call on Wednesday, August 28, 2019 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. U. S. Eastern Time. This provides a recap.

**Link to Meeting Recording:** <https://iswp.adobeconnect.com/pzqkr75416ja/>

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, November 27, 2019, 9:30 a.m. U.S. Eastern Time/11:00 UTC.

### **Discussion:**

- 1. New ISWP Team Member:** Maria Toro Hernandez has joined ISWP as technical program manager as part of the new URC grant. Maria is a biomedical engineer with a master's degree in rehab science and technology and PhD in Rehab Science, both from the University of Pittsburgh. Maria's 12 years of experience in the wheelchair sector has included positions in academia, with NGOs and in research. She completed WHO training and trained in settings such as Colombia, Guatemala and Argentina. Maria also worked as a professor, integrating wheelchair content in university curricula in the U.S., Mexico and Colombia. She assisted in developing the CLASP Product Advisory Council.
- 2. Basic Wheelchair Service Provider (WSP) Certification:** 57 individuals from 20 countries have been certified to date. Over 1,400 Basic test takers are eligible for the certification. Based on the Professional Standards Board's (PSB) feedback, ISWP created an exclusive page for the certification and step-by-step process ([link](#)). A Spanish version of the certification was launched in June. ISWP continues to promote the certification to Basic test takers, as well as to organizations worldwide and at conferences. Recent conferences: Latin American Seating Symposium, Rehab Week, Rehab 2030, RehaMo, Paralyzed Veterans Association Healthcare Summit, GReAT Consultation, AAATE and UN Civil Societies Conference. The PSB is finalizing the recertification process.





3. **Professional Standards Board: Training Working Group members** are invited to nominate a representative to fill the end-user representative seat on the PSB; Karen Reyes stepped down from the Board due to her new responsibilities at WHO in another sector.
  
4. **Additional Online Training Modules:** With support from Latter-day Saints Charities and American Wheelchair Mission, ISWP is creating additional online modules based on the WHO WSTP, both in English and Spanish. Modules, which are being developed using Articulate software and will be hosted on WIN, include:
  - Basic—updated versions of A1-A8, the 8 Steps and B1-B14
  - Training of Trainers--Core, Basic and Intermediate
  - Managers
  - Stakeholders.

Modules should be completed by November-December 2019.

5. **Basic Skills Test:** The intent of the assessment is to evaluate wheelchair service providers' skills in providing wheelchairs at the basic level. The intent of this pilot project is to evaluate the feasibility of the test itself. The results will remain confidential and any feedback from the test will be provided to the test taker directly by the moderator. Currently recruiting for video assessment component: **Training Working Group members** are invited to recommend participants; ISWP would like to recruit four additional participants; one person has completed to date.
  
6. **Competency Subcommittee:** The subcommittee met on July 16. Members provided feedback on an Intermediate Skills Test survey to better understand challenges associated with submitting case studies for the skills portion of the test. To date, ISWP received 28 case studies from 20 test takers, out of 190 people who passed the test. The survey was sent to those 190 individuals;





survey response has been 38% to date. The survey will close on August 30. **ISWP staff** will present results analysis during the October/November Competency Subcommittee call.

7. **Integration Subcommittee:** Subcommittee continues to meet monthly. Work continues on a joint position paper, which was sent to WFOT, WCPT, ISPO and ISPRM for feedback; WFOT and ISPO have provided feedback to date. Two possibilities: Draft as a position paper according to WFOT's template; and create as manuscript for publication. It has been accepted as an idea by a couple of publications.

Karen Fung made suggestions on modifications to the Seating and Mobility Academic Resource Toolkit (SMART) website based on Subcommittee feedback. Four university snapshots are available: Hebrew University, University of Jordan, Universidade da Coruna and Jordan University of Science and Technology. A manuscript describing SMART's development was submitted for publication.

University of Montreal students drafted a manuscript regarding the development of the French-Canadian Basic test and currently are incorporating co-authors' feedback. The manuscript will be submitted in December 2019.

Maria Toro Hernandez remains in contact with a university in Colombia which is interested in conducting the Hybrid Course; the timeline is pending due to changes in university leadership.

Paula Rushton indicated a new project being considered is the development of an Educators' Package – a "how-to" on integrating wheelchair education into university and training programs. The package concept is based on the educators' survey and qualitative project as latest evidence. Paula, who would lead the project during her sabbatical, presented a proposal and discussed with ISWP and USAID. A next step is to determine WHO's interest in supporting the project, so the materials can be added to the WSTP portfolio.

Maria provided some updates from the GReAT Consultation, held August 22-23,



2019 in Geneva. Friedbert Kohler, president ISPO, mentioned during a side meeting co-hosted by ISWP and ISPO that many faculty members are not trained in wheelchair service education, so perhaps a “training of the trainers” package is necessary, too. During the joint meeting, WFOT provided updated on results of global survey AT use by OTs worldwide (insert link).

Integration presentations at upcoming conferences:

- Nicky Seymour and Samantha Shann, OTARG, Rwanda, August 26-29
- Mary Goldberg, ISPO, Japan, October 6-8
- Paula Rushton, Oceania Seating Symposium, Australia, November 12-14.

8. **ISWP Update:** ISWP and ISPO co-hosted a collaborators’ meeting during the GREAT Consultation in Geneva. Attendees included representatives from Motivation, organizations in Philippines, DDO, Argentinian Assistive Technology Association, UCP, WFOT and WCPT. Each organization described its initiatives to advance the wheelchair sector. The group agreed to continue to work on a unified front to make progress toward greater access to appropriate wheelchairs and services.

ISWP’s current work plan focuses on three areas: 1) wheelchair service standards; 2) wheelchair product standards; and 3) sector collaboration. In the area of product standards, caster, rolling resistance and corrosion testing continue. Jon Pearlman and Anand Mhatre will attend the ISO meeting the week of September 8. In the area of sector collaboration, ISWP staff and representatives have presented at 11 conferences to date to promote the need for appropriate wheelchairs and services.

9. **Member Updates:** Lee Kirby reported the Wheelchair Skills program updated its materials as of August 2, 2019; materials are available free online <https://wheelchairskillsprogram.ca/en/>. ISWP will include in the next The Hub newsletter. Holding 16<sup>th</sup> annual workshop in Halifax, October 28<sup>th</sup>. November 3



full-day session at APRM, Chicago. University of Montreal is hosting a power wheelchair workshop on September 21.

10. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, November 27, 2019, 9:30 a.m. U.S. Eastern Time/14:30 UTC.





**Participants** (check mark indicates participation on call)

	<b>TWG Members</b>
	Dave Calver, UCP Wheels, <i>U.S.</i>
	Barbara Crane, Plymouth State University, <i>U.S.</i>
	Eliana Ferretti, Federal University of Sao Paulo (UNIFESP), <i>Brazil</i>
	Ritu Ghosh, Mobility India, <i>India</i>
✓	Lee Kirby, Dalhousie University, <i>Canada</i>
	Tamsin Langford, Motivation UK, <i>United Kingdom</i>
	Xavier Lemire, Humanity & Inclusion, <i>Mozambique</i>
	Sergio Mainetti, CBM, <i>South Africa</i>
	Jess Markt, ICRC, <i>Switzerland</i> (based in U.S.)
	Kylie Mines, Motivation Australia, <i>Australia</i>
	Abdullah Munish, Motivation Africa, <i>Africa</i>
	Jamie Noon, Consultant, <i>U.S.</i>
	Elsje Scheffler, DARE Consult, <i>South Africa</i>
	Samantha Shann, Northumbria University, <i>England</i>
	Catherine Sykes, <i>United Kingdom</i>
✓	Eric Wunderlich, Latter-day Saints Charities, <i>U.S.</i>
	Sara Munera, Whee Education, <i>Colombia</i>
	Tchai Xavier, Consultant, <i>Philippines</i>
	Nicole VanderZouwen, Free Wheelchair Mission
	<b>SC Members</b>
	Sue Eitel, Eitel Global, <i>U.S.</i>
	Sue Fry, <i>South Africa</i>
	Dietlind Gretschel, Dietlind Gretschel Physiotherapy, <i>South Africa</i>
	Patience Mutiti, Motivation, <i>UK</i>
✓	Paula Rushton, University of Montreal, <i>Canada</i>
	Nicky Seymour, Motivation, <i>South Africa</i>
	<b>ISWP Central Team at University of Pittsburgh</b>
	Mary Goldberg, <b>Chair</b>
✓	Maria Toro Hernandez
	Jon Pearlman
	Yohali Anhue Burrola-Mendez
	Alexandria Miles
✓	Krithika Kandavel
✓	Nancy Augustine
✓	Megan D'Innocenzo

Prepared by: Nancy Augustine and Krithika Kandavel

