



## ISWP Training Working Group

### July 27, 2016 Meeting Recap

The ISWP Training Working Group met by conference call on Wednesday, July 27, 2016, from 10:00am to 11:00am U. S. Eastern Time. This provides a recap.

**Meeting Recording Link:** <https://iswp.adobeconnect.com/p6w6mo3vw2g/>

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, August 24, 2016 from 4:30am to 5:30am EST or from 10:00am to 11:00am EST

### Action Items

1. Email Tamsin with any comments or if anything needs to be changed in the May meeting minutes so they can be signed off (*as sent out late and members may not have been able to review prior to July meeting – apologies*).
2. Nancy will check the TWG members' list to circulate the most current one to the group.
3. Send any intermediate test taker recommendations to ISWP training coordinator, Krithika Kandavel, at [krithikak@pitt.edu](mailto:krithikak@pitt.edu).
4. Those interested to register for the Awareness Campaign launch on Tuesday, August 2, 2016.
5. Send Maggie an email if you'd like to review the materials for the Bangkok ToT pilot.
6. Funding proposals are due to ISWP by **August 19, 2016**. SC Chairs to submit to Tamsin by **Monday, August 8**, to be circulated to the entire TWG for approval.
7. ISWP to take a poll of conferences TWG member will be attending to determine the most cost effective face-to-face meeting.
8. Email Tamsin if you have any further feedback on draft Master Trainer Criteria and if you would like to be involved in finalizing this.

### Discussion

#### 1. Agreeing of the Previous Minutes

Tamsin emailed the last meeting's minutes to the TWG, and before signing off, asked that members email her with any changes after reviewing.

We had 8 action items as a result of the last meeting:

- a. ISWP staff to clarify each subcommittee and its members. Send to Tamsin and circulate with the minutes. – **Update:** Tamsin asked that Nancy check the TWG members' list to circulate the most updated one with the July meeting minutes.
- b. Nancy to clarify Funding Request Process and where USAID approval fits into this. – **Update:** Nancy updated the advisory board receives the funding proposal from working groups and subcommittees, who then discusses the proposal as a group or submits individual questions. USAID has 2 non-voting members on the board, but they are



involved in all discussions about the submitted proposals because they are the primary funder. Most questions and concerns from USAID are for clarification and timelines. The USAID representatives are open to speaking with working group and subcommittee chairs directly about funding requests.

- c. All members to email Tamsin by 6<sup>th</sup> June with comments about the Master Trainer Revised Criteria shared. – **Update:** A few comments were received. Tamsin is in the process of working through this feedback.
- d. All members to email Tamsin by 6<sup>th</sup> June if you have interest in being on the task force for Master Trainer revision recommendations. – **Update:** One letter of interest was received.
- e. All members to share any feedback they have received on Basic test (see email circulated in advance of this meeting with feedback for groups review). – **Update:** Some feedback was received and sent on to ISWP. Please continue to share any feedback from test takers to ensure we continue to make accessible and relevant.
- f. If you have organization images you would like to share, please send them to Rachel Gartz. – **Update:** Continue to share images with ISWP for social media and ISWP awareness campaigns. Please send them to Maria Milleville, ISWP's communications coordinator, at [maria@upnextconsulting.com](mailto:maria@upnextconsulting.com).
- g. Move discussion on ISWP workplan to next meeting (as didn't get to this on agenda). – **Update:** Will be moved to September meeting.
- h. All to share member updates and upcoming activities, eg trainings, with Alex for inclusion in ISWP calendar (as didn't get to this on agenda). – **Update:** Continue to share any updates to be included on the ISWP calendar. Send them to [amm403@pitt.edu](mailto:amm403@pitt.edu).

## 2. Subcommittee Update

### a. *Hybrid, updated by Lee*

The most recent SC meeting was on July 20. Currently, the focus is on the implementation of the hybrid course. It has been piloted in India and preliminary statistics show that the combined online and 3-day in-person hybrid version received comparable feedback and similar ISWP Basic test results as the 5-day in-person session. Trainings are coming up in Pittsburgh, Mexico (2), and Columbia. The subcommittee is awaiting results before continuing with the hybrid approach or extending it to the intermediate course. The discussion of adding additional material is ongoing. There may be an opportunity to incorporate more material into the hybrid course, for example, wheelchair skills. The subcommittee has not asked for funding, but may in the future to do research comparing the hybrid and the hybrid plus course.

Jon added that he will be presenting the results of the Hybrid course at the FATO 8<sup>th</sup> International Congress in Africa and will spread more information about the hybrid activities, including its availability in the future. The meeting will be held in Lome, Togo on August 22 – 26.



Tamsin asked if there are any plans in terms of mentoring and support for Hybrid course attendees or if there were any plans in place to look at any differences in quality of wheelchair provision between the attendees of the hybrid and WSTPb after 6 months. Mary commented she would like to hear from the group about if they have any experience with 6 months' follow-up. The basic test is an outcome measure, however, if people have interview questions about training effectiveness and changes in practice, share them with ISWP. In short, there are no plans for this. Jon commented because the basic test is being used as a pre/post measure, we have the contact information of course participants, however, it's more so about the process of the 6-month follow-up. There is opportunity, but as the process gets mapped out, resources need to be obtained in order to implement it.

b. *Integration, updated by Paula*

The committee has been meeting monthly. The high level meeting proposal has been approved and will be held after the DAR meeting on February 8 – 9, 2017. The subcommittee will be forming a smaller group to work with WHO in conducting the meeting.

In terms of integration plans, they are currently seeking commitment from 5 schools in both high and low-resourced settings with PT, OT, and PO programs. Currently, the SC is in discussions with schools in the US, Canada, Columbia, and Kenya for this. Some examples of integration tools would be the WSTP, the Hybrid course, the pre/post basic test, and the wheelchair skills program. Monthly moderated online forums will be used to discuss training issues and to share materials among the schools.

The subcommittee is also conducting qualitative interviews to gain an understanding of the barriers and facilitators to integrating for different schools in various settings. They plan to interview 10 schools and will be starting within the next month. They are currently writing an article of the first survey's results, and the first draft is completed. It should be ready to submit by this week or next week. A funding proposal was submitted for a student to work on integration efforts between August and December, which was approved. Paula's summer student was hired and will be helping with the interview and articles.

Tamsin asked if the integration tools discussed in Budapest are still a desired output. Paula responded they are using what is available at present, but still plan to develop additional tools based on information from the pilot sites and the results of the qualitative interviews. Catherine added piloting will give them information regarding what the specific programs might need, however, they do plan on putting together a new package that people can use to decide the extent of integration and the resources available to support it. Paula also said the google community is live and being used and they hope it will be more active as more integration happens.

c. *Competency Testing, updated by Mary*



The intermediate test launched 6 weeks ago and is in the alpha phase. 30 people were selected to pass and 30 people were selected who would not pass. 34 people have taken it so far. Evaluators were appointed, and once the those that pass the knowledge aspect and are informed and ready to submit their case studies, they will begin working on this. The results of the alpha testing phase (knowledge portion) will decide what changes need to be made during the beta testing phase, and then the alpha testing of the intermediate skills portion will begin. After the beta phase, the test will officially launch. The subcommittee needs 40 beta test takers. The subcommittee is asking for referrals for the alpha phase – those unlikely to pass and those expected to pass – and the beta phase.

Over 400 people have taken the basic test. Now, ISWP and MSH are determining what languages are the priority. Hopefully, by the end of the year or the spring of next year, the next set of languages will be available. ISWP will be looking for test takers and subject matter experts for the different languages. There may be a minor shift in responsibilities between ISWP and MSH regarding this, however, to date, we are still working together to reach this goal.

Tamsin asked if the knowledge portion of the intermediate will be revised between the alpha and the beta testing phase. Mary responded there will be revisions. Once they reach 60 test takers, they will take into account feedback received from evaluators and test takers and do psychometrics on the question to make sure none are problematic. Problem questions will go through an additional review process similar to what was done when the questions were created.

Tamsin noted that there are still some concerns from the review committee regarding the content of the Intermediate test and therefore asked if there was a way to follow up with those who participated in the alpha test to clarify any confusing questions (so the test does not have a negative impact on people's practice). Mary answered that there is a mechanism in place to report problematic questions, so following up with folks individually would hopefully not be necessary. She also said that a pass score has not been set, but is expected to be around 70%. However, the final pass score will be based on psychometrics. For individuals on the cusp who may have had issues with questions, those questions may be thrown out and those people could end up in the pass category. This should be discussed at next SC meeting.

### 3. ISWP Update, Nancy

#### a. *Advocacy WG*

The ISWP awareness campaign launches Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at 2:00 EST through Adobe Connect. It will be recorded and archived for future reference. Individuals should RSVP through the invitation to attend. 60 people have rsvp'd and a cap will be set at 100 participants in order to handle logistics. The policy adoption toolkit is underway and the case



studies hope to be completed by the end of September with documents being released by the end of the year.

*b. Evidence Based Practice WG*

The group is working with Motivation Romania on the country data collection project. Data such as the number of trained providers, the manufacturers, and organizations that donate wheelchairs is being collected. This is the first of two pilot launches. The other will be in Kenya with an identified partner. The goal is to complete the pilot in December.

At the European Seating Symposium, the Comparative Effectiveness SC met and finalized the research framework. Approval was granted to hire a student intern to do an in-depth literature review of framework aspects to prepare manuscripts and presentations.

Jon added one aim of ISWP is to collect and share data. ISWP is currently developing a data center that will house the work that Motivation Romania will do and work that the ACCESS project is collecting. It will allow us to aggregate data and provide access to people around the world, give broader statistical analysis, and have more focused research.

*c. Standards WG*

Equipment was built to test the casters and rolling resistance of wheelchairs. A salt fog chamber will be installed at the University of Pittsburgh to test corrosion. Organizations will be invited to send their equipment in for testing.

*d. African Journal of Disability, updated by Jon*

Jon has been in contact with the African Journal of Disability to release a special issue about wheelchairs in less resourced settings. They are very interested, therefore, this would be a great opportunity for the subcommittees and other organizations collecting data and implementing training programs to publish work. The deadline for submissions is November 15. A formal announcement will be emailed to ISWP working groups.

*e. Affiliate Program, updated by Jon*

9 organizations have been nominated to become an affiliate. Advisory board members are currently ranking the top 3 organizations for the affiliate program. The idea is that they are an ISWP country site, and the goal is to have an understanding of the need and to raise awareness in those specific countries. Contracts will be going out to organizations with a history of delivery in the wheelchair sector to 1) develop a strategic plan for that country through stakeholder meetings and 2) do an assessment to understand the country's current situation. Once the ranking is complete, the first pilot will launch. More affiliates will be considered for the program in the future.



#### 4. PVA Grant for Wheelchair Service Professional (WSP) Credential, Mary

Pitt received funding for a project that currently sits outside of the work of ISWP and will not be a part of the TWG activities. However, it will be useful for the group to be updated on this project now, and as it develops. Mary highlighted that this project will develop a certification for wheelchair service professionals that will require a wheelchair training and the passing of the the ISWP basic test, which will include additional questions on ethics and professional practice in wheelchair service provision. Developing questions on ethics and professional practice may be difficult, however, there should be resounding principles associated with those domains representing all contexts. Expert contributors are feeding into what should be included, such as trainings individuals could attend, the process for receiving the credential, and when recertification should occur. For the RESNA ATP, a variety of information has been compiled to prepare individuals for the exam, and the WSP credential will also be using this model. A pre-course will be developed to further prepare individuals to sit for the basic test. This course, however, does not take the place of the required training.

10 applications were received for expert contributors and 3 were chosen. They are from 3 different continents with different clinical/technical backgrounds. 1 is also a wheelchair user.

Tamsin was concerned that, given so many recent developments in the sector, there may be some confusion among about this work and, therefore, suggested the pilot focus on one or two countries – ie the USA and one other country. Mary responded the pilot would include a small number of individuals, 20 from the US and 20 from the international audience with referrals from one or two organizations. Once pilot is complete, a grandfathering process would need to be worked out, and at that stage it would be good to have the TWG engaged in this process. An idea is for those who have already passed the basic test and have attended a valid training would receive the credential. They would then need to be recertified after 2-3 years by, perhaps, taking the new domains of the test (ethics and professional practice). Tamsin emphasized the need to limit confusion.

#### 5. ToT Update, Maggie

Since the Nairobi pilot, the second pilot occurred in Cape Town, SA in June. After Nairobi, feedback was received that the first few days of training contained too many lectures, therefore, the training was modified to be more interactive. After the Cape Town pilot, feedback was received that the training was too long. Editors are now working to trim down the core modules and sessions that were too long. They should be finished by the end of the week. For the practice specific modules, timing was more accurate in Cape Town. The content won't change between Cape Town and Bangkok (pilot 3), however, trainees will now be given 3 opportunities to practice delivering a session. The Bangkok pilot will be held in September, revisions will be made in October, and then sent to WHO for publishing. The aim is to have it published by early 2017 with hopes to launch it in May at ISPO in Cape Town.



Before the Bangkok pilot, MSH will send out the materials to a targeted group of people – ie all of the previous trainers of the ToT who haven't been involved in drafting materials to date. However, if others would like to review the materials also, send Maggie at MSH an email and she will share them.

Jon added ISWP will be at ISPO and during the launch, would be keen to collaborate on the launch. Maggie agreed and stated that after the Bangkok pilot and as we get closer to ISPO, it could be discussed how everyone, including the authors and editors of the package, could be involved in the presentation.

## 6. Summary of TWG Funding

4 funding requests have been submitted and approved to date including the following:

1. TWG meeting in Budapest, Hungary
2. Finalizing the intermediate knowledge test, including evaluators for the skills portion
3. High level meeting for the Integration SC
4. Approval for student support for the Integration SC

**The deadline for this funding round is August 19, 2016.**

Lee asked if a proposal is submitted by s SC, should it go to Tamsin, Nancy, and the entire TWG first. Tamsin confirmed this. The proposal should go to and be approved by the entire TWG before submitting the proposal to the advisory board. Given current the deadline, subcommittees have about a week and a half to submit proposals to the TWG. Nancy updated that ISWP has about \$47,000 in the budget, and the next funding round depends on the balance after this round.

Tamsin asked if people felt as if a face-to-face meeting would be useful and should the TWG submit two funding proposals. Catherine commented it may be helpful to have a face-to-face meeting in preparation for the high-level integration meeting with WHO. Tamsin commented it would be nice to meet at the beginning of next year to discuss the direction of the TWG after this period, therefore, thought it would be better to prepare for the high level meeting remotely.

## 7. Member Updates

- a. Catherine updated that she is preparing for the WCPT Congress in Cape Town, SA in 2017.
- b. Paula updated she is preparing for the second year of her course at the University of Montreal. She is also working on a CIHR grant for knowledge translations of the wheelchair skills program in Quebec.
- c. Tamsin updated that Motivation currently has Peer Trainings happening in Zimbabwe, Tanzania, and Malawi. These trainings are for experienced wheelchair users to lead the





training of less experienced wheelchair users – on things like wheelchairs skills, general health, sport and sexuality, among other things. Tamsin also updated that the ACCESS Project is developing a handbook on good practice wheelchair service provision to guide and influence World Vision practice going forward. This could be a powerful document to help influence other mainstream organizations also.

- d. Alex updated that 23 responses were received on the mentoring survey representative of 10 different organizations, all of which were interested in a mentoring program facilitated by ISWP.

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

	TWG Members
	Dave Calver, UCP Wheels, <i>U.S</i>
	Barbara Crane, University of Hartford, <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, <b>Chair</b> , <i>United Kingdom</i>
	Abdullah Munish, Motivation Africa, <i>Africa</i>
	Jamie Noon, Consultant, <i>U.S.</i>
	Elsje Scheffler, DARE Consult, <i>South Africa</i>
	Samantha Shan, Northumbria University, <i>England</i>
✓	Catherine Sykes, World Confederation for Physical Therapy, <i>United Kingdom</i>
	Eric Wunderlich, LDS, <i>U.S.</i>
	Tchai Xavier, Consultant, <i>Phillippines</i>
	Marc Zlot, ICRC, <i>Switzerland</i>
	Xavier Lemire, HI, <i>Mozambique</i>
	Sergio Mainetti, CBM, <i>South Africa</i>
	ISWP Central Team
✓	Mary Goldberg, University of Pittsburgh
✓	Jon Pearlman, University of Pittsburgh
✓	Alexandria Miles, University of Pittsburgh
✓	Nancy Augustine, University of Pittsburgh
✓	Krithika Kandavel, University of Pittsburgh
✓	Rachel Gartz, University of Pittsburgh
	Yohali Burrola, University of Pittsburgh



	SC Members
	Nicky Seymour, Motivation, <i>South Africa</i>
✓	Paula Rushton, University of Montreal, <i>Canada</i>
	Sue Eitel, USAID, <i>US</i>
✓	Patience Mutiti, Motivation, <i>UK</i>
	Guests
✓	Maggie Lamiell, MSH, <i>US</i>
✓	Teresa Plummer, Belmont University, <i>US</i>

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