



ISWP Competency Subcommittee

March 6, 2019 Meeting Recap

The ISWP Competency Subcommittee met by conference call on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. U. S. Eastern Time. This provides a recap.

Meeting Recording Link: <https://iswp.adobeconnect.com/pyrtxjdro5ru/>

Next Meeting: Next meeting will be decided via doodle poll in July.

Discussion:

1. ISWP Funding Update:

Mary updated the group that ISWP met on February 27 with USAID program officers and granting firm which USAID supports which developed the RFA for the last funding round and is our go-to group for the project moving forward. Work plan has not been finalized and it's clear that priorities in RFA will be what they will be supporting moving forward. As anticipated, unfortunately, work of the Competency SC is not included at the moment. Appreciate the terrific support from the group till date.

Brainstorm what priorities are and what are activities of common interest to move things forward. Work from last couple of months while we were awaiting word – accomplished by Alex and Krithika. Being realistic about what can be accomplished given the work plan in the coming months and considering that both Mary (March-June) and Krithika (June-August) will be on maternity leave in the coming months. Alex's work has progressed for her dissertation with a tentative defense date for July.

ISWP role for coordination of supporting working groups and subcommittees. ISPO and a group also has been funded and will be running some activities to be determined. Outside consultant looked at organizational structure. Recommended that for projects with a finite start and end (along with quality assurance steps), we would establish a task force which would have concrete goals, funding to support it, project would be completed, and task force would be disbanded. Structure seems to make sense, specifically for items on the work plan, but we could adopt as an organization moving forward.

Invite groups suggestions on additional funding sources to keep group going or to apply for in next six months to year to keep the activities going.

Mary is disappointed that some of the activities where we received promising results – like the intermediate mentoring – and other things to strengthen the intermediate test – will be placed on hold for now.



These include:

- Update wording in intermediate knowledge test
- Draft survey
- Establish test centers

Outlook to continue is not feasible without the support. Perhaps over the next couple of months, maybe there is something we could try to accomplish as a group. Or, if there are suggestions from the group on how to keep things moving and where there might be other funding opportunities or opportunities for more volunteers. Then, would take back to Jon to determine what resources we could still provide to support.

Elsje added that it's unfortunate that there is not funding to continue the critical work and could have an impact – also in a phase of transition. Need to consider their time and would not want the committee to cease completely; perhaps we meet once every 3-4 months, but committee continues because there will activities that continue irrespective of funding (additional people taking tests, case study submissions which need to be marked, requests from people). Committee could still play role to ISWP.

Dietlind mentioned that members have devoted a lot of time to intermediate tests and mentoring and it would be unfortunate to put it on hold due to lack of funding. She wonders if additional volunteers could work.

Sarah thinks it will be hard to bring on new volunteers because of such limited scope. Because it has been the four of them for so long and that they have tried to address for so long, the commitment and support from their side has stood the test of time. They will continue to be available in supportive fashion and to act on whatever small consultancy, brainstorm or marking cases. As things change – more funding or additional projects – could help. She wouldn't want to stop everything at this point.

The group agrees on the following:

- Upcoming meeting in a 3-4 months frequency
- All available for consulting
- Members will help score case studies as they come in

The sub-committee to reconvene in July.

ISWP will be prepared with what might be needed related to case studies. Krithika explains there is support needed from our end to distribute case studies and coordinate the review. The team to identify someone on team or provide automatic response.



In the near future, we will be expecting case studies from seven people, they are part of the intervention have been asked to submit one case study. Not sure how many people who took the knowledge test are planning to submit case studies.

Subcommittee members to meet separately; ISWP team to meet internally, too.

Intermediate test introduction and draft invite for regional service centers will be sent for review one more time.

Survey/assessment – everyone provided feedback. Alex will incorporate and circulate for final review.

July call objectives:

- Intermediate test assessment results
- Case study submissions
- Anything else the subcommittee members recommend from their discussion

Participants (*check mark indicates participation on call*)

- ✓ Sue Fry, Motivation Africa
- ✓ Sarah Frost, Motivation UK
- Ritu Ghosh, Mobility India
- ✓ Dietlind Gretschel, Rehab Lab
- Tamsin Langford, Motivation UK
- Abdullah Munish, Motivation Africa
- Patience Mutiti, Motivation Africa
- Jamie Noon, Independent Consultant
- ✓ Elsje Scheffler, DARE Consult
- Celia Stubbs, Motivation UK
- Mr. Sudhakar and Ms. Venilla, Mobility India
- Nekram Upadhyay, Indian Spinal Injuries Centre
- ✓ Alex Miles, University of Pittsburgh
- ✓ Megan D’Innocenzo, University of Pittsburgh
- ✓ Mary Goldberg, University of Pittsburgh
- Jon Pearlman, University of Pittsburgh
- ✓ Nancy Augustine, University of Pittsburgh
- ✓ Krithika Kandavel, University of Pittsburgh

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