



An update on activities of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics. ISPO is
An international society for prosthetics, orthotics and rehabilitation engineering.
A Non-Governmental Organisation

- in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations
- in Official Relations with the World Health Organisation

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Online access to the ISPO journal

ISPO Honorary Secretary, John W. Michael, explains online access to back issues of the Society's journal, *Prosthetics Orthotics International*.

Back Issues of Prosthetics Orthotics International

Like many members, I have saved every issue of *Prosthetics Orthotics International* since I first joined as a student. They form a prominent portion of my professional library and contain a wealth of information that can inform my clinical decision-making. Unfortunately, I can rarely recall in which year I read a specific article of interest, let alone which volume, and I have completely forgotten the content of many articles. Furthermore, an article that was not of interest or that I did not understand a decade ago might be far more pertinent and interesting now that I have more experience in the field.

What is needed is an instantaneous search engine, available 24/7 at no cost, indexing every word and every article ever published in *POI*. Your Executive Board has asked the **O&P Digital Foundation** to provide precisely this service to members, and they have generously agreed to not only provide the search engine but to also digitize every back issue since the inception of our journal at no charge to ISPO. This massive undertaking has been quietly going since the start of this triennium, and will continue until every issue has been posted. At present, all issues from the decade of the 90's are posted.

Each article is available in two use-friendly formats. A PDF preserves the precise formatting and "look and feel" of the original article, and is available for downloading or emailing to colleagues who would find the information of interest. Every article is also posted online in HTML format for instantaneous online reading.

Every reader can customize the online experience by choosing whether or not to read the references, or to embed the illustrations and figures. Emailing a link to a colleague is simple and intuitive. Every article can also be printed locally, for further study. The multiple viewing options permit effective access even over slow dial-up lines, which may be the only option for some of our members in less-resourced regions.

POI back issues are now an integral part of the growing O&P Virtual Library, which is the world's richest repository for peer-reviewed English language information about our field. It is archived alongside the full run of the original journal of *Artificial Limbs*, back issues of the *Journal of Prosthetics & Orthotics*, *Clinical Prosthetics and Orthotics*, and similar key historical references.





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The Virtual Library search engine is incredibly powerful and easy to use. Just type in any key words or phrases and the engine will instantly retrieve a list of articles containing those indicators. It is a simple matter to search for specific authors, topics, or titles – and equally simple to add additional search words to narrow down your search. One click on the title takes you directly to the article of interest: no wading through screen after screen of advertising or drilling down through abstracts. Just click and read!

To experience the O&P Virtual Library for yourself, just browse over to www.oandplibrary.org and type in any search word. Or, click on the new **POI Archives** button on the ISPO web site at www.ispoint.org.

The default search covers all Virtual holdings but a few clicks will limit the search to just a specific journal or holding. So, whether you are looking for a specific article from POI or researching a topic more broadly, this freely accessible service should be your first stop for P&O knowledge. [Suggestion: type in **Geertzen** to find the publications by our President-Elect in the decade of the 90's.]

The Executive Board has directed that access to these back issues be freely available worldwide, without charge, and without any password requirements. This not only facilitates international access to **POI** by researchers and interested parties but also further increases the visibility of ISPO's efforts over the decades. Each month, the P&O Virtual Library averages more than 20,000 hits from people looking for this information.

The EB believes that taking advantage of what has been termed the "online bias", meaning that the most cited articles are those that are easiest to retrieve, is one of the most effective and lowest cost methods to publicize our journal. More recent issues will remain free to members from the publisher's web site, while non-members will be charged a nominal fee for access to provide a revenue stream in support of our publication.

The ISPO Executive Board hopes that you find this enhancement to **POI** access useful and would welcome your thoughts and feedback.

Update from the ISPO International Secretariat

The ISPO Office in Copenhagen is staffed by three part-time secretaries: Karen Schmidt (Education), Birte Nielsen and Rikke Thorup, and an Office Manager Niels Pedersen. All enquiries should be directed to ispo@ispoint.org

New Website

We are happy to announce that ISPO's new website address is www.ispoint.org

For a period of time all visits to the old website address www.ispo.ws will automatically be redirected to the new website address. We apologize to all of you for any inconvenience caused by this transition from one address to another.

New database

Following the executive board decision to alter the membership fee setup, we have now got a new database. Our IT Consultant has been doing a great job in accommodating our needs and has facilitated the transfer from our old database to the new. We hope that you will benefit too as we improve the membership procedures.

Any changes to contact details can be emailed to ispo@ispoint.org (kindly state your name and membership number in all correspondence).





New membership numbers

All ISPO members have been issued new four-digit membership numbers. If you have not received your new membership number please contact your national member society or the ISPO Secretariat (ispo@ispoint.org). Membership cards with old membership numbers (xxx.x.xxxx) will remain valid until expiry.

Web access to restricted pages

In the near future, log on to the restricted pages of our website with old membership numbers (xxx.x.xxxx) will no longer be possible. Instead, you will be requested to log on with your new four-digit membership number. A notice will be put on our website with new log on instructions.

Membership fees now payable in Euros

All National Member Societies are requested to forward membership fees in Euros. Direct membership for ISPO members from countries in which there is no national member society) is likewise charged in Euros (€).

BANK TRANSFERS in Euros (€) should be transmitted to:

Den Danske Bank
Holmens Kanal 2 – 12
1092 Copenhagen K, Denmark

Euro (€)

Reg. no. 4260 Account no. 4260219006
SWIFT: DABADKKK
Or in Europe: IBAN code DK3430004260219006

PLEASE NOTE:

- Bank transfers must ALWAYS be accompanied by the above clearly identified IBAN code.
- To insure that ISPO receives the proper amount, any transfer fees must be paid by sender.
- Please note your membership number and full name in your payment transfer.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

ISPO also accepts payments via MasterCard, Maestro, VISA, VISA Electron, JCB and China UnionPay (CUP).

- Please provide the credit card number, expiry date and control number (if any).
- A 5% processing fee will be added to offset credit interchange costs.
- Credit Card charges are executed in Danish Kroner (DKK) at the Oanda Interbank Exchange Rate + 1%.





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Contact the Secretariat

You are always welcome to contact the Secretariat. If you have any queries, we will be glad to assist you.

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Secretarial Scribblings:

The Honorary Secretary is elected to the Executive Board, is ex-officio (cannot vote) and can hold the position for a maximum of 9 years. To contact our current Secretary, John W. Michael, email JWM@CPOservices.com

Take a Second to Think About Minutes...Part Two

The original article with this title introduced a new protocol the Executive Board developed to expedite the production of timely, accurate, and useful minutes and to use that information to produce an Action Plan for each member's assigned tasks. All Board minutes are now circulated within 24 hours of the conclusion of the meeting, with the Action Plan developed by our Secretariat within the next business day. Now that we are halfway through the Triennium, it is clear that this effort has been useful in helping the Board keep up with the pace of challenges and opportunities facing ISPO in the modern world.

I am composing this follow-up article at 10,000 meters on the way home from Bangkok, following a week of intense committee and Board meetings and a very productive Interim meeting of the International Committee. Improvements in our web capabilities now enable further enhancement of the posted minutes, which are being introduced in this article. Once again, the technical skill of our President, Dan Blocka, has been a critical element in our learning to use web-based communications more effectively.

For the first time ever, the minutes from this latest International Committee meeting will include more than just the traditional brief written summaries. The IC 16 minutes posted on our ISPO web site will also provide readers with eLinks to every PowerPoint presentation given by the National Member Societies in attendance as well as to all National Member Society reports submitted from across the globe. Just one click will take you to the full set of color slides or to the full text, so you can see in more detail the myriad accomplishments of our sister Member Societies across the globe. Access to this wealth of information enables all members share in the pride of these ISPO successes, and to suggest ideas to expand local and regional activities.

Selected Board papers will also be linked so, for example, if a reader wants more details about Short Courses, a simple click will bring up John Fisk's report as Task Officer on this topic. Slideshows from the Board presentations are also linked to these online minutes.





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President Blocka prepared a multimedia report on the President's Travel showing some of the many members he has been able to chat with during his extensive travels this Triennium. This will be posted on YouTube with a link from the ISPO web site.

When you have a moment, please go to our web site (www.ispoint.org), and click on "EB Meetings", "Minutes EB Meetings", and "ISPO IC 16 DRAFT Minutes" to have a look for yourself. We hope you find this enhancement to the IC minutes useful and welcome your thoughts and feedback.

