

Expansion and Growth

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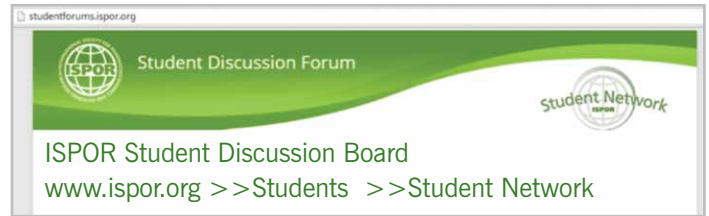
The ISPOR Student Network is a multi-faceted entity comprised of student chapters and members from around the world. The overall goal of the Student Network is to increase connections among student members through collaborative activities and events. During the Leadership Retreat held at the ISPOR 19th Annual International Meeting in Montreal, Canada, incoming and outgoing chapter presidents discussed new ideas and goals to enhance our organization. Since the Annual International Meeting, the Student Network has made significant strides to increase connection and collaboration!

ISPOR Online Presence

The Public Relations Committee maintains the **ISPOR Student Network Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ISPORStudents>. The members of the committee serve as administrators to the Facebook page by approving new members to the group and updating the Student Network with ISPOR events, pictures and social activities held by graduate students from around the world. The Public Relations Committee is also initiating a new online **Webex platform** to enhance our monthly presidents' teleconferences with visual PowerPoint presentations. "The Student Network Public Relations Committee has explored ways to enhance communication and improve efficiency during the monthly president's teleconferences. We are happy to introduce the communication platform WebEx to upcoming meetings...allow[ing] presenters' screens to be viewed by chapter presidents across 15 countries with participating members," said committee co-chair Laura Henkhaus.

Ultimately, students are developed into leaders in the field of pharmacoeconomics and outcomes research connected through the collaborative efforts of our brilliant Student Network!

The ISPOR Student Network has grown significantly within the past years; student membership is at the highest since the inception of the Network, with approximately 1200 student members worldwide. To parallel the growth of the organization, the Student Council has recognized a new interactive platform was needed to connect students. Council members discussed the concept of a discussion board for students to create topic threads related to pharmacoeconomics and outcomes research. With the aid of ISPOR, the Student Council has created the **ISPOR Student Network Discussion Board**. The discussion board is available to all active ISPOR student members and serves as a platform for students to connect and collaborate on an entirely new level. Active ISPOR members will have the opportunity to create a unique username, which will allow the student to access and post in our very own research media site!



ISPOR Outreach

The Membership Outreach Committee has been actively **raising awareness** about the organization to generate interest and recruit new universities to initiate a student chapter. "The Membership Outreach Committee is currently focusing on three areas: 1) reconstitute inactive chapters; 2) attract universities to form a new chapter if they don't have one; and 3) increase the number of members in the active chapters. So far we have identified 20 universities without an ISPOR student chapter and we are in the process of connecting with these universities," said Membership Outreach Committee Chair, Anand Shewale.

The Education Committee coordinates monthly **educational webinars** to provide all ISPOR student members the opportunity to learn from some of the most established researchers in our area of research. Featured speakers include: Sarah Greene, MPH from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, as well as Dr. Chinenye Anwanyu and Dr. Mathew Pickering from the University of Maryland, School of Pharmacy. "Over the coming months, we look forward to featuring speakers including Professor James Chambers, PhD, MPharm, MSc of Tufts, Professor Rachel Elliott, PhD, of the University of Nottingham, and Professor Til Stürmer, MD, PhD of the University of North Carolina. In addition, we are currently working on a '**database of databases**', which will summarize important information about databases commonly used for pharmacoeconomic analyses and outcomes research," said Education Committee Chair Elisabeth Oehrlein. The database summary is being designed as a reference for students to use to enhance and compliment their research resources.

The upcoming ISPOR 20th Annual International Meeting in Philadelphia, PA, USA will be an important event for maintaining our connections and increasing collaboration. "The Student Network Meeting Planning Committee is working hard to prepare for the upcoming meeting in Philadelphia this May... currently updating the **research competition** rules and competition registration forms so that we can circulate them to the chapters," said Meeting Planning Committee Chair, Tessa Conner. The Meeting Planning Committee is also developing a brochure for the Philadelphia area to assist student attendees in navigating the city.

As new students and chapters enter the Student Network, it is important for the Network to continue maintaining collaboration and connection, while increasing the number of activities and events to benefit the student members. It is a goal of the Student Network to continue established Student Network activities, while also expanding our offerings as an international organization. The Network members see the value in cultivating relationships with matriculated ISPOR members so alumni may offer insight to students and serve as mentors. Ultimately, students are developed into leaders in the field of pharmacoeconomics and outcomes research connected through the collaborative efforts of our brilliant Student Network! ■