

Creating New Values for Students' Professional Development: Experience from ISPOR 19th European Congress

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The Ukrainian Student Chapter members with Faculty Advisor Olha Zalis'ka (fourth from left) during a meeting at the 19th Annual European Congress.

The ISPOR 19th Annual European Congress in Vienna, Austria was attended by more than 380 students. To facilitate interaction, communications, and learning from one another, the ISPOR Student Network hosted a variety of events for students and new professionals, including the Student Research Showcase, Student Welcome Reception, and Faculty & Student Luncheon. The International Student Planning Meeting Committee was represented at all the student-oriented events that were held during the European Congress in Vienna.

Student Research Showcase and Poster Sessions

The Student Research Showcase featured four outcome research studies, presented by ISPOR student members. **Amr Makady, MSc** (The National Healthcare Institute) presented "The Implementation of CRS in HTA Practice-Experiences from The Netherlands;" **Bettina Wulff Risør, MPH, PhD** (University of Southern Denmark) and **Frank Moriarty, HRB PhD** (Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland) analysed, "The Economic Impact of Potentially Inappropriate Prescribing in Older People in Ireland Using a Markov Modelling Approach;" and **Gerrit L. Merckens, BSc** (Utrecht University) presented "Diversity in Economic Evaluations Hampers Valid Treatment Decision Making in Metastatic Colorectal Cancer." They presented a brief summary of their research study and final conclusions, followed by

a discussion on "Having a High Impact on Managing Access to Medical Innovation: Strengthening The Methodology-Policy Nexus." These presentations showed the eagerness of the young researchers for innovative ways to make a difference in various areas of health economic evaluation.

ISPOR Vienna European Congress offered many students the opportunity to present their research through poster presentations and concluded with awards for Best Student Poster Research Presentation. Recipients were: **Frédérique Cornélie Wilhelmina van Krugten** for "Feasibility, Reliability and Validity of the Decision Tool Unipolar Depression in Identifying Patients with Massive Depression Disorder in Need of Highly Specialized Care," **Katarzyna Orlewska** for "Cost of Lost Productivity Due to Premature, Suicide-Related Mortality in Poland," and **Saara Huoponen** for "A Cost-effectiveness Analysis of Abatacept, Tocilizumab, and TNF-inhibitor Compared with Rituximab as a Second-line Therapy for Treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis."



Student members gathered during the Student Welcome Reception.

Other Student Events

The Student Welcome Reception was a remarkable event for new members and attendees of the Congress. It was a great opportunity for networking and communications among students and ISPOR staff, which inspired us with new ideas for future development with ISPOR. The reception featured raffled prizes, including short courses and student membership registrations, for talented students and new professionals.

Students and faculty advisors gathered for the Faculty & Student Luncheon to discuss updates of ongoing initiatives from the Faculty Advisory Board and opportunities to best support student members. Member of Danylo Halytsky Lviv National Medical University ISPOR Student Chapter Sofiya Got presented the results of successful events, activities, and participation in the international projects held by Ukraine Student Chapter.

For this year's Social Event, Congress attendees had a great opportunity to become a part of the famous Vienna Ball in Rathaus and dance to the waltz at the historic Grand Festival Hall (Festsaal) of Vienna's City Hall. This spectacular ISPOR Social Event was held in this Gothic building, one of the most splendid in the city, with a tower reaching almost 98 meters high. Lighted by magnificent chandeliers, the hall provided an ideal backdrop for attendees to network with colleagues and indulge in the finest cuisine, including the original Viennese apple strudel.

The International Student Planning Meeting Committee encourages ISPOR student chapter feedback, cooperation, and communication to ensure that future ISPOR activities and events will be equally successful. To catch-up on more ISPOR student news, please visit: www.ispor.org/student/newsletter_index.asp. We hope to see you next year in Glasgow, Scotland for the ISPOR 20th Annual European Congress! ■