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ISWP Professional Standards Board (PSB) July 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The ISWP Professional Standards Board (PSB) met by conference call on Friday, July 9, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. U. S. Eastern Standard Time. This provides a recap. Link to meeting recording: [link](#).

Next Meeting: Please complete the [doodle poll](#) for the October month meeting

Discussion: Action items are shown in bold/underline.

1. **Website:** We redesigned the Wheelchair Service Providers directory to make it easier to search by keyword, name, country.
2. **Newsletter:** Sent WSP providers a special newsletter which included continuing education and other resources to create community and improve conversion.
3. **Certification Targets:** Continued meetings with prospective organizations. Recent examples:
 - a. Mobility India will subsidize certification. Current class of 14 students will complete the certification process.
 - b. AATA is leading 3 Hybrid-Basic trainings in 3 countries (70 participants) and is tying the training to the certification.
4. **Basic Knowledge Test:** A Subject Matter Experts Committee has been formed for the next phase of the Basic test revision. The committee will complete a content validity survey in August. Results will be analyzed and reported to the Assessment Technical Committee in September.
5. **Course Recognition:** (Didn't get a chance to note much here.)
6. **PSB Membership:** Mary Goldberg requested PSB members serve until ISWP becomes a separate entity, which likely will be sometime in 2022. **PSB members** are asked to let ISWP staff know in October of their ability to remain on the board during this transition.
7. **Brainstorming Session:** Mary Goldberg led the group in an exercise to identify what is working, threats/challenges and opportunities regarding the certification. PSB

International Society of Wheelchair Professionals
6425 Penn Avenue, Suite 401, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 USA

comments:

What's Working ("Roses")

- Number of certified providers to date and number who have recertified.

Opportunities ("Buds")

- Google grants for free ad space to promote certification
- Creation of a media kit with sample posts, video testimonials and other resources to share with partners to help promote certification through social media. Design it to be turnkey so it is easy for partner organizations to implement.
- Create a list of related certifications comparable to or higher than the WSP and prepare proposals to offer the WSP for one year (grandfathered, revenue opportunity would come at renewal).
 - RESNA: WSP can be a pathway to the Assistive Technology Professional (ATP), which leads to the Seating Mobility Specialist (SMS). Mary Goldberg and Perry Loh have discussed with RESNA previously. Consider conducting a webinar for ATPs describe the ISWP WSP.
 - New Zealand certification program
- Collaborate with organizations in Canada and Ireland to be added to list of certifications for professions in those countries.
 - Ireland does not have a certification, especially for suppliers who would value recognition but who don't qualify for a post-graduate certificate. Could be an opportunity to create a micro credential.
- Create a WSP badge which certified providers can add to their LinkedIn profiles.
- Gamify the process – make awards and levels like a video game. (Need to check WIN's ability to accommodate this.)
- Change the content/language for each step to simplify as much as possible.
- Explore WHO's Training on Assistive Products (TAP).

Threats/Challenges ("Thorns")

- Not apparent that the WSP can be added to a person's professional credentials. AOTA lists related certifications on its website.
- Need more targeted benefits for each audience (look at CECOPs).
- Inconsistency between educational standards and certification. (Standards are broader in occupational therapy than to any particular area of practice.)

- Need for “education for educators.” (Hybrid-Basic training program currently in development for an upcoming ISPO Global Educators Meeting could become a model.)
- WSP conflict of interest with university programs (University of Montreal leadership saw professor supporting the certification as a potential conflict for students to be inclined to take the class.)

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

✓	Sharmini Constantinescu, DDO
	Francois Friedel, ICRC
✓	Rosemary Joan Gowran, University of Limerick
✓	Perry Loh, Loh Medical
	Patience Mutiti, Motivation
✓	Paula Rushton, University of Montreal
	Jeff Spohr, Canadian Provincial Government
✓	CJ Stanfill, Pencils of Promise
✓	Mary Goldberg, ISWP
✓	Krithika Kandavel, ISWP
✓	Sara Munera, ISWP
✓	Nancy Augustine, ISWP

Prepared by Nancy Augustine and Krithika Kandavel