

News LETTER



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President's Message

I have a request for each of you to do three things, now, as you read this message. Please go to the User preferences section of the isopp.org.au website and ensure we have your current email address, renew your membership for 2009 if you have not already done so, and consider volunteering once you check our current committee membership in the Officer Section. Those three things will assist ISOPP in so many ways. As we move more to an electronically-based rather than a paper-based society we need to know your coordinates. 2009 is a very good year to keep up your membership if you are planning to attend ISOPP XII in Prague in 2010. The Secretariat have voted to offer membership discount registrations to those who have belonged to ISOPP the year prior to as well as the current year of a symposium. So for the 2010 symposium to obtain the discounted registration you need to belong in 2009 and renew your membership in 2010. The membership survey that we discussed in Anaheim has already happened and the highlights are shared by the membership committee, in this newsletter.

Our Membership committee has set a significant membership growth goal and we are looking to you, other partners, and other opportunities to see ISOPP grow in our membership base. Your renewal is appreciated. Our Website RFP was an overwhelming success with 18 vendors submitting a proposal. This is on time and on our budget target so stay tuned for a new look to our website in 2009 as the



publication committee now works with the new vendor to ensure a great transition. We have closed the financial books on Anaheim in a very expedient manner, ISOPP XII Prague planning is well underway with the education committee so it is time to put out the call for interest in holding ISOPP XIII in 2012. This is in a separate section of the newsletter but it bears repeating the message as we want to ensure ISOPP moves around the globe and for 2012 the symposium will be anywhere other than North American/European sites. For those who were asking when I would put the call out – it is now out and an RFP and ranking tool are posted on the website (similar to the fellowship awards ranking system) so if you are interested in holding ISOPP XIII, you can read about what is involved by logging onto the website. I also wish to share with the membership that I have regretfully accepted the resignation of Sylvie Crauste-Manciet from our Secretariat. I have encouraged Sylvie to consider a leadership position within ISOPP at some time in the future when time allows. Thank you to the

Rules and Constitution team and the membership support in Anaheim for their work as the draft rules provided guidance to me on handling a vacancy within the Secretariat. We unanimously supported the process and Rosalyn Sims-McCallum accepted the invitation to join the Secretariat as the member who ran in the recent election with the next highest votes. She will complete the rest of the 2-year term. Harbans Dhillon accepted increasing her term to complete the remainder of the 3-year term Sylvie had vacated.

Two of the three key items for ISOPP sustainability are finished – the website RFP and the Anaheim meeting financial books closing. The third item we continue to work on – having our updated Constitution, supported by the membership, duly filed in the German courts.

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Editorial

This month sees the first totally electronic publication of the ISOPP newsletter. As well as reducing paper use (and thus green-house gases and assisting the environment) and reducing production costs (including postage), this will enable our newsletter to include more submissions and longer articles. Please remember that the newsletter is also your opportunity to communicate to all ISOPP members, whether about your practice, your research, an interesting meeting you attended, a case presentation or novel drug adverse effect or anything of interest. Just contact me at jillian.davis@austin.org.au. As we move towards the end of 2008, I hope you can all look back on the year with satisfaction and be able to say that your practice has improved the life of cancer patients in your care whether this is through innovative practice or ensuring safe treatment delivery. Keep up the good work!



Jill Davis



Turkish Association of Pharmacists meeting in Istanbul in October 2008

Johan Vandenbroucke, ISOPP President-Elect attended the Turkish Association of Pharmacists meeting in Istanbul in October 2008. Johan gave a presentation introducing the ISOPP Safe Handling Standards of Practice document to a very receptive audience.



From left to right:

Johan Vandenbroucke; Aydin A Sahin, pharmacist, Ankara Numune hospital - Turkish delegate of FIP; Mustafa Gonen, chief pharmacist in Ankara Numune hospital and president of the Association of Turkish Government Pharmacists and delegate for FIP; Jacqueline Surugue, Chief pharmacist - centre hospitalier georges Renon in Niort, France and president of the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists - vice president hospital FIP

Membership Committee Chair - Call for Interest

If the following describes you, then the Chair of the Membership Committee may be a great fit:

- Experience of / interest in developing and maintaining the membership of the Society
- Motivational skills - able to get others to work for you and meet deadlines
- Determining the needs of members and the means of meeting such needs
- Developing methods of recognizing achievements and support of members
- Ideas and innovation

After reading the responsibilities below, if you see this as an opportunity

for involvement please email carole.chambers@cancerboard.ab.ca and say why you meet these requirements (please limit this to maximum of 300 words) and what expertise you can bring to ISOPP. We will consider those who express their interest prior to January 30, 2009 and hope to announce a new Chair early in 2009. ISOPP committees are key components of a healthy vibrant Society so I encourage you to consider this opportunity.

Rosalyn Sims-McCallum, our current chair, is moving into the vacancy in the Secretariat but will remain as the liaison to the membership committee.

Membership Committee Chair Responsibilities:

The Chair is responsible for forming the Committee from members who have expressed interest either at the time of membership renewal or at symposia. It is desirable to have a committee representative of regions and areas of practice.

The Chair:

1. Organizes discussion amongst members of the committee on matters relating to membership development, members' needs, and member recognition
2. Coordinates the development of any proposals regarding these
3. Reports to the Secretariat on membership
4. Liaises with CMC on membership issues

ISOPP Travel Grant Report

- Annemeri Livinalli, Brazil

ISOPP in partnership with HOPA (USA- Hematology Oncology Pharmacist Association) held its eleventh international symposium in June, 2008, at Anaheim USA. It was a big meeting where more than 900 participants converged on the Anaheim Marriott Hotel to attend presentations, meet both new colleagues and old friends, visit exhibit hall and have an enjoyable time.

The program was divided between 5 different areas: workshops, symposia, , technical sessions, BCOP sessions and plenary presentations. Pharmacists were able to claim Continuing Education credits and re-certification credits for BCOP by attending specified sessions.

152 abstracts were submitted and accepted by the Research Committee.

These abstracts have been published and are available online from JOPP (The Journal of Oncology Pharmacy Practice) at <http://jopp.sagepub.com> (volume14, number 2, June 2008). From the submitted abstracts, four were chosen for oral presentation.

The first day commenced with a free, optional, research workshop. This intensive workshop was well attended and deemed a great success. Jim M. Koeller (HOPA President) and Carole R. Chambers (ISOPP President), officially opened the symposium in the late afternoon followed by the first plenary session. This day finished with a wine & cheese reception sponsored by Amgen.

On the final day, Saturday the ISOPP general meeting was held and was attended from 58 Members. During this important meeting the revised Constitution and Rules were voted on and approved by the Members. The new secretariat was announced and introduced and Committee reports given; publication – Felice Musicco, research – Judith Smith, membership and finance – Thomas Garms and standards – Johan Vandenbroucke.

To finish this wonderful meeting, some colleagues and I enjoyed visiting Disneyland during the final social event: ‘an evening at Disney with family & friends’.

Thanks to ISOPP for the Travel Award that assisted towards my ability to attend this symposium. I would recommend this meeting to anyone with an interest in updating their knowledge. This is my first year at the ISOPP symposium. I am looking forward to the next trip to Prague, in 2010.



Annemeri
Livinalli



Table 1

Participants	More than 900
ISOPP members	352
Countries represented	40
Pharmaceutical companies	36
Speakers	66
Abstracts accepted	152
Abstracts chosen for oral presentation	4
ISOPP general meeting	58 members

Table 2. 2008 ISOPP Grants and Awards

Helen McKinnon award	Graham Sewell
Research grant award	Claire Mach
ISOPP travel grants	Annemeri Livinalli
ISOPP fellowships	John T. Wiernikowski Judith Smith

Table 3. Poster Awards

Pharmacy Practice	Low recurrence score by the oncotype DX breast Cancer assay rarely results in recommendation for or administration of chemotherapy: a pooled analysis Patrick Hall
Clinical Sciences	Attenuated keratinocyte growth factor and etoposide-based conditioning for allogeneic transplant Diana Booth

It is time to renew your ISOPP membership for 2009! A reminder letter and the 2009 membership form will be emailed to you very soon.

We currently have 396 members from 41 countries. Let's keep that number growing. Please encourage your colleagues to become ISOPP members as well. New this year on the membership form is the opportunity to make a donation to sponsor a member in the lowest salary band who wants to join ISOPP. Please check the appropriate box on the form if you are interested in donating.

Table 4. Platform Presentations

<p><i>Interactions between methotrexate and omeprazole in an adolescent with leukemia: a case report -</i></p> <p>The authors describe a case of severe MTX intoxication that happened in a 15-year-old boy diagnosed with ALL, possibly due to an interaction with omeprazole.</p> <p>Tiene G. M. Bauters</p>
<p><i>Evaluation of the modification of diet in renal disease and Cockcroft-Gault formulaes in the Calvert equation for carboplatin dosing.</i></p> <p>The authors compared 3 formulas: original C-G, modified C-G and 6-variable MDRD to determine if there is difference in estimations of renal function and carboplatin dosing. A total of 128 patients were included in this study analysis and the conclusion is that the differences exist between 3 formulas in estimating renal function and may result in clinically significant carboplatin dosing calculations.</p> <p>LeAnn B. Norris</p>
<p><i>Rapid infusion of trastuzumab 6 mg/kg is safe and improves efficiency.</i></p> <p>Infusion-related reactions with Trastuzumab may occur in about 40% of patients during the first infusion and for this reason the manufacture recommends a 90 min infusion for all doses This study evaluated 40 patients that received 265 infusions of 6 mg/kg doses administered over 30 min every 3 weeks and it was observed that it is a safe and efficient method to administer this drug.</p> <p>Michael Moloney</p>
<p><i>Development and implementation of an Off-label medication use policy at a Comprehensive Cancer Center</i></p> <p>The objective of these authors was to develop and implement a formal process and policy for addressing the use of off label indications of formulary medications. A peer review committee was formed with representation from various disciplines and tumour types to evaluate requests. Prescribers and pharmacists were educated and the policy was approved.</p> <p>Niesha L. Griffith</p>

ISOPP XI from a BMT pharmacist's perspective

As we all know the joint meeting of ISOPP XI and HOPA IV was held in Anaheim, California from 18th to 21st of June. It was an impressive meeting and even if you didn't get to attend you don't have to miss out on the wealth of information. Many presentations are available on the ISOPP website in the education forum and the abstracts for the multitude of poster presentations appear in JOPP 14(2) 2008. A big effort was made by the program organizers to make sure there was something for everyone. As a BMT pharmacist I particularly appreciate that because it can be quite an isolated subspecialty. There was an excellent overview of drug therapy in bone marrow transplant including succinct coverage of some areas of rapidly evolving practice such as the use and kinetic monitoring of intravenous busulfan in conditioning chemotherapy. I'm not sure how so much was packed into the talk in the time frame but it was well done. In my own professional development I find it sufficiently challenging to keep abreast of all the issues in safe chemotherapy practice, management of neutropenic patients and of course immunosuppression in the transplant

setting. Keeping up with the constantly shifting goal posts of appropriate indications for transplant in different disease states does tax my brain- I fully admit it. For me, the excellent overviews on the management of myeloma, CML and MDS really helped keep me on the right track. Though, I have a sneaking suspicion that the likely reduction in indication for transplant in myeloma won't lead to less work for me overall, anymore than the reduction in transplants for CML did.

While it seems less directly relevant to BMT, I will be taking lessons I learnt during the symposium on optimizing patient adherence and putting them into practice in our BMT follow up clinic. Unsurprisingly ongoing compliance with complicated and often unpleasant immunosuppressive regimens can be a challenge.

A solid BMT presence was also apparent in the poster sessions. In fact while I was presenting my own poster I found myself in a great little ISOPP moment.

I struck up a conversation with the woman presenting next me. She is an Iranian lady who trained in the States and works in BMT in Tehran. Of course, she found herself talking to a New

Zealand
currently
working in
Australia. Her
poster was
about the
influence of



nutritional status on engraftment post transplant. Mine was on the use of keratinocyte growth factor preconditioning only to reduce mucositis with TBI etoposide conditioning. Other posters of particular interest to me were an analysis of BMI and chemotherapy dose adjustment on outcome of transplant, palonosetron in transplant, an analysis of serum phosphate levels and engraftment, etanercept in idiopathic pneumonitis and use of abbreviated tacrolimus infusions.

I was fortunate to be recipient of an ISOPP poster prize which will contribute to my attendance at the BMT pharmacists meeting during the ASBMT and CIBMTR tandem meetings in Florida next February. I would like to sincerely thank the SHPA and Ebewe Pharma for supporting my attendance at ISOPP XI.

Diana Booth
Royal Melbourne Hospital, Australia

A snapshot of the Asia-Pacific Oncology Pharmacy Congress 2008

by Lim Siew Woon

Sawadeeka or hello in Thai!

I was greeted with warm smiles and friendly faces when I arrived in Bangkok in September, 11th to 13th to attend the second Asia-Pacific Oncology Pharmacy Congress (APOPC) 2008. The peaceful hustle and bustle of the capital and the grand congress venue that I became familiar with during my stay formed a stark contrast to the media reports of tension and political unrest. The Congress took place as Bangkok entered into its second week of state of emergency. I was really happy and comforted that we were all able to attend the Congress without any glitches and angst.



Speakers at the meeting. Organiser Dr Suphat Subongkot far right.

A total of 264 pharmacists and pharmacy technicians were present. The participants and speakers were from Australia, Hong Kong, Kenya, Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and the United States. The great response was certainly very heart-warming and encouraging to the organising committee under the stewardship of Dr Suphat Subongkot.

APOPC 2008 was organised with the support from the Asia Pacific Oncology Pharmacy Society, the Asia for Safe Handling Organisation and the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Khon Kaen University, Thailand. The theme this year was "Translating Evidence-based Medicine into Oncology Pharmacy Practice". It was also aptly the title of the keynote presentation given by Dr Suphat Subongkot. The 3-day event was splendidly filled with conference highlights from ASCO 2008 and ISOPP/HOPA 2008, scientific symposiums, disease updates focusing on renal cell carcinoma, metastatic breast

cancer, multiple myeloma and chronic myeloid leukemia as well as clinical and technical sessions to satisfy the needs of knowledge seeking pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. The clinical sessions were built on a case-based approach which enabled the participants to apply the lessons learnt immediately. The topics ranged from supportive care in cancer patients (nausea and vomiting, fatigue, pain etc.) to managing targeted drugs toxicities and stem cell transplantations. The technical sessions were well received by the pharmacy technicians as they focused on day-to-day issues encountered by staff. Issues like standards of practice for safe handling, chemotherapy processing and cancer medication safety were discussed.

The two plenary sessions were my personal favourites. Dr David Frame presented an excellent lecture on the "Application of Pharmacogenomics on Oncology". He gave different examples of gene polymorphisms that encode drug metabolising enzymes which ultimately result in 40-95% of variability in drug disposition and drug effects. The interactions between the newer targeted agents and genomics were also addressed. He concluded that we are now closer to the possibility of routine testing of polymorphisms and subsequently individualised dosing of anti-cancer drugs. This would allow

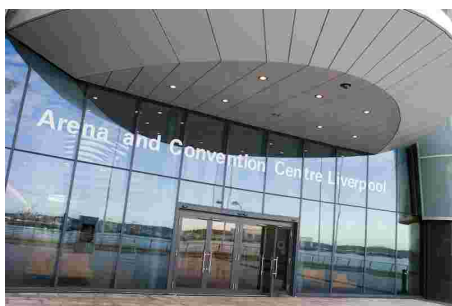
pharmacists to reduce drug toxicities for patients as well as optimise their disease outcomes. The second plenary session on the last day was conducted as a forum, "Looking beyond 2008: A regional report on Practice". Representatives from Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand updated the floor with the current progress of oncology pharmacy practice in their countries. A constructive and thought-provoking discussion was sparked off between the audience and the panel of speakers. The Congress concluded with the poster award presentation on Saturday mid-day. The well paced programme, the excellent speakers, the gracious Thai hosts and the wonderful acquaintances and friends I have made during the congress have made this trip all worth while.

To all, wishing you a God-blessed and peaceful New Year!

Sincerely
Lim Siew Woon
Singapore



BOPA 2008 Report



BOPA 2008 was a first in many ways, largest attendance, first time in a current City of Culture (Liverpool) and first time that there were four topic streams, but more of that later. Most importantly it was my first attendance at BOPA, despite having been a BOPA member for a number of years and my attendance at a variety of other meetings - ASCO, ESMO, EAFP as well as local meetings. I always thought the annual meeting was aimed at more junior staff and those at the forefront of oncology pharmacy. I received sponsorship for my attendance (many thanks to Teva UK for their support) and thought - why not give it a go. After signing up I was then asked to chair a session as well as promote the Faculty of Cancer Pharmacy (I am a board member) with my colleagues. So I started to get a bit nervous. Then I got an e-mail from Jill asking if I would write about the BOPA meeting - and then the pressure was really on!

Arriving on the first morning I was surprised to see how big the venue was, and the number of company stands, covering a range of commercial activities - technical as well as drug based. I proceeded to the faculty stand

to help set it up, but most of the work was done. Over the next couple of hours the venue began to fill and my nervousness rose a bit further, but as I recognised more people I started to settle down and enjoy myself.

I attended one of the Ticket Only sessions - Working in partnership with the pharmaceutical industry. There was a lively discussion, primarily centred on risk sharing schemes and the upcoming decision on co-payments (top-up of NHS treatment). There was a good mix of both industry and pharmacists and my feeling at the end was that industry needs to be involved and it is up to pharmacy to ensure that the involvement is for the good of our service to patients. After this it was back to the faculty stand. We had a huge amount of interest and the stand was constantly busy - the temptation of chocolates winning out over the BOPA fruit supply! I enjoyed it so much I missed the industry sponsored symposia, covering antiemetics, oral chemotherapy management and GCSF use.

Then followed the welcome speech from the BOPA chair, Geoff Saunders, and the introduction of the guest speaker, Ian Simpson, Chief Executive of the College of Pharmacy Practice, who set out the likely outcome of the changes to the Pharmaceutical Society over the coming years and how it could affect oncology pharmacy. I missed the next sessions, concentrating on the posters and keeping an eye on the stand. On the second day it was an early start - 8am - the previous evening finishing around 1am! - with a discussion on optimal delivery of docetaxel in adjuvant breast cancer, which had some points for further thought to my own hospital's practice. This was then followed by a

presentation by the "Cancer Tsar", Prof Mike Richards, on Cancer and the NHS in 2012. However, what everyone wanted to know was the top-up issue and whether he had any thoughts on the likely outcome - unfortunately he



Bruce Burnett

didn't, although we haven't had to wait too much longer for an answer. The meeting then split into four streams - hot topics, Cancer 2012, Clinical updates and Introduction to Oncology. These covered a huge variety of topics and issues. Of those I attended the Health Inequalities session was my favourite - not what I expected but absolutely fascinating. It looked at the targeting of health advice to particular groups within a community and how this was structured - so called social marketing. It was prompted by Liverpool's position in the cancer league tables in the UK and identifying the key issues. The bold actions taken, particularly in relation to sunbed use and skin cancer, through targeted messaging and prioritising issues for complex groups (smokers who also drink - concentrate on the most important because if you remove all the issues then you leave people with nothing, and therefore won't be achievable) were fascinating. Unfortunately it will be a number of years before the outcomes can be assessed.

This was followed by the Succinct Lecture, which featured Sir Matthew Pinsent CBE talking about team dynamics and the uniqueness of the approach in rowing teams, the exact opposite of our no blame culture, freedom to say what is wrong and who or what is responsible - a fascinating and entertaining lecture. We even got to look at and (I was one of the lucky ones) touch his FOUR Olympic rowing medals - really memorable.

The Saturday evening sees the formal Gala Dinner, which unfortunately I didn't attend, but from talking to my colleagues was thoroughly enjoyable as the pictures show!

The Sunday saw me chairing a session on angiogenesis by Dr Andrew Clamp from the Christie, which considering the





9.30 start was well attended. The talk was fascinating as these agents are finding increasing use despite non-traditional study and clinical endpoints causing problems with their assessment and introduction to mainstream use - and obviously the cost to the health economy was highlighted.

So how would I sum up BOPA 2008 - fascinating, meeting old friends who I hadn't seen in over 10 years, and finally putting faces to names and people I have had e-mail discussions with. The opportunity to talk to colleagues about what the Faculty is trying to achieve and that there is more to being an oncology pharmacist than providing a clinical service - thank heavens! After spending a whole day on the stand on Friday I was hoarse on the Saturday, and normally I am quite chatty anyway, as those of you who know me of old will attest. One other high point - giving out pens to Pharmaceutical company reps who normally give them to me - I know, simple pleasures for a simple mind.

And what about any downsides - only one - I think I'm hooked and will have to go to Brighton in 2009!!

Thanks to Steve Anstey, the photographer and Kirstie Wicke from Succinct Communications for giving permission to use his photographs and to Jill for asking me to write this. It has been really hard to keep the word count below 1000.

Bruce Burnett
Consultant Pharmacist Cancer Services
Pharmacy Department
North Wales Cancer Treatment Centre
Glan Clwyd Hospital

Faculty of Cancer Pharmacy

The Faculty of Cancer Pharmacy was formed as a joint venture between the British Oncology Pharmacists Association (BOPA), primarily the education committee, and the College of Pharmacy Practice, an independent professional association for pharmacists. It was launched in January 2008 with three members of the accreditation committee being joined later by three elected members in March to form a Faculty Board which met for the first time in April 2008.

Aims

The main aim of the Faculty is to establish standards and develop an accreditation process for competency of oncology pharmacists in the UK, reflecting schemes in the USA, the BCOP examination, and within Europe via ESOP, leading to improved patient care. By providing opportunities for training and a robust assessment process the formal recognition of oncology pharmacists and technicians knowledge and skills.

Roles of the Faculty Board

- Adapt competency frameworks developed by the Competency Development and Evaluation Group (CoDEG) of the College, which have been validated, to incorporate the specific competencies developed by BOPA.
- Accreditation of prospective candidates.
- Accreditation of educational material and events from a range of sources.

Candidate Accreditation Process

The first step is self-assessment of own practice against the frameworks - General Level or Advanced and Consultant Level - and prepare a portfolio of evidence. The development of a mentoring network will be key to supporting the process of portfolio preparation. Once prepared the portfolio is submitted and it will be examined by a panel of three pharmacists - two acknowledged cancer specialist pharmacists appointed by the faculty and a third pharmacist from a different speciality within the College with assessment process experience. They will then interview the candidate, clarifying any issues arising from the

portfolio examination and agreeing the level of membership to be conferred. Accreditation is within the College of Pharmacy Practice and can be at three levels:

- Practitioner Member
- Advanced Member
- Fellowship

What are the benefits of membership?

- Recognition of specialism of cancer pharmacy.
- Additional recognition of high level achievement - fellowship and merit awards.
- A focus for input to national initiatives and policy development.
- Network of peer support, review and pressure supporting the clinical governance agenda.
- Specialist training and education opportunities through accredited commissioning and/or delivery.
- Improved patient care.

Where are we now, and where are we going?

Currently 20% of UK oncology pharmacy staff, who are members of BOPA have joined the faculty, exceeding the aim of 90 members for the first year. This reflects the commitment of pharmacy staff to the accreditation process which is essential for the future. With the huge changes coming to the pharmacy profession in Great Britain over the next couple of years it will be important to ensure that oncology pharmacy is in a position to influence the process. In 2010 The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain will be replaced by the General Pharmaceutical Council as the regulatory body and a new professional body, which, it is proposed, will:

- Promote the profession
 - Professional development, education and support
 - Networking and publication
- Most importantly the College of Pharmacy Practice have been involved in the development process through Transcom, and the accreditation process will stand Faculty members in good stead for the revalidation of practising pharmacists which is now firmly on the agenda for the future.

Introducing Secretariat member:

Shereen Nabhani, PharmD, BCOP

Shereen graduated with a doctorate in Pharmacy (PharmD) from the Lebanese American University (LAU), and then moved on to complete two years of postdoctoral training in the USA. The first was a general pharmacy practice residency at Deaconess Medical center in Washington state, and the second was a specialization in oncology pharmacy practice at H Lee Moffitt Cancer and Research center in Florida.

Currently licensed to practice pharmacy in the USA (state of Washington), and board certified in oncology pharmacy (BCOP). Shereen spent the last five years working in academia at the Lebanese American University School of Pharmacy. She is newly appointed a Senior Lecturer at Kingston University in the United Kingdom.

Professional Services

A significant portion of my time is dedicated to professional services. These include:

- Founder of NAPHASS (No Apathy- Pharmacy and Health Awareness

Student Society) - a club that organizes activities to involve pharmacy students in promoting health awareness on campus and in the community

- Incorporating outreach activities in Pharmaceutical care and training pharmacy students to give back to their community through volunteer work.

- Active member and volunteer at the Volunteer Outreach Clinic (VOC). This group provides free healthcare to underprivileged populations in Lebanon.

- Involving pharmacy students with the VOC

- Together with the pharmacy students, working closely with the medical team at the VOC to prescribe the correct medications and doses and to counsel patients on proper medication intake and adverse effects.

- Improving Pharmaceutical care in Lebanon by working closely with Lebanese Order of Pharmacists as a member of the Scientific Committee to organize conferences and continued education seminars for the Lebanese pharmacists and to conduct research to highlight areas for improvement in pharmaceutical care in Lebanon.

Introducing Research Committee Chair - Kellie Jones

Dr. Kellie Jones is a Clinical Associate Professor at Purdue University School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in West Lafayette, Indiana. Her primary area of focus is in Oncology and her clinical practice site is at the Indiana University Simon Cancer Center in Indianapolis, Indiana. She is involved in didactic teaching at the University and precepting pharmacy students on rotation throughout the year. Her primary areas of interest include breast and gynecologic cancers as well as supportive care therapies, pain management, patient education, and complementary and alternative medicines.

Prior to working at Purdue University, Dr. Jones was a clinical pharmacy specialist at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer center where she worked for 7 years with patients diagnosed with breast and gynecologic cancers. She has presented on the state, national, and international levels on topics relating to breast cancer and the role of clinical pharmacy in an oncology setting. Dr. Jones completed her doctor of pharmacy degree, pharmacy practice and oncology specialty residency at the University of Kentucky and is oncology board certified.

Faculty of Cancer Pharmacy continued from Page 7

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- Meadows, N et al. Developing and validating a competency framework for advanced pharmacy practice. *Pharm J* 2004; 273: 789 - 792
- BOPA Competency Framework for Specialist Oncology Pharmacists - available at www.bopawebsite.org
- Transition - www.transitioncommittee.com

Introducing newest Secretariat member - Rosalyn Sims-McCallum

Due to the resignation of Sylvie Crauste-Manciet from the Secretariat, Rosalyn takes up the vacant position and leaves the Membership Committee Chair position vacant. Rosalyn has been a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Hematology/Oncology at Children's Hospital of Michigan for 10 years. She graduated from Cass Technical High School in Detroit, Michigan (USA) in 1986 and completed her post-secondary education in Atlanta, Georgia. She is a graduate of Emory University, with a bachelor's degree in chemistry (1989), and received her PharmD from Mercer University- Southern School of Pharmacy (1993). She has published several articles in scientific journals on topics including rasburicase, recombinant factor VIIa, triple

antifungal therapy, and carboplatin desensitization.

She practices primarily in the outpatient Hematology clinic. She has become an indispensable member of the clinic team. She answers drug information questions, double checks all of the medication orders and prepares chemotherapy medications for administration in the clinic.

Rosalyn has been an ISOPP member since the 1998 meeting in Washington, DC. She has been an active member of the Membership and Finance committee for many years and also was an active member of the Scientific committee for ISOPP X in Kuala Lumpur. She is dedicated to the field of oncology pharmacy, especially for pediatric patients.

National Oncology Pharmacy Symposium (NOPS) 2008

The Canadian Association of Pharmacy Oncology (CAPHO) holds an annual pharmacy symposium and this year's meeting was held in the city of Calgary, Alberta. The theme for the symposium was "New Frontiers in Oncology Pharmacy" and featured a host of topics and speakers that motivated and inspired.

As part of the planning committee for NOPS, I was honoured and thrilled to welcome colleagues from across Canada to my home province for this educational opportunity. As part of the 167 delegates attending the conference it was an honor to have 2 members of the ISOPP secretariat present at our conference this year: President Carole Chambers (Calgary) and Treasurer Terry Maunsell (Australia).

The Friday sessions included a variety of industry-sponsored symposia on a range of topics such as MTOR inhibition, practical applications of pharmacoeconomics, and current issues in management of colorectal cancer. The popularity of these pre-symposia satellite has grown over the years to the point that most participants arrive in time to take part in them.

The official NOPS conference began Saturday morning with a presentation on pharmacist prescribing. Alberta is the first province in Canada with legislation for pharmacist prescribing and there was great interest from the audience in hearing about the resulting impacts on practice that have occurred with this new authority. A very appropriate first presentation to match the theme of "New Frontiers"! Many other interesting sessions were

held throughout the day including presentations on technology and pharmacy, vitamin D, and toxicity of targeted therapies. In the afternoon, breakout sessions were held and were divided into technical, clinical and administrative streams giving participants choices in their areas of interest.

During coffee and lunch breaks as well as during an evening poster reception, participants had the opportunity to visit the variety of exhibits as well as the posters. Participation in the poster presentations has also grown in the last few years with many interesting and high quality posters submitted. A social event on Saturday evening got everyone into their jeans, cowboy boots, and cowboy hats for a true "new frontier" experience at the Wild Wild West Event Centre. Gun fighting cowboys, line dancing, and a country and western band entertained delegates and seemed to be enjoyed by all.

The Sunday sessions included an informative presentation on clinical trials monitoring visits. This was followed by another "new frontier" themed presentation provided by a pharmacist who discussed her role on



Canadians are well represented in the ISOPP Presidential ranks (current President Carole Chambers and Ex-President Larry Broadfield)



Ex-President Larry Broadfield living the high life at NOPS



a multidisciplinary team providing rapid access palliative radiotherapy.

The final sessions included two presentations related to medication safety. The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) Canada is partnering with ISMP (US) and ISOPP in the development of a Medication Safety Self-Assessment[®] in oncology.

This tool will be based on similar programs from ISMP (US) and ISMP (Canada) currently used in Hospitals, Long Term Care Facilities, and Community/Ambulatory Pharmacy and will have a

NOPS Planning committee
(Roxanne Dobish in the blue jacket)

National Oncology Pharmacy Symposium (NOPS) 2008

continued

specific focus on medication safety related to the provision of systemic therapy in the oncology setting. The second presentation on medication safety was related to a national chemotherapy safety research project - Improving the Safety of Ambulatory IV Chemotherapy in Canada. This research project includes a multidisciplinary and multi-jurisdictional team of researchers in the field of human factors engineering, pharmacy, nursing and medical oncology. The research project objectives include: identifying current practices for ordering, labeling, verifying and administering IV chemotherapy; learning about current initiatives to reduce risks; identifying additional sources of risk; recommending strategies to reduce risks; and ensuring the recommendations are generalizable and relevant to a variety of programs using a wide range of technologies. The project will extend into 2010 and the plan is to make the results widely available through a range of distribution methods - so stay tuned!

This conference is the premier oncology pharmacy event in Canada and this year was no exception. Many positive comments were received about the quality of the speakers and the venue. It seems that the conference only gets bigger and better with each passing year so I am sure many of this year's participants have already begun making plans to attend NOPS 2009 in Ottawa. We would be happy to have more international delegates attend our conference so if you are interested, check out the CAPHO website for details as they emerge over the coming year.

Look forward to seeing you in Ottawa in October!

Roxanne Dobish
Alberta Cancer Board,
Canada



President Carole Chambers and Treasurer Terry Maunsell thank departing web-master Jeff Burnett



JOPP Editor Vacancy

The Journal of Oncology Pharmacy Practice (JOPP), ISOPP's official publication, is accepting applications for an Associate Editor, Australasian Region. The Associate Editor is responsible for arranging for reviews for manuscripts submitted from that region, soliciting article submissions, and advising the Editorial Board and the Publisher on issues pertaining to the journal. The ideal candidate will have experience publishing and reviewing research and clinical practice articles and serving on an editorial board for a scientific journal.

If you wish to be considered for this position, please forward a brief statement of your qualifications and your curriculum vitae to: bgoldspiel@nih.gov

Barry R. Goldspiel, PharmD, FISOPP
Editor, Journal of Oncology Pharmacy Practice

ISOPP Research Award 2008

Claire M. Mach, Pharm.D, is an Oncology Translational Research Fellow in the Division of Pharmacy at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, under the direction of Dr. Judith A. Smith, Pharm.D, BCOP, FCCP, FISOPP. Dr. Mach has multiple research interests including the evaluation of intraperitoneal chemotherapy in ovarian cancer and the development of an in vivo model to evaluate chemotherapy concentrations within tumors for which she recently received the 2008 ISOPP Research Grant. She also has interests in the evaluation of safety and activity of complementary alternative medicine (CAM) agents for the treatment of gynecologic malignancies. Dr. Mach received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry from Texas A&M University and earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from The University of Houston in 2006. She will complete her fellowship program in July of 2009 and plans to pursue a career in academia.



Claire Mach

The title of Claire's research is: Evaluation of Drug Distribution in an Ovarian Cancer Mouse Xenograft Model

The abstract is as follows: Ovarian cancer remains the number one killer of women resulting from a gynecologic malignancy. Ovarian cancer is often diagnosed at an advanced stage and improving outcomes for these women is currently the focus of many researchers. Intraperitoneal (IP) chemotherapy is one option currently offered to women with advanced disease and less than one centimeter residual

disease after surgical treatment. However, little pharmacokinetic data exists regarding intratumoral concentrations resulting from IP chemotherapy and whether or not this more toxic therapy is providing benefit through this mechanism. The ovarian cancer mouse xenograft model will be used to evaluate the difference in plasma concentrations of the drug verses the intratumoral concentration of the drug when the drug is administered by either the intravenous (IV) or the IP route by employing microdialysis in a living model. We will evaluate both the

taxanes (paclitaxel and docetaxel) and platinum agents (cisplatin and carboplatin) which are the two classes of commonly used agents used in the treatment of ovarian cancer.

Specific aims: Compare and contrast the intratumoral pharmacokinetic parameters and total drug exposure in ovarian tumor tissue of selected taxane and platinum agents given IP and IV and evaluate the differences in systemic response and toxicity profile of the selected taxane and platinum agent after IP verses IV administration.

Future site for ISOPP XIII - where will it be held in 2012?

The biennial ISOPP symposia has generally been held in conjunction with a local Society or group's meeting. The result of this co-sponsorship is that the location and timing of the meeting maximise local attendance and support. The 2004 Turin, Italy meeting was held with SIFO (Society Italian Hospital Pharmacists), the 2006 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia meeting was held with MPS (Malaysian Pharmaceutical Society) and the 2008 Anaheim, California, USA meeting was held in conjunction with HOPA (Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association). In addition to holding our ISOPP meetings with local support, we also try to rotate the world location between Europe, North America and the Rest of the World. Our meeting cycle thus far has been:

ISOPP I 1988 Rotorua, New Zealand
ISOPP II 1991 Bristol, UK
ISOPP III 1993 Toronto, Canada
ISOPP IV 1995 Hamburg, Germany
ISOPP V 1997 Sydney, Australia
ISOPP VI 1998 Washington D.C., USA
ISOPP VII 2000 Prague, Czech Republic
ISOPP VIII 2002 Vancouver, Canada
ISOPP IX 2004 Turin, Italy
ISOPP X 2006 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
ISOPP XI 2008 Anaheim, California, USA
ISOPP XII 2010 : Prague, Czech Republic
ISOPP XIII 2012: Rest of the World

We would like now to call for interest in co-hosting ISOPP XIII. According to our cycle your Secretariat would like the location for ISOPP XIII to be

somewhere in the Rest of the World. If you are enthusiastic about ISOPP and would like to see ISOPP XIII in your country, if you belong to a local oncology pharmacy society or pharmacy society that would be interested in collaborating with ISOPP to hold this meeting please step forward and contact President Elect Johan Vandenbroucke, email address johan.vandenbroucke@uzgent.be. We are calling for expressions of interest up to March 30, 2009. If you would like to see what is involved we have posted the RFP for the Symposium as well as a ranking tool on the website under Symposium. We will review the expressions of interest and invite a full proposal to be generated using this outline. Our timelines will ensure the 2012 location can be announced in Prague at ISOPP XII in 2010.

ISOPP New members 2008

Australia:

Mr Andrew Chung
Miss Lydia Loke
Ms Lei Ching Yeoh

Belgium:

Mr Tinne Cannaerts

Canada:

Dr Kay Aoki
Dr Mario De Lemos
Dr Louise Delany
Dr H.Lee Gordon
Ms Michelle Koberinski
Ms Lorna Kublik
Ms Danica Lister
Ms Teresa Onyschuk
Ms Heidi Schultz
Ms Pat Trozzo
Ms Kathleen Walker
Ms Helen Wu

Cyprus:

Mrs Effie Xanthou Kouta

Germany:

Dr Irmgard Ploessl
Dr Herbert Reuther
Mrs Pauline Theis

Israel:

Professor Shimona Superstine

Italy:

Mrs Elens Giubellino

New Zealand:

Mrs Joanna Buchanan
Dr Maxine Handford

Saudi Arabia:

Ms Fatma Al-Mana
Dr Ayed Alshamrani
Mr Amany Bahadeelah
Mr Sami Bazaraa
Mr Mohammed Khalil
Mr Osama Tabbara

Singapore:

Dr Siew Woon Lim

South Africa:

Ms Leanda Anthony
Mr Shaldon Govender
Miss Catharina E. Van de Merwe

Switzerland:

Ms Monique Ackermann
Dr Catherine Dutreix
Mrs Petra Hebestreit
Dr Ursula Schmid

Thailand:

Mr Kamonsak Reungjarearnrung

USA:

Dr Shala Asal
Dr Stephanie Bird-Butler
Ms Stephanie Ghanti
Dr Donya Goodly
Dr Bernadette Heron
Dr Lisa Holle
Dr Paul Hutson
Ms Tracie Kirtz
Dr HongXiang Liu
Dr Trevor McKibbin
Dr Andrew Seger
Mr Ronald Smetana
Dr Anthony Szetela



The Journal of Oncology Pharmacy Practice (JOPP), ISOPP's official publication, is now using an electronic submission and review system, SAGETRACK, for all new manuscripts. SAGETRACK (part of the Manuscript Central platform) should allow for a more streamlined and less paper intensive process. To submit a paper, please go to: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jopp>

JOPP is soliciting papers for upcoming issues. JOPP offers an author-friendly review process with a publication decision usually made within 4 weeks. At this time, JOPP is particularly interested in reviews of new drugs, cancer management, and supportive care therapies.

JOPP is also expanding its reviewer database. If you are interested in becoming a reviewer for JOPP, please forward your contact information, focus areas, and your curriculum vitae to the editor.

Barry R. Goldspiel, PharmD, BCOP
Editor, Journal of Oncology Pharmacy Practice
Email: bgoldspiel@nih.gov

Upcoming Meetings

1. Australasian ISOPP 2009: August 28-30, Melbourne, Australia
2. British Oncology Pharmacy Association (BOPA) 2009: October 16-18 Brighton, UK
3. National Oncology Pharmacy Symposium (NOPS) 2009: October 23-25, Ottawa Canada

**ISOPP Newsletter
Sponsor**



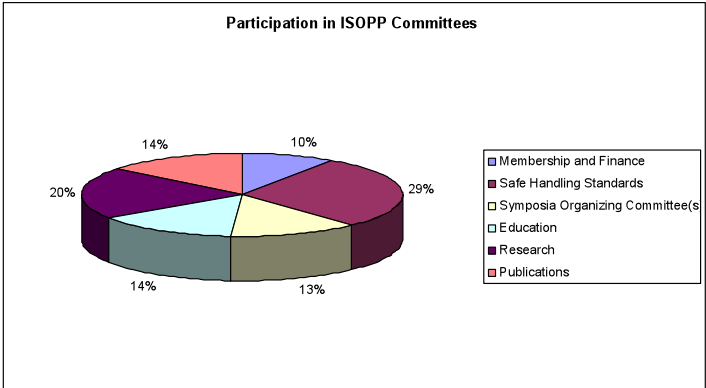
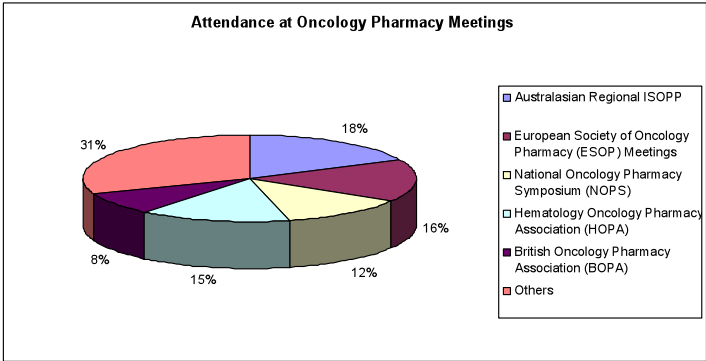
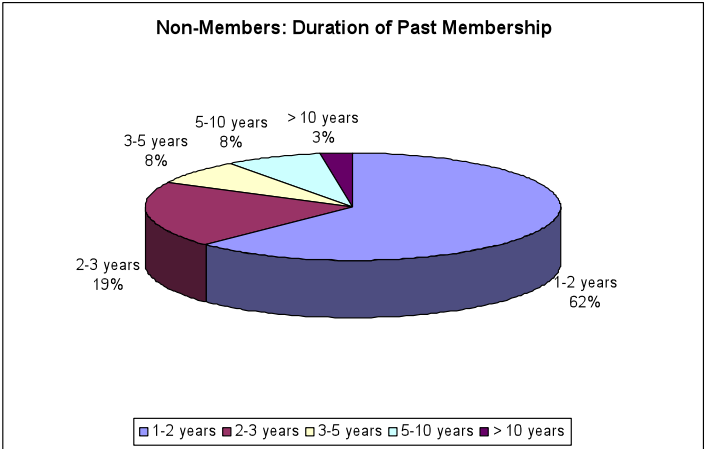
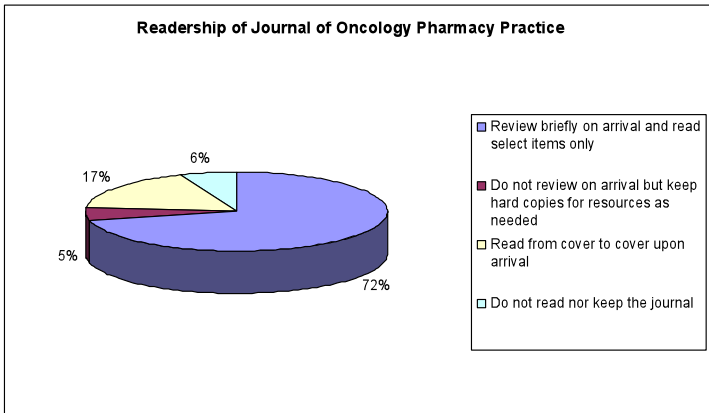
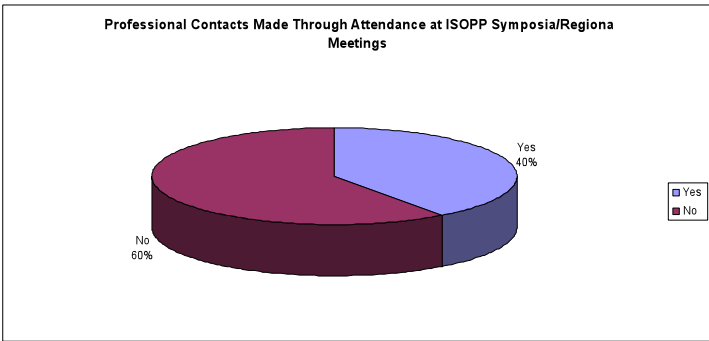
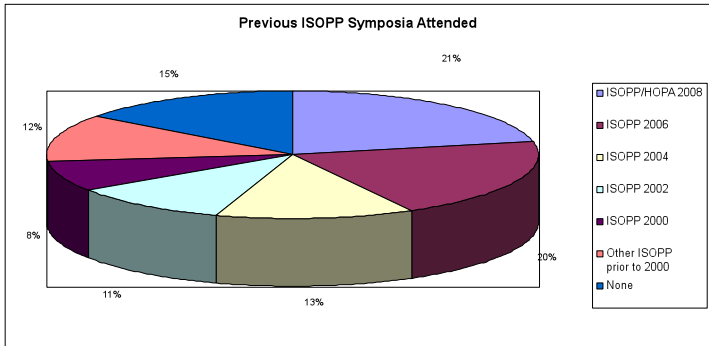
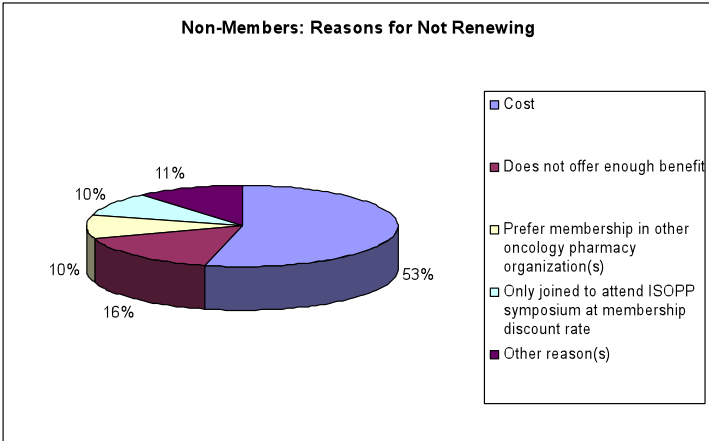
**NIPRO
EUROPE**

ISOPP Membership survey results

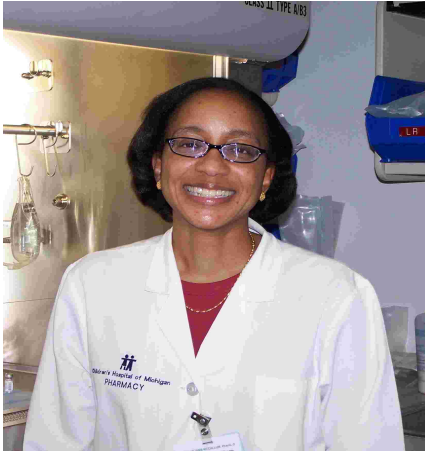
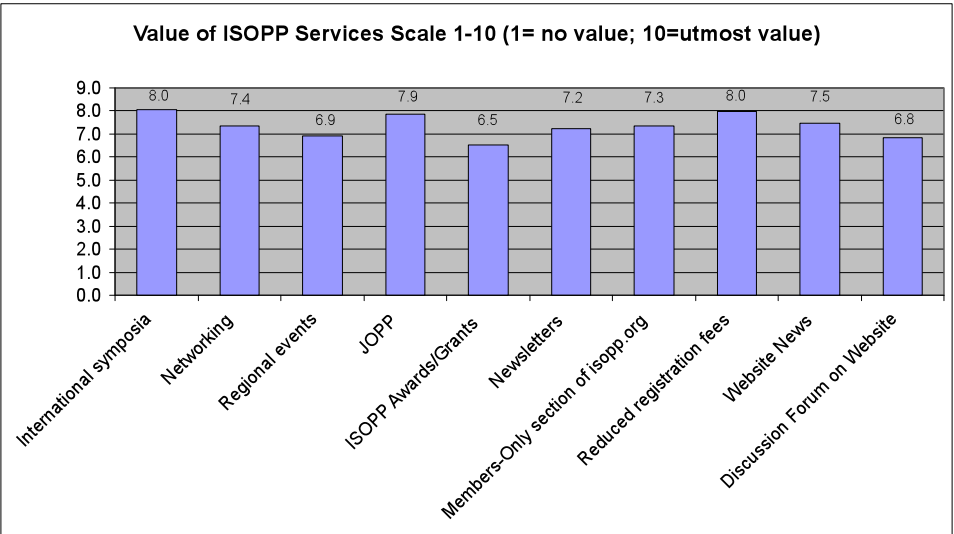
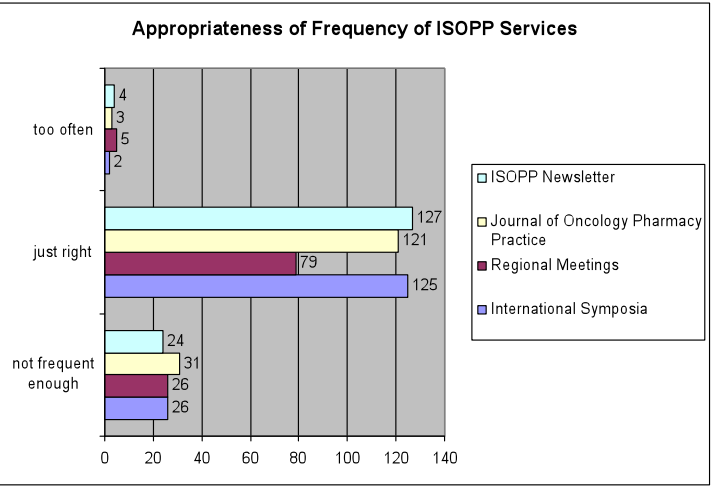
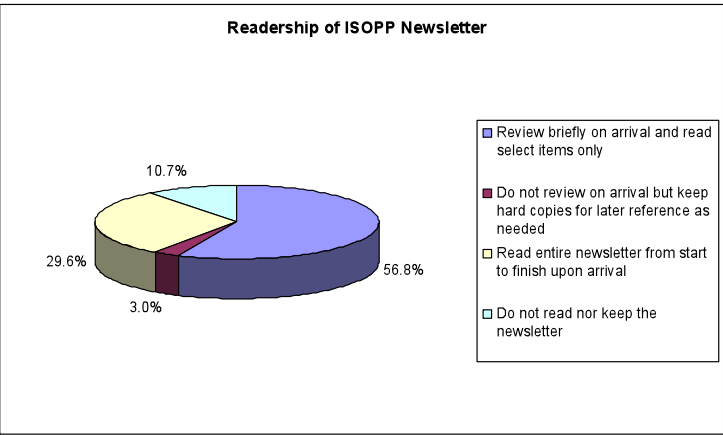
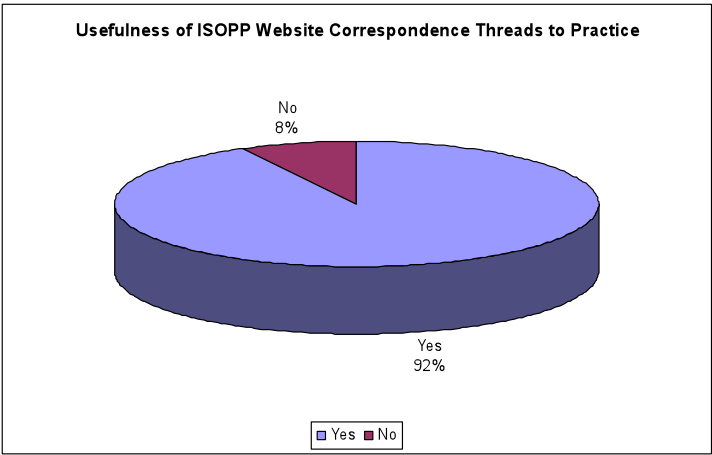
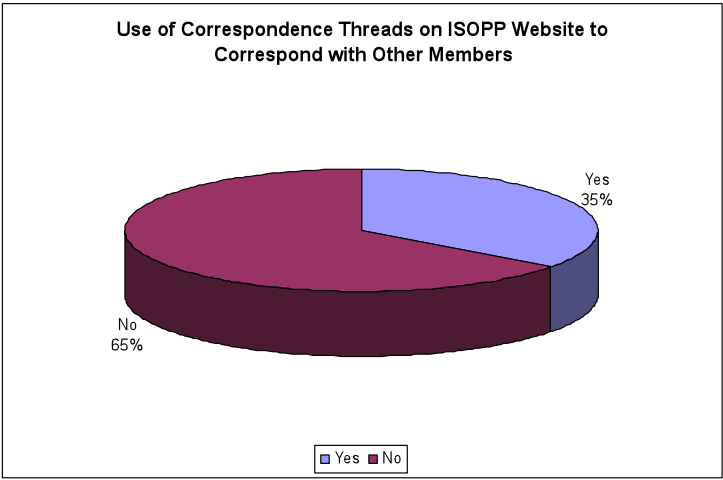
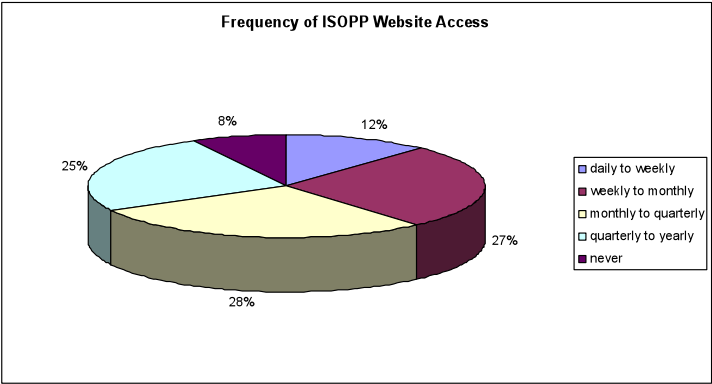
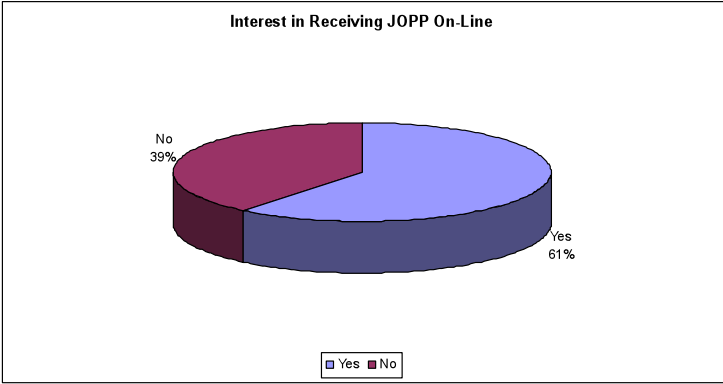
The Membership Committee would like to thank everyone who completed the recent ISOPP Membership Survey. There were 195 people from 48 countries who completed the survey, 126 members and 69 former members. The membership committee and the ISOPP leadership will study the survey responses to determine how better to meet the needs of ISOPP members and how to recruit and retain new members. Included here are some of the results.

Thank you again for your participation.

Rosalyn P. Sims-McCallum, PharmD
Past Membership Committee Chair



ISOPP Membership survey results continued



Rosalyn P. Sims-McCallum, PharmD
Past Membership Committee Chair