

# Quality of Life

QUARTERLY

## IN THIS ISSUE...

- PAGE 1** President's Message
- PAGE 3** From the Editor's Desk
- PAGE 3** ISOQOL Travel Scholarships – 2014 Annual Conference
- PAGE 5** ISOQOL Leadership Lessons
- PAGE 6** Our Members Projects and Publications
- PAGE 6** 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference Submission Deadlines
- PAGE 7** New Investigators – How to write a good abstract
- PAGE 7** New SEER-MHOS Data Available!
- PAGE 8** Events Calendar
- PAGE 10** 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference Plenary Speakers
- PAGE 11** SIG and Committee Leadership Keep ISOQOL Moving Forward
- PAGE 12** Call for Nominations for the ISOQOL Board of Directors

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Galina Velikova, MD; University of Leeds*



Happy New Year,

As we begin 2014, I would like to invite you to consider increasing your engagement

in our professional society, ISOQOL. The start of a new year is a good opportunity to take stock and think of the time ahead both on a personal and professional level. When you renew your membership, make sure to look at the list of Special Interest groups (SIGs) to join. The SIGs have an exciting year ahead, developing webinars, creating educational programming for the Annual Conference and ongoing scientific discussions through their listservs. The SIGs are an excellent way to engage with like-minded researchers or to learn more about a new area of research.

ISOQOL also has active committees serving various interests. Our Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) meets monthly to discuss PRO development and method usage in indus-

try. The committee plans an informative and enlightening symposium for our Annual Conference. They are also planning webinars for 2014. The ISOQOL Membership Committee will begin working on a new outreach program, focusing on sharing our educational offerings with new audiences. If you would like to join either of these committees, please contact ISOQOL at the office [info@isoqol.org](mailto:info@isoqol.org)

It is not too late to become involved with planning our 2014 Annual Conference. The planning committee is still in need of individuals to serve as abstract reviewers. This is an excellent way to impact the science presented at the conference and to provide a much needed service to your society. Please contact the office for more information.

As noted during the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Plenary session in October 2013, ISOQOL will have many opportunities for serving on the Board of Directors. More information about the positions available can be found on page 12. I ask you to strongly con-

*Continued on page 2.*

VOLUME 20 ISSUE 1

*Newsletter for  
ISOQOL Members*  
WINTER 2014





**The ISOQOL Newsletter is published four times a year by the International Society for Quality of Life Research.**

*Newsletter Editor*

**Ana Popielnicki, BA, USA**

Send articles with subject line addressed "Newsletter Submission" to:  
**info@isoqol.org**

*President*

**Galina Velikova, MD,  
United Kingdom**

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MPH, United Kingdom**

**Hwee-Lin Wee, PhD, Singapore**

#### **ADVERTISING INFORMATION**

Contact Executive Director,  
Rebecca Brandt: rbrandt@isoqol.org

#### **ISOQOL Executive Office**

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Milwaukee, WI 53202, USA  
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www.isoqol.org

*President's Message, Continued from page 1.*

sider these opportunities for service on the Board of Directors. ISOQOL needs individuals who are interested in shaping the future of the society and the field of health-related quality of life research.

I am excited about the possibilities facing ISOQOL in 2014 and I hope you will consider joining us by engaging in new ways. I would also like

to thank the leadership of our committees and SIGs for their ongoing dedication to the society. All of their names are listed on page 11.

Best Wishes,  
Galina Velikova, MD  
President 2013-2015  
ISOQOL



## **CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS: ABSTRACT REVIEWERS**

Abstract Reviewers serve a vital role in the scientific program planning by ensuring the quality of the educational content presented at the Annual Conference. Serving as an Abstract Reviewer provides an excellent way to support ISOQOL. Time commitment is low, but the impact is high! Abstract review is 100% electronic and all rankings will be submitted online.

Contact the ISOQOL Executive Office at info@isoqol.org for more information or to volunteer for any of the following roles:

- **Workshop Abstract Review:**  
7 February – 28 February, 2014
- **Symposium Abstract Review:**  
14 February – 7 March, 2014
- **Oral and Poster Presentation Abstract Review:**  
1 May – 23 May, 2014

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

By: Ana Popielnicki



Dear ISOQOL Friends:

Happy New Year! I am pleased to present to you the Winter 2014 issue of our

*Quality of Life Quarterly*. As we prepare for a new, productive year for our Society, I hope you will enjoy this first issue of our newsletter, which is full of information, member news, projects, and initiatives.

In her President's Message, Dr. Galina Velikova exhorts us to get involved in the various Special Interest Groups (SIGs), Committees, the Board of Directors, and special projects led by our members around the world.

We hear from our Emerging Leader Award recipient, Dr. Roxanne Jensen. Dr. Jensen shares her experience with ISOQOL and the learning opportunities of our conferences, as well as some helpful tips for new researchers.

Heading to Canada, please see an interesting piece on the Patient and

Community Engagement Research (PACER) Program, which had a recent graduation ceremony. You will find our own Nancy Marlett from the Patient Engagement SIG featured in this article.

Our dynamic co-chairs of the New Investigator SIG, Marc Jacobs and Katerina Papageorgiou, bring us a handy (and timely!) article on how to write a good abstract – take advantage of their excellent tips for your submissions to our next conference!

As always, we bring you our Calendar of Events for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter. Please review it to find any educational and networking opportunities in your area for the January – March calendar. We welcome suggestions for the next quarters – please send us an email with your events for inclusion in future issues.

On publications and research databases, Dr. David Feeny informs us of the availability of his (and his collaborators') white paper published by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and Dr. Bryce Reeve alerted us on the new SEER-

MHOS database availability. Links to access both of these can be found in this issue.

As for announcements and news, please look for our "call for" pieces. We are calling for nominations for the Society's Board of Directors for the terms beginning this year, as well as abstract submissions, with details on deadlines – look for information on both announcements in this issue. Also, start planning for our 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference! Some of our plenary speakers are announced here along with topics.

As usual, don't hesitate to contact us directly with questions, comments, or submissions for the Spring issue – please send your queries/comments to your Communications Committee at [info@isoqol.org](mailto:info@isoqol.org) with "Newsletter" on your subject line.

Happy reading!



Ana Popielnicki  
Editor



## ISOQOL TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS – 2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Applications for the annual conference travel scholarships will be available online in February. Travel scholarships funds have been created to increase the opportunity for ISOQOL members in the early stages of their careers and for members from developing countries to attend and present at the annual conference by providing funds to help defray the expenses associated with travel to the annual conference.

Travel scholarships will be available for members that fall into one or more of the following classifications:

- Developing Country
- Student and New Investigator

Members can apply for both scholarships if both categories apply.

Scholarship applications will be available on the Scholarship page of the ISOQOL website. Applications must be submitted by **Friday, 30 May, 2014**. Applications will be reviewed by the ISOQOL Scholarship Committee, led by Chair Gloria Juárez, PhD (United States). Decisions will be made in June.



## Validated translations of PRO instruments equal validated results.

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## ISOQOL LEADERSHIP LESSONS

*By Roxanne Jensen, PhD, 2013 Emerging Leader Award Recipient*

It was an incredible honor and a vote of confidence from so many that I respect to receive this year's emerging leader award. The legacy ISOQOL has established in Donna Lamping's name speaks to the camaraderie, respect, and top-notch science which ISOQOL embodies.

As a newly minted emerging leader, I've been asked to extend leadership advice to ISOQOL new investigators. A daunting task to be sure, but I'll give it a shot. At ISOQOL conferences I have been incredibly impressed with the enthusiasm and ideas that students and new investigators have for the field and for the organization. The trick has always been in taking that excitement and find ways to turn it into results — it can be hard to figure out how to get started. Below are three tips to help you out.

**Tip #1: Get involved.** It doesn't have to be a big task, just something where you are able to interact with others, help out, and show that you are interested in the organization and the field. This gives you an opportunity to learn how things get done, what this organization is all about, and perhaps how you can make it even better. Special interest groups often have a few projects going on throughout the year and are a great way to work on something you are interested in.

**Tip #2: Don't be afraid to suggest new ideas.** If at any point you are

walking around at the ISOQOL conference and think, "this is the best conference I've ever been to, if only [your cool idea here]," there is probably someone who would be interested in hearing about it. I have pitched a lot of ideas to a lot of people over the years, and it's to the organization's credit that I have always been encouraged to go for it. Some things have worked really well, like the Tricks of the Trade panel, others, well...not so much. Of course, if you suggest an idea, chances are that you will need to be the one to put it into action. This leads us to my last piece of advice.

**Tip #3: Be ready to put in the time.** Seems obvious, right? Getting involved with an organization like this can consume a lot of your time. However, it's worth it to be able to make changes you are passionate about, while working with fun people who know what HRQOL stands for, right? (Answer: Yes!)

Perhaps it's the size, the focus on interesting research that very few others really think about much, or the sing-a-longs — but ISOQOL has always been a conference I look forward to. This is a tight-knit but inclusive community where motivation and involvement is recognized and appreciated. I encourage all new investigators to get involved and continue to make this organization something special.



*Left to Right, Past President, Neil Aaronson, PhD, Roxanne Jensen, PhD, Past President, Madeleine King, PhD*

## OUR MEMBERS PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS

### AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY – WHITE PAPER

In an effort to address the focus of systematic reviewers on interventions for problems of older people, with functional impairments and multiple morbidities, Dr. Feeny et al have published, through the Agency for Health Research and Quality Research, a white paper that provides an overview of the methods for assessing function and HRQL, and evidence on the measurement properties of prominent measures. This document is available to download free of charge at the AHRQ website – please click on the link below to access.

Feeny, David H., Elizabeth N. Eckstrom, Evelyn P. Whitlock, and Leslie A. Perdue, “A Primer for Systematic Reviewers and Others on the Measurement of Functional Status and Health-Related Quality of Life in Older Adults.” Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Research White Paper, Publication No. 13-EHC128-EF, September 23, 2013. <http://www.effective-healthcare.ahrq.gov/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayProduct&productID=1727>

### PATIENTS TRAINED TO DO AHS RESEARCH

Dr. Nancy Marlett, Academic Lead of the Patient and Community Engagement Research (PACER) program and from our own Patient Engagement SIG, was recently featured when the program held a graduation celebration for its patient researchers. Please see an excerpt and a link to the complete story below.

November 19, 2013 - A large part of the mandate of Alberta Health Services' (AHS) Strategic Clinical Networks is to utilize the patient experience to inform patient-centered care pathways to ultimately improve the health-care delivery system. The Patient and Community Engagement Research (PACER) program recently held a celebration for twenty one of its graduates. The year-long course is a joint initiative between AHS and the Institute for Public Health and it is designed to train patients and former patients in formal research methods.

Read more here: <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/9376.asp>



## 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Submit Symposium and Workshop Abstracts through 31 January, 2014.

The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference Scientific Program Committee is now accepting abstracts for symposium and workshop presentations at the 2014 Annual Conference. Visit the **Abstract Submission Page** of the ISOQOL website for submission instructions and links to the online abstract submission system.

Symposium and workshop submission is open through the end of this month. All abstracts must be received by 11:59 pm CST on **Friday, 31 January**.

Abstracts will be peer reviewed and notifications will be e-mailed to all submitting authors in March.



## NEW INVESTIGATORS – HOW TO WRITE A GOOD ABSTRACT

By Katerina Papageorgiou & Marc Jacobs; *New Investigator SIG Co-Chairs*

As the deadline for the ISOQOL conference submissions is approaching, most of us are probably already thinking about our abstracts. The aim of the abstract is to describe your research in a limited number of words, while trying to create a clear picture of your design and results. Writing an abstract is one of the biggest challenges for researchers, especially for those in the earlier stages of their career.

The basic format of an abstract includes an Introduction, Methods, Results and Conclusions/Discussion section. The introduction covers the general topic, the key research question, and the gap in the literature this study aims to address. It should answer the question “why should I bother reading this abstract?”. When writing an abstract you want to build a story, where each sentence follows the previous one. Your introduction provides the “great idea”.

The methods section is meant to explain how researchers answered their question. It is here that you describe your design and analyses. Unless the Methods of the study are complex or unusual, a few sentences can cover the basic information. The results section should mirror the

methods section and clearly respond to the research question, as stated earlier. It is here that you present your main outcomes. Keep it light and don't report too many statistical results. Make it attractive to readers.

Finally, in the Conclusions, results should be interpreted and implications should be discussed. Try to incorporate both the clinical and scientific value of your research. What do these findings mean and how are they going to change your research field? If written clearly, it will provide the answer to the question: “why should I bother reading this abstract?”.

Last, but definitely not least, the title. Especially for posters, the title is the first thing conference attendees read. Make it informative. If possible, try to incorporate the main results in your introduction, such as: “Design A shows that B increases C in patients with disease D”.

Below you will find a few tips that might prove useful when preparing an abstract. Good luck with the abstract submission process!

- First, review the official guidelines for the abstract (submission process).

- Go through your paper for which you are writing the abstract and identify the key sentences you want to use. This can be your first draft.
- In this first draft, don't worry too much about word limit. Later on you can edit your abstract again and again, going through every single sentence and word and questioning their necessity.
- Write small sentences and choose between the active or passive voice.
- You cannot write down everything, keep only the key information.
- Ask a colleague who is less familiar with your study to read the abstract.
- Always proofread for grammar/punctuation. A sloppy abstract is usually perceived by reviewers as sloppy research.
- Authors whose native tongue is not English should have their abstract edited by a native English speaker before submitting.
- Have fun!



## NEW SEER-MHOS DATA AVAILABLE!

New data from the Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results-Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (SEER-MHOS) linked data set are now publicly available. This population-based surveillance resource, recently expanded to include MHOS data collected from 1998-2011, allows researchers to investigate the health status and health-related quality of life of older adult (ages 65 and over) Medicare Advantage enrollees with and without a cancer diagnosis.

SEER-MHOS is a partnership of the National Cancer Institute and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Visit the SEER-MHOS Web site for more information.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### JANUARY

- **January 28-29**  
**Joint European Medicines Agency/Parenteral Drug Association quality-by-design workshop EMA**  
London, England  
[http://www.ema.europa.eu/ema/index.jsp?curl=pages/news\\_and\\_events/events/2013/12/event\\_detail\\_000808.jsp&mid=WC0b01ac058004d5c3](http://www.ema.europa.eu/ema/index.jsp?curl=pages/news_and_events/events/2013/12/event_detail_000808.jsp&mid=WC0b01ac058004d5c3)
- **January 30 – 31**  
**World Congress Leadership Summit on Remote Patient Monitoring**  
Sea World, Orlando, FL, USA  
<http://www.worldcongress.com/events/HL14003/#sthash.znUVLxlr.dpuf>

### FEBRUARY

- **February 3 – 5**  
**2nd Annual Global Pharmaceutical and Medical Meetings Summit**  
Philadelphia, PA, USA  
<http://www.globalmedicalmeetings.com/events/BB14001/>
- **February 10 – 12**  
**6th International Conference on Drug Discovery and Therapy**  
Dubai's Women College, Dubai, UAE  
<http://www.icddt.com/>
- **February 10-12**  
**ePharma Summit 2014**  
New York, NY, USA  
<http://www.iirusa.com/epharmasummit/welcome.xml>
- **February 17 – 18**  
**Clinical Trial Regulatory & Guideline Requirements**  
The Rembrandt Hotel, London, England  
<http://www.management-forum.co.uk/pharmaceutical/eventid/2442#.UtQ00fvh-a4>
- **February 23**  
**Patient Safety - Making Healthcare Safer: Health IT Challenges and Solutions**  
Orlando, FL, USA  
[https://www.ecri.org/Conferences/Pages/HIMSS\\_2014\\_Patient\\_Safety\\_Making\\_Healthcare\\_Safer.aspx](https://www.ecri.org/Conferences/Pages/HIMSS_2014_Patient_Safety_Making_Healthcare_Safer.aspx)
- **February 23 – 27**  
**HiMSS Annual Conference & Exhibition**  
Orlando, FL, USA  
<http://www.himssconference.org/>
- **February 27 – 28**  
**4th Annual Pharma R&D Asia Congress/ 3rd Annual Clinical Trials and Outsourcing Congress**  
Shanghai, China  
<http://www.pharmaworldasia-congress.com/>
- **February 28 – March 1**  
**EORTC Course: Understanding Clinical Research in Cancer**  
EORTC Headquarters, Brussels, Belgium  
<http://www.eortc.be/Seminar/Educationpgm/PatientDays2014/Default.htm>

### MARCH

- **March 10 – 11**  
**The Second Annual World Congress Summit to Improve Adherence and Enhance Patient Engagement**  
Hyatt at the Bellevue, Philadelphia, PA, USA  
<http://www.worldcongress.com/events/PB14001/>
- **March 10-11**  
**2014 Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network General Assembly: Innovations and Opportunities in Psychosocial Palliative Care**  
San Diego, CA, USA  
<http://swhpn.org/2014/agenda/>
- **March 14 – 17**  
**American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry 2014 Annual Meeting**  
Orlando, FL, USA  
[http://www.aagponline.org/index.php?src=gendocs&ref=program&category=2014\\_Annual\\_Meeting](http://www.aagponline.org/index.php?src=gendocs&ref=program&category=2014_Annual_Meeting)
- **March 18 – 20**  
**Beginning with the End in Mind – Study Endpoints: Targeting Patient-Centered Outcomes**  
Bethesda, MD, USA  
<http://www.diahome.org/en-US/Meetings-and-Training/Find-Meetings-and-Training/Meeting-Details.aspx?ProductID=2977128&EventType=Meeting>
- **March 31 – April 2**  
**Association of Community Cancer Centers 40th Annual National Meeting**  
Arlington, VA, USA  
<http://www.accc-cancer.org/meetings/AM2014.asp>



## **Announcing ISOQOL's CAREER CENTER at [www.isoqol.org/job-board](http://www.isoqol.org/job-board)**

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+1 (414) 918-9797**



## 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE PLENARY SPEAKERS

The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference Scientific Program Committee, led by chairs Jordi Alonso, MD PhD (Spain) and Susan Bartlett, PhD (Canada) has been working hard to secure top notch plenary speakers for the 2014 Annual Conference in Berlin. The conference will take place at the MARITIM proArte Berlin Hotel in downtown Berlin from 15 – 18 October, 2014.

Plenary sessions are currently being developed and finalized. Plenary session topics will include *Integrating Patients into Research*; *Well-Being and Mental Health Measurement Challenges*; and *Better Services for Better Societies*.

Confirmed speakers include:



**Nick Black, MD**

Chair, NHS England National Advisory Group for Clinical Audit & Enquiries  
Professor, Health Services Research  
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine  
London, United Kingdom



**John Brazier, PhD**

Professor, Health Economics  
School of Health and Related Research (SchARR)  
University of Sheffield, United Kingdom



**Maarten de Wit**

VU University  
Amsterdam, Netherlands



**Lori Frank, PhD (Use: Frank\_Updated\_160px)**

Program Director of Research Integration and Evaluation  
PCORI - Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute  
Washington, DC, United States



**John Kirwan, BSc, MD, FRCP**

Professor, Rheumatic Diseases, University of Bristol  
Head of Teaching, Department of Clinical Science at South Bristol  
Visiting Professor, University of the West of England, Bristol  
Consultant Rheumatologist, University Hospitals  
Bristol NHS Foundation Trust  
Bristol, United Kingdom

Visit the Annual Conference Plenary Sessions page of the ISOQOL website for biographical information on the confirmed presenters. Information on the 21st Annual Conference plenary sessions, plus names of additional speakers will be announced in early 2014.



## SIG AND COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP KEEP ISOQOL MOVING FORWARD

ISOQOL's SIGs and Committees keep ISOQOL's strategic plan progressing. The ISOQOL Board of Directors and membership is grateful to all members of the SIGs and Committees, and particularly to the leaders of these groups.

### INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IAC)

Chair: Josephine Norquist, MS

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chair: Joan Branin, PhD

#### Workshops Subcommittee Chair:

Nancy Mayo, PhD

#### Scholarship Subcommittee Chair:

Gloria Juárez, PhD RN MSN

#### Student/New Investigator Awards Subcommittee Chair:

Roxanne Jensen, PhD

#### Mentor/Mentee

#### Subcommittee Chair:

Cynthia Gross, PhD

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair: Andrea Pusic, MD MHS FRCSC

### COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair: Deborah Miller, PhD

### NEWSLETTER

Editor: Ana Popielnicki, BA

### PAST PRESIDENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Co-Chair: Neil Aaronson, PhD

Co-Chair: Donald Patrick, PhD MSPH

### 2014 SCIENTIFIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Co-Chair: Jordi Alonso, MD PhD

Co-Chair: Susan Bartlett, PhD

### CHILD HEALTH SIG

Chair: Katherine Bevans, PhD

### IBERO AMERICA SIG

Co-Chair: Alfonso Urzúa, PhD

Co-Chair: Diana Camargo, MSc

### NEW INVESTIGATORS SIG

Co-Chair: Marc Jacobs, PhD Student

Co-Chair: Katerina Papageorgiou, MSc

### PATIENT ENGAGEMENT SIG

Chair: Sam Salek, PhD

### PSYCHOMETRICS SIG

Co-Chair: Lori McLeod, PhD

Co-Chair: Stefan Cano, BSc PhD

CPsychol AFBPsS

### QUALITY OF LIFE IN CLINICAL PRACTICE SIG

Co-Chair: Kirstie Haywood, DrPhil BSc

Co-Chair: Colleen Norris, PhD

### RESPONSE SHIFT SIG

Co-Chair: Leah McClimans, PhD

Co-Chair: Ruth Barclay, PhD MHSc

BMR (PT)

### TRANSLATION AND CULTURAL ADAPTATION (TCA) SIG

Co-Chair: Sonya Eremenco, MA

Co-Chair: Mona Martin, RN MPA



# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE ISOQOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

All ISOQOL members are encouraged to submit recommendations for the positions of President-elect, Secretary-Treasurer and Board Members (3). All nominees are required to submit a C.V. and personal statement regarding their vision for ISOQOL. Final nominations will not be due until March 2014. Please consider nominating yourself or another ISOQOL member for one of these important positions. If you have any questions regarding the responsibilities of the positions, please contact Rebecca Brandt, ISOQOL Executive Director [rbrandt@isoqol.org](mailto:rbrandt@isoqol.org) or Bryce Reeve, PhD, Nominations Committee Chairperson [bbreeve@email.unc.edu](mailto:bbreeve@email.unc.edu).

In addition to the duties listed below, all board members are expected to attend two face-to-face meetings; one just prior to the Annual Conference and a second mid-year meeting. Expenses to travel to the Board meeting not coinciding with the Annual Conference are covered by ISOQOL. Two conference calls are also required, along with any agreed-upon project work.

## PRESIDENT-ELECT

The President-elect will assist the President as requested; shall chair meetings in the absence of the President and fulfill other duties as requested; and, will prepare for the duties and responsibilities of the President. The President-elect will chair the Nominations Committee in the year in which there is no Immediate Past-President on the Executive Committee. As a member of the Executive Committee, the President-elect is expected to participate in a monthly teleconference and be available for regular e-mail exchange.

The President-elect will serve a one-year term (2014-2015) beginning in October 2014. The President-elect will assume the Presidency at the 2015 Annual Conference and will serve a two-year term as President (2015-2017). Upon completion of the term as President, a one-year term as Past-President will be served (2017-2018) on the Board of Directors and as a member of the Executive Committee.

## SECRETARY-TREASURER

To continue development and implementation of policies of fiscal responsibility that ensure ISOQOL's ability to implement its mission and strategic plan, and to participate as a member of the Executive committee with the same objectives. This is a three-year term (2014-2017), non renewable.

Prior to the mid-year Board meeting (typically held between April and May), the Secretary-Treasurer will carefully review the society's financial audit and identify any issues and/or trends that need the Board's attention. He/She will then submit the accountant's report and summary at the mid-year Board meeting. Prior to the annual conference, the Secretary-Treasurer will develop next year's budget with the Executive Director. He/She will present budget for approval by entire board.

The Secretary-Treasurer commits to reviewing the financial statements of the society on a regular basis and to be available to sign checks on behalf of the society in accordance with policy.

## BOARD MEMBER

Actively promote the mission of ISOQOL and foster ISOQOL's development through strategic planning, policy making, development, and critical evaluation of ISOQOL's activities. Board members shall serve a term of three years and may not succeed themselves.

### Duties of a Board member are:

1. To prepare for and attend Board meetings for the purpose of ensuring the good governance of ISOQOL.
2. To represent ISOQOL members, Special Interest Groups, local chapters or geographic clusters of members at Board meetings, including the raising of new business as required.
3. To undertake, between Board meetings, various administrative and research tasks determined by the Board.
4. To comment on and contribute to the discussion of documents provided at the Board meetings.
5. It is generally expected that Board members take an active role in the annual scientific meeting, for example by acting as peer reviewers of abstracts, chairs of plenary or parallel sessions, judges for new investigator awards, or participants in the mentor-mentee initiative.
6. To volunteer for task forces and special projects to promote ISOQOL.
7. To participate in activities to raise funds and resources for the Society's activities.

