Next-Generation ISPOR – Shaping the Future of HEOR
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ISPOR represents a powerful social network. Through face-to-face and virtual connections, ISPOR brings together many people by convening key HEOR stakeholders from all sectors of the health care industry, harnessing the expertise of thought leaders and creating the future of HEOR.

Fostering the development of future leaders through student networks, career opportunities, and educational offerings is a strategic goal for ISPOR, as well as one of my passions.

ISPOR’s Student and New Professional Networks include nearly 2000 members, representing 100 countries. That’s an extraordinary number—surpassing total membership for many professional societies. Our ISPOR students and new professionals engage in activities at their local chapters, at ISPOR meetings, and in virtual activities that help prepare them to become HEOR leaders in industry, consulting, academia, and government.

At ISPOR conferences, students and young professionals benefit from polished presentations and discussions with HEOR thought leaders. Many of these thought leaders have been ISPOR members for years and have grown their careers as part of their involvement in this Society. These long-term members are critically important to the success and future growth of the Society because they serve as role models and mentors to the next generation of HEOR leaders.

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Although the next generation of leaders may have connected with ISPOR more recently, they actively volunteer and engage in numerous opportunities that the Society supports. Through their involvement with ISPOR members, they meet new colleagues and forge new collaborations across various health care sectors and around the globe. As a result, they are beginning to appreciate the profound power of ISPOR’s interconnected social network.

Many of ISPOR’s next generation of leaders already recognize the impact this global community has had on their lives and careers. A few were kind enough to share their ISPOR journeys with us:

Daniel Simmons, a pharmacy student at Rutgers University, finds that his ISPOR connections have helped him to find his passion in life and his career purpose.

“ISPOR provides me with a spectacular network of like-minded individuals who have helped me with research and provided me with countless career opportunities. I can honestly say that ISPOR helped me to find my passion in life and a purpose in my career.”

Another active member early in her career, Elisabeth Oehrlein from the University of Maryland-Baltimore, benefits from connecting with HEOR experts and mentors at ISPOR conferences who provide feedback, suggestions, and career insights.

“At ISPOR meetings, I am able to meet experts and ‘ISPOR mentors’ who listen to my ideas, offer helpful feedback, and provide career insights. These connections have helped me plan and advance in my career.”

Abishek Chitnis, an ISPOR member for 9 years and now at Johnson & Johnson, recalls that his involvement in the ISPOR Student Network helped him develop leadership skills and prepare for his career in HEOR.

“The ISPOR Student Network provides many opportunities to develop leadership skills. I actually owe my first job to ISPOR... I met the person who ultimately hired me at an ISPOR meeting.”

Bertalan Németh, from Syreon Research Institute in Hungary, sees both the difference ISPOR has made in his personal career, as well as the benefits the Society has provided his country’s health care decision making.

“Involvement in ISPOR has helped my career in so many ways. I also strongly believe that the ISPOR chapter has helped local decision making in Hungary.”

ISPOR provides significant support to the Student and New Professional Networks in terms of volunteer leader contributions, staff support, and financial resources. The First Annual Student Roundtable Discussion at our recent meeting in Boston is a great example of professional members collaborating with students. The Roundtable “Current Trends & Methods in HEOR” featured professional members speaking with students about these 8 topics voted on by students: 1) adherence and persistence measurements using secondary databases; 2) selecting patient-centered endpoints in mainstream clinical trials; 3) grant funding; 4) conjoint analysis; 5) adaptive designs in clinical trials—what is feasible and currently in practice?; 6) transitioning to a career in the industry; 7) behavioral economics; and 8) preparing to defend your dissertation. The event was overwhelmingly successful.

ISPOR believes in preserving the past, honoring the present, and shaping the future. I encourage all ISPOR members to welcome students and new professionals into ISPOR’s powerful network! The future of HEOR is in their hands.