

IUPESM's Health Technology Task Group

Meeting Minutes Sunday June 7, 2015, Room 714B
17:00 to 18:30, Toronto Convention Center, Toronto, Canada

And follow up actions

Attending

Cari Borrás, K. Siddique e-Rabbani and Colin Orton, HTTG members
Herbert Voigt, IUPESM President

Summary

The items discussed were the IUPESM-HTTG 2012- 2015 Report, sent to the IUPESM AC; the flyer to be distributed at the IUPESM booth of the WC 2015 and the future of the HTTG.

IUPESM-HTTG 2012- 2015 Report

Attendants were all familiar with the report and the request by H. Voigt to include the Peru Workshop on Heavy Metals as an HTTG Workshop, with which the HTTG Chair had complied. H. Voigt indicated that the cost of the Workshop stated in the report (in USD) was not the final one (in Euros) and C. Borrás responded that she had not received such information from Peter Smith, the IUPESM Treasurer, but that as soon as she would get it, she would correct the figures. And so, she did.

HTTG Flyer

Y. David and K. Ng had worked on a one-page flyer describing what the HTTG is and listing the website from where HTTG documents and slide presentations from HTTG symposia/workshops can be downloaded. C. Borrás had printed 50 flyers, which H. Voigt took to deliver at the IUPESM booth. Later in the week K. Ng brought more printed flyers for distribution.

The future of the HTTG, including pending publications

C. Borrás announced that she was rotating off as Chair of the HTTG to comply with the current Terms of Reference (TOR), which state: "The position of chair and vice-chair will alternate every three years with designates from the IOMP and the IFMBE. The Chair will report directly to the IUPESM President and Administrative Council (AC) and may form Working Groups composed by IOMP and IFMBE members who have pledged their commitment to HTTG and are working on specific tasks".

The exact wording of the TOR were not reviewed during the meeting, but C. Orton suggested having “Working Groups” led by the researchers who have been working with the HTTG in the various projects described in the HTTG report. The idea seemed good to the other attendees. In fact, when the HTTG was first created by Barry Allen, he set up “Action groups”, similar in scope as what it is proposed now. Following the meeting, C. Borrás talked to Karim S. Karim, Roberto Costa and Ana Maria Marques, who reasserted their interest to continue working with the HTTG.

Two pending issues related to publications were also discussed at the meeting. One is the book “Defining the medical imaging requirements for a rural health center”, with C. Borrás as editor, and the second one is a special Health and Technology Issue on “Innovations in the Use of Mobile Devices in Healthcare”, with C. Orton as editor. The first one needs some additional contributions and a thorough review to make sure all the chapters are coherent. Both aspects are being addressed by C. Borrás who traveled in mid-June to Geneva to explore the possibility of WHO being the publisher. But assembling and editing the H&T Special Issue is more complicated: it depends on whether enough papers on the subject are gathered, for example from another (longer) workshop that could be held in 2016, as discussed by HTTG members on a previous occasion.

Regarding the 2015-2018 HTTG, C. Borrás recommended that its structure and composition be left up to the new IUPESM President, Dr. K.Y. Cheung, in the same way as it was left up to Dr. Herb Voigt for the 2012-2015 HTTG.

Respectfully submitted

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2012-2015 HTTG Chair