



# ISoP Fellowships: Recognising Contributions to the Goals of ISoP

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Published online: 12 March 2020  
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## 1 Introduction

In 2019, ISoP introduced a new membership award—Fellowship of the International Society of Pharmacovigilance (FISoP)—for those with at least 5 years membership of the Society. The FISoP award is aimed at those who have demonstrated significant achievement and distinction in the discipline of pharmacovigilance, including publications or similar outputs, and service to ISoP; for example, by involvement in ISoP conferences and/or by leadership of ISoP Chapters and Special Interest Groups (SIGs).

## 2 Aims of FISoP Award

The first ISoP Fellowship Nominations Sub-Committee (FNCS)—chaired by Dr Mira Harrison-Woolrych (ISoP Secretary General 2019) and including Professor Ian Wong (Vice-President 2019) and Ms Deirdre McCarthy (Advisory Board member 2019)—agreed that there should be two main aims in establishing this award.

1. To formally recognise the contributions of more experienced ISoP members.
2. To add to the senior institutional expertise within the Society.

Both of the above aims are important for retaining members and for building the capacity of ISoP to contribute to international pharmacovigilance. It is hoped that ISoP Fellows will take up leadership roles within ISoP; for example,

by drafting position papers when necessary, or by providing expert advice and support to more junior ISoP members, including students.

## 3 Criteria for FISoP Award

Fellowship applicants will be required to demonstrate the following:

1. At least 5 consecutive years as a full member of the Society, with current ISoP membership fully paid at the date of Fellowship application.
2. Contribution to pharmacovigilance, as demonstrated by their career progression and publication record in peer-reviewed international scientific journals. When evidence of academic publications is not available (e.g. those in the pharmaceutical industry, regulatory or voluntary organisations), similar outputs such as unpublished reports, committee papers and/or involvement in significant working parties/committees will also be considered.
3. Contribution to ISoP, demonstrated by Executive Committee or Advisory Board membership, leadership of ISoP Chapters or SIGs, and/or contribution to ISoP conferences (e.g. Scientific Committee membership, chairing sessions, membership of posters committee, abstract reviewer).
4. Applications must be supported by two senior members of ISoP (preferably those already awarded FISoP, or Executive Committee or Advisory Board members, or a SIG or Chapter Head).

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**Table 1** 2019 ISoP Fellows (in alphabetical order by surname)

Name	Country	Background
Luis Alesso, MD	Argentina	<p>Many years' experience as a specialist in Pharmacovigilance and Internal Medicine (Córdoba National University)</p> <p>President and founding member of the ISoP Latin American Chapter (since 2009). In this role Luis has organized several symposia in Latin America: Buenos Aires 2014; Sao Paulo 2015; Bogotá August 2016; México, 2017; Sao Paulo 2018; Córdoba National University, Argentina 2019</p> <p>Past member of ISoP Executive Committee, 2009–2016</p> <p>President of the LOC of the 8th ISoP Annual Meeting, Buenos Aires in 2008</p> <p>Chair of the Scientific Committee of 12th ISoP Annual Meeting, October 2012 in Cancún, México</p> <p>Speaker/chair at multiple ISoP meetings/courses, including Belgrade University, Serbia and Minsk, Belarus, ISoP Training Course, Sao Paulo, 2015, Lima 2016</p> <p>Author of three Pharmacovigilance textbooks in Spanish and collaboration on many others</p>
Priya Bahri, RPh, PhD	Germany	<p>Regulatory Pharmacovigilance Specialist (European Medicines Agency)</p> <p>Many years' experience in pharmacy, epidemiology and quality management of healthcare</p> <p>Co-founder and coordinator of the Risk Communications Special Interest Group (ISoP CommSIG) since 2014</p> <p>Chair of Risk Communications sessions at several annual ISoP meetings (including 2019 in Bogota)</p> <p>Author of a text book on risk communication in pharmacovigilance (publication expected May 2020)</p>
Giovanni Furlan, BSc	Italy	<p>Many years' experience as a pharmacist and experienced EU QPPV</p> <p>An active member of the ISoP Italian Chapter, his work with other members of the society has resulted in the publication of several pharmacovigilance papers published in scientific journals such as Drug Safety</p> <p>Contributed to the ISoP book "Pharmacovigilance: Critique and Ways Forward"</p>
Mira Harrison-Woolrych, BM, DM, FRCOG	New Zealand	<p>Many years' experience as clinical doctor in women's health, academic researcher in pharmacovigilance and pharmacoepidemiology, medicines regulation, writing, medical ethics</p> <p>Established Western Pacific Chapter in 2006 (co-organised Canberra meeting 2018)</p> <p>Established ISoP Women's Medicines SIG; continues to chair and organise sessions at most annual ISoP meetings since 2008</p> <p>Co-chair of the ISoP 2018 Scientific Committee (Geneva)</p> <p>ISoP Secretary General 2016–19</p> <p>2019–2022 ISoP President</p>
Raquel Herrera Comoglio, MD, MSc	Argentina	<p>Many years' experience organising educational activities and books in Spanish for health professionals' in under- and postgraduate curricula</p> <p>General Coordinator of the LOC of the 8th ISoP Annual Meeting, Buenos Aires in 2008</p> <p>Coordinator of the ISoP Latin-American chapter since 2009</p> <p>Member of Scientific Committee ISoP 2011 and 2012</p> <p>Scientific coordinator of five Latin-American chapter ISoP Symposia, 2014–2018, held in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico</p> <p>Organizer of the first Latin-American Symposium "Teaching Pharmacovigilance in Universities", 2019</p>

**Table 1** (continued)

Name	Country	Background
Katarina Ilic, MD, MSc, PhD, MPH	USA	Extensive leadership/management experience within academia, the pharmaceutical industry, regulatory agencies and research institutions Senior medical lead in pharmaceutical industry Founding Chair of the ISoP Southern European Chapter Founding member of Women's Medicines SIG Member of Scientific Committee for ISoP 2019 in Bogota
Deirdre McCarthy, BSc, MSc	USA	Many years' experience in pharmacovigilance, medicines' regulation (Irish Medicines Board) and pharmaceutical industry in several countries Two-time ISoP Executive Committee member Member of the ISoP Advisory Board 2016–2019 Co-ordinator of ISoP Special Interest Groups (SIGs) 2016–2019 2019–2022 ISoP Secretary General
Ian C K Wong, BPharm, MSc, PhD, FRCPCH (Hon), FRPharmS, FBPharmacolS	Hong Kong and UK	Professor of Pharmacy Over 300 publications in pharmacovigilance and pharmacoepidemiology Vice-President of ISoP (2016–2019) Executive Committee member of ISoP (2012–2016) Chair of the Scientific Committee of the ISoP annual conference 2014 in China and 2018 in Switzerland

*EU* European Union, *ISoP* International Society of Pharmacovigilance, *LOC* Local Organising Committee, *PV* pharmacovigilance, *QPPV* Qualified Person Responsible For Pharmacovigilance, *SIG* Special Interest Group

#### 4 First FISoP Awards Presented at ISoP 2019 in Bogota

The inaugural FISoP Awards were presented by Sten Olsson (ISoP President 2016–2019) at the ISoP Annual General Meeting in Bogota, Colombia in October 2019. Eight ISoP members were successful in obtaining Fellowship (Table 1).

#### 5 Benefits and Duties of ISoP Fellows

Fellows of ISoP are entitled to

1. Add in public statements, and to their CV and other personal statements, the letters FISoP (Fellow of the International Society of Pharmacovigilance) to their name for as long as they remain ISoP members.
2. Receive a certificate confirming ISoP Fellowship at the ISoP Annual General Meeting (AGM).
3. Have their contributions and profile published in the AGM minutes, website, and in a subsequent print edition of *Drug Safety*.

ISoP Fellows are also expected to contribute at a high level to our professional society. These duties may include

- Undertaking leadership roles within ISoP, as agreed by the ISoP Executive Committee, including developing

scientific and regional projects in pharmacovigilance worldwide.

- Promoting collegiality, inclusivity and support of all ISoP members.
- Supporting the ISoP Executive Committee and Advisory Board by providing expert advice when necessary.
- Promoting international ISoP work (including training and conferences), encouraging networking and supporting other members of the international pharmacovigilance community.

#### 6 FISoP Applications Invited for 2020 (Deadline 31 May 2020)

Applications are now invited for this year's FISoP awards. We encourage ISoP members with at least 5 years of membership to consider applying, especially those who have made significant contributions to the society, for example by involvement in Chapters and SIGs. This year, the FNSC is chaired by Deirdre McCarthy (ISoP Secretary General) and will include Sten Olsson (ISoP Immediate Past-President) and Brian Edwards (previous ISoP Advisory Board member).

Application forms and additional details are available at the ISoP website at [www.isoonline.org/members/fellowship](http://www.isoonline.org/members/fellowship). In summary, applicants should send the following

documents to ISoP (administration@isoponline.org) before 31 May 2020:

- Application form with a full CV summarising the career path.
- Statement outlining how the above criteria for Fellowship were met.
- Recommendation letters from two senior members of ISoP (preferably ISoP Fellows).

**PLEASE SUBMIT APPLICATIONS BY 31 MAY 2020!**

Applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application before 31 August 2020. Successful applications will be announced at the General Assembly during the 2020 ISoP Annual Meeting in Oman <http://www.isop2020oman.org/>.

For further information please contact Deirdre McCarthy, Chair of the FNCS, by emailing administration@isoponline.org.

**Acknowledgements** The idea of ISoP Fellowships was first proposed by Professor Ian Wong (former ISoP Vice-President) at an Executive Committee meeting in 2017. The idea was subsequently developed and approved by all members of the ISoP Executive Committee 2016–19 (Sten Olsson, Jean-Christophe Delumeau, Mira Harrison-Woolrych and Ian Wong).

### **Compliance with Ethical Standards**

**Funding** All ISoP Executive Committee and Advisory Board roles are unpaid. No funding or payment has been received for the preparation of this editorial.

**Conflict of interest** Deirdre McCarthy and Mira Harrison-Woolrych were both members of the first FNCS (as detailed above) but have no other conflicts of interest in relation to this article.