

# WFPI TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

April 2013

---

## WFPI and web tools

The global spread of the WFPI's leadership, volunteers, education venues, meetings and outreach projects presents a major operational challenge. Funding travel and accommodation for all is simply not an option. The WFPI therefore depends on strategies and implementation based upon web tools.

The WFPI's Council, whose 15 members are distributed between Melbourne, Australia and Los Angeles, USA (19 hours between them), attends radiology events around the world. But there is not one event attended by all 15. But those physically absent are not excluded : they join via **online meeting software** instead (GoToMeeting). The Council and working groups communicate largely by the written word: **forums and dedicated messenger boards** relieve their inboxes. GoToMeeting and skype provide "live" backup.

The WFPI's Education and Outreach committees are developing **online training modules** and eventually, **courses**. The contents, access to and attendance of these modules require careful web development.

Finally, the WFPI's outreach projects have a primary focus on tele-medicine, particularly via its support for the diagnosis of childhood tuberculosis through CXR and US. This often entails supporting a facility's conversion from film and chemistry imaging machinery to computed radiography (digital). The larger margin of error when performing digitalized radiographs opens the way for non-radiographers to perform the radiographs - 'task shifting'. While radiologists in many low resource settings are still being identified and trained, on-site X-ray operators or clinicians can send their images to expert tele-readers in other countries for second opinions offered on a volunteer basis to support diagnosis, detect complications and monitor treatment. This may be termed 'patient-shifting' rather than 'task-shifting', and at low cost. In this scenario, the X-ray machine and user become the point-of-care.



To this end, the WFPI in collaboration with a German company, SUSTSOL has developed a **tele-reading platform**.

The same platform will be used in higher-end projects, such in India, where on-site radiologist staff will benefit from expert pediatric opinions on CT scan interpretations, among other, until they can receive more specialised training themselves or support from other sources.

## General objective

To advise the WFPI leadership on strategy development, implementation and software optimization, coordinate technology tests and offer on-going guidance and support.

## Specific objectives

### Tele-reading platform

- Contribute to the wider WFPI strategic discussions on where and how such a platform should be used,
- Identify a platform provider, discuss terms & conditions, WFPI's needs,
- Guide product development,
- Coordinate software testing,
- Coordinate the software installation of referrer institutions, project administrators and tele-reader cells,
- Provide on-going support for the technical side of the platform and contribute to discussions on the policy side (use, funding, etc.),
- Liaise with the WFPI staff regarding platform provider legal issues, logo visibility, invoice issue and settlement and other.

### Leadership web tools

- In liaison with the WFPI leadership & Secretariat, advise the WFPI Council and working committees on a "communication mediums policy" for the WFPI,
- Advise on and facilitate the installation of appropriate web tools,
- In liaison with WFPI staff, administrate the web tools,
- Provide support in the event of technical problems.

### Remote meetings

- In liaison with the WFPI leadership & staff, advise the WFPI Council on an "e-meeting strategy",
- Advise on and facilitate the installation of appropriate online meeting software,
- In liaison with WFPI staff, supervise the logistical set up, organization and moderation of online meetings,
- Provide support in the event of technical problems.

### Online training modules, remote participation in courses

- In liaison with the WFPI Education, Outreach and Website Committees, advise on strategies for online training content,
- Advise on and facilitate the installation of appropriate training module software, including (eventually/possibly) webinar options for larger audiences,
- In liaison with the WFPI Education, Outreach and Website Committees, develop a policy for and facilitate the implementation of online organization and access to these modules/courses, including CME credit mechanisms and presence checklists,
- Provide support in the event of technical problems.

### Website

- In liaison with the WFPI Website Committee, guide the WFPI Webmaster and staff on web layout and functionality, with advice on the most appropriate tools.

## Committee set up

### Leader:

Erich Sorantin

### Members:

Goran Djuricic  
Diana Feier

**Collaborates with:**

- WFPI Council
- WFPI Education, Outreach & Website Committees
- WFPI Webmaster
- WFPI outreach project administrators
- WFPI staff

**Potential issues:**

Funding for platform use

Legal questions (copyright, data protection, patient confidentiality) with platform use