



# ISPO Newsletter

October 2005



## Sydney Annual Scientific Meeting Update

Planning is almost finalised for the Society's forthcoming annual scientific meeting to be held in Sydney.

The meeting, to be held from the 3rd to the 5th of November has attracted many excellent free papers, according to S&E Committee Chairman, Dr. Michael Dillon. "On the strengths of the abstracts, this meeting promises to be a strong scientific meeting, and will provide invaluable lessons for professionals across the spectrum of P&O related care". The program for the conference is now available on the conference website.



**Keynote speaker, Associate Professor Richard Baker**

Planning for a conference workshop to be hosted by keynote speaker, A/Prof Richard Baker, is almost finalised. Richard and a team of skilled assistants will work with participants and help them get a better understanding of how gait analysis can influence and assist sound clinical interventions in conditions related to P&O work. Richard is planning material that will be suitable for beginners and experts alike.

If you have not yet registered for the conference, we invite you to do so now by visiting our conference website:

<http://dcconferences.com.au/ispo2005/>

## Kiribati staff to attend Annual Scientific Meeting

The National Executive, Outreach Committee and the organisers of the 2005 ASM are delighted that two professionals from Kiribati will attend the meeting in November.

Tebakaro Aata and Atateka Karitema work with the prosthetics, orthotics and physiotherapy facility that ISPO Australia was instrumental in developing. Their attendance at the Sydney meeting will be an excellent opportunity for them to forge professional relationships with their peers here in Australia.

Their visit has been financially supported by the ISPO ANMS, the i-Kiribati Ministry of Health, Melbourne Health and Ballarat Health.

## AGM 2005 - Notice and Call for nominations

At the 2004 Annual General Meeting, a special motion to change the terms of office to one year, for this year only, was carried. The objectives of this change were to change AGMs to a non world congress year, (also triennial). It was hoped that by having a new round of nominations at the 2005 AGM, more members would nominate for the Executive.

A nomination form is included with this newsletter. You are encouraged to consider nominating for the National Executive Committee if you would like to participate in ISPO Australia's ongoing work.

If you are unable to attend the AGM, please fill in the proxy form and ask a colleague or associate to represent you at the meeting. It is essential we have the most representative group possible at the meeting.

### NOTICE: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ISPO ANMS

**Friday the 4th of November, 12 noon, at the Carlton Crest Hotel, Sydney.**

## Major Events

Sydney Annual Scientific Meeting Update *Page 1*

Perth Annual Scientific Meeting Update *Page 2*

World Congress Update *Page 3*

Annual General Meeting, CALL FOR NOMINATIONS *Page 1*

## Society Activities

**Feature:** Update from Lee Brentnall, volunteer in Kiribati *Page 5*

Call for updated membership information *Page 4*

Perth ASM developments *Page 2*

New ISPO website information *Page 4*

ISPO Outreach Committee Member visit to Papua New Guinea Facility *Page 2*

ISPO Prize winner *Page 3*

*From the Secretary Page 3*

*From the President Page 5*

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## Preliminary meeting with P&O facility in Papua New Guinea

Dr. Friedbert Kohler, Outreach Committee Member and Rehabilitation Physician at Braeside Hospital and Lecturer in the School of Public Health and Community Medicine at the University of UNSW, has recently visited the National Orthotic and Prosthetic Service (NOPS) in PNG.

Some time ago, Mr. Rajesh Nanda, the manager of NOPS contacted ISPO to determine if any assistance, especially in training, could be provided. Mr. Nanda manages the NOPS from its headquarters in Lae.

Dr. Kohler and ISPO Outreach determined that a preliminary visit would be a useful step. Dr. Kohler was able to fund his trip with assistance from Hope Healthcare which manages three affiliated public hospitals in NSW, including Braeside hospital.

During his trip, Dr. Kohler prepared a report that provides an overview of the structure of P&O service provision in PNG, and outlines key demographic and organisational data. The services in PNG are very intensive, with over one thousand clients per year.

Currently, some 17 people work in the Lae facility. Only the manager has any formal training in prosthetics and orthotics. The remainder have been trained on the job. A few have been able to travel to Japan for short term training courses, but Dr. Kohler has noted that at the present rate of training, it would take nearly a decade to train just half of the team in this way.

Among his draft recommendations, Dr. Kohler has suggested additional and ongoing training both in-country and formal training internationally. There is, at present, no training facility in PNG.

"The state of the health care system generally in PNG is severely under-resourced and increasingly heavily focussed on HIV/AIDS care and prevention", Dr. Kohler noted. This, and a background of underdeveloped allied health care is a very large challenge for the stakeholders, and potentially for this society.

Dr. Kohler and the outreach committee will continue to work with Mr. Nanda toward providing better services for our 5 million nearest neighbours in PNG.

## Perth 2006 ASM: Further Developments

Ms. Sandy Crameri and the 2006 convening committee have been working hard on preparing the 2006 ASM.

"The major theme of '*Patient Problems & Practicalities*' - *Solving Clinical Issues in Patient Management*' is clinically based and should encourage the submission of case studies by clinicians" Sandy said.

"We look forward to making a first announcement at the Sydney ASM in November", Sandy added.

The ASM will be held from the 12th-14th October 2006 Esplanade Hotel in Fremantle. The ARATA conference will be held from the 20th at the same venue, meaning there will be opportunities for members of both organisations to meet in sunny Perth.

For more information about the 2006 ISPO ASM, contact the Conference Secretariat at

[enquiries@keynotewa.com](mailto:enquiries@keynotewa.com)

## ProsTHotics Congress – Wellington New Zealand 24-26 March 2006

"Watch out for the New Zealand contingent of ISPO members at Sydney in November. We will all be enjoying ISPO Australia's conference and giving you a warm invitation to ours, which will occur early next year.", said Marion Lineham, Executive Director of the NZ Artificial Limb Board.

"Our principal guest speaker is Harold Shangali, President of ISPO, who is making his first visit to New Zealand. Harold will speak on "Universal Outreach – ISPO to the World".

Other key speakers include Prof. Dudley Childress (USA), Prof. Nelson de Luccia (Brazil) and Randall Alley (USA). Other well-known ISPO members giving papers include Nicholas Freijah (Australia), Dr Dipak Datta (UK), and Prof. René Baumgartner and a range of other presenters from Croatia, Taiwan, Brazil, Australia, USA, and Canada.

A CPD day for surgeons is embedded in the programme and devoted to early management of amputees, covering pre-amputation right through to fitting. There are prosthetics and orthotics sections, as well as rehabilitation, education, etc.

See the website, [www.prosthetics.org.nz](http://www.prosthetics.org.nz) for more information, and we look forward to seeing a big Australian group coming over and combining the occasion with a holiday in New Zealand.

## ISPODiary

21-22 October, 2005. ISPO Canada Symposium: "Freedom Beyond 55; Prosthetic and Orthotic Care for the Elderly", Toronto, ON, CANADA E-mail: [rkalsi@ottawahospital.on.ca](mailto:rkalsi@ottawahospital.on.ca) Website: <http://www.ispo.ca/>

27-28 October, 2005 10th ISPO-France National Scientific Congress, Marseille, FRANCE. E-mail: [jean-pierre.lissac@bouillat-terrier.fr](mailto:jean-pierre.lissac@bouillat-terrier.fr) Website: <http://www.ispo-france.com/>

2005 Oct 26-30 Scoliosis Research Society 40th Annual Meeting & Course -Miami Florida USA Web Site: <http://www.srs.org>

3-5 November, 2005. Annual Scientific Meeting of the ISPO ANMS, Sydney. [dcconferences.com.au/ispo2005](http://dcconferences.com.au/ispo2005)

27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> January 2006. OPSI (ISPO India) Biennial Scientific Meeting, Kolkata. [www.OPSI2006kolkata.com](http://www.OPSI2006kolkata.com)

2006 March 1-4 American Academy Annual Meeting & Scientific Symposium Chicago, IL, USA

March 24-26 "Reaching Out", ProstHotics International Congress 2006 - Wellington, NZ. NZ Artificial Limb Board and ISPO -NZMS. Web site at <http://www.prosthetics.org.nz/> or e-mail: [congress@nzalb.govt.nz](mailto:congress@nzalb.govt.nz)

2006 May 17-20 Association of Childrens Prosthetic-Orthotic Clinics' Annual Meeting, Sacramento, Calif. USA. Contact: Melody Raymond, [raymond@aaos.org](mailto:raymond@aaos.org),

2006 Sept 2 7-30 AOPA (US) National Assembly. - Hollywood, Fla. USA E-mail: [koneill@AOPAnet.org](mailto:koneill@AOPAnet.org).

2006 October 12-14 ISPO ANMS ASM "*Patient Problems & Practicalities*" - *Solving Clinical Issues in Patient Management*. Fremantle, WA.:

[enquiries@keynotewa.com](mailto:enquiries@keynotewa.com)

2006 October 20-22 ARATA Conference, Fremantle WA. [www.arata.org.au](http://www.arata.org.au)

2007 July 29-Aug 3 ISPO INTERNATIONAL 12<sup>TH</sup> WORLD CONGRESS – Moving Beyond Disability Vancouver, Canada <http://www.ispo.ca/congress>



## Call for update to twinned members registry

ISPO has for many years sponsored professionals working in low-income nations in our region. When members reside in nations with no National Member Society, they may join a neighbouring society. These members are known as 'twinned' members.

It has come to the executive's attention that correspondence with many twinned members has slowed. This may be because members have moved on or simply due to complex communication in the Pacific region.

The National Executive and the Outreach Committee would like to invite all previously twinned members to contact ISPO to discuss ongoing needs for twinned membership. Any member of the prosthetics and orthotics community in our region is welcome to correspond with the Executive to enquire about twinned membership. Contact ISPO secretary Wes Pryor ( [secretary@ispo.org.au](mailto:secretary@ispo.org.au), +61 3 9479 5729 )

## World Congress Planning

Planning is now well underway for the 2007 World Congress to be held in Vancouver, Canada.

" Our theme, Moving Beyond Disability, provides a base from which to create a varied and informative program. In addition to the scientific presentations, instructional courses, and technical workshops, focused symposia will cover topics ranging from state-of-the-art clinical applications to psycho-social aspects of prosthetic and orthotic care. Since ISPO is a multidisciplinary organization, delegates can interact and learn from other health professionals and technical experts " said Ed Lemaire, PhD, Chairman ISPO's 2007 World Congress

For more information, first announcement and details for exhibitors and sponsors, visit

<http://www.ispo.ca/congress/>

## From the secretary

Some members may have experienced delays in receiving their journals so far this year. In part, this is due to our delayed membership processes, and in part due to circumstances beyond our control. I would like to apologise for any inconvenience you may have encountered. We hope that you have received and are enjoying *Prosthetics and Orthotics International*.

Many of you may be aware that I have requested a review of membership processes from the International Committee of ISPO. If you have further queries, please contact me on +61 3 9479 5729 or [secretary@ispo.org.au](mailto:secretary@ispo.org.au).

I have also corresponded with the International Committee with a request to re-develop their websites. The great bulk of your membership fees end up with the International Society, and it is important their website adequately reports on International Society activities. In the interim, I will endeavour to provide copies of International Minutes via our member-only area on the new website. The President and I are both endeavouring to ensure the ANMS Membership is adequately represented at the International Level.

I would like to extend my gratitude to Sandy Cramer for preparing the last issue of the newsletter. Due to her new role as convenor of the 2006 ASM to be held in Perth, Sandy has relinquished the publicity officer role, which I have assumed in the interim. I have enjoyed preparing this newsletter, but would welcome assistance from the wider membership with future editions.

Please ensure you visit our newly developed website. The last few years have been very busy for the society, and it is therefore increasingly important for members and the executive to communicate effectively with one another. I hope this website helps us in that regard. Thanks for Anneke Deutsch and Lee Brentnall for helping prepare the site.

We will have a booth at this year's ASM to allow up-front payment for 2006 membership and to showcase ISPOs current and upcoming activities.

Wesley Pryor, ISPO Australia Secretary.

The International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO), is a multi-disciplinary organization comprised of persons who have a professional interest in the clinical, educational and research aspects of prosthetics, orthotics, rehabilitation engineering and related topics.

ISPO was founded in Copenhagen, Denmark in 1970 by a group of surgeons, prosthetist-orthotists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists and engineers to promote improvements in the care of all persons with neuromuscular and skeletal impairments.

ISPO presently has 2500 members worldwide in 75 countries. Where there are more than five members in any country, or region, they may band together to form a National or Regional Member Society. National Member Societies have been established in 28 countries.

As stated in the Society's Constitution, its basic aim is the promotion of high quality care. To achieve this:

- It acts as an international advisory body interacting with other international and national agencies, providing guidance and coordination and seeking to achieve the optimal use of resources;
- It acts as a vehicle for the exchange of information through such means as publication of its journal and the organisation of seminars, courses and conferences;
- It promotes and guides research, development and evaluation activities
- It encourages, supports and correlates education and training activities of all the professions in this field;
- It guides and supports the activities of those responsible for the care of patients;
- It undertakes projects to facilitate high-level uniform practice by such means as the development of adequate international standards.

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## New Website Information

The ISPO executive are pleased to report that the refurbished website is working well.

The website offers additional information, a members-only area and a user's forum that will be deployed in coming months.

Current members are invited to **register with the website** to keep their contact details up-to-date, and to allow for access to members only material as it becomes available. It is

very important to us that we have an accurate record of your current details to ensure you receive correspondence in a timely manner. The inclusion of an online facility to do so is a valuable tool.

Online payment has seen a modest improvement in membership for 2005. It is hoped that this trend will accelerate in the next triennium.

If you have comments or suggestions, please forward them to [secretary@ispo.org.au](mailto:secretary@ispo.org.au).

*The new ISPO ANMS website features a members only area that will develop into a resource for members into the future.*



## ISPO Student Award for 2005 awarded to Ms. Emily Graham

The 2004 ISPO Australia Award for the most outstanding 3rd year student at La Trobe University's National Centre for Prosthetics and Orthotics was recently presented to Ms. Emily Graham at the University's award ceremony. ISPO President, Ms. Margaret Hodge, attended to present Ms. Graham with her award.

"The award recognises the outstanding work of Emily in her 3rd year of studies towards the Bachelor of Prosthetics and Orthotics Degree" Ms. Hodge noted.

Ms. Hodge, who is also a Lecturer at the NCPO, added that ISPO's support of the prize gave good exposure to the organisation and its work to a group of outstanding students of the health sciences. "The awards ceremony brings together some of the Faculty of Health Science's finest students, who in coming years will graduate and assume leadership roles in the Aus-

tralian healthcare system."

Emily is this year continuing her studies towards and honours degree at the NCPO. The ISPO prize is a \$250 book voucher and 1 year membership to the Society.

## Outreach update

The outreach committee, chaired by Mr. Nick Freijah, has met regularly by teleconference. Current activities include ongoing support of the clinic in Kiribati, including preliminary work regarding a conference/workshop in Kiribati to be held next year.

It is hoped this meeting will bring together professionals working in the region and continue to advance the skill base of practitioners in the region.

Dr. Friedbert Kohler has prepared a report concerning a preliminary visit to PNG. This will be an ongoing challenge for the committee. See article elsewhere in this newsletter for more details.

For more details, log in to your members-only section of the website and read recent reports.

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## Tungaru Rehabilitation Service - One year on...

**Lee Brentnall, ISPO Member and AVI Volunteer in Kiribati**

The one year anniversary of the new Tungaru Rehabilitation Service in Kiribati will be in October. The service has continued to develop over the past 12 months and is becoming well known around the atolls of Kiribati.

The department has been providing various prosthetic and orthotic services, including trans-tibial and trans-femoral prosthetics ( a total of 40 fabricated to date ), cosmetic toes and fingers ( all made on site ), upper and lower limb orthoses, serial casting and fracture casting.

The department has continued with its preventative programs, including lunch time and after work exercise videos and circuit training for staff of the ministry of health. This has proven a popular service and community members from outside the ministry are also beginning to attend.

Recent additions to the service include the prosthetic & orthotic home visit program. The home visits are conducted fortnightly, in addition to the weekly physiotherapy home visits, to assess progress within the home environment and to increase the service provision to people who are unable to come to the service. Home visits have included, gait training, prosthetic/orthotic adjustments and assessments and casts for prosthetic candidates.

The number of clients attending for prosthetic/orthotic treatment has steadied over the past few months allowing more time for training and planning activities. Recently a weekly in-service afternoon was initiated within the rehabilitation service whereby all staff will be required to present. Intended subjects include various pathologies, fabrication, assessment and treatment processes from both the prosthetist/orthotists

and the physiotherapists.

Trainee prosthetists, Toare Toaneti and Tebakaro Aata have completed trans-tibial and trans-femoral theory and have now started lower limb orthotic theory. In addition to this they have been working through the Handicap International physical therapy training manuals along with our physiotherapy assistants. Prosthetic technician Mr. Alan Reiper visited for one month through the AVB program in May to provide further technical training to Toare and Tebakaro. They learned many technical skills and techniques from Alan that has ensured the production of high quality work. Their attendance at this years Annual Scientific Meeting in Sydney will allow them to develop their skills and knowledge even further.

Plans for further expansion of the service include outer island tours, more preventative workshops for various community groups and purchasing of a vehicle for the home visit programs. These plans however rely on support from the Ministry of Health in Kiribati and increases in budget provisions.

Overall the service has proven necessary for Kiribati and it can only continue to develop, raising the profile of rehabilitation both within the Ministry of Health and Medical Services and the Kiribati community.

The inception of this service was made possible by the efforts of the ISPO Outreach Committee, who developed initial funding proposals to the Canada Fund and to the Kiribati Ministry of Health.

These activities are made possible by many funding agencies and through the support of the wider membership of the ISPO ANMS.



*Lee Brentnall (rear left) and the team at the Tungaru Rehabilitation Centre: Mwakei, Toare, Nancy, Tekoaau, Tieniti, Atateka, Tebakaro*

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## From the President

This newsletter is circulated on the eve of our next Australian ISPO triennium. The current executive committee was elected at the end of 2004 for a one-year term, to better align our election with an ASM. From this year, 2005, the term of office will again be 3 years. ISPO Australia is undertaking an increasing amount of exciting work in Outreach and Education, and that work cannot continue without sound management of the organisation. This is the role of the Executive Committee. I strongly encourage all ISPO Australia members to think about contributing to the business-end of the organisation by serving as a committee member.

I have served on the ISPO Australia Executive for 15 years and have enjoyed my time immensely. However, it is time for me to move to other things and I will not re-nominate for any position this year, but will serve as Immediate Past President by default so I will be available to support the incoming executive. I hope many ISPO Australia members are keen to continue the essential work of the organisation and lead it into the future.

### Please nominate for the ISPO Australia Executive Committee

#### What time is involved?

The Executive Committee (EC) meets by teleconference 4 times per year. Each teleconference lasts about 1½ to 2 hours. The EC also meets face-to-face annually, for a meeting of around 3 hours duration. EC members generally sit on at least one sub-committee that meets 3-4 times each year for about an hour each time. All EC members undertake activity between meetings, such as writing letters, planning Educational courses, seeking sponsors, managing funds, developing Outreach projects, negotiating with other groups, editing news stories etc.

#### What does the EC do?

The EC works with the Outreach sub-committee to assess and select Outreach projects to undertake, works towards those projects, and often recruits additional people to work on projects. After receiving advice from the S&E subcommittee, the EC decides when and where each ISPO Annual Scientific Meeting or ISPO Course is held. It selects major themes and keynote speakers for each ASM or course. The EC liaises with the International ISPO Office on behalf of ISPO Australia members, and selects a person to represent ISPO Australia at International Committee Meetings. In terms of Finance, the EC manages ISPO Australia funds including investments and underwriting of Outreach projects and ASMs. Publications include a website and newsletter. Of course, the EC is also responsible for day-to-day running of ISPO Australia.

#### What roles do EC members have?

All EC members hold an Office or manage a sub-committee. Current EC roles include:

President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chair of Outreach, Chair of Science & Education, Annual Scientific Meeting Liaison Officer, Publicity Officer, Convenor of Annual Scientific Meeting, Website manager. Many of these roles involve close work with a sub-committee, which is made up of various people who have special interest in the area.

#### Who has served on the EC previously?

To reflect the multidisciplinary nature of ISPO, EC members have included Rehabilitation Specialists, Prosthetists, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Orthopaedic Surgeons, Orthotists, Bioengineers, Managers, Clinicians, Academics and others. Some members have been people with many years of experience in their speciality; other members have been new graduates in their profession. The EC typically includes people from many Australian states and territories, and men and women have been fairly equally involved.

#### Why have past members served on the EC?

Motivations have included a desire to contribute to an organisation that does outreach work in the P&O sphere; interest in developing Australian continuing education; interest in contributing to key decisions of the organisation; ambition to develop project management or leadership skills; and opportunities for networking with a multidisciplinary, national team. Many EC members serve for at least two terms (6 years total), indicating that they enjoy their experience on the committee and renominate for election.

#### Do EC members get paid?

No, all positions are voluntary. However, each EC member is entitled to funding for one economy domestic flight per year to attend a face-to-face EC meeting that is held outside their state of residence. EC members are rewarded by the experience they gain and by the knowledge that they have contributed to the activity of ISPO Australia.

#### How do I nominate to serve on the EC?

Complete a nomination form and submit it as requested in this newsletter. If you would like more information about the EC, please contact a current member.

Ms. Margaret Hodge, President, ISPO ANMS

## Join ISPO

Reading this newsletter and want to join ISPO?

Membership is \$159.50 for full members. Students receive a **50% reduction**.

For more information and secure online payment, visit

[www.ispo.org.au](http://www.ispo.org.au)

Members receive the Societies Journal, *Prosthetics and Orthotics International* three times per year, reduced fees at International ISPO events and contribute to ongoing work of the society in our region and abroad.



Contributions from all ISPO members are welcome.

For more information, contact

[secretary@ispo.org.au](mailto:secretary@ispo.org.au).

This newsletter is published 3 times per year. The aim of the newsletter is to update members and associates with ISPO activities and information relevant to Australian professionals working in related fields. This newsletter cannot include commercial material.

For more information about ISPO Activities, visit

[www.ispo.org.au](http://www.ispo.org.au)

Desktop publishing by W. Pryor, Secretary ISPO



## NOMINATION FORM (Please copy if required)

To The Secretary  
ISPO Australia  
PO Box 2095  
Melbourne VIC  
3001 (or fax 03 9479 3742)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ of: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Address)

is nominated to the position of: (tick one)

- PRESIDENT
- VICE PRESIDENT
- SECRETARY
- TREASURER
- COMMITTEE MEMBER

Proposer name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Address)

accept nomination for the executive position indicated above.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

- The proposer, seconder and nominee must all sign the form.
- This nomination form must be received by the Secretary at least 21 days prior to the meeting concerned (late nominations may be accepted at the discretion of the quorum at the AGM)

## PROXY FORM (Please copy if required)

To The Secretary  
ISPO Australia  
PO Box 2095  
Melbourne VIC  
3001 (Or FAX: 03 9479 3742)

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

being a member of the Australian National Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics, hereby appoint:

\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ or failing him/her

\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the annual general meeting of the Society, to be held on the **4th day of November 2005 at 12 NOON, Carlton Crest Hotel, Sydney, NSW.**

and at any adjournment thereof. My proxy is hereby authorised to vote \*in favour of/ \*against the following resolutions.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2005 .....

- A member who is entitled to vote may only appoint another member as his or her proxy. In the event of the member desiring to vote for or against any resolution, he or she should instruct his or her proxy accordingly.
- Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy may vote as he or she thinks fit.