

International Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMIRM)

ISMIRM Strategic Plan: 2004-07

Vision

The ISMIRM aspires to be the premier international society working to promote innovation, development, implementation, and communication of magnetic resonance science in medicine and other related fields.

Mission

ISMIRM is an international, interdisciplinary group united by a common interest in the science, technology and application of magnetic resonance in medicine and related fields. It represents basic and clinical scientists developing new magnetic resonance techniques and applications, clinicians with a strong interest in magnetic resonance science and application, and technologists seeking to improve their understanding of magnetic resonance. The Society serves its membership directly as well as practitioners and their patients, regulatory and governmental agencies, and industry. The Society provides a forum for magnetic resonance science in medicine, fosters the development of new science and its application to health care, communicates new developments in magnetic resonance science, provides a range of educational opportunities, and promotes the field.

Values

ISMIRM is committed to:

- Basic and clinical scientific excellence
- Improving health care
- Encouraging diversity, including multi disciplinary and international participation
- Education

Goals

1. Foster innovation, research and development in basic and clinical magnetic resonance science.
2. Provide high quality educational programs.
3. Develop strategies for effectively serving the international medical magnetic resonance community, while recognizing regional differences.
4. Implement the most effective methods for ISMIRM communications to support interaction, information and education.
5. Develop programs that will promote public awareness and provide consultative expertise on magnetic resonance related issues.
6. Expand ISMIRM and its interactions with individuals and other organizations.
7. Assure that ISMIRM operates in an efficient and effective manner.

Three Year Objectives: 2004-07

An asterisk indicates priority attention for year-one implementation of the strategic plan.

MR = magnetic resonance

Goal 1: Foster innovation, research and development in basic and clinical magnetic resonance science.

- 1.1 Provide an annual meeting and other forums for scientific exchange which identify new frontiers and foster excellence.
- 1.2 Identify threats and develop mechanisms to assure that scientific exchange is maintained.
- 1.3 Improve members' ability to raise research funding.
- 1.4 Develop mechanisms to assure high quality in the selection of work presented.
- 1.5 Develop programs to attract clinicians to MR.
- 1.6 Develop programs that increase the bidirectional exchange between clinicians and basic scientists.

Goal 2: Provide high quality educational programs.

- 2.1 Provide educational programs at basic and advanced levels during the annual meeting.
- 2.2 Provide programs of basic MR education for new entrants, particularly as a means of encouraging participation in ISMRM activities.
- 2.3 Use education as a means of increasing membership and attendance at ISMRM meetings and functions.
- 2.4 Educate members about other fields of emerging relevance to MR.
- 2.5 Continuously examine the Society's methods of providing and delivering educational materials to members.
- 2.6 Develop programs that will make ISMRM pre-eminent in the provision of education concerning advanced and emerging MR in medicine.

Goal 3: Develop strategies for effectively serving the international medical magnetic resonance community, while recognizing regional differences.

- *3.1 Identify and prioritize the needs of established and emerging MR communities.
- 3.2 Plan activities to satisfy the needs of established and emerging MR communities.

- 3.3 Establish and utilize criteria for the allocation of resources to satisfy the needs of established and emerging MR communities.
- 3.4 Establish mechanisms for implementing programs for established and emerging MR communities and identifying funding to support these programs.
- 3.5 Disseminate and communicate programs and activities for established and emerging MR communities.
- 3.6 Evaluate the international outreach program.

Goal 4: Implement the most effective methods for ISMRM communications to support interaction, information and education.

- 4.1 Conduct trials of new methods for education, communication and interaction.
- 4.2 Identify regional communications capabilities, including technology and language.
- 4.3 Optimize appropriate communication choices by program objectives and region.
- *4.4 Make the ISMRM website more dynamic and relevant to members, external bodies and the public.
- 4.5 Create media liaison and publicity mechanisms.
- 4.6 Enable wider access to ISMRM journals.
- *4.7 Re-examine the number, scope and format of ISMRM journals.
- 4.8 Improve the “impact factor” of ISMRM journals.
- 4.9 Review self-publication of ISMRM journals.
- 4.10 Improve bidirectional communications between the ISMRM Board and membership.

Goal 5: Develop programs that will promote public awareness and provide consultative expertise on magnetic resonance related issues.

- 5.1 Promote increased support for basic and clinical MR research and applications.
- 5.2 Provide information to the general public.
- 5.3 Provide expertise and leadership to policy-making bodies.
- 5.4 Investigate the advisability and feasibility of an ISMRM role in professional accreditation.
- 5.5 Record the history of MR.

Goal 6: Expand ISMRM and its interactions with individuals and other organizations.

- 6.1 Provide a framework by which groups interested in emerging research and other themes can achieve their goals within ISMRM.
- 6.2 Provide for the needs of trainees in clinical and basic sciences.
- 6.3 Promote multidisciplinary interactions.
- 6.4 Be the Society of choice for MR modality-oriented professionals.
- 6.5 Engage the corporate world to further mutual goals.
- 6.6 Investigate the feasibility of creating a research and training endowment.
- 6.7 Understand the implications of aggressively increasing the membership of ISMRM.
- 6.8 Increase interactions and coordination with other organizations relevant to scientific exchange and education.

Goal 7: Assure that ISMRM operates in an efficient and effective manner.

- 7.1 Institutionalize the strategic planning process, which plans on a three-year horizon and refreshes that horizon on an annual basis.
- 7.2 Link operations, committee work and the budget to the strategic plan.
- 7.3 Assure that financial and human resources are available and appropriate to implement the strategic plan.
- *7.4 Rationalize the Board and committee structure, roles, responsibilities and accountability against the strategic plan on an annual basis.
- 7.5 Evaluate ISMRM leadership roles, responsibilities and tenures and modify as appropriate.
- 7.6 Implement a leadership development program (including the Society's history, operations and strategic plan) that increases the effectiveness of ISMRM leaders.
- *7.7 Develop guidelines for site selection for the annual meeting.
- 7.8 Develop an ISMRM executive office succession plan.

Implementing the Strategic Plan

1. Assign each Objective in the plan to a specific committee and/or staff.
 - Assigned Objectives are the new charges for each committee (in lieu of presidential charges)
 - Sunset committees without assigned Objectives
 - Committees or staff develop Strategies (the action steps needed) to accomplish the assigned Objective(s). These Strategies define each committee's or staff's approach and anticipated resource needs (dollars, volunteer time, and staff time) for implementing the assigned Objective(s).
2. The Board develops/approves the budget based upon committee/staff requests balanced against resources available. A committee's or staff's approach may need to be modified based upon available resources, and the Board so notifies the committee and staff by the budget approved to support the committee's and staff's work.
3. Committee and staff work is then confined to achieving the assigned Objective(s). New ideas brought forth by committees and staff are set aside and taken up at the time of the annual refreshing (updating) of the Strategic Plan, or after review and approval by the Board.
4. The Board undertakes all its work in the context of the Strategic Plan, even structuring Board meeting agendas on the basis of the Goals (and Objectives where possible).
 - Committee and staff reports to the Board are limited to primarily brief status reports on implementation of the assigned Objectives.
 - Board items that are not of an urgent nature are set aside and taken up at the time of the annual refreshing of the Strategic Plan.
5. Committees and staff are formally engaged in the annual process of refreshing the Strategic Plan to a new three-year horizon each year.

End