

issotl

International Society for the
Scholarship of Teaching & Learning

Annual Report 2019–2020



Mission

The International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Inc. serves faculty members/academics/scientific personnel, academic staff, and students who care about teaching and learning as serious intellectual work. Through building intellectual and collaborative infrastructure, the Society supports the associational life that fosters scholarly work about teaching and learning. The Society provides this support by:

- recognizing and encouraging scholarly work on teaching and learning in each discipline, within scholarly societies and across institutional types,
- promoting cross-disciplinary conversations to create connections and prompt new lines of inquiry,
- facilitating the collaboration of scholars in different countries and the flow of new findings and applications across national boundaries,
- encouraging the integration of discovery, learning, and public engagement, and
- providing leadership in higher education for the support, recognition, review, and appropriate uses of the scholarship of teaching and learning.

www.issotl.com

Message

ISSOTL President 2019–2020

This was a year of transitions, unexpected events, and new beginnings. When we met in Atlanta for the October 2019 ISSOTL Conference, “SoTL Without Borders: Engaged Practices for Social Change,” our minds were on social advocacy, diversity, and inclusivity as we were challenged by Kasturi Behari-Leak in her opening keynote, “I Am Because You Are: Opening Up Borders for Inclusion of Self and Other,” and “SoTL as Public Scholarship” as proposed by Nancy Chick’s closing keynote with a call for “going public” in new ways. In our full day board meeting just prior to the conference, we began the process of considering the implications of our newly developed strategic plan, and also started redesigning our committee structure with an underpinning notion of “many hands – strengthening our Society.” ISSOTL has grown, and after many years of depending on the hard work of a handful of devoted members, we decided to shift our approach to spread the load and intentionally pursue inclusivity and alternative voices, while at the same time simplifying structures. This process took



the balance of the year, and our new structure was implemented July 1, 2020.

Of course, a central feature of the year almost too obvious to mention is that 2020 brought the global COVID-19 pandemic. As an international society, this affected our members around the world in myriad ways. A difficult but necessary decision was made to cancel the planned 2020 conference in Perth, Australia. We continued our work on restructuring the committees, and sent out a call to hire an executive director. We knew that these changes would help the society in focusing our energy in productive, new directions, and bring in a much wider group of voices from the larger society into its leadership and discussions.

It was an honour to serve my year as President of ISSOTL, and I thank the members of the Board, as well as all of the ISSOTL membership, for your service and engagement. It was truly a pleasure.

—MICHELLE YEO
President 2019–2020
Mount Royal University

2019–2020 Year at a Glance

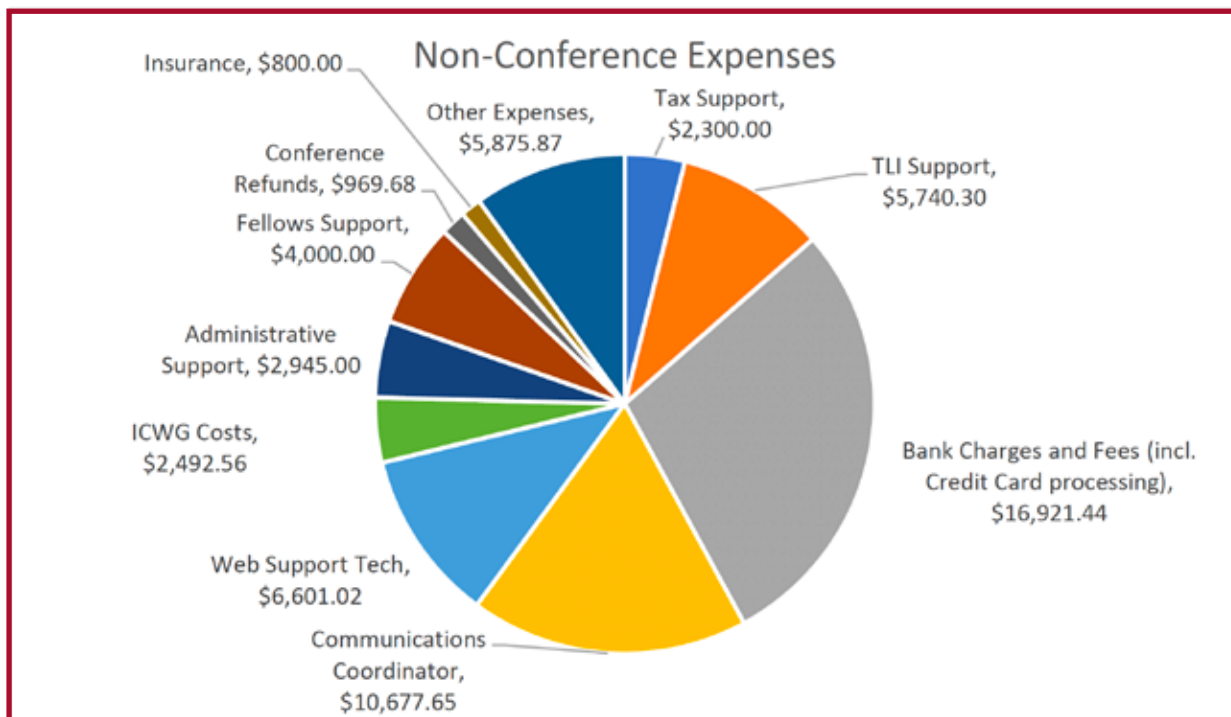
- Completion of work on transitioning our website and internal systems
- ISSOTL 2019 Conference, October 9–12, in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, “SoTL Without Borders: Engaged Practices for Social Change”
- Celebration of the inaugural cohort of the ISSOTL Fellows
- Membership endorsement of the ISSOTL Strategic Plan and beginning of implementation phase
- Announcement of 2020 cohort of ISSOTL Fellows
- Restructuring of the ISSOTL standing committees
- Partnership with SoTL–China on their August 2020 virtual conference
- Hiring of an Executive Director (with an Administrative Centre team)

Financial Overview

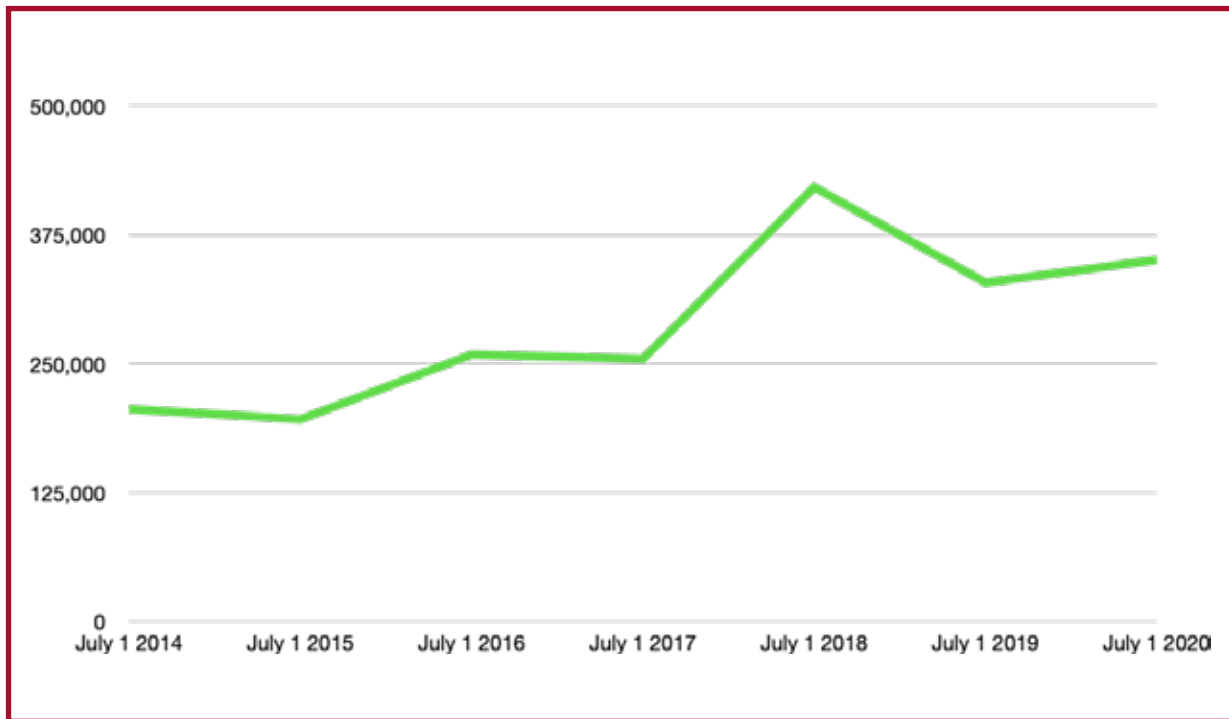
The fiscal year 2019 to 2020 was interrupted by the COVID pandemic. This did not have a large impact on our 2019–20 finances, but is expected to have a larger impact in the current fiscal year.

In terms of revenue and expenses, we saw an operating account increase of \$19,340 in the fiscal year, plus an increase of \$2,816 in our fixed term investment. Our operating revenue for the year was \$306,654.52, most of which was a combination of membership revenue and conference registrations.

The fiscal year had \$287,314.82 in expenses, the majority of which (\$227,991) were conference related.

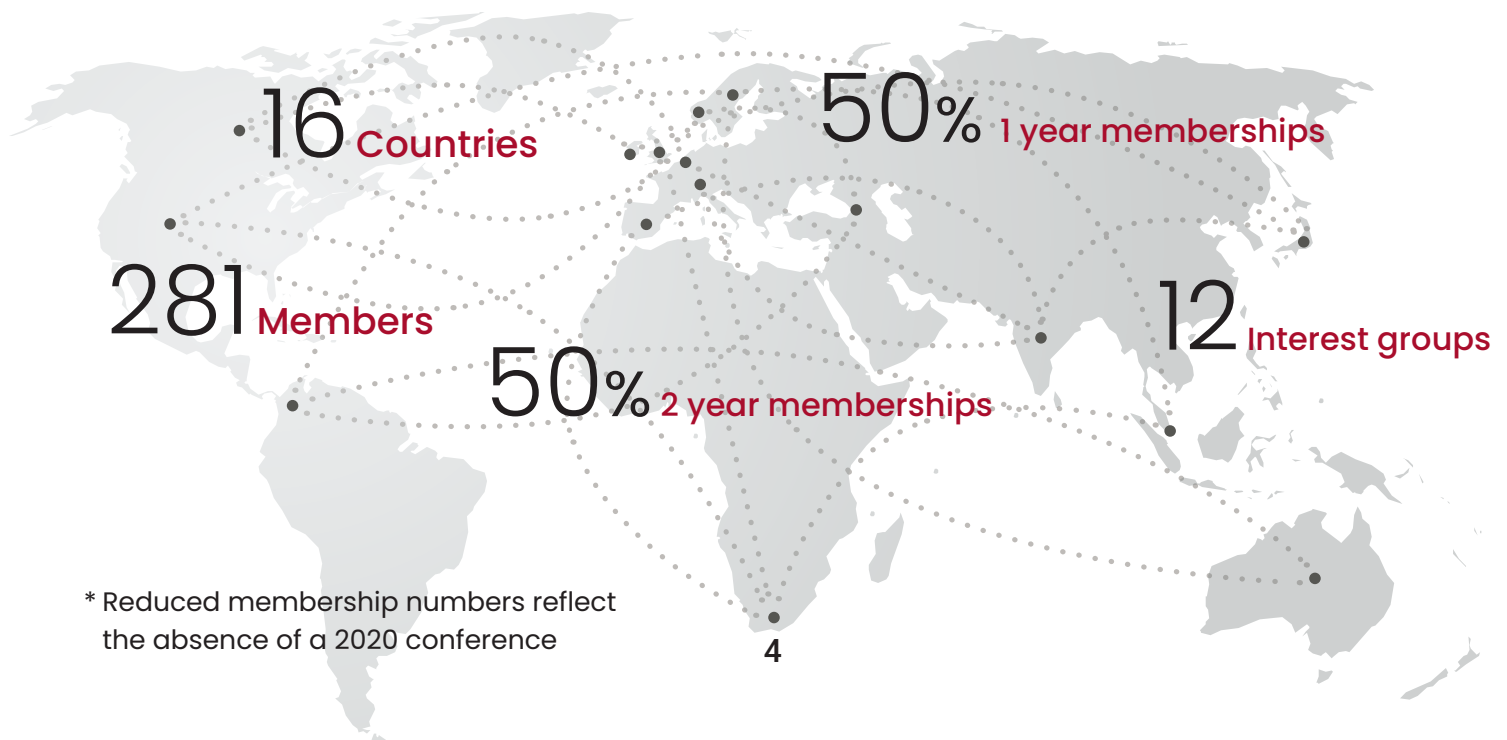


The following chart shows the financial position of the organization over time.



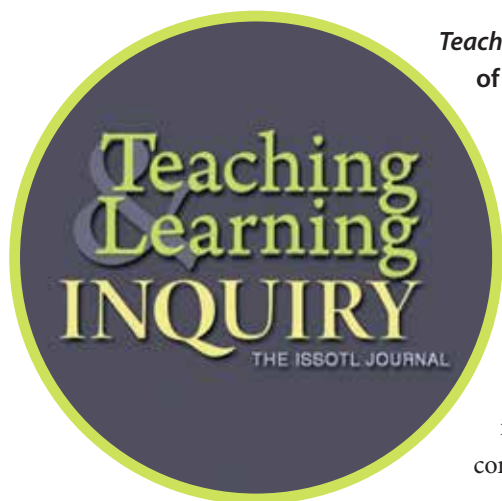
Looking forward, the fiscal year 2020-21 will see major changes. First, we were unable to hold our 2020 conference, which has a direct impact on our income. Second, partly as a result of the conference cancellation, we also anticipate a slight decline in membership and the associated revenue. Finally, this year we contracted for administrative services from AOR Solutions, which will also impact on our 2020-21 finances.

Membership Highlights*



* Reduced membership numbers reflect the absence of a 2020 conference

Our Journal



Teaching & Learning Inquiry (TLI) is the flagship journal of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL).

TLI represents one of the world's most active organizations in the scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) with a global readership of the field's leading thinkers and those pursuing SoTL at every level. *TLI* has earned a strong reputation for scholarly excellence; for valuing diverse approaches to understanding teaching, learning, and SoTL; and for encouraging creative as well as conventional ways to share that understanding.

Published twice a year, *TLI* features original research and commentary on SoTL. *TLI* features insightful research, theory, commentary, and other scholarly works that document or facilitate investigations of teaching and learning in higher education.

TLI values quality and variety in its vision of SoTL. The journal showcases the breadth of the interdisciplinary field of SoTL in its explicit methodological pluralism, its call for traditional and new genres, and its international authorship from across career stages. *TLI* thus welcomes submissions from all disciplines, research traditions and perspectives related to teaching, learning, and SoTL.

96,434

downloads since 2016

2,140

citations

OPEN ACCESS & INDEXED

ISSN 2167-4787 *TLI* is a member of Crossref and is indexed by Google Scholar, DOAJ, EBSCO Education Source, EBSCO Discovery Service, ERIC, MLA International Bibliography, ProQuest, and Scopus.

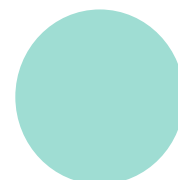
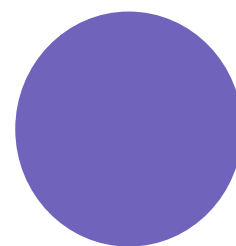
CO-EDITORS

Nancy Chick (US)
Katarina Mårtensson (SE)

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

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<http://tljournal.com/>



195

articles published by

419

authors from

173

institutions in

19

countries



2020 ISSOTL Fellows



Launched in 2019, the ISSOTL Fellows Program is, at its core, a community of champions, allies, and advocates for SoTL, a community committed to engaging and mentoring emerging SoTL scholars. The Program benefits all members of ISSOTL and has an impact on the landscape of higher education internationally by enhancing opportunities for collaboration across regions and disciplines, facilitating mentorship opportunities, and increasing awareness and value of SoTL work for Fellows and for SoTL more generally.

2020 ISSOTL Fellows

- Michelle J. Eady, Associate Professor, University of Wollongong, Australia
- Mandy Frake-Mistak, Educational Developer, York University, Canada
- Melanie Hamilton, EdD Candidate, Western University & Educational Development Specialist, Lethbridge College, Canada
- Amrita Kaur, Senior Lecturer (Educational Psychology), Universiti Utara Malaysia, Malaysia
- Hasitha Mahabaduge, Assistant Professor of Physics, Georgia College, USA
- Patrick Maher, Dean of Teaching, Nipissing University, Canada
- Marian McCarthy, Centre for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL), University College Cork, Ireland
- Lucy Mercer-Mapstone, Lecturer in Curriculum, The University of Sydney, Austral
- Jane Pritchard, Principal Lecturer, Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom

2020-2021 Board Members

- Nancy Chick (Co-President)
- Chng Huang Hoon (Co-President)
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- Nicole Galante (Student Vice President)
- Yvonne Macrae (Treasurer)
- Mary Ann Danielson (Secretary)

Looking Forward

2020–2021 Key Initiatives



NANCY CHICK

Co-President 2020–2021
Rollins College



CHNG HUANG HOON

Co-President 2020–2021
National University of Singapore

Responding to the Strategic Plan

On July 1, 2020, ISSOTL implemented key recommendations for “Strengthening Our Society” from ISSOTL’s 2019 Strategic Plan, culminating in the following:

1. a restructuring of ISSOTL’s standing committees. Each committee’s charge aligns with key elements of ISSOTL’s mission and Strategic Plan action items, initiates a “many hands” approach for sustainable participation, and offers increased pathways for ISSOTL members to get involved. Additionally, a new Inclusion Subcommittee of the Board and representation on all of the standing committees elevates ISSOTL’s commitment to being a more inclusive Society.
2. the hiring of a team of professional staff as ISSOTL’s Administrative Centre to support the ongoing functions of the Society, including communications with and among members, administrative support for the Board, bookkeeping, and member management.

By aligning the Society’s committees with its goals and providing greater support for its day-to-day operations, ISSOTL is better prepared to focus on Strategic Plan’s themes of “Diversity and Inclusion” and “Promoting and Advancing SoTL,” as well as growing its membership (the remaining action item from the “Strengthening Our Society” theme).

In addition to distributing the “Diversity and Inclusion” action items across relevant committees, the Board and its Inclusion Subcommittee developed the following questions to guide self-reflection and action in the work of the Society:

- Who should be at the table in this conversation, and who is not currently represented?
How can we bring in those voices?
- In this work, whose positionality/experience/culture/disciplinary expertise/physical location/etc. are we privileging?
How can we make different choices?
- How are we being (or how can we be) transparent about our processes?

► To read the Strategic Plan, go to www.issotl.com/strategic-plan/

Convening without the Conference

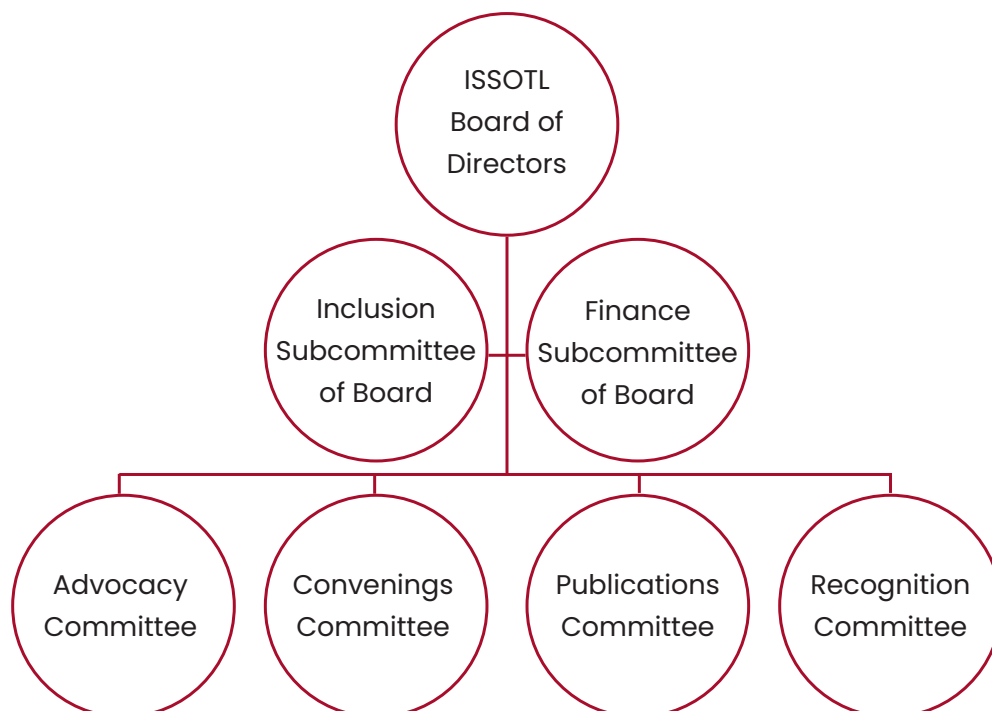
Due to the unprecedented global pandemic that has so badly affected all of us in so many ways, like many organizations, ISSOTL had to reluctantly cancel the highly valued annual ISSOTL Conference in 2020. However, membership and continued scholarly engagement are extremely important to all of us, and for this reason, we have made plans to host an event in February called “ISSOTL Connect 2021” that showcases the global diversity of SoTL work. For details, visit www.issotl.com/issotl21/ We look forward to seeing many ISSOTL members online in February 2021! In the meantime, please stay well, and keep in touch with one another.

Re-engaging the Interest Groups

We are eager to re-energize and support ISSOTL’s Interest Groups, member-led groups organized around shared interests that wish to be recognized with a formal relationship within ISSOTL. IGs provide newcomers with collegial pathways into ISSOTL and sustain the ongoing engagement of their members. IG members establish connections and conversations around the world, share scholarship and learning across broad networks, support the organization of scholarship projects and other activities, and take up meaningful initiatives together.

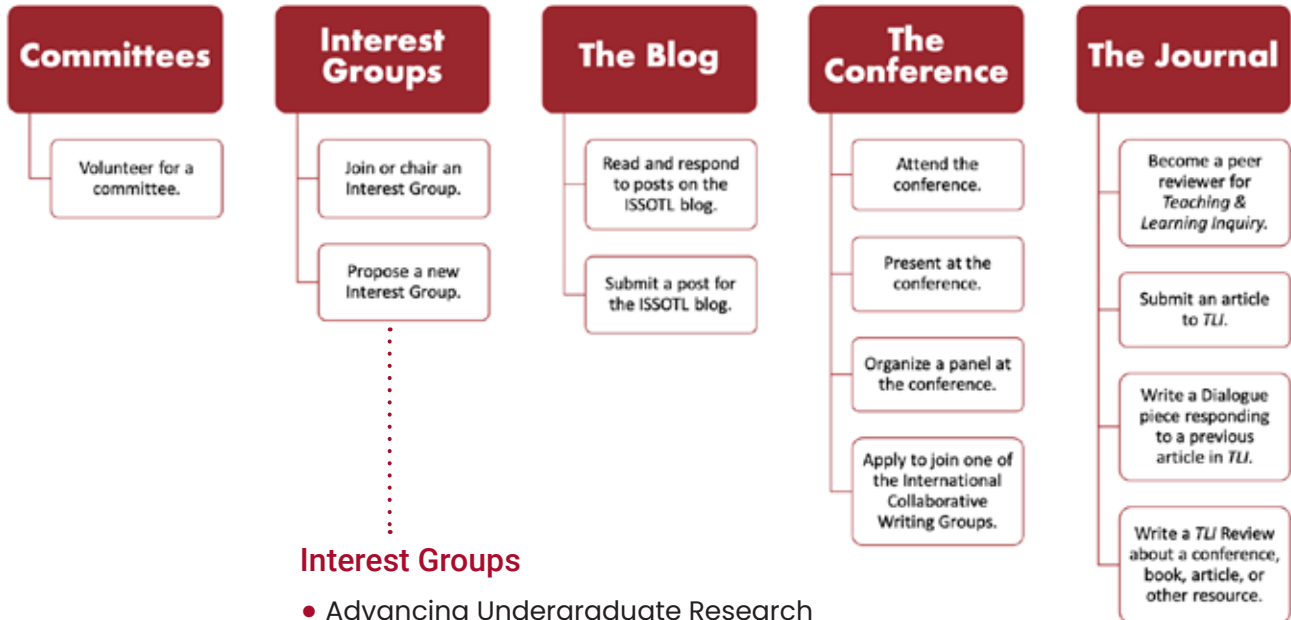
We are sorting out our online systems that connect ISSOTL members’ expressions of interests with the relevant Interest Group chairs, who can then welcome and orient their new members. We are also hoping to raise Interest Groups’ visibility within the Society, and beyond the Society as relevant. And of course the Interest Groups always welcome new members, and ISSOTL always welcomes applications for new Interest Groups. You’ll find the current groups and the application process for new ones under “Get Involved” on the ISSOTL website.

—NANCY CHICK & CHNG HUANG HOON
Co-Presidents 2020–2021



New ISSOTL Members

Ways You Can Get Involved



Interest Groups

- Advancing Undergraduate Research
- Arts & Humanities
- Decoding the Disciplines
- General Education
- Information Literacy
- ISSOTL in History
- National Teaching Fellows & Institutional Teaching Award Winners
- Pedagogy and Research for Online and Blending Teaching and Learning
- Problem-Based Learning
- Scholarship of Leading
- Sociology
- Student Engagement & Co-Inquiry

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