Terms of reference
SIOP Young Investigators Network

Role of the SIOP Young Investigators Network
The SIOP Young Investigator (YI) Network represents the interests of young investigators in the field of paediatric oncology. It provides a platform for young investigators to develop research and scientific skills, and facilitates an international research network with other young investigators in paediatric oncology.

Definition of a SIOP Young Investigator
A SIOP Young Investigator is:

• Any SIOP member or associate member under the age of 40 years*
• From any clinical or academic background
• No postgraduate qualifications necessary

(Note: if the potential YI is able to demonstrate that they have been away from the field, for example, for a career break, carers or parental leave or long-term sick leave, this will be taken into account when considering the upper age limit)

Goals and objectives
In close collaboration with the SIOP Executive board, the SIOP Young Investigators Network aims to:

• Integrate the interests of young investigators within the SIOP objectives
• Provide opportunities for networking and collaboration amongst international young investigators, either online or in person
• Reach out to other young investigators to promote active involvement of young investigators in SIOP, including through collaboration with other SIOP committees and working groups
• Develop and implement sessions in the SIOP congresses directed towards young investigators from a diverse range of backgrounds

Structure of the Young Investigator Board
• Meet regularly (at least once a month)
• Must be an “active” SIOP YI Member (e.g., be an active member of a committee) for at least one year to be nominated for a Board Member position
• Board will include not less than 3 and no more than 6 members
• Board Members may be nominated by any of the SIOP YI members
• Term: Three years; May serve additional years if desired and agreed on by the remaining Board Members, which may be consecutive (maximum of 5 years)
• In the event that a Board member becomes unresponsive, attempts will be made to mediate, a request will be made in writing by Chair for Board member to contribute (attend calls, answer emails etc.). If this is not possible, the Board member will be asked to step down by the Chair.
• The Chair of the YI Board is chosen by the YI Board, after serving on the board for at least 1 year. The term of the Chair is 2-4 years, and must comply with the maximum 5 years term of the Board Member. The Chair is responsible for organising Board meetings, and for ensuring that the above goals and objectives are met.
• In the unlikely event that no suitable candidate for the chair is identified then the currently sitting chair could be reinstated for a further term, provided this is following a unanimous,
anonymous vote of remaining board members, and is done with the agreement of the main SIOP board.

Structure of the Young Investigator committees

- Each made up of 3-6 SIOP YI Members, including one chair and one co-chair
- Any member can participate in SIOP YI committees if they wish
- Meet regularly, dependent upon the requirements of the committees (at least 6 times per year)
- The chair of each sub-committee must be a Board Member who will represent the committee in Board meetings

Young Investigator Membership

- Must have SIOP membership
- Members can participate in SIOP YI committees if they wish
- May bring up suggestions to the SIOP YI-NET Board if they wish