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I have been mentored by and work with best of the best in clinical pharmacology and Pharmacometrics. I would like to pay it forward.

After the recent demise of the award-winning writer, Toni Morrison, I started browsing through her work and came across this powerful quote – *"I tell my students, 'When you get these jobs that you have been so brilliantly trained for, just remember that your real job is that if you are free, you need to free somebody else. If you have some power, then your job is to empower somebody else. This is not just a grab-bag candy game'".* I have a passion to pay it forward, and in our field of Pharmacometrics, I would like to do that making our community more accessible. According to me, this can be achieved by

- democratizing and innovating in tools and education
- making our community more inclusive and diverse with respect to domains
- promoting a healthy environment for collaborations and discussions
- creating platforms to incentivize innovation and entrepreneurial skills

ISoP should create a platform that allows the community to collectively address these goals and challenges rather than working on such goals itself. I've been involved in multiple efforts that facilitate one or many of these objectives both from within and outside the ISoP organization.

I served as the ISoP Education Committee Chair from 2015-2018 and worked hard to bring new initiatives. My tenure as the ISoP Chair of the Education Committee was focused on allowing scientists to contribute back to the community. To facilitate this,

- I started the Pharmacometrics Study Group – <https://isop-phmx.github.io/studyGroup/>. The goal of this study group was to encourage folks of different expertise to step up and talk about their work, their expertise and showcase their skillset, but while doing it under their own name rather than under that of an organization. I created a YouTube based platform that allowed contributors to deliver webinars and lectures under their own YouTube account and in turn, ISoP curated these webinars. This self-managed online webinar platform to host tutorials/workshops/lectures generated more than 12,000 YouTube views in just one year.
- In the widely popular pre-print server, [Biorxiv](#), I created a channel specific to drug development and clinical therapeutics (#ddct) where scientists can post their pre-print versions before submission to a peer-reviewed journal. <https://connect.biorxiv.org/relate/content/52>
- I currently serve as a steering committee member for the SXP-SIG and the core team member of the ASPCT strategic planning task force.
- I contribute and serve as the core member for the Population Approach Group of India (PAGIN)

I will foster and develop fruitful collaborations with other domain experts that can help the ISoP community innovate. I personally have been involved in such collaborations such as:

- Bringing the experts of Julia Language and applied mathematics into Pharmacometrics – I served as the chair of Julia Con 2019 that was held in Baltimore - <https://juliacon.org/2019/>
- Initiative for Pediatric Drug and Device Development (iPD3) with UCSF – <http://www.ipd3.org/>

- Health Analytics Collective with MIT, MMS and Julia Computing – <http://bit.ly/hackrwe>

Such external collaborations to foster innovation come at a cost. I look forward to working with the ISoP board to create a mechanism to fund innovation in Pharmacometrics and related fields, as traditionally there are few to no federal grants available for innovation and entrepreneurship. While funding is important, mentorship and resource support is critical, and I plan to work with my peers to facilitate this.

As a member of the ISoP board, I will – democratize tools and education, and collaborate to innovate.