



**April 2018**

**Dear IHLA Members,**

The International Health Literacy Association's (IHLA's) future depends on the robust participation of diverse Interest Groups and Divisions, which are introduced in this letter. Please help envision - and join - one or more Interest Groups and Divisions in 2018!

### **Call to Action**

Overall, Divisions and Interest Groups are self-initiated by members based on topics of common interest in health literacy. For example, members may want to form Interest Groups or Divisions devoted to topics such as (examples only): Health Literacy and Public Health; Health Literacy and Oral Health; Better Pharmaceutical Labels; Plain Language and Improved Patient Materials; Health Literacy and Health Education; Health Literacy and Clinical Quality Improvement; Health Literacy Quantitative Methods; Health Literacy Qualitative Methods.

The creation of Interest Groups and Divisions provides an immediate way for you to be involved in IHLA and to tailor your participation to match personal interests. The creation of Interest Groups and Divisions additionally enables IHLA members to continuously rejuvenate the association to ensure its continuity and relevance. As new ideas and interests emerge, new Interest Groups and Divisions can be voluntarily formed, revised, or retired.

**The focus and range of Divisions and Interest Groups depends on  
your interest and imagination.**

In accordance to the IHLA Constitution and Bylaws, Interest Groups are composed of 15 or more IHLA members. Divisions are composed of 30 or more IHLA members. One of the benefits of becoming an Interest Group and Division is the right to plan research and practice sessions at future IHLA Global Health Literacy Summits. Interest Groups and Divisions may collaborate and combine sessions to increase their programming slots. Hence, a future IHLA Global Health Literacy Summit will feature an array of competing Divisional/Interest Group programs with each Division or Interest Group managing their own health literacy research or practice

sessions. Most of the programming and invitations to present during IHLA's Global Health Literacy Summit will come from the de-centralized Interest Groups and Divisions within IHLA.

In addition, the creation of Interest Groups and Divisions means small groups of members can tailor IHLA summits and other meetings to match their professional interests. In other professional associations with IHLA's organizational structure, Interest Groups and Divisions often create publications to share information among members, and sometimes publish their own academic journals

### **How to Get Started!**

To get started, please pick a topic or area of interest and informally explore if other IHLA members wish to form an Interest Group or Division related to that topic. The members of the proposed group, then, should inform IHLA's Secretary General, Sabrina Kurtz-Rossi, about efforts to initiate an Interest Group or Division. Please consider the website as a vehicle to publicize an effort to gain members [www.i-hla.org/join-us](http://www.i-hla.org/join-us)

We hope you will start to form Interest Groups and Divisions immediately! If you have any questions about Interest Groups and Division please contact me at [logrob@gmail.com](mailto:logrob@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

Rob Logan  
IHLA Executive Board Member

P.S. If you are interested in committee work, we also have a call to action for Standing Committee members. See Standing Committee Recruitment Letter <http://www.i-hla.org/members/>.