



26 May 2011

Dear Friend of ISPE,

It is with disappointment that I must inform you that Bob Best has resigned his position as President and CEO effective December 31, 2011. Fortunately, he will be with us and actively involved in the selection and transition of our new President and CEO. During these next months, Bob will work closely with senior staff in the transition of his operational duties, serve as an “ambassador” for ISPE groups globally, and work with key groups such as the International Leadership Forum and regulatory authorities to develop important projects vital to the industry and ISPE. Further, he has agreed to a consultancy contract through the end 2012 which will enable him to take on several projects that are critical to the initial implementation and success of our strategic plan.

As you are no doubt aware, Bob has served this organization well for the last 26 years. When Bob took over as Executive Director in 1985, ISPE had only 500 members, and but a few were based outside the U.S. Today under Bob’s stewardship, ISPE has reached a membership of 25,000, with members from 90 countries. ISPE now has a network of affiliates in 40 countries and chapters throughout the USA. Brussels, Singapore, Shanghai and Beijing are now home to ISPE offices. The long list of Bob’s accomplishments also includes his negotiations with senior industry leaders and the US FDA on the important document series known as the “Baseline® Guides”. This is a truly an amazing transformation made possible by the work ethic, knowledge, and commitment that Bob has consistently applied over his long tenure with ISPE.

On a more personal level, since celebrating his 61<sup>st</sup> birthday recently, Bob tells me he is considering continuing his passion for writing – he has already written two books -- and exploring other projects that will no doubt benefit from his seemingly boundless energy and enthusiasm.

Certainly, we are a better organization for having Bob at the helm; and, on behalf of the society as well as individually, I wish to express great appreciation for his unparalleled service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andre Walker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andre Walker  
2011 ISPE Board Chair