# Proposals & Topics

To: NQA Board of Directors

From: CJ Rhoads, Taijiquan Enthusiasts Organization & NQA Research & Education

Date: July 25, 2013

RE: Several Things

Although we have only a very short time to discuss things, and I know how extremely busy the NQA board members are, I would like to take a few minutes of your 2013 board meeting to get your reaction to a number of proposals.

Proposal #1: Establish Special Interest Groups (SIGS) or Birds of a Feather Groups (BOF)

Taijiquan Enthusiasts Organization voted at our last board meeting

Discuss Certification - mailing to physicians, offering to put them in touch with certified health therapists who use Tai Chi, Qigong, and other integrative health practices.

Discuss Research - establishing a network of researchers and publishing American Medical Association Approved, Double Blind Controlled research on integrative health practices using the methods described in my article.

International Research Agenda & Terminology Clarification (Timeline for completion: December 2014)

Task Force identified platform for terminology clarification (Wikipedia) and is contemplating starting a WIKIprojects to invite partnering organizations to join in modifying and maintaining the WIKIpedia sites. (December 2013)

Would like clarification from Board on whether or not they want to be involved with WIKIpedia page modifications. International Research Agenda and Terminology Clarification.

Would like support from Publications/Editorial and IT regarding plans for doing our own NQA\_RE Website. Does NQA want to link to it from their website? Alternative, give us ability to add pages to NQA site.

Would like clarification and/or support from Board and Committee on Committees regarding process and parameters for collaborative relationships.

Would like clarification from Certification Committee on positioning of NQA as a Professional Organization certifying (but not teaching) instructors and researchers. Involvement in GroupsAndEvents.com?

Would like clarification and/or support from Board, Membership, Publications/Editorial, Conference, and Outreach regarding plans to attract academics and researchers to become members.

Would like clarification from Board, Membership, Publications/Editorial regarding role in the International Taijiquan Symposium 2014.

Projected non-monetary benefits based on current activities/project: (How is the work of this committee furthering the mission of the NQA?)

If we are able to start attracting academics and researchers to NQA as professional members, the financial impact would be dramatic. Academics generally pay to present (rather than getting paid to present), and are used to paying top dollar to attend well-respected academic conferences with peer-reviewed juried proceedings and journal publications. Research oriented conferences and symposiums generally include 5-10 minute research presentations and poster presentations for hundreds of academics and researchers. If we gain well-respected academic status, members will pay $500-750 in order to register and present on top of the $350 to become members. Generally academic institutions pay for the expenses and attendance for the members, making the cost less of an issue.

The downside is that some of our less-academically-rigorous members may be impacted negatively by increased standards and control [necessary to gain the respect necessary to obtain academic status]. Degrees and formal accreditation will replace following and client lists as qualification.

The upside may be national recognition of Qigong as a cost-effective medical modality and an increase in physician-supported Qigong prescriptive services, as well as a dramatic increase in the type and quality of research available that demonstrates, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that Qigong can be more effective or less expensive than current treatments for chronic ailments.

Only the Board can determine if this is the direction we want to go, and whether or not this direction would support the mission of Enhancing and nourishing the quality of life through Qigong for all. Here is the financial estimate:

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| **Description** | **Units** | **Estimated Budget - Annual** |
| (New Category) Research Membership | $ 350 |  |
| Number of Members | 400 | $140,000 |
| Number of Presentations at Conference/Symposiums | 250 |  |
| Cost of registration for academic members | $500 | $125,000 |
| Cost of Infrastructure for Peer Reviewed Proceedings/Publications | $75,000 | -$75,000 |
| Additional administrative support | $50,000 | -$50,000 |
| **Annual Financial Impact Within 5 Years** |  | **$140,000** |