



European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES)

Association sans but lucratif (ASBL)

www.estesonline.org

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Message from the General Secretary

Dear colleagues and friends,

First, I wish you a happy and healthy New Year 2019 and hope that all your personal and professional plans can be realized.

We can look back on a very successful 2018. During the last year we discussed in the general assembly, advisory, and executive board how to go on with our society after having formed a new society out of the European Trauma Society and the European Association of Trauma and Emergency Surgery 10 years ago. It was a very fruitful discussion and several steps forward have been taken. We established a scientific committee where members from the executive board, advisory board, and sections, together with the local organizing committee, organize our yearly congress. This year, the congress will take place from May 5–7 in Prague. The reason for establishing such a committee was to make sure that the experience from earlier congresses does not get lost and that the local organizing committee does not have to invent the wheel again every year. I am sure that we will have a very interesting and exciting congress in Prague.

Last year we had to say goodbye to our professional congress organizer Mondial from Vienna. I want to say thank you very much to Florian Fehringer, Denise Lembäcker and the whole Mondial team for ten years of respectful and reliable cooperation. We are very happy that Manuela Walland will stay with us as our association manager in her own company. She will coordinate the membership registration, membership fees and our website. Furthermore, she will support the executive board, advisory board, sections, and committees with all their activities.

In the spring of 2018 we started a procedure to find a new professional congress organizer. We had contact with six companies and after discussing their bids we decided to go on with Conventus. This is a German professional congress organizer with great experience in organizing international medical congresses. In September and October, they took over all activities from Mondial. Furthermore, Conventus will take care of the industrial sponsorship of our congress. The organizing of the congress and the sponsorship is in one hand. We think that this will be an improvement. Now we have a clear address for our industrial partners. Conventus takes over the financial risk of the congress and will pay yearly a lump sum of €30,000 to our society. Without the financial concerns of recent years we can focus again on our core business to improve trauma and emergency surgery in Europe. Because of this new situation the Executive Board decided to go on with organizing our congress every year in another country. ECTES 2020 will take place in Oslo, Norway and 2021 in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

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In 2019 the Albanian and British Trauma Societies and Medical Response to Major Incidences and Disasters (MRMI) became new institutional members of our society. Furthermore, I am happy that the Turkish Association of Trauma and Emergency Surgery and the Hellenic Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery will stay as institutional members. Our society is still growing. Now we have 34 institutional and 922 individual members.

The former American Secretary of State Henry Kissinger mentioned in the 1970s that Europe has no telephone number and if we have a look at the political situation in Europe today maybe he is still right with his comment. Our former president and honorary member Ari Leppäniemi changed this quote in “ESTES has to become the telephone number for trauma and emergency surgery in Europe” and I am sure that he is right. Let us work together on this goal.

Klaus W. Wendt
ESTES General Secretary



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Report of ESTES Congress Grant Winner Julia Roberts Coleman



“Bringing the Light: a Young Surgeon’s Perspective of the European Congress for Trauma and Emergency Surgery”

The room was full, the poised attention in the silent room was palpable and there was a sense that something big would be happening soon. This was the feeling in the auditorium of the Palacio de Congresos de Valencia at the Opening Ceremony of the 2018 19th European Congress for Trauma and Emergency Surgery. The theme, “Bringing the Light”, seemed appropriate.

I had just spent the day enlightened by presentations on the newest resuscitation strategies in trauma and innovation in the ever-evolving field of emergency surgery, and now was transfixed by an authentic flamenco performance under the spotlights of the presentation stage. This was my first conference in Europe and certainly a memorable one.

For the last ten years of my life, I knew I wanted to be a surgeon and early on in my pre-medical training, I soon knew that my dream was to become a trauma surgeon. I graduated from Elon University in 2010 with a pre-medical Bachelor’s in Science degree in Biology. Upon graduation, I pursued a Master’s in Public Health from the Ohio State University, specializing in Health Behavior and Health Promotion. I then went on to earn my Medical Degree from University of Toledo. During medical school, I instantly developed a passion for surgery and specifically trauma surgery. I felt the surgeon embodied the all-encompassing physician: one who understood the physiology of disease as well the anatomy and pharmacology of its treatment. I was attracted to the work up, management and surveillance of surgical disease, but also to the intimate patient relationships associated with surgery. As my mentors dogmatically shared, “A chance to cut is a chance to cure.”

For residency, I was thrilled with the opportunity to train at Denver Health Medical Center, an affiliated hospital of University of Colorado. This training has affirmed my passion for and future in Trauma Surgery and Surgical Critical Care and guided me into the Colorado Trauma Research Lab, working under my mentor Dr. Ernest Eugene Moore. My work has centered around the topic of trauma-induced coagulopathy (TIC) and specifically, possible mediators of fibrinolytic shutdown. This has involved national and international collaborations, interdisciplinary projects and conferences across the country. Though I have had the opportunity to present at national conferences, I had yet to present at or attend an international conference and so, I was thrilled when my project on the effects of hypertonic saline on TIC was accepted for presentation at ECTES.

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For me, I saw ECTES as a chance to move my career forward and as an incredible professional opportunity – not just to present my own work, but to network with international partners in the field of Trauma Surgery, identify mentors during a crucial time in my training and educate myself further on the academic topics of Trauma Surgery from international voices. I am pleased to report this conference accomplished just that, confirming my passion for Trauma Surgery, allowing me to establish warm professional and personal relationship with Trauma Surgeons from around the world and inspiring me to continue pursuing projects in basic and clinical science.

ECTES was a striking experience due to the breadth of topics and the variety of presenter backgrounds—from military to orthopedic to general trauma, the diversity of the audience led to exciting and engaged conversations.

On the first day of the conference, I was thrilled to see the opening presentations by some of the great trauma surgeons from my own country, Dr. Demetrios Demetriades and Dr. Juan Carlos Puyana, on prioritization in the management of critically injured patients. This set the tone for the conference in that I knew I would be hearing about great topics, from great presenters. The first day also included presenting my own work at a bustling, interactive poster session and then receiving the ECTES Travel Grant. The whole day was a huge honor and I felt humbled to be in the presence of so many trauma surgeons on the cutting edge of the latest research.

On the second day, I felt right at home in the morning session on Strategies in Bleeding, hearing about the novel management and resuscitation strategies from around the world in management trauma and TIC. The morning also included an interesting session on Pelvic Fracture management. Unlike conferences in my own country, I am not used to sharing conferences with colleagues in orthopedics and was thrilled to do so at ECTES, as many of my own interdisciplinary projects have involved the department of orthopedic trauma. For the third and final day, I was intrigued by the various presentations on geriatric trauma, a topic with increasing relevance in my country and beyond.

Finally, the Closing Ceremony was a particular delight, as my colleague Dr. Gregory Stettler received an award for his presentation on his work challenging the traditional time to use thawed plasma, given preserved factor activity beyond 14 days.

Overall, this conference was one of the most memorable professional and personal experiences of my residency. Not only was I exposed to an incredible conference, but I came to know many incredible clinicians in a beautiful new city. I left this conference feeling invigorated by the beacon of light this gathering assembled, illuminating the great progress and great potential in the realm of basic and clinical science around trauma and emergency surgery. I am already counting the days to Prague in 2019!

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DO YOU ALSO WANT TO BE CONGRESS GRANT WINNER?

Are you going to attend the 20th European Congress of Trauma and Emergency Surgery taking place in Prague, Czech Republic (May 5–7, 2018)?

Would you like to win a travel grant of EUR 1,000?

Do you fulfill the criteria?

If your answer to all questions above is „Yes“, seize this chance and apply now!

The prerequisites are:

- Age below 35 (date of congress is decisive)
- Specialist or Specialist-in-Training in Trauma and Emergency Surgery
- Submission and presentation of an accepted abstract
- Documented scientific activities
- Submission of the required documents (letter of intent, CV, list of publications, letter of recommendation)
- Short written report about the congress after the event
- Individual member of ESTES or intention to become an individual member of ESTES

The application form can be downloaded on the ESTES website (Education) after notification of accepted abstracts has been sent out.

To apply for a grant, please return the filled-out application form and all required documents to the ESTES Administrative Office: office@estesonline.org



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Announcements

Upcoming related congresses & courses

Emergency Surgery Course

February 1–2, 2019
Milan, Italy

MRMI Basic International Course

February 21–23, 2019
Monaco

MRMI Instructor Course

March 12–15, 2019
Stockholm, Sweden

MRMI Basic Course

March 13–15, 2019
Stockholm, Sweden

Emergency Surgery Course

March 18–19, 2019
Graz, Austria

EVTM Workshop

May 2–3, 2019
Örebro, Sweden

EU RU EVT M Meeting

June 6, 2019
St. Petersburg, Russia

Workshop on Visceral Trauma—Definitive Surgery

September 16–17, 2019
Graz, Austria

Pan AM EVT M Symposium

November 17–18, 2019
Denver, Colorado, United States of America

More congresses and courses to be found in the **ESTES events calendar** at
www.estesonline.org

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