Message from the General Secretary

Dear colleagues and friends,

First, I wish you a happy and healthy New Year and hope that all your personal and professional plans will be realised. I am happy to report that 2019 was a very successful year for our society. Looking back, we had a very positive congress in Prague with almost 1000 participants. Our new professional congress organiser, Conventus, took over the organisation of our congress in September 2018 and they did a perfect job in the first year. We were delighted with the dedicated team around Ariane Kärger and Franziska Sri Capello. As I mentioned earlier, Conventus took over the financial risk of the congress, and we earn at least 30,000 EUR every year for activities of our society.

We are looking forward to our next congress in Oslo, Norway in April. Tina Gaarder and Carlos Mesquita will coordinate the preparation of the programme. In November, the scientific committee met in Frankfurt, and the result is an exciting program with all facets of trauma and acute surgery. Last year Juliane Schönau took over the congress organisation from Ariane Kärger.

Furthermore, ESTES has organised scientific sessions at the EFORT Congress in June in Lisbon and the German Orthopaedic and Trauma Congress in October in Berlin. Tina Gaarder and Luke Leenen represented us at the AAST meeting in Dallas, United States. We are happy that we can start cooperation with the International Orthopaedic Trauma Organisation (IOTA). They will come to Oslo for a scientific session about pelvic injuries, and we will organise a session at their first triennial in Amsterdam in December. I hope that this will be the start of fruitful cooperation between our societies.

At the general assembly in Prague, we decided to move with our society from Brussels to Vienna. Together with Manuela Walland, our association manager, we have almost completed this project. For me, it was an eye-opener to see how difficult it is to move a society from one EU country to another. In the future the association management, bank account and fiscal partners are within the same country. Then it will be much more manageable for the ESTES members to pay their membership fee and we are not in financial troubles anymore because it was challenging to get in touch with the Belgium tax authorities.

During the last year, we discussed many times how we could improve our public relations. For colleagues and industrial partners, it is not always clear what we stand for. Trauma and emergency surgeons must know what they get when they become a member of our society. Industrial partners must be convinced that, at our congress, they can get in contact with all partners involved in the emergency and trauma chain. That is why we established a social media group in Prague. Several young members of our society worked together and brought a concept plan. We will discuss this in the executive board and introduce it at the General Assembly in Oslo. Parallel to this, we will start a project on how our society can achieve more visibility for our partners. Together with our association manager Manuela Walland, who has a background in public relations, and our PCO Conventus, we will establish a procedure on how to realise this.
As mentioned earlier, we have to work at our mission to become the telephone number of trauma and emergency surgery in Europe. This is only achievable if many members are participating actively in the initiatives of the sections, committees and working groups. The best possibility to become informed about what is going on in our society is to attend the section meetings and the General Assembly in Oslo. I hope that I will meet many of you there and I am looking forward to a productive year where we can achieve more of our goals together.

Klaus W. Wendt
ESTES General Secretary
European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES)

Announcements

Upcoming related congresses & courses

30 Jahre Minimalinvasive Chirurgie in Österreich
March 19–20, 2020
Linz, Austria

Emergency Surgery Course
April 24–25, 2020
Oslo, Norway

MUSEC Course
April 24–25, 2020
Oslo, Norway

Polytrauma Course
April 25, 2020
Oslo, Norway

ECTES 2020
April 26–28, 2020
Oslo, Norway

International Students’ Championships in Trauma Management Simulation
July 3–5, 2020
Wroclaw, Poland

AAST 2020 Annual Meeting
September 16–19, 2020
Waikoloa/HI, United States of America

56. Jahrestagung der ÖGU “Wirbelsäule”
October 1–3, 2020
Salzburg, Austria

DKOU 2020
October 20–23, 2020
Berlin, Germany

5th World Trauma Congress
October 26–30, 2020
Brisbane, Australia

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