Message from the President

Dear Members, Colleagues and Friends,

The activities of the society advance with the year and projects for the coming year are on the horizon. For a short update with the latest information on ongoing projects and initiatives please see www.estesonline.org for.

Dominik Heim and Reto Babst are preparing the 13th ECTES congress in Basel, May 12–15, 2012. The many submitted abstracts are currently under review; the main program with the satellite symposia and postgraduate courses is now well set. Furthermore, the committee meetings are scheduled parallel on the Sunday morning so that further activities can be discussed and organized at that time. Please keep informed about the next European Congress for Trauma and Emergency Surgery by visiting http://www.estescongress2012.org/ regularly and start arranging your travel plans around our 13th Congress!

In September, I represented ESTES at the Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST) in Chicago. ESTES has a privileged cooperation with the AAST and the two societies work closely together to promote improvement in trauma and emergency surgery. The joint interests of the societies will be further extended, as discussed at a joint international relationship meeting. We look forward to fruitful development in the field.

ESTES organized an International Session during the German Congress for Trauma and Orthopedic Surgery in Berlin, October 26, 2011 (see photo). The session on Life Threatening Blunt Trauma, a European Perspective was well attended and the lectures by our distinguished members presented some of the latest news in the field ESTES covers to the very large congress.

As announced earlier, ESTES is working toward the launch of a European Trauma Registry. In this respect, it is a pleasure to inform you that under the ESTES umbrella and with the invaluable help of Prof. Lefering in Cologne, the major trauma registries in Europe, e.g. DGU_TR, TARN, Scantem, and others have submitted a first-line application called “ETR – European Trauma Registry” under the “European Call for HEALTH 2012.3.2-1: Improving the organization of health service delivery.” We hope for a successful review and will stick with this issue in the future.

Concerning the international role of ESTES, it is worth mentioning that the WHO announced a Decade of Action for Road Safety (DARS) lasting until 2020 (http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action/en/). ESTES will surely be active in this Decade due to its competence in trauma, especially in dealing with accidents in its member countries. As a first step, a survey in our member
countries has been initiated to obtain important data on road safety, pre-hospital care and in-hospital trauma care and quality control. The European Trauma Registry might be one of the goals. All national delegates have been contacted to coordinate the survey in their countries and are asked to stick to the time schedule so that ESTES will make a good impression.

Finally, the society’s journal, the European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery (www.ejtes.springer.com), is doing very well, receiving more and more original contributions as well as “Focus On” theme issues. Please refer to ESTES publications as often as you can in your own work!

I wish you peaceful and joyous Christmas and a successful and healthy New Year!

With best regards

Prof. Dr. Ingo Marzi
President of ESTES 2011/12
Report from the Visceral Trauma Section

Visceral Trauma Section Meeting
Milan, April 30th, 2011

Chair – Luke Leenen (The Netherlands)
Vice Chair – Pantelis Vassiliu (Greece)

At its annual meeting, the Visceral Trauma Section discussed several ideas presented by Pantelis Vassiliu and set priorities for their implementation. The Section proposes to create a specific page on the ESTES website presenting the activities of the Section. The Section has a great interest in disseminating the existing Utstein registry form among its members for use in their countries and institutions. In addition, the Section wants to obtain an overview of prehospital trauma management in its member countries, as it is felt that there are still important differences in prehospital care and transport times. Comparable to what the SSAT has done, the Section wants to conduct a survey on the needs, preferences and expectations of its members. A possible way to enhance membership activity is to appoint members to the Section committee who wish to support the Section with specific projects. Specific trauma training programs such as DSTC should be set up for hospital groups instead of individuals in order to enhance sensibility and competency for the care of trauma patients. Furthermore, the Section aims to develop a core curriculum of skill competences for trauma surgery, and in the middle term also to establish European treatment guidelines for specific visceral trauma problems. Tips and tricks from experienced surgeons could also be collected. Finally, learning games or case simulations could be developed and presented on the ESTES website. The Section members hope that a number of these ideas will be picked up by the board so that some projects can be started soon.

Report on the Education Section activities

Education Section Meeting
Milan, April 30th, 2011

Chair – Boris Hreckovski (Croatia)
Vice Chair – Miriam Rüsseler (Frankfurt)

In their annual meeting, the members welcomed the representatives of ATLS-Europe and of the European Trauma Course (ETC). Dr. Moniz Pereira thanked them for the invitation and stressed the importance of ESTES for the distribution of ATLS ideas within Europe. He mentioned that France became a new ATLS country last year. “Paths” to becoming an ATLS country were discussed. Dr. S. Kuhn from the European Trauma Course Organization (ETCO) presented the ETC course structure. The courses are run by an interdisciplinary faculty, with four different societies providing input. Dr. Kuhn underlined the importance of greater ESTES involvement in the courses. ETC should be seen as a second step for those involved in the surgical part of polytrauma care and as primary team training for the other team members. It was proposed to install the following working groups within the Education Section: European educational curriculum for acute care surgeons; clinical ultrasound for trauma and emergency surgeons; injury prevention; and training for nurses and paramedics. There will be active communication between the members of the Section to bolster its activities and working groups.
European Trauma Course (ETC) in Mainz, Germany
February 27–29, 2012

European Trauma Course
The European Trauma Course (ETC) is a project of the European Trauma Course Organisation (ETCO). The simulation-based hands-on course covers a two-and-a-half days. It is practice oriented and the candidates are led through scenarios of increasing difficulty in small groups.

What’s new?
• The ETC provides training for individuals and teams.
• Lecture time is kept to a minimum and emphasis is placed on hands-on scenario training.
• The ETC meets the requirement of continuing professional education.
• It employs model-based simulators.

ETCO - International Working Group
The ETC undergoes continuous further development by the ETCO, a group of internationally recognised experts from all specialties involved in trauma care. The following organisations are represented in the Working Group and certify the course:

ESTES (European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery)
EuSEM (European Society of Emergency Medicine)
ESA (European Society of Anaesthesiology)
ERC (European Resuscitation Council)
CMC (ETC - Course Management Committee)

Aims
After successful completion of the course the candidates will be able to manage a trauma scenario as team leader, and to understand their role in a trauma team.

Course material
The ETC course manual will be sent to the candidates 4 weeks in advance.

Candidates
Physicians from all specialties and training grades involved in the care of major trauma and experienced nurses and paramedics up to a maximum of 24 participants are welcome.
Assessment
In order to complete the course successfully every candidate must successfully undergo a final assessment on the last day of
the course.

Certificates
Will be issued to the successful candidates at the end of the course.

Dates and Venue
February 27–29, 2012
University Medical Center of the Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz
Langenbeckstr. 1
55131 Mainz, Germany

Fees
ESTES members can register for a reduced course fee of 900 Euro per participant (includes catering during course sessions
and one dinner for participants).

Registration
As the course features instruction in small groups (4:2), the number of candidates is limited to 24. Registration is final when
the course fee has been received by cash transfer and confirmed by email.

Contact
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Background information
Injury is the leading of cause of death and disability in the young. The European Section of the WHO has only recently pointed
out that modern trauma care may decrease the injury mortality rate by 30%. This depends on smooth implementation of
survival-oriented measures from the site of the accident to the place of definitive treatment.

The initial management of trauma patients in the emergency department is a crucial link in this chain, depending on a well
functioning team and excellent cooperation between the specialties involved. Initial management is no longer a fixed sequence
of interventions, following the classical A, B, C, D’s strictly, but a variable set of procedures carried out simultaneously and
adapted to the severity of the patient’s condition. These processes running in parallel clearly need to be well organised if
trauma is to be managed effectively.

Teaching and training are necessary in order to understand the processes and their organisation, which in turn is indispensable
to enable each team member to fulfil his or her role within the trauma team. The growing appreciation that good trauma care makes
a difference in survival and the increasing complexity of the care process have generated a demand for a new type of training.
Report to ESTES Members on the ISW 2011

Dear ESTES members,

I am pleased to give you a short report on the International Surgical Week 2011 that took place from August 28 to September 1 in Yokohama, Japan. The ISW is held every two years as the world congress of the International Society of Surgery/Société Internationale de Chirurgie (ISS/SIC), which is one of the oldest and most respected professional societies in the world. The 1600 participants came from all over the world to a perfectly organized event in a very modern conventional center.

The ISS includes five integrated societies. An association that counts as a sister society of ESTES is the International Association for Trauma Surgery and Intensive Care (IATSIC), whose goal is to provide an international forum for exchanging information and developing new knowledge in the field of trauma surgery and intensive care.

The ISW as usual presented comprehensive information on all the newest developments in all fields of surgery with ample coverage of our special area of interest, trauma and emergency surgery. Some of the highlights were: two sessions devoted to the armed combat going on in many parts of the world and its consequences for surgeons; a main session on the situation of acute care surgery as an emerging specialty; and, in view of the changing shape of the population pyramid throughout the world, another main session on the epidemiology of global aging, trauma in the elderly and aging in developing nations. ESTES was well represented at the ISW 2011 with speakers and faculty.

I would particularly like to mention two special events: first, Otmar Trenz, former ETS President and one of the founders of ESTES received the highly coveted Robert Danis Prize for outstanding work on the surgical treatment of fractures and the pathophysiology of trauma. Second, ESTES Past President Abe Fingerhut was chosen to give the prestigious Donald D. Trunkey Trauma Lecture, entitled “Laparoscopy is perfectly adapted to emergency surgery.” It is most gratifying that these two European surgeons who have served as the founders and/or Presidents of ESTES were recognized and honored for their activities at the world’s most important surgical meeting.

During the IATSIC meeting, after two very successful years C. William Schwab handed over the office of President to me. The new Secretary General and Treasurer is Tina Gaarder, the first woman to be elected to the IATSIC Board and another European on the Board of this international organization. Further, another prominent ESTES member, Hayato Kurihari, was elected as one of the IATSIC Councilors. The next ISW will be in Helsinki in 2013 with Ari Läppanieni as Congress President; we can all be proud to have a former EATES President and a co-founder of ESTES in this position. A goal for this meeting could be a joint IATSIC/ESTES session.

If you missed the ISW 2011 it is regrettable, as it was an outstanding event in every respect, from the excellent and highly informative scientific program to the very enjoyable social activities for congress attendees. The next chance to disseminate European views on trauma and emergency surgery will be in Helsinki in 2013. It promises to be a highly worthwhile and exciting meeting.

Selman Uranues, MD
President, International Association for Trauma and Surgical Intensive Care
Past President, European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery
In memory of Marco Esposito, trauma surgeon who devoted his life to help suffering populations

On July 13 this year, our Society suffered a tragic loss: Marco Esposito, a well recognized Italian trauma surgeon and Committee member of ESTES’ Disaster & Military Surgery Section since its inception, was killed in a car accident.

Marco was born in Italy in 1959, took his medical degree from the University of Bologna in 1990 and became a specialist in general surgery in 2004. He started his career in trauma and emergency surgery at the Regional Hospital of Ancona and was appointed Director of Emergency Services at the Macerata hospital in 2008. From an early stage of his career, he was actively involved in the field of disaster medicine. In 1999 he founded the ARES (Regional Association of Sanitary Emergency) with the task of organizing and leading teams for international disaster relief and was the President of that organization until his tragic death.

He was medical team leader in many national and international relief operations: The Italian Humanitarian Mission for Kosovarian refugees in Albania in 1999, the Molise earthquake in 2002, the mass gathering event in Lorento in 2004, the tsunami disaster in Southeast Asia in 2004-2005, the earthquake in Pakistan in 2005, the earthquake in Indonesia in 2006, the earthquake in Abruzzo in 2009 and the Haitian earthquake in 2010.

He received a European Master in Disaster Medicine and was a member of the European Society for Emergency Medicine, the European Academy of Disaster Medicine and the European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery, where he was a Committee Member of the Section for Disaster & Military Surgery. His competence and experience in disaster medicine were instrumental in various national planning projects.

I personally met Marco several times, both at courses and meetings and in the field. He gave me the picture shown here from his mission as team leader following the tsunami disaster in Thailand, where his Italian team was the first on scene, long before any of the other international support organizations. When I had the task of evaluating and criticizing the late response to this disaster on the part of the Swedish Health Authorities, I showed this picture of Marco as an example of an optimal and professional response; even if the good Italian organization of course played a role, I think that Marco’s personal competence, leadership, enthusiasm and constant preparedness to go without any hesitation made a major contribution to the success. Directly after the mission in Thailand he went off to the hardest hit areas in Southeast Asia to work under very austere conditions.

It is of course tragic that a person who many times had risked his life to help others in dangerous missions was killed in a traffic accident in his own country. However, it might be a reminder for all of us that traffic is still one the major causes of trauma death, and of our responsibility to work continuously for better prevention and management. The thoughts of all Marco’s colleagues and friends within the professional society go to his family and his home country and I hope that these simple lines will help to preserve a bright memory of a very good friend and colleague.

Sten Lennquist
Chairman, Disaster & Military Surgery Section
Announcements

Welcome to the 13th European Congress of Trauma & Emergency Surgery in Basel!
May 12–15, 2012

Dates to remember:

**Early Bird Registration Deadline**
Register online by **Monday, February 20, 2012** and benefit from the early bird registration fee.

**Grants & Awards:**
Send your application form by **Friday, January 20, 2012** to office@estesonline.org.

**Hotel Bookings**
As May is the absolute peak season in Basel, early hotel booking is highly recommended. Please book your hotel online when registering for the congress.

**Look forward to:**
- Instructional lectures and round table discussions with opinion leaders and experts covering recurrent and hot topics
- Keynote and invited speakers along with free paper presentations
- The poster exhibition, poster sessions and hands-on workshops
- Curtain-up and “How I do it” sessions
- Seeing your abstract published by the European Journal of Trauma & Emergency Surgery
- Basel – Switzerland’s most stylish city – easy to reach and exciting to explore!

Please visit [www.estesonline.org](http://www.estesonline.org) for up-to-date information on the scientific and social program, hotels and optional tours as well as to download the 2nd Announcement.
Acute care surgery is an emerging discipline born of the necessity of managing such emergencies within a global emergency and urgent care system, comprising a multidisciplinary, multispecialized but homogeneous team. Because emergencies cannot be predicted in advance and require immediate attention, it is challenging to provide practical and systematic training for gastroenterological surgeons and surgeons with a primary focus on acute care surgery. This workshop is designed to review state-of-the-art information on the diagnosis and management of severely ill patients. To fulfil these objectives the course will provide theoretical and practical training to all participants by promoting their direct involvement. To respond to their needs and expectations, the course is mainly “problem oriented”. It provides in-depth and cutting-edge information in the field of visceral and gastrointestinal emergencies.

**Course director:** Prof. Dr. Selman Uranues  
**Course language:** English and German (no simultaneous translation)  
**Course location:** Department of Surgery, Section for Surgical Research, Auenbruggerplatz 29, 8036 Graz, Austria  
**Registration fee:** € 850.- for members of ESTES and EAES € 775.-  
**Registration:** i.prassl@medunigraz.at, Phone: +43(0)316 385 83232, Fax: +43(0)316 385 16845  
**Information:** http://www.chirurgischeforschung.at/attachments/071_ProgramAuteCareSurgery.pdf
Upcoming related congresses & courses

1st SWISS TRAUMA & RESUSCITATION DAY: This trauma meeting will provide a valuable update on the management of injured and critically ill patients. The symposium will feature both cutting edge lectures and interactive panel discussions, with an appropriate balance between evidence-based principles and provocative new approaches to trauma care. We are pleased to announce Prof. Demetrios Demetriades, Director of the Division of Trauma, Emergency Surgery and Surgical Critical Care at the Los Angeles County Medical Center, as distinguished speaker. As an internationally well-known expert in trauma surgery and critical care, he will share some of his vast experience and knowledge with us.

“SWISS TRAUMA SUMMIT – FOR THOSE TAKING CARE OF THE INJURED”.

Registration on www.swiss-trauma.ch.

Emergency Surgery Course (ESC)
“Visceral & Gastrointestinal (non-Trauma) Acute Care Surgery”
March 19–21, 2012
Stockholm, Sweden

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