Message from the Treasurer

Dear colleagues, dear friends,

The success of the last congress in Amsterdam marked another milestone in the growth of our society. The financial situation is solid and well controlled; nevertheless for the first time since the foundation of our society, a very slight increase in the annual membership fee will be needed from next year owing to the global financial crisis and the consequent reduced sponsorship from industry.

The approval of the new bylaws by the General Assembly with the creation of the Advisory Council will surely give new impetus to the development of fresh projects and cooperation among our members.

I personally believe that members of the European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery are passionate and dedicated surgeons since they deal daily with the sickest patients crowding our emergency departments; that is why we need to think differently, that is why we need to expand our society by attracting new members!

Now we should all contribute toward achieving another successful meeting in Vienna in 2016 by sending lots of abstracts to the Organizing Committee of the ESTES Congress 2016. Please spread the word!

See you soon in Vienna!

Hayato Kurihara
Treasurer ESTES
Report of the 16th European Congress of Trauma and Emergency Surgery
10–12 May 2015
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

“Save lives, share knowledge”

This was the motto of the 16th European Congress of Trauma and Emergency Surgery organized in the capital of The Netherlands and attended by almost 1,500 participants from all over the world.

The scientific program presented a wide range of opportunities for the participants to obtain information for daily practice, to exchange results in basic research and technical issues, and to discuss trauma systems and registries.

Even before the congress started there were several pre-courses organized such as the Definitive Surgical Trauma Care Course (DSTC), which took place in Nijmegen in the animal laboratory of the university hospital, and the Modular UltraSound ESTES Course (MUSEC), which was held in the university hospital of Amsterdam, AMC.

The evening before the official start of the congress, board members, international faculty, and invited guests joined the President’s Dinner in one of the many historical buildings of the city of Amsterdam.

One of the novelties of this year’s congress was the “Cheese and Wine Sessions.” A session where, at the end of the day, selected presenters of a poster got the opportunity to explain their project in a short bullet talk, in an informal but competitive way.

Also new were the “Worst-Case Scenario Sessions,” where participants could present a special selected case history and the audience was invited to participate in the discussions. These proved to be very instructive and well-appreciated sessions.

A total of 25 instructional course lecture sessions were offered by each of the five sections of ESTES and guest symposia were organized by invited global organizations such as the ATLS and the AO Foundation. In all, 254 free paper and 372 poster presentations provided a platform for professionals from various settings and brought together innovations and evidence in trauma, orthopedic, and acute care surgery.
During the congress there was ample time and opportunity for informal discussions, get-togethers, and renewing of old friendships.

On the “Network Evening” event, participants first enjoyed a boat trip through the famous canals of Amsterdam, followed by an afterparty organized by the Dutch Trauma Society.

The congress came to an end with the closing ceremony on Tuesday afternoon, where awards were given for the best posters and best oral paper presentations.

Figures 5-6: Closing Ceremony – Best Poster Awards: Taka-aki Nakada, Ana Rodriguez, Anna Rebecca Leemeyer (not pictured)
Finally, it was time for the traditional handover of the society baton from Ari Leppäniemi to Hans-Christoph Pape, incoming ESTES President of 2015–2016, and the handover of the Congress Medal from Congress President Roelf Breederveld to Richard Kdolsky, ESTES Congress President 2016, as well as a short look ahead to next year’s congress, which will take place in Vienna, Austria, from 24 to 26 April 2016.

With kind regards,
Roelf S. Breederveld
Minutes of the Founding Session of the Polytrauma Section of ESTES
Amsterdam, 12 May 2015

1. Following a brief introduction, Hans-Christoph Pape outlined several ideas that had been shared by the board of ESTES prior to the meeting. Briefly, these topics were selected according to their feasibility and the clinical needs. Among these were the review of guidelines, issues of cross-border rescue and care (as initiated by Peter Brink), and teaching. For the latter, different courses were presented (ATLS, ETC, polytrauma course).

2. These basic ideas were then discussed and expanded. The unanimous opinion of all participants was that clinical topics have to be included. It was discussed that interdisciplinary aspects should be reinforced. Bob Dobson pointed out the importance of rescue for the entire hospital course. This aspect is currently underrepresented and it was agreed that it should be reinforced. Ari van Vugt suggested adding the clinical course and issues of rehabilitation. Other members agreed and suggested that a clinical chain of treatment should be formulated to summarize rescue, ICU care, and rehabilitation.

3. The prioritization of topics was then discussed. Tina Gaarder pointed out that guidelines are important and that many good ones exist in various countries. It was agreed that ESTES should not try to create its own guideline. Instead, an overview of existing guidelines is missing and could be addressed. Stefaan Nijs added that translational research should be included to undermine the clinical issues.

4. It was agreed that subcommittees should be installed to cover the variety of topics. The following topics were then put together:

Polytrauma section topics

- Guidelines (consensus/recommendation)
- Cross-border rescue
- Teaching
- Trauma chain: prehospital care, ICU care, rehabilitation
- Prioritization of injuries
- (Team work/communication)
- Trauma systems
- Translational research

Klaus Wendt pointed out from his experience with the skeletal trauma group that there should be a focus on certain topics in order not to lose the focus. It was also discussed who should lead the group. It was agreed that someone active and senior should be responsible and should be selected according to input and activity level. Names were added to certain topics of interest: trauma systems – Rolf Lefering; rescue – Bob Dobson; general – Stefaan Nijs and Frank Hildebrand were also suggested.

The meeting was closed at 8:05 with the idea that these results be shared and discussed within the board of ESTES.
Report of ESTES Congress Grant Winner Klemens Horst

In light of my experiences gained at the 15th European Congress of Trauma and Emergency Surgery in Frankfurt, Germany, I was looking forward to this year’s annual meeting of ESTES in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Again, an outstanding program promised new insights and a good platform for discussing various topics of interest to trauma surgeons. Talented musicians and an impressive talk on “The Anatomy Lessons of the Amsterdam Guild of Surgeons” framed the opening ceremony. Beside meeting renowned characters of the organization, it was a great honor to receive one of the congress grants, handed over by ESTES President Ari Leppäniemi. The reception that followed was held in the congress hall and my colleagues and I had the chance have conversations with colleagues from various countries. As always, interesting topics were raised and contact details exchanged. A highlight of this year’s conference was certainly the “Cheese and Wine Session”. This new format helped to ease the poster presentation, which often appears to be somewhat “stiff.” The evening was finalized by enjoying the Dutch evening sun and a good glass of Amstel beer.

Recalling a conversation from the previous evening, I attended the session “Trauma System/Trauma Registration” the next morning before following different talks about sport-related injuries. Due to the fact that all body regions were represented within one session, there was a broad spectrum of information on current topics of sports medicine. During lunchtime I had the chance to wonder around the poster presentation. This format offers some inspiration for further studies and also provides an excellent platform to get in contact with the authors. The ILC Session “Trauma in Children” was another highlight and I was lucky enough to get a spot, as the room was crowded. All presenters were experts in their field and the subsequent discussions were enlightening. Especially the trauma algorithms for abdominal trauma, given by Steffen Berger, were of great interest and will help me in my clinical career. In the afternoon it was time to present my own data. As last year’s immunologic session was not available this year, I was happy to see that also colleagues presenting scientific results from very different fields of medicine were very interested. Since the time allotted for discussion is short, I was pleased to continue an interesting conversation with colleagues from the host country about posttraumatic immunologic response afterward. We spent the evening having dinner in beautiful downtown Amsterdam, sitting next to one of the charming small canals. Of course, the topic of discussion again was medicine.

The last congress day started early with the “Military and Disaster” session. Beside impressive pictures presented by various authors, I also gained information about the challenges and obstacles faced in military medicine. However, as I also wanted to see a bit of Amsterdam I made my way to the Rijksmuseum in the afternoon and took a tour to see the famous “Night Watch” and other outstanding paintings. Finally, I participated in the last ILC session, “Skeletal Trauma and Sports – Soft Tissue Infections.” Again valuable information on operative techniques but also pitfalls was presented by experts. Excitement grew when the closing ceremony started. Multiple outstanding posters and presentations were nominated for a congress award and I was delighted to win the third prize for the best oral presentation handed over by the congress president, Roelf Breeveld. I will certainly take his encouragement into account to continue my work and I will be happy to present new data at the 17th ESTES Congress in Vienna, Austria, next year.

Last but not least, I want to thank the ESTES for the chance to present my data at the congress and the support I received by the congress grant. Furthermore, I would like to encourage the organization to continue this support as young scientists in particular benefit greatly from these meetings.

Thank you!
DO YOU ALSO WANT TO BE CONGRESS GRANT WINNER?

Are you going to attend the 17th European Congress of Trauma and Emergency Surgery taking place in Vienna, Austria (24–26 April 2016)?
Would you like to win a travel grant of €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).

To apply for a grant, please return the filled-out application form and all required documents to the ESTES Administrative Office: office@estesonline.org, Fax: +43 1 58804 185

Application Deadline: **Friday, 15 January 2016**
ECTES 2016 – Vienna

Dear colleagues,

After ECTES 2015 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, we are now looking forward to ECTES 2016 in Vienna, Austria, which will take place from 24 to 26 April 2016.

Important dates to remember:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon, August 31, 2015</td>
<td>Start abstract submission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri, October 23, 2015</td>
<td>Deadline abstract submission</td>
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<td>Mon, November 30, 2015</td>
<td>Start online registration</td>
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<td>Fri, December 18, 2015</td>
<td>Notification of abstract acceptance</td>
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<td>Fri, February 19, 2016</td>
<td>Deadline for early bird registration, registration cancellation</td>
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<td>Fri, April 8, 2016</td>
<td>End of regular fee</td>
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A Preliminary Scientific Program (including keynote speakers and first session details) is already available on the website.

The abstract submission started on Monday, 31 August 2015.

All necessary information regarding topics and submission details can be found on the website: www.estesonline.org

Sincerely,

The ECTES 2016 Organizing Team

Mondial Congress & Events
Mondial GmbH & Co. KG
Operngasse 20b, 1040 Vienna, Austria

 ectes2016@mondial-congress.com
 www.estesonline.org
Announcements

Upcoming related congresses and courses

**DKOU 2015**
Berlin, Germany
October 20–23, 2015
[www.dkou.org](http://www.dkou.org)

**43rd Congress of the Italian Society of Emergency Surgery and Trauma**
Milan, Italy
October 21–24, 2015

**Polytrauma Course**
Berlin, Germany
October 22–23, 2015
[www.polytraumacourse.com](http://www.polytraumacourse.com)

**MUSEC - Modular UltraSound ESTES Course**
Milan, Italy
October 24, 2015
[www.thesoundofthebody.org](http://www.thesoundofthebody.org)

**MUSEC - Modular UltraSound ESTES Course**
Geneva, Switzerland
October 31, 2015
[www.thesoundofthebody.org](http://www.thesoundofthebody.org)

**8th International Meeting of Emergency Surgery & Trauma**
Coimbra, Portugal
November 7–18, 2015

**MRMI**
Gothenburg, Sweden
November 23–25, 2015

**MUSEC - Modular UltraSound ESTES Course**
Cernusco, Italy
November 27, 2015
[www.thesoundofthebody.org](http://www.thesoundofthebody.org)

More congresses and courses to be found in the ESTES events calendar at [www.estesonline.org](http://www.estesonline.org)