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Message from the Past President**New beginnings, necessary endings**

Dear ESTES members, dear friends,

Looking back at the one year period of being the president of ESTES I may say that this year has been full of surprises. It took until last October to meet all of the board members that we worked so intensively with, in person. That came as a surprise. As did the fact that although most of our monthly board meetings were virtual, we did progress and produce multiple solid results beneficial to trauma and acute care. And it certainly came as a surprise that so many people proved to be continuous hard working, enthusiastic, and full of energy despite being overwhelmed by all misery that came with the COVID pandemic.

Since we have seen so little of each other, you might wonder what it is that ESTES has worked on during the past year. Let me give you some examples

- Over the past 2 years, more than 15 **ESTES Webinars** were annually initiated by Jonathan Tilsed and supported by many highly experienced speakers and panel members.
- Tina Gaarder and her Norwegian team managed to run a very successful and well-attended **virtual ECTES meeting in April 2021**.
- The forthcoming **ECTES 2022** conference will be the spectacular capstone of three years Norwegian ECTES preparation. Something to really look forward to!
- Funding for participation in the **Nightingale project** (Novel InteGrated toolkit for enhanced pre-Hospital life support and Triage IN challeNGing And Large Emergencies) was obtained, mainly due to the persistence and effort of Jonathan Tilsed and Roberto Faccincani.
- The **ESTES bylaws** were updated in a working group chaired by Klaus Wendt.
- The **ESTES house-style** and ESTES logos were modernized under the close supervision of Manuela Walland.
- The **Gender Equity Initiative in Trauma and Acute Surgery** was launched by Cristina Rey, Tina Gaarder, and myself. Accompanied by a survey of which the results will be presented in Oslo. To lift a corner of the veil:
 - 46% of the responding ESTES members believe that gender issues play a role in achieving their professional goals to a large or some degree,
 - 30% had been professionally unfairly treated for their gender, mainly by their colleagues, supervisors, and patients,
 - 50% described their balance between professional and personal life as hard or very hard.

ESTES European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES)

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Obviously still a lot to achieve here!

- And of course there have been many other results and activities, such as symposia at congresses, collaboration initiatives with other societies and new sponsor agreements.

So, for 2022/2023, what is left to do for the executive board members, the ESTES section boards, and the ESTES Advisory Committee? Fairly enough I would say. I cannot speak for others, but apart from everything else that will be on the agenda, I see two topics that in the past year have not had the attention they deserve, and I will be happy to dig into them in the upcoming year:

- **YESTES!** Meaning Young ESTES, for residents and students, amongst other involving the still-to-be-organised ESTES Trauma Summer School
- **The trauma systems inventory.** We simply do not know well enough how our neighboring and fellow European countries are doing, regarding trauma and acute care, in the prehospital setting, clinical setting, in training and in quality control. For that, a survey will be coming to you soon, to produce a baseline inventory and subsequently see how we should go from there to further optimize and fine tune European trauma and acute care.

Other than these two topics, we will probably continue to have inspiring discussions about whether or not the Trauma and Acute Surgeons should remain together in one Society, and how to find enough common ground to continue in the way we do, or even grow better.

For now, unity is a great good, as we have seen in the combined efforts from all countries to help with and care for the victims of the war in Ukraine. Being surprised as I was with what we all have achieved during the long-lasting COVID pandemic, I hope that we will continue with the same energy, spirit, and vigor to support the people in this devastating, degrading and senseless war.

Situations like these can only be optimised if we are willing to listen to and learn from each other. Let us start (again) with that. New beginnings and necessary endings. I hope to see you all in Oslo and raise our glasses to that!

In the meantime, stay safe and healthy.

Inger Schipper

President of ESTES 2021/2022

Announcements

Upcoming related congresses & courses

International Masterclass on Abdominal Wall Reconstruction

May 25–26, 2022
Coimbra, Portugal

MUSEC: Modular UltraSound ESTES Course

May 27–28, 2022
Barcelona, Spain

Acute Care Surgery Upgrade—A 5 Pillars Trip

May 28, 2022
Lecco, Italy

DATC - Definitive Anaesthetic Trauma Care

June 22–24, 2022
Santarém, Portugal

11th Interdisciplinary Course Polytrauma Care

October 6–7, 2022
Zurich, Switzerland

58. ÖGU & ÖGOuT Jahrestagung 2022

October 6–8, 2022
Salzburg, Austria

ECTES 2023

May 7–9, 2023
Ljubljana, Slovenia

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