



Dear SECEC Members,

Last year **Alex Castagna** and his team organized an outstanding meeting in Milan which was very successful from both the economical and scientific point of view attracting 1385 participants from 43 countries! Thanks to Alex and his team for this great effort. Moreover all participants enjoyed the social program. The lecture about “association of arts in music and shoulder & elbow surgery” at the opening ceremony was a brilliant idea as well as the art exhibition and enjoyable benefit auction of the exhibits at the gala dinner moderated by Roger Emery.

In Milan we introduced new rules for the Instructional Course Lectures (ICL). Members proposed their favourite topics and applied as chairmen and speakers. The **Education Committee** chaired by **Denise Eygendaal** is in favour further to develop this concept and to improve the selection process. We believe that the ICL and symposia represent the two main columns of education, which contributes significantly to establishing guidelines for clinical practice. The speakers were requested to create MCQ (multiple choice questions) according to the standards of common European exams, promoted by the EU health administration and EFORT. We appreciate very much the extra-work done by the speakers and feel that we should continue with this approach in Berlin since **Ulrich Brunner** and his team of the **Qualification Committee** need a pool of MCQ to establish a certified education system and online exam. Recently they completed the first draft curriculum with the contents of education in Shoulder and Elbow surgery – the next, very important step on this way. Thanks to Ulrich Brunner and his team to master this difficult issue which has to consider different features of the national European education systems.

For the future we need the continuous input of all our members especially the speakers of our instructional courses to introduce basic curricula for our subspecialty on a European scale.

Following our policy “strength by diversity” and in recognition of the tremendous work done by **Pierre Mansat** as JSES Deputy Editor and the board of JSES associate editors and reviewers we started with two new features in Milan: The “JSES Session” and the “Common National Session” with the local National Society for Arthroscopy and Shoulder & Elbow Surgery. The idea was to strengthen the cooperation with all National societies and to promote the special features of each country hosting our Annual Open Meeting. Both will be continued at the next SECEC Congress in Berlin in 2017. First contacts with the French arthroscopic society (SFA) and with the German speaking countries society (AGA) led to the agreement of cooperative exchange of speakers and reciprocal consultations regarding instructional courses and dates for meetings in order to avoid unnecessary overlap.

Co-operation with EFORT

In the past, SECEC has been asked several times by EFORT to be in charge of the field of shoulder and elbow surgery, and our EXCOM has now based on improved contacts to EFORT decided to take care of both. **Luc Favard** was appointed as scientific advisor for upcoming EFORT meetings. In 2016 he worked hard together with Ariane Gerber for a proper selection and order of the papers in the sessions dedicated to shoulder and elbow. Thanks Luc for this important contribution which keeps the door to EFORT open! In Antwerp he has to step down as chair of the R&D committee after his turn of 6 years, but fortunately he agreed to further to work for SECEC as our link to EFORT.

The last EFORT congress was held in collaboration with the Swiss Orthopaedic society, the latter having in Alain Farron and Berhard Jost two prominent SECEC members on top. Together with our national delegates from Switzerland Alexandre Laedermann organized an excellent specialty day focussed on current issues of shoulder arthroplasty, which was a great success. Again we followed the way of strengthening the position of our National Delegates who are currently in charge to organize the specialty day of the annual EFORT congress. This way of handling allowed us to reduce costs for travel and accommodation covered by the budget given by EFORT for this event. In 2016 we received the re-imburement for the 2015 congress and we are confident that this way of co-operation will function reliably in the future. Roger Emery participated in Geneva as SECEC representative in the specialty societies' meeting where he discussed EFORT's future guidelines for the training of orthopaedic surgeons, the definition of learning centres and fellowships.

European arthroplasty registry committee

Luc Favard will be in charge of forming a team for this new committee. First they will analyse the current situation with different national registries and look for a common base for the future. This committee will start its work in Antwerp after the election of the committee members at the general assembly.

Young Forum

Already in Milano we agreed that we should more involve the young, even students before they graduate and residents in the first years of their training. Often they are interested in shoulder and elbow because they are involved in clinical or basic research projects of their departments and universities, e. g. writing their thesis. Many years ago we created the junior membership category but now we agreed to establish a platform for the young both in our homepage and our meetings. Online debates and conferences ("webinar") may be a good way to attract young people. **Anders Ekelund** and **Matthias Zumstein** will take care of this issue. Matthias and his team have recently informed you that SECEC/ESSSE is now on Facebook! (<https://www.facebook.com/SECEC-ESSSE-152840931769506/>). Everybody has now the opportunity to meet and "like" us and has the chance to follow our regular updates and instructional podcasts.

Przemyslaw Lubiowski and his team from the EES Committee support the idea of the "webinar" and feel that this will attract young surgeons from less developed countries. They work for a fellowship for surgeons from Eastern European countries sponsored by medical companies.

International Co-operations outside Europe

For four years the Latin American Shoulder and Elbow Society (SLAHOC) has been offering a closer co-operation with SECEC. Recently, it was decided to create a panel supported by three of our prominent members, Alex Castagna, Uli Brunner and Samuel Antuña to make proposals for a common scientific exchange and to develop fellowships which currently exist only between SLAHOC and some European National societies. In August I attended the annual meeting of the SLAHOC in Lima together with Uli Brunner, Emilio Calvo and Guiseppe Porcellini, who represented SECEC and discussed the future collaboration with SLAHOC. We met Luis Macedo from Peru together with most of the national delegates of Latin-America for the discussion of new ideas. We agreed to have an exchange of speakers first and second to find sponsors for the extension of two fellowships which are already established with Germany and Spain, perhaps involving Italy, Austria and Switzerland as well.

The **13th ICSES in Jeju 2016**: Everybody has agreed that the President Yong-Girl Rhee and his team have done an outstanding job. This meeting was perfectly organized and broke all records. At our last General Assembly in Milan we decided between two excellent candidates, Rome or Munich, to apply for the ICSS. In Jeju we were happy to see that even against strong

competitors (e. g. Boston/USA) Rome won in the first round by secret vote of the international delegates. Congratulations to the Italian team which will organize the ICSS 2022!

In close interaction with our friends from Australia and New Zealand our EXCOM has decided to continue the unilateral fellowship. **Roger Emery** will be in charge to find additional ways for scientific exchange and personal contacts between both societies.

It is a great pleasure to welcome in Antwerp **Jesse Jupiter**, the current ASES president who is invited as guest speaker to the elbow course and for a lecture about the current policy of ASES which has recently opened for younger membership candidates and a closer exchange with foreign shoulder and elbow societies. Many questions are open regarding the relationship to the IBSES and other continental societies, the JSES, and the involvement of medical companies. Jesse Jupiter works as Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital affiliated to Harvard Medical School and has developed a worldwide reputation, especially related to problems of the wrist and elbow along with all other conditions involving the hand and upper limb. He will give a lecture about “The American Shoulder and Elbow Society: Challenges for the Future”.

JSES

The JSES is doing extremely well in terms of increasing numbers of submissions and the quality of the published papers. **Pierre Mansat**, all associate editors and the European reviewers do a very successful and important job for our society. But there is still a big concern regarding the declining number of European reviewers who accept in time invitations for reviews. Again, it is emphasized that a position in our committees is clearly associated with active contributions as reviewer to the JSES! I am glad that in Milan Pierre Mansat was approved as ex officio member of our EXCOM.

Thanks to Roger Emery and Jaap Willems for their work in the JSES’ Board of Trustees! We feel that all societies which are involved with reviewers in the editorial work should have a share of the profits: The support of fellowships and scientific exchange between the involved societies could be the best option.

SECEC Homepage

Due to the excellent work of our Website Committee guided by **Matthias Zumstein** everybody continuously has been informed by numerous newsletters and has got the opportunity to get downloads of important talks and the instructional course lectures

(<http://www.secec.org/pages/educationpodcasts/meet-the-expertspodcasts.php>).

Videos of all common sessions with EUSSER are shared on SECEC and EUSSER web platforms.

In Milan the **Rehabilitation committee** received 120 physiotherapists from all over Europe and is already planning the setup of the next conjoint in Berlin in 2017. **Marco Conti** steps down as chairman of this committee but fortunately he steps in as EUSSER President following Anju Jaggi. Thanks to Mario for his excellent and successful work attracting physiotherapists to common sessions with our surgeons!

2016 SECEC Instructional Elbow Course and Closed Meeting in Antwerp

The intention to combine the Closed Meeting with an international elbow course was introduced first in Madrid by Samuel Antuña. Last year our EXCOM decided to follow this idea and install the course to be held in each year of the ICSS – i.e. in a three year turn – but of course not colliding with it. This gives us the chance to foster elbow surgery and to provide European elbow centers with the opportunity to apply for an annual meeting on a lower budget level. **Denise Eygendaal** and **Roger van Riet** have prepared an excellent program for the SECEC Elbow Course (September 22-24). **Roger van Riet** and **Olivier Verborgt** are in charge of the local organization of our Closed Meeting, September 24-25.

On behalf of SECEC you are heartily invited you to join us in Antwerp for both meetings. **Juan Bruguera** our excellent General Secretary has done his outmost together with the entire program committee to create the most interesting selection of papers. We are looking forward to four outstanding days in the historic, most populous city of Flanders.

Future perspectives

In Antwerp I will hand over to **Roger Emery**. I am very happy that in Milano after the selection by the National Delegates Roger accepted to follow me as the next President of SECEC and I am confident that he will continue with our policy to keep our society open for all European countries, to strengthen the national delegates, and to focus on one of the three main goals, given to SECEC at the first meeting in Paris 1987: "To contribute to the **continuous medical education** of surgeons or medical doctors involved with shoulder and elbow pathology."

I have to thank all committee members for their strong support over the past two years. It was a great time and the opportunity to pay back the society what I have received during the last almost 30 years.

Like in Milan you will receive our reports at the beginning of our meeting which allows you to prepare at time suggestions, ideas and proposals to discuss in personal communication at the General Assembly. Personal mails are welcome and will be well received as relevant contributions to the improvement of our society.

Our EXCOM team till the Closed Meeting in Antwerp:

Roger Emery

President elect

Emilio Calvo

Treasurer

Juan Bruguera,

General Secretary and Chairman of the Program Committee

Luc Favard,

Chairman of the R&D Committee, EFORT scientific advisor

Denise Eygendaal,

Chairman of the Education Committee

Ulrich Brunner,

Chairman of the Qualification Committee

Matthias Zumstein,

Chairman of the Website Committee

Anders Ekelund,

Chairman of the Membership Committee

Przemislav Lubiatowski,

Chairman of the Eastern Europe Support Committee

Marco Conti,

Chairman of the Rehabilitation Committee

Pierre Mansat

Deputy Editor of JSES, ex officio member

I take this opportunity also on behalf of the entire SECEC Executive Committee to welcome you to our Elbow Instructional Course and Closed Meeting which promises to be an excellent event, and I hope that you will enjoy the great location in Antwerp.

Frank Gohlke

President of SECEC