



Dear colleagues, dear members,

In this presidential update, I would first like to thank all of you for the trust you have given me. I would also like to thank Philippe Colin who has made a true impact on our society. As most of you may know, I am an elbow surgeon, based in Antwerp and have been a member of SECEC for more than 20 years. As such, I have served on several committees, including the ExCom as chair of the Healthcare Delivery Committee. It is truly an honor to take over the lead from Philippe Collin and serve you as President of SECEC for the next two years.

The Munich congress was a tremendous success with close to 1,400 participants from all over the world and I am sure that Rotterdam 2025 will provide an equally exciting programme.

It is a privilege to lead such a dynamic and forward-thinking community and firmly believe that SECEC has tremendous potential. With the professional structure we now have in place, we are well-positioned to achieve even greater goals together!

Future challenges

A lot changed in our profession over the last few years. Financial burdens on society as a whole, have had an impact on our field. In combination with increased regulatory burdens, it is now more difficult than ever to innovate. This doesn't only affect us as surgeons, but patient care is being affected. Companies are retracting products in certain countries, as the cost of producing and complying with regulations have skyrocketed. Until now, societies like ours have not been able to affect this negative spiral. We will need to work together with all stakeholders to lower cost whilst improving quality of care. This will need to start with us and SECEC welcomes initiatives that can help us deal with these challenges.

Launching the SECEC Certificate

One of our key projects in the next few months is the launch of the long awaited SECEC Certificate. This new diploma, based on the soon to be published [SECEC Curriculum](#), is designed for professionals who have been in practice for more than 4 years. It will formally recognize the specialized skills of shoulder and elbow surgeons in Europe. Stay tuned for more details, this project is part of our ongoing effort to provide more value and opportunities to our members.

SECEC Committees

This year, we received a record number of applications for committee positions. It's incredible to see the enthusiasm and desire within our community to contribute to the progress of shoulder and elbow care. The selection process was extremely competitive, so for those who weren't selected this time, please don't hesitate to apply again in the future, we need your passion and expertise. Allow me to take this opportunity to thank the more than [90 colleagues](#) who share their time and expertise in the various committees of the association.

Benefits of being a SECEC Member

In addition to the online access to the JSES family of journals and reduced fees for the annual congress, we are introducing new member benefits including a premium experience at the annual congress. In Munich, over 800 abstracts were submitted for only 40 slots available for platform presentations. Unfortunately, this meant that we had to disappoint many of our members that submitted their high-quality research papers. As we value our members, we have therefore decided, from the next meeting in Rotterdam onwards, to award all SECEC members a competitive advantage in the selection process. With so many great papers rejected last year, this new rule will not affect the quality of papers accepted but will give our members an improved opportunity to present their work at our annual meeting.

Building a Stronger Community

Being part of SECEC is a true honor, and there's no other association quite like ours that provides such a rich platform for sharing [knowledge](#) and best practices in a friendly environment. Together, we are making a real impact in improving patient outcomes and advancing the field of shoulder and elbow care for patients of all ages.

I look forward to working with all of you to continue growing SECEC and making it stronger than ever. This can only be achieved with the continued support of everyone in our community, so finally I would like to ask everyone to contact me or the SECEC Office, if you have any suggestions on how we can improve our membership experience and face future challenges.

Thanks again you for your trust,



Roger van Riet
SECEC President