

9 May 2014

Dear friends and colleagues

I am delighted to announce and invite everyone to the new ESO Conference that will be held in Glasgow from 17-19 April, 2015. The new conference will be run under the auspices of ESO, will have a democratic approach to its organisation and will be financially transparent. Any modest profit, and we aim only for this, will be controlled entirely by ESO and used for ESO's proven educational, political and scientific activities such as the development of European Guidelines, Summer School, Winter School, Stroke Masters, Stroke Science Workshop and Department to Department visits. It will be organised by a strong team, since ESO members and fellows have a long history as the principal scientific leaders, chair people and presenters at past ESCs.

Over coming months, we will communicate directly with our colleagues across the world to explain, if this should still be necessary, the reasons for the new conference. Meantime, please recognise that the decision was taken at a General Assembly that was held in the largest available hall in Nice, and yet still had insufficient space to accommodate every member. Some could vote only from the adjacent corridor and yet there was absolute unanimity on the separation from ESC that had been forced on ESO.

Moving forward, everyone was delighted by the unprecedented number of nominations and the huge representation in the elections for committee positions. We welcome our new democratically appointed representatives:
President Elect: Valeria Caso (Perugia, Italy)
Vice President: Bart van der Worp (Utrecht, Netherlands)
Members at Large: Heinrich Mattle (Berne, Switzerland) and Nils Wahlgren (Stockholm, Sweden)

We also offer our heartfelt thanks to outgoing committee members, Natan Bornstein and Angel Chamorro, who have contributed enormous expertise and insight to our activities over recent years. Neither is escaping: as members of the Conference Planning Group, they are committed until the first conference closes in April 2015.

Despite overwhelming support within ESO, and corresponding endorsement from international groups and colleagues across the globe, we still have a challenge to communicate and explain the background to the new ESO conference to many stroke clinicians and researchers who have missed the discussion. Please do your best to explain and point them towards the letters from our Past President, Michael Brainin, to whom we owe a debt of gratitude for his outstanding leadership over the last 24 arduous months of attempted negotiation and eventual certainty of intransigence from ESC.

Executive Committee

President:
Kennedy Lees
(Glasgow, United Kingdom)

President Elect:
Valeria Caso
(Perugia, Italy)

Past President:
Michael Brainin
(Krems, Austria)

Vice President:
Bart van der Worp
(Utrecht, Netherlands)

Secretary General:
Patrik Michel
(Lausanne, Switzerland)

Treasurer:
Turgut Tatlisumak
(Helsinki, Finland)

Members at Large:
Heinrich Mattle
(Berne, Switzerland)
Nils Wahlgren
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Our new conference to be held in Glasgow in April 2015 and thereafter moving around Europe, will be a huge success, I am certain. We will value everyone's suggestions and though we may inadvertently omit an occasional colleague when drawing up our committee lists in coming months, please accept that we are human, and are working rapidly and from scratch, and so just communicate quickly and quietly to help us to do things better in future. It is ESO's conference, OUR conference, now.

In a few weeks, I will write with more details. Meantime, let's work as a team of friends and respected colleagues to do what we have overwhelmingly supported. Thank you.

Ken Lees
President



ESO General Assembly 2014, Nice

The European Stroke Organisation Conference 2015

17-19 April, 2015
Glasgow, UK

For further information please see the [conference announcement](#) and the [conference website](#).