

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Carlos A. C. Baptista, MD, PhD

Dear Colleagues and Plastinators:

On behalf of the International Society for Plastination I would like to thank Dr. Dmitry Starchik for the superb organization of the 17<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Plastination held in Saint Petersburg, Russia, July 14 to 18, 2014. I extend my gratitude also to his staff and colleagues for making our stay in Saint Petersburg memorable. I also would like to thank those who contributed to the Conference by participating with oral and poster presentations. Your participation is crucial to the success of our conferences.

### ***New Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Plastination***

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Philip Adds as the new Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Plastination. Phil is a Senior Lecturer in Anatomy in the Division of Biomedical Sciences, St George's, University of London, United Kingdom. He brings energy, commitment and innovation to the role. The Society views The Journal of Plastination as a beacon for scientists and plastinators and is committed to its development to maintain its international reputation for excellence.

### ***New ISP Secretary and Treasurer***

Please join me in congratulating and welcoming our new Secretary, Selcuk Tunali, and Treasurer Joshua Lopez as they begin their duties as officers of the ISP. My gratitude is extended to the departing Secretary Christoph von Horst and Treasurer Ameer Raof for their heartfelt service and commitment to the International Society for Plastination.

### ***New Bylaws and Constitution***

I encourage ISP members to read the new bylaws and constitution voted on by the membership last June and adopted by the general assembly of the society in July at Saint Petersburg. The bylaws are published in pages 58 to 64 in this issue of the Journal. These bylaws contain several changes including new categories of membership, and also changes to the governance of the Society.

### ***Student Membership***

During the ISP Business meeting in Saint Petersburg it was suggested that we create a student membership. This category of membership will be proposed as an amendment to the by-laws in 2016. The general assembly approved the creation of student membership to be in effect immediately. To be a student member, the candidate must be sponsored by an ISP member in good standing. Please refer to pages 55 to 57 for the minutes of the general assembly for more information.

***The 18th International Conference of Plastination - 2016***

It gives me great pleasure to announce that the general assembly unanimously chose the City of Pereira, Colombia, to host the 2016 ICP. The organization will take place under Dr. Ricardo Jimenez. A planning organizing committee for the Conference was created. It will be composed of: Ricardo Jimenez, Ameen Raof, Constantin Sora, Dmitry Starchik, Robert Henry, Abraham Albustanji, Nicolas Ernesto Ottone and the President.

***New Members***

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members. Thank you for joining the ISP. Your enthusiasm and interest in plastination will spark a new exchange of ideas among both new and existing members of the ISP. I am grateful for the knowledge and dedication of our existing members as well, and am looking forward to a great year with our increased membership.

Finally, I would like to ask you to become actively involved in our society. Share your knowledge of plastination. Participate by attending the ISP sponsored conferences, joining the standing committees, contributing to the editorial board of the Journal, by submitting articles to the Journal of Plastination, or contributing to our ListServe. You will stimulate growth and help make the ISP a valuable instrument of knowledge, innovation and collaboration for the advancement of plastination.

With my warmest regards from Toledo, Ohio, USA

Yours Sincerely



Carlos A. C. Baptista

President