

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Rafael Latorre, DVM,
PhD**

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the International Society for Plastination (ISP), I would like to thank you for your participation in the 12th International Interim Conference on Plastination, in Durban, South Africa, 2017. Forty-five delegates from fourteen different countries participated in the Conference. My special gratitude goes to those of you who agreed to present a poster or oral communication: your contribution is very special and vital to maintain high standards in our Society.

It was a great pleasure to be in Durban during that time, and I would like to thank The College of Health Sciences, University of KwaZulu- Natal, Durban, South Africa, and especially the efforts of Dr. Azu Onyemaechi and his local team in organizing this congress. I know it has not been easy; there have been many hours of coordinated work to get everything prepared. I know from experience that organizing these kinds of conferences, together with a workshop, takes a great deal of effort. In addition, in this case, Dr. Onyemaechi has also had to combine this with a move to a new job in a different University.

This has been the first conference of the International Society for Plastination in South Africa: a challenge for the ISP governing committee, so we have all held weekly meetings with the local organizers to help them develop the best conference possible. For this reason, I would especially like to thank the work done by Drs. Carlos Baptista, Robert Henry, and Dmitry Starchik. Without their help this congress would not have been possible.

The group of experts who were responsible for the theoretical sessions and the hands-on stations during the workshop ensured the success of this congress. Thank you very much for accepting this collaboration because I know that it is not easy to reconcile this with both academic and family agendas.

The Conference was very interesting, but what is more important is that we had a very good ambience; the interaction during social events was wonderful, and this was only possible because we had the best Event Manager, Ms. Janine Meyer-Hoffmann. Thank you very much for all you did for us during those days, and thank you for your dedication to make everything in this meeting such a big success.

We have all learned many things from each other, we have had the opportunity to discuss very interesting topics about plastination techniques and the applications of plastination, as well as to establish interesting collaborations. Now we all have new ideas and projects in our minds to carry out in the near future, and therefore to present new results next summer in Dalian.

Thank you very much.

Rafael Latorre
President