

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Rafael Latorre, DVM, PhD**

Letter from the President of the International Society for Plastination

Dear Friends and Plastinators,

On behalf of the International Society for Plastination (ISP) I would like to thank all of you who participated in the 19th International Conference on Plastination in Dalian, China (July 2018). I would like to thank The Dalian Medical University, and especially the efforts made by Dr. Sui and his local team, to organize this congress. There were many hours of coordinated work to get everything ready. I know from experience that organizing this kind of conference, together with a workshop, takes a lot of effort. The quality of the lectures and communications was excellent as substantiated in the abstracts contained in this issue of the Journal of Plastination. Special thanks to Ms. Tanya and the yellow-green volunteers for their dedication to making everything in this meeting a great success. Members of the International Society for Plastination had frequent meetings with the local organization committee to help them develop the best conference possible. For this reason, I would like to express my special thanks for the work done by Drs. Carlos Baptista, Robert Henry, Dmitry Starchik and Selcuk Tunali; without their help this congress would not have been possible. We learned a lot during the congress, and we established interesting collaborations for our laboratories in the near future.

In the general meeting of the ISP held on July 21, 2018, Dalian, the new Officers and Councilors of the International Society for Plastination for the biennial 2018-2020 were announced: President: Rafael Latorre; Vice-president: Dmitry Starchik; Secretary: Nicolas Ottone; Treasurer: Carlos Baptista; and Councilors Kees De Jong, Hong-Jin Sui, Onyemaech Okpara Azu, and Telma Masuko. I would like to thank Anthony Weinhaus for his support with this election process. Special thanks to Selcuk Tunali for his tenure as Secretary since 2016. Thanks to Bob Henry, Ming Zhang and Athelson Bittencourt for serving as councilors since 2016. We greatly appreciate the time they have dedicated to the ISP. I am sure they will continue to be involved as active members and we will still have the opportunity to learn from them. Congratulations to all elected officers, you are the principal part of our Society during the next two years. Thank you for the opportunity of serving the ISP as your President for the next two years. I will do my best, and with the help of all ISP members, especially the board committee, I am sure our Society will keep growing in both activities and prestige.

We have two years ahead to finish projects we have already started in the ISP and to begin with new actions to improve our Society. During the general assembly in Dalian, we presented the following proposals:

1. ISP Website:
  - a. New ISP webpage with a new look and more information about members, labs, commercials, video tutorials etc.
  - b. Optimize the information obtained with our ISP survey. A lot of information can be included in the new ISP website
  - c. Include the link with the MOOC about S10, P40 and E12 plastination techniques
  - d. Announce any course or seminar about plastination around the world
  - e. Include a section of new papers about research using plastination as a tool
2. ISP list:

plastination@mailman.utoledo.edu  
internationalsocietyforplastin@groupspaces.com

  - a. Open to the list any question we receive asking for help or information about plastination techniques
  - b. Send to the list topics to discuss around plastination activities
  - c. Promote new research applications/techniques of plastination
3. Journal of Plastination:
  - a. Commitment to send papers from the ISP members
  - b. Commitment to invite to other people to participate in the journal with original paper/ review
4. Training:
  - a. Promote at least two new advanced plastination courses in the next two years

Participants in the general meeting of the ISP also decided on Temuco, Chile, to host the 20th International Conference on Plastination to be held in 2020. My best congratulations to Dr. Nicolas Ottone. The other candidate, Honolulu, Hawaii, was invited to host the 12th Interim Meeting of the ISP in 2019.

I would like to welcome all new members of the ISP and to invite them as well as the rest of member to participate in the various ongoing activities organized or hosted by the ISP.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation and gratitude to Dr. Philip Adds, for the superb job as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Plastination and for the continued organization of the journal.

With the kindest regards from Murcia, Spain

Yours sincerely,

Rafael Latorre