**Message from the President**

Dear Colleagues,:  

I is my great pleasure to invite you to meet again in Debrecen in August, to the 14th Congress of our Society. I really look forward to meet all the members of the ISEM family in a very warm and welcoming environment provided by the team of Dr. Norbert Nemeth.

The auspices look very promising due to the hard work of Dr. Jenny Zhang that managed to balance the finances of the Society and of Mihai Oltean who has been instrumental in creating a new homepage as a new public image of our Society. This is one of the most important events in the life of the Society and we invite all members to contribute with information, photos or any other accomplishments of your microsurgical activity.

We should go further by encouraging new colleagues to step into the Society, by changing and modernizing the bylaws and by welcoming our members to apply for the open councilor positions, as announced in this issue of the newsletter.

Further details are outlined in the message of the Secretary General.

Best wishes,

Mihai Ionac  
ISEM President

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**Important date**

- **Abstract submission deadline:** 23 April, 2018
- **Only two weeks left**

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**Announcement**

The Executive Council of ISEM calls upon the members to submit suggestions for changes of the current bylaws or other topics to be discussed at the General Assembly August 24th, 2018 in Debrecen. The proposals should be submitted by mail to the Secretary General no later than May 20th, 2018.
Many professional associations witness an apparent increase in activity before, during and immediately after their congresses followed by a one-year long comfortable lethargy as people get back to their day-to-day activities. Or, at least this is what meets the eye... Commitments usually made during the meetings need to be followed and enforced immediately after it to make it from plan to reality. Several commitments have been made in 2016 at the ISEM board meeting in Tianjin including the establishment of new committees for the increased involvement of the membership as well as setting up a new, modern website. ISEM's new website is ready to be launched in the coming weeks with both old and new content. The old homepage that faithfully served the society for many years and was generously hosted by the University of Debrecen will be soon replaced by www.myisem.org. This change will certainly improve our Society's visibility as well as the communication and information within ISEM. In parallel with improving the outside image, work is ongoing to modernize the society on its inside, by reviewing its bylaws to reflect its current and future directions. In the current issue of the newsletter the Executive Board issued a Call for proposals to receive suggestions for changes to the bylaws. These suggestions will be collected and compiled by the Secretary General and discussed by the ISEM Council in Debrecen. The results will be submitted for voting to the General Assembly on the August 24th. I urge you all to read the current bylaws and participate in the process.

**Recruitment....**

*ISEM executive committee is seeking nominations for four positions of Councilor for the term 2018-2024.* The candidates must be ISEM members in good standing for the past two years and should have the nomination supported by two ISEM Councilors. Self-nominations are also accepted. The candidates should submit a 100 word CV and a brief motivation to the secretary General by May 20th, 2018.

**A Reminder — Member Benefit**
- Reduced registration fees for ISEM meetings
- Discounted rates at ISEM-accredited courses & educational activities
- Voting rights and the opportunity to serve on ISEM committees
- Continuing Medical Education (CME)
- Online surgical videos, lectures and webinars
- Regular updates on ISEM initiatives and activities
- Consulting services and expert networking
- Become part of a global network of top microsurgeons and researchers

**Wind of changes...**

Dr. Mihai Oltean
ISEM Secretary

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**new members 2018**

* Shirley Potter, (Ireland)
* Andrea Menozzi (Italy)
ISEM has set off with the great mission of bringing together international scientists across various disciplines, scientific background and techniques used for the progress of medicine, biomedical research, veterinary medicine, engineering through the use of microsurgical technique. The new concept of Translational Microsurgery has been introduced because the society covers both experimental and clinical microsurgery. An equally important quest of ISEM is to pass its mission to the younger generation.

In Japan, we set up Two National Chapters: West Chapter (Prof. Shinji Uemoto and Dr. Shintaro Yagi) has a focus on young clinical surgeons and East Chapter (Hiroshi Ishii. DMV and Kaoru Endo. DMV) encourages both veterinary clinicians and students to acquire and develop microsurgical skills. Here, I would like to summarize the recent activities of these national branches.

In the West chapter, following 3 years of efforts as a National Project we succeeded to develop a novel device combining a high performance (4K) CCD camera with 3D imaging technology (3D) for advanced microsurgery. It allows 'Head-up surgery' with borderless surgical field from macro- to micro-view. We would like to share this new surgery by use of this 4K-3D video scope with ISEM members because it can apply all fields of conventional microsurgery. A demonstration video will be soon available on the new ISEM website.

The East Chapter has been very active on the educational front, organizing several hands-on seminars for veterinary students using non-living biomaterials. These have been held more than 6 times annually. The participants understood and that only excellent surgical technique could save lovely companion animals. The organizers also devoted much attention to share the concept of Experimental Medicine proposed by Dr. Claude Bernard (1865) and promote the 3R principles for animal welfare.

ISEM, our Society, let us take good care of it!