Dear Friends and Colleagues,

2016 has been a time of change on the ESPO Board. Jorge Spratley became our new President at ESPO 2016 in Lisbon, I officially took over from John Graham as Secretary-General, our Past-President John Russell took over from Chris Raine as Treasurer, and Christian Sittel took over from me as Chairman of the Members’ Committee. The full Board is listed on the ESPO website here. We all look forward to working with Anja Fischer at Abbey in developing ESPO into an ever more active organisation with a strong emphasis on education and training in paediatric otolaryngology.

Each European country is entitled to have two ESPO Council members who are nominated by their national paediatric ORL society, and we are gradually filling vacancies where there are gaps in this representation. Current Council members are listed in the Members’ Area of the ESPO website here. The Council also has six non-voting Liaison Members from regions of the world outside Europe who provide links to societies such as ASPO, IAPO, ANZSPO and APOG. Council’s most important responsibility is selecting the venue for the next ESPO Congress from short-listed bids which are presented at the Congress four years in advance, and I shall soon be inviting bids from national paediatric ORL societies for ESPO 2022!

Our President Jorge Spratley and his colleague Luisa Monteiro delivered a wonderful Congress at the Belém Conference Centre in Lisbon (18th – 21st June 2016), with the theme ‘Current status and future trends in pediatric otolaryngology’. The academic programme was...
outstanding, the weather was glorious and there were more than 1600 delegates from all over the world – the biggest ESPO Congress ever!

Abbey Conference & Events has now been our Association Management Company (AMC) for nearly two years, and many of you will have met Anja Fischer at the Lisbon Conference. Anja provides administrative support to the Board, Council and General Assembly, and Abbey’s resources have enabled us to develop the ESPO website and improve our membership and subscription renewal system.

Abbey has also taken on the role of Professional Conference Organiser (PCO) for ESPO, working with a local company based in whichever country the biennial Congress takes place. This avoids the need for the wheel to be re-invented for each and every Congress, but draws upon local knowledge and expertise where it is needed. Abbey is currently working with the Organising Committee for ESPO 2018 in Stockholm, and is already in liaison with the organisers of ESPO 2020 in Marseille.

The Stockholm conference website is at www.ESPO2018.com, and I strongly encourage you to save the dates (2nd – 5th June 2018)! Please note that as an ESPO member you can save significantly more than your membership subscription when you register. You can check that your membership is up to date, or join as a new member, via our society website at www.ESPO.eu.com.

ESPO is a member of the Confederation of European Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery (CEORL-HNS), and as such is invited to organise the paediatric part of the scientific programme at its biennial congresses. Following a very successful meeting in Prague in June 2015 attended by 3,400 delegates, the next CEORL-HNS Congress will be held in Barcelona, Spain (7th – 11th October 2017) where the focus will be on education and training. See www.CEORLHNS2017.com.

Also in 2017 is the IFOS ENT World Congress, to be held in Paris (24th – 28th June 2017), and ESPO members are well-represented by Noël Garabédian who is coordinating the paediatric part of the scientific programme with Alan Cheng from Sydney, Australia. See www.IFOSParis2017.org.

There is now an established paediatric otolaryngology component to the European Board Examination in ORL-HNS (EBEORL-HNS), which has been spearheaded by Michael Kuo who is Chairman of the ESPO Education & Training Committee. Paediatric Examiners drawn from ESPO participate in the Part II Oral Exam which is held in Vienna in November of each year.

Following the Lisbon Congress, ESPO now has a fledgling Junior Members’ Forum for trainees led by Andrew Hall. One of its initiatives is a scholarship to attend the British Paediatric Otolaryngology Course in March – see details on the ESPO website here.
With very best wishes for the New Year,

Martin Bailey
*ESPO Secretary-General*

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**2017**

IFOS ENT World Congress, Paris  
24th – 28th June

CEORL-HNS Congress, Barcelona  
7th – 11th October

**2018**


[www.CEORLHNS2017.com](http://www.CEORLHNS2017.com)

ESPO 2018, Stockholm  
2nd – 5th June


**2020**

ESPO 2020, Marseille  
June

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