



"Spring is the time of plans and projects."

— Leo Tolstoy

A new beginning — message from the president

Normality has slowly returned among us and various associations, including ISEM, which are well on their way to organize their first "in person" meeting after the last three dreadful years. There is so much to look forward to during 2023 as the 16th Congress is going to bring us all together once again. Besides that, a new leadership team is going to step in and guide our Society for the next years. Ballots are going to be casted during the congress in Genoa, where I hope to meet as many as possible of you, old and new ISEM members and friends. Our host, Professor Francesco Boccardo and his team have compiled an exciting Scientific Program combining experimental microsurgery, microsurgery training, lymphology and robotics, ensuring both updates on various topics and, hopefully a cross pollination effect between different research fields and groups.

In addition, this edition features a special session centered around European Surgical Research, a journal with a history of over fifty years and which, since 2021, has become the official journal of ISEM. Members of the editorial board will share insights and practical advice on scientific writing, manuscript preparation and the review process, which may answer to several dilemmas and thoughts that many of the younger investigators certainly have. And of course, as it is Italy, we are also anticipating a fantastic social program, good food and great time.

This is also my last message on the first page as ISEM President. I would like to thank again all the members for their valuable contribution to the ISEM scientific and educational activity. It has been a privilege to communicate and work together with many of you, steering the society through the tough and desolated landscape of the pandemic. It is my hope that ISEM has evolved into a more transparent, inclusive and rejuvenated scientific Society, well fit for the next years and the younger generations. Thank you for everything!



Dr Mihai Oltean
ISEM president

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN



nominee's acceptance to stand for election. Nominations (including self-nominations) are accepted from all ISEM members in good standing and should be submitted to the Secretary General by June 5th, 2023.

For PRESIDENT ELECT & SECRETARY GENERAL

The candidate for the position of President Elect must have been ISEM member for at least four years whereas the candidate for the position of Secretary General must have been ISEM member for at least two years.

The candidate for each position should provide the names of two voting members supporting the candidature, along with a five-line summary (around 100 words) of the nominee's curriculum vitae and the



Update from the President of The 16th ISEM Congress



Dear ISEM members, colleagues, and friends,

In less than 2 months the 16th ISEM Congress will take place in Genoa between 22 and 24 June. The preparation of this congress had to face many difficulties, overcome thanks to the deep conviction that the biennial meetings of our Society absolutely had to start again.

Now here we are, the program is very dense, with contributions of high scientific level, which embrace all areas of basic and clinical research in the field of microsurgical techniques, associated with robotics, virtual reality, artificial intelligence and computational medicine.

Keynote lectures have 15 minutes, 13 minutes for presentation and 2 for discussion. The oral presentations 10 minutes, of which 8 plus 2 for discussion. The role of the chairmen will be precisely to coordinate the sessions carefully to ensure that all the sessions have the time provided for each.

Lunch and coffee breaks will be held in the exhibition areas in order to allow participants to find out about all the news presented by the various sponsor companies of the congress. I must say that the interest from companies of various types was very much and this allowed me to organize the congress as I had thought and desired.

The hotels, the congress venue and the building where the gala dinner will be held are within walking distance and in the beautiful center of Genoa. The old port and the waterfront are also nearby, so there will be the opportunity to enjoy these places too.

At the opening ceremony we will also have the opportunity to listen to a beautiful concert by the musician and artist Ketevan Abiatari on violin, who will play together with a colleague on the piano. After their concert, we will move to the floors corresponding to the terrace of the Doge's Palace to enjoy a good welcome cocktail.

For any need or information, as well as to the organizing secretariat (s.rutigliano@pro-forma.org), write to me (francesco.boccardo@unige.it) and to the scientific coordinator (saradessalvi@hotmail.it).

I really look forward to meeting you all at the next ISEM congress.

Francesco Boccardo

President of the Congress



Program at a glance

Thursday 22 June	Friday 23 June	Saturday 24 June
08:30	SESSION III: "Advances in organ and tissue transplantations"	SESSION VIII: "Translational Researches in Lymphology"
10:00	Coffee Break	Open Coffee (during the morning)
10:10		SESSION IX: "The Official ISEM Journal European Surgical Research – Tips from the Editorial Board"
10:30	SESSION IV: "Ischemia-Reperfusion in Microsurgery - Technological Biomedical Innovations"	
11:00		SESSION X: "Experimental Models, Training, New Technologies, Clinical and Translational Microsurgery"
11:35	SESSION V: "Robotic Microsurgery and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Assisted Microsurgery"	
12:35		Final greetings – END OF THE CONGRESS
12:45		
13:25	Lunch – ISEM BOARD	
14:30	Opening of the Congress: Congress President and ISEM President welcome	SESSION VI: "Researches and New Challenges in Lymphology and Lymphatic Microsurgery"
14:50	SESSION I: "Newly Developed Experimental Models – Translational Research"	
16:30	Coffee Break	
16:35	Coffee Break	
17:00	SESSION II: "Bioengineering and Regenerative Medicine- Wound Care and Role of the Lymphatic System"	SESSION VII: "Training and Education in Microsurgery"
19:00	ISEM GENERAL ASSEMBLY	
19:15	Welcome CONCERT	
20:00	Welcome Cocktail	
20:30 -20:45	GALA DINNER	



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László Ádám Fazekas, M.D.

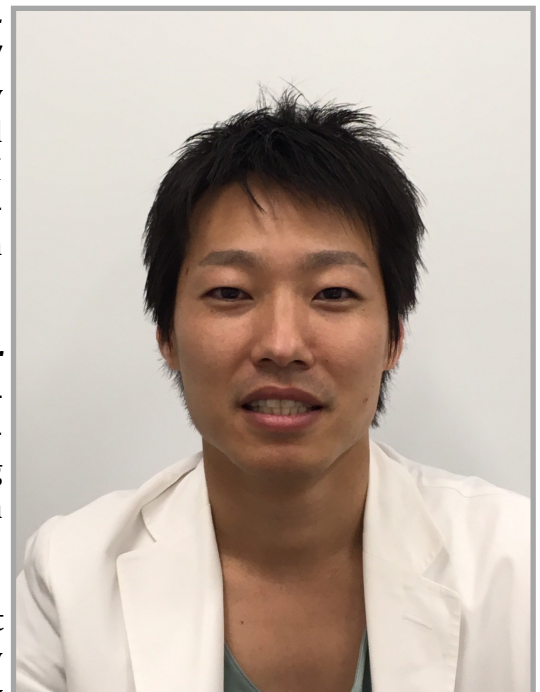
Department of Operative Techniques and Surgical Research
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1. Which was your first contact with experimental microsurgery? My first experience with microsurgery was at the 2017 Educational Hands-on Seminar for Microsurgical Training by ISEM West Japan (Prof. Shinji Uemoto, Prof. Eiji Kobayashi, and Prof. Shintaro Yagi). At that seminar, I was frustrated because I could not successfully anastomose blood vessels. Subsequently, as a graduate student, I trained in microsurgery through basic research using a rat liver transplantation model.

2. Why did you joined ISEM and what you expect from your membership? I wanted to learn about different ideas for clinical and experimental microsurgery through international connections. Recently, I was impressed by the idea of using smartphones and 3D printers for microsurgery training from a group in the UK.

3. What are your plans for the future? As a liver transplant surgeon, I would like to use my microsurgical skills in surgery and use them to further surgical research. I find microsurgery fascinating because it develops patience as well as technique.



Masaaki Hirata, M.D.



Saran Lotfollahzadeh, M.D.

provide regular updates, opportunities for continuous learning, and skill development. Furthermore, an interdisciplinary network with biomedical research through ISEM would be a great opportunity to ground novel methods and measures.

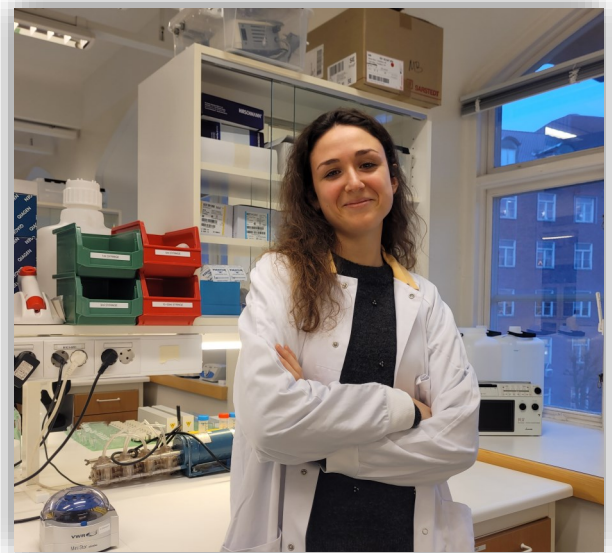
3. What are your plans for the future? My long-term goal is to become an independent physician-scientist in cardiovascular translational research. A ubiquitous track of clinical exposure to translational vascular research and my background in continuous medical education encourages me to establish a collaborative core facility. I believe the training through ISEM will complement my clinical training and translational research work to become an active member of the scientifically vibrant community.



1. Which was your first contact with experimental microsurgery? I had barely any contact with microsurgery until I recently joined my current research group as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Gothenburg, led by Mats Brännström. It is so thrilling to be learning microsurgical procedures that I can apply to my research!

2. why did you joined ISEM and what you expect from your membership? I decided to join this society because it is a reference in the field and also because it is the best way to keep updated about the topic and, of course, keep learning. I also intend to attend their annual congress. It would be awe-inspiring to listen to so experienced microsurgeons from all over the world talking about their research lines!

3. What are your plans for the future? I would love to keep doing experimental research within reproductive medicine, the field I have specialized in, to become a professor in the future maybe. However, the journey is complicated, so we shall see what the future holds.



Lucia de Miguel Gomez, Ph.D. M.Sc.

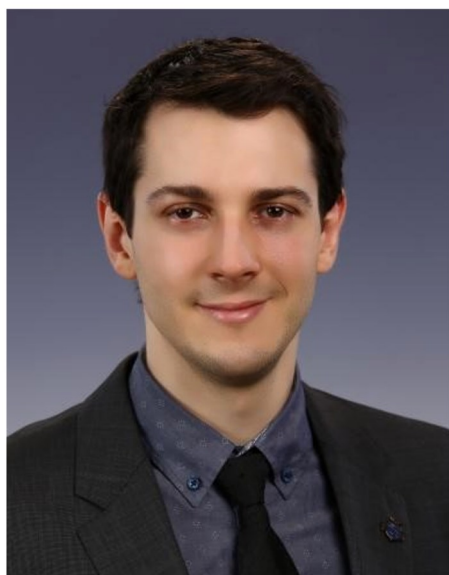
1. What was your first contact with experimental microsurgery? My first experience in experimental microsurgery was during my graduate studies where I had the opportunity to work on a project that involved the use of microsurgical techniques (injury of the mouse carotid artery) in order to study the effects of certain drugs (Tamoxifen) on blood vessels

2. Why did you join ISEM and what do you expect from your membership? I joined ISEM because I believe in the importance of networking and collaborating with other researchers in this field. I am looking forward to joining the community because of my passion for this research area, and I eagerly seek to learn from the knowledge and experiences of other members

3. What are your plans for the future? In the future, I plan to continue exploring the use of microsurgical techniques in order to study the effects of different treatments on biological systems. I am also interested in exploring the use of microsurgery in the development of new surgical techniques that could be of benefit to medicine.



Rana Zahreddine, Ph.D



1. Which was your first contact with experimental microsurgery? My first contact with experimental microsurgery was the lecture of Professor Norbert Németh, which I listened to as a medical student six years ago. After the completion of Basic surgical techniques at the Department of Operative Techniques and Surgical Research I could attend a microsurgery course and I had the opportunity to start student's scientific work. I did my first microsurgical anastomosis on chicken sciatic artery in 2018 and now I can anastomise the saphenous vessels of the rat (~0.4 mm). I could learn and practice a lot in the previous years and currently I'm a PhD student of this Department.

2. Why did you joined ISEM and what you expect from your membership? Over the years I have grown to love microsurgery, the precision, discipline, perseverance and patience required to produce a high-quality result. I have heard many good things about this association and I have been fortunate to have attended previous ISEM conferences (2018, 2021) where

László Ádám Fazekas, M.D.

I have encountered a high quality of professionalism and passion. I would like to be part of this dynamic development.

3, What are your plans for the future? In recent years, mainly under the influence of my masters, I have become very fond of microvascular surgery and the curiosity of the unknown that comes with different types of research. At the same time, I am also very interested in the clinical field, in which I could make use of the aquired microsurgery skills, so in addition to vascular surgery, neurosurgery and plastic surgery are also attractive areas to me.

