Foreword

The European Society of Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics (ESNCH)

The formation of the European Society of Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics (ESNCH) was proposed by Professor David Russell in a letter to leading European Scientists in this field in December 1993. In August 1994 Professor Russell sent a more general invitation to European scientists inviting them to attend an inaugural meeting during the 8th International Cerebral Hemodynamics Symposium from 25th to 27th September 1994 which was chaired by Professor E. Bernd Ringelstein in Münster, Germany, from 25th to 27th September 1994. The inaugural meeting of the ESNCH was held on 26th September 1994. The first meeting of the ESNCH was chaired by Professor Jürgen Klingelhöfer and Professor Eva Bartels in Munich, Germany, from 29th August to 1st September 1996. The statutes of the Society were accepted by a General Assembly on 27th May 1997 during the 2nd meeting of the ESNCH in Zeist/Utrecht, Netherlands, which was chaired by Professor Rob G. A. Ackerstaff.

The first Executive Committee consisted of Professor David Russell (President), Professor Jürgen Klingelhöfer (secretary), Professor Eva Bartels (treasurer), Professor Rob G. A. Ackerstaff, Professor Donald Grosset, Professor Kurt Niederkorn, Professor E. Bernd Ringelstein and Professor Elietta Zanette.

The ESNCH has grown in the last 18 years to become one of the most important societies in the world in the field of neurosonology and cerebral hemodynamics. We pride ourselves by being a society of the highest academic discipline while always maintaining a welcoming family atmosphere at all of our meetings. We also follow strict financial discipline in order to keep our membership and meeting fees at a level which enables younger colleagues from all countries to become a member and attend our meetings. The number of members continues to grow and we now are a truly international society with members from 29 different countries.

The backbone of a society is dependent on the contributions of its members and we would like to thank all of our colleagues who have contributed to the ESNCH especially on the executive board and different scientific committees. The main reason for our success has been the scientific contributions at our yearly meetings which have made significant contributions in the field of neurosonology and cerebral hemodynamics. It is with sincere thanks and pride that we recall the 16 very successful yearly meetings which the ESNCH has had. The success of these meetings is also without doubt due to the hard work done by the organizing chairpersons and their committees.

We would therefore like you to take a walk down memory lane and to look back and remember the wonderful science and social activities that we had in many different European countries: the 1st meeting of the ESNCH in Munich, Germany, from 29th August 1996, chaired by Professor Jürgen Klingelhöfer and Professor Eva Bartels, the 2nd meeting of the ESNCH in Zeist/Utrecht, Netherlands, May 1997, chaired by Professor Rob G. A. Ackerstaff, the 3rd meeting of the ESNCH in Glasgow, Scotland, May 1998, chaired by Professor Donald G. Grosset, the 4th meeting of the ESNCH in Venice, Italy, April 1999, chaired by Professor Elietta Zanette, the 5th meeting of the ESNCH in Graz, Austria, May 2000, chaired by Professor Kurt Niederkorn, the 6th meeting of the ESNCH in Lisbon, Portugal, May 2001, chaired by Professor Victor Oliveira, the 7th meeting of the ESNCH in Bern, Switzerland, from May 2002, chaired by Professor Matthias Sturzenegger, the 8th meeting of the ESNCH in Alicante, Spain, from May 2003, chaired by Dr. José-Manuel Moltó-Jorda, the 9th meeting of the ESNCH in Wetzlar, Germany, May 2004, chaired by Professor Manfred Kaps, the 10th meeting of the ESNCH in Abano Terme, Padova, Italy, May 2005, chaired by Professor Giorgio Meneghetti, the 11th meeting of the ESNCH took place in Düsseldorf, Germany, from May 2006, chaired by Professor Mario Siebler, the 12th meeting of the ESNCH took place in Budapest, Hungary, May 2007, chaired by Professor László Csiba, the 13th meeting of the ESNCH in Geneva, Italy, May 2008, chaired by Professor Massimo Del Sette, the 14th meeting of ESNCH took place in Riga, Latvia, May 2009, chaired by Dr. Galina Baltgaile, the 15th meeting of the
ESNCH took place in Madrid, Spain, May 2010, chaired by Dr. Joaquin Carneado-Ruiz and the 16th meeting of the ESNCH in Munich, May 2011, chaired by Professor Eva Bartels.

We are now looking forward to our 17th meeting which will be held in Venice from 17th to 20th of May 2012, and will be chaired by Dr. Claudio Baracchini and Professor Giorgio Meneghetti.

The society has also had its very sad moments and we still feel the loss of three very dear friends who were pioneers in the field of neurosonology and cerebral hemodynamics: William Markley McKinney, Elietta Maria Zanette and Merrill P. Spencer (honorary member).

The society has the pleasure and privilege of having three esteemed honorary members: Professor Rune Aaslid, Professor Hiroshi Furuhata and Professor Karl-Fredrik Lindegaard.

The ESNCH has had three past presidents: Professor David Russell (Founding President), Professor E. Bernd Ringelstein and Professor Kurt Niederkorn. The serving president of the ESNCH is Professor László Csiba.

We would lastly like to thank Professor Eva Bartels for her contributions to the ESNCH since its beginning and congratulate her on the publication of New Trends in Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics — an Update which is based on scientific contributions made by ESNCH members at the 16th meeting of the ESNCH in Munich, May 2011. There is no doubt that this book will promote the goals of the ESNCH with regard to the clinical use of neurosonology and our understanding of cerebral hemodynamics.

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