

Telephone: 0191 282 5234 Ext: 25234
Fax: 0191 282 0497
Academic Secretary: roz.scott@ncl.ac.uk



Translational and Clinical Research Institute
Medical School
Framlington Place
Newcastle University
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE2 4HH

20th June 2020

Dear ESID Board and ESID Members,

Motivation for President-Elect application

Despite these extraordinary times, I am sure you will agree with me that the European Society of Primary Immunodeficiencies plays a critical role with other regional clinical immunology societies to form a global network advocating with clinicians, nurses and scientists for the benefit of our patients – this has been clear during the Covid19 pandemic. As demonstrated by the pandemic, patients are our first priority.

I have significant experience within ESID. Under my leadership of the Inborn Errors Working Party, and currently the Clinical Working Party, I have overseen numerous initiatives leading to better understanding of treatments and disease outcomes. I have started a programme of developing ESID guidelines for disease management, two of which are published, and several others are in progress. I have enabled others to utilise the ESID registry to initiate clinical projects in order to improve our understanding of the clinical course of specific diseases.

Junior trainees and fellows are an important constituent of our society and I have enabled opportunities for trainees from around Europe and beyond, through fellowships and centre visits, which has led to significant presentations and publications, enhancing the reputation of the society, developing our trainees as future specialist field leaders, and improving patient-centred research. Under my leadership, of both working parties, I have embraced collaboration and inclusivity to encourage and enable motivated trainees and more senior experts from our society, of which there are many, to lead on projects, present at meetings and educational events and publish. I have helped enable centres previously less active in the society, particularly in Eastern Europe, to actively participate in society activities.

I am well known through the field of Clinical Immunology, particularly Primary Immunodeficiency and have active collaborations with patient organisations, colleagues and immunology societies throughout the world.

ESID faces a number of challenges as we move to the future, not least as we transition from being a relatively small society, to one that is much bigger. I wish to see greater membership involvement and ownership of society activities – an inclusive society enabling participation, and in particular embracing Eastern Europe. This can be achieved in a number of different ways. We should enhance our already outstanding educational opportunities, which currently are predominantly directed at junior members, but should be widened to the broader membership, and recognise the important contribution and educational needs of non-clinicians. The Covid19 pandemic has shown us new ways of working, other than face to face,

and we can incorporate some of these into the way we interact as we move forward, but not sacrificing the opportunities that only come with face to face meetings – hybrid models may provide some solutions. ESID will need to consider the financial landscape carefully for future events, particularly as we expand our activities, but also finding new ways of engaging with pharmaceutical industries. As one of the leading immunological societies, we should be working collaboratively with our partners – other immunological societies, nursing and patient organisations to achieve global impact – The survey of the impact of Covid19 on our patients in collaboration with CIS, LASID ASID, APSID, ASCIA and IPOPI, JMF and IUIS was an excellent example of working together.

If elected as President to ESID, I pledge to work for the society, to maintain and develop the world-leading position that ESID holds. I would continue to encourage participation from all members and centres. Our greatest asset after our members is our registry, which is currently under-utilised. I will democratise the registry, so that, through the working party leadership, it is transparently available to all members to conduct studies and improve our understanding of disease and improve patient outcomes. I will continue to encourage our junior membership, and create more opportunities for training and education for all.

I believe that I have demonstrated my abilities during my leadership of IEWP and CWP. I will continue to widen these opportunities, should I be elected as President of ESID.

With best wishes

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AR Gennery', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Professor A R Gennery
M.D., D.C.H., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.P.C.H., Dip.Med.Sci.
Sir James Spence Professor of Child Health
Professor in Paediatric Immunology and
Haematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation