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Dear ESID Board and ESID Members,

Motivation for President-Elect application

ESID plays a decisive role with other regional clinical immunology societies to form a global network advocating with clinicians, nurses and scientists for our patients – clearly demonstrated during the Covid19 pandemic. Patients are our first priority, but best treatments are demonstrated by research, often led from first principles, clinical observation and basic science.

I have significant experience within ESID. Inspired by my first meeting in Rhodos, I have made significant contributions to ESID since then. Under my leadership of the IEWP, and subsequently the CWP, I directed numerous initiatives leading to better understanding of treatments and disease outcomes. I began developing ESID guidelines for disease management, which is on-going. I enabled others to utilise the ESID registry to initiate clinical projects and improve our understanding of the clinical course of specific diseases. I co-led the “Autoimmunity and inflammation in PID – Beyond the paradox” ESID meeting in Edinburgh (2017). I was meeting President for the 2021 on-line CWP-ESID symposium on “Immunological Consequences of Targeted Immune Therapies”.

Junior trainees and fellows are an important constituent of our society. I have encouraged trainees from around Europe and beyond to take opportunities, through fellowships and centre visits, which has enabled many to submit significant presentations and publications, which enhances the reputation of the society, develops our trainees as future specialist field leaders, and improves patient-centred research. Under my previous leadership, of both IEWP and CWP, I have embraced collaboration and inclusivity to encourage and enable motivated trainees and more senior experts from our society from numerous countries, to lead on projects, present at meetings and educational events and publish. I have enabled centres previously less active in ESID, particularly in Eastern Europe, to actively participate in society activities and will continue to do this.

ESID faces numerous challenges in the future, as we transition from being a mid-size society, to one that is much bigger. I will encourage greater membership involvement and ownership of society activities – an inclusive society enabling participation, and in particular embracing countries with emerging clinical immunology services. This can be achieved in several different ways. We should continue to enhance our 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, and allied health professionals. ESID will need to find new ways of engaging with pharmaceutical industries in the current challenging financial climate, as we expand our activities. As one of the leading immunological societies, we should continue to work 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, IPOPI, JMF and IUIS was an excellent example of working together. There are other global challenges e.g. equitable access to specialised treatments, including Ig replacement, gene therapy and thymic transplantation.

If elected as President-elect, I undertake to maintain and develop the world-leading position that ESID holds. I will encourage active participation from all members and centres. I will encourage greater use of the registry, so that, through the working party leadership, it is transparently available to all members to conduct studies and improve understanding of disease and patient outcomes. I will encourage pharmaceutical funding for specific studies, such as the current ADA SCID study. I will 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 Elect of ESID.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A.R. Gennery".

Professor Andrew R Gennery
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