

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



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In 2024, The Portuguese Society of Cardiac Thoracic and Vascular Surgery (PSCTVS) turns 40 years. It is a huge honour to be the current President of the PSCTVS and the appropriate moment to overview the Society's history, the challenges it faces and try to foresee the future. The PSCTVS was founded in 1984 and its first annual meeting occurred in May 1986, in Santa Maria Hospital under the leadership of Prof Jaime Celestino da Costa.

As in previous years, the congress will be held at Real Santa Eulália Hotel in Albufeira November 22-24 and to commemorate our 40th anniversary, we invited the European Association of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery, which, by coincidence, has its annual meeting in Lisbon, in October, the Portuguese Society of Intensive Care and the Spanish Society of Thoracic Surgery. The congress' s theme is "Honouring the Past, Building the Future".

The PSCTVS has 150 active members, 198 associate members, integrates the 3 specialties' Residents' Clubs and welcomes nurses and health technicians.

Our Mission is to promote the development of Cardiac, Thoracic and Vascular Surgery, support continuous education of its members and help inform the population on issues related to heart, lung and vessel diseases.

It is for our members that previous Boards of Directors have worked and contributed to their knowledge and professional development. During the current mandate, we have supported annual residents' meetings, a lung cancer course and a thoracic trauma course.

But the annual meeting remains the Society's greatest achievement. The Congress starts this year with the 2nd Iberian Thoracic Surgery Congress and the Hands On Courses on Friday 22. On Saturday 23, the Organizing Committees have worked hard to build a robust scientific program in the

3 specialties, gathering international and national experts to talk about practical, relevant and controversial clinical topics. We will have the pleasure and honour to meet old friends, who now hold leadership positions in EACTS, including its current and immediate past President and the President of the Portuguese Society of Intensive Care and the President of the Spanish Thoracic Surgery Society.

Finally, on Sunday 24, the plenary session is dedicated to the Congress' moto, briefly outlining the Society's historical background by two of its former Presidents followed by the vision of the future of our specialties, including the future of training in Europe by EACTS leadership, its Residents Committee and the President of the European Society of Intensive Care.

We invite all PSCTVS members to join us in Albufeira and actively participate by sending their abstracts by September 30th. In addition to a very attractive scientific program, providing new knowledge and information, the congress provides an opportunity to see colleagues and friends, network with the industry and enjoy life in a beautiful setting.

Miguel Sousa Uva | President of SPCTV