



Proceedings of the 31st Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Embryo Technology Society (SBTE); Cabo de Santo Agostinho, PE, Brazil, August 17th to 19th, 2017, and 33rd Meeting of the Association of Embryo Transfer in Europe (AETE); Bath, United Kingdom, September 8th and 9th, 2017

From the President of AETE

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce the 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting of the European Embryo Transfer Association (AETE), which will be held in the World Heritage City of Bath, southwest England, from the 8th to the 9th of September 2017.

This is the third year of a joint publication between AETE and SBTE in a special issue of *Animal Reproduction* and I would like to thank José Buratini Jn, President of SBTE, Felipe Perecin, Co-Chair of the SBTE scientific committee, Urban Besenfelder, AETE Secretary and the Editorial Board of *Animal Reproduction*. This collaboration has already gone further by sharing scientific and practical knowledge from both societies through a vice versa participation of an active member from each society with a plenary talk in the annual meetings every year. This year Dr. Jo Leroy will represent AETE to the SBTE annual meeting in Cabo de Santo Agostinho, while Dr. Jose Buratini Jnr. will be represent SBTE to the AETE annual meeting in Bath, U.K. Looking forward to both events.

The scientific program put together by the board of AETE is very inspiring covering most interests of our members. Dr. Jose Buratini Jn, Universidade Estadual Paulista (UNESP) will talk about “Follicular Environment and Oocyte Maturation”, while Dr. Ann Van Soom from University of Gent, Belgium as a leader of the Cost Action-Epiconcept, will give an update on “Cost-Epiconcept: What we have learned and application for the future”. Dr. Martin Sheldon, from Swansea University Medical School, U.K., will give an overview on “Uterine infection and immunity” followed by Dr. Heiner Bollwein from University of Zurich, Switzerland on “Effects of nutritional programming on sexual development in bulls”. We will have 14 short oral communications including the student competition and two workshops. The first workshop will be managed by Jan Detterer, AI- and ET-Center Georgsheil, Germany and Pasqualino Loi, University of Teramo, Italy on “Micromanipulation”, while the second will be led by Erik Mullaart, CRV, The Netherlands on “Selection and treatment of animals for embryo production”. This year we have over 80 accepted abstracts to be presented as posters.

It is a great honor for all board members and for me personally to present Prof. Cesare Galli as the 2017 AETE Medallist. Prof. Galli is founder and Managing Director of Avantea srl, Cremona, Italy and also an Associated Professor of Animal Reproduction at the University of Bologna, Italy. He developed numerous scientific interests in reproductive biotechnologies from *in vitro* embryo production to embryo manipulation and animal cloning by somatic cell nuclear transfer, in a range of different species such as cattle, horse and pig. His scientific contributions are recognized internationally. Prof. Galli has been President of the AETE from 1997 to 2000.

As part of this year’s AETE meeting in Bath the LOC have organised a Pre-conference “Practitioner Repro Day” on Thursday 7th of September. The day consists of a series of workshops in the morning, Flushing, OPU, Embryology and Embryo freezing followed by IVF and lectures by Dr. John Hasler in reproductive technologies and genomics in the afternoon.

Every annual meeting of our society depends on the effort of the local organizing committee, this year headed by Brian Graham, E.G.G. Technologies International, U.K. and his colleagues and the support of our sponsors (until 26th of July 2017): Main: [VETOQUINOL]; General: [EGG TECH]; Exhibitors: [BCF Technology Ltd] [ECM] [ICP Reproduction/Bodinco BV] [IMV Technologies] [IVF] [IVF Technologies] [IVF Biosciences] [Professional Embryo Transfer]; Supporters: [Calier] [CryoLogic Ltd] to whom we are deeply grateful.

Last but not least a great thank to all AETE Board members for their support through the year turning this meeting into a great event for all our members.

We look forward to seeing you in Bath.

Dimitrios Rizos, PhD
AETE President