Dear Colleagues, Dear Mariners,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the Sixth Annual Meeting of the European Plastic Surgery Research Council (EPSRC), to be held in August 21 through 24, 2014, in Hamburg, Germany. The EPSRC was founded as a nonprofit organization in 2009 as a strongly related plastic surgical community to the Plastic Surgery Research Council. The EPSRC is in the privileged position of being one of the main scientific, plastic surgical bridges between Europe, the United States, Asia, and the rest of the world (Figs. 1 and 2).

Following the trails of five tremendously successful past meetings, in 2014 we aim to raise the level of scientific excellence to an entirely new level in Europe once again. The EPSRC is privileged by its official organ, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, and its editor-in-chief, Rod Rohrich, to publish the accepted long oral presentations of this year’s meeting.

After reviewing more than 170 submitted abstracts from over 30 countries worldwide, the scientific committee has selected 44 long oral presentations which will represent the essential core of an outstanding scientific program, addressing topics spanning reconstructive microsurgery, breast, head and neck, hand, oncology, wound healing, technology, and aesthetic. Again, with the great support of the industry, we were able to establish a practical microsurgical corner with genuine S&T Microsurgical Instruments, Synovis coupler devices, and Zeiss microscopes.

In 2014, furthermore, we want to discuss the most relevant evolutions in the field, from extremity reconstruction, perforator flaps, and supramicrosurgery to lymphatic microsurgery and microsurgical education and training. In addition, well-known and distinguished keynote and panel speakers from all over the world will share their expertise on excellent topics.

From the Department of Plastic, Aesthetic, and Reconstructive Surgery, Academic Teaching Hospital of Paracelsus Medical University.

Received for publication May 1, 2014; accepted May 2, 2014.
Copyright © 2014 by the American Society of Plastic Surgeons
DOI: 10.1097/PRS.0000000000000460

Welcome from the Captain

Lorenz Larcher, M.D., M.A.
Salzburg, Austria

Fig. 1. Lorenz Larcher, M.D., M.A., Captain, 2014 Annual Meeting of the European Plastic Surgical Research Council.

Fig. 2. European Plastic Surgery Research Council 2014 Annual Meeting logo.

Disclosure: The author has no financial interest in any of the products, devices, or drugs mentioned in the accepted abstracts of the EPSRC 2014.
I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation and thanks to my dear friend Lars Steinstraesser for his tireless efforts and determination, which have taken EPSRC into the highest hierarchy in the world scientific arena in plastic and reconstructive surgery. Last but not least, I would like to acknowledge the scientific board and conference organization for their ongoing support, review work, and invaluable suggestions, which were pivotal for the organization of this exciting meeting.

The MS Cap San Diego will provide a good occasion for all participants to make new friends and further develop, grow, and strengthen their worldwide scientific network.

I am looking forward to welcoming you on board the White Swan of the Atlantic in Hamburg in August of 2014!

Ahoy!

Lorenz Larcher, M.D., M.A.
Captain 2014, European Plastic Surgical Research Council
Hospital St. John of God (Barmherzige Brüder Salzburg)
Department of Plastic, Aesthetic, and Reconstructive Surgery
Academic Teaching Hospital of Paracelsus Medical University
Kajetanerplatz, 1
A-5020 Salzburg, Austria
lorenz.larcher@gmail.com