

European Society of Cardiology
Prof. Barbara Casadei
Chair of the Election Committee
2035, Route des Colles
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Bern, 1 November 2021

Motivation letter – ESC Elections 2022-2024

Dear Prof Casadei, Dear members of the election panel

With this letter of intent, I wish to submit my application for the position as Vicepresident for the upcoming election to the Board of the European Society of Cardiology 2022-2024.

Currently, I assume the position of Chairman and Professor at the Department of Cardiology, Bern University Hospital, which is the largest tertiary care facility in the field of Cardiovascular Medicine in Switzerland. The Department of Cardiology is part of the Cardiovascular Center Bern that comprises the Departments of Cardiac Surgery, Vascular Surgery and Angiology. In my professional role, I have the responsibility for the in- and outpatient service providing specialized care in all areas of cardiology including prevention, cardiac imaging, electrophysiology, heart failure, coronary artery disease, valvular heart disease, stroke prevention pulmonary embolism and rehabilitation. Next to my clinical responsibilities, I am in charge of the education (under- as well as post-graduate) and research activities for the Department and serve as Vice-Dean for Continuous Medical Education at the Medical Faculty of the University of Bern. Owing to this experience, I am very familiar with the day-to-day clinical activities and needs of staff cardiologists, those in training as well as those in practice. The close collaboration and support for all subspecialties in the field of cardiovascular medicine and the regular interaction with cardiac surgery colleagues have been the basis for the development of disease and patient-centered pathways at our institution. As clinician-scientist my principal research interests focus on clinical trials for the evaluation of intracoronary devices and drugs for the treatment of coronary artery disease, antithrombotic therapy for patients requiring cardiac device implantation, and research related to minimal-invasive heart valve treatment including transcatheter aortic, mitral and tricuspid valve interventions.

During the past decade, I have had the privilege to serve in various roles within the European Society of Cardiology that have enabled me to appreciate the mission, professionalism, structure, diversity and culture of the society. During the period 2012-2014, I co-chaired the Joint ESC/EACTS guideline on

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myocardial revascularization with the opportunity to engage into the scientific dialogue between surgical and cardiology colleagues. In 2013, the ESC appointed me Chairperson of the Task Force to propose a revision of the EU medical device advisory document on the evaluation of coronary stents, which resulted in recommendations on the evaluation of coronary stents and bioresorbable scaffolds that have been published as executive summary in the European Heart Journal. During the period 2014-2016, I served as President of the European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions (EAPCI) during which time a fellow's review course, a scientific documents committee and the Valve-for-Life initiative were established. In 2016, ESC President Jeroen Bax appointed me Chairman of the Clinical Practice Guideline Committee, a position that has been renewed by ESC President Barbara Casadei in 2018 for a second term, which allowed supervision of numerous ESC guideline documents. More recently, ESC President Stephan Achenbach has appointed me to chair the ESC Clinical Program Committee with the responsibility to prepare and execute the 2021 ESC Digital Congress and to lead the ongoing efforts in preparation of the in-person and on-line 2022 ESC Congress in Barcelona.

Throughout this experience, I established intense contact and communication across specialties, associations, working groups, councils and the ESC journal family. In particular, I learnt to appreciate the strength and authority of the organization based on its diversity, the breadth and depth of expertise in all areas of our specialty as well as the integration of all different subspecialties to serve the patients and the entire cardiovascular community. I would be honored to continue to serve the ESC as Vicepresident to further advance the development of our society and support the ESC Board in the implementation of its strategic plan. I am convinced that my professionalism and commitment combined with a problem solving and results oriented approach will be a strong asset to the future Board of the ESC.

Please do not hesitate to call upon me in case of remaining questions.

Sincerely


Prof. Stephan Windecker

Attachments

- Short CV
- Candidate Code of Conduct form
- Letter of support of the Swiss Society of Cardiology
- Letter of support of EAPCI

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