

It is with great pleasure that I assume the challenge of being candidate to EHRA presidency. The achievements obtained by the Association in its relatively short life are truly impressive. Credit is due to the extraordinary commitment and talent of our previous presidents, together with the enthusiastic support of many arrhythmologists who have devoted a lot of time and effort in the different committees to reach the overall level of excellence that we see in EHRA. Through the establishment of our accreditation system, fellowship programs, and educational documents, the association has managed to create an environment that encourages young colleagues to acquire appropriate skills and achieve recognition in the field, while providing continuous education and renewal for more senior colleagues.

Our outreach has also had an important impact. The EP journal holds an outstanding position in relation to the remaining journals in the field, and EHRA has also facilitated the dissemination of knowledge to patients through public internet initiatives. The association has established firm and productive ties with national and international societies, created a number of scientific initiatives, and published a number of consensus documents. Our regular meetings, professional development courses, and the annual EUROPACE meeting have generated and energized networking among arrhythmologists. In summary, the association has experienced a golden age early in its history. Maintaining and improving the level of excellence achieved represents a huge challenge for anyone who would take on leadership responsibilities in the organization.

My motivation to serve the EHRA board as president is simple: I consider it both a duty and an honor to contribute my time, effort, and experience to an organization that has given so much to the field while pursuing its mission: “to improve the quality of life of the population by reducing the impact of cardiac rhythm disturbances and reduce sudden cardiac death”. It is my hope that the multiple perspectives I have acquired from my experiences as a member of the Education Committee, International Affairs Committee, Executive Committee, and EP editorial board could be useful to the association at this point in its history.

In coming years, I think we can expect to face huge challenges due to a number of expected and unexpected changes in three areas: the way private funding reaches medical societies, the way health care providers will take decisions, and the demands placed on medical professionals by patients and by society in general. It will be necessary to remain open and alert to all these challenges, and to respond appropriately to them, in order to ensure that the mission of EHRA is preserved.

In my view, this will require new international efforts to motivate physicians and allied professionals in the field of arrhythmia to understand our common objectives and actively work together as we face the coming challenges. Greatly increasing our networking efforts with national societies should help us to gain understanding of each

country's needs for assistance and work effectively to provide the needed help. Societies that belong to EHRA-ESC represent a universe of cultures, countries, and diverse needs. I am sure that being united in its diversity will make EHRA stronger and better able to cope with the coming challenges.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lluís Mont". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Lluís Mont