Dear colleagues, dear friends

Thank you for taking the time to evaluate my motivation to apply as EHRA secretary. I am a strong believer in our association, in our members, and in the election process of its executive board members. As such, I am happy to openly communicate my ideas about my role as EHRA secretary should I get elected.

It has been with great pleasure to serve EHRA and the ESC for the last years, (co-) chairing the Certification Committee, our renown Vienna Educational Course in Cardiac Pacing, ICD and Cardiac Resynchronization, the Scientific Initiatives Committee, and the 2018 version of the EHRA NOAC Practical Guide. There was one important mantra I followed for all of these activities: Listen to the needs, requests and desires of the target audience – and then fill the program with content that is of true value to those who receive it. Only then can any program, any activity be successful.

This is what I want to continue and expand doing as EHRA secretary. In an increasingly difficult environment with decreasing funds and increasing regulatory hurdles, an official organization like EHRA plays a crucial role in securing high level clinical care for patients, state-of-the-art educational activities, certification, interaction with national societies, organization of independent meaningful research and professional, transparent collaboration between healthcare providers and the industry. For any such activity one thing is of crucial importance: to keep them centered around the needs of its members. Responding to feedbacks from all sides, and taking criticisms and suggestions seriously will enable us also in the future to keep our mission on track, to ensure that the voice of all EHRA members - your voice - is heard and respected. This is what I want to aim for as EHRA secretary, if you give me then chance to do so. It would be my pleasure and honor to continue to serve EHRA, to serve you in this position.

Thank you for your trust and support!

Jan Steffel, MD FESC FEHRA