

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT 2013-14

Dear Members, Guests and Friends:

It was first a dream, but now a reality: improvement of trauma care in the Americas. It was a lengthy and challenging road, but the Panamerican Trauma Society became a driving force in improving the care of the trauma patient in the Americas. Thanks to the vision and work of various dear colleagues like Dr. Baquero, Dr. Rodriguez, Dr. Holguín and other giants in our field, the Society has grown into a strong and relevant force in the development of educational courses, prevention programs, publications, and scientific research forums that improve trauma management across pointless boundaries.

As this year's President, I would like to thank the Society for providing me the honor and privilege of working along with the Executive Committee and all my fellow members and friends. It is an opportunity that I deeply value and humbly accept. This affords me the opportunity to inform you of the Society's efforts in expanding new and exciting projects that will further advance trauma care to remarkable levels.



The executive committee is working diligently with the society's committees to continue the mission and vision of the Society. We are refining new concepts and programs structured for the development of trauma centers taking into account the specific needs and resources of each particular country. Also, the society is establishing new standardized courses like the always popular trauma surgical skills, quality improvement and burn courses. New editions are being discussed for our Trauma Book and course manuals as well as expanding to new educational tools in Acute Care Surgery. We are also establishing new relationships with trauma societies across the world. At our next Congress in Panama City, Panama, we will be offering new courses with the European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery.

On behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors of the Panamerican Trauma Society, I would like to welcome you to our website, society and family. Over the course of more than 25 years, our society has matured into an educational tool not only for trauma care, but also one of influential leadership and guidance for the future of trauma care in this hemisphere. I invite you to explore our website and get more information about our upcoming Congress, pre-Congress courses, master lectures and our discussions of acute care surgery cases. The program committee is working on a magnificent scientific program with state of the art lectures from

experienced speakers, multiple cutting edge pre-congress courses, famous expert forums (North vs. South) along with original research from our international surgeons and societies. A wealth of information and ideas is awaiting you through this exchange of experiences.

We are hopeful that you will take the opportunity to visit the wonderful country of Panama to discover its hidden treasures, natural beauties and amazing people. Please join us in Panama City for the 27th annual Congress of the Panamerican Trauma Society. I eagerly look forward to your active participation in this event.

Attentively,

Manuel Lorenzo MD, MBA, FACS, FCCM
President
Panamerican Trauma Society