

Dear EFISDS Members.

Welcome to this EFISDS Update!

The EFISDS understands that membership of a Society is meaningless unless members are truly engaged. Please note the following:

- Anyone that attends any of the EFISDS events is automatically member for 2011 and 2012.
- Anyone that has interesting research to present via the platform of the EFISDS is automatically a member.
- Anyone that has an EFISDS awarded abstract or publication is automatically a member.
- Anyone that wants to run a course, set up a specific focus or interest group is automatically a member.
- **The EFISDS is there for you, so please use it and let us know if there is anything which we can do to help.**

#### **Some points of interest:**

The Federation was brought back to life as the Phoenix rising out of its ashes in 2009 -2010. It had been announced as early as 1997 and it did not come to fruition until in 2009 an initiative was taken by a handful of surgeons, who's goal was to take a fresh approach in Society life for Surgeons and residents in training with the focus on GI and general Digestive Surgery. With the assistance of a professional organizing group, they have managed to build a substantial groundswell towards establishing this concept.

A fresh approach means the following:

- Recognition of the little time surgeons, residents and trainees have available.
- The focus to engage in quality scientific content, hands on education and training.
- Think outside the box of only the surgical discipline and include disease specific perspectives and non technical skills for surgeons and residents in training.
- Facilitating quality dialogue and discussion with stakeholders of scientific, industry and governance groups.
- Responsible financial management ensuring that all parties benefit proportionally.
- Participation in other Groups, stakeholders and Societies worthwhile initiatives.
- Taking the 'green' initiative by applying on line technology for meetings, education and training in order to avoid printing and travel.

With now more than 100 official members it is time to take stock of the present situation and actions taken to date.

## **EF ISDS Council**

**President**  
J.Izbicki, Germany

**Secretary General/Treasurer**  
A. Basoli, Italy

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#### **Secretariat:**

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#### **Meetings that have taken place to date:**

- General Assembly in 2009 and 2010.
- Executive Committee meetings in Cluj-Napoica, London, Vienna and Barcelona.
- Representatives in the United European Gastroenterological Federation scientific committee, education committee, Surgical Block (ESSAT) and Future Trends Committee.
- Monthly conference calls with Executive committee members and country representatives.
- The establishment of specific country chapters in the UK, Austria, Spain, Italia, Germany, France, Netherlands, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Egypt, Tunisia and Israel.

#### **Education:**

- PG Course in Cluj-Napoica Romania 2009 and again in 2010.
- Specific course by the Austrian Chapter in Croatia.
- PG Course at the UEGW 2009 and 2010.
- PG Course in Lyon France in 2010.
- PG Course in Hamburg 2010

#### **General:**

- Official registration of the Society in the Netherlands.
- Secretariat and Management Office established.
- Web site established [www.efids.eu](http://www.efids.eu)
- Travel grants to attend the UEGW 2009,2010 and 2011.

#### **The road ahead for 2011:**

- The establishment of an annual EFISDS education, training and social event.
- Finalizing arrangements for the Society Journal.
- PG Courses Romania, Spain, Hungary, France and Germany.
- Course on Robotic surgery Italy
- On line e-learning, collaboration and educational events.
- To develop a platform as an ongoing opportunity to submit abstracts, publications and studies for possible peer review.
- Working relationship with the Industry.

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