



# NEWSLETTER

## Message from the President

Welcome to the December 2024 ELSO newsletter.

As the year draws to a close, so too does my term in office as President of ELSO. It has been a great privilege to serve the ECMO community and one I shall always treasure. Thankfully, I am being replaced



by a person who needs little or no introduction. Professor Daniel Brodie is the most published ECMO researcher of all time. Formerly Section Chief of Critical Care at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital and Professor of Medicine at Columbia University, in March 2023 he moved to Baltimore to take up a new position as Vice President and Chief Medical Officer for Critical Care at Johns Hopkins. I have known Dan for nearly 15 years, have co-authored >50 publications with him, and have worked with him on ELSO's Executive Committee and Board of Directors for over 5 years. He possesses extremely keen intelligence, works devotedly to anything he signs up for, has tremendous intuition about how to best address problems, and is an emollient diplomat. In short, I can think of no-one better equipped to lead ELSO over the next two years. One of Sir Winston Churchill's lesser-known apophthegms reads,

*"Most men sink into insignificance when they quit office. Very insignificant men acquire weight when they obtain it."*

I look forward to sinking into insignificance while remaining supremely confident that Dan will not acquire any new weight when he takes over.

Before I leave, I must extend my thanks to all the ELSO Office staff: Victoria, Alex, Lauren, but in particular to Peter Rycus and Christine Stead. I have had literally hundreds of conference calls with them over the last 2 years, sometimes 3-4 times a week, and I'll miss our camaraderie. They work with a degree of utter dedication that most people in the ECMO community are probably unaware of, yet it is because of them that ELSO achieves what it does and functions at such a high level despite finite resources. To them go my deepest thanks and most profound admiration.

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I must also give thanks to Professor Matthew Paden, our former President, who will step off the Board of Directors in the New Year. Matt is an extraordinary individual who led ELSO through the COVID-19 pandemic and has spent many hours lending the rest of us his wisdom. ELSO will miss his leadership and guidance.

A final thought regarding ECMO itself. Sir Roger Scruton, regarded as the "most important Anglo-American conservative thinker of his generation" (RP George, Princeton University, New York Times, 1/29/2020), wrote,

*"Precisely because we live in a morbidly unheroic world – a world of cost-benefit calculation, in which gods and heroes have no place – we are driven to regard our own existence as some kind of cosmic mistake. If it is to have meaning, this can come only through a gesture that throws all calculation aside ... those moments in and out of time constitute our redemption: they are moments of consecration, in which life is shown to be worthwhile."*

Sir Roger was not writing about ECMO but his words can be happily applied to it nonetheless. ECMO is an heroic form of life support used to prevent the most critically ill patients from dying. Using ECMO properly returns us to an earlier world of heroism in which cost-benefit calculations become irrelevant and the need to save a young person's life becomes the only consideration.

It is a long-standing tradition at ELSO meetings to toast to the memory of Robert E Gross, who supported Dr Bartlett in the 1960s when the latter gentleman proposed how to adapt cardiopulmonary bypass technology to ICU patients. I shall close with my own version of this traditional salute,

*"Here's to the memory of Dr Robert E Gross ... and to the ongoing love and abiding affection we have for Dr Robert H Bartlett and Wanda Bartlett ... without whom none of us would be here."*

Signing off,

Graeme MacLaren, President, ELSO

## CONFERENCES



### 11th Annual SWAAC ELSO Conference

**Location:** Conrad at Etihad Towers, Abu Dhabi, UAE

**Dates:** February 6th - February 8th, 2025

**Pre-Conference Workshop:** February 4th - February 5th, 2025

**Registration Information:** <https://swaacelso2025.com/>



### 13th Annual EuroELSO Conference

**Location:** Milan, Italy

**Dates:** April 23rd - April 26th, 2025



### 7th Annual APELSO Conference

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Dates:** July 10th - July 12th, 2025



### 7th LATAM Conference

**Location:** San Jose, Costa Rica

**Dates:** November 5th - November 7th, 2026

The latest information on ELSO & Collaborative Meetings can be found [here](#).





## COMMITTEE ROUNDUP

### ELSO Conference Committee

Planning is now underway for the 36th Annual ELSO Conference, which will be taking place in Washington DC September 27-30, 2025. We are preparing now!

A huge thanks to Conference Committee Chair Natalie Rintoul and Incoming President Dan Brodie for their vision and commitment to making this upcoming conference our best yet!

Our virtual 2024 is available at no extra cost to in-person conference attendees. Virtual access is also open for purchase via our [website](#). If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at [ELSOconference@elso.org](mailto:ELSOconference@elso.org).

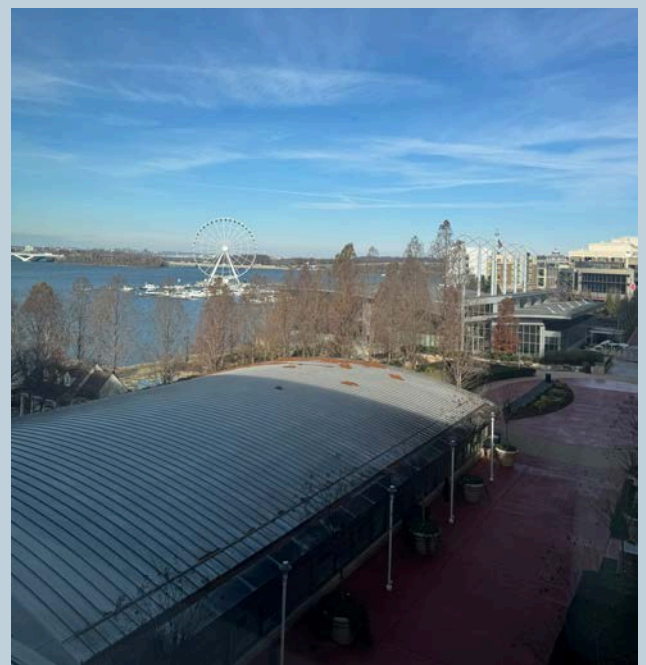


Photo Left: Our team practicing at the registration counter (from left to right: Christine Stead, Victoria Turner, Lauren Gardner, JoAnne Oncea, Natalie Rintoul); Credit: Dan Brodie

Photo Right: National Harbor from the Gaylord National Convention Center; Credit: Lauren Gardner

*The latest information on ELSO & Collaborative Meetings can be found [here](#).*



## Education Committee/ELSO Academy

### ELSO Foundations

We are thrilled to announce that the Neonatal and Pediatric Foundations Course is now available as a self-paced course, similar to the Adult ECMO Training Course. Bundle options are available for the Neo/Peds and Adult courses. If you have questions regarding the course or discounts available, please email us at [ecmotraining@elso.org](mailto:ecmotraining@elso.org)

### 2025 Course Dates

Our Spring 2025 ELSO Simulation Center Education activities are live on ELSO Academy. Throughout the year we are offering a variety of Adult Simulation, Neo/Peds Simulation, and Cannulation courses. Please keep an eye on the [ELSO Website](#) as well as ELSO Academy to see course dates and sign-up!

### Spring 2025 Courses

#### **ELSO Adult Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) Simulation Course at SCCM**

**Dates:** February 21, 2025 (Session 1) & February 22, 2025 (Session 2)

**Location:** Orlando, FL

**Address:** Hyatt Orlando - 9801 International Drive, Orlando, FL, USA

#### **ELSO Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) Adult Simulation Course**

**Dates:** April 8-9, 2025 (Session 1) & April 10-11, 2025 (Session 2)

**Location:** ELSO Headquarters

**Address:** 3001 Miller Road Ann Arbor, MI, USA

#### **ELSO Adult Cannulation Workshop**

**Dates:** April 12, 2025 (Session 1) & April 13, 2025 (Session 2)

**Location:** ELSO Headquarters

**Address:** 3001 Miller Road Ann Arbor, MI, USA

#### **ELSO Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) Adult Simulation Course**

**Dates:** May 6-7, 2025 (Session 1) & May 8-9, 2025 (Session 2)

**Location:** ELSO Headquarters

**Address:** 3001 Miller Road Ann Arbor, MI, USA

All Endorsed courses can be found [HERE](#)

All non-ELSO courses/events can be found [HERE](#).



## Quality Committee - Award of Excellence



We extend our congratulations to the new recipients of the Platinum, Gold, and Silver Awards! This designation commences on 1/1/25 and concludes on 12/31/27. Plaques were mailed out in early December, so all centers will receive them soon. If you have any questions, please contact us at [award@elso.org](mailto:award@elso.org)

Was your Center honored at the Awards Ceremony at ELSO 2024? Group photos from the event are posted on our [Facebook page](#) in the album titled "ELSO 2024 Award Ceremony".

Applications will be opening soon for the 2025 application cycle, with award dates 2026 - 2028.

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## Publications Committee

ELSO has a growing list of publications available.

- New guidelines - always free and available to our community (Guidelines are [here](#))
- The ELSO Red Book - 6th Edition
- ECMO Specialist Training Manual - 4th Edition (*5th Edition in development*)
- ECPR and Resuscitative ECMO
- Post-Cardiotomy ECLS and other Temporary Mechanical Circulatory Supports in Adult Patients, with Roberto Lorusso as Senior Editor and a robust team of international authors.
- Neonatal and Pediatric ECMO Simulation Scenarios - developed in partnership with IPSS
- A Korean translation of the ELSO Red Book - 5th Edition
- Spanish translations of the ELSO Red Book - 4th Edition and ECMO Specialist Training Manual - 4th Edition

Visit our website for the full list of publications available [HERE](#).



## Registry Committee

We are thrilled to announce that our new Registry Quality Reporting Platform is live. An introductory webinar is on our website and can be accessed [here](#).

Access to the ArborMetrix platform will cease on December 31, 2024. Please update your bookmarks & any saved websites to our new URL: <https://www.elseo.org/home/domo.aspx>

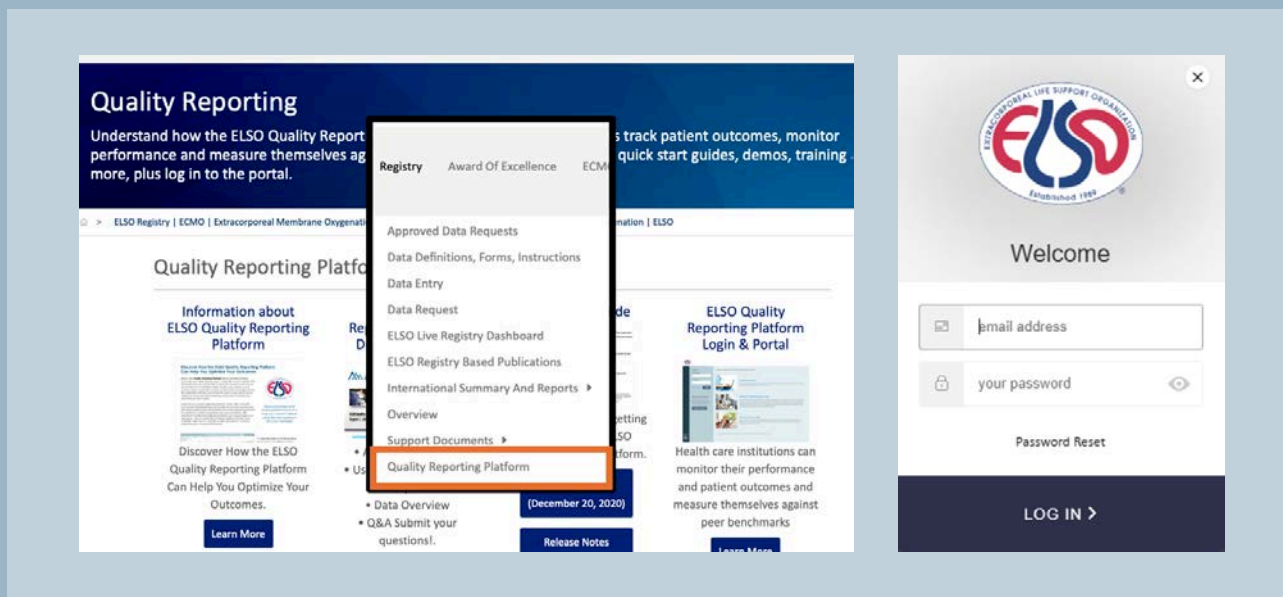
A few major changes are highlighted below:

- **Software Update** - New interface with Domo, an industry-leading data visualization tool
- **Single Sign On** - log in directly to the platform via ELSO.org
- **Interactive & Intuitive Design** - add custom date ranges, filters, and peer groups to assess and compare your center's data
- **Extract Your Data** - quickly download your center's data based on the defined filters

Our new platform has launched with many of the features and functionality that you are familiar with. Additional features are still to come, including:

- Time Interrupted Series charts
- Risk Adjustment for Mortality - by patient population & ECLS mode
- Additional Data Views & Filter Options

If you have any additional questions regarding the transition or have suggestions for future updates, please email us at [ELSOqualitysupport@elseo.org](mailto:ELSOqualitysupport@elseo.org). A new WhatsApp group for discussion is: ELSO Registry Quality Benchmarking Platform. To join, click [here](#).





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## Research Committee

Research initiatives are forming now! Please contact [research@elso.org](mailto:research@elso.org) for any suggestions you might have for the committee.

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## Technology & Innovation Committee

The Technology and Innovation Committee is currently seeking committee members with specific interests in developing projects centered around the following topics that we hope to roll out in 2025. Please contact the Chair-elect Timothy M. Maul, CCP, PhD at [tmaul@elso.org](mailto:tmaul@elso.org) for details or to get involved.

**How I Do It Webinars** Save the date announcement! On January 22, 2025 at 1500 UTC (10am EST, 7am PST) ELSO will host a special webinar on remote management of ECMO patients. We are delighted to welcome Dr. Sandeep Dewan, Senior Director and Head of Critical Care and ECMO at Fortis Hospital, Gurugram, India to speak about his amazing work in developing a remotely managed ICU and ECMO program. Utilizing technology to expand access to high quality ECMO and ICU care is a foundational mission for Dr. Dewan that has applications across all types of healthcare systems. This webinar will be free to attend and a link for registration will be forthcoming.

**Creation of a Device Compendium** on the ELSO website that will be a living document for all available cannula, oxygenators, pumps, and heat exchangers across the globe and provide basic comparisons of technical features.

**Development of a quarterly or semi-annual survey** to global ELSO institutions to assess equipment utilization, new technology hitting the global markets, and impacts of supply chain issues. This data may be incorporated with a new Registry Project to update the 2012-2017 data published in ASAIO in 2021. We would like to publish an update to the way that centers are utilizing technology (circuits and remote monitoring) on a regular basis (every 5 years or so).

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## FELSO

The next application cycle for FELSO is from April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025! FELSO is the honorary designation recognizing extraordinary contributions to the art and science of ECLS. Applications will receive consideration by the FELSO Nominations Committee. When released, the application will be available [here](#). Self-nominations will not be accepted. For more information please email [FELSO@elso.org](mailto:FELSO@elso.org)





## **ELSO Communities - Real-Time Support & Collaboration on WhatsApp**

If you have a question or need advice, please join one of the discussions. Please also contribute your own practices and advice to help your ELSO colleagues. To join a community visit the ELSO [website](#). You will be required to download WhatsApp on your phone. Communities are designed to be a support for our members that want to connect, collaborate, and support each other on a topic.

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## **SURVEY ALLEY**

### **Sedation Practices in Adult VV ECMO Patients**

This is a brief survey for attending physicians regarding sedation practices for adult ICU patients requiring VV ECMO for severe ARDS.

This survey aims to characterize current analgesia and sedation practices to better understand practice variability and identify areas for future research.

It is expected to take less than 10 minutes to complete.

IRB (Cooper University Hospital) representatives determined that it does not classify as human research and therefore does not require IRB review.

Primary survey contact: Chris Noel [Noel-Christopher@CooperHealth.edu](mailto:Noel-Christopher@CooperHealth.edu)

Please take a moment to complete the survey here:

<https://redcap.cooperhealth.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=MCEJXW7KF9MMPRYA>

If you have a survey that you would like us to include in a future edition of the newsletter, please email us at [ELSONewsletter@elso.org](mailto:ELSONewsletter@elso.org).

## BARTLETT ELECTED TO NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS DECEMBER 10, 2024



Dr. Bartlett was elected to the National Academy of Inventors on December 10, 2024. This award is the highest professional distinction awarded to inventors. The 2024 Class of NAI Fellows will be honored at the NAI Annual Conference in June 2025 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. Bartlett was honored for his role in the development of extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) and its life-saving impact on many patients over the years. Dr. Bartlett holds patents related to ECMO technology. He has also made contributions to critical care, acute kidney failure, and sustained hemofiltration.

ELSO congratulates Dr. Bartlett on this recognition. His contributions to the field of medicine and medical technology have improved and saved the lives of many patients. In the spirit of this award, which highlights innovation, we hope this will elevate the inspiration to even more young inventors. Congratulations!

*The National Academy of Inventors (NAI) works in collaboration with the US Patent Office (USPTO). Founded in 2010, the NAI is awarded solely to inventors. Mission: The NAI was founded to recognize and encourage inventors with US patents, enhance the visibility of academic technology and innovation, encourage the disclosure of intellectual property, educate and mentor innovative students, and to create wider public understanding of how its members' inventions benefit society.*

**BEDSIDE WITH BARTLETT**  
**SPECIAL EDITION IN MEMORIAM**  
**LUCIANO GATTINONI**



**Robert Bartlett, MD**

Founder, Board of Directors Emeritus  
ELSO Professor Emeritus of Surgery University of Michigan

Luciano Gattinoni was a giant in our field, a dear friend, an astute clinician, an inspiring mentor, a modern polymath, and a great scientist. A well-published scientist with over 500 publications, his career included international experience at the NIH in 1975 - 1977, where he became a colleague of Dr. Bartlett's in the ARDS and ECLS fields. At the University of Milan, he earned his professorship and was Chief of Intensive Care at Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico.

Prof Gattinoni's approach to life inspired many to do better. Advancements in practice that we attribute to his leadership and life's work include prone positioning, lung-protective ventilation, and extracorporeal CO<sub>2</sub> removal. His lectures often referenced treating the individual patient, stressing the importance of combining both evidence-based medicine and the fundamentals of physiology. These principles were always part of his approach to clinical medicine and were evident throughout his life, reinforced earlier this year in a lecture given in Kuwait at SWAAC ELSO.

Prof Gattinoni was invited to pen the Foreword in the current edition of the ELSO Red Book. He wrote,

*"Nobody knows the future, but I am pretty sure that the passion and enthusiasm which characterizes ECLS people, far more than other medical disciplines, will allow further dreams and advances. To these people, my Foreword is dedicated."*



## IN MEMORIAM: LUCIANO GATTINONI

What he said of others was also truly applicable to him. It is hard to imagine anyone with more passion and enthusiasm for his work. For over 50 years, he was among the core of world experts who explored and refined mechanical ventilation and extracorporeal gas exchange. We hope that all will pause in the coming days to take the time to acknowledge the life of our dear friend, Luciano Gattinoni. May he continue to inspire us for decades to come.



We are pleased to be able to share two of Prof Gattinoni's lectures from SWAAC ELSO in Kuwait in February 2024:

**[ARDS Definition Keeps Changing Subtypes And Outcome](#)**

**[High Vs Low Flow Insights From The Lab](#)**

*Special thanks to Huda Alfoudri and the SWAAC ELSO leadership for sharing this with us all.*



## ELSO CHAPTER UPDATES: ECMO AROUND THE WORLD

### APELSO Updates



- **Adult ECMO Comprehensive Simulation Course:** Held in September 2024 in Hong Kong, hosted by Queen Mary Hospital, the University of Hong Kong, and Grantham Hospital. Nearly 60 participants attended this 4-day course, focusing on ECMO simulation.
- **ECMO Society of Philippine Course:** In February, APELSO collaborated with the ECMO Society of the Philippines for a 2-day ECMO Simulation Course, featuring the ELSO Foundations course.
- **Bangkok ECPR Conference:** Successful conference on November 16-17, 2024, organized by Dr. Pranya Sakiyarak. Over 32 participants attended this APELSO Recognized course, which included lectures and simulation sessions.
- **APELSO 2025 Conference:** Scheduled for July 10-12, 2025, in Beijing at the Landmark Towers Hotel. Professor Xiaotong Hou will chair the event.
- **APELSO 2026 Conference:** To be held June 12-14, 2026, in Tokyo, Japan, as a joint conference with the Japanese Society for Therapeutics and Engineering at Hamamatsucho Convention Hall.
- **Revision of APELSO Bylaws:** A review is underway to enhance organizational structure and community unity, following discussions chaired by Dr. Hwa Jin Cho.

Shingo Ichiba, MD, PhD, APELSO Chair

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### EUROELSO Updates



The Call for Abstracts for the Milan 2025 EuroELSO Congress is now open! The submission deadline is 1/5/25.

Abstracts submissions should be made via this link: <https://euroelso-congress.com/scientific-programme/abstract-manuscript-submission/>

All the accepted abstracts will be published in a special issue of Perfusion.

Preliminary program can be found here: <https://euroelso-congress.com/scientific-programme/scientific-programme-2025/>

Mirko Belliato, MD, PhD, EuroELSO Chair



## ELSO CHAPTER UPDATES: ECMO AROUND THE WORLD

### SWAAC ELSO

**Education:** The SWAAC ELSO annual meeting will take place in Abu Dhabi, UAE from February 6-8, 2025. Pre-conference workshops on ECMO cannulation and Pediatric ECMO will be available. A "Train the Trainers" course will follow on February 9-10. Limited slots are available for registration [here](#). Annual Meeting brochure can be found [here](#).

**Research:** SWAAC ELSO members are conducting new surveys:

- Cleveland Clinic, Abu Dhabi is studying anticoagulation practices in cardiopulmonary bypass and ECMO. Participate in the survey [here](#).
- A Qatar group is researching ECMO healthcare workers' knowledge and practices regarding acquired infections. Complete the 10-minute survey [here](#).

**Endorsed Centres:** Najran ECMO Centre in Saudi Arabia has been endorsed, joining other centers in Kuwait, India, UAE, and Egypt.

**Follow Us:** Stay updated on SWAAC ELSO news and course dates via X, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

Huda Alfoudri, MD, SWAAC ELSO Chair



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### LATAM ELSO Updates

From November 14 to 16, 2024, the VI ELSO LATAM Congress was held in Argentina. The city of Buenos Aires became the epicenter of knowledge exchange in ECMO, bringing together specialists from Latin America, the United States, Canada, Europe and Asia. As president of the ELSO LATAM 2024-2025 chapter and VI ELSO LATAM Congress, I feel deeply proud to have participated in the organization of this event and to contribute to the growth of our ELSO community.

The task was a great team effort, and my recognition to: Gisela Ponce (General Secretary), Maria Luisa Pilan (Scientific Secretary) and a working group that included members of 18 ECMO centers in Argentina. There were also impressive workshops led by Dr. Juan Manuel Torillas and Dr. Mariela Krynski where 4 pediatric scenarios and 4 adult scenarios of high fidelity simulation and cannulation were performed by 4 hospitals of Argentina and 1 of Brazil. It was exciting to share practical advice and work with simulation models, key tools to perfect fundamental techniques in different clinical scenarios.

Guillermo Moreno, LATAM ELSO Chair





## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REMARKS

2024 was a year of milestones for ELSO – some celebratory, others worthy of reflection. Palpable for me is the giants among us and their own imprint on our reason for pressing on; what we witness and how that shapes the emerging giants that will be our future.

A resounding applause to the work that so many of you came together to make possible, including:

- The largest group gathered together this year – perhaps a goal we can continually cite.
- An improved platform to help programs improve their own programs through benchmarking was released.
- Neo/Peds Foundations course was released.
- A new app: ELSO's Bedside Guide app will be coming soon.
- New knowledge is published each day that impacts clinical practice, with increasing use of the ELSO Registry data, and the Guidelines (Neuromonitoring in Adult ECMO and a position paper on transfusion considerations for ECMO patients).

We were able to celebrate our Founder, Dr. Bartlett, with the Gibbon's Challenge Fulfilled Award in September. He has since been elected to the National Academy of Inventors. In our October Newsletter, we reminisced on the recent gathering in Detroit and Ann Arbor to celebrate 35 years of ELSO.

In February this year, Peter Rycus and I had the privilege of handing Luciano Gattinoni a copy of the Red Book, for which he wrote the Foreword. He gave three lectures in Kuwait – each a master class in the historical journey of the science and his sage counsel. Those gathered could witness the knowledge, inspiration, welcoming spirit, and impact of a giant among us. He leaves a lasting legacy that is upon us to continue.

If you have been reading our newsletters, you must appreciate the caliber of contributions from Graeme MacLaren. It has been a privilege for us all to have your time and thoughtful guidance – and vocabulary! Thank you, Graeme, for your leadership of ELSO these past two years.

Happiest of holidays,

Christine Stead, CEO



# The Extracorporeal Life Support Organization

## Our Mission

Providing global leadership in extracorporeal life support through innovation, advocacy, and advancing knowledge.

## Our Vision

ELSO will be the premier organization for the advancement of extracorporeal life support throughout the world.

## Guiding Principles

### Innovation

Seeking to identify and promote advances for the application of extracorporeal therapies.

### Expertise

Bringing together world leaders in the care of critically ill patients for collaboration to advance quality of care through education and publication.

### Clinical Support

Maintaining a comprehensive registry of data to assist in reducing morbidity and improving survival of patients requiring extracorporeal therapies.

### Community

Fostering communication and collaboration among professionals who apply advanced technologies in the treatment of refractory organ failure.



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The Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO)  
3001 Miller Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103, USA

[www.elso.org](http://www.elso.org)

For editorial concerns related to this newsletter, please contact [newsletter@elso.org](mailto:newsletter@elso.org).

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