



# NEWSLETTER

## Message from the President

Excitement is rising in our community because the biennial LATAM ELSO Chapter meeting is just a few weeks away (Nov 14-16) in Buenos Aires. In addition to the city's famous nightlife, ambience, and architecture, attendees can enjoy a great line-up of speakers and science.



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ELSO's meeting in Detroit was a huge success, the largest annual ELSO conference of all time, with >1500 participants. During the opening ceremony, Dr Bartlett was presented with the 'Gibbon's Challenge Fulfilled' Award, the first and only time this prize will be given. In 1931, Dr John Gibbon watched in anguish as a young woman died from a massive pulmonary embolus. It was there he conceived the idea of - and subsequently invented - cardiopulmonary bypass. Dr Bartlett then solved the problems of how to bring this technology from the Operating Room into the Intensive Care Unit and similarly support patients but over weeks or months. There are currently >3500 patients in the ELSO Registry who have been supported on ECMO for life-threatening pulmonary emboli and the majority have survived. Dr Gibbon's challenge was thus fulfilled. As incoming ELSO President, Prof Daniel Brodie, remarked during the ceremony, Dr Bartlett is the giant upon whose shoulders we all stand. Of course, Dan was paraphrasing Sir Isaac Newton's famous remark, "If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants." One important distinction here, however, is that Dr Bartlett has always seen further than anyone else even while holding the rest of us up.

I first attended an ELSO meeting in Ann Arbor in 2009, which was the first conference there since Dr Bartlett had retired from clinical practice. Naturally, there were encomia from many speakers, particularly from those who had worked with him in Michigan. Eventually he stood up and said something to the effect of, "Thanks for all your kind words but enough with the Bartlett-love fest. We did it in 2005, we don't need to do it again now. Let's get on with the science." Fifteen years later, I was pleased to be back in Michigan in the middle of another Bartlett-love fest.

The award ceremony can be seen on ELSO's YouTube channel along with the rest of the opening plenary. A video made by ELSO - highlighting Dr Bartlett's wellspring of inspiration and how he in turn inspires others - can be found here: <https://youtu.be/4sfPgPIQ49s> and was shown to the audience during the session. I encourage you all to watch it. It is a moving tribute to *the* giant in our field.

Graeme MacLaren, President, ELSO



## CONFERENCES



### 6th LATAM Conference

**Location:** Buenos Aires Argentina

**Dates:** November 14th - November 16th, 2024

**Registration Information:** <http://www.elsolatam2024.org>



### 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

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



## COMMITTEE ROUNDUP

### ELSO Conference Committee

Thank you to everyone who attended the 35th Anniversary ELSO Conference in Detroit, Michigan. We hope you enjoyed the engaging scientific content and had a chance to experience the best of Detroit. Our night at the Detroit Institute of Arts was truly unforgettable, filled with friendship, great food, and stunning artwork. For those who joined us in Ann Arbor, we hope it was a wonderful opportunity to reconnect and forge new connections.

Our virtual conference is now live and 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).



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





## **Education Committee/ELSO Academy**

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

### **ELSO Foundations**

We are thrilled to announce that the Neonatal and Pediatric Foundations Course will soon be accessible as a self-paced course, similar to the Adult ECMO Training Course. Please stay tuned for future announcements regarding the release of this course!



## 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 will be sent to your centers in early December, if you have any questions regarding the shipping address submitted please contact us at [awards@elso.org](mailto:awards@elso.org)

Was your Center honored at the Awards Ceremony this year? Group photos from the event are posted on our [Facebook page](#) in the album titled "ELSO 2024 Award Ceremony". Additional photos from the conference will soon be available - please stay tuned for updates on [elso.org](https://elso.org).

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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 share our new partnership with DOMO, which will serve as our new Quality Assurance Platform. Stay tuned for more details about the platform and the transition! We also plan to host a series of online webinars that will be incredibly beneficial!

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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 & Research 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** that will focus on how practitioners have utilized or transitioned to different technologies in their hospitals. Topics may include (but are not limited to; so please feel free to suggest additional topics!). This can be a chance for you to showcase your institutions unique experiences and expertise.

- Incorporation of remote monitoring and data collection systems in your ECMO program
- Pump controlled retrograde trials in adults or pediatric patients (centrifugal or roller pump)
- Centrifugal pump shunting for low flow applications: has it made a difference in your program?
- Transitioning to a new platform (e.g., Rotaflow to Spectrum), what have you learned? How did you decide? How did you re-train your specialists?

**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).

## FELSO Award

Congratulations to Lars Mikael Broman, MD, PhD, FELSO of Astrid Lindgren Children's Hospital and Karolinska University Hospital in Stockholm, Sweden for being awarded this year's FELSO.

Lars Mikael has dedicated a large part of his clinical life to the care of patients on ECMO. His constant interest has been the improvement of extracorporeal management technique and to better understand the physiologic and pathophysiologic implications of ECMO. He has authored or co-authored more than 100 pub-med listed publications and was invited as speaker to many national and international conferences. Notable amongst his academic achievements is his leadership of the International Maastricht nomenclature on ECLS project which has brought clarity to our work as ECMOlogists. He has also conducted important work on ECMO circuit and cannula fluid dynamics as well as on the COVID-19 patients' first and second wave outcomes.

One of Lars Mikael's great abilities is his zeal to educate and spread knowledge on ECMO. He has conducted numerous training sessions nationally and abroad and is co-organizer of the annual Stockholm International ECMO Course, which is endorsed by ELSO.

A well-deserved award for a career's contributions to advancing ECLS: thank you and congratulations to Lars Mikael Broman!







## **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**

### **AQUIRED INFECTION DURING ECMO**

We are conducting a brief 5-10-minute survey on ECMO healthcare workers' knowledge and attitudes and practice (KAP) towards acquired infections during ECMO. Your participation is voluntary and confidential.

Primary survey contact: Dr. Ali Ait Hssain [a\\_aithssain@hotmail.com](mailto:a_aithssain@hotmail.com)

Please take a moment to complete the survey here:

<https://survey.porsline.ir/s/EKrMxXGN>

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).



## BEDSIDE WITH BARTLETT

### SPECIAL EDITION IN REFLECTION FROM THE 35TH ANNUAL ELSO CONFERENCE



**Robert Bartlett, MD**

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

In December 1985, Dr. Bartlett submitted a New Program Request to the University of Michigan, laying the foundation for what would become the University of Michigan ECMO Program. During the 35th Anniversary ELSO Conference, we had the honor of celebrating Dr. Bartlett's career accomplishments, including a limited edition book titled *Gibbon's Challenge: Fulfilled*. This publication accompanied the award Dr. Bartlett received during the opening plenary and highlighted the foundational ECMO patents he contributed to. The latter part of the book included original documentation of Dr. Bartlett's advocacy for the Michigan ECMO program, a testament to his dedication to the patients and providers he served with the program's establishment in 1986.

A few passages from the initial questionnaire that Dr. Bartlett filled out were particularly interesting in reflection 39 years after he wrote his proposal. When asked to discuss the factors that are influencing the rapid growth in market demand for the program, this was his response:

"This is a new treatment in neonatal respiratory failure. It is only recently gaining recognition. Our recently published studies proving the effectiveness of this technique, and other studies showing the cost effectiveness compared to conventional treatment will make ECMO the treatment of choice for severe neonatal respiratory failure. [...] ECMO was tried in the past for adult respiratory failure without success. Recent advances in our laboratory indicate that the same techniques applied to children will now be successful in adults. The use of ECMO in adult patients with respiratory failure will generate many new referrals to the medical center."



## BEDSIDE WITH BARTLETT

The advancements made at that time with Adult ECMO have saved countless patients' lives and his foresight in recording these cases ultimately gave us the supporting data to announce that Gibbon's Challenge was in fact fulfilled by Dr. Bartlett.

In his application, he was also asked to discuss large environmental factors that may have a large influence on the ECMO program, which he replied:

1. "ECMO is cost effective. The use of this high tech life support system shortens hospital stay and improves quality of survival. The net cost to each patient and the net cost to the hospital is decreased compared to conventional treatment. This applies to all age groups."
2. "Legal and regulatory. [...] other funding agencies will probably only recognize a few ECMO centers in any given region. Hence it is essential to establish this program at UM so we can serve as a referral center and not be expected to transfer our patients elsewhere. The same reasoning will apply to pediatric and adult patients when improved survival is demonstrated in those patient groups."
3. "Competitive factors. Even though the ECMO program began at UM, other centers are marketing the technique [...]. Since approximately 3 patients are referred for ECMO for every one that requires it, the increased referral of paying patients to the hospital is significant. The revenue motivation is the major factor driving establishment of ECMO centers at other hospitals."

These three factors still feel relevant today as we discuss what factors contribute to successful ECMO programs around the world. Finances, regulatory requirements, and competition are still at the center of our discussion today. We will address these areas and much more in great detail with the release of the Center Certification program this coming year.

Although the Gibbon's Challenge: Fulfilled publication will not be publicly available, we hope you have enjoyed reflecting on the past 35 years along with us during the conference and since!





## ELSO CHAPTER UPDATES: ECMO AROUND THE WORLD

### SWAAC ELSO UPDATES

New surveys are being undertaken by SWAAC ELSO members - Please take time to participate in them:



- Cleveland Clinic, Abu Dhabi is investigating Anticoagulation Practices in Cardiopulmonary Bypass and ECMO. A short international survey has been shared for your kind participation [here](#).
- Qatar group are investigating the knowledge, attitude and practice of ECMO healthcare workers towards acquired infections on ECMO. Please respond to this 10 minute survey [here](#).
- 11th SWAAC ELSO Conference is inviting you to participate in the abstract submission showcasing initiatives and innovations in ECLS education, ECMO program quality improvements initiatives, ECLS evidence-based medicine or practice. Visit the link [here](#) to submit your abstract.

Huda Alfoudri, MD, SWAAC ELSO Chair

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### APELSO Updates

The AP ELSO Chapter is busy planning the 2025 Conference, which will take place in China. Location to be finalized soon.

More details will be coming to allow adequate time for planning and robust participation.

Shingo Ichiba, MD, PhD, APELSO Chair





## EUROELSO Updates

We are excited to announce the election of the members of the EuroELSO Steering Committee and Scientific Committee:

Steering Committee:

- Matthias Lubnow, MD from Regensburg (Germany)
- Sharon Martje Jakobs, Nurse and Perfusionist from Antwerp (Belgium)

Scientific Committee:

- Marta Velia Antonini, Nurse and Perfusionist, from Cesena (Italy)
- Jutta Arens, Engineer, from Aachen (Germany)
- Emma Shkurka, MD Ped, from London (UK)

Mirko Belliato, MD, PhD, EuroELSO Chair



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## LATAM ELSO Updates

The 6th LAELSO Congress is scheduled to be held in Buenos Aires November 14 to 16, 2024. Hope to see you there!







## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REMARKS

He started the conference off with his standard greeting - the one that is humble and makes everyone feel so welcome. He told the story of his patient, the first successful neonatal patient (Esperanza) while she was on stage, in the way that only he can - taking us on the journey with him and in being reunited with her in a truly wonderful and happenstance way that continues on today. He gave the closing remarks which ended in a standing ovation for him, his work, and a real celebration of 35 years of this global community he founded at the same place.

There was an air of being part of something historic in Ann Arbor on October 2nd. For those that made it, we were able to re-enact the charter photo on the steps of Rackham, accompanied by the Michigan Marching Band. Music lifted us all, but perhaps especially Dr. Bartlett.

So many of our speakers identified Dr. Bartlett as someone that they wanted to be like; someone that inspired their careers - not just the topic, but how they conducted themselves.

The gathering beforehand with a dinner at a restaurant on Main Street, followed by a walk around the corner to a lovely art gallery, arranged thanks to George Mychaliska on short notice, but wildly successful. People gathered, talked, reminisced among friends old and new.

I could not have envisioned a better closing celebration of ELSO's 35th Year Anniversary. This was all thanks to many, but especially, Dr. Bartlett himself.

Fall is a magical time in Michigan. ELSO is a unique organization filled with people that comprise more of a global family than anything else. Thank you for everyone that was part of it - and thanks in advance for everyone that will become part of this in the future. Lots of great work must yet be done and we need everyone to help get us there!

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

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