

From Kurt Huber



After 6 years of active participation in the Nucleus of the Working Group, among those as treasurer and vice chair, I became chair 2006.

My main interest was on the one hand to increase the visibility of the Working Group and to invite more experts becoming members. At that time, membership was difficult to obtain as we asked for expertise in atherothrombotic diseases (clinical education and practice) and/or high-rated publications in the field in clinical as well as basic research. Despite these prerequisites, the number of active Working Group members could be increased from 210 (2006) to 244 at the end of my mandate (2008), which represents a plus of 16%.

On the other hand we were interested during my time as chairperson to create an annual international meeting of the Working Group (which was not the case at this time point) and to co-operate more intensively with other scientific and educational meetings.

With respect to the annual meeting we joined our interests of our own biannual meeting "Atherothrombosis" with the famous "Update in Thrombolysis" meeting (that was originally founded by Dietrich Gulba, Christoph Bode and myself), and called it "EuroThrombosis Science". This cooperation led in the first years to a massive increase of audience and became meanwhile one of the most important thrombosis meetings worldwide.

With respect to cooperations with other international meetings I want to mention the close patronance of the Integrated Management of Acute and Chronic Coronary Artery Disease Meeting (formerly Coronary Reperfusion and Secondary Prevention) in Western Austria (Oberlech until 2009, then Innsbruck), which I have organized together with Allan Ross and in the last years with Bernard Gersh and Chris Granger.

Important additional activities under my chairmanship were the initiation of position papers and scientific activities across borders. Meetings of the nucleus of the Working Group now took place in Vienna and it was a pleasure to cooperate with friends in a familiar atmosphere.

I want to thank everybody who was involved in the Working Group on Thrombosis at the time of my chairmanship, we were productive and became good friends forever.

Kurt Huber, FESC, FACC, FAHA
Chairperson 2006-2008

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