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1. THE ORGANIZATION

1.1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The European Vascular Surgeons in Training (EVST) form a chapter within the European Society of Vascular Surgery (ESVS). The EVST represents European trainees in vascular surgery. The EVST originates from the European Association of Vascular Surgeons in Training (EAVST) which was founded in September 1994.

1.2. AIM OF THE EVST

The aim of EVST is to promote knowledge and skills for European trainees in vascular surgery. Furthermore, EVST aims to improve the networking between the trainees of European countries, to connect the European trainees in vascular surgery enabling them to share experiences in different educational strategies, and to develop educational activities in collaboration with the ESVS and its Academy.

The means to reach these aims in order to improve European training in vascular surgery are to organize workshops and sessions in European meetings (in particular the ESVS AGM) adapted to the interests of trainees in vascular surgery, to use the social media and to represent the trainee opinion within but also outside of ESVS.

2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE EVST

The ESVS provides a special membership fee for trainees (Trainee Membership of the Society) and accordingly collects the member fees. These members are automatically registered for the EVST. After completion of training, by passing the Fellow of European Board of Vascular Surgery examination, national examination or otherwise, EVST members will advance to full members. Trainee Membership of the ESVS is possible until the age of 35. After the age of 35, EVST members will advance to full members.

Trainee members are invited to participate in the meetings including the scientific sessions and workshops, provided by ESVS. The members also receive the Journal of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery and the access to the restricted part of the ESVS website, where educational material is provided by ESVS and/or EVST.

3. THE COUNCIL

The council is the decision-making body of the EVST. Any European country with at least ten members of the EVST is invited to nominate a council member to represent the interests of that country. If a country has less than 20 trainees in vascular surgery, and if half of them are members of the EVST, they can also elect a councillor. The election of a new council member is announced by the Secretary of the EVST and an online voting is organized by EVST or the society manager. The term of a council membership is three years and starts with the 1st of September. At the end of this period, the Council Member becomes an Honorary Council Member and is allowed to attend the council meetings for one more year. He or she does not have voting rights, but can help and advise the council and especially the new national representative.

The Council meets two to three times a year to discuss ongoing or new projects, to organize educational, scientific and socializing events. The Annual Meeting of the ESVS is the most important meeting, during which EVST get the opportunity to actively participate in the meeting, including the organization of scientific and educational sessions. During the Annual Meeting of the ESVS a council meeting is held. One or two additional council meetings is held throughout the year, preferably at a major congress or symposium. Date and place are communicated far in advance. If a Council Member is not able to attend a meeting, the Secretary should be informed and a substitute should be nominated by the absenting Council Member. If a Council Member is absent from the meetings three times in a row, he or she will be asked to resign and a new national representative will be elected in the same way as described above. Event changing decisions are made by the consensus of the council and a presence of at least 50% of Council Members is mandatory to provide decision-making power within the council.

Every Council Member has the responsibility to represent the interests of the trainees in vascular surgery from his or her country in the best way possible. He or she also has the responsibility to represent the EVST in their country and to optimize membership numbers in his or her country. Every Council Member will actively participate in the council meetings and will initiate or participate in EVST initiatives to improve training of vascular surgeons in Europe.

The council may decide to also include non-European countries in the council when there are more than ten EVST members in that country. In special circumstances, one Council Member may represent two or more countries with low number of EVST members.

If a Council Member wants to step back from his position before the end of the three-year time, the Secretary should be informed about the reason and an election for a new Council Member will be arranged.

4. THE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE EVST

4.1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the EVST consists of the Secretary, the Past Secretary and four officers who are elected by the Council. The term of participating in the Executive Committee lasts three years. All EVST member may apply for one of the posts in the Executive Committee. Also EVST members at the end of their training are invited to apply because experience as a trainee and/ or within the EVST can be of benefit. This entails that the officers will be in function also after completion of their training.

4.2. SECRETARY

The EVST council is led by the Secretary who is elected by the Council Members. The EVST council meetings and the agenda for these meetings are supervised by the Secretary. The Secretary represents the interests of the EVST within the ESVS. The Secretary is part of the ESVS executive committee and has a vote in the ESVS council.

The term of the Secretary is three years, starts with the 1st of September and any EVST member may apply for this position. An application must be sent per email to the present Secretary until the 31st of December of the year before the end of the running term. The Executive Committee will select three candidates who will be invited to present themselves to the Council with a 10 minute presentation. This presentation will be given at the Charing Cross meeting in London and based on these presentations the Council will elect the new Secretary.

4.3. PAST SECRETARY

After being the Secretary, the Past Secretary may remain within the EVST Council as member of the Executive Committee for one additional year. Within this time period, he or she is allowed to join the meetings of the EVST and is also allowed to vote. He or she is not allowed to re-apply for the position of Secretary.

4.4. ESVS ACADEMY REPRESENTATIVE

To represent the interests of the EVST within the Academy, a representative is elected by the council members. As it is within the interest of EVST to have a representative who already knows about the processes within the EVST, a former council member is elected to take over this

position. The term is three years and starts with the 1st of September. This representative is asked to join the meetings of the Academy as well as the meetings of EVST and his or her responsibility is to provide interworking between the Academy and the EVST.

4.5. UEMS (EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALITIES) REPRESENTATIVE

To represent the interests of the EVST within the UEMS, a representative is elected by the council members. The term is three years and starts with the 1st of September. This representative is asked to join the meetings of the UEMS as well as the meetings of EVST and his or her responsibility is to provide interworking between the UEMS and the EVST.

4.6. ESVS ANNUAL PROGRAMME COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

The ESVS annual programme committee will organize the ESVS annual meeting. The EVST representative is part of this committee. The committee will meet several times a year to organize the meeting. The EVST representative will have close contact with the EVST secretary and council on the developments in the committee.

5. FINANCES

As the EVST is part of the ESVS, the finances of the EVST are based on the finances of the ESVS. Each year EVST has to send in a budget proposal to ESVS in order to request financial support.

5.1 GRANT

There is no financial compensation for EVST council members. EVST councilors are invited to apply for a grant of maximum €350 covering travel costs to the Annual Meeting of the ESVS.