



**ESCI 54th Annual scientific Meeting will smoothly and enthusiastically move to 9-11 June 2021**

**Be ready!**

May 8, 2020

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The sudden coronavirus outbreak in China and worldwide pandemic thereafter, have affected every facet of our life, freedom, and touching deep aspects linked with family affections, professional performance, science, economy and whole society daily life. This time represents an almost unprecedented challenge to our world and way of thinking, putting an enormous stress on our health care systems worldwide and is deeply hitting Europe.

Many of us are working on the front lines of patient care, facing a new enemy, often with insufficient information, at personal risk, and scarce resources. This heroic work is complemented by the active ongoing basic and translational research on coronavirus, to reduce the impact on the populations and health care systems, to establish new therapies, looking for vaccines, and paving the way to “Phase 2” time, that we hope will be a new “Golden Age”.

ESCI, ESCI Foundation, and the European Journal of Clinical Investigation priority during this time of disruption was to focus on key aspects of the problem, to help you treating patients, and protecting yourselves and your coworkers, including young scientists. We originally thought it was safe to plan the ASM in September this year in Bari, Italy. However, we still miss information about the viral trends, mobility and crowded events might still be limited according to European, National, and/or local regulations.

With these aspects in mind, we firmly believe that we should meet for the **54<sup>th</sup> ESCI Annual Scientific Meeting on 9-11 June 2021, Bari, Italy**. The season and the city will be fantastic at that time, and we will meet with a new soul and full of enthusiasm! We will discuss the new draft of the proposed plan with all workshop organizers, speakers and the ESCI community. The “engine is on” already and we are sure that many topics will stay, others might change or adapt, eventually including experiences with this unexpected, and unneeded epidemic event.

In the meantime, ESCI is now working to organize a virtual ESCI meeting “Covid-19 edition” in September 2020. We will reach out very soon to the abstract submitters and potential participants with our plans. I believe this will a worthwhile experience. More info from ESCI soon. In the meantime, if you need any clarification please do not hesitate to contact the ESCI Central Office.

We take the chance to wish you and your families all the best. Take care, and stay safe!

*“I can't do every thing but I can do something.”*  
*(Helen Keller)*



Piero Portincasa  
Past-President ESCI  
President Trust, ESCI  
Local organizer ASM, Bari 2021



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