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Proceedings of the 31st Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Embryo Technology Society (SBTE); Cabo de Santo Agostinho, PE, Brazil, August 17th to 19th, 2017, and 33rd Meeting of the Association of Embryo Transfer in Europe (AETE); Bath, United Kingdom, September 8th and 9th, 2017

From the SBTE President

Dear colleagues

It is with great joy that I welcome you to the 31th Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Embryo Technology Society (SBTE-2017) at the Sheraton Reserva do Paiva Resort & Convention, Cabo de Santo Agostinho – Pernambuco, Brazil. In addition, it is a great honor to present these proceedings, our third joint publication with the Association of Embryo Technology in Europe (AETE). We thank all AETE directors, members and authors for contributing for the scientific quality of these proceedings. I reinforce my strong believe that this partnership will last long and be very fruitful for both societies.

My special thanks to our Scientific Committee (Drs. Paula Papa, Felipe Perecin and José Eduardo Santos), who put together a fantastic group of speakers this year, generating an outstanding program covering cutting edge basic and applied topics related to embryo production and fertility. Many thanks also to all speakers for their time and generosity in sharing their knowledge with us. I hope you all enjoy the talks and respective papers, through which our society hopes to expand our vision about the biological processes and new technologies relevant to embryo production and fertility control. And I do hope that these opportunities can not only increase our knowledge, but also inspire thinking and questioning, that can contribute to evolve the strategies for embryo production and fertility control towards real economical and social gains.

Many thanks also to the authors of the abstracts for choosing our meeting to present their work, as well as to the students and researchers participating in our competitions. The Poster Session and the Student Competition are major events in our program that have greatly contributed for the formation of new scientists and exchange of ideas. Very special thanks to the coordinators and reviewers of the abstract reviewing process. Their efforts are priceless.

The scientific quality of our meeting requires investment. We immensely thank our public (CNPq, CAPES, FAPESP) and private sponsors, particularly the partner companies of the SBTE condominium, for providing funds without which this meeting would not be possible.

Finally but not less importantly, I heartily thank all SBTE directors and secretariat that made this meeting happen (This team of hard workers and great friends is really incredible. It has been much more than a privilege.), and all SBTE members who have supported our society financially and ideologically through the last 31 years.

Very best wishes,

José Buratini SBTE President (2016-2017)