

Dear members and friends,

The first volume of *Transplant International*, our Society's journal, is now complete. In terms of number and quality, the manuscripts that have been submitted have met and even exceeded our highest expectations. I want to personally thank and congratulate Professor Gauke Kootstra, Editor-in-Chief of *Transplant International*, on an excellent job and wish him good luck for the coming years.

The European Society for Organ Transplantation will soon be entering its eighth year of activity and is anticipating its Fourth Congress, to be held in Barcelona from 1-4 November of this year. The preparations for the congress are going well, and it is my conviction that we will experience another successful, record-breaking meeting. The facilities in Barcelona are, of course, excellent and will provide ample opportunities to address both general organ transplant problems in big sessions and, as has become tradition, individual organ (e.g., liver, pancreas, heart) problems in smaller groups. Heart transplantation in particular has been chosen as one of the main topics of the congress.

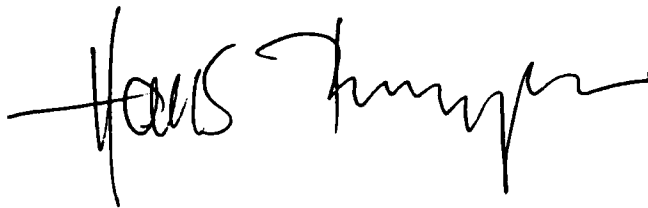
The Society has approached several industrial companies with a request for a one-time contribution to help improve the Society's financial situation. We are happy to announce that we have thus far received positive replies from Dr. Franz Köhler Chemie GmbH, from CILAG AG Research, and from Sandoz AG in Basel. We thank them very much for their kind contributions. We would like to especially acknowledge the very generous and significant support from Sandoz AG in the form of an annual

Sandoz Research Fellowship in the amount of SF 40,000.

Bernd Sido of Munich has been awarded the 1988 fellowship for an experimental transplantation/immunological project to be carried out in Oxford, where he will collaborate with Professor Peter Morris. The 1989 award will go to Charles Korsbäck of Helsinki for a study of clinical pancreas transplantation and the development of diagnostic tools and procedures for pancreas graft rejection. This project will be carried out at Sahlgren's Hospital in Göteborg. The fellowship for 1990 has been announced, and we look forward to many applications from ESOT-institutions for projects to be carried out in other ESOT-institutions in Europe.

It is my hope that membership in the Society will once again increase this year. I encourage those of you who are considering joining ESOT to bear in mind that membership includes a free subscription to *Transplant International* and the possibility of benefitting from the Sandoz Research Fellowship.

I look forward to seeing you all in Barcelona!



Hans Brynger
President, ESOT