

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT 2005

By Juan Carlos Lombardy, MD

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The Pan American Trauma society was created in Ecuador, the same country that 18 years later will be the headquarters of our next annual congress, the Pan American Trauma Society (PTS). This is one of one of the most prestigious scientific clinical societies of the world.

In a road that has not been exempt of difficulties, the success of the PTS is supported by the presence in the society of a group of personalities that has always been willing to defend it and to give all their efforts for the society's growth and development.

Much has been said about the cultural difficulties among Latin and North American people and their ability to engage in combined activities and enterprises. Differences in cultural, social and of other manners have been attributed as factors precluding successful collaborations. That has not been the case for the PTS. Clearly, the society has been the result of blending of those very differences and has produced an outstanding partnership. Uniting the continent, the PTS has created an atmosphere of mutual respect and mutual understanding. A group of healthcare professionals, guided by the same principles and ideals, has come together under the auspice of the PTS to gather the best specialists of Trauma and Critical Care in the Americas. The best example of such an endeavour is the quality and quantity of professors who go unconditionally year after year to the international congress of the PTS enriching them with outstanding scientific presentations. Without a doubt, this constitutes one of the biggest strengths in our society. Being able to attend the annual congress of the PTS is like submerging ourselves in a dance with the best books, personal experiences and publications of trauma care, living next to their authors in a true scientific fantasy, in a dream that we want to prolong to the maximum. We are proud and very aware of the benefits that come from being a member of the PTS. The major role of the PTS is the expansion of knowledge across all borders. To this end, the PTS is promoting strategic alliances with the surgical, trauma and critical care local scientific societies of the continent, even granting economic facilities to its members so that through its own local societies they can consent to become members of the PTS. We hope that many more members will join us. In the PTS they will find the possibility to enhance their knowledge, to meet many and different new people, to make very good friends, to live very happy moments and to realize how a scientific society has been able to amalgamate the best of two worlds.

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