

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER 2006-2007

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Trauma is a major public health problem in the Americas. Trauma patients, many of them seriously injured, should receive the best care from early diagnosis and rational use of available methods, which should lead to successful treatment and proper monitoring and early detection of possible complications. This is why the Pan American Trauma Society takes the responsibility to improve trauma patient care. The SPT has taken education in trauma as one of its most important tasks. Twenty years after its creation, the SPT remains true to its principles: to stimulate and promote the exchange of information and knowledge among surgeons, physicians, nurses, EMTs, and other health personnel involved in trauma patient care in the South, Central, and North America.

The active participation of its members in different countries has contributed to strengthening the Society. The promotion of SPT in the different regions has increased the number of members. The annual conference has achieved international recognition with the participation of leaders in trauma and critical care across the continent and other countries in the world, with a growing ability to call that brings together hundreds of participants in each of the meetings.

Another strategy of education of the SPT is its body of transmission, the semiannual circulation; it is an important mean of reaching its members with important updates and research.

This year, after overcoming some difficulties organizing the annual conference, the SPT is pleased to invite you to the XX Congress of the Pan American Trauma Society in Puebla (Mexico) 6-8 December 2007.

We invite trauma surgeons and health workers across the continent involved in trauma care to be part of the SPT. There will be opportunity to learn how a Scientific Society has overcome cultural, social, and language differences and how a group of friends, who share one interest, was formed to improve trauma patient care by sharing knowledge and experiences.

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