



Dear ##[Name | First]##,

It is with deep gratitude, humility, and confidence that I begin my term as President of the International Liver Transplantation Society (ILTS). To serve this global community of dedicated professionals is both an immense honor and a profound responsibility. I am inspired by your tireless commitment to advancing liver transplantation, and I pledge to lead our Society with purpose, inclusivity, and vision.

The guiding theme of my presidency, “United at the Core. Global in Reach,” reflects our belief that true progress begins with unity, across disciplines, professions, and geographies, and that through this shared foundation, we can extend our influence and impact worldwide.

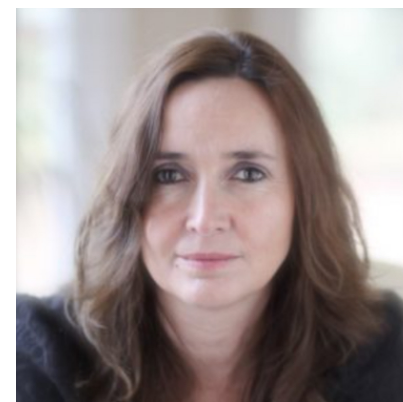
We are living in a time of global uncertainty, where unity is strained, peace is fragile, and the principles of collaboration and scientific progress are often challenged. In these conditions, our strength lies in solidarity. ILTS must serve as an example of what is possible when a community stands together in purpose and action. I am fortunate to have the support of an internationally diverse, multidisciplinary Executive Committee and Council who are aligned with this vision and fully committed to working together to achieve our goals and ensure the continuity of key initiatives.

Furthermore, our committees, the core of ILTS and its most visible representation, have been restructured to reflect true global and multidisciplinary diversity, ensuring fair, inclusive participation across all levels. These leaders, working in concert with the broader membership, are poised to bring new projects to life, initiatives that will position ILTS as the most powerful and respected liver transplantation society worldwide, advancing the care of both donors and recipients.

My vision for ILTS is anchored in four strategic pillars: *Integration*, fostering deep connections across our global community; *Leadership*, developing ethical, inclusive, and forward-thinking leaders; *Transformation*, driving innovation in education, research, and governance; and *Stewardship*, ensuring responsible governance, financial strength, and the nurturing of future generations.

In the coming weeks, we will be announcing several new initiatives that reflect this vision, programs designed to build a stronger international collaborative environment, empower the next generation of leaders, and further establish ILTS as the global leader in education, training, and coordination of multidisciplinary efforts to advance the field of liver transplantation.

I look forward to working with all of you in shaping this next chapter for ILTS!



Valeria R. Mas, MSc, PhD, FAST
President, International Liver Transplant Society
University of Maryland School of Medicine
Baltimore, MD, USA

ILTS 2025 in Singapore: A Celebration of Science, Culture, and Community



Thank you for joining us in Singapore for the ILTS 2025 Annual Congress! With over 1,100 participants from 71 countries, this year's congress was a vibrant gathering of global minds united by a shared purpose. Hosted at the iconic Suntec City Convention Center, ILTS 2025 offered a rich environment for scientific exchange, collaboration, and cultural celebration.

Together, the Scientific Programming Committee and the ILTS leadership curated one of the most dynamic and inclusive programs to date. The congress featured seven pre-congress workshops, 92 scientific sessions, and 270 expert speakers. It included cutting-edge topics in liver transplantation including transplant oncology, machine perfusion, artificial intelligence applications, innovative biosensors, and emerging biomarkers.

This year's congress also marked a record number of abstract submissions, showcasing state-of-the-art research across diverse areas of transplantation. We were especially proud to celebrate the excellence of the next generation of scientists, surgeon-scientists, and physician-scientists in our *Rising Star* sessions, where the top five scientific works from young investigators and their mentors were presented to a global audience. Additionally, the top 20 highest-scoring abstracts by first authors received the prestigious ILTS Young Investigator Award, recognizing their innovation and scientific rigor.

ILTS 2025 Rising Star Awards:

Yunguo Lei (mentee)
Key Laboratory of Multi-Organ Transplantation,
Institute of Organ Transplantation, Zhejiang
University, China; Zhejiang University School of
Medicine, China

Qiang Wei (mentor)
Key Laboratory of Multi-Organ Transplantation,
Institute of Organ Transplantation, Zhejiang
University, China; School of Clinical Medicine,
Hangzhou Medical College, Hangzhou 310014,
China, China

"miR-423-5p-Enriched MSC-Derived EVs Promote Liver Regeneration After Partial Hepatectomy in Fatty Liver by Modulating Mitochondrial Autophagy"

Prachi Patel (mentee)
Abdominal Transplant and HPB Surgical Oncology,
University Health Network, University of Toronto ,
Canada

Chaya Shwaartz (mentor)
Abdominal Transplant and HPB Surgical Oncology,
University Health Network, University of Toronto ,
Canada

"From Concept To Reality: Developing An Immersive VR 3D Model For Complex Liver Surgery Education"

Yum Hung Fredrick Cheng (mentee)
Surgery, The University of Hong Kong , Hong Kong

Kwan Man (mentor)
Surgery, The University of Hong Kong , Hong Kong

"Targeting CD177+ and CD14+ Neutrophil Plasticity with IL18 Modulation in HCC: Novel Implications for Post-transplant Recurrence"

Diana Nakib (mentee)
University Health Network, Canada; Department
Immunology, University of Toronto, Canada

Sonya MacParland (mentor)
University Health Network, Canada; Department
Immunology, University of Toronto, Canada

"Multiomic cellular ecosystem profiling identifies that PSC progression is characterized by stepwise immune recruitment and progressive immune exhaustion"

Ilias Kounis (mentee)
Centre Hépatobiliaire, AP-HP Hôpital Paul-
Brousse,, France

Nesma Houmani (mentor)
AMOVAR, Télécom SudParis, Institut
Polytechnique de Paris, 91120 Palaiseau, France

"Development of an explainable machine learning model for predicting waitlist mortality in liver transplant candidates"

ILTS 2025 Young Investigator Awards:

Li Pang Organ Transplantation Center, Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hospital of Sun Yat-sen University, China; Department of Surgery, The University of Hong Kong, School of Clinical Medicine, China

Efrayim Hursit Küçükerbil Surgery, Erasmus University Medical Center, Netherlands

Daniel Babekuhl Centre for Organ Assessment, Repair, and Optimisation, Australia

Zhoucheng Wang Zhejiang University, China

Christian Hobeika HPB surgery and Liver transplantation, Beaujon Hospital, AP-HP, Université Paris- Cité, Clichy, France

Young-In Yoon Asan Medical Center, Republic of Korea

Claire Goumard Liver Transplant & HPB Surgery, Pitié Salpêtrière Hospital, France; Sorbonne University - INSERM - UMR S-938, France

Chase J Wehrle Cleveland Clinic, United States

Jiyoung Kim Seoul National University Hospital, Republic of Korea

Lauren Matevish Department of Surgery, UT Southwestern Medical Center, United States

Xinfeng Lu Zhejiang Chinese Medical University: The Fourth School of Clinical Medicine, China

Haitao Huang Department of Surgery, Shanghai Tenth People's Hospital, Tongji University School of Medicine, China; NHC Key Laboratory of Combined Multi-organ Transplantation, China

Haseeb Zubair Surgical Sciences Division, University of Maryland School of Medicine, United States

Koki Maeda Division of Liver and Pancreas Transplant, University of California, United States; Department of Surgery, David Geffen School of Medicine, United States

Zhihao Li Mayo Clinic Rochester - William J. von Liebig Center for Transplantation and Clinical Regeneration, United States

Hye-Sung Jo Surgery, Korea University College of Medicine, Republic of Korea

Ayaka Satoh Nagasaki University - Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Japan

Bishow Bekhyat Karki General Surgery, Mid Yorkshire Teaching NHS Trust, United Kingdom; Suture centre, Hull Institute of Learning and Simulation, United Kingdom

Maen Abdelrahim Houston Methodist Neal Cancer Center, United States

Bhanoo Tej Bathala Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, Kochi, India

The ILTS 2025 Annual Congress theme was honored with three stellar State-of-the-Art Lectures delivered by leaders at the forefront of transplant innovation. Dr. Dean Ho (Provost's Chair Professor & Head of Biomedical Engineering, National University of Singapore) presented *AI Driven Precision Medicine: Transforming Liver Transplant Decision-Making and Patient Care*. Dr. Jamil Azzi (Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School) shared a visionary approach in *Novel Nanotechnology to Overcome Limitations of Systemic IL-2 in Tolerance*. And Professor Mohammed Rela, Past-President of ILTS and pioneering leader in the field, delivered *Pushing the Boundaries with Innovative Robotic Technologies in Liver Transplantation: A Focus on Pediatric Applications*.



ILTS leadership would like to express particular appreciation to **Dr. Alfred Kow**, our local co-chair and ILTS Council member, whose dedication to every detail and tireless efforts were instrumental in making ILTS 2025 a truly exceptional scientific and social event. Thanks to his

leadership, participants were able to learn, network, and engage fully while immersed in the rich, multicultural beauty of Singapore.

The meeting concluded with the transition of the ILTS Presidency, where Dr. Valeria Mas extended her sincere gratitude to **Dr. Nazia Selzner** for her exemplary leadership throughout her term. Dr. Valeria Mas is honored to follow in her footsteps and remains committed to continuing the remarkable work Dr. Nazia Selzner has led.

We now look ahead with great anticipation to another enriching scientific experience at **ILTS 2026 in Geneva, Switzerland**. We hope to see you all there!



*Please help us bring the liver transplant community together.
Forward this to your colleagues!*



**INTERNATIONAL LIVER
TRANSPLANTATION SOCIETY**

International Liver Transplantation Society

PO Box 7 | Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Connect with Us:

Facebook

Instagram

X

LinkedIn