



**termis**<sup>®</sup>

## interLink

*Linking the international community of tissue engineers and regenerative medicine scientists*

## Letter from the President

Dear TERMIS Members,

*First, we hope you and your families are safe and healthy during this tumultuous time that has impacted our daily lives exponentially. All of us are trying to figure out our new normal - working from home, homeschooling our children, to social distancing, limiting our exposure to others - in order to curtail the spread of COVID-19.*

*When we will go back to our "normal" lives is uncertain. We do know that internationally due to the pandemic this has restricted travel, which ultimately has an affect on the upcoming TERMIS conferences. As we come closer to these events, we will have more information to provide on our next steps.*

*The COVID-19 outbreak has prompted organizations to try unconventional work styles, including TERMIS with measures such as Special electronic Governance meetings to deal with several urgent areas, including our three chapter meetings for 2020.*

*In such a meeting, the TERMIS Global Governing Board unanimously decided that if a chapter conference is cancelled in 2020, TERMIS Global will send a request to ALL the TERMIS members assigned to that region / chapter to pay the 2020 membership fees (100 USD dollars Regular member, 25 USD dollars Student and Young Investigator).*

*I ask all current TERMIS members (and recent members) to pay this small fee, irrespective if you attended a TERMIS chapter meeting in 2019. All those who have already registered for the TERMIS-EU 2020 in Manchester that has officially been cancelled will automatically have their 2020 membership fees paid to TERMIS as the membership fee will be removed from the registration costs (please see the details of your options with regards to your registration fees on the TERMIS-EU 2020 conference website).*

*This is a unique situation in 2020 (due to the COVID 19 pandemic) and this decision was made to maintain the society, preventing the possibility of major financial issues, with no fixed fees collected from the three chapters, TERMIS could be near bankruptcy. Membership will be valid until the World Congress in 2021. TERMIS membership fees are extremely important to the survival of the society and are used to cover the executive administrator salary, office operations, website maintenance, student awards, SYIS sponsorships, etc.*

*Very recently the 11<sup>th</sup> World Biomaterials Congress was postponed from May 2020 until the 11-16 December 2020 in Glasgow, Scotland. This puts tremendous pressure on the TERMIS-AM chapter meeting in Toronto. The TERMIS-AM chapter council is urgently looking into this situation. We know that we cannot change the WBC date, as it is clear that for the IUSBSE representatives discussions would have not been easy, since it was very difficult to find a suitable date that would a) take into account the unpredictable development of the COVID 19 pandemic, b) take into account the limited availability of the conference center in Glasgow and c) not interfere with national meetings of the different societies such as ours. I personally as Global president of TERMIS am grateful that WBC was not postponed to June 2021, in the same month as the TERMIS World Congress in Maastricht.*

*On top of these special meetings our governance looks at many topics from initiating systems to help our administrator handle the membership, reviewing chapter meeting date windows to help all our chapters including possibility of rotations of the windows timing, collaborations with other societies (especially clinical ones), thematic groups, finances and very importantly (as the theme of my presidency) best practice in governance, procedures and operations of the society.*

*In this coming year, TERMIS will rely on the support of its members in order to succeed and flourish in this time of the Corona Crisis. You, our members, are the reason that the society has been able to sustain itself for close to 15 years.*

*Thank you for your continued support!*

*Sincerely,  
R. Geoff Richards  
TERMIS President*

## **In Remembrance: Robert M. Nerem**



Recently, one of the founders of TERMIS passed away. Bob was a force. Anyone that knew Bob, may of at first been a bit intimated by his presence, but once you started a conversation, you knew right away that he valued the conversation and truly wanted to take the time out of his busy day to talk.

He was a pioneer of our field and influenced so many on a global level. One of the best ways we can remember him is to read and live by his "**Rules of Life: The Planet Earth School**"

*You are enrolled in a full-time school called "Life on Planet Earth"; the teachers in this school are the persons you encounter and/or the events in which you are involved. As you will be a student in this school, the following rules may be of help. These represent a combination of insights, i.e. rules provided by many people, not just this author.*

1. In this school there are no such things as mistakes, only lessons, i.e. a series of learning experiences; growth is through a series of such experiences, a process which involves both successful and unsuccessful experiments.
2. An unsuccessful experiment does not represent failure, it is just a learning experience; often one learns more from these than from successes; apply the lessons of today so as to make yourself a better person tomorrow.
3. Be open in the widest possible way to encountering a new person, to a new opportunity, as these represent new teachers, new learning experiences; "leave the screen door (to the outside world) unlatched," you never know who or what will walk in.
4. If you encounter a closed door, simply look for another door that might be open; life is filled with a lot of paths and doors to walk through, don't waste time on a door which is closed, let the "rock" in your path be a "stepping stone."
5. Your life is up to you; at birth you were provided a "canvas" onto which you have the opportunity to

“paint your life;” take charge of your life and the “painting of this picture,” if you don’t someone or something else will.

6. Be willing to let go of the life that you had planned so as to have the life that awaits you; life is only known by those who have found a way to be comfortable with change and the unknown.

7. Don’t let your preoccupation with reality stifle your imagination; do not go where the path is leading, go where there is no path and leave a trail.

8. Be willing to do the really important things you can, even if it is only one step at a time; if someday, why not now, even though the impossible may take a while.

9. Remember that the cup is always half full, never half empty, but remember that the only cards you can play are the ones that you were dealt; life is 10 percent what happens to you and 90 percent how you respond.

10. People will remember not what you said, but only how you made them feel; strive to make a difference in the lives of others.

11. If people think that you care, they will care about what you think; as a leader care for those that you are leading and make sure they get the credit.

12. Never have expectations, only hopes; our expectations may only blind us, the most powerful way to connect to another person is to listen.

13. Each of us is unfinished, a work in progress, even so more than we may think; look for the good in people, try to imagine the world as it seems to the other person.

14. Never, never worry about something over which you have no control.

15. Whatever happens, place the least dramatic interpretation on the event, the incident, and/or whatever is said.

16. Welcome each and every new day for “each dawn is a new beginning;” each day presents new opportunities and a day spent without real enthusiasm, is an opportunity lost; embracing life is a choice.

17. Love yourself, make peace with who you are and where you are at this moment in time; listen to your heart, if you can’t hear what it is saying in this noisy world, make time for yourself, enjoy your own company, let your mind wander among the stars and allow yourself the freedom to be who you really are.

18. If one fears loss enough, in the end the things we possess will come to possess us.

19. Consider “life” to be a gift to you and the way you lead your life to be your gift to those who you encounter and those who come after you.

20. Finally, life’s journey isn’t to arrive at the grave safely in a well-preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, worn out, shouting --- holy cow, what a ride!

21. *Bob's wife, Marilyn, found the 21st Rule of Life in his coat pocket after he passed away.* It read, Whatever you do, do something of service for someone else – then you’ll know it mattered that you were alive.

<sup>1</sup> These “Rules of Life” have been assembled by Bob Nerem. They are not original, but represent Bob Nerem’s philosophy.

**Thank you, Bob, for your commitment to our field and for influencing the next generation of bioengineers! It was a pleasure to have known you. Your legacy will continue, "Big, Bad Bob"!**

---

**2021 TERMIS World Congress**



## Mark your Calendar - 31 May - 4 June

The 6th TERMIS World Congress will be held in **Maastricht, The Netherlands** from **31 May - 4 June**.

The Conference Chairs:

Prof. dr. Lorenzo Moroni  
MERLN Institute - Maastricht University

Prof. dr. Liesbet Geris  
University of Liège – KU Leuven

Prof. dr. med. Stefan Jockenhövel  
RWTH University Aachen

[2021 World Congress Website](#)

## Opportunity to Serve in TERMIS

We are looking for enthusiastic active volunteers to serve on the **Bioreactor Technologies Thematic Group** with the aim to promote and develop all aspects of Bioreactors and their applications.

We are particularly keen to develop a group with diverse backgrounds and experiences.

If this is of interest, please send a CV and motivation letter to the [Executive Administrator](#).

## TERMIS-AM Awards Program

### 2020 TERMIS-AM Awards Program - Call for Nomination Packages

I am pleased to announce that the opening of the TERMIS-AM's awards program for 2020. The Awards Committee has established an awards program to recognize achievements accomplished by its members residing within the Americas.

The complete list of awards is available [online](#). **Nomination packages for any TERMIS-AM award should be submitted to Sarah Wilburn by June 1, 2020.** The criteria for submitting a nomination must be followed in order for the nomination to be accepted.

The awardees will be presented with their award, in person, at the 2020 TERMIS-AM conference in Toronto, ON or will be given virtually dependent on the current state of affairs of the COVID-19 this fall.

Please submit your nomination packages to:

TERMIS-AM Awards Committee

c/o Sarah Wilburn

TERMIS Executive Administrator

E: [swilburn@termis.org](mailto:swilburn@termis.org)

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

William Wagner

TERMIS-AM Awards Committee Chair

Ninth Annual  
University of Pittsburgh

International Symposium on  
**Regenerative Rehabilitation**

December 3–5, 2020  
University of Texas at Austin  
Austin, Texas, USA

**Important Dates**  
Abstracts for oral presentations are due **May 4, 2020**.  
Abstracts for poster presentations are due **October 19, 2020**.  
Additional symposium information: [ar3t.pitt.edu/symposium](http://ar3t.pitt.edu/symposium)

**Keynote Presenters**



**Edward Chang, MD**  
Professor and Vice Chair of Neurological Surgery; Jeannie Robertson Distinguished Professor; William K. Bowes Jr. Biomedical Investigator; Codirector, Center for Neural Engineering and Prostheses at UC Berkeley and UCSF, Weill Institute for Neurosciences, University of California, San Francisco



**Tejal Desai, PhD**  
Ernest L. Prien Endowed Professor and Chair, Department of Bioengineering and Therapeutic Sciences, Schools of Pharmacy and Medicine, University of California, San Francisco



**Molly S. Shoichet, PhD**  
Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Tissue Engineering; Professor of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry and of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering, University of Toronto



University of  
Pittsburgh



TEXAS  
The University of Texas at Austin

## Tissue Engineering

# Tissue Engineering

Parts A, B, and C

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.  publishers

*Tissue Engineering*, the Official Journal of TERMIS, is proud to present the “**Tissue Engineering Resource Center**” to all TERMIS members, presenting helpful tools and resources for researchers around the world. Included in this resource center are videos and presentation materials from Workshops held at past TERMIS meetings. We will be adding many additional resources as we build this “tool box” so make sure to access our Resource Center on a regular basis. To gain access to the Tissue Engineering Resource Center, please [click here](#).

If you would like to contribute to the Tissue Engineering Resource Center, please email Sophie Reisz [sreisz@liebertpub.com](mailto:sreisz@liebertpub.com) for more information.

### Encourage Your Institution to Subscribe to Tissue Engineering

If your institution does not currently subscribe to the journal, *Tissue Engineering, Parts A, B, & C* we ask that you please complete the library recommendation form to encourage your institution's librarian to subscribe to the journal today.

[Library Recommendation Form](#)

# Employment Opportunities

Members of TERMIS have an opportunity to post job openings on the TERMIS website free for 30 days. Please contact the [Executive Administrator](#) to post an opening.

Job Openings

## Meetings Endorsed by TERMIS

The meetings listed on the TERMIS website under Endorsed Meetings have been reviewed and approved by the TERMIS Endorsement Committee. If you are interested in TERMIS promoting your meeting, please complete the Endorsement Request Form.

[View Complete List of Endorsed Meetings](#)