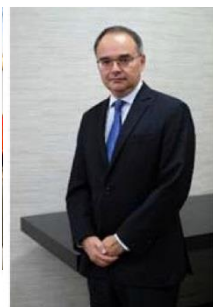**Raul Santos**

From the IAS President's Desk: March/April 2019

I am very happy to inform our community that IAS has a new **Board** member: **Zaneta Petrulioniene** (First Department of Cardiology, Vilnius University, Hospital Santariškių Klinikos, Vilnius, Lithuania). Dear Zaneta, welcome among us !

I am pleased to announce that the International Atherosclerosis Society is launching the **Wael Al-Mahmeed & IAS Research Training Grants and Fellowships for the MENA Region** project. The entire IAS Board is honored and grateful to announce that this high-level initiative has been made possible by a generous donation from Dr. Wael Abdulrahman Al Mahmeed (Abu Dhabi, UAE).

The Wael Al-Mahmeed & IAS Research Training Grants and Fellowships for the MENA Region is a competitive research funding opportunity aimed at advancing clinical and basic research in atherosclerosis and related cardio-metabolic-cerebrovascular diseases in the MENA Region, as well as promoting partnerships among researchers from recognized MENA Universities and healthcare institutions.

Aim of the Wael Al-Mahmeed & IAS Research Training Grants and Fellowships program is to help young researchers to improve skills and knowledge in the field of atherosclerosis and related cardio-metabolic-cerebrovascular diseases in the MENA Region by:
- Acquiring new research techniques
- Implementing new clinical techniques
- Initiating innovative programs in atherosclerosis and related cardio-metabolic-cerebrovascular diseases
- Accepted post-doctoral training in a lipid-intense research laboratory
- Implementing ongoing research in the applicant's laboratory.

The Wael Al-Mahmeed & IAS Research Training Grants and Fellowships for the MENA Region will award up to three $10,000 grants for a maximum period of 6 months. The final granted amount will be calculated pro rata, according to the length of the certified training period or the duration of the research.

For further information about the application on line please link to
http://grants.athero.org/MENARegion/