Vision statement

by Bruno Sarmento, running for the CRS Secretary

As a candidate for the position of Secretary of the Controlled Release Society (CRS), I envision a future where our Society continues to flourish as the premier international scientific organization dedicated to delivery science and technology.

The Controlled Release Society has been an enduring presence in my scientific and professional path, and my main scientific society, where I learned, was inspired, got involved and received support. Having been deeply intertwined with CRS since my early academic career, I understand the pivotal role it plays in fostering collaboration, innovation, and professional growth.

My involvement with the CRS started in 2006, still as a PhD student, in my first CRS Annual Meeting, and I became a persevering attendant of the Annual Meeting without breaks. It was a decisive landmark, of being in touch with my references and examples, have been able to learn from the best in delivery science, establishing a network of longstanding collaborators and shaping my own research work. My ties with the CRS grew since that, allowing me to establish research collaborations with CRS members, construct projects and advance in delivery solutions to burden health issues.

My commitment with CRS is now well documented and recognized. I was elected vicepresident of the Spanish-Portugal CRS Local Chapter (2018-2022), the first Chair of the Nanomedicine and Nanoscale Drug Delivery Focus Group of CRS (2018-2019), elected Director-at-Large of CRS in 2021, and Chair of the International Chapter Committee since 2021. I served as Annual Meeting Program Committee of CRS and was elected a College of Fellow. I also play an active role on the Society's official journals, namely as Associate Editor and Special Issues of Drug Delivery and Translational Research, the Official Journal of the Controlled Release Society, since 2019, and Editorial Board Member of the Journal of Controlled Release since 2018. I had the opportunity to learn and grow, as a scientist and person, and interact with a diversity of colleagues and friends. This has been one of the most rewards experiences in my life, which I am sure only possible due to the uniqueness of our Society.

My journey within CRS, from a passionate attendee to holding various leadership roles, has provided me with invaluable insights into the needs and aspirations of our diverse membership. If elected as Secretary, I am committed to enhancing the value proposition for all CRS members. I will work tirelessly in close collaboration with the Board of Directors to ensure that every member feels appreciated, supported, and empowered to contribute to our collective mission. I will work for a stronger appreciation and increased add-value of all members of Society. My vision is strengthening the CRS as the main international scientific organization, with global presence and impact, dedicated

to delivery science and technology, ultimately providing resources, training, translation, and dissemination actions to improve the quality life worldwide.

I have a strong motivation grounded on our basis and individuals. I consider Local Chapters the solid basis of our Society, and the fundamentals of our most integer principles of integration and involvement of our members. I recognize the importance of our Local Chapters as the bedrock of our Society, embodying principles of inclusivity and engagement. My experience in establishing and nurturing the Brazilian Local Chapter has prepared me with a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities faced by our diverse community worldwide. I had the privilege to be physically present in events and meeting of all Local Chapters around the world, testifying the commitment and excellency of their members. I am aware of every single challenge and know the diversity of our community, which puts me in an advantage position to be an effective Secretary, in the full term.

I am deeply passionate about fostering a sense of community within CRS, characterized by ethical integrity, collaborative spirit, and a commitment to excellence. As Secretary, I will champion initiatives that further cultivate this spirit, facilitating meaningful connections and knowledge exchange among members.

In my academic career, I have demonstrated a strong commitment to mentorship, diversity, and technology transfer. I have supervised a diverse group of graduate students and research fellows, emphasizing a culture of excellence and inquiry-driven research. I am dedicated to bridging the gap between academia, industry, and clinical practice within CRS. By fostering closer collaboration and dialogue among these stakeholders, we can accelerate the translation of cutting-edge research into tangible solutions that positively impact healthcare outcomes, aligning closely with CRS's mission.

I invite you to join me on this journey of progress and innovation within CRS. Together, we can propel our Society to new heights, advancing the frontiers of delivery science and improving the quality of life for people worldwide.

Stay updated on my visions, positions, and statements through my social media channels on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.

Thank you for your trust and support.

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