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20th anniversary IXA

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To the Editor

We wish to draw the attention of your readers to the fact that July 15, 2018, marks the 20th anniversary of the first official business meeting of the International Xenotransplantation Association (IXA). With Carl Groth, the IXA's first president, in the chair (Figure 1), the inaugural business meeting was held in 1998 during the XVII Congress of The Transplantation Society (TTS) in Montreal, and was attended by almost 200 persons (1,2). After electing Keith Reemtsma as its Honorary Founding President, and the IXA's first Council members, the next piece of business was to appoint *Xenotransplantation* as the official journal of the IXA. The first Council meeting of the IXA was held two days later.

Much progress has been made in the field of xenotransplantation in the intervening 20 years, and we hope that we will soon see clinical trials of pig organ transplantation being initiated. This hope is reflected in the articles included in this current issue, all of which are based on presentations given during the XIV IXA congress held in Baltimore in September 2017.

David K.C. Cooper (Founding Honorary Secretary/Treasurer)

Leo H. Buhler (President)

References

1. Cooper DKC International Xenotransplantation Association. *Xenotransplantation*. 1998; 95: 233.
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Figure 1:
The original Officers of the IXA elected in Montreal in 1998. Left to right: David Sachs (Vice-President), Megan Sykes, Carl Groth (President), Mauro Sandrin, David Cooper (Honorary Secretary/Treasurer).