

César Nombela Arrieta Candidate Statement

“Why would you be a good candidate for the role you are nominated for and how do you think you would be able to positively impact the society if elected?”

I hereby would like to express my interest in becoming a member of the Board of Directors of ISEH. My application is backed by the following qualifications, which I believe would allow me to contribute to the objectives of the ISEH:

1. Research experience: accrued throughout sixteen years working in the field of experimental hematology in Europe and the United States. My focus has been the study of the hematopoietic microenvironment and the HSC niche, which is currently a topic of major interest. In this context, I believe I have made several solid contributions, which have led me to establish as a valued and expert

voice.

2. Technical expertise: my group has pioneered state-of-the-art microscopy and computational image analysis tools to dissect the hematopoietic system. These rapidly evolving spatial technologies are bound to transform biological research and are increasingly employed to study hematopoiesis. I will aim to engage in active discussions on standards and reproducibility in the use of such novel technological platforms.

3. Extensive collaborative network: Scientific progress absolutely relies on collaborations across disciplines. I am convinced of the unique power of openness in science and have tried to apply this principle throughout my career. During my formative years in Boston, I built a robust network of colleagues who are now leaders in this field of research. I will work towards facilitating the fluent exchange of ideas, data sharing and open discussions as the basis for innovation in the society. I have solid experience in this domain as for the past three years I have been part of the Committee for Open Science of the University of Zurich.

4. Leadership and management experience: as an independent researcher I have supervised and mentored several young

scientists. I am fully committed to the active promotion of emerging leaders and will continue to work in this direction. As an example, I am part of the Steering Committee of the Cancer Biology Program of the Life Science Graduate School of Zurich, which includes both the University of Zurich and the ETH Zurich.

5. Contributions to the Community: for the last three years I have been part of the Committee for Grants and Fellowships of the European Hematology Association (EHA). Of note, I was part of the Scientific Program Committee of the 2025 ISEH Meeting, which will

take place in Kumamoto. I have also engaged in scientific societies (ASH, EHA, SSH and ISEH) through reviewing activities and attendance to conferences. This has allowed me to understand the challenges faced by organizations, as well as the major open questions that need to be solved in our field of research.

6. Vision: I am deeply convinced of the key importance of basic research as the foundation for future translational and clinical

developments. I believe this vision perfectly aligns with the core tenets of the ISEH.

In summary, on the basis of the credentials exposed above I honestly believe that I can contribute to the mission and objectives of

ISEH as a decisive actor in pushing the boundaries of knowledge in hematology.

I thank you in advance for your consideration.