MISSION STATEMENT
ICTEHV is a conference founded in 2018 applying a contemporary and progressive approach to organize a scientific biomedical conference for our community. We have tirelessly pursued the ambition to create a modern platform to facilitate collaboration and not competition. Using digital media, videos, branding and forward thinking, allowed us to organize ICTEHV 2018 in the Filmuseum the Eye, Amsterdam. In 2020 we continued to build on our initial building blocks. Successful components of branding, forward thinking, digital media, young scientists in the lead, and moderated debates was brought forward in ICTEHV Abu Dhabi 2020. Since then we have added themes such as durability, global outreach, to continue to build on an environment where we can share both our successes as well as our failures.

All of this, to pursue one goal, which is to create ONE unifying community; ONE tissue engineered heart valve community.

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS
We strongly believe that global collaboration and not competition is what is needed to achieve successful translation of this new technology. An important aspect that we need to develop in our community is to standardize our methods, our animal models, our translation requirements. This way we can ultimately compare each other’s research and much more effectively work towards translation of our technology to patients. One of the progressive ideas we want to discuss with you as a guest is the registration of animal studies on an online platform with the community. This could have enormous positive impact in learning from each other, both successes and mistakes. Artificial intelligence, computer modeling are becoming powerful tools to help us develop the perfect TEHV. This theme will also be at the forefront of ICTEHV 2021. In turn, artificial intelligence mandates standardization of research to develop the parameters needed for such AI predictive algorithms. They are connected.

Co-organizing ICTEHV 2021 with the Heart Valve Society in Miami as a satellite symposium prior would not only expand global outreach, but also connect different fields of expertise and research groups from across the globe. Connecting these communities will break down barriers between clinicians, scientists, and engineers to cure heart valve disease.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE
Executive Board: Dr. J Hjortnaes (MD/PhD), Marcelle Uiterwijk (MD), Anthal Smits (PhD), Kevin van Veen (BSc), Josh Hutcheson (PhD)
Advisory Board: Prof. dr. C.V.C Bouten (chair), Prof. dr. J. Takkenberg.
Partners: Heart Valve Society, Frontiers

**Be sure to submit your Abstract under the ‘Tissue Engineering’ Topic to be considered for the 2021 ICTEHV Program**