

## Newsletter - December 2025

### President's update

Dear SESAM colleagues and friends

As we approach the end of the year, first and foremost I hope that we can all remain well and enjoy some time with our families and loved ones over the Christmas period. Most of us will, of course, continue to have on-call duties and professional responsibilities, but I sincerely hope that everyone can find moments for rest and reflection whenever possible.

Looking back on the past year, the results we have achieved together are truly remarkable. SESAM has experienced extraordinary growth across all key dimensions of our community: membership numbers, attendance at our Annual Meeting, growth of our Communities of Practice in numbers and size, accredited centres and the expansion of our network of affiliated societies and strategic partners. These achievements reflect not only the increasing relevance of simulation in healthcare education, but also the credibility, energy, and vision of SESAM as a professional and scientific society.

This year has also seen SESAM strongly represented at national and international congresses, both across Europe and beyond. Importantly, these events were not limited to simulation-focused meetings, but also included major events dedicated to patient safety more broadly, which ultimately represents our core mission. Our presence at these forums demonstrates our strong commitment to global engagement and collaboration. They provide valuable opportunities to share expertise, learn from others, and advocate for simulation as a fundamental tool to improve patient safety, while further reinforcing SESAM's role as a key international reference in healthcare education and safety.

Another major achievement of 2025 has been the recognition of our scientific journal, *Advances in Simulation*, which has now received an Impact Factor of 4.7. This is a significant milestone for SESAM and for the entire simulation community. I would like to express a special thank you to our publisher, but above all to the Editorial Board and its Editor-in-Chief, whose vision, dedication, and scientific rigor made this accomplishment possible.

Following the great success of our last Annual Meeting in Valencia, we are already very excited about the 2026 Annual Meeting in Lyon, which we will organize with the invaluable support of our French colleagues from SoFraSimS. The congress will include sessions in three languages—English, French, and Spanish—further reinforcing our commitment to inclusivity and international collaboration. The incredible number of abstracts we have already received allows us to anticipate not only a high scientific quality, but also a very strong attendance in Lyon.

While celebrating these achievements, our focus now turns to the opportunities that 2026 presents. One of our biggest challenges, in my view, remains our membership. I would like to sincerely thank the hundreds of you who are paid-up members and actively support the society.

At the same time, there are tens of thousands of European (and not only!) professionals who could be part of SESAM but are not yet members. If we want to have a strong voice, we need to be numerous. Representation matters. I therefore encourage everyone to engage with colleagues and peer groups to encourage them to join or connect with SESAM.

This is closely linked to our advocacy efforts. We have started important work in recent years, and we must expand it further. Our goal is to help build a single, strong, global voice for simulation in healthcare, one that can be heard clearly at institutional and policy levels. We are working intensively at an international level to align efforts and strengthen collaborations.



At the same time, we continue to consolidate SESAM as an organization, not only financially but also administratively and legally, to ensure long-term sustainability and continuity.

Let me conclude by saying that it is easy to achieve these results and plan new ones when you lead such an extraordinary team of colleagues.

None of this would be possible without their passion, professionalism, and commitment. Personally, and on behalf of the entire SESAM community, I thank all the Executive Board Members, Committee and CoP Chairs, and our new Executive Director.

With my warmest wishes to you and your families for the festive season, and with great enthusiasm for the year ahead.

Ciao  
Pier Luigi  
SESAM President

**SESAM Annual Meeting: 17-19 June 2026**  
**SESAM Pre Congress: 15-16 June 2026**



Lyon is a city steeped in the history of healing. For centuries, pilgrims travelled to Lyon seeking care and refuge, and the city became renowned for its compassion and medical expertise. The Hôtel-Dieu de Lyon, founded in the 12th century, remains one of Europe's most historic hospitals - a symbol of Lyon's enduring commitment to patient care and medical innovation.

Today, Lyon continues this legacy as a leading centre for life sciences, medical research, and healthcare education. It is the ideal setting for SESAM to gather and advance our mission: to ensure that simulation is at the heart of healthcare education, research, and patient safety.

For over 30 years, SESAM has championed the principle that patients deserve the safest possible care - and that simulation is essential to achieving this goal. Our community brings together over delegates from around the world, committed to translating evidence into practice and fostering innovation in healthcare simulation.

Our industry partners play a vital role in this work. By partnering with SESAM, you connect with a vibrant, engaged community dedicated to improving patient care through simulation. View our **Sponsorship and Exhibition** opportunities [here](#).

### **Start planning your trip to Lyon!**

Abstracts are currently being reviewed, with results expected to be shared towards the end of January. We wish everyone the best of luck!

Registration fees for the SESAM Annual Meeting 2026 are now available. General registration will open in February. Group registrations for SESAM members - who may have a requirement to pay before year end -

are open now.

For the more organised amongst you, accommodation booking is officially open. Secure your stay at one of the nearby hotels offering special preferential rates exclusively for SESAM 2026 delegates. Rooms with these rates are limited – book early to enjoy the best savings. More details [here](#).



## Sim Uni 2026



### Calling all students!

The stage can be yours and your team mates at Sim Uni 2026.

Through Sim University, SESAM empowers students to go beyond their local institutions. Compete in immersive, hands-on simulation challenges during the SESAM Annual Meeting in Lyon and showcase your skills against top teams from across Europe.

Register your team before 15 January 2026 - limited spots available!

Details including regulations and applications [here](#).



## SESAM's Global Presence

SESAM proudly took part in this year's SIMExpo2025 organised by **Simulation Canada**, an event characterised by an active collaboration between Sim Centers and industry.

Chairing the panel AI for Creating & Facilitating Sim, SESAM member at large **Serena Ricci** facilitated meaningful conversations about the future of simulation-based learning, research, and practice worldwide. We also connected with new industry partners, and we nourished our existing collaboration with Simulation Canada, a vibrant community dedicated to advancing healthcare simulation in Canada and beyond.



In early November, SESAM was proud to co host **S3 Conference 2025** in Singapore, together with SingHealth and SimGhosts.

SESAM contributed Pre Congress sessions, workshops and a keynote on the Global Consensus Statement on Simulation Practice in Healthcare.

Commenting on the energy, innovation, and commitment to advancing simulation-based education, President Elect Cristina Diaz Navarro summed up her experience: *"A heartfelt thank you to the incredible organising committee for hosting such a well-curated and engaging congress. It was a privilege to be part of the event, connect with passionate professionals from around the world, share our work and represent SESAM alongside my wonderful colleagues Sigrun Qvindesland, Kirsty J Freeman, Pedro Cartaxo, Kai Kranz and Leizl Joy Nayajangan."*



SESAM was delighted to participate in **ASPiH 2025**, which brought together experts and professionals from across the simulation community of UK, Ireland and beyond. As one of our affiliated societies, ASPiH continues to demonstrate strong leadership and commitment to advancing healthcare simulation.

The congress was a valuable reminder of how important collaboration between scientific societies is. This year's theme, *"Simulation for Impact: Culture, Co-production and Creativity"*, perfectly reflected the spirit of what we can achieve together. By working collaboratively and unifying our voices, we can play a more decisive role in ensuring that simulation continues to grow as a powerful driver of quality and safety.



Executive Board Member at Large **Aida Camps** represented SESAM in Mexico City, presenting on the Global Consensus Statement and inclusion, accreditation and professionalization, interprofessional simulation and delivering a debriefing workshop. **SIMex** welcomed 250 attendees, 100 speakers, and 128 institutions from 10 different countries.





Attending **IMSH**? SESAM Members and friends are invited to join the SESAM Board for drinks on Tuesday 13 January, 8pm - 10pm at The Rose, 420 E Houston St, San Antonio, TX 78205



### Advances in Simulation (AiS) Journal Spotlight

#### Advances in Simulation: December Publications



Our journal, *Advances in Simulation*, continues to publish cutting-edge research that advances our field. Here are some notable December publications:

*"An immersive mirror: a descriptive study of peer observer and active participant experiences in simulation"* by Naomi Tutticci, Sandra Johnston, Joanne Ramsbotham, and Karen Theobald explores the valuable perspectives of both observers and participants in simulation-based learning.

*"Simulation training for holistic and systematic health needs assessments of older adults: a qualitative study"* by Bente Hamre Larsen, Dagruun Naden Dyrstad, Helle K Falkenberg, Peter Dieckmann, and Marianne Storm demonstrates simulation's application in geriatric care education.

*"Resolving latent safety threats identified through in situ simulation: a multicentre mixed-methods study"* by Jennifer Weller and colleagues exemplifies how simulation directly improves patient safety by identifying and addressing system vulnerabilities.

**Special Collection Highlight:** The first paper in our special collection "Connecting Simulation with Healthcare Quality and Safety" has been published. This collection bridges the gap between simulation and healthcare improvement practice, accepting submissions until 13 August 2026.

Access these publications and explore the full scope of current simulation research [here](#).

### Holiday Greetings from SESAM

As we approach the end of 2025, SESAM extends warm holiday wishes to our global simulation community. We are deeply grateful for the dedication and innovation you bring to healthcare simulation every day.

Please note that the SESAM office will be closed from 19 December 2025 until 5 January 2026. During this time, our thoughts are especially with the healthcare workers and clinicians who will continue their vital work caring for patients throughout the holiday season. Your commitment to patient safety and care exemplifies the very principles that drive our simulation community. We look forward to reconnecting in the New Year and continuing our shared mission to advance healthcare through simulation.

## Stay Connected

Join the **SESAM** community  
beyond the conference halls



Follow us on Instagram:

**@sesam\_simulation**



Do you want to share news with fellow SESAM Members?  
Submit proposed articles for consideration [here](#).