Dr Arie Bastiaan Johan Groeneveld was born on Oct 11th, 1955 in Amsterdam. He is married and the father of three children.

Johan graduated at the Vrije Universiteit Medical Center, in Amsterdam and followed this with a post graduate certification in Internal Medicine and certification as an Intensivist in the same institution.

Under the mentorship of Prof LG Thijs, one of the founders of ESICM, Dr Groeneveld obtained his PhD thesis in 1988. His professional appointments were mostly in the Vrije Universiteit Medical Center, in Amsterdam, where he was associate professor and then staff member and professor. He moved to Rotterdam in 2011, where he is currently Head of Research at the Department of Intensive Care in the Erasmus Medical Center.

Dr Groeneveld desired very early international experience and in 1983 spent a year in Chicago as a research fellow in the Department of Critical Care Medicine, led by Max Harry Weil, one of the founders of critical care. He also acquired the title of Fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians in 2001 and Fellow of the American College of Critical Care Medicine in 2003.

Johan is really passionate about research and his main topics of interest include sepsis, ARDS; circulatory failure, multiple organ failure, cardiovascular physiology, renal dysfunction, organ support, hemodynamic monitoring, and cytokines and mediators. From the very beginning of his career, he has conducted high-quality experimental and clinical research, leading to more than 350 original publications and many book chapters, with more than 6000 citations and an H factor of 44. He was awarded several times for his research.

His passion for research led him to become one of the most active reviewers in the field of intensive care. He never refuses to review a manuscript and always provides his sharp comments on time (this last point is quite exceptional!). He was named as one of the top 10 reviewers for Br J Anaesthesia in 2007 and top 10 of reviewers for Chest in 2001. He is member of the editorial board of several journals and was associate editor of Intensive Care Medicine, Shock, Current Opinion in Critical Care Medicine.

Dr Johan Groeneveld is involved in the organisation of several national and international congresses, including the International Symposium in Intensive Care and Emergency Medicine, Brussels.

Johan is also passionate about education. He lectures at major international conferences around the globe, was part of PACT (2005-2009) and also an instructor for Fundamentals in Critical Care Support (SCCM).

In addition, Johan is a very kind and humane person. As chairman of free communications, he always expresses kind words to presenters in difficult positions, while providing simultaneous kindly and positively, sharp comments that would be helpful to improve the future publication of presented research.

His involvement in social activities is quite proportional to his scientific involvement. At speakers’ dinners his company is always enjoyable, with enthusiastic discussions on both medical and non-medical topics. On top of this, Johan is an excellent skier and always enjoys Winter symposia, some of which he has organised.

Recently, Johan has experienced severe health issues that he is bravely facing, but these does not prevent him from continuing his scientific activities.

He richly deserves this recognition from the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine. I am proud to give this citation to him.

DANIEL DE BACKER
ESICM President