

## EDITORIAL

**On the highly dedicated 05/06/07, ECS will celebrate at Seix its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.**

*by Roland Pochet  
ECS General Secretary*

Some may have thought that after 10 years, ECS would have smoothly and gently continue the “easy” routine of organizing, with dedicated local organizers, the next European Symposium without much creativity. Such pessimistic fears are contradicted by the ECS members drive and ideas rapidly taken over by Claus Heizmann and Marc Moreau. ECS 2007 workshop was the new tool created by Claus and Marc. This concept is based on a limited number of participants interacting within a highly privileged environment.

The workshop will be held in Seix, a very small village, located in the French county called Ariège, at 120 km from Toulouse, in the Pyrénées mountains and without any cellular phones network. Adding to this, it may be useful to know that: *Ariège is one of the least populated, most unspoiled regions of France, whose inhabitants have held fast to their traditions. Numerous species of [butterflies](#), [orchids](#) and [raptors](#) thrive here thanks to the endurance of ancient farming practices such as the [transhumance](#). The countryside is wild but easily accessible. Top grade [trout streams](#) rush down forested mountainsides into rivers where kayakers paddle. Way marked [walking](#) trails lead to 3000 metres peaks where izzards (chamois), marmots and even [bears](#) roam. [Cyclists](#) can take in a stage of the [Tour de France](#), mountain bike down tracks or gently pedal in the valleys.*

We believe that the synergy between the scientific program and the environment will allow a perfect back to source and new ideas. I thank all the speakers for having accepted with enthusiasm this challenge.

I cheer all the participants to enjoy the landscape, the food from Ariège and scientific exchanges. I also thank the French CNRS and the Belgian FNRS who contribute to this workshop.