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**Proceedings of the 10th International Ruminant Reproduction Symposium (IRRS 2018); Foz do Iguaçu, PR, Brazil, September 16th to 20th, 2018**

From the IRRS Local Organizing Committee

Dear colleagues

It is with great joy that we welcome you to the 10<sup>th</sup> International Ruminant Reproduction Symposium (IRRS) at the Wish Resort Golf & Convention in Foz do Iguaçu – Brazil. The IRRS is recognized as one of the most prestigious international conferences on reproduction, which we believe is clearly reflected in this year's Scientific Program and correspondent review articles published in these proceedings. The IRRS 2018 organizing committee has selected 32 speakers among the most recognized scientists from around the world to present cutting-edge topics on reproductive biology and technology in a variety of ruminant species, including cattle, sheep, goats, buffaloes, and camelids.

We are extremely honored to organize the IRRS in South America for the first time. As you know, South America has garnered significant international attention during the last 15 years because of the increase in the number of high-impact studies in reproductive biology and the wide application of assisted reproductive technologies in ruminants, particularly IVF and fixed-time AI in cattle. Several productive collaborations between local, North American, European, and Australian groups have been fundamental in promoting this intense scientific and technological progress in South America. The IRRS 2018 scientific program illustrates and celebrates the importance of these partnerships. While providing up to date scientific information and an enjoyable social program, we hope to benefit participants of the 2018 IRRS by offering a fruitful environment for new collaborations and the reinforcement of those already underway

Our special thanks to the IRRS editors and session chairs, who put together a fantastic group of speakers, generating this valuable compilation of reviews. Many thanks also to all speakers for their time and generosity in sharing their precious time and knowledge with us. The quality of our scientific program and social environment certainly required investment. We immensely thank our public and private sponsors for providing funds without which this meeting would not be possible.

We sincerely hope that you enjoy the IRRS 2018 and the papers contained herein.

Very best wishes,

**José Buratini, Roberto Sartori, Gabriel Bó and Guilherme Nogueira**