



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR CRANIO-MAXILLO-FACIAL-SURGERY

NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2019

EXPERIENCES OF PROF JOHN LOWRY CONGRESS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES 2018

- Christos Georgiou, Greece
- Mervyn Hutson, Ireland
- Carsten Rendenbach, Germany



Christos Georgiou



Undoubtedly, my participation in 24th EACMFS Congress last September in Munich was a fascinating scientific experience which enabled me to see how our complex specialty evolves continuously and steadily “Facing the Future”, according to the official motto of the Congress.

The Mondays just before the official start of the biennial EACMFS have been established for us, the young surgeons across Europe, as a kind of a delicious scientific appetizer due to the John Lowry Educational Session and Trainee Business Meeting. In the morning, I had the chance to attend the Stryker Trainee Course for Cranio-Maxillo-Facial Reconstruction: Sawbones workshop for trainees, where we focused on preplanning cutting guides and participated in trainee workgroups for hands-on about mandible reconstruction with fibula. After that, during the Educational Session, renowned experts such as President of the Congress, Klaus Dietrich Wolff, Rui Fernandes and Edward Ellis gave ‘state of the art’ lectures and presentations on microvascular flaps, trauma and oncology reconstruction.

Furthermore, with reference to the main scientific program that commenced on Tuesday 19 September, I was impressed by its broad variety that covered the wide spectrum of our unique medical and dental specialty. Highlighting key points from the main program, I would like to point out the keynote lecture of Dr Eduardo Rodriguez from New York on Facial Reconstruction using free flaps and the Symposium on Surgery of the TMJ, chaired by Dr Andreas Neff.

Moreover, on Wednesday morning I had the pleasure to make my oral presentation in the Hilton Hotel concerning "Palatal necrosis in cocaine abuse. The use of a modified palatal flap vs conventional flap." For this occasion, I would like to thank Professors Tilaveridis, Ioannis and Zouloumis Lambros from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki for their support.

On the last day of the EACMFS Congress, I had the great chance to participate in a very interesting and special all-day symposium for paediatric surgery, organized by AO-CMF. Last but not least, the surprise was the massive participation of oral and maxillofacial surgeons in the official run through Englischer Garten of Munich!

In conclusion, I consider that the overall impact of this event to my educational horizons was important and I have learned new theoretical and practical skills that I plan to use in my practice.

Apart from the scientific and professional part, last year my family had the blessing to welcome our new member, our beloved son who was born only a few days before the official start of the European Congress of EACMFS. Also, on the occasion of my presence in Munich for the EACMFS Congress I had the opportunity to make in the Greek community of the town, a lecture about medical volunteering in orthodox missions of the Africa, which I visited before some years.

Mervyn Huston



Having attended my first EACMFS meeting in London in 2016, I knew the Munich Conference was going to be a great success. The event caters for all specialisms in the arena of Cranio Maxillofacial surgery ranging from dentoalveolar surgery, through to complex oncological reconstructive surgery. The myriad of symposia, discussion and free paper sessions provided ample opportunity to explore the latest evidence form leading surgeons in their field. As with all conferences, it cannot however be all work and no play, and the packed social schedule provided us all with a warm taste of welcoming Munich culture and opportunity to meet and catch up with friends old and new. It was a privilege to have been awarded the John Lowry scholarship to assist with participation in the conference.

Having graduated in Dentistry, I am currently studying medicine in Trinity College Dublin, in order to pursue a career in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. However, this academic year I am undertaking an intercalated MSc course in Translational Oncology – with a special focus on oral cancer. My current interests therefore lie in the field of oral premalignant and malignant conditions. I was fortunate in having been selected to present two oral free papers at the conference, which provided me with great personal satisfaction.

Outside of my studies, I have a keen interest in music and motor mechanics. I play the violin, and though am classically trained, I particularly enjoy traditional Irish music. Additionally, I am currently restoring a 1962 Triumph 350cc motorcycle in my free time. Indeed, many of the fine technical and manual dexterity skills learned in the operating room serve me well in the workshop.

I am very much looking forward to EACMFS Paris 2020!

Carsten Rendenbach



The Congress in Munich was a great experience with many interesting presentations and numerous opportunities to meet colleagues and friends from many countries and I am very grateful for the EACMFS' support with a John Lowry Congress Scholarship. Particularly, I enjoyed Prof. Swennen's masterclass on orthognathic surgery, Prof. Schliephake's presentation on tissue engineering and discussions with leading experts in the field of my research activities. Prof. Wolff's welcome speech with a focus on supporting the next generation was inspiring and motivated me a lot.

Currently, I am privileged to work in a great team at Charité Berlin under the guidance of Prof. Heiland and with co-promotion of the Berlin Institute of Health (BIH) within a Clinician Scientist Program. I am about to finish both my residency and postdoctoral thesis in 2019 and I will continue with my surgical activity and research projects on magnesium-based fixation systems for maxillofacial indications and the mechano-biology of mandible reconstruction.