



# ON THE MOVE

## Letter from the EFAS President

**D**ear friends!

Our motto is: "EFAS on the move". EFAS in its current state has been in existence for six years and we recognize a constant consolidation of the structure of our society and an increase in Memberships. Foot and Ankle Societies from eastern European countries like Lithuania, Czech Republic, Slovakia and soon Poland, are in the process of joining us as new members. The two French Societies ACP and SFMCP recently agreed to be represented in future in EFAS as one combined society. These developments will benefit the National Societies involved, and greatly strengthen EFAS.

Beside the traditional EFAS Travelling Fellowship - sponsored by NewDeal - we are very grateful that Aircast International is going to sponsor a new European - USA Travelling Fellowship. More information about this follows later in the Newsletter.

Much work has been done by the Council and the Secretariat and the results are visible in EFAS recognition. Now it is time to assess its progress to date and to discuss its position going forward. EFAS has a huge opportunity to develop into a highly active and dynamic Society carried by its solid membership base, the world-renowned skills of its surgeons, the Society's growing



reputation, its support by the industry and exciting developments in the sponsorship club (more about that later), its improving financial stability and the experience and commitment of its Secretariat. However, despite the efforts of the Council and the Secretariat, EFAS needs to operate in a more efficient, effective and truly European manner if it is to continue to be viable and to meet its aims and responsibilities. This was the main topic when the Executive and Council met in Berlin in January this year and discussed our future policies. Our Secretary, Jan Willem Louwerens, has highlighted this in his article "EFAS, time for a different approach and a new generation". Indeed, we welcome and need the support and input of young ambitious Foot and Ankle Surgeons to fulfil our aims. This year we have co-opted some young doctors onto our Scientific Committee to share with the heavy workload in

planning all of EFAS' scientific and educational activities and we look forward to involving more of you on our committees in the future.

Our main aim is to provide specialist training and education of the highest standards and to keep our members abreast of the latest developments in Foot and Ankle Surgery by means of instructional courses, congresses, fellowships and the Journal. The last EFAS instructional course organized by Hakon Kofoed in Copenhagen was a great success. The next will be in Barcelona, hosted by Antonio Viladot, in May 2006. The 2nd IFFAS Congress organized by the EFAS Scientific Committee and Local Hosts, takes place in September in Naples and EFAS also supports the First Foot and Ankle Meeting in Moscow early in 2006. I hope that can all join us for what promises to be outstanding meetings in some truly spectacular cities.

All in all it seems that we are not merely "On The Move" but also "On The Right Path" and we thank you for your support!

*Hans-Heino Küster*  
**President**

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## EFAS Forthcoming Meetings

### 2005

**International Federation of Foot and Ankle Societies (IFFAS), Triennial Meeting**

**Joint Meeting of Asian-South American-European-North American Federations**

15 - 18 September 2005, Royal Continental Hotel, Naples, Italy

Organizing Secretariat: [www.oic.it/iffas2005](http://www.oic.it/iffas2005) Email: [IFFAS-2005@oic.it](mailto:IFFAS-2005@oic.it)

**Foot and Ankle Department, Turkish Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology**

**Foot & Ankle Comprehensive Course**

23-24 September 2005, Istanbul, Turkey

Contact: Tahir Ogüt, MD [togut@superonline.com](mailto:togut@superonline.com) Fax: 0090-212-414 34 38

**Belgian Foot and Ankle Cadaver Course: 2nd Edition**

**Update in Foot and Ankle Implants**

14-15 October 2005, Antwerp, Belgium.

Contact: Dr. Van Bouwel or Dr. Mulier: [foot@uza.be](mailto:foot@uza.be)

**Annual Meeting of BOFSS (British National Society)**

17 - 19 November 2005, Oxford, UK. Contact: [www.bofss.org.uk](http://www.bofss.org.uk)

### 2006

**Annual Meeting of DAF (German National Society)**

17 - 18 March 2006, Heidelberg, Germany. Contact: [www.fusskongress.de](http://www.fusskongress.de)

**Annual Meeting of Swiss Foot and Ankle Society (SFAS)**

24th March 2006, Lausanne, Switzerland. Contact: [www.sfas.ch](http://www.sfas.ch)

**7th International Meeting of the Austrian Foot Society**

26th - 29th March 2006, Bio-Hotel Stanglwirt - Going, Austria. Contact:

[orthopaedie@khsj.net](mailto:orthopaedie@khsj.net)

**First International Foot & Ankle Surgery Conference in Moscow**

31st March - 1st April 2006 Contact: [gleb@gelios.net](mailto:gleb@gelios.net)

**29th National Congress of the Italian Foot and Ankle Society**

11th-13th May 2006, Genova, Italy, Contact [mortara@genovafoot.it](mailto:mortara@genovafoot.it)

**8th European Foot and Ankle Society Instructional Course**

(\*IMPORTANT: New Dates)

\*19 - 20 May 2006, Hospital San Rafael, Barcelona, Spain.

Contact: [efas@eventplus.ie](mailto:efas@eventplus.ie) Tel: +353-1-230-2591 Fax: +353-1-230-2594

**6th Congress of the European Foot and Ankle Society**

14 - 16 September 2006, Prague Convention Centre, Prague, Czech Republic.

Contact: [efas@eventplus.ie](mailto:efas@eventplus.ie) Tel: +353-1-230-2591 Fax: +353-1-230-2594

### 2005

**EFORT Congress with Foot and Ankle Specialty Day**

12th - 15th May 2007, Florence, Italy

Main Congress queries: [office@effort.org](mailto:office@effort.org)

EFAS Foot and Ankle Specialty Day: [efas@eventplus.ie](mailto:efas@eventplus.ie)

**9th European Foot and Ankle Society Instructional Course**

22 - 23 June 2007, Eugenides Foundation, Athens, Greece

Contact: [efas@eventplus.ie](mailto:efas@eventplus.ie) Tel: +353-1-230-2591 Fax: +353-1-230-2594



## 7th EFAS Instructional Course

Copenhagen, Denmark

May 6th & 7th 2005

The Course took place in the Radisson Scandinavia, one of the better congress hotels near the city centre in Copenhagen and thankfully the weather was reasonably good. There were 158 participants from 25 European countries as well as attendees from Argentina, Russia and the USA. The chairpersons did their job well, keeping the time schedule on track with very high precision! The speakers were all well prepared and kept their talks in a light tone irrespective of the difficulty of the subject.

The Course started with conventional subjects increasing to the most difficult entities at the end of the second day. The videos of surgical techniques were enjoyed by the audience. A lot of the discussions with the audience were both funny and enlightening. The conference dinner, held in the Casino of Copenhagen, was enjoyed by all, both winners and losers, and there was also time for the participants to enjoy the old city of Copenhagen with its many attractions.

The overall feedback was that the Course lived up to expectations - and a little more. The companies were well-represented in the Exhibition and enjoyed a high level of exposure with the delegates.

I would personally like to extend my sincere thanks to the exhibitors and sponsors, and also to the speakers who did an extremely good job. Just two days ahead of the Course, we lost a speaker (and 6 presentations) due to family circumstances and members of the faculty took over at very short notice and did surprisingly well. This shows the very high professional standard of the faculty members. So once again, thank you to all involved.

Hakon Kofoed  
Local Host

# IFFAS Triennial Congress

Naples, Italy, September 2005

The International Federation of Foot and Ankle Societies (IFFAS), the global federation of foot and ankle organisations, will hold its Triennial Congress from September 15 to 18, 2005, in Naples, Italy.

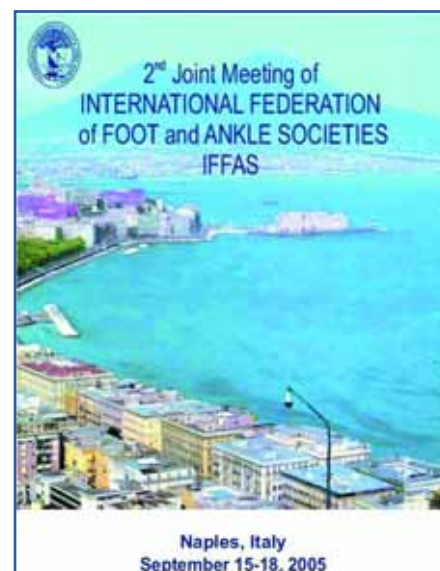
The scientific program covers a range of topics: - hallux valgus, hallux rigidus, lesser toe deformities, tendon transfer, functional assessment of the foot, foot deformities and spondyloarthropathies joints and pediatric foot with symposia on reconstructive surgery of sequelae of foot and ankle fractures, survivorship and outcome in TAR, surgery of osteochondral lesions: indications and results, mini invasive surgery in the foot and ankle, bone healing improvement and treatment of non-unions in foot and ankle. In addition there will be 200 free papers and 127 poster presentations.

With 60 invited speakers and chairpersons from all over the world, this promises to be a stimulating meeting and advance registration

numbers are impressive at 400 delegates from 33 countries (including a large attendance from the United States and Japan).

The Scientific and Organising Committees look forward to welcoming EFAS members and other delegates to this meeting which promises to be an exciting and most enjoyable Congress. We also hope that you will take some time to enjoy the beauty of this very special part of Italy and to help you we have organised a Social Programme including a sightseeing tour of historic and subterranean Naples, a visit to Pompei and Ercolano and a Welcome Reception in the Palazzo Reale including a visit to the palace Museum. Finally the Conference Dinner will take place on Saturday night in the Royal Continental Hotel, giving delegates an opportunity to relax together and enjoy some wonderful Italian hospitality.

The Congress is hosted by the European Foot and Ankle Society and locally organized by the Italian



Foot and Ankle Society. Sandro Giannini and Francesco Malerba acted and worked as local Chairmen strongly supported by the other Members of the EFAS Scientific Committee (Patrice Diebold, Hans Heino Kuester and Ian Winson). Mrs Romero of OIC International, the official Conference Organiser was supported in the organisation by the EFAS Secretariat. Further details including Registration Fees and Pre-Final Programme are available at [www.oic.it/iffas2005](http://www.oic.it/iffas2005). All queries about the Congress should be directed IFFAS-2005@oic.it.

## AIRCAST Inc. Travelling Fellowship.

Starting next year young members of EFAS will not only have the opportunity to apply for the well known and successful annual EFAS Fellowship sponsored by NewDeal, but it will also be possible to apply for Travelling Fellowship Awards sponsored by Aircast, Inc.!!

Every other year a number of young EFAS members will be chosen by the EFAS Fellowship Committee to travel to the USA. Here they will visit leaders in foot and ankle instruction and research. This will be organized in close cooperation with our colleagues in AOFAS. In the alternating years we hope to host and entertain fellows from the USA, receiving the same Aircast sponsorship, in various European centres. It is the intention that the group of younger surgeons will be

accompanied on the fellowship by a more experienced 'EFAS-mentor'.

It likely that the criteria for application will be EFAS members, 40 years old or younger or who have been in practice for 7 years or less, similar to the criteria set by AOFAS. At the moment it is not yet possible to confirm the number of places, the exact dates (although it is envisaged that the Europeans will travel in 2007) and the amount of the grant (probably in the region of \$5,000 for each participant). More details concerning this Fellowship will be provided on the EFAS website [www.efas.co.uk](http://www.efas.co.uk). in due course. Those who are interested will be able to apply by downloading the application instructions and forms and returning them as directed at

the above mentioned website starting in the course of next year. Returning Fellows will present a summary of their activities and experiences at the 7th Congress of EFAS in 2008.

On behalf of EFAS Council and all EFAS members I would like to thank AIRCAST Inc. for sponsoring this very important Fellowship. It provides young ambitious members the opportunity to meet and discuss with experienced leading colleagues from the USA, to discuss their new findings with the accompanying 'mentor' and to form a team. A team of surgeons that will help to further improve our work as a Society.

Jan Willem Louwerens  
Secretary EFAS

## 8<sup>th</sup> EFAS Instructional Course

Barcelona, Spain 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> May 2006

*In Association with 37<sup>th</sup> Course on Foot Diseases, Hospital San Rafael 17 - 18 May 2006  
Basic and Advanced Instructional Course in Foot and Ankle Surgery*

Dear Colleagues,

Next year 2006, the 8<sup>th</sup> EFAS Instructional Course will take place, for the first time, in Spain on May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> in the city of Barcelona. This Instructional course will be combined with the 37<sup>th</sup> Course on Foot Diseases, which is held in San Rafael Hospital every year and has become the most known course on foot and ankle pathology among the Latin-American countries.

The Course on Foot Diseases will take place on May 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, and we intend it to be a basic course for all those orthopaedic surgeons that want to update their knowledge on foot surgery. The EFAS Instructional Course will be considered as advanced, dedicated to orthopaedic surgeons with special affinity for foot surgery. It will include the most advanced surgical techniques that are currently used in Europe. The Course language will be English with simultaneous translation (Spanish-English) provided.



The assistants to the course will arrive to Barcelona at a very nice time: May is a warm month that invites visitors to get lost around the city. Barcelona is a beautiful, cosmopolitan and live city, that knows how to combine its different parts: the classic "ensanche", the Olympic zone, the old part, the "ramblas", the shore and the modernist routes.

*Antonio Viladot,*  
**Local Host**

### Scientific Topics

Paediatric Foot: - Flat Foot, Club Foot, Tarsal Coalitions

Ankle Pathology: - Arthroscopic Surgery, Arthrodesis, Arthroplasty

Sports Surgery: - Ankle Instability, Osteochondritis of the Ankle

Plantar Arch Deformities: - Degenerative Flat Foot, Neurological Cavus Foot

Forefoot Surgery: - Hallux Valgus & Hallux Rigidus, Central Metatarsals Osteotomies, Deformities of the Fifth Ray

### Queries to:

EFAS Secretariat [efas@eventplus.ie](mailto:efas@eventplus.ie)

37<sup>th</sup> Course on Foot Diseases. Hospital San Rafael

Direction: Ramon Viladot and Antonio Viladot

Scientific Secretary: Fernando Alvarez

Pº Valle Hebrón, 107, 08035 Barcelona, Spain

e-mail: [curospies2006@hsrafael.com](mailto:curospies2006@hsrafael.com) Tel: +34 93 211 2508 Fax: +34 93 4188448

## 6<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Foot and Ankle Society

14 - 16 September 2006, Prague Congress Centre, Prague, Czech Republic

The 6<sup>th</sup> EFAS Congress will take place in Prague Congress Centre. The congress will be the first EFAS event to take place in Eastern Europe and EFAS hopes to welcome many colleagues from Eastern Europe to this congress. The congress commences on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September and will conclude on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September. The Scientific Programme will include symposia, free papers and poster presentations and will run in conjunction with a large commercial exhibition. The congress centre is in a convenient location beside metro station Vyšehrad and is three stops from the Central Station (Hlavní nádraží).

Accommodation will be available in the Holiday Inn which is connected to the Congress Centre and also in the Ibis Hotel which is one stop on the metro from the Congress Centre.

The Call for Abstracts will be announced on the EFAS website in due course. [www.efas.co.uk](http://www.efas.co.uk)

## Step-by-step guide to online access to Foot & Ankle Surgery for members of EFAS

Foot & Ankle Surgery is now available online to subscribing Society members only via a new site. For your free access to the journal online please follow these instructions.

### 1 - Activating access to Foot & Ankle Surgery

To activate access and to create your personal account, you will need your Activation Code. EFAS members can obtain their Activation Code from the EFAS Secretariat by sending an email to [efas@eventplus.ie](mailto:efas@eventplus.ie).

### 2 - Type in the following URL: <https://cs.sciencedirect.com/activate/fas/members>

Note that "<https://>" MUST be entered for this URL – "<http://>" will not work. This is to ensure that your registration details are secured when you enter them into the registration form.

### 3 - Enter your Activation Code and click on "submit".

The next step is completing a user profile. You will be asked to fill out a form and choose your own password. A username will be assigned to you. You will be notified of this. Both username and password will be case sensitive. After registration you can directly login with your new username and password. **Note** – please do NOT use special characters, such as ö, ä, æ when entering your personal details into the profile form.

### 4 - Now you have registered you can go straight to: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/fas>

and enter your personal username and password in the login bar on the top of the page. If you encounter any problems registering, please note that older browsers may not support SSL encryption, which is required for secure data transmission. Also, cookies must be enabled in your browser to support the registration process.

Should you require any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the Customer Support department as follows:

Customers in North, Central & South America - Tel: +1 888 615 4500 (+1 212 462 1978 outside USA & Canada) Fax: +1 212 633 3680 Email: [usinfo@sciencedirect.com](mailto:usinfo@sciencedirect.com)

Customers in Europe, The Middle East & Africa – Tel: + 31 20 485 3767 Fax: +31 20 485 3432 E-mail: [nlinfo@sciencedirect.com](mailto:nlinfo@sciencedirect.com)

Customers in Asia Pacific (incl. Australia) – Tel: +65 434 3727 Fax: +65 337 2230 Email: [sginfo@sciencedirect.com](mailto:sginfo@sciencedirect.com)

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## ***EFAS...time for a different approach and a new generation!***

The first General Assembly of EFAS was held in Cologne on the 4th June 1998. EFAS has since become an internationally recognized Society with about 2,000 members and has consolidated its activities, organizing 2 scientific meetings per year, running its journal Foot and Ankle Surgery, hosting a European Travelling Fellowship, developing relationships with other orthopaedic societies and the companies in the industry, and providing membership services.

After the first Executive Officers (President - Greta Dereymaeker, Secretary - Eric Anderson, President-elect - Michael Stephens, and Treasurer - Hakon Kofoed) subsequent Executive Officers, Council and Committee members have all put a considerable amount of time and energy into the Society. A substantial number of these same members are actually still very active, travelling to all meetings and courses, often at their own expense.

Despite all efforts, EFAS has still not become the mature Society as it should be. Much has changed to the better since we can rely on the help of our professional Secretariat in Dublin. However, I believe that EFAS should offer much more to its members. More information, better mailing, more facilities, more and better educational and training programs, better financial position, better website, things to help us with our practice like patient information, treatment strategies, a validated scoring system, more tradition, style and social events etc. etc.

This can never be accomplished by a mere number of individuals. For EFAS to improve we need a list of effective committees and all active parties to work solely in the interest of the Society. Every EFAS Instructional Course and Congress should result in an a strong financial outcome. This can be achieved by better EFAS management taking care that all events are organized fully through the Secretariat. Improving our financial position offers opportunity to offer reduced fees for training and education and for instance to subsidise new member Societies from Eastern Europe.

EFAS needs much more members (where are all those young ambitious foot and ankle surgeons?!) to become involved. We have started to enhance the EFAS committees. The Scientific Committee in which Ian Winson has performed an enormous amount of work needs a strong new input. It has been decided to split the work to be done by an Educational Committee and a Scientific Committee. The first will focus on the content of the Instructional Courses and will explore the possibility of organizing advanced or other special training sessions and the second will focus on the scientific content of the Congress (to start Prague September 2006) and EFORT (to start Florence 2007) meetings. I am happy to welcome the new members in these Committees. All members of all Committees are listed below.



The Fellowship Committee will also play a larger role in the future, organizing not only the annual EFAS Fellowship sponsored by Newdeal, but also an exchange fellowship with the USA sponsored by Aircast, Inc. More information on this issue can be found elsewhere in this Newsletter.

At this point it is also important to thank and name the members of the editorial board of Foot and Ankle Surgery. Tom Smith, Michael Stephens, Sandro Giannini and Renée Fuhrmann who are working very hard for recognition by Medline. This of course is very important for the future and the scientific quality of our journal.

A Membership Committee to advise the Council with regard to candidacy of individual members has not yet been established, but we hope this will be the case starting next year in Prague.

Again starting in Prague we hope to establish a better organised General Assembly. Better communication of our management, our goals, the financial position. The Committees should communicate their activities and strategies to the members. There should be more time for discussion about future goals, more style, honouring those who have done so much for our Society.

*continued on page 07.....*

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In a time that Europe is experiencing a slight dip, EFAS is still on the move. Personally, I find nothing more refreshing and more energising than to discuss Foot and Ankle with my friends from all over Europe - at a course or a congress, learning something new, learning something that can help you improve the treatment of your patients and last but not least, fully enjoying each others company in wonderful places all over Europe. See you in Naples, in Barcelona, in Prague, in Athens, in Florence and so on.

*Jan Willem Louwerens*  
**Secretary EFAS**

**Scientific Committee and Educational Committee:**

Ian Winson (UK)  
 Beat Hintermann (SWITZERLAND)  
 Marino Delmi (SWITZERLAND)  
 Jan Willem Louwerens (NL)  
 Hajo Thermann (GERMANY)  
 David Redfern (UK)  
 Peter Bock (AUSTRIA)  
 Frank Faber (NETHERLANDS)  
 Antonio Viladot (Spain) for the Barcelona Course  
 Elefterios Dounis (Greece) for the Athens Course

**Fellowship Committee:**

Marino Delmi (SWITZERLAND)  
 Beat Hintermann (SWITZERLAND)  
 Hans- Jorg Trnka (AUSTRIA)  
 Jan Willem Louwerens (NETHERLANDS)

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## EFAS News Update

### Platinum Sponsorship Announcement

DePuy Johnson & Johnson has become a Platinum Sponsor of the European Foot and Ankle Society. This is a very welcome development in the Sponsorship Club and Council gratefully acknowledges the ongoing and increased support of DePuy, and looks forward to working with them closely on the activities which will be funded by the increased support.

DePuy has been a strong supporter of EFAS and looks set to continue this support in the future - following agreement of the upgrade, Jonathan Hodgson, International Product Manager - Foot and Ankle, with DePuy International stated that "The Platinum Sponsorship further reinforces DePuy's commitment to The Foot and Ankle Community and our desire to meet the needs of this dynamic marketplace. Our strategy is based around providing the surgeons with not only the correct specialist products but also the best in class product training. With the launch of the Mobility Ankle and Forefoot tray we have demonstrated an ability to provide the products and our International Learning Centres in Zurich and Bordeaux provide the training to support the Foot and Ankle Market."

Companies interested in joining the EFAS Sponsorship Club should contact the Secretariat: [efas@eventplus.ie](mailto:efas@eventplus.ie)

**EFAS Travelling Fellowship** (sponsored by Newdeal). The 2006 Fellowships were awarded to Dr Derek Robinson (UK) and Dr Annechien Beumer (The Netherlands) earlier this year. This year the Fellows have the additional opportunity of attending the IFFAS Triennial Congress in Naples, Italy before heading north for 2 weeks to spend time observing and working with some of Europe's centres of excellence. The surgeons hosting the Fellows are Sandro Giannini (Bologna), Francesco Malerba (Milan), Beat Hintermann (Basel) and Patrice Diebold (Nancy). The Fellows will report on their experiences in the Newsletter and will also make a short presentation during the EFAS Congress in Prague.

Applications are now being sought for the 2006 Travelling Fellowship and details can be found on [www.efas.co.uk](http://www.efas.co.uk)

### EFORT Congress

EFAS is pleased to confirm that it will be taking part in the 8th EFORT Congress which takes place in Florence, Italy 12th - 15th May 2007. EFAS and the other specialty societies will work closely with EFORT in planning both the general scientific and the specialty programmes and looks forward to strengthening associations between the two organisations in the coming years.

## EFAS Council Members

### Marino Delmi, M.D.

New Treasurer of EFAS

Marino Delmi has been appointed as new treasurer of EFAS, and member of the Executive Council, during the last EFAS Congress in Montpellier, April 2004.

After having completed a Medical degree in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1984, Marino Delmi trained in Orthopaedic Surgery in La Chaux-de-Fonds and Geneva, where he obtained his Orthopaedic Board in 1996.

Early during his post-graduate training, he was interested in Foot Surgery and he performed two Foot & Ankle Fellowships:

- 1994, Geneva, Switzerland, with Jean-Marc Meyer
- 1995, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA, with John Gould, Michael Shereff and Jeffrey Johnson

He was then appointed as "Médecin adjoint" in charge of Foot & Ankle Surgery at the Orthopaedic Department of the University Hospital of Geneva from 1997 to 2003. From 2003, he started his own private practice at the Foot & Ankle Center of the Clinique des Grangettes, Geneva, Switzerland. He is also Consulting Orthopaedic Surgeon at the University of Geneva.

During the past years, he developed many activities in Foot & Ankle surgery as:

- President of the Swiss Foot & Ankle Society (2001 - 2003)
- Member of the Council of the EFAS (from 2001)
- Honour Member of the French Society of Medicine & Surgery of the Foot
- Member of the American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society
- Member of the Association Française de Chirurgie du Pied
- Member of the Swiss Orthopaedic Society
- Member of the Swiss Sports Medicine Society

