

# Report: COA Congress 2010

By Prof. Wolfhart Puhl

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The 5th Congress of the Chinese Orthopaedic Association, COA, took place from 11-15 November 2010 in the city of Chengdu.

The Congress was a major event which attracted more than 12,000 participants to hear presentations of a very high scientific level. There was also a large industry exhibition featuring all of the familiar global players, but also increasing numbers of Chinese companies.

It is interesting to trace the evolution of the Congress from the first to what is now the fifth event. The success story started five years ago in Beijing. It tells not only of the growth of the Congress in size and scientific quality but also, in parallel, of the growth of the COA. China is an enormous country, and its many orthopaedic surgeons are spread out across a huge area. They have obviously found a common identity and voice in the Congress, which brings so many of them together for training and to share research and experience.

It is acknowledged throughout the world that great things are not created by institutions, but by individuals with vision, creativity, energy and influence.

The Chinese Orthopaedic Association had just such a member at exactly the right time – Prof. Qiu Guixing. During his presidency of the COA, he was able to drive its expansion, to the clear benefit of all orthopaedic surgeons in China, and thus to the quality of patient care.

Over the years it has also been a pleasure to observe how the tremendous work of Prof. Qiu has been supported continuously by highly qualified co-workers, such as COA secretary Prof. Xisheng Weng, and Dr. Wen Wei Qiang.

EFORT decided to recognise the achievements of Prof. Qiu Guixing with its highest distinction, an Honorary Fellowship. To present this to Prof. Qiu at the opening of the 5th COA Congress in 2010 Chengdu was a pleasure and an honour.



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Having achieved great success with the growth of the COA, as well as the COA Congress, Prof. Qiu has now stepped down from the COA presidency. He is succeeded as of January 2011 by Prof. Yan Wang, who is well known to EFORT from our combined activities in the EFORT/ASIA symposia.



Left: Prof. Qiu Guixing  
Middle: Dr. Wen Wei Qiang  
Right: Prof. Wolfhart Puhl