

# Report - EFORT Travelling Fellowship

Greece  
22 – 28 September 2013

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Dear all,

Thanks very much for this amazing opportunity and this wonderful creative time we've had in Greece. Everything worked very well, and at the end of the day we left with great memories, some very useful contacts and hopefully some long standing friendships.

Hospitality throughout the week was at its highest; we never felt neglected or ignored at any stage, whether that was by the junior doctors in Thessaloniki or by Prof Malizos at the restaurant in Larisa.

The scientific program was excellent in every way. We were familiarized with the Greek Health System, the way on calls are run, the academic program in the university clinics and the level of research performed. The lectures in Papageorgiou, in Larisa, in KAT and Attikon hospitals were extremely informative. Furthermore it was a great honour to intermingle with various professors all experts in their fields in such friendly and easy-going atmosphere. One little thing to consider in the future would be to include more theatre sessions in the program.

Prof. Kyrkos produced a multi-thematic lecture afternoon, Prof Malizos introduced as to his team of highly skilled experts and researchers, Dr Machairas was excellent at showing as the AMIS approach to the hip something I've not encountered before, while Prof Papagelopoulos' lecture on orthopaedic tumours was breath-taking.

The social program was also great. All three hotels we stayed at were excellent. I will never forget the welcome letter by Prof Malizos on our bed at Divani hotel in Larisa as well as the little souvenirs (a cap, a tie and some brochures of Larisa) and of course the annual orthopaedic journal of the university clinic. Restaurants were also a great choice, combining international high class cuisine in Thessaloniki to amazing traditional local cuisine in Larissa and Athens. Visiting Vergina museum and the Acropolis (which was very promptly organized following our own request) were memorable and never to be forgotten experiences. The view from the roof top garden of "Kouzina" restaurant below the Acropolis at sunset was incredible.

All the fellows were excellent in all respects: friendly, easy-going, and always a nice company. All the lectures presented by the fellows were of high standards and gave me the chance to see what opportunities are available in terms of research and how training is done in other European countries compared to mine. In the evenings we always had a nice laugh and enjoyed a few drinks in bars in Thessaloniki, Larisa and Athens.

Concluding this short report I must say that it was a great honour for me to take part in this EFFORT fellowship and hence I would like to thank the Cyprus board for selecting myself as well as HAOST and the organizing committee for giving us so much in just 6 days. THANK YOU!

Regards  
Andreas Roushias