

REPORT

Spring Travelling Fellowship

The Netherlands
4 – 10 October 2015

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Submitted to: EFORT Head Office, Rolle, Switzerland

Reported by:

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Introduction:

The EFORT Fall Travelling Fellowship 2015 took place in Rotterdam, Leiden and Amsterdam, from 4th October to 9th October 2015.

It was a great honour to be chosen by the Italian Orthopaedic Society (SIOT) to represent my country and my national orthopaedic association.

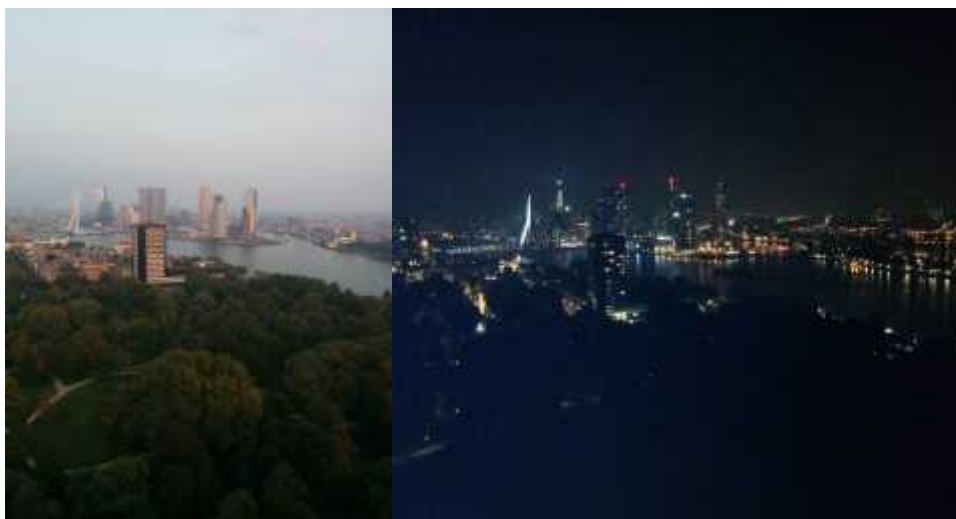
We were a total of 14 participating fellows from all over the Europe: Ireland, Germany, France, Denmark, Belgium, Greece, Croatia, Estonia, Kosovo and Bulgaria.

Detailed description of the fellowship:

We arrived in Rotterdam on Sunday. Prof. Jan Verhaar, Second EFORT vice-president and Chief of Department of Orthopaedics Surgery at Erasmus MC Hospital together with Dr. Henk Koot, the president of the Dutch Orthopaedic Society, warmly welcomed us with a fantastic dinner at the amazing restaurant called Euromast, which has a panoramic view overall Rotterdam.

It was nice icebreaker to introduce ourselves and to meet our other fellows.

We had the opportunity to discuss the Orthopaedics and Traumatology residence within Europe and our expectations from this Fellowship.



The following day, we went to Erasmus MC Hospital, where we were welcomed by Prof. Jan Verhaar and by Dr. Duncan Meuffels.

We had fabulous lectures about sport orthopaedic surgery topics, which proved very constructive.

REPORT

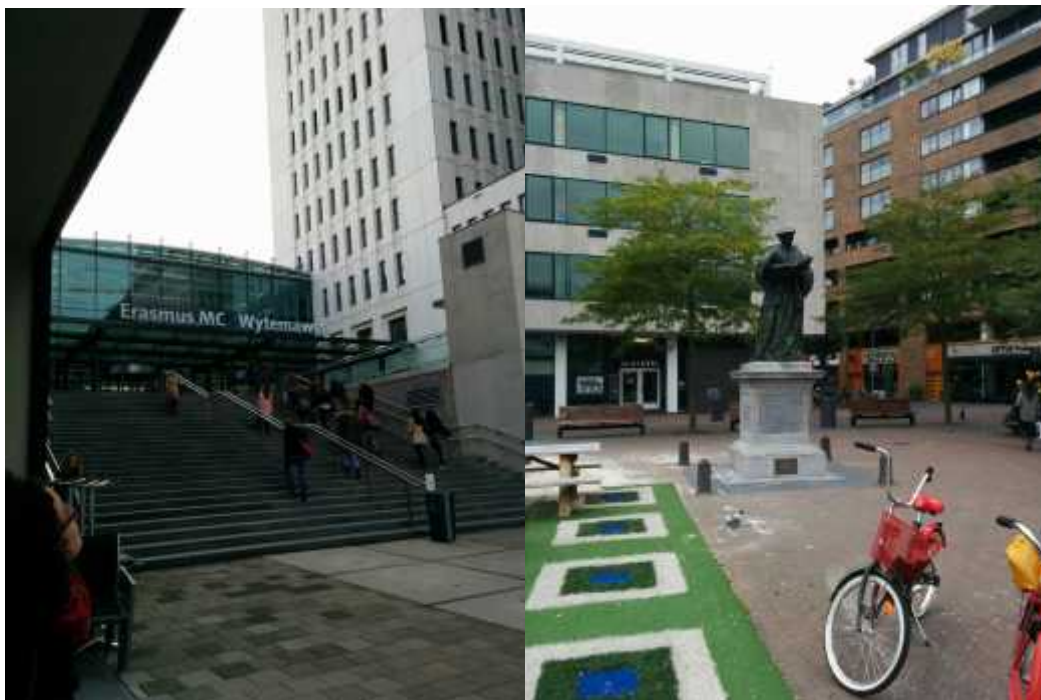
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At the end of the meeting we started our previously prepared presentations about ourselves, our experiences, our countries and our national associations. Later that afternoon we had a lovely bike tour around Rotterdam; where we ended the day at the "Quartier du Port" restaurant enjoying some exquisite specialities of Dutch cuisine.



The next day we travelled to Leiden by train, where we met Prof. Rob Nelissen. We had very interesting lectures about joint arthroplasty registries and orthopaedic oncology surgery. In particular, we had time to discuss the diagnosis and treatment of some oncology cases. Then in the afternoon, it was time for some sightseeing. We had a wonderful guided tour of the old city of Leiden, followed by an enjoyable dinner in a very cozy restaurant in the city centre with all the faculty.

REPORT

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On Wednesday we went back to the Erasmus MC Hospital, where Dr. van der Jagt and Dr. Meuffels escorted us on a tour to the orthopaedic research laboratory and to the highly efficient accident and emergency department.

Then we continued with interesting lectures about hip deformity and hip pathologies in pediatric patients followed by talks about revision hip and knee arthroplasties.

At the end of the day we continued with the remaining fellows presentations.

After lectures we were transferred by water taxi to the Hotel New York, where we had a delicious dinner.

Prof. Jan Verhaar greeted us with a warm speech with the hope to meet again in next EFORT Congress in Geneva.



The day after we went to Amsterdam by train. At the VUMC University Hospital Dr. Posthuma de Boer and Prof. van Royen were waiting for us.

The all day lectures were focused on spine pathologies starting from stem cells technology and biomechanics to scoliosis deformity and spine surgery options.

REPORT

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In the afternoon we had a marvellous cruise around Amsterdam canals ended with an enjoying dinner at the restaurant van Puffelen.

That evening was also the birthday of one of the fellow colleague from Croatia, so we organized a birthday cake for him.



For the last day of the fellowship we went to AMC Hospital, where we had all day lectures about complex elbow and tibia plateau trauma surgery and ankle and foot pathologies. In the afternoon we went for a guide tour around Amsterdam including a trip to the Red Light District.

The fellowship ended with a final dinner at a cozy Thai restaurant in the Amsterdam city centre.



Conclusion:

I have to say that this fellowship was a unique and unforgettable experience in my career. It was a fantastic opportunity to meet new colleagues and friends from different European countries and to share and exchange experiences with them.

Again I would like to sincerely thank EFORT, SIOT and all the people involved in the organization of EFORT Fall Travelling Fellowship 2015.