



Osteosynthesis &  
Trauma Care Foundation



**David Lowenberg**  
OTCF President

#### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

With summer passing, fall has brought a host of new OTC Chapter courses in Europe. It is good to see the revitalization of the Hellas, Swiss and Italian OTC Chapters. It is these education courses by our chapters that represent the "life-blood" and cornerstone of our International Fraternal Foundation and help keep the organization cohesive.

It is quite exciting now that we have the ability to utilize the on-line course evaluation tool. The credit for this goes to AIOD Germany and the great investment they put into developing this as well as the OTCF Education Task Force's commitment to improving, integrating, and standardizing the educational programs of the OTC. This should provide great improvement in feedback to our education leaders in all the chapters to better fulfilling their goals of improved education in orthopaedic trauma globally.

Through collaboration with our marketing and communications consultants, the OTCF has successfully rolled out our new website platform. I urge all of you to log on to it and "surf the site". I think you will find it a large improvement and hopefully find it helpful in keeping up with activities of the OTCF as well as its chapters. This coming year local chapters will begin conversion of their websites to this platform if they so choose. The OTC United States (FOT) is currently in the process of switching to this website platform. It is hoped that all chapters switch to this platform so as to create uniformity among all OTC chapters. This will help with branding of the OTC on an international level, which will in turn help with our attempts at future fundraising endeavors so as to have the ability to potentially fund chapters for education and research in the future.

Thanks to all members for the help in promoting OTCF and its mission. I hope you all have a good fall season.



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# NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS

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## OTC ITALY

The chapter has elected a new president: Dr. Rocco Erasmo. He is since 2012 Director of the Orthopedic and Trauma Unit of the Civil Hospital of Pescara, Italy. He graduated in medicine and surgery in 1985 at the Faculty of Medicine of Chieti University, then specialized in Orthopedics and Traumatology. He has published 40 scientific papers and participated in over 150 national and international congresses and courses. Member and advisor of various professional associations, OTC Italy is proud to have him as President, and welcomed him at the GA in Amsterdam.

On 22 June he chaired in Rome an OTC Italy course on complex leg fractures. Michael Edwards, President OTC Netherlands, was invited OTCF faculty at this course. The next course will be on 28 September in Rome on sacral fractures and sacroiliac lesions.



## OTC SWITZERLAND

Based upon the success of the trauma course 2017 at Interlaken the OTC Switzerland organized a trauma course in Thun, 10 to 13 September 2018 under the presidency of Dr. Yvan Arlettaz. Basic principles were taught and practical exercises conducted for close to 30 participants and more than 10 faculty. Michael Ullman, President OTC Sweden, was invited as OTCF faculty to this course. The winner of the final contest received an OTCF education fellowship.



## OTC NORDIC

The group of Scandinavian OTC chapters Denmark, Norway and Sweden organized a joint OTC Advanced Course on Hand and Wrist Trauma. The course took place on 10–11 September at Sahlgrenska University Hospital Mölndal, cosponsored by Sectra, Stryker, Stille, Mölnlycke Healthcare and OTCF. A total of 26 young surgeons attended lectures and cadaveric workshops by 8 faculty on fingers, carpus, distal radius and wrist arthritis.



## OTC HELLAS

Supported by Rontis, Stryker and OTCF the OTC Hellas Nailing Seminar “Strasbourg in Athens”, an intensive course on tips and tricks of intramedullary nailing was organized by Dr. Christos Garnavos, OTC Hellas President, at the Athens Evangelismos General Hospital on 14 and 15 September 2018. Dr. Gilbert Taglang of AIOD Strasbourg was the OTCF sponsored invited guest speaker. A total of 68 participants attended. The scientific program included lectures, case discussions and extensive workshops with saw bones.



### **EB TASK FORCE EDUCATION**

Based upon the ambitious 2018/2019 program of projects two were initiated in conjunction with the aforementioned chapter courses:

- Exchange of international faculty among chapters at three courses
- Field testing of a generic course evaluation format, based upon IT voting of the participants, started with OTC Switzerland in Thun; this project is lead and assisted by AIOD Germany

### **EB TASK FORCE COMMUNICATION/MARKETING**

The OTCF website had been launched early July and is being amended with OTCF and chapter information. The Calendar of Events is also expanded continuously. Interviews with personalities cooperating with OTCF are added regularly.

The marketing efforts are assisted by a guideline "Sponsorship profile: Opportunities for sponsors and supporters 2018".

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### **OTCF RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

The annual hot topic research workshop will lead us this year from 15th to 17th November to Toronto, an area where an active orthopaedic and trauma community is located. The topic is "Optimizing patient's functions after musculoskeletal trauma". See also Calendar on the OTCF website.

Cooperation with Elsevier publisher has been strengthened with the assignment of Volker Alt as member of the editorial board of the journal INJURY for OTCF where RECO issues a supplement annually on workshop results.

(<https://www.journals.elsevier.com/injury/editorial-board>)



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