



Presentation Ceremony for the EFCC-Roche Scientific Award for Laboratory Medicine

Euromedlab 2009, Congress Innsbruck,
Innsbruck, Austria
7 June 2009

The EFCC-Roche Scientific Award for Laboratory Medicine is awarded every two years "to honour an individual from an EFCC member country who has made unique contributions to the promotion and understanding of clinical chemistry throughout Europe or who has made one or more contributions that have had a major impact on clinical chemistry". Past winners of the Award include the President of Euromedlab 2009, Professor Mathias Muller, and the President of IFCC, Dr Graham Beattall, so the winner of this year's Award is in prestigious company!

There can be few individuals to whom the description in the Award citation applies so well as it does to Dr Rob Jansen. He has made an immense contribution to the specialty of clinical chemistry and the professional lives of clinical chemists across Europe.

Rob Jansen has had a European role in EC4 since 1993. He was a founder member of the re-formed Executive Board, following in the footsteps of his father, who first established EC4 in the 1970s. Rob's initial involvement was in the harmonisation of clinical laboratory accreditation across EU countries, and he chaired the EC4 Accreditation Committee and was responsible for production of the EC4 Quality Manual, which has been an invaluable resource to national societies and individual laboratories in establishing a common framework for laboratory accreditation, and which helped to form the basis for ISO 15189.

Rob became President of EC4 in 1999 and held that office for two terms until 2005. Under his Presidency, EC4 became an extremely active and productive organization, and Rob has been personally involved in virtually all its projects. He was closely involved in the production of a common European syllabus for education and training in clinical chemistry and laboratory accreditation, and over the last few years, he has led an initiative to develop common professional standards of training across Europe, based on the European Register of Specialists in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine. He has worked tirelessly with the European Commission to have the Register recognised as a formal EU basis for professional self-regulation.


He has also maintained his interest in laboratory quality management, calibration and traceability, being Chair of the Steering Committee for the Calibration 2000 project and Chair of the scientific board of the Virtual Central Laboratory since 1999.

His strength has always been the delivery of real, practical solutions to the many challenges facing clinical chemists in Europe. He received a Royal Decoration from the Queen of the Netherlands in 2007, and is a Knight of the Order of Orange Nassau.

But we are remembered for who we are as much as for what we do, and in addition to his many achievements, Rob is one of the nicest people you could ever wish to meet. He has boundless enthusiasm and energy, a great sense of humour and a real passion for clinical chemistry. Many of you here today who know him personally will have seen these qualities for yourselves.

It has been a privilege for me to have worked with him and known him, and it is with enormous pleasure that I ask him to come and receive the Award, which consists of a handsome certificate and a cheque for CHF10 000 and will be presented by Dr Severin Schwan, Chief Executive Officer of the Roche Group and our distinguished plenary speaker today.

Ladies and gentlemen, the 2009 EFCC-Roche Scientific Award for an outstanding contribution to European Clinical Chemistry goes to Dr Rob Jansen.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Hallworth". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Mike Hallworth
President, EFCC