

**F.P. (Fouch or F.P.) Fouche**.of Johannesburg. This vibrant man was the obvious choice as first Chairman of the newly formed Orthopaedic Surgeons' Group, precursor of the SAOA. He was a colourful and forceful character, but was a lone orthopaedic surgeon in a hostile environment of general surgeons. His first hospital beds were in the Germiston Hospital, courtesy of Dr Carl Moller Snr. He struggled to gain recognition for his speciality in the Johannesburg General Hospital. He was eventually appointed as Orthopaedic Surgeon there. He was a frequent visitor to orthopaedic meetings in the United States, where his ingenuity and eloquence earned him election as a Corresponding Member of the American Orthopaedic Association, Fellowship of the American College of Surgeons and Honorary Membership of the International Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology.(SICOT)

The most prestigious eponymous lecture of the SAOA , delivered by an eminent orthopaedic surgeon, every year is named after Francois P. Fouche – See Appendix B on p 102 - 105