



1993-1995: Jacob Jozua (Jos) van Niekerk,
MB, Ch.B M.Med(Chir)(Pret)
Born in 1937.

Jos van Niekerk, the son of a doctor, matriculated at Heidelberg. He qualified MB.Ch.B at the University of Pretoria and then did a year of housemanship and a year of senior housemanship at the Academic Hospital in Pretoria.

After working as a medical officer in Germiston he returned to Pretoria as an orthopaedic registrar and qualified as M.Med(Chir) in 1967. During that year he was part of a Cripple Care overseas travelling group to orthopaedic centres in the UK.

In 1968 he entered private practice in Johannesburg and was appointed Visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon to the Boksburg Benoni Hospital (now Oliver Tambo Memorial Hospital) where he served from 1969 to 1992.

From 1969, he served the Southern Transvaal Branch of the SAOA, first as Secretary and then as Chairman. He was SAOA Congress Chairman in 1981. He was elected to the Executive Committee of the SAOA in 1977, chaired the Fees and Salaries Subcommittee, and became President in 1993.

He was Chairman of the Representative Association of Surgical Disciplines from 1989 to 2001.

His special interest has always been foot and ankle surgery and he was a founding member and first President of the South African Foot Surgeons Association from 1998 to 2000.

He delivered the prestigious F.P.Fouche Lecture in 2007.

He was awarded the South African Orthopaedic Association's highest honour, Honorary Life Membership, and received the SAOA Medal for exceptional service to the profession in 2011.

Outside orthopaedics, he has been on the medical committee of the Transvaal Rugby (Golden Lions) from 1972. His many other interests include classical music, history, golf, birding, game spotting and fly-fishing.