



2007-09: Dick Ronald van der Jagt,
MB,BCh (Wits), FCS(Orth)(SA)
Born 1952

Dick van der Jagt graduated from the University of the Witwatersrand in 1976, and then completed his specialist training at the Johannesburg Hospital circuit, being admitted to the FCS.Orth(SA) in 1993. He then completed a Fellowship in Lower Limb Arthroplasty Surgery at the Johannesburg Hospital and continued on the full-time staff in the Adult Reconstructive Unit at the Johannesburg Hospital until 1999. He then entered private practice in Johannesburg with an accent on lower limb arthroplasty surgery. He continued as part-time Consultant in the Arthroplasty Unit taking a particular interest in teaching registrars and conducting clinical research. He has read papers to each Annual Congress of the SAOA since 1995 and has many publications to his name. He has presented numerous scientific papers and posters at meetings in Europe and America. His academic honours include being awarded the Otto Aufranc Award by the American Hip Society in 2007. He became Secretary of the South African Arthroplasty Society and was its President from 1999 to 2001. He serves on the Executive of the South African Society of Thrombosis and Haemostasis. He has been involved in Outreach activities throughout his professional career and with Prof. Klaas Maritz helped establish the East, Central and Southern African Orthopaedic Association in Lusaka in 2001.

In 1999 he was elected to the Executive of the SAOA, carrying the portfolio of Fees and Salaries. He was also active in the Outreach and Educational Standards Subcommittees. He established the SAOA website and developed the e-Bulletin as an effective communication tool within the SAOA. With Prof. Anton Schepers he initiated the SA Orthopaedic Implant Register, following international trends in tracking the outcomes of orthopaedic implants.

As President he formalized the SAOA's relationship with SAMED, the representative body of the Orthopaedic Trades Industry, establishing a structured Liaison Committee. He initiated the development of a formal qualification for trade representatives, to continue allowing them access to the theatre environment.

During his Presidency the Executive initiated two new awards to recognize outstanding contributions from members. The SAOA Medal was instituted to honour those who had made a special contribution to Orthopaedics in South Africa, and the SAOA Education Medal was established to honour outstanding educators.

He has been honoured with Life Membership by the SAOA
Outside Orthopaedics, Dick is an avid photographer.