



**STIJN BLOT**



This year the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine is recognising the achievements of Professor Stijn Blot with honorary membership for his significant scientific achievements and outstanding longstanding contribution to the society. I am humbled and honoured in equal measure to be asked to write this citation for Stijn which I hope will go some way to illustrate his standing within the society, the speciality, and the N&AHP community.

Stijn qualified as a nurse [and later as a midwife] in 1990. Specialising in burn injuries before becoming an associate then full academic professor at Ghent University (Belgium). He currently holds the position of Senior full Professor for the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Being awarded for his research and academic achievements is not a new accolade for Stijn who has been highly recognised throughout his career for his significant and high quality contribution to research. However, I suspect the award of honorary lifetime membership for Stijn will hold a special place in his heart. He first became an ESICM member in 1998 and his concurrent membership has run alongside his significant career achievements.

To say Stijn is a prolific researcher would be something of an understatement holding a h-index of 62 and publications running into the several hundred over a 20-years period of academic activity. Coupled with editorial reviewer activity for plenty of major journals his academic activity and reputation is impressive.

Stijn has what can only be described as an extremely successful academic career with significant research output which has been linked closely with the society. He has been the lead investigator for two ESICM endorsed projects: EVIDENCE, on the development of an e-learning module for infection prevention, and AspICU, on aspergillosis in ICU patients. Additionally, he led two ESICM trial group projects: AbSeS, on abdominal sepsis, and notably, DecuBICUs, on pressure injuries, being the first trials group project for N&AHP. All these have resulted in several publications in high-ranking journals promoting not

only the society but evidencing the significant contribution a highly skilled and effective nurse researcher can make to the body of knowledge for the speciality. Stijn has been active in ESICM activities since joining the society presenting his work, supporting others in presenting theirs, chairing sessions, and planning congress activities consistently speaking and presenting at the highest level.

Progressing his membership of the society Stijn proved himself a highly effective leader as N&AHP Chair building on the position of N&AHP within the society and illustrating the academic, research opportunity and expertise N&AHP can bring to the society. I had very large shoes to fill. Stijn secured the position of N&AHP in the society for the future.

Many of us within the society have learned and continue to learn a great deal from Stijn's understated and pragmatic wisdom. Always supportive, always considered, his leadership and experience are much valued. It is a privilege to call him a colleague and a friend and a great honour to be one of the first to congratulate him on his award of honorary membership of the ESICM.

### **CAROLE BOULANGER**

ESICM Medal Holder