



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear colleagues, dear friends,
first of all I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the last four years. My term as president of this distinguished society will end in September when we will hold our congress in Maastricht. We will have new elections for the board of officers and we will see also some changes in the Executive Committee. It was a great pleasure to serve for ESSFN and to help steering its development. Now we need fresh spirits and I will hand over the torch to my successor with my best wishes: *audaces fortuna adiuvat*.



Looking back on the past four years I am particularly glad that we could reinforce our affiliations with other expert societies. Re-integrating ESSFN into WSSFN brought several advantages for our members, and it also opened the option for WSSFN to broaden its outreach to welcome other continental stereotactic societies as well. Also, the agreement with EANS made collaboration much easier - with a strong focus on education. I am delighted to announce another intersocietal activity now which we could realize just recently. WSSFN has adopted a strategic partnership with the Movement Disorder Society under the leadership of MDS president Matthew Stern. The "MDS Pedunculo-pontine Nucleus DBS Working group in collaboration with WSSFN" has been endorsed by MDS previously and it has received a grant from Medtronic which will be handled now by WSSFN.

I wish to remark that we still have some white spots on the European map of stereotactic and functional neurosurgery. While in some of these countries our area of added competence has not started to flourish yet, we need to convince our peers in other countries to join us for mutual benefit. Remember, that we have established a rule which says that we need to have five active members in a country which wishes to have a representative in the Executive Committee.

We are well aware that education is one of the central tasks of our society. In the future we will not only continue to administer the highly successful biannual hands-on courses, but under the leadership of Jean Regis we will also organize more basic education for younger aspirants in the field. Marseilles has been chosen as the site for the first course of this exciting endeavour.

ESSFN cares about tradition. Jointly with WSSFN we will sponsor the teaching of techniques which are endangered to die out - such as ablative procedures and peripheral denervation. By doing this we will preserve these valuable procedures from extinction and make sure that knowledge will not be lost for future generations to come. One first step to reach this goal was convening the "noble art of lesioning" course by the end of last year which was organized by Jean Regis, Marwan Hariz and Taka Taira. A similar course endorsed by ESSFN and WSSFN will take place in Tokyo in November 2014.

ESSFN cares about bleeding edge technology. This is also one of the reasons why we decided to subtitle the XXIst ESSFN Congress in Maastricht which will be convened from September 17 - 20, 2014: "Implementing research in clinical applications". Translational medicine from bench to bedside has been recognized as a pivotal instrument to explore new ideas and to install current concepts. However, while many important safeguards have been installed meanwhile to protect patients' rights and to make studies safer, sometimes oppressive rules and regulations make any progress almost impossible. Inhibitory administrations and financial issues do their own in slowing progress further down. Nevertheless, we will continue to show spirit and master these challenges!

In this Newsletter you will find the advertisements for the ESSFN publication awards and the ESSFN research grant. Please distribute the announcements among your colleagues and stimulate them to apply! I look forward seeing you in Maastricht!

Joachim K. Krauss
Hannover, Germany
President ESSFN

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SECRETARY'S MESSAGE



Dear Colleagues,

The period since the publication of the previous Newsletter has proved particularly fruitful and productive for our Society. Several recent achievements were consolidated and new projects were initiated. These developments are in concordance with a steady increase in the number of ESSFN mem-

bers, who, currently, are 276. This increase in membership reflects the appreciation of our colleagues to the efforts of ESSFN in promoting education, research and high clinical standards throughout Europe and beyond.

One important component of the ESSFN drive towards clinical excellence is the formulation of Training Charters. On behalf of the Board, I am pleased to inform you that the Training Charter on Epilepsy Surgery Added Competence has been published in *Acta Neurochirurgica* (2013;155:1725-9). The next project is going to be the Training Charter on Spasticity Surgery. It will describe the training requirements for the proper application of many established neurosurgical techniques including the use of intrathecal pumps. These Charters signify the commitment of ESSFN and its leading role, in collaboration with EANS and UEMS, in raising standards in all domains related to stereotactic and functional neurosurgery. Beyond these European initiatives, the relationship of ESSFN with WSSFN remains strong and the best forum where our society can extend, on a global level, its positive impact on matters related to stereotactic and functional neurosurgery. Hence, we are all looking forward to the forthcoming WSSFN Congress in 2017 in Germany. In this spirit, ESSFN will contribute to a new initiative aiming to improve the delivery of functional neurosurgery in less developed countries. As part of this project, we intend to collaborate with other scientific bodies in order to collect equipment, test it and deliver it in good condition, ready to be utilized for the benefit of patients in less privileged parts of the world.

Last October, we conducted, once again, a highly successful Hands-On Training Course on Epilepsy Surgery under the excellent supervision of Prof Van Roost. These Hands-on Courses started in 2003 and provide over the years a unique theoretical and practical experience in the main fields of stereotactic and functional neurosurgery. Naturally, these

courses attract many young colleagues from Europe and other continents. The ESSFN Board will do its utmost in order to ensure that the program of hands-on courses will continue. At the same time, a new educational initiative will start this year. The Educational Committee Program is being developed, under the guidance of Prof Regis, divided in modules containing tutorials; the first such module is dedicated to the "Basics of Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery" and will take place in Marseilles, France in Spring 2014 (see advert).

The Executive Committee members have been a major force in promoting stereotactic and functional neurosurgery throughout Europe. Recently, we were delighted to see the publication of a book on stereotactic and functional neurosurgery in Hungarian edited by our colleague, Istvan Valalik. He deserves our warmest congratulations for this achievement. Please keep us informed on educational courses, opportunities and developments related to stereotactic and functional neurosurgery in your countries in order to promote them in the Newsletter.

After the success of Congress 2012 in Lisbon, we are looking forward to the forthcoming XXI Congress in Maastricht next September (see advert). The Organizing Committee under the guidance of Prof. Yasin Temel and with the assistance of the ESSFN Board will strive to organize a stimulating and enriching scientific program in the beautiful and historic city of Maastricht. During this Congress, a number of Awards and Grants will be offered (please see advert). With respect to the forthcoming XXII ESSFN Congress in Istanbul, Turkey in 2016, we are happy to inform you that the preparations by Dr Savas, the Congress Chairman, are progressing well. Beyond that, please note that we welcome applicants for the ESSFN Congress 2018 and future congresses.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your great support. Please encourage younger colleagues to participate in the Educational Course in Marseilles, the XXI Congress in Maastricht, to apply for the Grants and Awards of the Congress 2014 and become more active in our Society.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Maastricht.

Damianos E. Sakas
Secretary, ESSFN

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

The Treasurer confirms that the financial position of ESSFN remains strong, particularly after the final financial settlement of the Congress 2012. The benefit from the above Congress for the Society was 50.000 Euro. It is reiterated that the paying members of the ESSFN receive online access to the journal *Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery*; therefore, as soon as the treasurer receives payment, Karger is informed about this payment. Finally, it is pointed out that due diligence to the payment of the membership fee by our members allows ESSFN to remain financially healthy committed to its high scientific standards and fulfill its diverse and demanding educational and research initiatives and projects.



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Website: www.essfn.org

XXI ESSFN CONGRESS ANNOUNCEMENT, MAASTRICHT, 2014

Dear Colleagues,

With great pleasure, we announce the XXI Congress of the European Society of Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery, which will be held in Maastricht, The Netherlands, on 17-20 September 2014. The venue is the Maastricht Exhibition and Conference Centre (MECC), providing excellent facilities and state-of-the-art services. It is strategically located between the old center of the city, which is easily accessible, and the business area. Maastricht is one of the oldest cities in the Netherlands with well-preserved cultural heritage, and Maastricht University, being the most international University of the Netherlands, has a tradition in Clinical and Experimental Functional and Stereotactic Neurosurgery.

By accepting the task of organising the XXI Congress, we aim to continue the successful series of previous ESSFN meetings. We are motivated to put together a scientifically appealing program and hope to create an active platform to exchange and discuss the latest research results and concepts in the fields of movement disorders, psychiatric disorders, pain, epilepsy, radiosurgery, neuronavigation and intraoperative monitoring. The most recent developments in different surgical technologies varying from closed-loop deep brain stimulation to gene- and cell-based therapies and relevant diagnostic methods will be highlighted. Particular emphasis will be put on the translational nature of the scientific program which will be combined by authoritative lectures from clinician and basic scientists.

We look forward to hosting you in Maastricht.



Yasin Temel
 Chairman, Organizing Committee

EUROPEAN SOCIETY for STEREOTACTIC and FUNCTIONAL NEUROSURGERY



ELIGIBILITY



FUNDING

2014 ESSFN RESEARCH GRANT

In agreement with our Constitution and By-Laws, it was decided by the Board of Officers to promote basic or clinical research projects in the field of Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery with a Research Grant available every two years.

The application (curriculum vitae, research project and budget) must be sent by surface mail – or alternatively by email to the Secretary:

Prof. Damianos Sakas - Department of Neurosurgery
 Evangelismos Hospital, 4 Marasli Street
 10676 Athens, Greece
 Tel. ++ 30 213 2045553 - Fax ++ 30 213 2041701
 E-mail: sakasde@med.uoa.gr

The research project must address either a clinical or an experimental topic in the field of stereotactic and functional neurosurgery

The applicant must be a member of the ESSFN. There is no age limit.

The selection will be made by an independent committee which will be commissioned by the officers and the result will be announced at the ESSFN Maastricht 2014 Congress.

Scientific conclusions of the selected project and financial balance must be reported in September 2016, and presented during the 2016 ESSFN Congress.

THE RESEARCH GRANT AMOUNT IS: 20.000 Euros

The financing of the project will be progressive and will be distributed:

September 2014 (selection) : 10.000 €
 During 2014 (on written proofs): 5.000 €
 At the conclusion of the report: 5.000 €

EUROPEAN SOCIETY for STEREOTACTIC and FUNCTIONAL NEUROSURGERY



ELIGIBILITY



2014 ESSFN Publication Award on DBS

– sponsored by Medtronic

At the officers' meeting in Lausanne in October 2009, it was decided to establish a new award – the ESSFN publication award on deep brain stimulation – sponsored by Medtronic.

The profile of the grant is clearly different from the ESSFN research grant. The grants will be bestowed biannually upon the occasion of the ESSFN Congress. The grant can be advertised both by the ESSFN and by Medtronic.

The publication must have been published in 2013 or 2014 in a peer-reviewed journal, or it must be available at least online in PubMed. Manuscripts not yet online or published, that is those "in press" or "accepted" are not being considered. The topic of the study may be clinical or experimental, however, it has to deal with the issue of electrical brain stimulation. The ESSFN member must be either the first or the last author of the manuscript. The candidate will be selected by a subcommittee. The prize will be awarded in two papers during the ESSFN Congress.

The application (along with four copies of the publication) must be sent by surface mail - or alternatively by email to the Secretary:

Prof. Damianos Sakas - Department of Neurosurgery
Evangelismos Hospital, 4 Marasli Street
10676 Athens, Greece
Tel. ++ 30 213 2045553 - Fax ++ 30 213 2041701
E-mail: sakasde@med.uoa.gr

Note: The applicant must be a member of the ESSFN.
There is no age limit.

The Publication award is: 2 x 3.000 Euros

EUROPEAN SOCIETY for STEREOTACTIC and FUNCTIONAL NEUROSURGERY



ELIGIBILITY



FUNDING

2014 ESSFN PRESENTATION AWARDS

In agreement with our Constitution and By-Laws, the Board of Officers decided to promote basic or clinical research projects in the field of Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery by appreciating and highlighting the scientific input of our colleagues with the Best Oral and Best Poster Presentation Awards.

All abstracts which will be selected by the Board to be presented during the ESSFN Congress 2014 would be also evaluated for the Best Oral and Best Poster Presentation Awards.

The evaluation will be made by two independent committees consisted by esteemed colleagues and the awardees will be announced during the Closing Ceremony of the Congress.

All colleagues are welcomed and strongly urged to submit abstracts via the official website of the Congress (www.essfn2014.org) aiming to scientifically support the particular sessions of the Congress but also having the opportunity to see their work be bestowed one of the Best Oral or Poster Presentation Awards.

Best Oral Presentation Award: 2 x 1.000 Euros

Best Poster Presentation Award: 3 x 500 Euros

XXIST CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR STEREOTACTIC AND FUNCTIONAL NEUROSURGERY

“Implementing research in clinical applications”

17 > 20 SEPTEMBER 2014

MECC MAASTRICHT THE NETHERLANDS

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Congress Website: www.essfn2014.org

Abstract submissions open: 6 January 2014

Deadline for abstract submissions: 15 May 2014

Final announcement and program: July 2014

Registration and Accommodation:



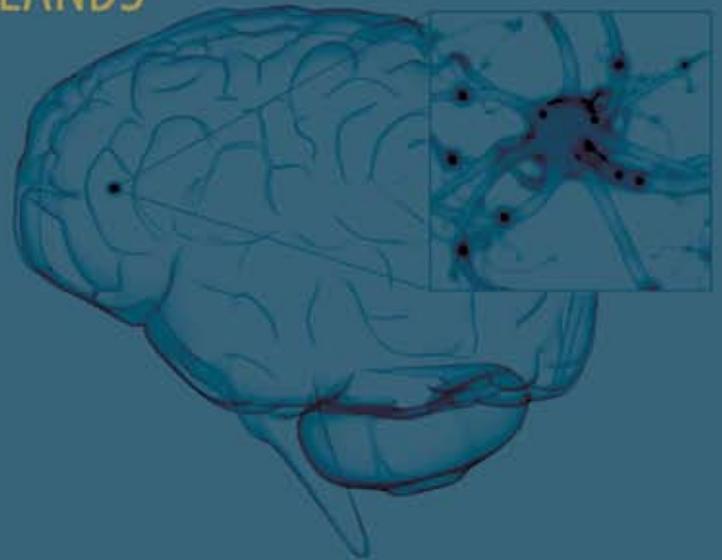
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President ESSFN : Joachim K. Krauss
Chair, Organizing Committee : Yasin Temel

www.essfn2014.org



REPORT ON THE 6th ESSFN HANDS-ON COURSE

The 6th ESSFN Hands-On Course, the topic of which was “Epilepsy Surgery”, was again held in Ghent (Belgium) from the 10th tot the 12th of October 2013.

Applicants outnumbered the available places by far. The ESSFN board hence had a difficult task in selecting 22 participants from 15 different countries (3 continents) on the basis of their credentials, ESSFN membership and previous unsuccessful application for the 5th Hands-On Course.

The field of epilepsy surgery requires in the first place an intensive collaboration with other disciplines, such as neurology and medical imaging, and it further combines in a unique way microsurgery with stereotactic and functional neurosurgery. Accordingly, a faculty of 15 specialists in their respective fields from 5 different countries focused on these various aspects during theoretical sessions in the mornings and cadaver dissections in the afternoons. Venue and accommodation were at a spacious hotel in the historic town centre, while the hands-on sessions took place at the Anatomy Department of Ghent University. Thanks to the generous support of 7 sponsoring companies, the anatomy lab could be equipped with all necessary neurosurgical instruments, including 7 full-size microscopes.

The participants were highly interested and diligent, and in their evaluations enthusiastic about the quality of lectures

and hands-on exercises. The course was closed with a written MCQ examination, that was taken by all participants. The EAC-CME (European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education) attributed 18 credit points to the course.

The course banquet took place in the great hall of the Counts' Castle, the medieval fortress in the heart of Ghent and it was musically adorned by a trio from the Ishtar ensemble, which evoked an unforgettable atmosphere.

The local organizers, Prof. Dr. Dirk Van Roost, Dr. Frank Dewaele, and Mrs. Ilse Noterman from Ghent University Hospital, express their gratitude to the ESSFN officers, to the faculty, Prof. Dr. Rik Achten (Ghent), Prof. Dr. Paul Boon (Ghent), Prof. Dr. Stiphan Chabardès (Grenoble), Prof. Dr. Hans Clusmann (Aachen), Prof. Dr. Antonio Gonnalves-Ferreira (Lisbon), Prof. Dr. Joachim Krauss (Hannover), Prof. Dr. Jörgen Mai (Düsseldorf), Prof. Dr. Christian Raftopoulos (Brussels), Prof. Dr. Jean Rigis (Marseille), Prof. Dr. Damianos Sakas (Athens), Prof. Dr. Johannes Schramm (Bonn), Prof. Dr. Johan van Loon (Leuven), Prof. Dr. Wim Van Paesschen (Leuven), and Prof. Dr. Kristl Vonck (Ghent), finally to Prof. Dr. Katharina D'Herde of the Ghent Anatomy Department, and to the sponsoring medical companies.



6th ESSFN HO Group. The participants of the 6th ESSFN Hands-On Course, local organizers Prof. D. Van Roost and Mrs. I. Noterman, and faculty members Prof. J. Schramm, Prof. A. Gonnalves-Ferreira, and Prof. J. Mai, in front of the town hall of Ghent.

ESSFN HANDS-ON COURSES 2003 - 2011

	Neurosurgical Field	City	Co-ordinator
2003, October 17-18	Movement Disorders Surgery	Tolochenaz, Switzerland	Prof. Andries Bosch
2005, September 15-16	Surgery for pain	Toulouse, France	Prof. Yves Lazorthes
2007, November 12-14	Radiosurgery	Marseilles, France	Prof. Jean Regis
2009, October 8-10	Deep brain stimulation for movement disorders	Tolochenaz, Switzerland	Prof. Marc Levivier
2011, October 27-29	Epilepsy Surgery	Ghent, Belgium	Prof. Dirk Van Roost



ESSFN Hands On Courses Stereotactic & Functional Neurosurgery Fundamentals



Organized by J Block, S Chabardes, A Franzini,
J Guridi, M. Hariz, J Krauss, B Nuttin, J Régis,
D Sakas, M Sceratti, G Schechtman.

28-30st April, 2014 Marseille France



The Noble Art of Lesioning

A Hands-On Neurosurgery Course dedicated to the Teaching of Lesional Techniques
in Movement Disorders and Psychiatric Diseases

17-19th November, 2014
Tokyo, Japan

Scientific faculty

- Prof Rees Cosgrove, Rhode Island Hospital, Providence, USA
- Prof Marwan Hariz, Queen Square Hospital, London, UK
- Prof Jean Regis, Hôpital de la Timone, Marseilles, France
- Prof Takaomi Taira, Tokyo Women's Medical University, Tokyo, Japan

With the endorsement of the

*World Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery (WSSFN) and the
European Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery (ESSFN)*



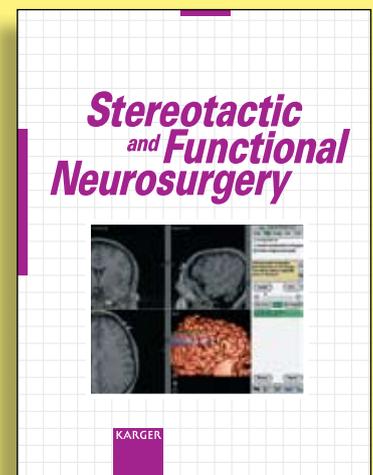
MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION

EUROPE		U.K.	15
Austria	8	Italy	26
Belgium	14	Norway	2
Croatia	3	Poland	11
Czech Republic	2	Portugal	6
Denmark	1	Romania	5
Finland	6	Russia	9
France	26	Serbia	2
Germany	34	Slovakia	5
Greece	16	Slovenia	2
Hungary	7	Spain	12
Ireland	3	Sweden	7
The Netherlands	13	Switzerland	11
Turkey	10		
OTHER COUNTRIES		Malaysia	2
Australia	1	Mexico	4
Brazil	2	South Africa	1
India	1	South Korea	4
Iran	2	Uruguay	1
Israel	3	U.S.A.	9
Japan	4		

Official Journal of the European Society for
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Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery

Impact Factor: 1.849 (2011)



All ESSFN members receive free online access to the journal. In addition the printed subscription version is offered at a reduced rate of € 120.00 per year.

An Order Form can be found on the ESSFN Website under official journal www.essfn.org

Editor-in-Chief

D.W. Roberts, Lebanon, N.H.

Official Journal of the World Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery
Official Journal of the American Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery
Official Journal of the European Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery

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Jean Siegfried

24 Feb. 1931 – 16 April 2014



Jean Siegfried was one of the pioneers in stereotactic and functional neurosurgery. He was an outstanding representative of the second generation of neurosurgeons who were pupils of the founding giants in the field like Leksell, Riechert, Talairach, to mention a few. Siegfried lived and worked all his life in Zürich, and in the early 1960s he began to practice and further develop stereotactic neurosurgery at the

University Hospital (Kantonsspital). For many years he was the leading neurosurgeon in that field in Switzerland. Siegfried soon gained an international reputation and he took active part in a number of international meetings. He was a member of the board of directors of several scientific societies and of the editorial board of medical journals. In 1981 he hosted in Zürich a meeting of the World Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery. Siegfried's professional contributions were awarded by several prizes, among them the prestigious Otfried-Foerster Medal 2003.

Jean Siegfried was born in Geneva where he went to school and also completed his medical studies in 1956. He practiced as "house surgeon" in French Hospital in London in 1957-8, conducted scientific studies in Strasbourg in 1959, obtained clinical and research fellowships at Montreal Neurological Institute (T Rasmussen & H Jasper) and at Massachusetts General Hospital 1962 (W. Sweet). In 1961 he presented a thesis in Geneva and became assistant doctor at the Neurosurgical Unit in Kantonsspital in Zürich. In 1966 he became specialist in neurosurgery, and in 1969 he was nominated as "Privat Dozent" after having presented a survey study on Parkinson's disease and its treatment. In 1975 he was given the title Professor at the Zürich University. Jean Siegfried was for many years one of the most prominent members of the neurosurgical staff at the Kantonsspital and had a solid international reputation. In 1986 till 2001 he moved his neurosurgical activities to a private Zürich hospital, Klinik im Park.

Siegfried's scientific production reflects his wide interest in most techniques and indications for stereotactic and functional neurosurgical interventions. Most of his publications are from the period 1970-1995. The first ones, from 1963, were produced in Boston, where he spent some time with the famous pain surgeon William Sweet, on stereotactic lesions produced by cold and applied in the treatment of choreo-atethosis. In the late 1960s he published several papers together with Hugo

Krayenbühl, the well-reputed head of the Zürich neurosurgical unit. Of particular interest are some publications on stereotactic cerebellar surgery (dentate nucleus) for hyperkinetic disorders. It should be recalled that such surgery was not in general usage until much later, in the mid and late 1970s. This is an example of Siegfried's original and innovative mind in embarking upon new applications of available surgical techniques. He had a special interest in what was then often referred to as cerebral palsy and this topic was surveyed in an extensive article together with Yves Lazorthes and Giovanni Broggi from 1985.

It should be noted that Siegfried was one of the pioneers in applying DBS both for chronic pain and for movement disorders. He had always had a keen interest in pain and he wrote several articles on pain physiology and management, in particular surgical treatment options, generally published in local Swiss medical journals. In the 1970s and 1980s he treated a large number of patients with trigeminal neuralgia, and already in 1977 a series of 500 cases was published. During the period 1978 till 1985 Siegfried had treated 89 patients with DBS applied in sensory thalamus for "deafferentation pain", and in 1984 he published a study together with Bertrand Demierre on "thalamic pain" treated by thalamic DBS.

On 1995, Siegfried and Yves Lazorthes reported on the long-term outcome of spinal cord stimulation (SCS) in patients with neuropathic pain treated in Zürich and Toulouse. Although a case study it was a meticulously performed report of a large number of patients, and for several years it was in fact one of the best clinical SCS studies – the fact that it was published in French made it presumably less often cited than it deserved!

Siegfried had several publications on surgical treatment of Parkinson's disease. Of particular interest is a paper from 1991 together with Serge Blond demonstrating the possibility of alleviating both parkinsonian and essential tremor by thalamic DBS. It should be recalled that this was the same year as the first paper on DBS from the Grenoble group was published. Another pioneering study by Siegfried is that published together with Bodo Lippitz from 1994 reporting for the first time on the effect of DBS applied in the pallidum in Parkinson's disease. In 1997 he published together with Serge Blond a book on the neurosurgical treatment of this disease and other movements disorders.

During the last years of his professional life, when Siegfried worked at a private hospital, he was the first in Switzerland to have access to a "gamma knife". As judged from his publications from these years (1998-2001) he performed stereotactic radiosurgery predominantly on acromegaly and brain metastases.

No doubt, Jean Siegfried's scientific production is impressive because it mirrors a broad interest and expertise in many aspects of his field - it also exposes an innovative and creative surgical mind.

Jean Siegfried had many interests beside his professional life. He was a knowledgeable collector of modern art and a music lover. He was also an active and clever skier.

Siegfried was a warm, social and generous person who was always ready to share his ideas and experiences with colleagues and friends. He had a charming humour and a ready wit. Those of us who had the privilege of knowing Jean more closely than just professionally keep many memories of most enjoyable times spent together with him.

Serge Blond, Lille

Giovanni Broggi, Milano

Yves Lazorthes, Toulouse

Björn A Meyerson, Stockholm