

## **Prof Johan Fagan: Citation for UCT College of Fellows nomination**

Prof Fagan commenced his medical studies in 1977 at the University of Cape Town and qualified as a doctor in 1982. He completed his internship at Groote Schuur Hospital in 1983 and obtained medical registration in South Africa in 1984. He completed the FRCS Part I in Glasgow in 1984, and practised as a medical officer in Madadeni Hospital, Newcastle in KZN from 1985 to 1986.

He started training in General Surgery at Groote Schuur Hospital in 1987, and after completing 3 years commenced registrar training in Otorhinolaryngology, passing the FCS(SA) in Otorhinolaryngology examination of the *Colleges of Medicine* and obtaining the degree Master of Medicine in Otolaryngology from the University of Cape Town in 1993. He was appointed as a consultant in the Division of Otorhinolaryngology in 1993.

Between January and July 1994 he completed training in Head and Neck Oncological Surgery at the Royal Marsden Hospital in London, and from July 1995 to June 1996 he completed a clinical fellowship in Head and Neck / Cranial Base surgery at the University of Pittsburgh in the United States. This was followed by a subsequent fellowship in Neuro-Otology and Otology at the same institution. In July 1997 to 2001 he acted as a consultant in the Division of Otolaryngology at Groote Schuur Hospital, and in January 2002 took up the Leon Goldman Chair as Professor and Head of the Division of Otolaryngology.

He has more than 150 peer-reviewed articles published; 25 non peer-reviewed articles; and has authored / edited over 37 books, proceedings and book chapters collectively (with another 90 chapters in an Open Access Atlas). In 2019 he was an editor for *Paparella's Otolaryngology: Head and Neck Surgery*, a landmark 3-volume comprehensive ENT textbook. He serves on the editorial board or is advisor / reviewer for 27 ENT journals.

Professor Fagan is a world-renowned head and neck surgeon and has played a significant role in the advancement of head and neck oncological surgery in Africa and developing countries. He established the first Head and Neck Oncological Surgery Fellowship program at the University of Cape Town to train African surgeons. Through his collaboration with Karl Storz Endoscopy he secured funding for this program which has trained 14 head and neck surgeons since 2005. In countries where patients previously had no access to head and neck surgery, trained fellows have now returned home to perform and teach complex oncologic procedures. This has had a significant clinical impact across Africa, reducing patient morbidity and mortality.

Professor Fagan's most recent significant contribution has been his online *Open Access Atlas of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Operative Surgery* textbook that is utilised by trainees and specialists across the globe, from the most remote areas to world recognised academic institutions. His detailed and comprehensive multiauthor atlas of surgical procedures has had more than 2 million chapter downloads and has been translated into Spanish and French. In 2017, he received the *Open Education Consortium (OEC) award for open education excellence* in recognition of his open access textbook.

Professor Fagan has been recognised as a keynote speaker at many international events and conferences over the last 15 years. He received the honour of being the *Eugene Myers International Lecturer in Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery* at the *American Academy of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Society (AAOHNS)* conference in Washington in 2012, was awarded the *Charles J Krause MD Lectureship Award* from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Institute, USA in 2014, and delivered the *John Conley lecture* at the *American Head and Neck Society (AHNS)* conference in San Diego in 2017. In 2018 he received the *Rahima Dawood Travelling Fellowship* of the *College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA)*, traveling to Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Kenya, spending 2 months lecturing across the region.

Recognition from peers includes the *Distinguished Scholars Award* from the *Nigerian Society of ENT* for his contributions to develop ENT in Africa. He received an award for distinguished service from the *South African Society of Otorhinolaryngology* in 2012. He was awarded the *IFOS (International Fédèration of Otolaryngological Society) Gold Medal* for “outstanding scientific activities and organisational work for Global Otolaryngology on its behalf” at the IFOS World Congress in Paris, France in 2017, and became the first African to be awarded the prestigious *AAOHNS Nikhil J Bhatt, MD International Public Service Award* in 2019, New Orleans, USA.

Professor Fagan has held key leadership positions in national, continental and international ENT societies, including *PAFOS, IFOS, AAOHNS*, and the *AHNS*. He has been executive committee member (2003 to present) of the *South African Society of Otorhinolaryngology*, and was the founder and past president of the *African Head and Neck Society*.

His commitment to postgraduate education includes leadership in the *Colleges of Medicine of South Africa (CMSA)*. He is the President of the College of Otorhinolaryngologists (2011 to present) and is currently the senior vice-president of the *CMSA* (2016-2022).

I believe that Professor Fagan’s international standing as a world-renowned head and neck surgeon, his career-long contribution to training ENT surgeons across Africa and the developing world and his outstanding academic contributions have brought distinction to the University of Cape Town and make him a worthy candidate for election as a Fellow of the university.

**Professor Graham Fieggen**  
**Head, Department of Surgery**