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Daniel Scheidegger is the incoming president of SAMS

Daniel Scheidegger, from Basel, will assume presidency of the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences on 1 November 2016. He has been a member of the Academy since 2005 and has been involved in numerous projects, such as supervising the working group's position paper «Nachhaltige Medizin» (Sustainable medicine). Daniel Scheidegger is taking over from Peter Meier-Abt, who has been President since May 2011.

The Senate elected Daniel Scheidegger to become SAMS' new president in its spring meeting. He will take office on Tuesday, 1 November 2016. From 1988 to 2013, he was the Head of the Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care at the University Hospital of Basel and a Professor of Anaesthesia and Resuscitation at the University of Basel. He is well-known among many players in the healthcare system because of his involvement in national committees:

- Member of the specialist body for highly specialised medicine of the CMPH, President since 2015
- Member of the Swiss Science and Innovation Council SSIC (2012 – 11/2016)
- Vice President and President of division III of the Swiss National Science Foundation SNF (2004 – 2009) and prior to that a member of the SNSF's Research Council (1998 – 2004)
- Member of the Executive Committee of the Foundation Board and President of the Medical Commission at Swiss Air Rescue, Rega (1998 – 2010)

Daniel Scheidegger did not just combine medicine and aviation at Rega, but also in the field of patient safety: he cultivated close contacts in this branch due to his belief that medicine could learn a lot from safety in aviation. The expertise that he gained has allowed him to have some influence in the development of CIRS (Critical Incident Reporting System) in Swiss hospitals, for example. Patient safety and quality in medicine will remain a high priority in his role as President of SAMS. Early recognition of challenges and developments in academic medicine is also important to him. In this respect, he is also concerned with the question of abandoning outdated methods: «Establishing innovations also means questioning existing practices. New approaches and opportunities have to lead to abandoning former services that are no longer suitable. This applies both to medicine and to SAMS.»

An overview of his professional background

- 1974 State examination
- 1980 Training in Delémont, Basel, Boston and Geneva to qualify as a specialist in internal medicine with the Swiss Medical Association (FMH)
- 1982 FMH qualification in anaesthesia and resuscitation specialising in intensive care
- 1984 Post-doctoral qualification at the University of Basel
- 1987 FMH qualification in intensive care
- 1980 – 1987 Senior Doctor and Co-Director of the surgical intensive care unit of the University Hospital of Basel's Anaesthesia Department, 1987 Director of the Anaesthesia Department
- 1988 – 2013 Head of the University Hospital of Basel's Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care and Professor of Anaesthesia and Resuscitation at the University of Basel
- 1991 – 1994 Acting Head of Lausanne University Hospital's Anaesthesia Department

Further details

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