

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

DR **Claudio Perret**
DR **Nick Webborn**
PROF DR **James Rimmer**

THEMES

SPORTS ANALYSIS
EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY
WHEELCHAIR SPORTS

POSTER SESSIONS

POSTER SESSION 2 WILL START AT
11.45, IN THE HALLWAY BETWEEN
THE FONTEINPATIO AND THE UMCG
MAIN ENTRANCE

CLOSING SESSION

THE CLOSING SESSION WILL BE
IN THE BLAUWE ZAAL AT 16.45.

THANK YOU

ON BEHALF OF THE ORGANIZATION,
WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL
VISITORS, PRESENTERS, GUESTS OF
HONOUR, SPONSORS AND VOLUNTEERS.

WEATHER

22°  20%

Interview: Prof Dr Karl Newell

What in your opinion is the value of a conference like this one?

“Obviously you get a chance to learn and hear about subjects that you might not be familiar with. You experience other ways of thinking, looking at problems and have the opportunity to share your ideas with other people. You might think that you can also get this information from reading journals, but I see benefits particularly in small meetings like this one. Compared to some neuroscience conferences with over 35 000 visitors, smaller meetings tend to be more useful during the coffee breaks. People then get the opportunity to follow up on ideas, make new friends, make new contacts or get something explained that they did not understand during the presentations. The other side of conferences is that they are often quite expensive and time-consuming. You should carefully choose conferences you want to attend.”



How can you improve or influence information exchange between researchers in a particular field?

“You can set up a particular theme to channel a conversation and give emphasis to some aspects that deserve it at certain time. The organization of such a congress obviously wants people from the field to attend, and also influence the context in which the information exchange happens. In a congress like this one, I think you could introduce a more mixed environment by inviting particular people from various fields. This may have an positive influence on the variance in the discussions.”

What is your opinion about averaging data in rehabilitation research? Should we look at patients individually?

“When considering an example of motor development sequence in infants, like the learning of standing in infants, it seems to be conceivable that you would initially collect some data and average it. It is obviously that you want to bring some key variables together in some way and I am not suggesting that we should not average the data at all. But we have to be careful what data we average and when we average it. I think the starting point in analyzing data should be to look at individual cases. Throwing data in the computer and calculating an average might be easy to do and makes you think that you are doing science, but you might not be. Exploring the data and thinking about ways to bring it together is very important. It might also be that in some cases you decide not to bring the data together, because you might discover clear groups, subgroups or individual differences. We also have seen a couple of examples like that during the oral presentations of this congress. Sometimes it might be useful to present some more figures with individual differences, in addition to showing means and standard deviations. We have to keep in mind that the danger of averaging data is, especially when analyzing the group learning curve, that a function that actually did not exist in any of the individuals will be found.”



Figure 1a: Dr Claudio Perret (SPZ Nottwil)



Figure 1b: One of the social coffee breaks