



Nomination for Giant of Hand Surgery 2024

The Swedish Society for Surgery of the hand nominates Dr Ann Nachemson.

Dr Ann Nachemson, born in Göteborg, Sweden, on April 18, 1948, has made significant contributions to the field of hand surgery. She got her Doctor of Medicine degree from Göteborg University in 1975. She became specialist in hand surgery 1981 and has since then been a dedicated hand surgeon at Sahlgrenska University Hospital. In 1993 she became the head of the Department of Hand Surgery, a position she held for 15 + 3 years.

Dr Ann Nachemson was visiting scientist at the Department of Orthopaedics at the University of Washington 1980-81, and meanwhile she served as visiting attendant at the Department of Orthopaedics at the Childrens hospital in Seattle. 1984 Dr Nachemson was honorary consultant of the National Institute for Medicine of the Locomotor System/SARAH in Brasilia in Brazil and 1990-1991 she was visiting assistant professor at the Department of Orthopaedics at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington DC. She was also visiting Scientist at the Neuropathic Pain and Pain Measurement Section at the Neurobiology and Anesthesiology Branch in the National Institute of Health in Bethesda.

Dr Nachemson wrote her doctoral thesis on nerve regeneration in 1988. Nachemson's career has been marked by her commitment to advancing hand surgery practices. Her main field of interest has been congenital malformations and neuromuscular disorders, e.g. cerebral palsy, and arthrogryposis in the upper extremity. She has also studied self-concept and psychological well-being among children with upper limb deficiencies, for which she received The Paul R. Manske Award for the 2011 article with the greatest impact on the surgical care of the child's hand. She has also been faculty opponent on six academic dissertations in Sweden and Norway.

Dr Nachemson's leadership extends beyond her surgical and academic achievements. She has been actively involved in the Federation of European Societies for Surgery of the Hand (FESSH). She served in its board of directors and as chairman of the Examination committee 1997-1999 and holding positions as Secretary General 2002-2005. Her organizational efforts are many, notably orchestrating the tenth FESSH Congress in Gothenburg in 2005. Additionally, she has contributed to the Swedish Society for Surgery of the Hand, serving on its board of directors from 1988-1993 and as president 2000-2004.

Stockholm 27th March 2024

Maria Wilcke, president, the Swedish Society for surgery of the hand