

## Introduction

During four very hot and beautiful summer days, the 44th Congress of the Scandinavian Orthopedic Association was held in Århus, Denmark. The congress had 23 regular sessions, two major poster sessions, and guest lectures were given by Peter S. Walker, Arfene Grosse, David S. Bradford, Göran Lundborg, B. M. Wroblewski, and Lynn T. Staheli. An honorary membership was conferred upon Dr. William, F. Enneking, Gainesville, U.S.A.

For the first time, English was chosen as the official language of the 44th Congress for oral presentations, abstracts, and posters. This change has also become necessary, because the Dutch have joined the *Acta* family. In reality, the five Scandinavian sister tongues are not mutually understood by all, with Finnish standing out uniquely among the others. Because Denmark was once the heartland of an empire that governed the British Isles and because the Nordic languages have continued to make important contributions to English, it seemed that, in this same spirit, it was time for us to open our biennial congresses to the rest of the world. However, it should be mentioned that there were many foreign participants at this year's congress in Århus, and we hope that there will be even more of our foreign colleagues in attendance at the next biennial congress, which will be held in Helsinki, Finland in 1990.

The large number of abstracts has necessitated the publication of this supplement, which also signifies a permanent change in the format of *Acta Orthopaedica Scandinavia*; henceforth, the proceedings will be published as two annual supplements, released in the spring and autumn. The abstracts will be revised by the national scientific secretaries; however, abstracts that do not meet the required format and quality will not be accepted. Last, but not least, "Instructions for authors of abstracts for proceedings" will be found on page 7 in this supplement.

*Björn Strömqvist*, Coeditor in charge of proceedings  
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