

Featherstone Professorship

Dr William J Fawcett



It is with great pleasure that I write a citation for Bill Fawcett for the award of the Association of Anaesthetists Featherstone Professorship.

Bill Fawcett has a multitude of personal qualities that have led him to achieve high level impact at both a national and international level in many areas of anaesthesia, pain and perioperative medicine – ranging from basic science to quality improvement and patient outcomes.

Bill was a research registrar at St Georges under the guidance of Professor George Hall and he has continued his interest of basic science exploration through his career. He took up a position after training at the Royal Surrey County Hospital in Guildford.

He was one of the key drivers in the formation of an outstanding perioperative service at Guildford, which started when he was the department lead. The inspiration for this was his part of the group of early adopters of Enhanced Recovery after Surgery in 2003 in colorectal surgery which led to RCTs producing key surgical papers on Enhanced Recovery including: 23-hour stay colorectal surgery, outcomes using different methods of analgesia in laparoscopic colorectal surgery, and long term survival in colorectal cancer. He is one of a few physicians to have been awarded the Farndon Surgical prize on two occasions for best surgical paper.

Bill was a key player in the implementation of Enhanced Recovery pathways across the UK with his role as national advisor and organiser of Association symposiums. Internationally, he serves on the Executive Board of the ERAS Society and is leading the electronic revolution of healthcare information distribution with his presence on Twitter and as Web master! He has lectured internationally on many perioperative subjects ranging from analgesia, fluids and haemodynamics, glycaemic control and the metabolic changes after surgery.

He has helped drive quality and safety in obstetric outcomes through his work for the National Confidential Enquiries and MBRRACE-UK.

Bill is extremely well-published and his review on magnesium in the *BJA* is still the 'go to' article of the topic. His analytical mind has been utilized as a reviewer for many journals but importantly he serves on the editorial board for *BJA Education* and *Anaesthesia*.

Finally, perhaps the most outstanding quality that makes Bill stand out as a professional is his interpersonal skills. His respectful behaviour to colleagues is a role model for trainees and consultants alike. Patients adore him and his positive interaction whilst still delivering optimal care is a joy to see. Bill is a very worthy holder of this prestigious award.

Dr Mike Scott

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**Association
of Anaesthetists**