



SASCI

South African Society of
Cardiovascular Intervention

SASCI Visiting Professor Program 2018 Report

“Final Word” Prof David R Holmes Jr

28 March 2018

The SASCI VPP 2018 concluded at the SASCI Annual Fellows Workshop and AfricaPCR 2018. Prof Holmes contributed to both programs providing the South African Cardiology community with world-class lectures, discussions and debates.

The saying “time flies when you’re having fun” became a reality to SASCI when we realized it was time to say goodbye to our 2018 Visiting Professor after an intensive and exciting two-month journey. Herewith the final words from Prof Holmes and his wife, Virginia:

How does one begin to bring closure to a two-month window, a two-month extra-ordinary experience and adventure which has been visited on us and which we in turn have visited? A series of visual images of an amazing landscape of an astounding environment; a series of emotional images of an amazing landscape of people and patients; a series of profound images of a landscape of medical care with all its complexity, opportunities and challenges; a visual and mental image of what could be and what should be.

An impossible challenge – but on the flip side a very real possibility for opportunity – the opportunities which form the basis of what can be done, should be done and indeed is within our reach. A menu provided for us by our incredible partners – Medtronic and Pharma Dynamics without which this would not be possible, alike under the umbrella of SASCI.

We summit at the SASCI Fellows Workshop with wonderful and relevant talks and a real interactive simulation session of bifurcation disease. We moved on to AfricaPCR Course, the dessert as the culmination which focuses so strongly on education, science, art, practice and involves the patients, physicians, surgeons and sisters – on the things that can be done, the tough live cases. The focus on things that should be done, the lectures, the things we thought might be done but sometimes simply can’t, but we learned from all of them.

The approach as a team of interventional cardiologists from around the continent, the surgeons, industry partners, the sisters, our Society, all focused on making things better for that most precious of all resources, our patients. A variegated society, a Joseph’s coat of many colours.

SASCI is a Special Interest Group within SA Heart Association

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Prof David R Holmes facilitating on of the Live cases at AfricaPCR 2018

We revel in the opportunities of all the stakeholders, we take joy in those opportunities, we reflect, savor, embrace and we treasure this time, these interactions and relationships where we have come together to “Make a Difference”.

Ginger and I can only dream and anticipate and embrace your future and we can only hope to be part of that unbelievably bright future which should only be limited by our ability to imagine.

David and Virginia Holmes

Prof David R Holmes and his wife Ginger safely returned to Rochester, Minnesota on 5 April 2018. SASCI would like to extend our deepest gratitude to Prof Holmes for the immense impact he had during his tenure in South Africa. We look forward to future collaborations and working together to further quality education in Cardiology and impacting further than just the borders of our beautiful country.

The SASCI Visiting Professor Program is proudly sponsored by and made possible by our industry partners, **Medtronic** and **Pharma Dynamics**.