



FIP Distinguished Service Award 2009

Istanbul, Turkey, 4 September 2009

The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2009 Distinguished Service Award, Mrs Gretie Rolf von den Baumen. Mrs von den Baumen has held a long and dedicated career within FIP for almost 40 years, during which she has played a significant and commendable role in the long-standing planning, organising and success of the FIP Congresses.

Mrs von den Baumen started her career within the FIP Secretariat in 1969. She continued her work both in the office and on a freelance basis until 1975, when she and her family moved to Germany until 1980. Upon her return, Mrs von den Baumen returned to FIP to embark on a career in what was to become an extraordinary example of dedication to the success of the most important annual event to the Federation – the FIP Congress.

As Assistant Congress Coordinator from 1980-1982 Mrs von den Baumen developed a foundation of knowledge and skills that would soon lead her to taking a more prominent role in FIP Congress planning and implementation. Throughout the 1980's and 1990's she helped bring the FIP Congress to almost every corner of the world, each year striving to improve upon how FIP could host their International Members, Leaders and Audience. By 2001, Mrs von den Baumen assumed the position of FIP Congress Director, which she still holds to this day.

Mrs von den Baumen has seen many changes within FIP over the years including staffing, leadership, location, strategy and vision. This, along with her ability to respond to the global environment and international colleagues, has made her an expert in Congress Planning. Since 2000 she has also brought this expertise to the European Association Conference Forum as Member and Secretary General. She has been previously recognised for her efforts with the Meeting Planner of the Year Award in 2001 and an Award for Recognition in Conference Planning from the Mayor of Amsterdam and the Amsterdam Convention Bureau in 2007.

Thanks to Gretie von den Baumen, thousands of pharmacists, pharmaceutical scientists, academics, students and staff have had the exceptional opportunity of experiencing FIP Congresses all over the world. Her tireless efforts to provide an ideal forum for international exchange of information networking in the world's most attractive settings has resulted in the FIP Congress growing to the success it is today.

FIP congratulates Mrs Gretie Rolf von den Baumen on this most deserved award.

Join us next year in Lisbon!