Fractures of the distal radius: controversies in treatment, rehabilitation and management of complications
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PREFACE

Santiago A. Lozano Calderón has achieved things that most people can only dream of. He didn’t do it with politics, or money, or force. He did it with enthusiasm, hard-work, intelligence, and friendship.

Santiago’s dissatisfaction with the limited clinical and research resources for orthopaedic surgery in his beloved home country of Colombia led him to seek training and employment in the United States of America. Many have similar dreams, but Santiago is currently in an orthopaedic residency in New York – New York Medical College - and has thereby achieved the most difficult part of the dream; it should be smooth sailing from here. The key to Santiago’s success has been clinical research. Not just a few publications, but dozens of publications. Not just participation and authorship, but expert knowledge and achievement. Not just collaboration, but leadership. And not just camaraderie, but true friendship.

Santiago helps others succeed. His energy is boundless and he is generous with it. People like Santiago, make us all better. My first PhD student Job Doornberg was cut from the same pattern, and it’s no surprise that Job and Santiago became friends and productive collaborators. Job’s value of achievement in clinical research led him to suggest that first I, and then Santiago earn a PhD through the University of Amsterdam.

It’s a shame that a PhD for clinical research work is not available in the United States or Colombia. Recognition of this otherwise unreimbursed and minimally rewarded effort goes a long way to sustaining the kind of enthusiasm necessary for achievement. On the other hand, the fruitful international collaboration between The Netherlands and The United States goes along way to keeping us citizens of the world, and it seems natural that people from other countries should be included.

I’m certain that this PhD thesis will impress you with its breadth, scholarship, and usefulness. Santiago knows that it is my dream that our enthusiasm and love of clinical research -which blooms first and foremost from love for our patients- can take hold the world over. That knowledge and achievement in clinical research will be valued for how it impacts patient care and not for how it advances one’s own personal agenda. His achievement is another step in that direction.

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To my loving wife Kate and our son Santi, who are both an unlimited fountain of love, happiness and laughs.

Para mis amados esposa e hijo, fuente ilimitada de amor, felicidad y sonrisas.

Santiago A. Lozano Calderón, MD