

Prof. Dr. E. (Bert) Otten studied Biophysics in Leiden University and wrote a thesis (awarded “cum laude”) on the functional anatomy and evolution of cichlid fishes, which was given a national award for its originality. He worked in the Free University Amsterdam on human muscles for three years.

Since 1984 working on neuromechanics of human movements. Has been a guest lecturer at Harvard University for six short summer periods. Since 2005 he is professor of NeuroMechanics and Prosthetics at the University Medical Center Groningen, division Human Movement Sciences.

He wrote 140 international papers on a wide variety of subjects, but with the coupling theme of integration in living organisms. Since 1984 he is part of the management team of scientific groups, from neurobiology, to medical physiology, rehabilitation and human movement science.

Presently the main focus of research is on the neuromechanics and the mutual adaptation of humans and their prostheses. There is a close collaboration between several firms (OIM, Motek, IMDS), clinics (Beatrixoord, Revalidatie Friesland) and scientific groups on adaptation of human movement control.

Presently he is responsible for ten graduate students, writing theses in the area of arm, leg and foot prosthetics, as well as adaptive control after cruciate ligament rupture and the field of embodied cognition.