

Benelux District

Twenty fellows attended a meeting held in February 2004 at the newly opened Satellite location of the Dental School of the University of Amsterdam in Almere, a new town in the centre of the country. The programme, presented by the Office-Manager of the Dental School, Mrs Judith Onnekink, included a guided tour and information about parts of the dental curriculum. Students work in small groups, imitating a regular dental office situation. This was then followed by a lecture by Fellow Dr. G.H Sanderink, Dept. of Dental Radiology, about "Distance Learning", (future) communication facilities in the Dental School and the current implementations of the dental education curriculum.

The newly proposed Inductees for Monte Carlo were discussed and there was a debate about the attendance and costs of the European Section's annual meeting. Quite a number of Fellows intend coming to Monte Carlo.

There were some suggestions about increasing the number of local meetings, which gives the Regent and Vice-Regent enough support to continue with these local meetings in the future.

Frans H.M. Kroon,
Regent for Benelux

The European Section extends a warm welcome to the New Fellows Inducted in Dublin in June 2003

Balbi	Paolo	Italy	Private Practice
Bertrand	Jean	Belgium	Private Practice
Castel-Branco Froes	Clara	Portugal	Private Practice: periodontology and implantology
Bailey	Bruno	France	Private Practice
Hanvold	Bjorn	Norway	Private Practice
Hoffman	Manfred	Germany	Private Practice in Periodontics and Implantology
Hoskinson	Anthony	UK	Specialist Endodontist
Hussey	David	Ireland	Consultant/Lecturer in Conservative Dentistry
Kearns	Gerard	Ireland	Oral and Maxillo-Facial Surgery
Lloyd	Howard	UK	Specialist Endodontist
Martin	Jean-Claude	France	Judiciary Expert
McConnell	Robert	Ireland	Dean of Cork Dental School; Prof of Restorative Dentistry
McKenna	Dan	Ireland	Private Practice and Hospital: Implantology
Monteiro da Silva	Orlando	Portugal	Private Practice
Mourao	Joao	Portugal	Fixed Prosthodontics/Implantology
Murphy	Bernard	Ireland	Principal Dental Surgeon, Community Service
Neumeyer	Stefan	Germany	Private Practice
Roxas	Ilaria	Italy	Odontostomatology
Santana Penin	Urbano	Spain	Private Practice
Schmalz	Gottfried	Germany	Director of University Hospital & Professor
Sorensen	Henrik	Denmark	Private Practice
Suarez-Quintanilla	David	Spain	Professor of Orthodontics
Tuppy	Franz-Karl	Austria	Private Practice and Lecturer in Prosthodontics
Velvart	Peter	Switzerland	Private Practice Endodontics and Microsurgery

Photos of all Dublin Inductees on: <http://www.icd-europe.com/meetings>

A Double Honour for the European Section - The Masters' Views

In June 2003, at the 48th Annual Meeting in Dublin, two outstanding Fellows of the European Section were honoured by having the Degree of Master of the College conferred on them. Both David Glynn and George Read-Ward have served the European Section with great distinction in their different ways. Here, they give us a glimpse of what the ICD means to them.

B. David Glynn M.I.C.D.

BDS: Guy's Hospital Dental School 1964

FICD: 1981

Secretary-General: ICD European Section 1985 - 1993

International Councillor ICD: 1985 - present

President of the European Section: 1995

ICD International President: 1999 -2000

Master of the College: Dublin, 2003



David and Judy Glynn relax in Santiago following the International Meeting of the ICD there during David's year as President of the "College-at-Large" in 1999.

My Time in the ICD

I have been asked by our editor for a few words reflecting on my time in the ICD.

Following my induction in London in 1981 by Dr Walter Reif, I soon became embroiled with the organisational side of the European Section, taking over the job of Secretary General from Dr. Michel Varin of France, at the Florence meeting in 1984.

A Baptism of Fire for the new Secretary-General

This was a wonderful meeting, but a real baptism of fire for me because, when we arrived, though only 250 delegates had registered, 420 turned up on the Wednesday, the excess being some Italians who had not made reservations! This threw our organisation into a bit of chaos, but we eventually accommodated everyone and had a wonderful time with an excellent social programme arranged by our President, Dr Umberto Bar.

International Councillor, European President, World President

I moved up through various offices including becoming successively an International Councillor from 1985 to the present, President of the European Section in 1995 when the 40th Anniversary Meeting was held in York, and then in 1999, President of the College-at-Large, when the Meeting was held in Santiago, Chile.

Co-operation between the ICD in the US and South America

In my year as International President, I was most impressed by the co-operation between the USA Section and District 3 in South America. The USA Section provides the South Americans with two speakers each year, their airfares are paid for by the College, while the local section gives them board and lodging. This programme has been running now for about ten years. The Scientific Session in Santiago was held in a separate hall with 500 local dentists who were invited free of charge to a programme put on by these two USA Section speakers. It was a great success. It is through this sort of help that the International College of Dentists has become the major International Dental Society in South America.

Sharing our Knowledge

One of the biggest highlights for me of being an FICD, has been the involvement in helping various sections, firstly, to advance the profession in their own country, and then, to improve the service and standards of care they are able to deliver to their own population. On many occasions the College has been asked to assist in this process, and a good example was in the '90's when the Soviet Union broke up, and our then Secretary General, George Read-Ward, took a leading part with the European Section both in organising conferences in the ex-Soviet Union countries and also working with WHO and the College which provided funds for speakers and equipment in various countries.

We feel that to a large extent the influence of people in the European Section of the International College of Dentists had helped countries to adapt to a more western approach to dental education and treatment of patients. This initiative has been ongoing and is still ongoing in various areas and the European Section has recently established a committee to co-ordinate these activities.

A Challenge for ICD in Africa

The ICD is in the position of being the premier honorary Dental Society throughout the world and is represented in all continents except Africa. In the past, we have had a few false starts in Africa, but nothing has come of these initiatives. We badly need some input from people in that continent and dentists in various areas to try and get a College initiative going there. There are millions of people who have virtually no dental care at all and the countries, of course, have no funds to deal with this. In this regard it was heartening to read in the ICDigest of 2002, of the clinic established in Burkina Faso, Western Africa, by the Austrian FICD, Peter Schopf, and I sincerely hope that his efforts will be built on by others within the European Section of ICD.¹

The Value of International Friendships

Personally I have travelled all over the world and made friends with countless colleagues which has broadened my outlook on the international composition of the profession. Many of these people have proved to be invaluable contacts, both in my personal and professional life. It is such a benefit to have friends in different countries that one can refer patients to if necessary.

There is nothing like first-hand contact with colleagues from other countries to see how the profession works for them. It is all too easy for us to presume that everything goes on around the world as it does in our own home countries, but when you get to other parts of the world, and particularly to the third world countries, you realise that dentistry is a completely different profession in these areas.

There is no doubt that being involved with the College has opened many opportunities to me both socially and professionally over the past 25 years and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has made this so enjoyable.

B D Glynn
December 2003

¹. Dr. Schopf's article is available on the European Section web-site at:
<http://www.icd-europe.com/education.html> Ed. [26/01/04]

George Read-Ward M.I.C.D.

Graduated Guy's Dental School: 1960
 International Association of Dental Students: 1957
 Federation Dentaire Internationale: 1963
 FICD: 39th Annual Meeting Deauville: 1989
 Secretary-General European Section: 1993 - 2003
 Master of the International College of Dentists: 48th Annual Meeting, Dublin, 2003



Recollections

A year or so after being inducted as a Fellow into the International College of Dentists, my name was put forward to the Board of Regents as a candidate for the position of secretary to the European Section. In my favour had been my ongoing interest since student days in the International Association of Dental Students. Since qualifying, the FDI, together with the dental subjects in which I had a specific interest, both sedation and advanced restorative techniques, took me to several countries, meeting colleagues and listening to speakers from across the world.

Thus in 1993, I undertook the office of Secretary-General to the European Section, in succession to my colleague, David Glynn. Ten years later, by June 2003, I had made some twenty-six European visits, not to mention many trips in the UK, together with seven 'long haul' intercontinental meetings as a representative on the International Council. This representation links Europe with the other continents, hence it really goes with the European secretary's job!

Now I recollect in amazement and wonder how I managed to run a full-time practice, have a normal home life with family holidays and carry out that amount of travelling. However, looking back over the venues, it just seems like one long series of special memories, to which I have been an honoured and privileged participant these latter years of my professional life, completely surpassing the 'dark' moments.

Planning Annual Meetings

Most years, about eight months beforehand, I was invited to liaise with the President of the annual meeting, to visit the particular country and to discuss

the proposed venue, the academic, social and accompanying persons' programmes, and the format for the induction ceremony, the banquet, and the overall logistics. This included meetings with the conference organisers and committee, and on occasions, an urgent phone call to the Treasurer for help! On one famous occasion we had a three-way conversation converting guilders into pesetas via dollars into my (mental) pounds sterling!

Memories

- **Athens 1993**, the bus unable to reach the tiny roads leading to Andreas Tsoutsos' lovely home, high on the hills overlooking the city.
- **Jerusalem 1994**, with the late Foci Sussman, marching through Jerusalem, then speeding on a car tour from one end of Israel to the other, in one 48 - hour visit!
- **York 1995**, when David Glynn had us sipping champagne amongst steam locomotives, then dining on a station platform to the accompaniment of a brass band.
- **Baveno 1996**, Carlo Pejrone hosting those magical moments through the warm mists of Lake Maggiore through the gardens with white peacocks.
- **Vienna 1997**, the enchanting moment at Peter Kotschy's meeting, when at midnight, following the Vienesse Ball, the corps de ballet appeared through the floodlit trees in a horse-drawn coach.
- **Bergen 1998**, the beautiful town on the coast of Norway where Terge Wahr-Hansen had members of the International Council in yellow deep-sea fishermen's waterproofs, feeding herring from a bucket of man-eating fish. The memorable journey home – every Fellow has a different story to tell as a result of the air traffic controllers' strike – well, that's modern living!

- **Amsterdam 1999**, with Jan Pameijer. Surprise? The venues could only be reached by Water! The welcome evening below decks on the old war ship 'Amsterdam', followed by an Indonesian evening.
- **Bilbao 2000**, for the millennium year, when at Jaime Gil's meeting we banqueted in what is one of the great architectural wonders of the modern world, the Guggenheim Museum. Never in my wildest dreams did I expect to give an after dinner speech surrounded by my favourite motorcycles.
- **Munich 2001**, for Heinz Lassig's meeting; the emotional sound of those flugelhorns greeting us as we disembarked from the Tegen See steamer. Next day at the Bayerischerhof, never did so many Fellows take to the dance floor!

This should have been my farewell, but it was not to be. Sadly, only a few months later, my successor Ian Poplett died suddenly, so I was suddenly back in harness, helping Nicole Vallotton, the first Lady President of the European Section.

- **Lausanne 2002**, when Nicole imprisoned us, forcing us to drink champagne in the dungeons beneath the Chateau Chillon, whereupon trumpeters heralded our freedom, calling us to the banquet in the baronial hall.
- **Dublin 2003**, finally, life seems to have come full circle, working with David Glynn again, my predecessor and proposer to the College, when we shared Joe Lemasney's meeting. Traditional Irish music and maybe a touch of Guinness, or was I seeing things when Eugen Schray, suitcase in hand, banged on the windows of the distillery, and begged us to allow him in for Riverdance!

Friends from Far and Wide

Over these eleven annual meetings and Induction Ceremonies, the European Section inducted new Fellows from nearly all of the twenty-four countries which make up the Section and we also had the pleasure of inducting Fellows from Australia, South Africa, and La Reunion together with the first Fellows from Russia, Latvia and Ukraine. The formidable list of Presidents I have worked with, the Board of Regents, existing Fellows and all the new inductees I have liaised with, gave me the opportunity to meet literally hundreds of new acquaintances throughout the world in the dental profession.

International Council Concerns

Over the years I had a wonderful rapport with the Secretary-Generals at head office in the USA; initially Dick Shaffer and latterly Bob Brady. Whilst I always had tremendous support from members of the International Council, in retrospect, I do not think I ever felt totally at ease, finding myself a little 'out of step' with the system. I have to admit I had a continual sense of frustration and at times disagreement with the lack of new thinking and direction for the future progress of the College. Year after year, many countries/sections never attended, perhaps for financial or political reasons; but whatever the reason, it seemed to me to be 'one sided'.

European Section Projects

A few months after becoming secretary in 1993, I made a visit to W.H.O where I had a meeting with Genardy Pakhomov, now immediate past director of Oral Health at W.H.O, Geneva. From this initial visit emerged a lasting liaison resulting in a visit by a team of experts to Minsk, Riga and Moscow. This was later followed by an exchange visit of Latvian dental students to France and UK, and the purchase by the European Section of textbooks for the Riga Dental School. With the help of generous donations from the International Council, we sponsored many colleagues from the European Section to lecture in Russia on specialist subjects. And now we have a web site.

I was inducted in 1989 at Deauville. Looking back now, some fourteen years later, challenges, perhaps I should say opportunities, have come my way which I could not have envisaged on entering the College. My most humbling moment came in Dublin this year when the International President of the College, Dr. Horiuchi, together with European President, Dr Joe Lemasney, presented me with the ultimate accolade, Master of the College.

And now, it is the time for Sally, who has given me so much support in this job, and for the family. Together we plan to spend more time with our grown up family and grandchildren; to discover more of our beloved British Isles, walk in the Alps, listen to opera, practise the piano, tennis, ski, sail, garden and enjoy my 'big boy toys' – cars and motorcycles! I really am a disgrace to the College not owning any golf clubs!

George Read-Ward
December 2003

Dr. Victor J. Lanctis, World President of the 'College-at-Large' in the Years 2002-2003, reflects aloud on the Strengths and Weaknesses he observed in the College during his term of Office



Reflections and Projections

It is mid autumn in Eastern Canada. The recently verdant foliage of our garden has taken on striking gold, orange and crimson hues. Daylight quickens and the air has become noticeably crisper. It is a period of the year known as "Indian Summer" in this part of the world, so designated to recall a time centuries ago when the hunters and gatherers of local indigenous tribes returned from their summer hunting grounds, laden with precious provisions for the impending winter and brimming with exciting tales of faraway expeditions and daring exploits. It is a time when nature slowly comes to rest after an active cycle of rejuvenation and growth, and when one is inevitably drawn to reflect upon recent achievements and future endeavours.

ICD International: The Postives

For the folks on your ICD International Executive, it is a bona fide opportunity to assess the status of the organization and evaluate what progress, if any, has been achieved during their watch. At the risk of sounding perhaps a little pretentious, I believe that significant momentum has been generated over the past year or so, which should stand the College in good stead as it traverses the first decade of this new millennium. For instance, our fellowship roster continues to grow in just about every region of the world. Our capacity to bridge geographical boundaries continues to expand with the addition of excellent regional publications and promising internet applications. The inventory of educational ventures broadens with each passing year and humanitarian projects of all types multiply from one annual exercise to the next. From a philosophical point of view, I get the distinct impression that College affairs are now being addressed in a more farsighted and visionary manner, notably with the introduction of strategic thinking sessions, the formation of a long-overdue communications

committee, and the establishment of long-term planning mechanisms at the International Council level --- all of which obviously bodes well for the future of the College.

While such advances and attitudinal adjustments may be heartening and reassuring, there is little room for smugness or complacency in today's competitive and rapidly evolving environment.

Creativity and innovation, as well as the re-energized enthusiasm and enhanced involvement of fellows everywhere will continue to be indispensable for the College to not only survive, but also to expand and thrive.

Confidence in the Future

My recent experience within Council coupled with that gleaned from numerous presidential visits and associated exchanges suggest that there is good reason to be confident in the future. This perception is premised on a number of notable lessons learned: For example, I have discovered that in addition to the monumental pool of knowledge, expertise and experience available within the organization, there is

- an equally impressive amount of goodwill and Fellows everywhere just waiting to be tapped and judiciously exploited;
- an overwhelming willingness, if not a genuine eagerness, to embrace the various causes for which the College has proudly become synonymous;
- an almost insatiable thirst for information and guidance on how to go about offering aide and assistance when and where required; and above all,
- a universal craving for better communications and closer working relationships between ICD Sections worldwide.

...And Some Causes for Concern

Based on these observations, it has become clear to me that this College possesses not only the resources and the potential but also the attitude and the correct mindset to achieve great things. Having said that, I am also very much aware that there are a number of important issues warranting careful attention as we transit into the future.

Scepticism Among Younger Fellows

- I have noticed, among our younger Fellows in particular, mixed perceptions, and perhaps a degree of tacit scepticism, concerning their status and obligations within the College.

Doubts about the ICD's Relevance Among Established Fellows

- There are likewise provoking questions of Fellows, who bemoan the paucity of tangible and productive programmes in their Section, District or Region and seek more convincing results for their continued loyalty and allegiance.

Reservations with the Nomination Process

- I have occasionally detected lingering reservations, admittedly not entirely unfounded, regarding the fellowship nomination process and heard growing concerns about the absence of equitable gender representation at International Council as well as in other key positions within the College.

Inadequate Communications

- Questions have been repeatedly raised about the value and effectiveness of our current communication vehicles, including the Globe and the ICD web site, and about certain aspects of fiscal stewardship and organizational practices. A few misgivings have also been expressed about the capacity of Central Office to respond to the ever increasing needs of the College. Many Fellows have voiced their dismay and frustration that the ICD is not more widely known or better recognized by the profession and the general public.

Economic Concerns

- In the broader scheme of things, it is clear that a number of Sections face very difficult financial circumstances that could potentially have negative impacts on College operations as a whole. Such economic considerations are especially relevant in countries currently being

considered for expansion. Inhibiting social and political impediments still stifle growth in certain areas where the ICD is gamely struggling to establish inroads or attempting to consolidate existing footholds. Regrettably, all of this is occurring at a time when social commitment and humanitarian zeal appear to be generally on the decline — ostensibly the result of an unfortunate generational trend which now threatens institutions and organizations traditionally dependent on the generosity and altruistic fervor of its members.

Progress Requires...Leadership...Planning...Communication...Commitment

In this somewhat confusing context, the general operational principles proposed at the beginning of my tenure, under the title "Guidelines for Continued Progress", become all the more meaningful and compelling¹ Indeed, there will continue to be a need for:

Leadership

- imaginative and visionary leadership at all structural levels to successfully deal with these complex and sensitive issues and to inspire Fellows to become much more pro-active and involved in their College;

Planning

- astute and skillful planning in order to generate the policies and programmes necessary to maintain and enhance the stature and credibility of the ICD around the globe;

Communication

- more focused and purposeful communication strategies, as well as the establishment of mutually beneficial social and professional interfaces reaching beyond the traditional boundaries of the College;

Commitment

- a genuine need for Fellows everywhere to become more enthusiastic and passionate about their commitment toward the fulfillment of the College's mission and objectives.

¹Open Letter to International Council, ICD Section Presidents and Registrars, January 2002. Available on the European Section web-site at: <http://www.icd-europe.com/news.html> [10/02/04]

Admittedly, the above represents a tall order, but I am personally optimistic that all of these challenges will be overcome and that, buoyed by those proven and time-honoured principles, our College will steadfastly maintain its prominent position on the world dental stage.

50 Years of the European Section: Celebrate and Contemplate

As you prepare to celebrate a momentous milestone in the outstanding history of the European Section, I would urge you to take stock of your part in that remarkable history and to consider what additional role you can play in its next 50 years of progress. In our rather impersonal and oftentimes dysfunctional world, where materialistic ideals, self-centred orientations and short-term interests seemingly dominate other human or social concerns, the succinct yet meaningful College motto "Recognizing

Service and the Opportunity to Serve" should be viewed as more than just another clever marketing tool or 'branding' device. For ICD Fellows everywhere, it should stand out as a motivational beacon in their personal and professional lives and conjure up a profound and lasting individual commitment to the service of others.

With that in mind, may I take this opportunity to congratulate your outstanding Section for its many past service-related achievements and extend to all of you --- its distinguished fellows --- my very best wishes for the next half-century!

Victor J. Lanctis

Past President

International College of Dentists 2002-2003

November 2003

PAST PRESIDENTS International College of Dentists European Section

Philip Dear	G. Van Der Harst
Ch.F.L.Nord	William Fitting
Louis Fitting	Michel Varin
Jacques Fouré	John O. Forrest
Fr. Ackermann	Gil Alcoforado
Robert Vielleville	Andreas Tsoutsos
Fritz Schoen	Gerald Wootliff
Louis Baume	David Glynn
Frans Lankhof	Carlo Pejrone
C.de Vere Green	Peter Kotschy
Frederico Singer	Terje Wahr-Hansen
Charles Vallotton	Jan Pameijer
Jose M Losada	Jaime Gil
Are Edwards	Heinz Lassig
Walter Reif	Nicole Vallotton
Charles Przetak	Joe Lemasney
Umberto Bar	

The Editor wishes to thank the Fellows who provided photos for this issue of the Digest: Paul Becker, P J Byrne, David Glynn, Don Johnston, Ineke Kroon, Heinz Lassig, Joe Lemasney, Bruce Mayhew, Peter Pré, George Read-Ward and Margaret Seward

Professor Diarmuid Shanley, Dean of the Department of Health and Social Sciences, Trinity College, Dublin and Co-Ordinator of the DentEd Project, shows how standards are being raised in Dental and Stomatological Education at both European and International Levels

The DentEd Project:

Introduction

Ten years ago, the European Section of the International College of Dentists, with the support of the WHO, facilitated a peer review visit to the Stomatological Institute in Moscow.¹ This illustrated the benefits of international review through better communications and exchanging ideas without imposing a particular educational approach. The Moscow curriculum was profoundly important because all other stomatological curricula in the former USSR used the Moscow model as a benchmark. It therefore had an historical influence on many of the countries that will join the EU this year. Subsequently the EU Advisory Committee on the Training of Dental Practitioners adopted the initiative, refined the visit protocol, and from this the DentEd Project developed.² The visit protocol consists of a self-review process, followed by a further review and visit from a team of educators, accompanied by a practitioner, thus covering a wide range of expertise in dental education.

The DentEd and DentEdEvolves Thematic Network Projects

The DentEd and DentEdEvolves Thematic Network Projects were designed to promote convergence towards higher standards in dental education. They are funded by the European Union. DentEd is seen as an integral part of the activities of the Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE). It is also strongly supported by the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) and the International Federation for Dental Education Associations (FDEA). The primary objectives are to improve understanding of each other's systems, and to promote clearly defined educational

outcomes and clinical competences with emphasis on evidence-based primary oral care. It would seem to be a reasonable objective that in future all patients in the European Union could be assured of ethical and appropriate primary oral health care to acceptable standards wherever they live or travel in the EU. The two projects (the first 1997 to 2000 and the second 2000 to 2003) were based on:

- an interactive web site³
- school visits by teams of international peers following the agreed protocol, and
- the development of consensus documents on fundamental educational principles facilitated through the web site and email.

These were then endorsed at annual plenary sessions attended by up to 200 educators from over 40 countries.

Peer Review Visits to Dental Schools and Stomatological Institutes

The visit process facilitated better understanding, and allowed peer educators from other countries and continents to exchange ideas and share best practices. It helped identify the serious problems which existed in the education and training of dentists and stomatologists. These were primarily related to inadequate resources in staffing, funding and equipment. The differences in emphasis in the odontological approach compared to the stomatological approach were also highlighted, and more importantly, the reasons for the different approaches were better understood. However, irrespective of which system applies, there seemed no reason why common outcomes and defined clinical competences, at least in respect of primary oral care, could not be adopted.

¹Pakhomov G. How oral health in the Russian Federation mirrors political and economic stabilisation. *ICDigest* 2002; 2: 5-6. <http://www.icd-europe.com/education.html> [12//12/03]

² DentEd: the Thematic Network Project. Achieving Convergence in Standards of Output of European Dental Education. <http://www.dented.org> [26/01/04]

³ <http://www.dented.org/dentedevolves.php3> [22/01/04]

There had been evidence of serious discrepancies⁴ in educational programmes within the EU despite the Dental Directives issued by the European Commission in Brussels since 1978.⁵ Subsequently the visits found that the differences are greater in those countries about to join an expanding EU, where the stomatological approach to education predominates. The findings from the visits were analysed in an interactive series of dynamic analytical working groups in the Nobel Institute in Sweden in 1999, published in 2000.⁶ This is also available on the web site where all details of the project and the visit protocol may be found.⁷ A retrospective qualitative study is currently being carried out to objectively analyse the influences of the DentEdEvolves visit process on the schools that participated. Preliminary findings are encouraging.

It should be explained that the EU Advisory Committee proposed a profile for a dentist, as well as a list of defined clinical competences, and a set of core knowledge objectives. These were set as an annexure to the Dental Directives.⁸

The DentEd Network

The DentEd/DentEdEvolves Network is broader than school visits. It has a web-based membership from two-thirds of the European dental schools, plus an individual membership of 560 on its interactive website.⁹ In addition to the 50 school visit reports, six plenary sessions of the Network (in conjunction with the Association for Dental Education in Europe), have been held in Dublin, Milan, Stockholm, Prague, Ljubljana and Dresden. Several other meetings were held, including a major one in Singapore where the South East Asian

⁴ Shanley DB, Barna S, Gannon P, Kelly A, Teljeur C, Munck C, Ray K. Undergraduate training in the European Union: convergence or divergence? *European Journal of Dental Education* 1997;1: 35–43.

⁵ The Dental Directive. Document 78/687/EEC: 1978, European Commission, Brussels.

⁶ DentEdEvolves Global Congress in Dental Education. Special Issue, *European Journal of Dental Education* 2002; 6 (Supplement 3).

⁷ [http:// www.dented.org/dentedevolves.php3](http://www.dented.org/dentedevolves.php3) [22/01/04]

⁸ Advisory Committee on the Training of Dental Practitioners to the European Commission:

a) The profile of the dentist in the EEC. Document III/D/617/5/86;
b) Report and recommendations concerning clinical competences required for the practice of dentistry in the European Union. Document XV/8316/8/93, modified 10/11/98.
c) Core knowledge and understanding – prerequisites to achieving agreed clinical competences. Document XV/E/8011/3/97- EN. European Commission, Brussels.

⁹ [http:// www.dented.org/dentedevolves.php3](http://www.dented.org/dentedevolves.php3) [22/01/04]

Association for Dental Education was keen to consider the DentEd visit protocol approach

The Next Phase and a Profile for an International Dentist

It is proposed that Europe, and perhaps other global regions where traditional dental and stomatological programmes are in place, should seek to adopt a common profile for dentists.¹⁰ This project is now to be shared between ADEE and DentEd with the President of ADEE, Professor Fons Plasscharit, as the primary investigator.

Modularisation Based on Knowledge-Competences Units

Once an agreed profile is established, it is proposed to translate this into “Knowledge/Competence Units” (KCUUs) in order to allow dental students greater freedom to study different components of their programmes in different European centres as part of the principle of free movement. This may facilitate a common European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) as is advocated for all disciplines in Europe under the Bologna Declaration.¹¹ The Bologna approach does not impose a single educational ideology or a single curriculum. However with clearly defined educational outcomes based on agreed learning units and resulting in graduates achieving validly assessed clinical competences, perhaps through ECTS, there is considerable potential for an international effort in convergence

Global Developments in Dental Education

A Global Congress on Dental Education was held in Prague¹² in 2002 to review and agree fundamental principles. All continents were represented at this meeting which had 240 leading dental educators from 49 different countries, including seventy-five per cent of US and Canadian Dental Schools. It is intended to reconvene that Global Congress in Washington in 2006 when more representatives from Africa and Asia will be present. There the challenge of wider global issues in health care will be addressed, and the emphasis which

¹⁰ A preliminary draft profile will be found on the website: [http:// www.dented.org/dresden.php](http://www.dented.org/dresden.php) [03/01/04]

¹¹ Bologna Declaration: http://www.dented.org/download/Bologna_Declaration.doc [15/01/04]

¹² Shanley D. et al., *Dental Education in Europe. The DentEd Thematic Network Project Report: KFT Publishers, Budapest. 2001.*