Mission

The International College of Dentists is a leading honorary dental organization dedicated to the recognition of outstanding professional achievement and meritorious service and the continued progress of the profession of dentistry for the benefit of all mankind.

Motto

Recognizing Service as well as the Opportunity to Serve

Objectives

- To provide a universal forum for the cultivation of cordial relations within the profession.
- To foster the growth and diffusion of dental knowledge.
- To recognize distinguished service to the profession and to the public worldwide.
- To promote post-graduate study and research in the field of oral health.
- To contribute to the advancement of the profession of dentistry internationally.
- To encourage and support projects of a humanitarian nature.
- To uphold the highest standard of professional competence and personal ethics.
- To assist in preserving the highest public perception of the profession.
- To perpetuate the history of the profession and maintain its dignity and stature.
Features

MEMORIES OF THE 2010 MAASTRICHT MEETING 6
THE ICD WORLD PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS 12
2010 FELLOWSHIP CLASS 13
COVER: DIGITAL DENTISTRY: WHAT THE PRACTITIONER NEEDS TO KNOW 14
INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT PETER BRANDSTÄTTER 20
PREVIEW: ANNUAL MEETING IN VIENNA 22

Departments

EDITOR’S PAGE 4
LETTERS 5
NEW OFFICERS 24
FELLOWS OF NOTE 26
PHILIP DEAR FOUNDATION 30
DISTRICTS 33
THE REGISTRAR’S REPORT 37
2011 BOARD OF REGENTS 38
FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE EUROPEAN SECTION BACK COVER

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POSTMASTER SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:
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Across Europe and internationally, dentistry ranks high in polls of the public’s most trusted professions. Curiously, firemen, physicians, nurses and teachers consistently garner even higher positions, possibly buoyed by the entertainment media’s dramatizations of these careers. This deferential spotlight may influence survey responses when negative experiences, on a personal level, are superseded by the subliminal association with a profession’s esteemed image embedded in the public mindset.

Dentistry’s persona, on the other hand, does not often benefit from a kindhearted on-screen image. We can be proud that despite generally unfavorable TV and movie caricatures, real-time relationships between patients and dentists is the overriding factor supporting the approval of our profession.

While some may still shelter conscious or unconscious fears about visiting their dentist, it is comforting to know that dentists are trusted and counted upon for honest counseling.

Ironically, a fundamental quality lacking in the public’s perception is the face of dentistry whose features are accentuated by dedication and self-sacrifice, while seeking to advance oral health care throughout the world.

Whether mobilizing the rapid deployment of personnel and equipment in response to a natural disaster or delivering desperately needed attention to those for whom the privilege of dental treatment has never been realized, dentists are in the forefront.

We need only look to our own Section’s Fellows for moving examples of such dedication while promulgating the College motto of “service and the opportunity to serve”.

From overcoming 40° C, and rampant HIV in the Dominican Republic so impoverished children can receive essential dental care; to the Odessa orphanage where society’s once discarded and forgotten are now not only receiving routine treatment, but also the repeated, supportive interaction from a caring human being; to Burk a Faso where, with only 71 dentists for 16 million inhabitants, patients desperately lumbered the 50km walk to receive emergency care from yet another inspired ICD dentist.

Dentistry not only creates healthy smiles on the faces of those with the greatest needs on the planet, but concomitantly arouses a spirit of renewal, hope and faith in the basic goodness of one’s fellow man, who—motivated by optimism, passion and concern for those less fortunate—freely contributes his expertise.

This profile of our profession, that has regrettably gone unsung in the media, is not the product of a few isolated altruistic practitioners, but represents the collective conscience of the profession. Volunteer dentists, hygienists and assistants can be found dispensing humanitarian services on every continent and in nearly every country throughout the world, and there’s scarcely a national or local dental organization that hasn’t established programs designed to alleviate the suffering of the underserved.

This charitable and compassionate face of dentistry is manifested outside the public view, beyond the walls of dental practices and across the borders of foreign countries; a face that ought not to be hidden behind a curtain of obscurity, but deserving the limelight of center stage.

"Dentistry not only creates healthy smiles on those with the greatest needs on the planet, but concomitantly arouses a spirit of renewal, hope and faith in the basic goodness of one’s fellow man."

Dr. Sheldon Dov Sydney, Editor
Ra’anana, Israel
The Hidden Face of Dentistry

• ICD Journalism Award

Congratulations Dov on starting off the new decade in such style, each issue surpasses the previous ones in every respect. But the biggest congratulation must be reserved for securing a well-deserved award for the editorial ‘For the Telemachus Amongst Us’ in the U.S.A Section sponsored ICD Journalism awards, which are open to editors within and outside of the dental profession. It is truly welcome publicity for our great College.

Dame Margaret Seward FICD MICD
Bournemouth, Dorset, England

Congratulations on the 2010 ICDIGEST and winning a Leadership Editorial Award from the USA Section! You have hit new highs with the excellent content and the world class design of many of the pages. Once again, ICD Europe delivers a great story, and one that is very well told indeed. The “Where Is Dentistry Heading...?” article is a real coup and should be reprinted widely.

Jack Hinterman FICD
Flint, Michigan, USA

I received a copy of the ICDIGEST and I was really impressed by the high quality of the pictures, the layout and the content. Congratulation on the Journalism award and your fantastic job!

Carlo Alberto Pejrone FICD
Torino, Italy

• The 2010 ICDIGEST

Every issue surpasses the previous one and there is no other phrase than “outstanding work”. Besides being filled with interesting information, the presentation of the ICDIGEST gives a modern and dynamic image of the College. It makes us even more proud to belong to the ICD.

Peter Pré FICD MICD
Paris, France

Congratulations on producing yet another magnificent issue of the ICDIGEST for the European Section. I received it in the mail today and enjoyed it from cover to cover. It is always such a pleasure to read of the activities of the European Districts. Thank you for all you do for the ICD and the profession.

Rish Galeone FICD
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

• Lisbon Meeting

I have just received the latest issue of the ICDIGEST. It is very well presented and very well done. It must take up a great deal of time and effort and is a perfect memento of the Lisbon Conference.

Joseph Xuereb FICD
Gozo, Malta

I have to congratulate you for the new ICD Journal: you were able to put it on a completely different level! It looks great! Thank you for your report on the Lisbon meeting. The composition of the “old” and the “new” photo with 24 years in-between came out really well. Keep up the good work.

Gil Alcoforado FICD
Lisboa, Portugal

Your publication, as usual, was excellent. You are an outstanding Editor. One item you “missed” was during the European meeting in Lisbon; the only chair in the elegant evening program that totally collapsed was the one in which the College President (yours truly) was seated. I went over backwards and ended up flat on my butt. There was considerable concern until I quickly stood up with a chair leg in each hand. Now that would have been a tremendous human interest photo in your publication!

(Dick) Richard Shick FICD
Grand Blanc, Michigan, USA

• Answering the Question; Editorial

I must congratulate you for an excellent job. The ICDIGEST 2010 is again a really beautiful publication which makes us all in the European Section proud. The content selection, the photos and the layout are excellent. You have set the standards so high that I really feel sorry for the one that will have to take over if you ever decide to retire. I loved your editorial. It really reminded me of my same answer at the same age, of course, having had the same exposure as the son of a dentist.

Argirios Pissiotis FICD
Thessaloniki, Greece

...The Editor is very appreciative of all the letters received and apologizes that due to space restrictions, only a representative portion could be printed.

Letters should be sent to: editor@icd-europe.com
We were forewarned about the unpredictable weather, so delegates, new inductees, friends and family - with raincoats and umbrellas in tow - made their way to the most southern part of Holland to the quiet and special atmosphere of the country’s oldest medieval city, Maastricht for the 55th Annual Meeting of the European Section under the presidency of Dr. Frans Kroon. “Unpredictable” however translated into a pleasant surprise. The poor
weather accessories were left in our hotel rooms as the sun shined for most of the four-day visit and the group was able to reach nearly all the near-by venues with interesting walks through the cobbled streets of the historical town.

From the many opportunities to meet new friends and renew old friendships at the social events, to the stimulating scientific day, all the activities were designed and executed in perfect harmony and thoroughly enjoyed by Fellows and guests.
An outstanding lineup of internationally known speakers presented lectures under the theme of *Back to the Roots of Dental Health* followed by a nearly full house attendance at the Open Forum presentation where participants learned of the current ICD and Philip Dear Foundation projects and where Fellows were able to experience the impressive state-of-the-art teaching modules first-hand.

*Speakers (L to R): Drs. Walter van Driel, Scientific Chair, W.H. van Palenstein Helderman, Congress Chair Frans Kroon, J.M. ten Cate and A. van Nieuw Amerongen*

The provocative presentations generated much discussion from the audience with many attendees contributing to the vibrant and dynamic exchange of ideas and opinions. (Bottom right) Looking into the Future: Dr. Peter Pré experiences the cutting edge education tool “Haptics” 3-D technology during the Open Forum.
In keeping with tradition there was a pre-Congress golf tournament. This year the event was held just across the border in Belgium’s Henri-Chapelle Golf Course, where Dr. Gil Alcoforado repeated his first place finish from last year.

On Thursday evening we were greeted by the Mayor of Maastricht in the historical old Town Hall. We received a rare opportunity to enter the generally closed surrounding rooms of the historical building for a glimpse of how government services and meetings were held more than a hundred years ago. After cocktails accompanied by harp music and an impressive solo performance from Dr. Kroon, the assembled strolled down to the Mass River for an extraordinary cruise on the H.S. Guelvallei which included experiencing the working four locks of the river allowing our ship to navigate the river despite significant differences in depth. We were served on board with a rich and varied selection of dinner delights accompanied by music and dancing.

Dr. Gil Alcoforado (Above left) demonstrating his 1st place winner’s swing while Dr. Walter van Driel points out his “hole-in-one” direct hit to the buggy’s window screen.

(Center) Welcome Aboard: Guests were greeted with champagne and friendly crew members at the start of their journey down the Mass River.

The Mayor of Maastricht points out the unique architectural features on a private tour of the old Town Hall meeting rooms.
Friday evening we were entertained at the live theater and buffet of “La Bonbonniere”. As they exited the stage, the actors intermingled with and encouraged the participation of the audience in a lively atmosphere that lent itself to an abundance of surprises and humor; sometimes revealing the hidden operatic talents of our Section’s Fellows, as seen in the photo at right.

During the breaks, the intimate table arrangements provided an ideal setting for guests and delegates to relax with good conversation.
Following the hors d’oeuvres, cocktails and congratulatory photographs, we boarded chartered buses for a scenic ride to Terblijt and the Caverns of Geulhem, without a doubt one of the most unique Gala Dinner locations in recent memory. The food, music and toasts were all first class and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The Section is indebted to Dr. Kroon, his lovely wife Ineke and their entire organization committee for arranging a most successful 55th Annual Meeting in Maastricht.

*Our host Dr. Kroon (right) welcomes delegates and guests to the Gala Dinner.*

*Job Well Done: There was an abundance of cheers and goodwill all around directed towards the Organizing Committee led (above) by Dr. Kroon and his wife Ineke during the Gala Dinner festivities, which concluded a wonderful meeting in Maastricht.*
This evening, we are gathered to celebrate important past and present achievements of the European Section and the International College of Dentists-at-Large.

Let’s start by recalling the founding on July 13, 1955 of the ICD European Section V in Amsterdam in which the first officers were elected followed by the official granting of autonomous ICD Section Status to Europe in London, in 1956. The elevation to Section Status constituted the rightful recognition by our College of the excellence and dedication of the Fellows who formed this new ICD Section V.

Today, we will participate in a very solemn formal act: The Celebration of Section V’s 55th Induction Ceremony of outstanding colleagues who have accepted the Invitation to Fellowship in our International College of Dentists.

We are also commemorating the vision of our International College of Dentists’ Founding Fathers, Dr. Louis Ottofy, of the United States, and Dr. Tsurukichi Okumura, of Japan, had 90 years ago. They recognized a worldwide need for all dentists to have ready access to up-to-date professional information; and to promote cordial relations within the profession. To fulfill its global purpose, our College implemented a unique network of select, internationally recognized, highly ethical dental professionals with innate teaching abilities. The ICD’s goal has always been to “do the right thing, not for the applause or a reward, but because it is the right thing to do”. Currently 11,679 ICD Fellows in 101 countries are carrying out the mission of the Founding Fathers.

Your Section is on the doorstep of Eastern Europe and underserved parts of Central Europe a vast territory that is hungry for the acquisition of state-of-the-art dental knowledge. These nations long for Western Europe’s dental culture and clinical practice, as well as ethical experience. Expanding the ICD to underserved geographic areas, and inviting highly qualified ethical dentists to ICD Fellowship will lead to singular improvements and achievements. Cordiality will be accentuated in dental profession relationships. Ultimately, patients will be the great beneficiaries.

Our International College of Dentists is a model organization which fosters understanding, respect, and goodwill. From the outset, it has united dentists of different nationalities, cultures, ethnic origins, religions, political preferences, social backgrounds, countries and regions in fellowship. Fellows are equals among peers. The International College of Dentists is a true “amalgam” of distinguished ethical professionals.

Your merits, dear Candidates, brought you here. You will earn the distinction of Fellowship in the International College of Dentists because of your remarkable devotion and ethical contributions to the dental profession and to your communities.

Nevertheless, you should look upon today’s Initiation Ceremony as a beginning and not as an end. You are the continuity as well as the future of the International College of Dentists. Now, more than ever, you have the opportunity and the platform to make a difference in your profession, and in your local and the global community.

The Fellows around the world and I extend to you the most cordial and fraternal welcome to our College.

Dr. Peter Brandstätter places the Past President’s pin on Dr. Frans Kroon
The most important event of the Congress, the Induction Ceremony was held in the Crown Plaza Hotel, where 38 new Fellows were honored with the presentation of their Certificates and Keys.
The advent of digital technology is revolutionising the world in which we live: increasingly faster and better information and technology infrastructure allows people to communicate instantly across the globe. Instant communication using Internet technology has advanced from the early days of chat rooms in the 1990's to audio and video conferencing, voice-over IP (VoIP) communication, and the use of social media with websites such as Facebook. This technology is commonly used by younger individuals and, in an academic environment, it is the undergraduate students who can be expected to be more familiar with these platforms.
Still, it is imperative that instructors and professionals become not only acquainted but skilled in the use of new communication technology for the betterment of learning and development. Furthermore, in the professional world, it will become necessary for practising dentists of all ages to be trained in the use of new software and hardware and ensure that staff members are also skilled in their use, for both personal and professional benefit.

Another point of consideration is that these developments not only impact the social aspects of people’s lives, they can potentially improve the quality of life of people geographically cut off, or who are unable to travel long distances due to disability or illness.

Dentistry, in particular, will benefit from the tools for learning and training, continuing professional development, practice management and the provision of dental services to remote areas. A wide range of technologies and applications are involved: web-based platforms can be used to enhance distance-learning and provide a place to share the best practices; specialized software is used to facilitate practice management processes.

This article will provide background for technologies employed in clinical practice, practice management and education, future technologies, and the difficulties that can be encountered during their use.

Clinical Practice

Everyday clinical practice can be greatly improved with the use of applied technology: medical devices, hardware and software, which will not act in isolation but in conjunction with practice management, as will be explained. Electronic clinical records, with the dental history of the patient, referrals and past treatments; radiographs taken with digital devices automatically stored within; casts (plaster models), photographs and images can be integrated and stored in patients’ e-records, which the practitioner can summon, analyse and show to the patient.

Periodontal charting systems and electronic dental probes are integrated into the records for the practitioner to monitor the condition of the patient over time and for the data obtained and recorded in real-time and stored in the patient’s records with the use of design software, such as implant manufacturing.

Electronic Health Records

The use of electronic clinical records or Electronic Health Records (EHR) will involve a large investment, mainly in terms of infrastructure. Several industrial countries are in the process of developing and implementing Electronic Health Records.

In England, this advancement should be focusing on the use of the EHRs in clinical practice within NHS hospitals. General Dental Practice is currently not a part of the program. In line with the European e-Health Action Plan, governments are committed to creating electronic infrastructures for health and ensure portability of data across all EU member states. Although this is not underway in England, dental services in Scotland have been included in e-health pilots that will provide invaluable data for the EHRs implementation in other nations (Scottish Tele-Orthodontic Project for hospital-based dentistry1). In order to realize EHRs, the goal of Integrated Care Pathways (ICPs) must be achieved. These are a framework of protocols to provide care for specific conditions.

EHRs and ICPs are being rolled out in medical practice. In dentistry, they will be expected to help extend evidence-based practice and clinical governance by supporting the diagnosis and management of patients. This will be further supported by dental decision support systems, with automated interpretation of radiographs, aid in treatment planning and treatment 2. Electronic Dental Records could help streamline the referral process: a dental practitioner,
after identifying a case which needs referral, could quickly, from the chairside, offer the patient a range of options for continuation of the treatment and, by automatically sending the request, waiting times will be reduced.

**Distant Diagnosis and Teledentistry**

What happens when a practitioner is physically unable to see a patient in his office or practice? Distant diagnosis and Teledentistry, albeit a great challenge, can be successful when used for the needs of patients and dental practitioners in developing countries and remote areas. Newer technologies allow dentists to provide diagnosis and treatment with the help of high-resolution cameras and robotics. An assistant in the same room as the patient could help explain the process to the patient, and in some cases, translate into the local language. Although already in use at some level, there is ample room for improvement, which will not only allow practitioners to see and hear the patient, but will also enable them to use their sense of touch remotely through haptic technology.

Currently, Haptics (the field of touch and human interaction with the external environment) is only in use for training with simulation and virtual reality hardware and software to improve cognitive and psychomotor skills, but is likely to be used in the future for remote dental diagnostics and treatment.

These advancements will not only improve clinical practice, but will also contribute to worldwide dental biostatistics to analyse global disease trends. Electronic Dental Health Records will be able to contribute to epidemiological databases. This, in turn, will allow for accurate and up-to-date data for epidemiology studies, diagnostics, and comparison of treatment and treatment outcomes from different parts of the world.

**Practice Management**

Day to day practice management will benefit enormously from the use of integrated technologies. Currently only ‘island’ solutions, working in isolation rather than in an integrated fashion, have been developed for dental practices. These include digital radiographs, diagnostic devices and treatment planning systems, and computer aided design and manufacturing (CAD-CAM).

CAD-CAM has already begun to revolutionize the world of medical and dental implants by allowing practitioners to offer custom-made solutions to suit individual patient needs. These restorations, however costly, will eventually be less expensive for patients and practices.

There is need for the integration of these technologies in one platform that will allow for all of the information to be stored in one place for the benefit of both the practitioner and the patient. Furthermore, for practice management, it is not only the EHRs mentioned previously, which are important, but also the integration of practice appointment scheduling and billing, to improve the efficiency of the service provided. Integration of this system will also provide the office manager with the ability to personalize the practice and disease information leaflets that
Digital Dentistry

Financial Management
The financial management of the practice is mainly composed of three aspects: patient billing, practice procurement and payroll management. Patient billing systems help both the practitioner and patient to agree on the most appropriate course of treatment. The patient has informed choices before any treatment is undertaken. The practitioner will automatically update the patient’s data, which will be reflected in the patient’s account, for rapid and clear billing.

For procurement purposes and stock controls, practitioners can take account of the materials used in each consultation online, which will be linked to the inventory. In turn, as stock records of important materials run low there is easy access to the supplier’s details for quick re-ordering and re-stocking. In this way, the practice manager can manage the resources efficiently and effectively [3].

Appointment Systems
Time management systems will streamline the process of bookings. Patients will be able to receive automated reminders of appointments, and be able to log in to the practice website and automatically request and confirm them as well as potentially book the practitioner of choice, in addition to receiving further general information about the practice and general dental information.

Booking of meetings will allow the practice manager to keep a record of attendance from patients and practitioners for auditing purposes and identify patients with a history of non-attendance. These systems will reduce waiting times and wasted appointments, and, in consequence, reduce the practice’s running costs. The practice website will not only give the patients the opportunity to book and cancel appointments.

Online Education
Traditional methods of education can be enhanced through online learning [4]. This not only provides additional tools for the established courses, but also an alternative solution for institutions with a shortage of teaching staff, or institutions that are more willing to provide distance-learning courses. Online education and learning utilizes information technologies to provide up-to-date knowledge, skills and support to both students and instructors. Students have the ability to work independently, at their own pace and in their own time. Instructors can monitor students’

A further aspect of the financial management of a practice is the payroll. Integrating the payroll system into practice accounting will bring benefits for staff and management. Staff can update their working hours, and account for patient time, training time or administrative time, so managers are aware of how their staff divide their time. Systems will monitor attendance and payments through scheduling, timesheet entry, booking of holiday both for the benefit of the staff and the practice. The outcome of this will be a quicker turnaround of payments as the processing of the hours worked (including overtime) will be quickly recorded, authorized and processed for payment.

Although the integration of a practice’s systems in the long term will bring a financial benefit, there is an initial expense for the appropriate hardware and software, costs of updating and renewing the relevant licenses, and the cost of initial training of practice staff [4]. Another difficulty is the choice of different software products, which may or may not be compatible. Thus, transferring patient information between practices can be extremely difficult. Finally, as the ideal computerised practice will hold all the information electronically, there will be a need for constant backup and security of data, involving another expense in terms of purchasing of storage devices or the subscription to a remote and secure backup service.

can either be given to the patient during the consultation, sent through the post or via email [3].
performance and upload documents, assignments. In an academic institution, online learning or blended learning (the combination of online and face-to-face teaching) is not only aimed at undergraduate and postgraduate dental education; but also, continuing professional development for dental professionals. In this context, it must be remembered that the number of practising dental professionals is vastly greater than the number of undergraduate and postgraduate students. Professionals keep up-to-date with the latest advances and techniques in dentistry and practice staff can be trained in good practice and clinical governance, all without leaving the practice, with a cost and time-effective approach.

**Technology Platforms**

Online education developers have designed learning environments to bring information together from several sources such as video, audio, web streaming, online forums, CDs and DVDs. Technology platforms provide the students with readily available information and tools for learning and allow instructors to engage with students, and monitor their progress and performance. In this way instructors are also exposed to continuing professional development.

The ability to offer students a platform in which they can learn at their own pace, download lectures from eminent professors around the world, access resources from other universities, and communicate with fellow students and professors through forums will become the future norm.

These developments are a priority for investment decisions, as not only is the funding required to set-up the infrastructure and content of Virtual Learning Environments (VLE), but also the need for inter-institutional collaboration to bring together the best information and knowledge from around the world. In this context, one of the best examples of future contributors are Fellows of the International College of Dentists (ICD) who can play an invaluable role in content provision from a wide range of expertise together with feedback on usability, applicability, and user satisfaction.

**Udente**

A noteworthy model of innovative and flexible dissemination of high quality education is the UDENTE (Universal Dental E-learning http://www.udente.org) project (formerly IVIDENT – International Virtual Dental School). UDENTE has been successfully benchmarked against the Higher Education Funding Council of England’s seven strategic priorities for the development and embedding of Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL). UDENTE has demonstrated the capacity to enhance institutional connectivity, improve teaching capacity and delivery, offer a greater choice and provide adaptation of learning materials, thus, enhancing learning.

It is worth noting that it is not only online learning which is taking advantage of technology for the betterment of education: educational software and hardware, gaming is now being developed to provide students and professionals with state-of-the-art tools to practice new psychomotor and cognitive skills. Simulation devices, 3D environment software and Haptic Technology allow students and practitioners to learn and practice techniques, which would be unavailable otherwise, or come face-to-face with conditions uncommon in their home countries.

**The Outcomes**

Advances of technology applied to Dentistry in clinical practice, practice management and education will have a largely positive effect on education delivery, treatment and disease management. These advances need to cope with
demographic changes in the world, including an ageing population in the developed world and global population growth, leading to an increasing health demand.

Future dental surgery environments will provide innovative treatments, remote examination and diagnostics, and long-term patient monitoring. Research has led to improved treatments as a result of groundbreaking methods: including gene profiling, nanotechnology, harvesting of stem cells from pulp, and salivary diagnostics. This focuses on a future based on prevention rather than treatment of oral disease.

However, the question arising from devising such a promising future in clinical practice, if a future practice is hugely automated, is how staff adapt to the use of such technologies. The benefit of improved patient care and more efficient patient management will be a direct result of these developments.

In education, flexible delivery of education and training will enhance the education of professionals, by providing accessible opportunities for high quality training on a global basis. Dental professionals and practice staff will be able to access continuing professional development, learn new techniques, and be trained in good clinical practice remotely. [4,5]

Conclusions

New technological developments have the potential to bring a future of quick, reliable and effective dental treatment, provided locally and remotely. This will be aided by the automation of dental practice management processes.

There will be enhancement of learning and training with accessible continuing professional development for practitioners and practice staff.

A significant investment in all areas is needed: individual practice’s require new hardware and software, institutional investment to provide new learning environments, and health agencies and governments’ will need to bring the Electronic Health Records a step forward into dentistry. Ultimately, patients and practitioners will benefit.

Policies and protocols of best practices will need to be devised, so that there is a recognized benchmark to be achieved at all levels of dental care and education.

References


About the Authors

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Dr. Ana Carolina Rodriguez-Arevalo, BEng, PhD is a Faculty Program Manager at the National Institute for Health Research, London and a Research Consultant at the Centre of Flexible Learning, King’s College London. She has wide-ranging technological and research experience in healthcare.
Dr. Peter Brandstätter
President, ICD European Section
Vienna, Austria

Editor: You were originally planning to go into medicine, why did you change to dentistry?

I have always had a fascination for doing high-precision work relying on the dexterity of my own hands. After many years of gathering experience in virtually all wards of a modern hospital, I felt the urge to study dentistry and returned to university and completed my dentistry degree. What I love about our profession is the opportunity to resolve a patient’s dental problems within a short period of time in my own office with my own hands.

Having already been a Deputy Regent and then Regent you have had a lot to do with the governance of our Section. Why did you want to take on the role of President?

There is a saying in Austria: “Once you have reached a certain age, you are bound to become president at some point”. There are so many different associations in this country, all with a president of their own. But let’s be serious: Naturally, it is an exceptional honour for me to assume this presidency at such an early stage of my life and to host this Congress in Vienna with the oldest medical tradition in Europe is an absolute highlight. Personally, I am deeply touched and moved, and I look forward to sharing the best practices with the distinguished experts we have in our community, who will be gathering in Vienna for an intercultural meeting of minds.

With three young children and your wife Sabine already working with you, how do you plan to balance the demands of your presidential year with the obvious requirements associated with a growing family and full-time practice?

We are organized as a team. We have a new office, and during school holidays the kids sometimes come along. Here, they get a first-hand impression of our day-to-day work with patients and see how we interact with them in an appreciative manner. As my wife works in the same profession, she gives me lots of mental, professional and emotional support. This is something I am really glad about. If it weren’t for her support, many things would not be feasible. We are both driven by the idea to cultivate progress. This is reflected, for instance, in the fact that we are currently undergoing post-graduate training in periodontology and implant therapy at the University in Dresden together. How do we look after our relationship? We make sure that we go out to the theatre together one night a month and that we keep Sundays reserved as family time. Driving the kids to school and then to our office together every morning helps strengthen our family bonds. Quality time is important to us, not quantity - we normally use this opportunity to discuss our daily routines and what is going on in the lives of the five members of our family.

What type of individual is an ideal candidate for Fellowship?

They should not only be very good dentists, but have a real passion for dentistry, and must fully endorse and live up to our College motto and objectives. They should be interested in continuing education, aspire to the highest professional standards, and treat patients as human beings.

How do you think your year as President may differ from your predecessors?

This is always hard to say, because every president wants to leave their personal mark. All my predecessors have been able to do so in an outstanding manner. Obviously, I also have this ambition. I want to act as a trailblazer: For many business enterprises, Vienna has always been a gateway to Eastern Europe. “Establishing contacts with the nearby countries of Eastern Europe has real possibilities now. Even though many efforts have already been made in this direction in recent years, and I want to do all I can to further pursue these attempts.”
Tell us a little bit about what to look forward to during the annual meeting in Vienna?

In Vienna, we will celebrate a blend of tradition and modernity. The city can look back on a long medical tradition, from Ignaz Semmelweis, who discovered the causes of puerperal fever, to Carl Koller, who introduced local anaesthesia, Sigmund Freud, the father of psychoanalysis, and Carl Landsteiner, who discovered the blood groups. In building a bridge from the past to the present day, we want to strike a harmonious chord: taking Dave Brubek’s jazz classic “Take Five” as an inspiration, we are planning five professional development priorities. The social side of the event will culminate in a visit of a typical Viennese wine tavern called Heurigen, and a gala dinner in one of Vienna’s most lovely castles.

Some have said that the annual meetings are expensive, while others suggest that without the unique social programs that accompany the scientific day our annual meetings would be just like most other dental meetings. How do you react to that conflict?

Granted, it is expensive, but as President I whole-heartedly support it. This is an exceptional meeting of the highest standard and should remain so. This was one of the founding principles of our meetings, and I think it would be unwise to throw this idea over-board in a time when there are a thousand run-of-the-mill dental meetings out there. Our success tells us that we are right. And what’s more, there is always thesis and antithesis. Take the Benedictine motto of “Pray and Work”. What people really want is to get together with others; this is all about having a social network. Our delegates come because they want to meet up with like-minded spirits to work on medical progress together, they want to meet peers to talk shop with in an easygoing atmosphere, dine together in a superb setting, and engage in a cultural dialogue. All our meetings aspire to an educational purpose beyond a purely medical exchange. What is it that strengthens global ties and connectedness these days? If, after a superb meeting in Vienna, you pick up the phone and call your colleague in Tel Aviv, because you shared the same table and had Wiener schnitzel together, we make our shared worlds a little closer and much friendlier.

A successful organization always has some weak areas. As President in what areas do you feel need to be improved and how will you go about these improvements?

One of our weak points is getting to know and integrating new members. Here, a lot of work is still required because attendance of new members at the meetings does not always meet our expectations. I will stimulate motivation, and I will also suggest that a new member should be under an obligation to actually attend a meeting within the first three years, failing which one could consider barring them.

The issue of quality versus quantity is often brought up when it comes to recruitment of new fellows, which adjective best represents your view?

For me, quality always comes first. A second focus is commitment to humanitarian projects. And if we want to attract more new members, I would suggest that the existing members contribute a priority theme for the meeting each year. I see it as my task to achieve more sustainable success in this area.

What do you most appreciate about the College from having become a FICD?

A seasoned fellow once said when being conferred a Master’s degree: “I have been to places I would never have been, I have met people I would have never met!” Let me add, I have already learnt things I would have never learnt, and I am ever so curious to learn more. My fellowship, and the awareness of being closely connected to so many colleagues, is a source of energy for me in my daily work. And, ultimately, being a fellow of such a renowned, distinguished and erudite circle of top-class people fills me with pride and inspires my work.

Establishing contacts with countries of Eastern Europe has real possibilities now... many efforts have been made in this direction in recent years, and I want to do all I can to further pursue these attempts”
WELCOME
Dear Fellows and Guests,

It is a great honour and pleasure for me to invite you all to come to Vienna to join the 56th Annual Meeting of the European Section of the International College of Dentists.

The recent Mercer Study showed Vienna as the winner in the ranking of Top Cities worldwide regarding security, infrastructure and political stability. But Vienna also offers the visitor some of the world’s most precious art collections, opera and music performances and the spirit of 2000 years of history.

The scientific programme will be held at the Bernhard Gattlieb Dental University. „Take Five“ is our motto; we will present five innovative procedures which might change our lives in dentistry in the coming years.

The main conference hotel is the Hotel Herrenhof, situated in the city close to the old university. We will have dinner and entertainment on each of the three evenings. I promise you lots of Wiener Schnitzel and Sachertorte. The accompanying persons programme will start on Friday, with a guided tour to Schönbrunn palace, lunch and a visit to the famous Albertina Museum of Arts.

The induction ceremony will be held in the old university, following the Gala Dinner in the famous and historical Palais Forstel which is in walking distance from the university.

On behalf of my Austrian Fellows I would like to invite all Fellows and Guests to come to Vienna.

Vienna waits for you!

Dr. Peter Brandstätter, President, European Section, ICD

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

“TAKE FIVE”
FIVE INNOVATIVE PROCEDURES WHICH MIGHT CHANGE OUR LIVES AS DENTISTS
FRIDAY, June 17th, 2011
Full day congress meeting taking place at the Bernhard Gattlieb Dental University

Implantology latest Developments
Prof. DDr. Georg Watzek, Vienna, Austria
Head of Oral Surgery and Dean of Vienna Dental University

Bone augmentation – new Techniques
SaniCWeal Rx® System Horizontal and Vertical Augmentation
Dr. Gerhard Iglhaut, Munich, Germany

Orthodontics beyond Tooth Alignment –
Harmonizing Aesthetics and Function
Dr. Claudia Aichinger, FIC, Vienna, Austria
Member of the Angle Society

The digital Office
CAD/CAM Techniques, Digital Impression taking
Prof. Dr. Gerwin Ametel, Graz, Austria
Head of the Prosthodontic Department, Graz Dental University

Endodontic Treatment in the Future
Alternative Procedures, Instruments and Materials in Endodontic Treatment
Dr. Holger Dennhardt, FIC, Landshut, Germany

Visit Vienna Dental Museum
One of the Largest Collections in Europe
DDr. Johannes Kirchner, FIC
SOCIAL PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2011

DAY
Pre-Congress Golf Tournament
Golfclub Schloß Schönborn

EVENING
Regents Dinner

1ST DAY - THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2011

EVENING
Welcome Dinner at the baroque
Liechtenstein Museum with
option to visit the current
exhibition

2ND DAY - FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2011

DAY
Tour for accompanying persons
Highlights: Schönbrunn Palace’s
magnificent interiors and gardens as
well as Albertina’s current exhibition

EVENING
Official Congress Evening
at the Heuriger Führgarß-Huber
located in one of Vienna’s most
famous Heurigen (Winery)
regions

3RD DAY - SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2011

DAY
Induction Ceremony
In the “Großer Festsaal”
of the University of Vienna

EVENING
Gaia Dinner at the Palais Ferstl
After the induction ceremony
at the University of Vienna,
all are invited to Palais Ferstl.
Following a cocktail reception in
the arcade, the gala dinner will
be served in the main ballroom.

OPTIONAL POST – CONGRESS TOUR SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 2011

DAY
CRUISE TO BRATISLAVA
The excursion to Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, by modern public
transfer bus begins at 08:00 a.m. At the city walk your guide will be waiting
for you upon arrival in Bratislava to take you to the extensive castle area
with its mighty four-towered castle and afterwards to the picturesque old
town. After lunch there still remains enough time for you to stroll around and
to shop.

At 14.30 p.m. you return by speedboat TWIN CITY LINER.
Experience travelling at high speed. The catamaran is fully
air-conditioned.

INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF DENTISTS

On behalf of the European Section of the International College of Dentists, I wish to thank all members
of the Local Committee for their support: Ingrid Aman, Dr. Sabine Brandstätter, Mag. Karin Candussi,
Dr. Ingrid Schuster, Mag. Marie Baubín, Dr. Werner Lill, Dr. Thomas Francon, Dr. Wolfgang Schuster.

Dr. Peter Brandstätter

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In 1991 he opened a new dental office in the heart of Munich, which developed successfully on the basis of prevention. Today there are four dentists, two technicians, and four dental hygienists in his office.

As a Board Member of the International Health Care Foundation (IHCF.com), Dr. Bockelbrink wrote the book: “My Child Stays Cavity Free”. More than 30,000 books have been sold so far.

Dr. Bockelbrink is married to Minu. They have two sons, Alexander and Maximilian. Both finished school in Wales with an IB Diploma. The family has a vacation home in Greece, where they acquired their Pointer dog Filos, who completes the family.

Dr. Bockelbrink served as Deputy Regent, and since 2004 he has been the Regent for Germany.

The Bockelbrinks will host the ICD meeting in 2012 in Munich. They have a state-of-the-art scientific meeting planned and are excited to share their culture, and the Bavarian lifestyle of their hometown.

Wolfgang and Minu Bockelbrink promise a warm welcome when the European Section meets for the 2012 Annual Meeting in their home town of Munich.

Greece, where they acquired their Pointer dog Filos, who completes the family.
Dr. Henrik Harmsen Becomes Vice President
Dr. Henrik Harmsen, Regent for Scandinavia, was elected Vice President of the European Section at the 2010 Maastricht summer meeting of the Board of Regents, succeeding Dr. Anders Ericsson.

Dr. Harmsen was inducted as an ICD Fellow in Amsterdam in 1999. He was born in Copenhagen in 1961, and graduated from the Royal Dental College of Copenhagen in 1986. Before establishing his own dental practice in Denmark, he served as a dentist and lieutenant in the armed forces and then continued on to Stavanger, Norway for an additional fourteen months.

Over the years, he has specialized in reconstructive and rehabilitative dentistry. Dr. Harmsen recently finished an Implantology Diploma from the Faculty of General Dental Practice in London—one of only four dentists from Denmark to do so and was one of the first Danish dentists to install a ConeBeam CT scanner.

For many years, Dr. Harmsen has spent his out-of-the-office time training to be a communication coach. He enjoys running, biking, classical music, and world travel. Dr. Harmsen and his partner Ove are looking forward to greeting the European Section Fellows at the 2013 Annual Meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Dr. Phillip Dowell Elected International Councillor
Professor Phillip Dowell has been elected to the role of the ICD’s International Councillor, replacing Professor Dr. Peter Kotschy, who has been a councillor representing the European Section along with Drs. Joe Lemasney and Frans Kroon for the last six years. Professor Dowell praised the work and enthusiasm of Professor Kotschy, a long-time pillar of the ICD in Europe.

Professor Dowell was inducted in York in 1995 and served as Regent for England, Scotland and Wales before becoming European President in 2006-07. He has attended International Council meetings in Las Vegas and Mexico City and served on several Council committees.

Professor Dowell is a Specialist Periodontist and has taught undergraduate and post-graduate levels in the University of Wales College of Medicine. He has supervised both masters and PhD students and was the President of the British Society of Periodontology in 2002. Professor Dowell is visiting Professor at the University of Surrey and has published extensively and has lectured both nationally and internationally.

In his spare time, Professor Dowell enjoys skiing, sailing, tennis, golf and travel and has to be pried away from his boat on summer weekends. His wife, Sheila is a Consultant Physician (Occupational and Aviation Medicine) and has always felt at home with the ICD family.

Dr. Jean-Louis Portugal Regent for France
Dr. Jean-Louis Portugal, former Vice Regent, succeeds Dr. Bertrand de Beaupuis as Regent for the District of France. Dr. Portugal thanked Dr. de Beaupuis for his outstanding service as Regent and especially for having organized a number of winter board meetings in Paris.

After his dental training at the University Paris VII Garanciere, Dr. Portugal specialized in Prosthodontics at New York University and received his Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in Prosthodontics degree in 1991 at NYU. He served as part-time faculty member, on his return to France, in the post-graduate program in Prosthodontics at the University Paris VII Garanciere for ten years. Since 1992, he maintains a private practice dedicated to prosthodontics in Paris. Dr. Portugal is married to Emmanuelle and they have three children.

Dr. Portugal, who became Fellow of the International College of Dentists in Monaco in 2004, is an Active Member of the American College of Prosthodontists and the Academy of Osseointegration. Currently, he is Corresponding Secretary of the American Dental Club of Paris and serves as President of the Syndicat des Chirurgiens Dentistes de Paris.
By September 2009, there were over 21,000 aged four to nineteen year olds, in 60 integrated schools, across Northern Ireland, 20 post-primary colleges and 40 primary schools.

Dr. Bardon writes: “ACT believed that, as long as children were educated apart, there would be little hope of healing the festering wounds in a society blighted by bitter division. What emerges is a remarkable tale of determination, tenacity, courage and dedication by ordinary men and women.” As Cecil notes, “Two of my grandchildren attend an integrated primary school and I am moved to hear how naturally they talk about their different friends. When I hear alumni from shared schools speak confidently in the cause of tolerance and proclaim that their experience has given them a lasting respect for religious and cultural diversity – I am brought to tears.”

The maxim that cream rises to the top is also true within the ICD. The person on today’s receiving end of the highest award the College can bestow is truly the “cream”.

This Fellow (who is unaware that he is about to receive this honour) graduated in 1968 from the Dental School of the University of Utrecht, was awarded a PhD in 1974 and graduated in Oral and Maxillo Facial Surgery from the University of Amsterdam in 1979.

In May 1974, he spent a year as a research fellow at the Swiss Laboratory for Experimental Surgery in Davos, Switzerland. From 1986 to 2006 he was Associate Professor in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, a role he still fulfils part-time. He was also Head of Clinical Maxillofacial Surgery at the Academic Medical Centre (AMC) and Academic Centre for Dentistry Amsterdam (ACTA), University of Amsterdam and was a part-time member of the Dutch Cancer Institute.

He has lectured and published extensively, particularly on Maxillo Facial trauma, reconstructive surgery, and on implantology in cooperation with New York University.

He is former Regent for the Benelux, Secretary General and President. Currently he is one of our International Councillors. He has a dry and keen sense of humour, the memory of an elephant and a phenomenal ‘7’ Iron! He has two lovely daughters, Elinore and Celine, and a beautiful and charming wife, Ineke. If you haven’t guessed, the recipient of the College’s most prestigious award, Master of the ICD, is none other than our outgoing President, Dr. Frans Kroon.

In his new book The Struggle for Shared Schools in Northern Ireland: The History of All Children Together renowned Irish historian Dr. Jonathan Bardon, tells the story of All Children Together (ACT), a 1970s parent-led movement in Northern Ireland.

Northern Ireland resident and Fellow Dr. Cecil Linehan, former Editor of the ICDigest was an ACT co-founder along with Mrs. Bettie Benton.

Throughout ‘the troubles’, ACT campaigned for the rights of Catholic and Protestant parents to shared schools. After receiving no response from religious or government representatives, in 1981 ACT opened Lagan College with 28 pupils: the first planned shared school for post-primary Catholic and Protestant boys and girls in Belfast.

By September 2009, there were over 21,000 aged four to nineteen year olds, in 60 integrated schools, across Northern Ireland, 20 post-primary colleges and 40 primary schools.

Dr. Bardon writes: “ACT believed that, as long as children were educated apart, there would be little hope of healing the festering wounds in a society blighted by bitter division…what emerges is a remarkable tale of determination, tenacity, courage and dedication by ordinary men and women.” As Cecil notes, “Two of my grandchildren attend an integrated primary school and I am moved to hear how naturally they talk about their different friends. When I hear alumni from shared schools speak confidently in the cause of tolerance and proclaim that their experience has given them a lasting respect for religious and cultural diversity – I am brought to tears.”
Founded by ambulance driver Liam Grant in 1997, Chernobyl Aid Ireland is a charity that delivers supplies and brings volunteers to carry out renovation and maintenance work in the Grosovo Orphanage in Belarus. The orphanage is located about 100 km from Minsk, the Belarusian capital, in one of many areas affected by the 1986 Chernobyl disaster.

In 2002, a speaker from the charity addressed the Waterford Rotary Club about the urgent need for help, including dental care, for the children of Grosovo Orphanage. Retired ICD Fellow Donal Tully was there. “I wanted to get involved and, after an initial trip, felt that a proper dental surgery was required. Waterford Rotary Club donated €7,500 to get us started, and the dental industry generously donated equipment. We now have a fully-equipped and operational surgery.”

Making a Difference

Several Irish dentists have since been inspired by Dr. Tully to journey to Grosovo, live at the orphanage for a week to ten days and offer dental care to the children and locals. The message is, “If you have a toothache, please come to us”, says Donal.

“One you go, it’s difficult to walk away. It’s the most rewarding work I’ve ever done. The dentists work flat-out every day and won’t turn anyone away”. Local anesthetic is not used routinely in Belarus, resulting in many negative experiences the Irish dentists work hard to dispel.

“We recently saw a boy who seemed very shy and unwilling to speak. He had broken his front teeth and was very self-conscious. After repair, he wouldn’t stop smiling and chatting, showing everyone his new teeth.”

Social Fallout

Grosovo’s children do not suffer from the severe congenital abnormalities we have often seen in media coverage of Chernobyl. The biggest problem they face is the “social fallout” of the disaster; thousands of families were displaced from rural areas and sent to live in urban apartment blocks in difficult living conditions. There are many ‘social orphans’, children whose parents cannot care for them.

One volunteer explains that the children enjoy working with Irish volunteers, and this ‘helping out’ has an important function; to give the kids future skills. He refers to the research indicating that 65% of the local children fall into the same poverty traps as their parents. Prostitution, teenage pregnancy, unemployment, limited education and alcoholism are common.

The project is now turning its attention to offering the children education and skills. Donal is currently assisting a female resident at the orphanage in pursuing a dental career. With 100 orphanages, there’s a long way to go....

Information for this article was in part extrapolated from an original article which appeared in and for which permission has been received from The Journal of the Irish Dental Association.
In 2004, as the end of my dentistry studies in Portugal approached and I was about to start my professional life, many questions popped into my mind:

I was 23 and I wondered if I was old enough to be a good doctor. Would I find a position and would I be successful if I found one? As a professional, would I help others? Could I demonstrate that access to oral health was the right of all peoples, independent of social class?

From Cape Verde to Smiling World

After graduation I traveled to Cape Verde where I had a volunteer experience that changed my life, and my way of thinking and feeling about my profession. In Cape Verde I worked in a hospital on Fogo Island where 37,000 people lived without a dentist.

It was there I realized that humankind has the individual capacity to change the world and that our short lives, can help build a better future for others. This experience made me increasingly uneasy; I knew I had to do something.

In 2005, with the help of a group of Portuguese dentists, I initiated an NGO called Mundo a Sorrir “Smiling World”—the Association of Portuguese Solidarity Dentists (MAS). MAS is an NGO that operates in the dental health field and recently became the first dental NGO ever created in Portugal. Although we initially operated without a formal mission statement, the foundations for future developments must be based on the following principles:

The personnel, employees and volunteers who join our project must be completely committed to our cause. Our participants must believe that their help can make a difference, not only by offering different help, but improved help.

The organization’s mission is to carry out useful projects and practices that have direct population applications, and are designed for the long-term and with local community involvement.
Our overall goal is to promote oral health as a universal right that should be accessible to all, regardless of economic, cultural and social circumstances.

Projects in Africa and Portugal

In the first two years we started international dental projects in Africa, specifically in Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde, both former Portuguese colonies and Portuguese-speaking countries. These projects consist of medical training, prevention and altering the population's habits, development aid to health facilities, and providing dental care to the population. The philosophy of action takes the medium to long-term view because only an extended amount of time can ensure genuine behavioral changes and effective aid.

At the end of two years, we launched projects in Portugal. These had different objectives for different needs, but the values and action principles remained the same. We act in order to raise awareness and to make people struggle and strive for the support we offer. The project “Oral Health on Wheels” targeted children and draws attention to the importance of Oral Health Care at schools.

The project “Pampering & Smiling” aimed at youngsters demonstrates the importance of a healthy diet in oral health care.

Oral Health Dental Clinic

In 2009, we started the largest project created by our NGO, the “Oral Health Dental Clinic” which demonstrates that oral health care is essential as an agent against social exclusion, and can be a useful tool to reintegrate isolated individuals.

Through oral health projects we believe that people can have higher self-esteem and improved self-image, increasing their ability to relate to others. At the end of the first year, the Oral Health Dental Clinic project provided 2,000 dental treatments to target communities, including poor children, HIV patients, the young, pregnant and unemployed.

In five years, 450 dentists have joined our cause providing services to 12,000 low-income children and adults. Participating volunteers are expected to work about six hours a day; treat as many patients as the hospital provides, and, of course, perform the best treatment possible with responsibility and common sense, during a minimum period stay of fifteen days.

During those years I learned that even when we think we cannot achieve something, we must use our imagination and creativity and we must believe in our capacity to do better for others, working together for the common benefit. Perhaps, we were lucky to have had that special moment when we realized we have the individual capacity to change the world. But the question stands: will we be able to instill this special moment in others?

In five years the Portuguese NGO Smiling World was able to provide a shining example of making a difference; we demonstrated that together we can involve more people in our cause, and hopefully we can create more projects and offer a different smile to the world.
Our interactions with the dental community in this part of Eastern Europe have continued to be rewarding for me personally and for the citizens and professionals.

The work continues with the orphaned and abandoned street children and is overseen by the Chief Pediatric Dental Officer of the Odessa Oblast, Professor Oksana Denga. The work is provided by dentists of the Academy of Medical Sciences, Institute of Dental Research (AMSO). Orthodontic specialty care—completely sponsored by AMSO’s Orthodontic Department—continues for the children in Orphanage #4 as well, as for recently graduated orphans.

The Philip Dear Foundation once again assisted in the Ukraine by providing for the transportation expenses of the main speaker at the annual spring conference in Odessa, Professor Emeritus William Davidson of the University of Maryland, USA. This year the conference was attended by dentists from all over Ukraine, including Belarus, Russia, Moldova, Romania, Hungary, Syria, Egypt and Iran.

Dental Meetings Transformation

We have changed the way meetings take place in Eastern Europe; one of the ICD’s greatest achievements here. Five years ago I was shocked to see thirty-five speakers scheduled to lecture on the first day. In my opinion, these meetings were not aimed at teaching or idea sharing, they were platforms for doctors to speak about their work at lightening speed. Since the involvement of the ICD, European Section, the dental meetings have been drastically transformed in two specific areas:

The congress now has a specific focus featuring a recognized speaker on a particular subject who teaches for one to three days and may provide additional master classes. Visitors know they will be leaving with new knowledge, ideas and, perhaps, different perspectives. They also recognize that this congress offers some of the world’s best presenters.

Through the generosity of the Philip Dear Foundation, we provide for the main speaker’s transportation costs, and my wife and I provide for their meals and housing. Last year the Academy of Medical Sciences, Institute of Dental Research actively found additional sponsors to help defray the new costs such as, the additional sponsor, Lacalut, who covered the transportation costs of Kathleen D’Ambris RDH,

Hygiene master class with Dr. Kathleen D’Ambris

MS PhD. From January 13 for three days, Dr. D’Ambrisi helped to establish the ground work involved in educating administrators, academicians and dentists, both in the need for and functions of a dental hygienist.

Next Goals

Even though the Dental School in Odessa was the first in the former Soviet Union, Ukraine still lacks a school of dental hygiene. It is my goal, together with the leadership of the Institute of Dental Research in Odessa, to establish such a school.

There is a great need for dental supplies for the orphans and indigent in this part of the world, as well as available textbooks in Russian or Ukrainian on dental hygiene.

The ICD has expanded the educational base in Eastern Europe with our fellow professionals, but there remains a great deal of work.
The Flexible Learning Advisory Group (FLAG) was the inspiration of its first Chair Dr. Cecil Linehan, whose enthusiasm and drive continues to motivate the program even as she steps down in favour of Professor Phillip Dowell.

The 2010 Maastricht meeting challenged us regarding continuing education (CE) and humanitarian aid. Although humanitarian and CE projects can be separated, it is equally conceivable to consider CE as part of humanitarian aid.

Udente can be delivered via the internet in areas where the infrastructure permits, where there is a local resource network, and dental educators with distance learning expertise. Dr. Paul Becker requested linking Odessa’s Institute of Stomatology and the ICD in terms of distance learning and Udente. Today, clear knowledge and insight into the educational set-up is vital (e.g., student number and training level) for tailoring our aid to suit their needs.

Other suggested projects include the established link between Italy and Ethiopia with Professor Corrado Paganelli and Professor Peter Owen’s request for the ICD to act as an ambassador for improving standards within some of the African Dental Schools.

Which project should the ICD support, what form should that support take and how can the ICD support the learning objectives vital to the success of Udente? All of these questions were asked. Professor Pat Reynolds at Kings College, London is developing a short support course entitled, ‘How Do You Do E-learning?’ which could, with appropriate funding, be delivered to ICD Fellows, encouraging and enabling them to contribute to CE resources or other targeted topic areas.

Promoting Distance Learning

Alternative learning methods are achievable by sending learning objects via CD-ROMs, as was done in Nepal.

Humanitarian Projects

Professor W. Van Palenstein Helderman agreed to act as an advisor to the ICD on humanitarian projects. It may be necessary, for the ICD to join forces with dental non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as Dentaid. The real need is for programs that are primarily preventative and, if treatment-based, should comprise basics, such as dealing with major oral disease or extractions, if unavoidable and if restorative should be limited to modern minimalist intervention, as published by the World Health organizations (WHO) basic oral care package.

Enthusiasm for humanitarian project involvement should be applauded but ‘volunteer tourism’ does not necessarily serve a needy population more than temporarily.

In terms of the wider umbrella of humanitarian aid, these projects must be simple, sustainable, cost effective, and population-based with defined objectives and a local dependable project co-ordinator. The FLAG Committee has some big decisions to make and will ultimately need the help and resources of every ICD Fellow.
The International College of Dentistry has a great resource in its membership. The College attracts members from a worldwide cohort of experienced practitioners, whose knowledge and experience provide high standards of training to assist colleagues throughout the dental community.

The Problem of Access
Discussion among colleagues who have worked in developing countries revealed a genuine need to address the problem of access to healthcare learning materials. The textbooks available to students are frequently outdated; there is limited choice and few copies. Assessment of students and even experienced personnel, showed a lack of knowledge of current protocols.

Universities and colleges throughout the Western World have developed “blended” or “flexible” learning programs using online resources, web-based initiatives and a combination of face-to-face and self-directed teaching methods. These instructional techniques do not replace traditional concepts, but expand access to learning materials in a format that is familiar to most students using computer-based documents, which can be studied electronically or downloaded. They can be provided for the regions that lack sufficient resources and the whole ethos of sharing knowledge sits well with the principles of ICD.

CD’S and Laptops: Working with the Nepal Trust
Richard Vaughan, a Dental Practitioner from England has worked with the Nepal Trust, visiting remote primary care clinics in Nepal, where health workers provide healthcare across disciplines following the established principles of remote and rural areas in developing countries. This often means that their knowledge of oral healthcare is basic, and resources are limited.

Richard’s proposal was to allow health workers access to learning materials through the provision of solar-powered laptop computers. The European Section’s Flexible Learning Advisory Group (FLAG) then began to look at ways of providing supporting online learning materials. With the assistance of Keith Buckler from the IVIDENT team, learning materials have been prepared in a format which can be transcribed onto CD and given to teachers in remote areas. Currently, modules in basic anatomy, oral health education, hand washing and microbiology have been prepared, as well as assessments for each subject.

The laptop computers have been sent to Nepal, and will be managed by the Nepal Trust. Healthcare workers who live and work in very remote villages will be encouraged to access the learning materials when they visit the Trust’s hub offices. Assessments of the learning modules will also be available for project monitoring and reviewing. These assessments are intended to be completed electronically, and results can be confirmed within the program and remotely. The results of this initiative should be available at the meeting of the European Section in 2011, and it is hoped that the program will expand to colleagues in other areas.

Children living in remote areas of Nepal will be targeted by healthcare workers equipped with skills acquired from the instructional program established by European Section Fellows and the Nepal Trust.
Districts

News, Events and Reports from the Districts of the ICD European Section

District 1 Austria

The Austrian Fellows District Meeting was held over dinner in a traditional Viennese restaurant. The evening included spouses, in a relaxed, social atmosphere.

Dr. Peter Solar spoke about the latest developments in implant therapy and bone reconstruction. He also invited the Fellows to join his lectures during the year regarding surgical techniques and suturing using loupes and microscopes.

Immediate Past President Frans Kroon summarized the 55th Anniversary Congress held in Maastricht last June. He reported positive feedback from the Fellows abroad and mentioned that the theme-like approach of the Scientific Program and the Open Forum discussion were well appreciated.

Newly inducted Fellow Frans de Beer presented cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) in planning implantology in the edentulous maxilla and mandible. Together with Hans de Vries, dentist-implantologist and Ward Schoon, dental technician they set up the company Implasure, an advisory that helps dentists with implementing implantology in their own dental practices.

During the meeting two potential inductees were introduced for the forthcoming 56th 2011 Anniversary in Vienna. After the meeting, Regent Walter van Driel invited everyone to a nice dinner in the Society Building.

District 2 Benelux

Twenty Fellows visited the Vincentre in Nuenen, an institution devoted to the life and work of Vincent van Gogh, the famous Dutch post impressionist painter before the Benelux District regional meeting held at the Academic Society of Eindhoven.

Immediate Past President Frans Kroon summarized the 55th Anniversary Congress held in Maastricht last June. He reported positive feedback from the Fellows abroad and mentioned that the theme-like approach of the Scientific Program and the Open Forum discussion were well appreciated.

Newly inducted Fellow Frans de Beer presented cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) in planning implantology in the edentulous maxilla and mandible. Together with Hans de Vries, dentist-implantologist and Ward Schoon, dental technician they set up the company Implasure, an advisory that helps dentists with implementing implantology in their own dental practices.

During the meeting two potential inductees were introduced for the forthcoming 56th 2011 Anniversary in Vienna. After the meeting, Regent Walter van Driel invited everyone to a nice dinner in the Society Building.

District 3 Scandinavia

Last spring Scandinavia District had its first ever regional meeting with twenty-three Fellows and spouses in attendance. We enjoyed a very interesting lecture on physiology and function by Dr. Per Stylvig. Before dinner we had a meeting in Copenhagen that started off with a visit to the Danish Dental Association housed in a beautifully restored 17th century nobleman’s house located next to the Queen’s palace.

The next day was the course day. At the meeting it was agreed that next year’s meeting will be May 13-14 in Bergen 2011. The date is close to our Annual meeting of the Section, but May in Bergen is very appealing, and we are confident that our Norwegian Fellows will be present for both venues.

Dr. Henrik Harmsen, FICD since 1999 Amsterdam, was elected Vice President of the European Section and will preside as President over the 2013 Annual Meeting to be held in Copenhagen June 16-18.
District 4 UK

Our Regent Shelagh Farrell organized a very enjoyable dinner at the Royal Thames Yacht Club in London this past November. Unfortunately, there were a few last minute cancellations due to illness, but a very respectable thirty-four Fellows attended, including: past Regents Bruce Mayhew, Phil Dowell, Past World President, Master David Glynn and Master Dame Margaret Seward.

District 5 France

The newly appointed Regent for France, Dr. Jean-Louis Portugal, is pleased to take over the District with the help of Past Regent, Dr. Bertrand de Beaupuis who recently lectured at a seminar organized by the Syndicat des Chirurgiens Dentistes de Paris.

After meeting in Maastricht, some of the French Fellows had the pleasure of meeting each other on different occasions, including the American Dental Club of Paris meetings. These opportunities show the bond between all ICD Fellows. As President of the Syndicat des Chirurgiens Dentites de Paris, Dr. Jean-Louis Portugal lectured about regulations in our practice regarding employees.

District 6 Germany

Regent and Section Vice President Dr. Wolfgang Bockelbrink explained that due to logistical reasons there was no District meeting last year, but the meeting of German Fellows will be held in the spring 2011. During that time Dr. Bockelbrink will also be discussing future plans for the 2013 Annual Meeting in Munich

Dr. Wolfgang Heubisch has been a member of the Bavarian Parliament and the Bavarian State Minister of Sciences, Research and the Arts since 2008. The father of three children, he has been a member of the Liberal Party of Germany (Free Democratic Party, FDP) for 22 years, focusing his political work on economy, education, and health care.

Fellows Karin and Werner Habersack opened a new office in Weilheim, Bavaria. Karin, an orthodontist is also a part-time lecturer at Munich University. Werner is President of the European Union of Dentists (Council de Medicine in Strassbourg) and recently completed the master course in Medicine, Ethics and Law at the Martin-Luther-University in Halle – Wittenberg near Leipzig.

District 7 Greece and Cyprus

The District meeting was held in the restored building, “Kostis Palamas,” which houses the faculty club of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. Thirty-six Fellows with their spouses enjoyed a beautiful evening of fellowship and friendship. After welcoming cocktails, a short address by the Regent Dr. Argirios Pissiotis, who congratulated the evening’s Honored Guest, the Life Member, Dr. Mina Papasotiriou, the first Greek dentist inducted as an ICD Fellow, and one of the first women Fellows of the ICD-European Section. He then introduced the Fellows inducted in June, updated us about the College’s recent activities and noted the upcoming Vienna Meeting.

Fellow Professor Ioannis Vrotsos spoke on “The Need for Communication between European and American Dentists and the Founding of the International College of Dentists in the Early 20th Century”. Dr. Mina Papasotiriou shared her personal experience in the ICD in a passionate slide presentation that explored the history of the Greek and Cypriot region. Everyone in the room was overwhelmed by her story-telling, applauding her generously; the older Fellows and Life Members remembering and the recent ones learning. The evening’s entertainment included a delicious four-course dinner leaving everyone present with the aftertaste of a warm and exciting evening with their ICD Fellows.
District 8 Ireland

We had a well-attended Christmas Meeting and Dinner in the Royal Marine Hotel in Dun Laoghaire.

Regent, Dr. Tom Feeney, thanked everyone for their great support. He reminded them of the very successful Annual Meeting in Maastricht in June and many tributes were paid to Past President Frans Kroon and his wife Ineke for the massive effort they made in organising a truly marvellous event. The scientific content was excellent and details of the Dental Aid Programmes, as outlined by Dr. van Palenstein Helderman, were particularly interesting. The highlight without doubt was the Gala Dinner in the Cavernes de Geulhem where all present had a wonderful evening and even Frans himself took a turn on stage to entertain the Fellows and guests!

Dr. Feeney also welcomed new Fellows Conor McAlister, David McCaughey and Owen Thompson. Advance notice and details were given of the Vienna meeting. Vienna is a wonderful venue and together with its history, architecture, music, and a very strong scientific programme it is likely to bring a very good attendance from Ireland.

Finally, Dr. Feeney thanked Dr. Joe Lemasney for the great work he continues to do in the international arena, and also Dr. Cecil Linehan for the great effort she has put into the FLAG project.

District 9 Israel, Baltic States, Malta

District Nine continues with its successfull Award Programs. The Student Award recognizes students who have demonstrated superior academic achievements, and significantly contributed to their community and fellow man. The ICD-IADR Outstanding Student Scientist Award is supported by the Phillip Dear Foundation. Fellows who serve on award committees in Israel include Dr. Dov Sydney Regent and Chairman of the Awards Programs, Dr. Avi Zinni, Dr. Ephraim Winocur and Dr. Doron Aframian. In Latvia, Vice Regent Dr. Egita Senekola heads the selection committee for the Baltic Countries’ competition.

Recent activities of our Fellows include: Dr. Dov Sydney who was appointed to Chair the College’s delegation of the ICD-AADE (American Association of Dental Editors) Liaison Committee which is working with both organizations to enhance dental journalism worldwide.

District 10 Italy

The Annual Meeting of the Italian Section of the ICD took place this year in Villa Pomela, located in Northern Italy’s Novi Ligure. Organized by Regent Corrado Paganelli, and Vice Regent Mauro Labanca, this meeting offered a compelling mix of topics and lectures.

The annual meeting is also the time for introducing future inductees: in this way the candidates understand what the College is about and become familiar with current Fellows. After a speech by the Past European President Prof. Giorgio Blasi, Prof. Paganelli reported on the Maastricht meeting.

The speakers included Massimo De Sanctis on periodontics; Alessandro Motroni, imaging systems; Giuseppe Cozzani, TMJ; Maria Grazia Piancino masticatory cycles and neuromuscular control; Raffaele Vinci atrophic jaws and their rehabilitation and Luigi Rodella on oral-facial pain.
At the end of a full and exciting day we had a gala dinner in the perfect College atmosphere with dinner jackets and plenty of style. The feedback has been great, with many compliments from everyone. Most importantly, all participants expressed the desire to attend the next Congress gathering, which means we succeeded in reaching our goal.

**District 11 Portugal**

ICD’s Portuguese District had a very well-attended dinner and presented fellowship candidates already accepted by the Board of Regents to the Fellows. The new candidates were warmly welcomed. It was wonderful to enjoy the company of Professor J. Campos Neves, who took the opportunity to tell the future Fellows how important the ICD was to his professional life, as well as how much this recently appointed Life Membership meant to him and his family.

Regent Dr. Gil Alcoforado stressed the importance that an appointment to the ICD must have for the new candidates. They are expected to follow a code of conduct in order to represent the College with dignity and honor. After a speech by our Past President, Professor António Vasconcelos Tavares, where he reminisced about his time as ICD President, the meeting was adjourned.

**District 12 Spain**

Regent Juan Salsench would like to organize his first District meeting during 2011 and hopes that he will have the support of the Spanish Fellows for this new endeavor.

**District 13 Switzerland**

Regent Dr. Christian Robin was very pleased to be elected to lead our District and appreciated the support during the transition from past Regent, Dr. Philippe Hediger, who represented the Swiss Fellows for the last five years.

During the very successful and well-attended meeting in Maastricht, we had the pleasure of presenting our new inductee, Dr. Catherine Strahm, from Lausanne, a specialist in orthodontics. Catherine is regarded by everyone as a very competent and warm person, and she will be undoubtedly a valuable College Fellow. We hope to organize our local meeting this coming spring and to present three new inductees in Vienna.

**District 14 Eastern and Central Europe**

Spanning seven countries, Central and Eastern Europe cannot gather all members like other Districts. Our members and Regents are active in other ways organizing local meetings and inviting ICD members participation and presence. Four such meetings were planned for 2010.

A week after the magnificent ICD meeting in Maastricht new members from Serbia, the Dean of the Dental School Prof. Agoslav Stamenkovic, his staff and other Serbian ICD members organized an international meeting in Belgrade celebrating sixty-two years of the Belgrade Dental School. Among various foreign guests was the Regent Dr. Ljubo Marion, who presented aesthetic veneers in unusual indications.

In September our new ICD member Dr. Agnieszka Pacyk from Lodz, Poland presented in Ljubljana her experiences with a new fluid composite for fillings.

In November there were two meetings involving our members. Ljubljana Dental School’s annual three day meeting in Rogaska Slatina Spa, covered dental topics presented by various department staff. The main lecture was fixed prosthodontics, where Dr. Maciej Zarow, ICD member from Krakow, Poland was invited to present.

Another ICD member among the lecturers was Dr. Ljubo Marion. Simultaneously there was a meeting in Budapest, Hungary organized by Vice Regent Dr. Paul Gerloczy on the topic of Dental Excellence. ICD members participating, include Dr. Agnieszka Pacyk and Professor Katalin Nagy from Szeget.
Another year full of ICD activities has come to an end for the European Section and certainly there is much to celebrate.

- The new ICD at large Central Office, in Rockville, Maryland, USA, is now fully functioning with a new Secretary General and Central Office Administrator.

- Traditionally, the major part of the yearly activities concerns the organization of the Annual Meeting. This year’s 55th Annual Meeting, organized by District 2, was held in Maastricht, The Netherlands, under the Presidency of Dr. Frans H. M. Kroon. A review and photographic highlights of the outstanding meeting can be found on pages 6-13 of this issue of the Journal.

- The Board of Regents met twice this year. In addition to administrative duties, the Board focused on finances, recruitment of new inductees, updated Fellows’ contact information, and took steps to amend the Constitution and Bylaws of the Section, incorporating the changes that took place during the last few years. Most Districts had local Fellows’ gatherings, continuing the effort to keep on the agenda their interests in the goals and College mission.

- Our publications: the ICDigest, the ICD Eurogram and the Section V Information Brochure were distributed and received with overwhelming enthusiasm. Specially the ICDigest, to quote members of the Board of Regents, “developed into a journal, a unique piece of art, with comprehensive material that extends from social to scientific and other aspects of our discipline; it is a unique publication in our field”. These comments were followed by congratulations to our Editor Dr. Sheldon Dov Sydney.

- Expanding the College to countries of the former Soviet Union, a high priority of the Board of Regents, is spearheaded by the Committee for Central and Eastern Europe, chaired by Dr. Wolfgang Bockelbrink and District 14 Regent Dr. Ljubo Marion, who this year introduced five new Fellows from the Republic of Serbia, two from Poland, and one from Croatia.

- The Philip Dear Foundation continued its projects: “Program for Dental Skills for Medical Primary Health Workers” and “Expanding Potentials Providing Access” despite some difficulties. The three-year Odessa Project report (The Mutual agreement with the Academy of Medical Sciences, Institute of Dental Research, Odessa, Ukraine) was received. In his report, Dr. Paul Becker states, “The work of the ICD in Eastern Europe has only just begun. There continues to be a great need for dental supplies in order to provide dental care for the orphans and indigent as well as for textbooks in dental hygiene, as none are available in Russian or Ukrainian.”

- The Flexible Learning Advisory Group (FLAG), chaired by Dr. Phillip Dowell advises that maybe taking advantage of existing E-Learning projects such as UDENTE (formerly known as IVIDENT) could provide the means for more pragmatic and sustainable solutions in educational projects by emphasizing simple measures that can have profound effects on populations in need.

- The International Council of the ICD met this year in Orlando, Florida, USA. Our Section’s Councillors Drs. Joseph Lemasney, Frans Kroon and Phillip Dowell (who took over for Dr. Peter Kotschy), attended and participated in the general Council sessions, as well as served as members of several Council Committees.

- Last but not least, congratulations go out to new leaders on the Board of Regents of the European Section: The election of Dr. Henrik Riisager Harmsen, Regent of District 3, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland (Scandinavia) as Vice President and Dr. Jean Louis Portugal as Regent of District 5 France, succeeding Dr. Bertrand de Beaupuis. We wish them well in their service to our Section.
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FUTURE ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE EUROPEAN SECTION
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF DENTISTS

2011
Vienna, Austria · June 15-18

2012
Munich, Germany · June 20-23

2013
Copenhagen, Denmark · June 19-23

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2011