

Future Annual Meetings of the European Section International College of Dentists



2024 Limassol
Cyprus, 21st – 22nd June 2024



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2025 Salzburg
Austria, 20th – 22nd June 2025



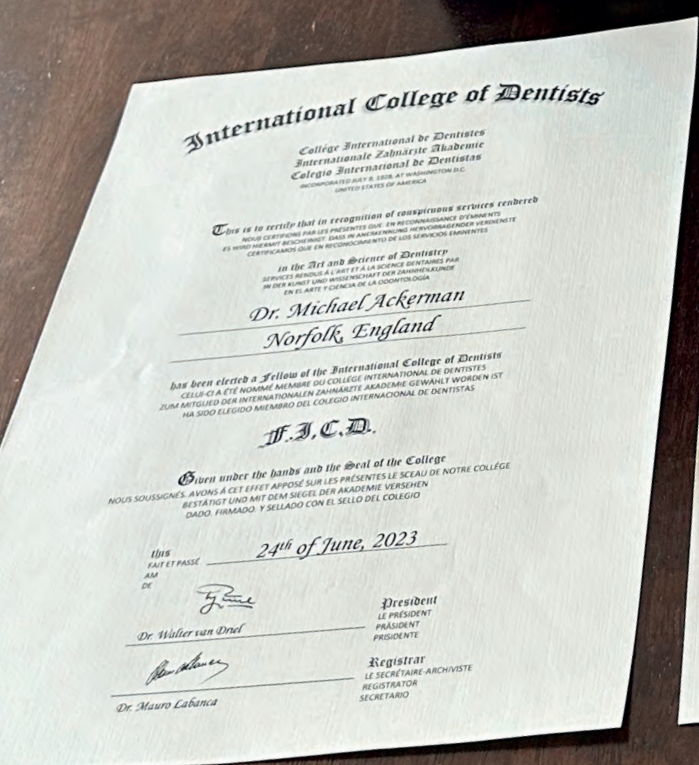
2026 Milan
Italy, dates to be confirmed



See www.icd-europe.com for further information on the Annual Meetings of the Section.

ICD Digest

Journal of the European section
International College of Dentists



New ICD Section Georgia



Fellowship, Science,
Humanitarianism and
Recognising Service

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Mission

The International College of Dentists is the preeminent global dental honor society recognising outstanding professional achievement and meritorious service while advocating for humanitarian and educational initiatives.

Motto

Recognising service as well as the opportunity to serve.

Core Values

Leadership: Uphold the highest standard of professional competence and personal ethics.

Recognition: Recognise distinguished service to the profession and the public worldwide.

Humanitarianism: Foster measures for the prevention and treatment of oral disease by encouraging and supporting humanitarian projects.

Education: Contribute to the advancement of the profession of dentistry by fostering the growth and diffusion of dental knowledge worldwide.

International Professional Relations
 Provide a universal forum for the cultivation of cordial relations within the profession and to assist in preserving the highest perception of the profession worldwide.

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www.icd-europe.com

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Notice to contributors

The ICDigest invites submissions of articles, meeting reports, projects as well as brief letters to the Editor. Please send all submissions in Microsoft Word or text file to: michael.thomas@kcl.ac.uk

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* See www.icd-europe.com for an online copy.



Welcome to ICDigest 2024!

This edition of ICDigest reflects on the 66th annual meeting in Amsterdam, activities within the section since then, and looks forward to the 67th annual meeting in Limassol. The section has now expanded with District 16, Georgia, having been established with Marina Marmaladze as Regent. Marina has written an article to explain her journey to her appointment as Regent and therein demonstrates the core values of the College: leadership, recognition, humanitarianism, education and professional relationships.



This edition of ICDigest has again been produced as an e-journal and contains a variety of articles that I trust Regents and Fellows find interesting and informative. I am particularly grateful for those Fellows inducted in Amsterdam who contributed their thoughts and reflections on the meeting and induction ceremony. I aim

to canvas similar contributions from the new Fellows scheduled to be inducted in Limassol this year. As ever, I welcome any submissions from Regents and Fellows regarding their activities, be this research, charitable projects, or on a subject not directly related to dentistry; all contributions of interest to the readership will be considered!

In looking forward to the 67th annual meeting in Limassol, congratulations and thanks are due to the President, Dov Sydney, and the organising committee who were faced with finding a new venue and structuring the meeting at very short notice following the events in Israel and Gaza of 7th October 2023. We therefore now have two major conflicts taking place within our section as the war between Ukraine and Russia continues at the same time as the conflict in Gaza deepens daily. In difficult times like these, it is impossible to avoid feeling heartbroken over the devastation, displacement and loss of life caused by war and destruction.

The International College of Dentists is a non-political and non-religious organisation and Section V, Europe, with 40 countries and representatives of approximately 440,000 practising dentists, consists of many different languages, ethnicities, religions, and political systems. This diversity

however is brought together in the fellowship shared between the 16 Districts in a united profession, with the shared core values of leadership, recognition, humanitarianism, education and professional relationships. These core values of the International College of Dentists are needed more and more in demonstrating that the underlying causes of conflict such as poverty, discrimination, ethnic

***“If something is not impossible,
then there must be a way
to do it”***

tension, lack of access to education and unequal use of resources need not result in conflict and warfare. By continuing to focus on and fulfil these values, in fellowship with each other, the International College of Dentists demonstrates that we all have a role to play in a common purpose to be a spark that helps light a path out of these dark days. “If something is not impossible, then there must be a way to do it” are the words of Sir Nicholas “Nicky” Winton who rescued hundreds of children from the horrors of Nazism during World War Two, recently dramatized in the film “One Life”. These words have resonated with me in preparing this editorial and in reflecting on the challenging times that are at present.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Limassol in June.

Michael Thomas – FICD
Editor, European Section

Reflections from Amsterdam

The 66th Annual Meeting of the European Section of the International College of Dentists took place in Amsterdam from Thursday 22nd June to Saturday 24th June 2023. President, Walter van Driel, was pleased to welcome officers and regents, along with 43 new and many existing Fellows, along with International President Ho-Youl Chang. The meeting marked thirteen years since the Dutch District had last hosted a meeting in June 2010 in Maastricht.



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1. Prior to the arrival of many of the Fellows, President Walter had booked a dinner on Wednesday 21st June at the library room of the Industrieele Groote Club at Amsterdam's famous Dam Square, opposite the palace. 45 Regents and Fellows met in a convivial atmosphere as a prelude to the main part of the meeting, and several of those attending were thrilled to be taken on a guided walking tour of Amsterdam by Walter before returning to the conference hotel, Hilton Amsterdam.

2. The hotel is famous for John Lennon and Yoko Ono's 1969 "bed-in for peace" and was an ideal base for exploring the city on the bank of the city's canal network. Registration took place on Thursday with a drinks reception taking place in the hotel where existing friends were reunited with each other and new friendships were made.

3. The scientific programme took place on Friday and covered facial trauma, from the single tooth to complex maxillo-facial injuries. The presentations were very impressive and demonstrated how a dedicated trauma team of experts in their field could produce predictable and reliable outcomes to trauma.

4. The partners programme included a visit to an outdoor exhibition of sculpture and a very relaxed cruise with lunch.

5. That evening everyone boarded boats from the Hilton Hotel to Strand Zuid for a BBQ beach party with great food, live music and dancing.







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6. Saturday started with optional tours to the Van Gogh Museum or a guided bicycle tour, both of which were very popular and oversubscribed. These events provide a wonderful opportunity to see some of the host venue and are always a popular part of the programme.

7. The highlight of the annual meeting is always the induction ceremony. This took place on the afternoon of Saturday 24th June in the ballroom of the Hilton hotel, Amsterdam. The formality and dignity of the ceremony provided the opportunity of the new Fellows to be introduced to their colleagues, families and friends and was a memorable and moving event as the Walter van Driel passed over the Presidency of the Section to Dov Sydney.

8. A champagne reception followed by the Gala Dinner brought the meeting to a close and completed a great weekend which all the delegates and their friends and families thoroughly enjoyed. ■



Personal Reflections from Amsterdam

As a new feature in ICDigest, the Fellows who were inducted into the International College of Dentists in Amsterdam were asked for their thoughts and reflections on the occasion. It was very good therefore to receive the following comments from Yann Maidment, Dritan Turhani, Fabio Carboncini and Guido Lorenzini.



Yann Maidment

District 4. England, Scotland and Wales

“First Impressions” – words that might revive some memories of anxiously presenting alginate impressions to a clinic supervisor (with a shaking hand and elevated pulse rate) for assessment and sign-off? Over several years, I had acquired an awareness of a number of international dental organisations,

but I had adopted a Groucho Marx disposition towards them – “Why would I want to be a member of a club that would have me as a member?”.

What made the ICD different was knowing colleagues who were already Fellows and spoke of the great fellowship and community enjoyed by them. So, as with so much in life, it was the personal touch – the feeling of being a “kindred spirit” that attracted me to the ICD.

On arriving in Amsterdam and meeting with other inductees and Existing Fellows (the first ones in the hotel lift!) I felt immediately at home and amongst colleagues who shared many attitudes, approaches, and professional ethics. Something that we did not share was a common age – some were older, some were younger, and some were about the same age – but age did not matter. It was more the joie de vie exuded by everyone that was almost infectious.

President Walter van Driel made everyone feel welcome and at ease from before we even arrived. Registrar Mauro Labanca kept all the inductees aware of what to do with great skill and good humour. As ever at international meetings for native English speakers, it was humbling to be able to converse with dentists from such a great variety of linguistic origins – most of whom clearly demonstrated more sophisticated use of the language than many native speakers! Some of the attendees had many other professional accolades, while others had many years in the same practice – a veritable accolade from patients and all had high regard from their peers.



Inductees and Fellows from District 4.

I envisage being able to contribute to the life and work of ICD by attending future Congresses, welcoming new Fellows, and continuing the atmosphere already described. My professional contacts will allow me to promote the ICD to colleagues in the UK & France. Encouraging dental research and furthering my interest in Dental History may also assist the work of the ICD.



Dritan Turhani

District 1. Austria

Filled with eager anticipation, excitement, and a profound sense of respect, I awaited my formal inclusion into the prestigious International College of Dentists as a Fellow of District 1, Austria, a nomination kindly extended by Werner Lil, Regent District 1.

As one of the two Austrian representatives, it was a great privilege for me to represent the Danube Private University (DPU, Krems an der Donau) on an international stage.

I was greatly looking forward to becoming acquainted with the community for this occasion and finally meeting in person with colleagues whom I had previously known only through their work in academic journals or publications. Furthermore, I was also delighted to reconnect with familiar faces, including former students and alumni of the DPU, namely Elisabeth Lill and Matthias Mayr.

The event in Amsterdam was nothing short of splendid. Set against a stunning backdrop and infused with a warm and welcoming atmosphere, it was a flawlessly organised affair. The Dutch hospitality, in its finest form, added to the overall charm, making it a truly wonderful occasion. The ceremony followed the traditional rituals of the ICD society, and it was an occasion filled with beaming, proud faces, both among colleagues and the families and friends who had travelled to be there.

I had the honour of experiencing this esteemed event alongside my wife, Anna and daughter Flora, who is due to commence her dental studies at the DPU next winter. I extend a warm welcome to all my colleagues and look forward to reuniting with you and to a successful and exciting time in the ICD.



Fabio Carboncini

ICD Fellows and look forward to seeing you all again next year.

District 10. Italy

Besides being a great honour, having the chance to be inducted as a Fellow of the ICD has been an unforgettable emotion. What impressed me most about the gathering in Amsterdam was the feeling of nearness transmitted by people I'd never met before; I really felt at home. I want to thank the hospitality of all the



Guido Lorenzini

most beautiful memories in my mind. Apart of the beauty of the ceremony, the atmosphere at the meeting was inspiring as I felt at home as if I was one of the oldest and most honoured colleagues. Thank you all for your hospitality and I look forward to seeing you again next year. ■

District 10. Italy

Since the moment I knew of the existence of the ICD and its mission, I strongly desired to be one of its members, and when the invitation came to be a Fellow of the College, I felt immensely honoured and proud. But the best had yet to come. The induction ceremony in Amsterdam was astonishing and will remain as one of the



Inductees from District 1.



The two Inductees (left) from District 10.



During the weekend of 1st to 3rd December 2023, the winter Board of Regents was held in Vienna, Austria at the Hotel Herrenhof.

European Section Board Report

Dr. Walter van Driel thanked everyone for attending the meeting in Amsterdam along with the conference organisers and treasurer of the meeting, Henk Donker, for making the meeting successful. Additional themes discussed included finance for the Philip Dear Foundation, growth and development of membership of the International College of Dentists European Section.

A new autonomous District 16, Georgia with Dr. Marine Mamaladze appointed as Regent was created and received unanimous approval by the board.

The next board meeting will be on 21st June 2024 in Limassol. ■



Drs. Labanca, Mamaladze and Pakule.

New Fellows 2023

43 new Fellows from all 15 Districts were inducted during the ceremony in Amsterdam. The section therefore welcomes the 2023 entry of new Fellows, representing all 15 Districts, who have provided their portrait photographs.



1
Mathias Mayr



Dritan Turhani



2
Danielle Boonzaaijer



Ellen Bruggen van der Linden



Marie-Chris Donders



Leander Dubois



Carel Duijn



Ellemieke Hin



Marijke Kroeze



3
Iselin Halvorsen



Björn Klinge



4
Priti Acharya



Michael Ackermann



Orestis Angeletos-Papazizos



Robert Dyas



Victor Gehani



Kyle Hogg



Fazeela Khan-Osborne



Gillian Maidment



Yann Maidment



Amit Patel



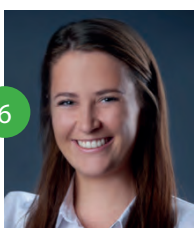
Nikita Patel



Shameek Popat



George Savva



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Elisabeth Lill



Theresa Magg



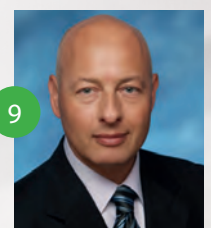
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Vasileios Katsoulas



Androniki Kokkinou



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Gillian Smith



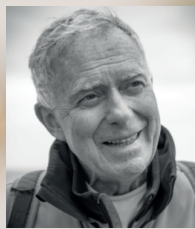
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Eitan Mijiritsky



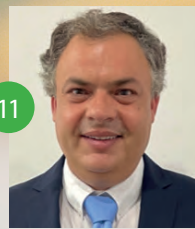
Noa Sadan



Fabio Carboncini



Guido Lorenzini



Ricardo Alves



Maria Carlos Quaresma



José Maria Barrachina-Diez



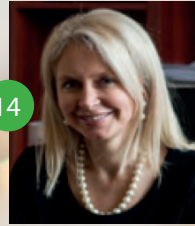
José Maria Delgado



Santiago Jane Ceballos



Danilo Di Donna



Paula Perlea



Ekaterine Beshkenadze



Tea Janjalashvili



Svitlana Khleybas

- District 1 Austria
- District 2 The Netherlands
- District 3 Scandinavia
- District 4 England, Scotland and Wales
- District 6 Germany
- District 7 Greece and Cyprus
- District 8 Ireland
- District 9 Israel and Malta
- District 10 Italy
- District 11 Portugal
- District 12 Spain
- District 13 Switzerland
- District 14 Central & South Eastern Europe
- District 15 Central & North Eastern Europe

News from the Districts

There has been much activity in the districts in 2023.

Professor Valeriu Fala, Chisinau, Moldova, reports that the conference of the International College of Dentists (ICD) for the Moldova/Ukraine subdistrict of **District 15** of the European Section was held on September 10th 2023 in Chisinau (Moldova). The ICD conference was the special session of the 2-day conference “Digital Technologies in Multidisciplinary Dentistry”, which was a significant meeting that attracted dentists and experts from various countries, including Finland, Austria, Ukraine and Romania. The conference was thoughtfully structured into four separate sessions, each offering unique insights and perspectives on the integration of digital technologies into dentistry. During the International College of Dentists (ICD) session the audience was treated to a distinguished line-up of speakers. The session commenced with a keynote address from Dr. Dov Sydney, the President of the European Section ICD, setting the tone for the discussions that followed. The Flag of the International College of Dentists was presented to Professor Diana Unkuta, as a symbol of the authority of the Vice-Regent of the Moldova/Ukraine subdistrict of District 15 of the European Section.

Following the President’s speech, the audience had the privilege of hearing from Dr. Serhiy Radlinsky (Ukraine), Regent for District 15, Central and Northern Europe, and Professor Norina Forna (Romania), Regent for District 14, covering Central & Southern Europe. Their insights looked into the role of the ICD in promoting excellence and high standards in dentistry across the region.

The session continued with presentations from several notable speakers, including Oksana Dienha, Yuliya Cherepynska from Ukraine, Diana Uncuța, Dorin Istrati and Valeriu Fala from Moldova. Each speaker shared their expertise, research findings, and experiences related to digital technologies in dentistry, contributing to the broader conversation on how these technologies are shaping the future of dental practice.

Overall, the ICD session added a layer of professional and ethical depth to the conference, with contributions from esteemed leaders in dentistry and experts in the field of digital dentistry. This session enriched attendees’ understanding of the intersection between technology and clinical standards in dental healthcare.

District 4 (England, Scotland and Wales) held their annual dinner at The Royal Thames Yacht Club in November, attended by over 50 guests including three of our potential inductees for 2024, along with the Managing Director of UK and Ireland and our special guest Dr Robert Gottlander

the CEO from our sponsors Neoss, who is also a Fellow in the Scandinavian district. The Regent, Mark Wright, gave an update of the work of the College along with an update of future meetings. Congratulations were also extended to Professor Argirios Pissiotis a former European President on his appointment as Worldwide President. Phillip Dowell gave a report from the recent international meeting which was held in South Korea.

Mark also thanked the district for their support over his tenure as Regent, helping to make district 4 the largest district within the European Section. He thanked Roy Morris (our vice-regent) for stepping in to perform his duties in Limassol as he is unfortunately unable to attend the European meeting next year. Roy will officially be taking over as Regent of District 4 in June 2024.

District 11, Portugal, held their annual meeting in Portugal on Friday 10th November 2023. The event took place in the city of Oporto during the Portuguese Dental Association annual event. Some of the fellows got together in a moment of celebration and joy where the candidates to become new Fellows were presented. The new regent and vice-regent were also presented to the new Fellows and it was a very important moment to share ideas and demonstrate the importance of the ICD for so many humanitarian causes.



Presentation of the ICD flag to Diana Unkuta as a confirmation of the Vice-Regent of District 15 in the Republic of Moldova.



Professor Norina Forna presents to the meeting.



Attendees stand to remember colleagues in Ukraine.



Fellows and guests from District 4.



Presidium of the ICD Congress (from left to right): Valeriu Fala (Moldova), Norina Forna (Romania), Diana Uncuta and Dorin Istrati (Moldova), Yulia Cherepinska (Ukraine).





Fellows and new inductees from Portugal meet on Friday 10th November in Porto.

The Slovenian members of District 14 met on the 5th of September 2023, for the annual autumn meeting in the friendly atmosphere of the historical and picturesque setting of Strmol Castle in the village of Dvorje. In the scientific part of the meeting, the well-known Slovenian microbiologist and virologist Professor Mario Poljak, (FESCMID, FAAM) presented a lecture on “Clinical microbiology and COVID-19 pandemic: lessons taken and a way forward” to all Slovenian ICD members. In his well-known excellent manner, he presented the impact of COVID-19 on clinical microbiology during the recent pandemic and how this discipline has evolved due to the enormous burden of clinical microbiological samples during the pandemic

time. Professor Poljak’s excellent presentation made us realise again that there are ten times more bacterial cells on the human body than human cells and that as clinicians we need to be aware of the impact of these little bugs on our daily work.

At the end of the ICD meeting, the Slovenian Vice Regent, Professor Maja Ovsenik, awarded immediate Past Regent Professor Tomislav Jukič and our Master Fellow Professor Ljubo Marion for their lifelong contribution to the development of the ICD spirit and values in Slovenia. Impressions of the recent, excellently organized ICD meeting in Amsterdam and the upcoming meeting were presented



Regent Mauro Labanca thanks Dr. Fabio Gorni.



Regent Mauro Labanca thanks Dr Davide Guglielmi.



Regent Mauro Labanca thanks Professor Dr. Massimo de Sanctis.



Slovenian members of the ICD district 14.

to the members. The formal part of the meeting ended with the discussion on the new fellows to be inducted at the next meeting in Limassol.

The evening moved on to the informal part of the Slovenian ICD autumn meeting. In the friendly and cheerful atmosphere of the culinary delights from the Strmol Castle Restaurant, the Slovenian ICD members were once again reassured that although life can throw up many problems, with a little help from good friendship, a glass of wine and mutual goodwill, they are no longer problems, but just an opportunity to move on to the next level of life.

In a suburb of Florence, the annual meeting of **District 10**, Italy, took place on 16 October 2023 at the comfortable Hotel Villa Neroli. The day consisted of two parts, the dental congress with phenomenal speakers and, in the afternoon, the ICD meeting. In the morning, Regent Mauro Labanca introduced Immediate Past President Walter van Driel (Netherlands) and the congress speakers in his well-known distinguished manner. Professor Dr. Massimo de Sanctis presided over the content of the congress and gave the floor to Dr. Fabio Gorni (*The rationale for endodontic tooth restoration. New endodontic materials, advantages, and limitations*), Dr Davide Guglielmi (*Moving the margin or lengthening the clinical crown: indications, operative technique*). Professor Dr. Massimo de Sanctis presented in a great duo presentation with Dr Guglielmi the relationship between composite restorations and periodontal tissues (*The synergy between periodontal plastic surgery and conservative dentistry*). The interesting and instructive programme was concluded by Professor de Sanctis with a lecture on the always controversial endo-periodontal lesions (*Mucogingival surgery approach to treatment*). A very engaging and lively discussion took place between the Fellows and the speakers where it became clear that the level of knowledge and expertise was at a very high level.

In the afternoon of the ICD meeting, potential new Fellows were introduced, and relevant ICD issues discussed. Mauro Labanca's future successor as the new Regent, Antonio Barone was also introduced. This wonderfully well-organised annual meeting ended in a family-friendly restaurant. The food was fantastic and the atmosphere as usual at the ICD, full of joy and friendship!

The editor was also pleased to receive the following article from Aiva Pakule, Riga, Latvia, on the meeting of the Latvian Dental Association held in partnership with **District 15**. ■



Fellows and Guests enjoy the hospitality at the District 10 gathering.

Joint gathering of dentists for Saint Apollonia's Day in Latvia

On February 9, the Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches celebrate the day of St. Apollonia, and every year on this day, dentists all over the world find time to remember St. Apollonia, as the patron saint of dentists, and on the day of her memory, they celebrate the International Day of the Dentist!



Aiva Pakule
PRF clinic (Riga, Latvia)

In our country the Latvian Dental Association (LZA) also holds a solemn meeting every year in honour of St. Apollonia, her holy, unshakable faith in values, thereby strengthening our spirit and faith in a positive solution to any professional difficulties. These meetings are always held in a very positive atmosphere with an emphasis on strengthening spiritual values, because on this day dentists can finally think about their own health.

This year's meeting was unusual because it was held in partnership with ICD (International College of Dentists), Section V Europe, District 15 Central and North Eastern Europe, which also includes the Baltic Subdistrict. This wonderful collaboration between LZA and ICD made the meeting very emotional, warm, inspiring and heartfelt.

The meeting was opened by Professor Anda Brikmane, President of the Latvian Dental Association, Professor Ingrida Chema and Professor Egita Senakola, Fellows of the International College of Dentists. In their very emotional speeches, they reminded us how lucky we are to have a peaceful sky and a roof over our heads, and how important it is in this difficult time to keep our spirits up, and never forget how strong and indomitable the spirit of St. Apollonia was, and urged us to be more sincere, under-







stand and support each other to make our stay together in Latvia and around the world happier.

Dr. Aiva Pakulje in her speech very briefly emphasized the main values of the International College of Dentists dedicated to improving dental health worldwide.

The President of the European Section of the ICD Dr. Walter van Driel (Netherlands) honored us with his presence at the celebration of St. Apollonia's Day and delivered a welcome speech. At the end, the European President of the ICD together with the regent of District 15, Serhiy Radlinsky, presented the ICD flag to Dr. Aiva Pakule, as a symbol of the authority of the vice-regent.

Next, Dr. Serhiy Radlinsky gave a lecture on the image of St. Apollonia in world art and presented to Professor Anda Brickmane, president of the Latvian Dental Association, the special gift: an oil copy of the stained glass window of St. Apollonia, which was created by Volodymyr Radlinsky, the eldest son, and this original is located in Poltava in the dental clinic-studio "Apollonia".

In the scientific part of the meeting Dr. Arta Sirgeda shared her experience of Reconnection practice, outlining Reconnection as one of the safest healing systems where the quality of life is restored by balancing or improving the flow of energy in a person's physical or etheric body.

A Fellow of the International College of Dentists Dr. Ingrida

Markane gave a lecture "Maintaining psycho-emotional balance in interpersonal relationships."

Dr. Serhiy Radlinsky delivered a lecture on the systematic restoration of worn teeth with composites in direct technique according to the author's algorithm, at the beginning of which he also presented the volunteer activity of Poltava dentists.

This day of St. Apollonia was special and emotional in another way, because among us there were about 30 dentists from Ukraine, who are now forced to stay in Latvia, but continue their professional activity here as well. We support our Ukrainian colleagues and the Ukrainian people in every possible way in this terrible time, expressing deep respect and human love.

In honor of this meeting, we, the Baltic family of the International College of Dentists and guests, continued the conversation at the festive table...

And this day of professional international communication of dentists ended with an elegant concert of classical music "Schumann's Rhine Symphony and Alaskan Landscapes" performed by the "Sinfonietta Riga" symphony orchestra.

I am very grateful to everyone for participating in this joint meeting of the Latvian Dental Association and the International College of Dentists dedicated to St. Apollonia's Day! ■



My journey towards the International College of Dentists

It all started way back in 2013, when Dr. Serhiy Radlinsky, my long-term friend and colleague, widely recognized dentist and a virtuoso in his field, reached out to me and proposed my involvement in one of the esteemed international organizations of which I had no information before. This organization turned out to be the International College of Dentists (ICD).



Marina Mamaladze

Dr. Serhiy Radlinsky elucidated that the membership of International College of Dentists (ICD) does not mean just one-time activities or a status for CV embellishment. "The ICD Membership – it is a lifestyle and work style, signifying that you're already a self-confident and accomplished doctor. Through this membership you gain the chance to connect with people devoted to their work, united by a common goal of doing noble causes and nurturing the field of dentistry," he said to me.

I have always believed in him as a dedicated professional, a patriot committed to his work and country, a cherished best friend, and a devoted family man, and... once again, my belief in him remained strong this time too!

That's the way Dr. Serhiy Radlinsky became my recommender, and my enthralling and super-interesting journey to the "country" of ICD took its first steps.

While my membership formalities were finalized and the Board of Regents approved my candidacy, I seized the opportunity to delve into the College's website immersing myself in a wealth of information to gain a comprehensive understanding of the College. Certainly, the concept of ICD, as well as its mission and vision resonated with my preferences and expectations.

Commitment and passion

The commitment and passion for dentistry were deeply ingrained values for me. Upon graduating with honours from high school, I continued my academic journey at the Faculty of Dentistry at Tbilisi State Medical University. After earning an honours degree from the university, my professional path led me to a dual role, where I consistently found myself immersed at the dental chair as both a practicing doctor and a professor-lecturer. I am leading one of the largest medical facilities in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia – the Dental Clinic and Training-Research Center (UniDent), where I am actively engaged in practical activities, specializing in both dental restoration and endodontics.

Hence, the ICD's motto, "Recognizing Service as well as the Opportunity to Serve," felt familiar and strongly resonated with my core values.

Continued Support to Dental education

After completing my university education, I became part of the University academic staff. Therefore, the interwoven processes of learning and teaching have become inseparable tenets for me over the course of many years. As the Head of the Odontology Department of the Tbilisi State Medical University, I lead many professional masterclasses and workshops, not only focusing on dentistry but also delving into the methodology of medical education.

Committed to continuous improvement, I systematically focus on enhancing methods for assessing students' knowledge. As the Director of the postgraduate education program in the specialty of "Conservative Dentistry" in Georgia, I have had the privilege of leading the training of over 2000 residents.

That is why among the core values of ICD, "Support and Promotion of Education" resonated deeply with me.

Humanitarianism

In many regions of my country, the challenge of unem-



Marina at her induction ceremony in Copenhagen, Denmark.

ployment bringing along economic hardships persists. As part of our ongoing efforts to address these issues, we regularly organize humanitarian initiatives, with a particular emphasis on providing treatment to children and adolescents in need. Graduates of Tbilisi State Medical University, successful doctors and businessmen generously award personalized scholarships to our students, not only offering financial assistance but also serving to elevate their motivation and instilling hope for a better and brighter future.

Under the auspices of the Georgian Dental Professional Association, my colleagues and I organized a professional tour across various regions of Georgia, where we held lectures and master classes, offering insights and sharing expertise for fellow dentists. During this initiative, we had the opportunity to observe, provide consultations, and administer treatments to patients.

Furthermore, members of our association regularly hold educational talks and lectures in schools of Tbilisi and other cities of Georgia.

Among the ICD values, "Implementation of humanitarian activities" turned out not only completely understandable but also highly acceptable to me.

Leadership and independence

As the President of Georgian Dental Professional Association, I, along with my dedicated team regularly attend to the concerns, aspirations and occasionally, the grievances voiced by the dentists of our country. We strive to convey their wishes to executive bodies, aiming to enhance dental services in the country to the greatest extent possible.

As an integral part of our commitment, we actively contribute to the development of national disease management protocols, engage in the ongoing process of crafting and reviewing various documents regulating dental services. Furthermore, we are dedicated to fostering leadership, autonomy and independence skills among young stomatologists in Georgia through the encouragement and support of their organizations.

Based on the above, it becomes obvious why I readily

accepted Dr. Radlinsky's proposal to initially join the International College of Dentists, then to introduce the mission, goals and objectives of the organization to my colleagues in order to form my own small team, consisting of individuals who resonate with the philosophy and values of the ICD. In 2013, team formation was not discussed; it happened a bit later.

At the ICD annual meeting in Copenhagen, I was the sole representative from Georgia, having an honour to be nominated for the ICD membership by Professor Ljubo Marion, the Regent for District 14. It should be emphasized that in 2013, the European Section of the ICD consisted of only 14 districts.

Visiting Denmark was like stepping into a fairy tale. As well as finding myself in the country of Hans Christian Andersen (whose fairy tales are known to almost every child in Georgia), I was enthralled by the unique and interesting dental society, the warm and friendly atmosphere, and exceptionally organized meeting. The grand ceremony for new member admission, a pompous spectacle like none I had seen before, surpassed all my expectations. Frankly speaking, my legs were shaking when my name was announced, and I was officially accepted as a member. Since then, this emotion has not diminished. Even after eleven years, the sight of the top leaders of the ICD European Section entering to the anthem at the Grand Ceremony for new member admission, always brings tears to my eyes. It was in Copenhagen I decided to work towards providing many of my fellow colleagues with the opportunity to join this extraordinary family of dentists. However, there was a long journey ahead before reaching that point!

As time went by, I found myself eagerly anticipating the month of June, longing to meet colleagues from different countries around the world. I was pleasantly surprised and at the same time excited by the warm and heartfelt reception from my already familiar colleagues. In that moment, I truly felt like a part of this dental family.



Marina and colleagues in Porto, Portugal.

In 2015, in Dublin, another Georgian dentist, Professor Ketevan Gogilashvili joined the ranks of the college as a member. In 2016 (Milan), Natia Nizharadze, Associate Professor of Tbilisi State Medical University and in 2017 (London) Lia Sanodze, Director of the TSMU Dental Clinic were nominated for the ICD membership by me. Then, we were still members of District 14.

Together with the delegates from the countries of Central, Northern and South-Eastern Europe, we shared the joy and celebrated every success of the European Section (as well as the entire ICD).

At that time, Professor Tomislav Jukić, a lively and temperamental individual with a friendly demeanour and a good sense of humour, had already been the Regent for District 14. Simultaneously, Professor Dr. Serhiy Radlinsky became the Vice-Regent. It was during this period that Serhiy advised me to mobilize candidates from Georgia and I immediately set the process in motion.

In the aftermath of the Geneva (2018) and Thessaloniki (2019) Congresses, the world confronted its most significant challenge, the COVID-19 pandemic, disrupting the ICD's meticulously planned and well-thought-out arrangements. However, Serhiy Radlinsky, then the Regent of the newly formed District 15, managed first to mobilize an internal District Conference and then, online/remote ICD meetings. In 2022, the first post-COVID Congress was held in Porto. During this period, I already held the position of Vice Regent for District 15.

As always, my emotions surged with excitement when the Regent unveiled the Georgian candidates: Vladimir Margvelashvili, Tamar Zghenti, Dea Vadachkoria and Manana Ustiaishvili. Georgia with a population of just 3 million was represented in the ICD by 8 members and the flag of Georgia adorned the table at the ceremonial hall for new member admission.

The 65th ICD Congress in Porto turned out to be pivotal in my life. It was here that I had my first conversation with the person who would later have a huge impact on my country's status within the International College of Dentists.

Dr. Mauro Labanca, a delightful conversationalist, possessing refined and charming manners, effortlessly captivated the attention of everyone around him, quickly becoming a favourite among the Georgian delegation. Possibly, he was the one who directed his attention towards the representa-

tives of the small country – a dedicated group never missing annual meetings or scientific sessions. Their unwavering commitment, cheerfulness, kindness, and humility might have captured the attention of the experienced registrar. Perhaps, Dr. Labanca thought to give us a new chance, or perhaps he saw some potential that would be beneficial to this esteemed organization.

To be honest, it's challenging for me to speculate on the reasons, but the undeniable fact remains that a year later, at the Amsterdam Congress, when our ranks were enriched with two new members (Tea Janjalashvili and Eka Beshkenadze), I secured the winning ticket!

Dr. Mauro Labanca conveyed the perspective that raising the issue of establishing a new District within the ICD European Section before the International Council of the ICD, was a viable possibility. Regardless of how many years go by, the meeting of Winter Board Regents in Vienna, in 2023, will forever be etched in my memory. At the winter Board of Regents meeting, I was presented with the ICD flag and the mantle of regent. There, in Vienna, within the ICD European section, a new autonomous **District 16 - Georgia** was created!

Soon, the meeting in "Limassol" is upcoming. In June 2024, at the 67th Forum of the European Section of the International College of Dentists, we will nominate three new candidates from Georgia. We will all take pride in our membership within this esteemed and authoritative organization and the resplendent flag of our country will proudly soar alongside the flags of other European nations, symbolizing a lasting unity and shared commitment for years to come. ■



Marina and her Georgian colleagues.

Humanitarian Activities

During 2023 with the support of the ICD, Mundo A Sorrir has continued its activities of prevention and health literacy in the areas of oral health, mental health, and ophthalmology in Guinea Bissau.



Mariana Dolores

Over the year we benefited 4,342 underprivileged people, mainly school aged children. With a focus in helping the population of the rural areas of Cacine and Bijagós islands, Mundo A Sorrir sends several groups of volunteers for short term periods which enables the population to have access to health care for a significant period of the year. In Bissau, medical students are being taught and the healthcare professionals are being trained to effectively treat the po-

population. The involvement of local partners, namely in activities of prevention, are fundamental to enable children to participate in a school oral hygiene programme, where children brush their teeth daily with an adult supervision. The contrast of delivering dental treatments in the islands using a portable chair, and in Bissau in our social clinic, is huge and the volunteers must deal with all kinds of adversities. But the main aim, and indeed achievement, is to reach the population that cannot access proper oral health care.

Moreover in St. Tome and Principe Mundo A Sorrir is helping the population of Caué to have a new social dental clinic and in Portugal we maintained the activities in our 4 social clinics (we are currently working towards opening the 5th clinic); developed a project with the homeless population of Oporto (from examining 700 people, only 2 did not need dental treatment and 70% needed dentures); we also continued the oral health primary school project (5,000 children involved) and developed a new program of oral cancer prevention amongst the youngest population. ■



Mundo A Sorrir activities, 2023.

Meet the President, Dr. Dov Sydney

Dr. Dov Sydney is the President of the European Section of the International College of Dentists and will host the annual meeting of the section in Cyprus this June. The editor, Michael Thomas, was pleased to conduct an interview with Dov to discover more of his background and journey to becoming President.



**Michael Thomas - FICD
Editor, European Section**

Why did you become a dentist?

My father introduced me to dentistry through many visits to his dental practice, which resonated with me as a very appealing profession. I especially enjoyed observing people who would come to the office afraid and in pain, and were able to leave completely relieved, appreciative, and forever loyal patients.

My earliest public expression of my desire to pursue dentistry dates back to when I was eight. While walking with my father, a neighbour passing by asked if I wanted to be a dentist like my father, and my immediate answer was: Yes. The response seemed to come naturally and instinctively. Some years later, our school guidance counselor showed the class a list on the blackboard and asked us to raise our hands for the professions on the list we aspire to... fireman, astronaut, lawyer, doctor, teacher, et cetera, with the last one being 'dentist.' Waiting patiently, knowing (assuming) that the others were doing the same, I triumphantly raised my hand, only to be shocked when I found mine was the only hand in the air, accompanied by the not-so-subtle laughter of my classmates when I incredulously (and with crushing naivety) proclaimed: "I'm serious. Doesn't everybody want to be a dentist?" One of my first editorials in the ICDigest related to that story.

I endured a rocky academic start during my first year at the University of Maryland Dental School. I guess my exposure to the real world of dentistry has given me a more future-looking perspective. I was excited and focused more on

imagining the various scenarios of my life as a dentist than on immediate academic concerns, which initially detracted from my grades. Fortunately, my performance improved over time. I became Editor-in-Chief of the school newspaper and finished all my requirements four months before the end of my senior year, which allowed me to pursue an independent elective in hospital dentistry. After graduation, I joined my father in his dental practice while pursuing an advanced residency in periodontology, whose passion initially percolated during dental school. I was drawn to its micro-surgical aspects, the literature-centric approach to treatment, and the opportunity to spend more time in direct patient care without lab preparations and reliance on technicians.

After completing my Perio training at Emory University in Atlanta, I returned to a faculty position at Maryland. Later, my career took a significant turn when I moved to Israel. With board certification in the US and Israel, I spent the next three decades in various teaching positions, including coordinating the periodontology postgraduate program, head of the Periodontology Medicine unit at a large regional hospital, and guest lecturing at Maryland. Alongside my teaching career, I was involved in lay and professional journalism, managing a comprehensive clinical practice, and active in professional organizations, all while enjoying an ideal work-life balance that periodontics has uniquely afforded me, including the ability to continue working today in my private practice along with my outside activities and interests.

How did you become aware of and a Fellow in the International College of Dentists?

My only awareness of the ICD was its esteemed reputation, which I had observed during my dental school graduation ceremony. As the final group processed into the assembly hall, the MC identified them as members of the International College of Dentists. I recognized our university's respected leaders and other national figures in that group wearing their elegant, purple-coloured gowns of dentistry accentuated with the majestic ICD green and gold. I understood this was a significant association, but that's all I knew.



Dr. Dov Sydney.

My substantive introduction to the ICD came after a serendipitous meeting with the Regent for Israel and Malta. He saw potential in me and suggested I could be a good candidate for fellowship. This led to my induction in Berne, Norway, in 1996 and active involvement as Editor and Regent in the European Section. Six years later, I was offered the position of ICD World Editor. After a transition year of serving simultaneously as Editor of the European Section and the global ICD, I continued working exclusively within the ICD global-level Executive Committee, as College Editor and Director of Communications (DOC), and chair of various committees, including three years for the worldwide centennial committee.

A few years ago, a very close friend and others encouraged me to return “home” and accept a leadership role in the European Section. I was honoured and agreed. I ascended through the officer ranks, leading to President after starting with an extended term as Vice President during the challenging COVID-19 pandemic.

What has been your most memorable moment since being a member of ICD?

Having the opportunity to represent the College in more than 20 countries has been an incredible journey filled with untold cherished and meaningful moments. Undoubtedly meeting Pope Francis at the Vatican on behalf of the

College was an amazing opportunity. The impact of sharing a brief but unforgettable conversation with him about the ICD and presenting him with the special booklet I had designed exclusively for the occasion, left a lasting impression on me, that I’ve never been able to shake from my consciousness.

However, the singular most memorable and meaningful moment for me, was my induction as a Master Fellow. This honour was a humbling recognition from my peers for professional achievements and service to the ICD, and it is a symbol for me of 25 years of incredible experiences along my ICD journey. There are many wonderful colleagues and dear friends whose support, guidance, and encouragement have made all the difference in the world. I hesitate to list them here out of concern that I might leave someone out, but they know who they are, and I thank them very much.

Of course, without a doubt, the secret to my success in this life’s journey has been my wife, Rachel, my steadfast companion, who has been there for me and with me at every step without hesitation. She is, by every metric, my true better half. Her inexhaustible support and understanding of my commitment to College business never wavered, even during meetings at odd hours – remember,



Greeting Pope Francis.

our organization covers multiple time zones. When she would ask me if I had “finished my ICD work,” I would say, “Just a minute,” but she knew those minutes often extended beyond a sixty-second clock rotation. Her accompaniment at ICD events around the world has made every trip even more memorable. As an authentic people-person with exuberant optimism, she has been the catalyst forging many of our enduring friendships in the ICD family.

What are you looking forward to during the Presidency of the European Section?

Being the oldest and largest honour society for dentists in the world carries obligations for College leadership to work each day to ensure and preserve this unique recognition and pristine reputation. During my presidency, my primary goal is to enhance the efficiency of our governance structure to ensure that all Regents are aware of and can effectively fulfil their responsibilities. Our Section is the most diverse in the entire ICD worldwide community. With over 40 countries speaking nearly an equal number of different languages, the governance challenges are not insignificant, yet undoubtedly surmountable. The primary obligation of every Section is to ensure that fellowship is being offered to all qualified dentists in their jurisdiction. By supporting thriving Districts and assisting those facing challenges, I hope to foster an environment where all deserving dentists in every country within our European Section are recognized and become Fellows of the College. Strengthening this recognition process is essential for our mission. It reflects a commitment to maintaining the exceptional standards of the fellowship selection process while increasing our impact on communities and individuals less fortunate than us.

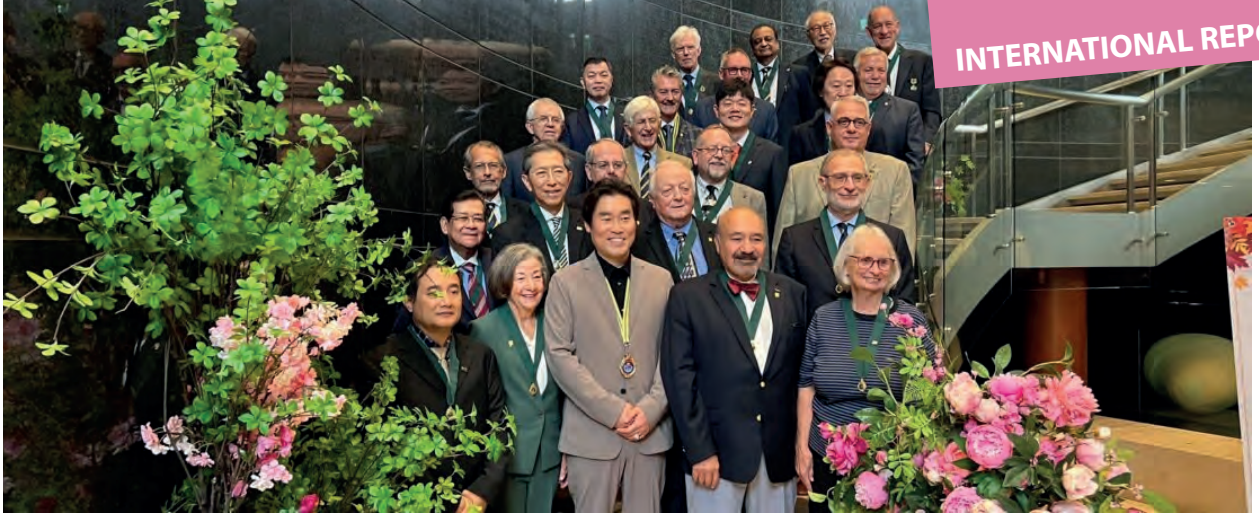
What are your plans following the year of presidency?

After my term as President, I look forward to supporting my successor, President-Elect Werner Lill, to ensure a smooth transition and successfully implement his agenda without overshadowing his leadership. Additionally, I will continue my involvement with the Global ICD, as International Editor and DOC while focusing on enhancing our strategic partnerships and expanding recognition with globally recognized institutions, such as the United Nations, where I currently represent the College in the Geneva headquarters. With our presence in over 140 countries, improving and expanding our global impact remains a multi-cultural and sometimes geopolitical challenge and a significant focus for me in the coming years.

Thank you very much Dov for this insightful interview. ■



Dove with his wife Rachel after induction as Master Fellow.



International Council Meeting in Seoul.

ICD Korea Hosts the International Council in Seoul

The International Council, the governing body of the International College of Dentists (ICD), was graciously hosted by Section XI in Seoul, South Korea, on November 3rd to 5th 2023, for their annual meeting. Twenty-four Council members participated in person, four joined virtually, and many ICD guests visited to observe, contribute, or present information.

During the meeting, Councillors shared reports of the humanitarian and educational activities, successes and challenges of their Sections, discussed membership practices and engagement strategies, tackled organizational challenges, discussed future meetings and adopted a 2024 budget. Membership recruitment and retainment, financial development and organizational structure were the priority discussion topics before the Council. In addition to the meeting, Fellows and guests enjoyed local cuisine and live music during a river boat excursion, celebrated Fellowship during a joint induction ceremony, and concluded the weekend with fine dining and entertainment at the brand new Neobiotech facility.

Council Actions

- Shared reports on humanitarian and educational activities, successes and challenges of their Sections.
- Discussed membership practices, engagement strategies and organizational challenges.
- Adopted the 2024 budget.
- Emphasized and discussed priorities: membership recruitment, retainment, and engagement; financial development; organizational structure.
- Discussed hybrid Council meetings and emphasized importance of in-person participation.

- Revised rules on alternate Councillors and virtual participation at meetings.
- Adopted new Bylaws and Standing Rules language.

Organizational Structure and Operations

The ICD Global staff anticipates the tax status of the College will change very soon. There is increasing pressure on staff with the existing workload, and there are loyal ICD volunteers operating freely with sometimes inadequate direction. Now is the time to begin planning for the future of the organization in terms of personnel, governance, and operational structures, as well as maintaining brand, mission and image for an ever-expanding College. During their April retreat, staff reviewed current operations, as well as organizational strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities. Several ideas emerged from the retreat, including the restructuring of paid and non-paid personnel; clarifying job descriptions and responsibilities; upgrading the membership platform; and incorporating inclusive practices. Many of these suggested changes would require careful consideration and planning, as well as diverse input. During the Seoul Council meeting, it was concluded that an ad hoc committee of staff and volunteers would be appointed to start evaluating and identifying personnel needs, workplace system needs and

budgetary needs. This multi-faceted process of evaluating needs and planning for the future is just that, a process. It will take time, discussion, and funding to implement changes and improve the organizational structure to best meet the needs of the future.

Sectional Challenges and Solutions

There are 16 ICD Sections with varying languages, cultures and practices. The goal of expanding the College worldwide is to identify and honour every single deserving dentist in every corner of the world with Fellowship, while maintaining a unified and consistent ICD message, mission and values. To do this successfully, ICD leadership, staff, Sections and Regions must work collaboratively while adhering to the same set of rules and guidelines. ICD Bylaws and Standing Rules are developed and adopted by the International Council to guide Sections and Fellows so that membership, programs, and administration are all facilitated fairly and inclusively worldwide. When Sections work collaboratively with ICD Global leadership and staff, and there is transparent communication, most of these rules and guidelines are followed consistently. Several years ago, the concept of "Section probation" was created to provide a way for Sections to work alongside ICD Global to improve their performance or address administrative challenges within a specified amount of time. Section probation is not a punitive measure but rather an opportunity for the Section to address what is not working. Probation is a means to work together through open discussion and mentorship.

Membership Survey Results

The Membership Committee conducted a 2023 survey on Fellowship criteria, practices, fee collection and engagement. Section leaders were all provided the opportunity to respond to the survey and confirm their responses. Results of the survey identified variations in the nomination processes and other Fellowship requirements among Sections. It also provided insight into various membership issues and successes. The committee will continue to use the survey results to help address challenges and improve growth, engagement and retention.

Joint Induction Ceremony

A major highlight of the 2023 Council meeting was the Joint Induction Ceremony, which was successful thanks to the collaborative efforts of the Korean, Japanese and Taiwanese Sections. This convocation was the first of its kind, inducting Fellows across three Sections with the International Council in attendance. Not only did this provide a unique opportunity for the inductees to connect with the international side of the College, but it also provided an opportunity for collegiality amongst existing Fellows and leaders from around the world. The ICD motto, "Recognizing Service and the Opportunity to Serve", was truly alive during the joint convocation and gala reception as Fellows from different cultures and backgrounds came together to honour and recognize their peers. Seventeen new Fellows were welcomed into the College during the

ceremony, fourteen from Korea, two from Taiwan and one from Japan. Additionally, the presidents of the participating Sections each addressed the inductees, as well as International President Chang. The Fellowship Orientation was presented, the Fellowship Pledge was recited, and several awards were given. The evening culminated in a charismatic reception where Fellows and guests enjoyed a multi-course dinner, live music and entertainment.

Officer Installation and College Awardees

The Officer Installation and Awards Luncheon took place on November 5th immediately following the adjournment of the Council meeting. The first-ever "Bettie McKaig bags" were awarded to three present and former Council members for their dedicated volunteer services to ICD Global programs, committees and initiatives: Dr. Peter Korch (USA) for his work with Bylaws, Standing Rules and governance; Dr. Christine Benoit (USA) for her work with ICD projects and the antimicrobial resistance and dental safety programs; and Dr. Jackie Robinson (Australia) for her work with ICD membership recruitment, retention and engagement. Finally, Dr. Chang exchanged the presidential gavel and chain with incoming International President Argirios Pissiotis, and the new officers were installed.

The 2023-2024 International Officers are as follows:

- President Argirios Pissiotis (Greece)
- President Elect Ian Doyle (Canada)
- Vice President Julio Rodriguez (USA)
- Immediate Past President Ho-Youl Chang (South Korea)
- Treasurer Keith Suchy (USA)
- Editor Dov Sydney (Israel)

The European Section is proud that its Past President will take up this position and wishes him, together with the Executive Committee and Council, every success. ■



President Dr. Ho-Youl Chang installs Dr. Argirios Pissiotis as International World President of the ICD.

Message from the International President

“Dear Fellows of the ICD

First, I would like to express my gratitude for the trust you have bestowed upon me, inviting me to serve the ICD as your 2023-2024 Global President. I sincerely hope I will prove worthy, and I want to assure you I will do my best to be the president this prestigious College deserves to have following the lead of my predecessors.

I have been involved in the ICD Global leadership since 2012, when I was appointed by Section V Europe as one of the International Councillors. During these years, the global leadership and the International Council identified and pursued several important issues that needed to be addressed, such as the development of the ICD in countries with no presence, the increase of membership, and the promotion of humanitarian projects aiming to bring oral health care to the underprivileged areas of our planet. The College has been successful in some of these aims and less successful in others.

I have set some initiatives that I will try to pursue during the year of my presidency and hopefully will be followed through by my successors:

- The ICD must operate as one entity under the same Core Values and rules. Although the ICD is presently organized into 16 autonomous Sections, it seems not all Sections follow the same Core Values and rules. The Sections are not independent Sections; they are part of ICD Global. All the Fellows worldwide share the same obligations, responsibilities, and privileges. This must be understood and corrected wherever it is not so to generate a consistent message globally about who we are and what we do. Every Fellow of our College should understand how the College operates and how the voice of each individual Fellow worldwide can be represented in the International Council. Additionally, the roles of regents and councillors should be well understood because those positions help facilitate the ability of a Fellow to be heard by the leadership. I urge every Fellow to view the ICD Global Bylaws and Standing Rules by visiting our website www.icd.org, under Publications, and becoming aware of the regulations governing the College. With today's vast technology, every Fellow should be familiar with everything happening in the College around the world.
- A primary issue over the last 10 years has been the growth and development of the College. We have tried to set realistic percentages of growth for each Section with varying degrees of success. What I want to introduce this year is another aspect of growth, through engagement. The cells of the ICD are its Districts. The local level is where the primary effort should be made in recruiting and choosing deserving dentists to be candidates for Fellowship. However, although a considerable number of candidates are inducted annually into Fellowship worldwide, we seem to fail to keep them engaged and, as a result, many of them resign after a few years. This engagement should be focused primarily on our new Fellows and may be facilitated in several ways. Initially, every new Fellow should be asked to propose at least three other candidates for Fellowship within the next couple of years from their induction. Those new Fellows who have scientific interests can be teamed up with renown academicians and scientists already Fellows of our College and form study groups. Others, who are more adventurous and willing to volunteer in oral healthcare projects for the underprivileged, can team up with veteran Fellows who are already running humanitarian projects and can learn how to start and maintain operations of such outreach projects. Finally, new Fellows should be assigned to introduce the ICD and its values to different scientific or professional fora to further promote the ICD. I believe new Fellows, generally younger, are the ones who know how to attract other young dentists and engage them in Fellowship.

If we all try and become more active in these initiatives, I think we will have accomplished a big step forward for the College and the goals we have set.”

In Fellowship,

*Professor Argirios Pissiotis, DMD,MS,PhD,FICD
International President
International College of Dentists*



Rekindling Bonds: Welcome Reception

Introduction to the meeting in Limassol

A Gathering of Hearts and Minds

From June 21st to June 23rd, 2024, the International College of Dentists' European Section will convene in the vibrant city of Limassol, Cyprus, for its 67th Annual Meeting. This event, set within the luxurious confines of the Parklane, a Luxury Collection Resort & Spa, promises to be a harmonious blend of professional development, humanitarian exploration, and the warmth of reunion. With every detail meticulously planned within the resort's premises, attendees are assured of an experience marked by convenience, camaraderie, and celebration, all against the backdrop of Mediterranean splendour.

A Day of Reflection and Inspiration: Humanitarian Forum

The Welcome Reception marks the beginning of our gathering, serving as a beacon for attendees to reconnect with peers, some of whom have not met since our last annual meeting or before. This evening, under the starlit sky of Limassol, offers an idyllic setting for rejuvenating old ties and weaving new ones. It is an embodiment of our community's spirit, where the joy of reunion sets the stage for the days to follow.

A pivotal scientific program this year is the Humanitarian Forum, a day dedicated to exploring the selfless efforts and amazing impact of our colleagues. This forum is not just a testament to the compassion inherent in our profession but also a source of inspiration for all attendees. Through presentations and poster sessions, we will delve into stories of dedication and innovation, showcasing how dental professionals have extended their expertise beyond traditional settings to aid humanity. This segment promises to be a profound reflection on the impact of our profession on global well-being, offering insights into the diverse ways dental care can transcend borders and improve lives.

Celebrating Achievements: The Induction Ceremony and Gala Dinner

At the heart of our meeting are the revered traditions of the Induction Ceremony and the magnificent Gala Dinner. The Induction Ceremony is an occasion of honour and recognition, celebrating the contributions and welcoming new Fellows into our esteemed ranks. This year, the ceremony will be presented in an exciting format, promising an unforgettable experience.

Following the solemnity of the induction, the Gala Dinner offers a feast for the senses. This grand event, set within the elegant ambiance of the Parklane Resort, features culinary masterpieces that promise to tantalize the palate. It's an evening of festivity and fellowship, where the joy of shared experiences and the anticipation of future endeavours merge in a celebration of our profession's enduring spirit.

Discover Cyprus: The Optional Day Tour and Farewell Dinner at Nammos Limassol

Dive into the essence of Cyprus with an optional day tour that takes you through the Troodos Mountains to the stunning coast. Highlights include the UNESCO-protected Omodos Village, the revered Kykkos Monastery, famous for its icon by St. Luke and a visit to Aphrodite's birthplace. Our journey concludes with a beachside celebration farewell dinner at the highly acclaimed Nammos Limassol.

An Intimate and Accessible Experience with 24-hour Updates

Central to the ethos of this year's Annual Meeting is the convenience and intimacy of having all events located



within the Parklane Resort. This strategic decision ensures that attendees can move effortlessly between sessions, meals, and leisure activities. The absence of logistical hurdles allows attendees to focus on the essence of the meeting in an atmosphere of unmatched luxury and hospitality. The addition of our 24-hour on-line meeting updates will be available to participants via their cell phones.

The 67th Annual Meeting is poised to be a landmark occasion, where the beauty of Cyprus, the luxury of the Parklane Resort, and the passion of colleagues from across Europe converge in a celebration of excellence, innovation, and fellowship. ■