The ICP Notches up 14 Successes in a Row

A virtual man-made and beautiful resort community on a remote volcanic island may be an unlikely metaphor for the ingenious salvage nature of our discipline, yet little imaginative stretch is required to reconcile the International College of Prosthodontists' (ICP) scientific meeting's intent with Hawaii's Big Island site. After all, vision, creativity, and ecological concerns are paramount architectural responsibilities whether they occur in the mouth or in the Pacific Ocean, hence the aptness of lava-dominated Kona as the choice for a gathering of a singular collection of good minds, especially those of young and eager clinical scholars.

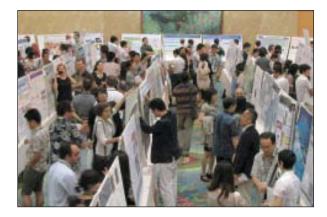


September's 14th biennial ICP meeting was a very successful one. Joerg Strub (Freiburg, Germany) and Jung-Suk Han (Seoul, Korea) sustained the momentum of past program chairpersons and selected an eclectic and provocative range of papers for the large audience's scholarly assessment. Old friendships were renewed, new ones made, and Young Prosthodontic Educator participants from past IJP Karlsruhe workshops reunited to celebrate their joint ICP commitment. I continue to find these alternate-year reunions intellectually supple ones-superb exercises in role modeling for the senior and more experienced members and strong reminders for the younger cohort of prosthodontic scholars of the bonds of civility that bind our collective international constituency. The strongest argument for ICP meetings is not only the opportunity to confront and challenge dearly held convictions about clinical science, but that they put us in touch with one another.

The partially renewed as well as newly elected slate of 14 Board of Councilors and ICP officers now includes 4 distinguished female clinical scholars: Rhonda Jacob (USA), Ann Wennerberg (Sweden),

Nicola Zitzmann (Switzerland), and Petra Guess (Germany). This particular selection augurs very well indeed for the emergent gender's role in the college's future. Moreover, the selection of Martin Gross (Tel Aviv, Israel) and Yoshinobu Maeda (Osaka, Japan) as co-presidents guarantees the continuum of wisdom, stability, and transparency in the college's ongoing governance. Turin, in Piedmont, Italy, has been selected to host the next ICP meeting in 2013. This is bound to be another outstanding venue given the city's beauty, enormous grace, and charm, while set against the dramatic scenery of the foothills of the Alps. Turin is also blessed with numerous museums housed in splendid palazzos and civic buildings and is famous for its innovative cuisine and some of Italy's finest restaurants. Moreover, being hosted by one of the ICP's most loyal national groups-the Italian one, led by council member Mario Bresciano—guarantees that magical touch of unparalleled Italian gracious hospitality.

One of the meeting's additional highlights was the impressive display of 185 poster presentations from 35 countries. Their authors deserve collective congratulations for the fascinating range of submitted research topics; theirs was indeed a feast of accomplishment. Three of the poster presenters—Mats Kronstrom (USA), Risa Matsuda (Japan), and Limor Avivi-Arber (Canada)—were judged as deserving special recognition and are included in this issue for our readers' critical analysis.



This issue also features an interview with Professor Frank Yuh-Yuan Shiau, who recently retired from his distinguished academic career at the National Taiwan University. It was carried out by Li-Deh Lin, who is one of our long-serving and invaluable associate editors. Both colleagues, like several of us in clinical academia and members of the IJP editorial family, have enhanced our career trajectories by studying abroad—most often in North America—and Professor Shiau's career has most certainly been an impressive and exemplary one of scholarly achievement. His enduring commitment to international clinical science development is one we all seek to share, and both the ICP and this journal will continue to serve as strong advocates for the scholarly bonds that international contacts offer young prosthodontic educators.

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George A. Zarb Editor-in-Chief