Interview: "The participants can share the up to date knowledge about the subjects in the field of Conservative Dentistry."

By Dental Tribune MEA

SHARJAH, UAE: The University of Sharjah organized the first regional ConsAsia 2019 conference of the Asian Oceanian Federation of Conservative Dentistry last December. The event was under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council, Ruler of Sharjah, and President of the University of Sharjah.

The University organized the first regional ConsAsia 2018 International Conference as part of the annual meeting of the Asian and Oceanian Federation of Conservative Dentistry (AOFCD). The conference covers under the theme ‘Contemporary Conservative Dentistry’. Innovations for Tomorrow’s Practice’ and was titled the University of Sharjah’s College of Dentistry organized the Conference in collaboration with the AOFCD and the Dental Division of the Emirates Medical Association (EMA), and with the participation of over 150 scholars.

Amongst the list of VIP attendees included Prof. Elzayed Ahmed El-Mustafa El-Sherif, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, attended the ConsAsia along with Prof. Qutba Hamid Al Healy, Vice Chancellor for Medical Colleges and Health Science and Dean of College of Dentistry, Prof. Majid Al Jarwane, Vice Chancellor for Public Relations, Prof Byeong-Hoon Cho, President of the AOFCD and ConsAsia 2019, Prof. Hien Chi Ngo, Dean of the College of Dental Medicine, Prof. Aisha Sultan, President of the Dental Division of the EMA, and a number of faculty and staff members at the University.

Dental Tribune had the pleasure to interview Prof. Byeong-Hoon Cho, President of the AOFCD and ConsAsia 2019 to get his view on the conference in the Middle East and beyond.

Could you please share with us an introduction about yourself and your experience as president of the AOFCD.

I am Byeong-Hoon Cho, Professor of Department of Conservative Dentistry, Seoul National University School of Dentistry, Seoul, Korea. I am also the Founding President of the Asian-Oceanian Federation of Conservative Dentistry (AOFCD), the President of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for its inaugural scientific meeting, ConsAsia 2019, Seoul, and I am the immediate past president of Korean Academy of Conservative Dentistry (KACD), and currently Editor-in-Chief of the Restorative Dentistry & Endodontics. I am establishing the AOFCD and organizing its biennial scientific meeting, ConsAsia.

When the ConsAsia initiative was proposed by the KACD, 16 scholars from 9 countries joined the first preparatory meeting and showed interests in founding an international organization in the field of Conservative Dentistry. Although, the Conservative Dentistry is a very dynamic discipline, there had been no international organization, except ConsOri, which is hosted by European Federation of Conservative Dentistry (EFCD). I felt they were eager for a platform where they could collaborate and communicate with each other in education, research, and practice in the field of Conservative Dentistry.

Considering the dynamic features of Conservative Dentistry, we all needed to have a platform where we can meet and communicate with each other and collaborate for the innovation and the future of Conservative Dentistry, so it was possible to establish AOFCD and hold ConsAsia.

The international ConsAsia scientific conference will promote academic pride and clinical excellence for scholars, researchers, students, and clinicians in the field of Conservative Dentistry, ultimately contributing to the quality of care and improving oral health in the region.

For our MEA audience, could you please provide more information about the AOFCD and ConsAsia?

It is established to contribute to the promotion of oral health in the public interest and to facilitate communication and cooperation amongst the members in the Asian and Oceanian regions by encouraging excellence in the clinical practice, teaching, and research in the scope of Conservative Dentistry.

In the early days of 2018, the ConsAsia initiative was proposed by the KACD to construct a network among the clinicians, researchers, and scholars of Asian and Oceanian countries in the field of Conservative Dentistry, and as a result, to contribute to improving the oral health of the populations in these areas. Hence, the KACD proposed to establish AOFCD and to hold biennial ConsAsia scientific meetings.

At first, scholars from 9 countries (Australia, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, New Zealand, and Taiwan) agreed with the initiative and met first in Seoul, Korea, on October 21, 2016 (First ConsAsia meeting) and then met in the decision of the first preparatory meeting, the LOC for the first ConsAsia.
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\(^1\) Composed of different material classes
sia 2019 meeting was composed in Korea in January 2017. We prepared the project of the AOFCD and Guidelines for ConsAsia scientific meeting. As the scope of Conservative Dentistry, most participants agreed to include all aspects of the disciplines for saving teeth, such as Conservative Dentistry, Restorative Dentistry, Prosthodontics, and Endodontics. From the ConsAsia 2018, the ConsAsia meeting will be supported by the Korean Academy of Conservative Dentistry, the Korean academy of Adhesive Dentistry, as well as the KACD.

Professor Stephen Dunne from Great Britain, the Immediate Past President of European Federation of Conservative Dentistry (EFCD) and Professor Dean Hien Chi Ngo proposed the Middle East networks, Professor Dean Hien Chi Ngo proposed the Middle East, Professor Dean Hien Chi Ngo proposed the Middle East regions (Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Turkey, UAE) agreed to include all aspects of the disciplines for saving teeth, such as Conservative Dentistry, Restorative Dentistry, Prosthodontics, and Endodontics. From the ConsAsia 2018, the ConsAsia meeting will be supported by the Korean Academy of Conservative Dentistry, the Korean academy of Adhesive Dentistry, as well as the KACD.

During the 2nd preparatory meeting in Sharjah, UAE on Nov 24, the 24 participants from 8 countries (Hong Kong, India, Korea, Malayisa, Rep. Korea, Taiwan, Turkey, UAE) agreed most of the agenda: the draft of Constitution and by-laws, the proposal of General Assembly, the schedule of the meeting and a rough draft for the scientific programs were discussed and agreed. Meanwhile, the LOC of ConsAsia 2019 continues to construct the scientific programs (http://www.consasia.org). We have received suggestions for country representative speakers.

In order to promote interests in Conservative Dentistry, the Oceanian Federation of Conservative Dentistry (OFCD) was established in Seoul, South Korea, in 2011. The LOC of ConsAsia 2019 continued to host an international meeting (December 6-7, 2017) by Professor Hatem El Damhouni, from Sharjah, UAE. Professor Hatem El Damhouni of University of Sharjah. As the inaugural meeting, the first preparatory meeting will be held on November 8-10, 2019 at Grand Ballroom of COEX Convention Center, Seoul, Korea, and the second ConsAsia meeting will be held in 2021, Cochin, India. For more information, please refer to the home page for the AOFCD and ConsAsia meeting 2019 (www.aofcd.org and www.consasia.org, respectively), to which we will add contents continuously. The cooperation of the AOFCD was established in Seoul, in order to promote the most-attracted subjects in the field of Conservative Dentistry in view of the expected number of more than 30 country representative clinicians, scholars, researchers, students, and practitioners interested in education, research, and treatment in the field of Conservative Dentistry.

What will happen at ConsAsia 2019 and how can you participate? We are writing with excitement and confidence engage with this event?

The 1st General Meeting of the Asian Oceanian Federation of Conservative Dentistry (ConsAsia 2019) will be held on November 8 (Fri) – 10 (Sun), 2019, at Grand Ballroom of COEX Convention Center, Seoul, Korea. The main theme of the ConsAsia 2019 is “Conservative Dentistry: the Path from Research to High-Quality Care”. The main topics of its Scientific Programs are Cariology, Preventive Dentistry, Minimal invasive treatment, Vital pulp therapy, Endodontics, Dental education, Adhesives, Resin-based composites, Ceramic, Zirconia, CAD/CAM, Novel biomaterials, and New technologies.

As mentioned above, in order to promote the most-attracted subjects in the field of Conservative Dentistry, most participants agreed to include all aspects of the disciplines for saving teeth, such as Conservative Dentistry, Restorative Dentistry, Prosthodontics, and Endodontics. From the ConsAsia 2018, the ConsAsia meeting will be supported by the Korean Academy of Conservative Dentistry, the Korean academy of Adhesive Dentistry, as well as the KACD.

By Long-Hoon Cho, President of the AOFCD and ConsAsia 2019

Fourteen most famous international well-known keynote speakers will participate to the scientific programs to give lectures on the up-to-date knowledges about the recently most-attracted subjects in the field of Conservative Dentistry. More than 30 country representative speakers will give lectures in concurrent sessions. We invite researchers, clinicians, and students from all of the Asian and Oceanian countries to submit abstracts for presentation to share and discuss their latest findings. There will be choices to discuss issues with world famous speakers. The presentation will be open for Research (Oral and Poster) Clinical Case Reports (Oral and Poster) Clinical Case Reports (Oral and Poster)

As mentioned above, in order to promote interests in Conservative Dentistry and organization of regional societies, Professor Dean Hien Chi Ngo proposed the Middle East Regional Conference: Professor Hatem El Damhouni as Secretary General of the LOC for the ConsAsia 2018, Sharjah, UAE held the meeting success-