BADN president thanks sponsors

BADN president Sue Bruckel has thanked all the sponsors of the 2009 National Dental Nursing Conference for helping to make it such a resounding success.

Ms Bruckel said that degluates would have had to pay up to three times the current conference fee without sponsorship, which paid for speakers’ fees and travel costs for the majority of the presentations, while the remaining speakers were local experts who gave their time for free.

The actual conference delegate rate charged by the venue was sponsored by the British Dental Trade Association, (BDTA) with conference handbooks sponsored by Philips Sonicare, which also sponsored books sponsored by Philips Schuelke, the University of Kent, WR Berkley Insurance (Europe) Ltd, 2gether NHS Foundation Trust and NHS Gloucestershire; and the generous donation of their time and expertise by the remaining speakers, conference registration fees would have had to start at over £200 each for BADN members and consequently £270 for non-members to cover the cost of staging the conference. And this doesn’t even take into account the administrative costs or the many hundreds of hours which the chief executive and staff put into the organization of the event.

“We should therefore like to thank all the sponsors, and speakers, for their generous support of dental nurses in the U.K.”

The registration fee for the 2009 National Dental Nursing Conference was £120 for BADN members and £190 for non-members. The current annual BADN full membership fee is £70.

Premier Award Winners 2009

This year’s Premier Symposium, organised by Dental Protection and Schülke, saw the winners of the Premier Awards 2009 announced. The annual risk management competition has a total prize fund of £6,000 and accepts entries from projects which recognise the importance of patient safety.

Congratulations to this year’s winners:

Undergraduate prize
1st Richard Beckwith Difficulties in obtaining valid consent in clinical dentistry.
2nd Rachel Ingle A comparison of HTM01-05 guidance with the sterilisation of reusable instruments in the Dental Practice Unit, University of Sheffield.

Postgraduate prize
1st James Roberts An audit to assess the cleanliness and storage of decontaminated dental instruments.
2nd Richard Hilliday Dental record keeping and the role of oral cancer screening in the dental access centre.

DCP prize
1st Michelle Mitchell Ethical considerations in 21st century dental hygiene.
2nd Amy Wilkins Extending the role of the dental nurse in the orthodontic practice: the patients’ perspective.

This year’s winners were of a very high calibre, and even though Sheffield Dental School was predominant amongst the winning entries, Kathy Harley, Chair of Dental Protection, who presented the awards took time to encourage dentists and DCPs from all regions of the UK to participate again next year.

Thank you also to the sponsors of the Premier Symposium, Smile-on and Henry Schein, who helped to make the day possible.

If you would like to receive details of next year’s Awards you can register your interest by emailing sarah.garry@mps.org.uk.

New GDC chair

Dentist Alison Lockyer (picture left) has been elected as chair of the new look General Dental Council. Alison was born in Leeds and is now based in Leicestershire, but also works in Oxfordshire.

Alison was a returning Registrant member to the Council of the GDC which she has been involved with for more than eight years.

She qualified in Edinburgh in 1980 and works full-time as a primary care dentist with five private and NHS practices in Oxfordshire and Leicestershire. She’s also provided dentistry within prisons and in an industrial setting (BMW factory).

The current Chair Hew Mathewson and the Chair Elect Alison Lockyer will discuss and agree the detailed handover timetable. The Chair Elect will take office as Chair on either 1 January 2010 or on the date on which the current Chair resigns, by agreement.

Alison commented: “I would like to thank Hew for his excellent Presidency, he will be a hard act to follow, but has been an excellent example of how to Chair. I am really looking forward to leading this multi-skilled and talented Council in public protection.”