The International Team for Implantology, an academic organization dedicated to the promotion of evidence-based research and education in the field of implant dentistry, has announced the election of Prof. Daniel Buser (Bern, Switzerland) as its new president.

The elections were held at the ITI’s annual general meeting 2009 in Copenhagen.

Buser has been an ITI fellow since 1986 and has taken an active role in the organization’s running since that time.

He has been a member of various ITI committees, most recently chairman of the education committee, as well as serving on the ITI Board of Directors.

In 2007, he was nominated president-elect. Buser follows outgoing president Prof. Dieter Weingart (Stuttgart, Germany), who led the organization from 2005 to 2009. Weingart will assume the role of past president, and will continue to serve on the ITI Board until 2011.

“Dr. Buser is an excellent educator and a charismatic leader,” Weingart said. “His contribution to the ITI, particularly in matters of education, is vast and his dedication complete. I am confident that both the ITI and the entire field of implant dentistry will greatly benefit from his term of office as ITI president.”

Buser is an oral surgeon and professor and chairman at the Department of Oral Surgery and Stomatology, as well as executive chairman of the School of Dental Medicine at the University of Bern, Switzerland.

He has authored and co-authored more than 200 publications and book chapters, and is also a driving force behind the ITI Treatment Guide series.

“I am excited to take on my new role as ITI president, and I look forward to working with the ITI Board of Directors to further establish the ITI as the leading academic organization in the field of implant dentistry,” Buser said.

“Our main focus in the upcoming four years of my presidency will be on quality assurance through best-in-class education, the efficient implementation of the recently established ITI University Program, on strengthening the ITI’s independence, as well as increasing ITI activities at a national level through our country sections.”

Buser received his undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in dentistry from the University of Bern. He did research at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine in Boston from 1989 to 1991, and spent educational sabbaticals at the Baylor College of Dentistry in Dallas in 1995, as well as at the University of Melbourne, Australia from 2007 to 2008.

His main scientific interests are in the field of tissue integration of dental implants, the bone-implant interface, bone regeneration in defect sites, guided bone regeneration, autografts and bone substitutes, as well as long-term studies on dental implants.

In addition to his work for the ITI, Buser served as president of the European Association for Osseointegration from 1996 to 1997, was president of the Swiss Society of Oral Implantology from 1999 to 2002 and was president of the Swiss Society of Oral Surgery and Stomatology from 2002 to 2007.

He is also president of the Board of the Swiss Implant Foundation and a board member of the Osteology Foundation.

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