ICOI Winter Symposium heads back to Orlando

The theme for this conference, as designed by Scientific Chair Dr. Avi Schetritt, is “Lessons Taught — Lessons Learned.” The faculty includes the following international lecturers: Drs. Jeffrey Babushkin, Joseph Carpentieri, Gordon Christensen, Mohamed Sherine El Attar, Scott Ganz, Rick Ferguson, Larry Grillo, Joseph Kan, Dwayne Karateew, Bach Le, Alan Meltzer, Michael Moscovitch, Ady Pals, Michael Pikos, Mitra Sadrameli, Nigel Saynor, Gerard Scortecci, Marius Steigmann, Christian Stohler and international motivational speaker and retired professional hockey player Ryan Walter.

The educational objectives of this conference are many and varied. However, upon completion of this symposium, attendees will:

• Discuss the evolution of root form implants from their introduction into the profession today.

• Recognize impact of digital technologies on the practice of dentistry and dental education.

• Learn an extra treatment modality that avoids extensive surgery, both with immediate and delayed loading.

• Identify and discuss controversies in dental implants.

• Review the management of difficult implant situations.

• Understand how to achieve improved predictability for dental implant placement.

• Explore clinical attributes of screw-retained vs. cement-retained provisional implants.

• Complementing the doctors’ program will be a two-and-a-half day program for staff members given by ICOI’s component, the Association of Dental Implant Auxiliaries (ADIA). The valuable training offered to the staff members has become a welcome addition to ICOI’s total continuing educational programs.

On Thursday morning, Jan. 22, delegates to this winter symposium should plan to attend one of several workshops that will be given by our sponsors, such as the hands-on course offered by Dr. Andrew Spector with platinum sponsor, MIS. This limited attendance course will focus on achieving improved predictability for dental implant placement.

Please introduce yourself to our readers. What is your background, and where do you work?

I am trained as a prosthodontist and also have maxillofacial prosthodontic training. As a full-time faculty member of Texas A&M University, Baylor College of Dentistry in Dallas, I serve as the director of continuing education and the assistant director of general dentistry (AEGD) and currently teach nine advanced education general dentistry residents.

My responsibilities involve the instruction of the surgical and restorative aspects of dental implant rehabilitation as well as removable and fixed prosthodontics. I primarily oversee the dental implant education of the residents and really enjoy treat-

By Craig Johnson
ICOI Executive Director

Why the AO is aiming to bring GPs, specialists together

By Sierra Rendon, Managing Editor

Photo/Provided by the Academy of Osseointegration

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See TOGETHER, page B3
NEW

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www.dentsplyimplants.com
Mark your calendar now for the AO’s 30th annual meeting, set for spring ’15

“Science, Collaboration and Clinical Excellence for 30 Years” will be the theme of the 30th Annual Meeting of the Academy of Osseointegration (AO), to be held March 12-14 at the Moscone West Convention Center in San Francisco. It will be an intense, three-day learning session for dental professionals interested in gaining cutting-edge insights and continuing education from some of the world’s most noted researchers and clinicians in the field of implant dentistry.

Among this event’s top new features are “Morning with the Masters,” a daybreak education session, where leading clinicians in the field, a symposium presented in English by seven prominent speakers from South Korea, and electronic posters where, for the first time, AO-member research will be presented on large flat-screen TV monitors instead of cardboard and paper. The event’s keynote speaker will be notable facial plastic surgeon Daniel Alam, MD, who was a member of the multidisciplinary team of doctors and surgeons at the Cleveland Clinic who performed the first near-total face transplant in the United States.

Follow AO on Facebook and Twitter to learn more, or visit www.osseo.org/futuremeetings.html.

Why did you become involved with AO?

I became involved with the AO early in its formation because I wanted to be affiliated with a group of individuals highly interested in the theoretical and clinical developments of implant dentistry. I was a speaker for the annual meeting in 1987 in Dallas, where the attending audience was approximately 100. In recent years, the membership has grown exponentially to nearly 6,000 national and international members.

That’s because more and more dental professionals are recognizing the organization’s value and share in our mission to enhance oral health globally. I enjoy being surrounded by bright, inquisitive individuals who always are energized by being together. Topics presented at the annual meeting include cutting-edge technology and techniques that are published about in the journals one to two years later.

In the midst of electronic technology, the “one-on-one” meeting of mentors, researchers and master clinicians is one of the most exciting aspects of the annual meeting. I am already looking forward to next year — our 30th anniversary — that will take place in San Francisco.

Is there something that people might be surprised to know about you?

While I am usually serious in nature and business-oriented, I do have a very good sense of humor! To learn more about the benefits of being an AO member, visit www.osseo.org/NEWBenefitsOfMembership.html.

FROM PAGE ONE

AO is working to bring specialists and general dentists into the dental community and developing continuing education programs that are pertinent to the current trends in dentistry. The interaction with international speakers and practitioners, general dentists and specialists in the community, as well as corporate dentistry, has made the position an exceptionally rewarding one for me.

I practice one day at the Sammons Cancer Center, where my maxillofacial prosthetic training has been valuable in providing services to patients with head and neck cancer and interfacing with the complex treatment plans of radiation oncologists, otolaryngologists and medical oncologists. My background, relative to the Academy of Osseointegration, has been deeply involved with the evolution of dental implant dentistry since my training directly with Professor Per-Ingvar Brånemark, often described as the father of modern dental implantology, in 1984. I participated with a team of surgeons and prosthetists in the original development of the dental implant program at UCLA School of Dentistry in 1985.

Since that time, I have been active in the Society of Osseointegration, particularly dental implant education within the dental community and developing treatment options for patients.

What insights do you have for a woman in this field? What would you tell female students from considering this career?

Dentistry is an exceptional profession for women today because it offers an opportunity to engage the art and science of the profession, along with healthy annual recertification and the possibility of a flexible schedule.

Today, the dental school student population of women exceeds or equals the male counterpart in most dental schools. This ratio has been changing for the last three decades. At Texas A&M University, the most recent class is 53 percent female and 47 percent male. There are also opportunities for leadership in many venues.

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