Greetings to iADH Members

We hope that you find this autumn newsletter informative and interesting.

Its role is to update our 8000 members allover the world on iADH activity over the last few months and to report back on plans in progress and future projects by the IADH. This newsletter will also soon be available on our website news section and via social media platforms for download and sharing.

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VISION AND MISSION
In addition to monthly online meetings, the Executive held a full day Interim meeting on the 13th of September. The meeting was kindly organised and housed at Ghent university in parallel with the European Association of Dental Public Health Conference – thanks are due to Luc Marks for organising this collaboration. Funding was unfortunately not available to facilitate a physical meeting for the whole committee but our members in North and South America, and in Australia were able to join us online. The morning was used to deal with ongoing business and the afternoon dedicated to discussing short, medium and long term goals for the iADH in a vision and missions exercise.
Earlier this year President Luc Marks travelled to India to attend their first symposium in Special Care Dentistry. His current dual role as IADH President and RCA for Special Olympics Special Smiles has strengthened links between the two associations and he clearly enjoyed the experience and witnessed some notable actions from the members of IADH India Chapter taking forward excellent initiatives in line with the mission and goals of IADH. In 2017, IADH and Special Olympics Special Smiles signed a memorandum of understanding which includes collaboration working towards such goals. Highlights of his visit are detailed below in this report from Dr Reena Kumar, Secretary iADH India Section.

1. The Dental Council of India welcomed the idea of initiating curriculum changes to include Special Care in BDS and the Secretary DCI requested President iADH to help with the curriculum. They are also looking towards developing a fellowship initiative.

2. The Executive Committee member sanctioned clinical postings of students of Divya Jyoti College to Suneedhi - the Centre for Special Care Dentistry. They also approved agreement to award a certificate on completion of the 3 days posting in special care clinic to the students.

3. The President and Secretary of the Indian Dental Association have agreed to conduct symposia and educational programs on special care starting from the current year at the National Conference.

4. The President iADH inaugurated the unique health messenger program at Asha Kiran, the Healthy Community. The brushing and hand washing video created by IDA for SO Bharat Special Smiles was launched at the inauguration.

5. The President iADH was witness signatory to the meaningful high impact MoU forged between SO Bharat and Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Sciences for the benefit of the healthy athletes programme.
The Mexican Society are organising the forthcoming iADH conference in Acapulco and the local organising committee hope to have their dedicated website up and running rapidly with registration details and instructions for abstract submissions. We will share this important information with you as soon as we are able.

Advisory IADH executive members assisting the local organising committee are Luc Marks, Gustavo Molina and Shouji Hironaka. At the interim meeting Luc was happy to report back that good progress is being made with the organisation of the iADH 2020 Congress, under the experienced responsibility and direction of Professor Juan Pablo Loyola Rodrigues.

Please note that all enquiries about congress should be directed to the local conference chair: contact: juanpablo.loyola8@gmail.com

The following information is for your diaries

**Dates:** 23rd to 26th September 2020

**Place:** Acapulco, Princess Mundo Imperial Hotel

**Theme:** ‘Where innovation meets Special Care Dentistry’

In the meantime, iADH Executive is negotiating with Skyteam for reduced air fares for the conference (airline group including Air Mexico, Air France, KLM, Delta airlines, amongst others).
Future congresses

The 2022 conference will be held from the 23rd to 26th August 2022, at La Maison de la Chimie, Paris France. The official launch for the local organising committee was held on 18th September 2019 in Paris. Denise Faulks is the local organising committee chair and Alison Dougall is the designated iADH member on this committee.

At the 2018 congress in Dubai, the South Korean association’s bid to hold the 2024 IADH conference in Seoul was confirmed following scrutiny of the bid, and presentation by Young J Kim in Chicago 2016.

The executive is currently finalising guidelines and eligibility criteria to standardise and assure the process for all future bids to host and organise IADH Conferences. The template Congress Contract and Roles and Responsibilities documents will be made openly available on the website over the coming weeks.

For those countries interested in bidding for 2026 and 2028 congresses, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the iADH Secretary, Johanna Norderyd to state your intention to bid and she will send out the necessary documents.

We will be formally calling for bids in October 2019 and will be inviting shortlisted bids to present at the IADH Council Meeting in 2020 in Mexico.
Sharat Chandra Pani, the iADH’s Media Officer, is now installed in his new post in Canada and has started the job of updating the website.

Alison Dougall ensures a constant news flow and moderates the lively iADH facebook pages and Twitter account. These exchanges will be linked to and from the website to ensure that all new news appears on all the different media platforms.

In addition, the scientific committee has proposed to start a research repository on the website, with members posting Open Access articles grouped according to subject matter. Any iADH member wishing to contribute to the repository can do so through Denise Faulks, the IADH editor. vicechair@iadh.org

The education committee are working on establishing a list of all the different courses and training pathways available worldwide. They will soon be in touch with council members to collect this information, which will gradually be posted online. Anybody wishing to contribute to the list of courses and training opportunities should get in touch with Avanti Karve from the education committee education@iadh.org

Both scientific and education committee members will also be providing material for the iADH Now Youtube channel. Again if your association has any films that you feel might interest the iADH community, please send to the iADH Editor, Denise Faulks. vicechair@iadh.org

Please do not hesitate to share any of your local or national news, or to send information regarding national conferences, courses and activities. The best way to do this is for people to post directly to the Facebook page and add a private message (pm) requesting that the information also goes onto the iADH website.

Alternatively contact chair@iadh.org and mark your email ‘IADH NEWS’
Improved internet banking services have been arranged for the iADH account in Canada, thanks to the intervention of Timucin Ari in Ontario. This should remove the problems that certain members were having with bank transfers. The PayPal account is working well and remains an easy option for the payment of fees.

If there are any residual difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact Martin Arts, the iADH Treasurer: treasurer@iadh.org

In the absence of a candidate for Membership/Secretary, the Executive unanimously voted at the interim meeting to employ a secretary for one session a week to deal with membership matters. A data sharing GDPR agreement has been developed and is ready to be sent to member associations as soon as we have somebody in place. This data sharing agreement will ensure that iADH can keep a secure and up to date database of membership email addresses shared with them by member organisations according to the strictest criteria.

Members who opt to allow their member organisation to share their email addresses would then be eligible for a membership number and member benefits, such as a reduced registration rate at congress and online access to the Journal of Disability and Oral Health and so forth.

The Executive is also considering plans for the provision of mentoring opportunities for new associations. A framework could be developed that allowed young associations to be twinned with better established organisations that could provide advice and guidance on how they have managed to develop and gain recognition.

The International Advisory Committee has been tasked with looking into a suitable framework and to identify organisations looking to benefit from twinning opportunities.
In response to requests from members, the scientific committee and the education committee will be working in collaboration to examine the potential for the iADH to recognise ‘Fellows of iADH’.

Whilst recognising that iADH is not a regulatory body, consultation is underway to examine whether it will be possible to develop a list of criteria, including education, research and clinical experience and mentoring, that could lead to a colleague being recognised as a ‘Fellow’. The primary aim of this project would be to provide professional recognition of colleagues that do not have a training or career pathway in their own country or region.

This feasibility project is currently being led by Professor Pedro Dis Dios of the iADH scientific committee and Dr Jacobo Limeres Posse of the iADH education committee.

It is the belief of the Executive that the iADH should be the “go to” organisation for any question regarding the oral health of persons with special needs. In order to raise the profile of the iADH in this context, the Executive will be approaching key organisations over the next few months in order to renew, strengthen or create formal ties, such as the joint mission statement between FDI and iADH signed in 2016, or the memorandum of understanding with Special Olympics and with IAPD. An example of this is the presence of iADH, in the person of Colman McGrath from the IADH Scientific Committee, in the ongoing negotiation of a Special Care Dentistry group at IADR (International Association of Dental Research).
The interim meeting was an opportunity for the Executive to step back from the day to day running of the association and reflect upon directions for iADH in the short, medium and long term.

It was unanimously agreed that the principal role of the IADH is to federate by bringing people together around a common objective and to facilitate networks and encourage collaboration in this regard.

❖ In the short term, our aims will be to provide greater resources for membership via our online platforms, in particular with regards education, research, mentoring and ongoing news as detailed above.

❖ In the medium term, we aim to ensure that membership matters are secure and handled professionally, guaranteeing and protecting the benefits of membership for all.

❖ We also wish to be able to propose recognition to experienced colleagues through the Fellow of iADH project.

❖ By 2021, we plan to review the iADH Curricula and to provide an overview of the state of education in Special Care Dentistry

In the long term, we believe that the iADH should be driving the oral health and disability agenda worldwide. In order to do this, we need to increase the visibility and the credibility of our association by being increasingly present and reactive to issues in the field.

Collaboration with international patient groups that have shared values will also be essential to enable mutual support in advocacy projects, and to create new opportunities for change.

Warm regards and looking forward to seeing you in Mexico!

iADH Executive
International Association for Disability & Oral Health

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