Message from the president

Each FDI Annual World Dental Congress (AWDC) has a distinctive flavour and presents the unique opportunity to learn about the culture and customs, as well as oral health issues, in another part of the world, which adds to the attraction of these meetings. This is the time of the year when both our FDI staff and the members of the local organising committee (LOC) shift into top gear as the excitement of the approaching congress builds. Knowing the members of the Singapore Dental Association as I do, I can assure you that a most memorable congress is in store for us this year.

FDI’s Education Committee, working with the LOC, has an impressive array of speakers lined up for our scientific programme. The broad range of topics will include gerodontology, oral cancer, salivary biomarkers, and implants. Forums conducted as workshops will address current topics, such as bisphosphonates.

Anyone who has attended an international dental meeting in Singapore, like the biennial IDEM meeting, knows what excellence our colleagues in Singapore are. The social events are planned to take advantage of the remarkable tourist attractions, as well as the marvellous climate and exciting cuisine enjoyed in this exquisite city. At Singapore Night, a sunset ride on the Singapore Flyer, the world’s largest observation wheel, will give spectacular views of the tropical paradise all the way to the Singapore River and Marina Bay. You will also enjoy exotic food while networking with international colleagues. The Gala Dinner at Orchard Hotel promises to be a memorable event, especially for those of us for whom such stunning tropical gardens are only seen in movies or on postcards!

The Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre is a modern venue providing all the facilities needed under one roof. This year, even the Welcome Ceremony will be held on-site, and with many excellent hotels close to the Centre attending all events will be very convenient.

Location, facilities, and scientific and social programmes are all important ingredients for a successful dental congress. The AWDC, however, is really all about people, and we need you in attendance to help us in advancing Dentistry at the Crossroads of the World. FDI congresses are designed to promote oral health globally. Our Singapore colleagues are really putting out the welcome mat for us, and all our committees and staff have worked hard to deliver a first-class congress.

See you in Singapore! 

Dr Burton Conrod
FDI President

World Dental Exhibition

At this year’s FDI AWDC in Singapore—known for its advancements in technology and keen business sense—the FDI World Dental Exhibition is sure to follow suit, spotlighting all of the latest innovations in the dental industry and showcasing the full range of all the top companies from around the globe.

The exhibition is free of charge to all those registered for the congress; for those who wish to explore the exhibition only, passes can be purchased on-site for a small fee.

Please look at our website for opening hours and the regularly updated list of exhibitors.

Limited attendance courses

Spotlight on limited attendance courses at FDI AWDC Singapore 2009

How do limited attendance courses differ from those offered in the main scientific programme? What additional perspectives do they offer congress attendees? The FDI has created limited attendance courses to give congress attendees the opportunity to gain additional knowledge and skills from renowned international experts in their field in a more personal setting. The dental topics addressed in these courses are best delivered to smaller groups in a practical hands-on setting.

At the congress in Singapore, the limited attendance courses will be held on Tuesday 1 September, the day before the main scientific programme of the FDI AWDC begins.

This year, the courses cover a wider range of clinical subjects, such as endodontics, sinus lift implant surgery, third molar surgery, the immediate overdenture, paedodontic emergencies, practice management, and paedodontic behavioural management.

Detailed information on each of the limited attendance courses can be found on the FDI website and return them to the FDI head office by 25 July 2009. After this date, participants are invited to register on-site at the Congress venue.

Take advantage of the early bird rates by registering before 15 May 2009.

Official Carrier
Receive up to 20 per cent discount with the Star Alliance network.

Scientific programme
More than 50 sessions over 6 days structured around this year’s theme of Advancing Dentistry at the Crossroads of the World will highlight the latest advancements and techniques in the dentistry world.

Registration
Those wishing to attend the Congress need to complete the registration forms and return them to the FDI head office by 25 July 2009. After this date, participants are invited to register on-site at the Congress venue.

News in brief
Social events, day tours & post-congress excursions

Information available online

Social events

No FDI congress would be complete without the time-honoured tradition of Local Night and Gala Dinner events. This year is no exception; each evening is one rich in Singapore culture, ambience, and cuisine. Singapore Night will take place at the newest addition to the Singapore skyline: the Singapore Flyer! After a ride on the Flyer, experience the delicacies of Singapore cuisine in the open-air market atmosphere at the Marina Bay.

Singapore is the orchid—its national flower. What better place to enjoy the sumptuous Gala Dinner than one surrounded by the magical gardens of Orchidville? You will be immersed in a tropical atmosphere, sure to be a magical retreat from the bustle of the city.

For more information on these events, as well as the FDI Welcome Ceremony, please visit the FDI website.

Day tours

The Singapore Dental Association is proud to host the 2009 FDI AWDC and eager to share the rich cultural heritage of Singapore with all congress attendees. Attendees are offered the opportunity to discover Singapore by immersing themselves in its culture; in addition to the sightseeing day tours offered this year, like visits to the Singapore Zoo or the famed Orchidville, there are several day tours that allow you to participate in everyday activities, like the Tea Workshop or the What’s Cooking activities, where you will learn to cook local specialties. Places for these activities for small groups are sure to be filled quickly; book early to ensure your spot!

Post-congress excursions

For attendees wishing to explore more of what the Asia Pacific Region has to offer, we invite you to check out our post-congress excursions: be swept away by Indonesian charm on the exotic island of Bali, indulge yourself in a Malaysian getaway, or discover the appeal of the Thai culture. Each excursion can be tailored to your needs by choosing different hotels and tours for certain destinations.

Please look at the information on these tours on the FDI website.

Reduced hotel rates

Singapore is known for its outstanding hotels and award-winning customer service. Pacific World, the FDI’s official accommodation office, is proud to offer a large choice of hotels for our congress attendees. Many of the hotels are conveniently located within walking distance or a short taxi ride from the Congress Centre.

You can treat yourself to a luxury five-star hotel, like the famous Mandarin Oriental, or choose a more relaxed atmosphere at the Albert Court. Whatever your choice, all of our official hotels are sure to please.

For more information on the rates for most of the hotels and all of our official hotels, visit the Pacific World website.