

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF DENTURISTS

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Most of my time this past year has been spent in preparation for the 6th World Symposium on Denturism. Activities were focused on exhibits, programs, sponsorship, registration, and production of special events. Thank you to the committee for their assistance over the past year: Paul Levasseur, Austin Carbone, Tad Burzynski, Connie Gerrity, Fred Gerrity, Tony Sarrapuchiello and Martin Damphousse.

In October 2008, I attended the 2008 Annual meeting in Malta. Thank you to John Salamone-Reynaud and his colleagues for putting together a well organized, hospitable, and very memorable event.

During the Canadian National Congress in Montreal in the fall of 2008, I was honoured to be named the first Honorary Member of l'Association des denturologistes du Québec.

Communication has been ongoing with several members and potential members of the IFD. Colum Sower of Ireland has expressed interest in joining IFD and he will send their application after their member meeting this fall. Communication with Spain has broken down and we have not heard from them despite repeated attempts to contact the President and Chief Executive. Mario Viveros of Spain has also been trying to contact the Spain Association for their permission to represent them at this meeting. I am also appreciative to Mario for his efforts to communicate with Bruno Castro, a Dental Technician in Brazil who has expressed interest in joining the IFD. Again, communication has broken down because of lack of response from the gentleman. We need to clarify the situation in Brazil before accepting his individual membership. Earlier this year, we received communication from an association in France that was in competition with the French association we have accepted as members. We have encouraged the two associations to communicate with each other and join together in solidarity to forward the profession in France.

I have communicated with Finland regarding the 2010 Annual Meeting to be held in Helsinki. I have also communicated with Denmark re the 2012 Annual Meeting to be held in Copenhagen.

In last year's report, I noted a problem with the domain name of the website. We have managed to regain the domain name of www.international-denturist.org. The official website domain name is now www.international-denturists.org. Both names are linked to one site.

I attempted to start an e-newsletter and requested updates from members so we could communicate more regularly. I did receive reports from Australia, Finland and Switzerland but did not produce an e-newsletter. I did receive interest from members that this would happen but did not have enough news or enough time to produce an e-newsletter in 2009. We will attempt to do this again in 2010.

Thank you to the many Denturists from all over the world who keep us informed about what is going on in their country and the well-being of Denturism in their area.



Gerry Hansen, Chief Executive
October 13, 2009