One World of Orthodontics

8th IOC brings more than 5,500 orthodontic colleagues, guests to London for collaboration, learning

The transformative power of orthodontics and the contributions of some of the highest achieving orthodontists in the world were celebrated on the first day of the 8th International Orthodontic Congress® (IOC), which was co-hosted by the British Orthodontic Society (BOS) and the WFO. The 8th IOC was held Sept. 27-30 in London.

WFO President Dr. Roberto Justus (left), the 2010-2015 president of the WFO, and the WFO’s outgoing president, Dr. Allan Thom, the 2015-2020 president of the WFO, welcomed the delegates to London during the Opening Ceremony on Sept. 27. “I have never been so proud to be British and a part of the World Federation of Orthodontists,” he said. “This meeting brings together more than 5,500 colleagues from 116 countries around the world to celebrate all that is good about orthodontics. “I have loved orthodontics for the past 30 years. There is something about our specialty that is irresistible, largely our ability to change lives on an almost daily basis.”

During the Opening Ceremony, the WFO bestowed honorary fellowship upon Prof. Nigel Hunt and Prof. Birte Melsen. "I have an outstanding new Executive Committee, drawn from all regions of the world, with representatives of the highest caliber and dedication," said Dr. Thom, who served on the Executive Committee for the past 10 years and is from Tunbridge Wells, England. "We also have the essential support and wise council of Lee Graber, a past president of the WFO, as the new secretary general. We are moving forward into the future with confidence. We may have preconceived ideas about the future, but it does not always go according to plan. There will always be new issues to be confronted, but the clear objectives of the WFO will form the strategy for decisions, which may not be popular at the time, but will stand the test of time for the specialty."

ABO/WFO symposium on orthodontic board certification draws more than 50 attendees from numerous countries

During the 8th International Orthodontic Congress® (IOC), the WFO and the Executive Committee of the American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) hosted a half-day symposium on board certification with the goal of assisting orthodontic certifying boards around the world and those national and regional WFO affiliate organizations that wish to form a new certifying board. As a result of this meeting, the WFO is now aware that individuals representing the Costa Rican Academy of Orthodontics, the Czech Orthodontic Society, the Chinese Orthodontic Society, the Egyptian Orthodontic Society, the Iranian Association of Orthodontists, the Malaysian Association of Orthodontists and the Polish Orthodontic Society have shown interest in forming a certifying board.

Dr. Dea Czochrowska, president of the Polish Orthodontic Society, attended the symposium. “We do not have the board examination in Poland, although we have a practical

Bright Future Ahead

WFO President Dr. Allan Thom shares his vision for the WFO’s future

At the conclusion of the 8th International Orthodontic Congress (IOC) in London, Dr. Roberto Justus, the outgoing president of the WFO, passed the responsibility of the WFO’s future to Dr. Allan Thom, the 2015-2020 president of the WFO, and the new Executive Committee.

Prior to this formal transition, Dr. Thom shared his vision for the WFO’s future with the 8th IOC attendees on Sept. 29 and Sept. 30 during the 8th IOC press conference and WFO political session.

“I have an outstanding new Executive Committee, drawn from all regions of the world, with representatives of the highest caliber and dedication,” said Dr. Thom, who served on the Executive Committee for the past 10 years and is from Tunbridge Wells, England. “We also have the essential support and wise council of Lee Graber, a past president of the WFO, as the new secretary general. We are moving forward into the future with confidence. We may have preconceived ideas about the future, but it does not always go according to plan. There will always be new issues to be confronted, but the clear objectives of the WFO will form the strategy for decisions, which may not be popular at the time, but will stand the test of time for the specialty.”

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newly created WFO service award, The William H. DeKock Distinguished Service Award. This award recognizes Dr. DeKock’s work on behalf the WFO, which spans more than two decades. Dr. DeKock was instrumental in the formation of the WFO and has continued to provide leadership since its inception. (See page 8 for the related article.)

After the awards, Dr. Anne Marie Kuipers-Jagtman delivered the WFO Honorary Lecture, entitled “The Many Faces of Orthodontists.” Dr. Kuipers-Jagtman served as professor and chair of the Department of Orthodontics and Craniofacial Biology at Radboud University in Nijmegen, Netherlands, until her retirement in 2014.

Dr. Kuipers-Jagtman discussed the expectations of patients, the methods for measuring treatment outcomes and what the future might hold. So much has changed in the last decades, including the dramatic rise in the number of people opting for treatment, she said. The appliances and techniques have also evolved in a variety of ways:

- Bonding to bonding
- Conventional to self-ligating wires
- Multi-loop to straightwire
- Metal to ceramic brackets
- Visible to invisible systems

However, she noted that orthodontists still use cephalograms and PAR scoring to analyze results of treatment. She questioned whether these were still appropriate. Dr. Kuipers-Jagtman also made a case for evaluating the spontaneous smile of patients, instead of the posed smile, while acknowledging that this is difficult to capture and measure. She also contended that the stews and values of patients should be reflected in outcome measures for orthodontic treatment.

Following Dr. Kuipers-Jagtman’s presentation, the Urban Soul Orchestra kicked off the 8th IOC with its spectacular British-themed performance that featured events and music from the Victorian era to the present.

Dr. Sara Hurley, the new chief dental officer for England, was among the many VIP guests.

The 8th IOC also featured the World Village Day Programme on Sept. 29. Through this session, 16 WFO affiliate organizations each had the unique opportunity of hosting half-day scientific programs. Congress attendees had numerous social events to attend as well, including the Presidents’ Reception at the Natural History Museum and the Gala Dinner at the Old Billingsgate Market.

The 8th International Orthodontic Congress (IOC) in London marked almost 90 years of collaboration among orthodontists around the world. In 1926, the 1st IOC was held in New York, New York, USA. This was the first worldwide congress ever held by a dental specialty and was the brainchild of Dr. William C. Fisher, the president of the American Society of Orthodontists (ASO), which is now known as the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO). The ASO, at that time, boasted nearly 450 exclusively practicing orthodontists as members and was celebrating the 50th anniversary of its founding in 1905.

The component societies of the 1st IOC consisted of 15 orthodontic societies, including 10 societies from the United States and five societies from Europe.

The 2nd IOC was held in London in 1931 under the presidency of Dr. J. H. Badcock of the American Society of Orthodontists. He then contacted the orthodontic societies one by one and faxed to them a copy of the draft WFO Bylaws. He asked if they would join with the AAO to form the WFO. The AAO agreed to hold its 1995 Annual Session in San Francisco, California, USA, with the 4th IOC. AAO President Dr. William H. DeKock of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, USA, organized this meeting, which ultimately led to the founding of the WFO.

Prior to the 4th IOC, Dr. DeKock developed the first draft of the Bylaws of the WFO, basing them on the strengths of the already existing national orthodontic societies and other dental and medical organizations throughout the world. He then contacted the orthodontic societies by one and faxed to them a copy of the draft WFO Bylaws he had prepared. He asked if they would join with the AAO to form the WFO during the 4th IOC. Ultimately, 69 national and regional orthodontic societies signed the charter of the WFO at the Herbst Theatre in San Francisco on May 15, 1995. The Herbst Theatre had been the site of the signing of the United Nations charter in 1945 following World War II. Dr. DeKock went on to serve as the WFO president (1995-2000) and as the WFO secretary-general (2000-2015).

The 5th IOC was held in Chicago, Illinois, USA, in 2000 in conjunction with the 100th AAO Annual Session. Dr. Lee Gruber of V enorm Hills, Illinois, USA, succeeded Dr. DeKock as WFO president at the conclusion of the Congress.

In 2005, the 6th IOC was held in Paris, France. The Societe Francaise d’Orthopédie Dentofaciale and the Syndicat des Specialistes Francais on Orthopédie Dentofaciale (now known as the French Union of Orthodontic Specialists) hosted the Congress. Dr. Oliver Mauchamp, from Grenoble, France, served as chairman. Dr. Athanasios E. Athanasoul succeeded Dr. Gruber as the president of the WFO. At that time, Dr. Athanasoul was based in Thessaloniki, Greece.

The Australian Society of Orthodontists sponsored the 7th IOC in 2010 in Sydney, Australia. Dr. Rick Olive served as chair of the Sydney International Orthodontic Congress Committee. Dr. Roberto Justus of Mexico City, Mexico, became the fourth president of the WFO.

The British Orthodontic Society sponsored the 8th IOC this past September and devoted more than seven years to the planning of this spectacular scientific and social Congress. Dr. Jonathan Sandler served as chair of the organizing committee. Dr. Allan Thom was elected as the fifth president of the WFO.

The 9th IOC will be held Oct. 4-7, 2020, in Yokohama, Japan. See the related article on page 5 for more details about this Congress.
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The WFO Council convened Sept. 26 prior to the 8th International Orthodontic Congress® (IOC) in London. During this meeting, the Council elected the members of the 2015-2020 WFO Executive Committee, approved several Bylaws amendments, and reviewed reports of the Executive Committee’s actions over the past five years, including a full financial report.

**Executive Committee Election**
The following individuals are the newly elected members of the 2015-2020 WFO Executive Committee. They are listed by region:

- **Africa and the Middle East** – Dr. Joseph Bouvier of Beirut, Lebanon
- **Central and East Asia** – Dr. Koji Moriyama of Tokyo, Japan; Dr. Nikhil Vaid of Mumbai, India; and Dr. Yanheng Zhou of Beijing, China
- **Central and South America** – Dr. Ricardo Machado Cruz of Brasilia, Brazil
- **Europe** – Dr. Jonathan Sandler of Chesterfield, England; and Dr. Panagiotis Skoularikis of Nea Smirni, Greece
- **North America** – Dr. Thomas Ahman of Lima, Ohio, USA; and Dr. Amanda Maplethorp of Port Moody, British Columbia, Canada
- **Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, and Singapore** – Dr. Himawan Halim of Jakarta Pusat, Indonesia

These individuals will serve with Dr. Allan Thom of Tunbridge Wells, England, the WFO president; Dr. Lee W. Graber of Vernon Hills, Illinois, USA, the WFO secretary-general; Dr. Jorge Faber of Brasilia, Brazil, the editor-in-chief of the Journal of the World Federation of Orthodontists; and Dr. Takashi Ono of Tokyo, Japan, the representative for the Japanese Orthodontic Society, which is the host of the 9th IOC in 2020. Dr. Ono is professor and chair of the Department of Orthodontic Science at the Graduate School of the Tokyo Medical and Dental University (TMDU). He is also the deputy director of the International Student Exchange at TMDU.

**Bylaws Amendments**
The Council also approved five Bylaws amendments. The updated Bylaws are available online at www.wfos.org/governance.

Two of the amendments clarified the definitions of WFO affiliate national and regional organizations, as well as the outcome of non-payment of dues.

**Article 6.1.7** now reads as follows:

> National and regional associations are organizations composed of two or more WFO-affiliated national associations. WFO-affiliated regional association membership may not include national organizations that are not WFO-affiliated, and no derived group (society, chapter, local organization, etc.) of members of a WFO-affiliated national association is eligible to become a WFO-affiliated national organization.

The following amendment was added to Article 6.5 to address non-payment of dues by national or regional WFO affiliate organizations:

> Any national or regional association or society that fails to pay the affiliation fee within four years from the due date shall be ineligible to be a member of the WFO, and its affiliation with the WFO shall be terminated. Any association or society that has failed to pay its WFO affiliation fee by the due date shall not be entitled to representation on the WFO Council unless and until payment of the past-due affiliation fee is received by the WFO.

Another Bylaws amendment addresses representation on the WFO Council. The membership of all WFO-affiliated organizations differs greatly, and each organization, no matter how large or small its membership might be, has something of value to contribute to the welfare of the WFO. As such, Article 6.5 now reads as follows (boldface text indicates new wording):

In addition to the councilors provided for in Article 6.4, forty (40) additional councilors, who must be fellows of the WFO, will be elected every five years by affiliated national or regional associations or societies on a pro-rata basis in proportion to the number of their members who are dues-paying fellows of the Federation, provided no single organization be represented by more than seven (7) of these forty councilors. In the event multiple WFO-affiliated organizations exist within a single country, the total number of councilors for that country may not exceed seven (7). The affiliated organizations shall send the names of the representatives to the secretary-general prior to the regular meeting of the Council. Such representatives’ terms shall commence at the first regular Council meeting occurring immediately after their election and shall end immediately prior to the next regular Council meeting. Subject to the provisions of these Bylaws, any such representative may be changed only upon written notification to the secretary-general by the organization that appointed the representative.

The Council also approved the creation of an Awards Committee as a new standing committee of the Executive Committee. This committee, as outlined in Article 8.4.2, will have the authority to develop named awards to recognize those individuals who have rendered distinguished service to the WFO and the specialty of orthodontics.

The Council also approved the use of the American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure to govern the WFO’s parliamentary needs.

**Correction**
The list of WFO councilors was included in the last issue of the WFO Gazette. A few councilors were listed under the wrong WFO affiliate organization. These individuals should have been listed as follows:

- **Chinese Orthodontic Society** – Dr. Yanheng Zhou, Dr. Tiantian Xu and Dr. Yuxing Bai
- **Hong Kong Society of Orthodontists Ltd.** – Dr. Vincent F. Leung
- **Macau Association of Orthodontists** – Dr. Wei Lin
- **Taiwan Association of Orthodontists** – Dr. Eric J.W. Liu and Dr. Shih Ping Lu

The Taiwan Orthodontic Society was also mistakenly listed as a WFO affiliate organization. The Taiwan Association of Orthodontists should have been listed instead.

The WFO Gazette apologizes for these errors.
Japanese Orthodontic Society to welcome WFO fellows to Yokohama in 2020

JOS is the host of the 9th International Orthodontic Congress®

With the 8th International Orthodontic Congress® (IOC) complete, the Japanese Orthodontic Society (JOS) will begin promoting its plans for the 9th IOC over the coming five years. The JOS, in conjunction with the WFO, will host the 9th IOC Oct. 4-7, 2020, at the Pacifico Yokohama Convention Complex in Yokohama, Japan.

Yokohama is Japan’s first port of call and is the nation’s key entry point for international trade and communications, bringing global perspectives, new ideas and multiculturalism. The city offers diverse experiences, from the authentic Japanese customs to world-class amenities and destinations. This thriving port city is also conveniently located 30 minutes from metropolitan Tokyo and is accessible by two international airports.

“The Japanese Orthodontic Society believes that holding the 9th IOC in Japan will be a great opportunity for Japanese and international orthodontists to share the fruits and findings of the basic research and treatment practice that the Japanese orthodontic community has accumulated over the years, while deepening ties between orthodontics and other related domains so that our area of specialization can further develop as an important pillar of health science,” said Dr. Takashi Oto, who is the chairman of the 9th IOC planning committee and is the JOS representative on the WFO Executive Committee. “We also believe that, by gathering together in Japan, orthodontists and dental care professionals from around the world, who will bring with them their expertise, experience and wisdom, will be of particular significance in expanding and supporting the need for orthodontic care that is rapidly growing throughout the world, especially in Asia.”

The JOS will share Congress details through the 9th IOC website, www.wfo2020yokohama.org, as they become available.

8th IOC delegates snap photos for Congress contest

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Dr. Keiji Moriyama of the Japanese Orthodontic Society introduces the organizing committee for the 9th International Orthodontic Congress® (IOC) during the WFO political session at the 8th IOC.

Dr. Syed Bazli Alwi b. Syed Bakhtiar of Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia, submitted this winning photo to the 8th International Orthodontic Congress® photo contest. He wittily titled it “Orthodontists, in a Straight Line.” The British Orthodontic Society shared photo submissions via Twitter throughout the Congress (#IOC2015Photo and #BestOfTheRest).
During the 8th International Orthodontic Congress®, approximately 80 orthodontic student members attended the first meeting of the World Federation of Postgraduate Orthodontic Students (WFPOS) on Sept. 28. The meeting included three scientific lectures and the election of the WFPOS officers. The WFPOS is open only to WFO student members, who may join for free.

The WFPOS officers. The WFPOS is open only to WFO student members.

Shared by Dr. Karolina Kaczor-Urbanowicz, the WFPOS president. With the approval of the WFO, Dr. Kaczor-Urbanowicz founded the organization in 2014 in an effort to unite postgraduate orthodontic students.

Dr. Ali Darooshfard of Australia, Dr. Marco Rosa of Italy, and Dr. Jan J. Bowman of the United States presented the scientific lectures. "We were really excited to hear their presentations, especially since the lectures were chosen by us, students from all over the world," said Dr. Kaczor-Urbanowicz, who is from Poland. "Their invaluable input during our first luncheon meeting left a long-lasting and treasured memory of the beginning of our newly established WFPOS."

Following the presentations, Dr. Allan Thom, the 2010-2015 president of the WFPO, spoke to the WFPOS members. "Prof. Roberto Justus gave a wonderful speech for us, "

"It was a great experience for each of us to get to know each other and to share our thoughts," said Dr. Karolina Kaczor-Urbanowicz, the WFPOS president. With the approval of the WFO, Dr. Kaczor-Urbanowicz founded the organization in 2014 in an effort to unite postgraduate orthodontic students.

"We were strongly affected by his warm words directed especially to us. We highly appreciate the fact that, although he had so many duties, he found time to attend our meeting!"

The group then elected the first officers of the WFPOS. In addition to Dr. Kaczor-Urbanowicz, Dr. Radost Vekrovk and Dr. Ken Vokcheva, both of Bulgaria, are councilors.

"Our executive committee is intensely working on the bylaws of our organization, which is the major goal for the near future," Dr. Kaczor-Urbanowicz said. "We are still in the process of assigning further positions within our executive committee. We are also developing and improving the methods of encouraging more students to become members, as well as organizing our next major student meeting."

Dr. Kaczor-Urbanowicz also noted that the WFPOS, which has more than 400 members, has initiated cooperation with the European Postgraduate Students Orthodontic Society. She fully appreciates the support the WFPO has given orthodontic student members, which has allowed the WFPOS to grow.

"I was really thrilled when Prof. Roberto Justus and Prof. Allan Thom mentioned our newly established WFPOS during the 8th IOC WFO political session, thus proving how really important student members are for the WFO," she said.

The WFPOS members are also grateful to Dr. Jonathan Sandler, chair of the 8th IOC, and to Dr. Roberto Justus, for their outstanding enlightenment and inspiring words about the establishment and development of the WFPOS. "They not only stimulated our further interest in the field of orthodontics but, through the process of this meeting and our discussions, also provided prudent and pointed guidance. They also enabled us to organize our first meeting. We are pleased and honored to have their continued support," said Dr. Kaczor-Urbanowicz.

Bright Future Ahead

Over the past 20 years, the WFO has grown dramatically and now has 111 affiliate organizations and close to 10,000 fellows.

"Naturally, we wish to maintain and increase our membership of appropriately qualified orthodontists, and therein lies the strength of the WFO," Dr. Thom said. "We want our membership to put the best interests of their patients and the long-term outcome of their treatment first. The WFO will support and encourage affiliate societies in their efforts to promote the clinical outcomes from specialists over and above those of non-specialists. Education and peer-reviewed accreditation does make a difference in the quality of orthodontic care given to our patients. And, how do patients know what is appropriate for them? We, through the WFO and the affiliate organizations, must tell them!"

Dr. Thom says the WFO will also remain a world organization that welcomes fellow from all political, social and financial backgrounds.

"These are WFO fellows who live in financially constrained environments, such that they do not have the opportunity of presenting their work or networking internationally. The new Executive Committee will explore ways to help a limited number of deserving fellows to present at a WFO-supported conference. Overall, the sums involved will be small and will not affect fellows’ dues, but the educational rewards will be large, measured not in the least by the clinical outcomes of patients. The WFO will be providing a life-changing opportunity to deserving fellows or postgraduate students."

Dr. Thom was in part-time private practice for more than 30 years. He has served as a consultant orthodontist and honorary senior lecturer for Guy’s Hospital in London and as a consultant orthodontist at the Queen Victoria Hospital in East Grinstead, England. He has been an accredited teacher and examiner for the Universities of London, Sri Lanka and India. Dr. Thom also has a master’s degree in law and maintains a dento-legal practice through which he works closely with other attorneys. He is a past president of the British Orthodontic Society, the European Federation of Orthodontics and the British Orthodontic Technical Association.

Communication among fellows, affiliate organizations and the WFO Executive Committee will also contribute to the ongoing success of the WFO. Dr. Thom stresses that all fellows and affiliate organizations have a voice in the WFO.

"Of necessity, some WFO regions, of which there are six, are large in terms of the number of fellows, and others are large by geography," he said. "I wish to stress that a prime responsibility of the newly elected Executive Committee is to maintain close contact with fellows within their region. The opinions of all fellows are important. Dr. Graber and I are always approachable via the WFO Secretariat in St. Louis."

"We must take the WFO to places where we are less known. We must take the WFO to places where we are known, but have few fellows," Dr. Thom said. "We must all be waving the WFO flag — to promote membership, to promote communication, to promote a cohesive worldwide specialty society for qualified orthodontists."

Dr. Thom hopes that orthodontists strive to form professional orthodontic societies in countries where none exists today. "These efforts are welcome, and the WFO is there to help and advise as necessary," he said. "The WFO is rightly proud of the assistance it has provided over the past 20 years to many countries where orthodontists have sought strong national or regional organization."

"We must take the WFO to places where we are less known. We must take the WFO to places where we are known, but have few fellows. We must all be waving the WFO flag — to promote membership, to promote communication, to promote a cohesive worldwide specialty society for qualified orthodontists. The new Executive Committee will approach this with vigor." Dr. Thom also expects that new societies will form in countries where there is already a WFO affiliate society. While the WFO will not interfere with local politics that might bring this about, Dr. Thom does hope that organizers of a new society might reach out to the leadership of the established society first. "Looking to the future and the WFO’s cohesion, I urge those wishing to establish a new society as an affiliate of the WFO to first explore cooperation with existing societies," Dr. Thom said. "More societies in one country can increase the possibility of a diluted membership, division and the lost opportunity of speaking with one voice to regulatory bodies."

"Organizations such as the WFO must act in an appropriate and transparent manner. This can be summarized as accountability, responsibility and ownership. Accountability will be by way of the protocol with which the Executive Committee conducts itself. Responsibility will be by way of representing the interests of all WFO fellows. As far as ownership, we all own the WFO. We, as trained orthodontists, are the WFO. We must ensure that the organization continues to rest with those who can demonstrate appropriate training and qualification.

"The future is bright. Our future is for the specialty of orthodontics. The future is the WFO."

From left, Dr. Jonathan Sandler, Dr. Roberto Justus, Dr. Karolina Kaczor-Urbanowicz and Dr. Allan Thom all participated in the first meeting of the World Federation of Postgraduate Orthodontic Students (WFPOS) on Sept. 28 during the 8th International Orthodontic Congress® in London. Dr. Kaczor-Urbanowicz is the WFPOS president.
WFO Executive Committee grants dues waiver to WFO student members for another year

WFO student members who transition to WFO fellowship also receive dues waiver

The WFO Executive Committee recently approved the extension of two membership promotions aimed at orthodontic students and recent graduates of an accredited orthodontic residency program as defined by a recognized WFO affiliate organization.

A dues waiver is in effect through Sept. 27, 2016, for new WFO orthodontic student members and student membership renewals. Before September 2013, annual dues for orthodontic student members were $20 (USD). WFO student members who complete their graduate orthodontic program and apply for WFO fellowship between now and Sept. 27, 2016, will not have to pay dues their first year as a WFO fellow, a savings of $40 (USD). The WFO Executive Committee is thus supporting the students’ transition into new careers while maintaining their opportunity for professional organization membership in the WFO.

Application forms for new applicants in all classes of WFO membership must still be completed and can be found online at www.wfo.org.

WFO student membership has almost doubled since the dues waiver was first introduced in 2013. The WFO Executive Committee hopes to continue this growth trend for student and fellow memberships with these promotions. In addition, a large group of WFO student members have now transitioned to WFO fellowship since the dues waiver has been in effect.

8th International Orthodontic Congress® leaves special legacy for numerous orthodontists

Hoping to create a long lasting legacy for the 8th International Orthodontic Congress® (IOC), the IOC planning committee offered scholarships to 35 orthodontists from less affluent countries so they could attend the Congress.

“Early on in the planning of the 8th IOC, we realized we wanted to include orthodontists who have faced huge challenges to train as dentists and orthodontists,” said Dr. Trevor Bodge, who served as chair of the 8th IOC Allied Health Professional Programme. “We are grateful to Kenes, the conference organizers, for supporting the grant funding and making sure that the 8th IOC leaves a very special legacy.”

The British Orthodontic Society provided $50,000 in scholarships that covered the orthodontists’ flights, accommodations and registration fees. The scholarship recipients practice orthodontics in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Egypt, Georgia, India, Macedonia, Malaysia, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, and the Philippines.

Eight of the beneficiaries were from Cambodia, including Dr. Yin Sythan of Phnom Penh. She is a graduate of the Department of Orthodontics at the Dr. Harvansh Singh Judge Institute of Dental Sciences & Hospital at the Panjab University. He enjoyed the exposure to the scientific presentations and the state-of-the-art technology, he said.

“I got a chance to mentor the great stalwarts of our orthodontic profession, which further strengthened my self-belief of doing exceptional work in the field of orthodontics,” Dr. Gupta said. “The 8th IOC educational grant was a morale booster, and this will have a cascading effect. Already all my colleagues are really looking forward to doing exceptional work and are charged up to present their work on an international platform.

“I stayed for the entire meeting and happened to be a co-chair for a scientific session on orthognathic surgery. The conference was high on content and equally high on technology. The state-of-the-art technology exhibits by various orthodontic manufacturers was literally icing on the cake. All in all, it was a very good lifetime experience, and I will remember it for a long time.”

In addition to the 35 scholarship recipients, the IOC also waived registration fees for Dr. Manish Bajracharya, Dr. Anjana Rupshandari and Dr. Dusharath Kafle, who are members of the Orthodox and Dentofacial Orthopedic Association of Nepal. While at the 8th IOC, they spoke to different audiences about their work to rebuild five schools that were destroyed in the devastating earthquake on April 25 in Nepal. The group has raised approximately $18,000 (USD) and hopes to raise an additional $5,000. The Association of Philippine Orthodontists, the Indian Orthodontic Society, the Japanese Orthodontic Society, the Korean Association of Orthodontists, the Taiwan Association of Orthodontists, the Thai Association of Orthodontists and the Sri Lanka Orthodontic Society have all made contributions. Orthodontists and friends in Bangladesh, China, Italy, Malaysia, Singapore and the UK have also provided funding. “We have no words to express our gratitude to the BOS and the WFO for their generosity to help us,” said Dr. Bajracharya.

“The trip to London to participate in the 8th IOC was a memorable one,” Dr. Kafle said. “The trip was memorable in terms of academics, international relations, as well as fundraising. I gave four presentations about our school rebuilding project in four different sessions of the IOC. The response was very touching. There were many warm-hearted people who came to us and inquired about our work. We had an opportunity to thank orthodontists from all over the world for their unconditional support. We are hopeful to get more support from our friends abroad.”

Go to www.wfo.org to access member resources, including the Journal of the World Federation of Orthodontists.
For more than 20 years, Dr. William DeKock, a co-founder of the WFO, has contributed greatly to the overall success of the WFO. As the WFO has grown from 69 affiliate organizations to 111, Dr. DeKock has guided the organization along, both as WFO president and, most recently, as WFO secretary-general. However, retirement beckons, and, as of Oct. 1, Dr. DeKock stepped down from his position as the WFO secretary-general, a position he has held since 2000. He and his wife, Margie, are now focusing on moving from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, USA, to Flagstaff, Arizona, USA, where they can be closer to their daughter and son and their families. Dr. DeKock practiced orthodontics in Cedar Rapids from 1967 to 2002.

In 1995, the idea of creating a new global organization for the specialty of orthodontics became a reality. On May 15, 1995, representatives from 69 organizations in 62 countries convened in San Francisco, California, USA, to become charter members of the WFO. This historic event was held in conjunction with the 95th Annual Session of the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) and the 4th International Orthodontic Congress® (IOC). Six years earlier, at the suggestion of Dr. John Byrne, the Board of Directors of the Midwest Society of Orthodontists (MSO), a constituent society of the AAO, first started the idea of resurrecting the International Orthodontic Congress®. The AAO and the European Orthodontic Society, which had last held the IOC in 1973 in London, the MSO eventually submitted to the AAO House of Delegates a resolution that the AAO should host the 4th IOC. In 1995, the MSO recognized that Dr. William DeKock, a fellow MSO member, would be the AAO president during this meeting. The AAO House of Delegates accepted the concept, and the AAO Board of Trustees assigned the responsibility of organizing the 4th IOC to Dr. DeKock. Dr. DeKock appointed Dr. Lee W. Graber as general chairman and Drs. William Thompson and Donald Woodside as program chairmen of the 95th AAO Annual Meeting. An international advisory committee from four different continents also helped with the planning process.

Dr. DeKock recognized immediately that in order for the 4th IOC to be successful, there had to be an organization in place that would bring together orthodontic societies from around the world. These societies could all eventually participate in the organization and become stakeholders in future IOCs. The envisioned organization would ultimately be the WFO.

Prior to the 4th IOC, Dr. DeKock developed the first draft of the WFO Bylaws, basing them on the strengths of the existing national orthodontic societies and other dental and medical organizations throughout the world. He then contacted the orthodontic societies and faxed a copy of the Bylaws to them. He asked the societies to join with the AAO to sign the WFO charter. Following the successful formation of the organization, Dr. DeKock became the first president of the WFO.

“As the WFO’s first president, Dr. DeKock undertook the great responsibility to carefully and efficiently initiate the function of a new organization,” said Dr. Athanasios E. Athanasiaou, a WFO past president. “He encountered many challenges and resolved a significant number of problems. I feel that this period was the most important in the WFO’s history since the Federation was establishing itself as the representative of all orthodontic specialists and organizations worldwide.”

Over the past 20 years, the WFO has fostered a new level of recognition for the specialty and orthodontists. All organizations within the WFO have recognized the importance of the orthodontic specialist, and the WFO goes further recognition to that title when orthodontists are accepted as WFO fellows. In addition, the WFO has been consistent in promoting high standards of training and certification for orthodontists by insisting that all WFO affiliates officially recognize those standards. The WFO has also enhanced communication among orthodontic colleagues from across the world through subsequent IOCs, its website, the Journal of the World Federation of Orthodontists and the WFO Gazette.

Dr. DeKock is pleased with the growth of the WFO and hopes the organization continues to expand in the coming years. “I would like to see it expand into areas of the world where orthodontics is beginning to be practiced,” he said. “The WFO needs to expand its reach into areas where it can be helpful to young orthodontists.”

As secretary-general, Dr. DeKock was in charge of the daily operations of the WFO Secretariat and WFO staff. He also traveled extensively on behalf of the WFO, serving as an ambassador for the organization. While he will miss meeting orthodontists from all parts of the world, he fully appreciates the friendships he has built. He said.

In honor of Dr. DeKock’s dedication, the WFO Executive Committee created The William H. DeKock Distinguished Service Award. Dr. David Turpin, a member of the 2010-2015 WFO Executive Committee and the 2010-2015 president of the WFO, presented this award to Dr. DeKock Sept. 27 during the Opening Ceremony of the 8th IOC. This unique recognition had been kept secret from Dr. DeKock until the presentation.

“During my years as WFO president, I was helped, guided and supported by Dr. DeKock,” Dr. Justus said. “My work within the WFO was greatly facilitated by him. I will forever grateful to him for his assistance. I would have struggled more than I did have to succeed in my presidential duties. As WFO president, I always felt that I was taking care of Bill’s baby, the WFO. I take great pride in knowing that it was during my term that The William H. DeKock Distinguished Service Award was created and bestowed to him at the end of both our tenures. The friendship and camaraderie that Bill and I forged through our years serving the WFO bound us since our goals for the WFO were the same. Both of us had the unwavering and full support of our wives, Yolanda and Margie, to such an extent that the hour of our lives have become lifelong friends.”

In addition to maintaining his private practice, Dr. DeKock taught at his alma mater, the University of Iowa, for 38 years, serving 23 years as an adjunct professor in the Department of Orthodontics. He received the University of Iowa Distinguished Achievement Award in 2007. Dr. DeKock, who is board certified, is also a past president of the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists. In 2005, he was honored with the AAO’s highest service recognition, the James E. Brophy Distinguished Service Award.

The WFO as a global organization is reaching new heights in its support of high standards in orthodontic specialty education, credentialing and delivery of care to the public by qualified orthodontists.

Dr. DeKock has been affiliated with several academic institutions, including Northwestern University, The University of Michigan and Loyola University, as well as the Kenworth Dental Research Foundation. Dr. Graber has contributed numerous books on the specialty of orthodontics and articles in scientific journals. He is the co-editor of the soon-to-be-released sixth edition of Orthodontics: Current Principles and Techniques, a text originated in 1985 by his late father, Dr. T.M. Graber. Dr. Graber has lectured in the United States, South America, Europe and Asia on craniofacial growth and development, early orthodontic treatment, adult orthodontic care, psychological factors of malocclusion, and new technologies in orthodontics, among many other topics. He is a past president of the American Association of Orthodontists, has served on its Executive Board, and is a past president-elect of the Midwestern Society of Orthodontists. He has contributed greatly to the WFO and the specialty of orthodontics, having served as a WFO executive board member, past president, and secretary-general of the WFO. In 2007, he was honored with the AAO’s highest service recognition, the James E. Brophy Distinguished Service Award.
WFO recognizes Prof. Birte Melsen’s extensive contributions to the specialty of orthodontics with honorary fellowship

Although Prof. Birte Melsen was encouraged by her family to pursue a career in dentistry, she will tell you that she was not enthralled with this choice. But sometimes meeting the right person, or, in her case, the right people at the right time can make all the difference. Early in her career, several individuals introduced her to biomechanics, biology and orthodontics, which transformed her perspective on dentistry. Some 45 years later, this now well-known, highly regarded researcher, clinician and educator is still passionate about these subjects.

“I hated dentistry, but my stepfather decided that this was what I was to do,” said Prof. Melsen, who attended the Royal Dental College (now known as the School of Dentistry) in Aarhus, Denmark. Fortunately, I met Prof. Harold and, later, a lot of other inspiring colleagues – anatomy professor Arne Kinsdøen, Charlotte Burstone, Harold Frost – just to mention some of those who demonstrated the fascination of biology and mechanics. And I fell in love with orthodontics.

In recognition of Prof. Melsen’s dedication to the specialty, the WFO bestowed honorary fellowship upon her during the 8th International Orthodontic Congress® in London in September. Dr. Athanasou E. Athanasou, a past president of the WFO, considers Prof. Melsen to be a role model for the orthodontic specialty since she has been in the lead of basic, applied and clinical research throughout her entire academic career, has demonstrated excellence in research as an educator of thousands of dentists of all specialties, and her superb clinical skills have positively influenced oral health and quality of life of her numerous patients in Denmark, Germany and Italy.

“Prof. Melsen’s research opened new horizons in understanding and influencing craniofacial growth, as well as in diagnosing and treating severe malocclusions and deformities, as a result of efficient orthodontic biomechanics and interdisciplinary clinical dental approaches,” Dr. Athanasou said. “Her entire career has been characterized by a strong, dedicated and extensive commitment to her duties in all aspects of her professional activities. Her former students, from all over the world, feel privileged to be taught by Prof. Melsen and keep in their memory her strong teaching and her great impact on their daily clinical work. Also, colleagues in academia who had the privilege and luck to work together or to cooperate in projects with Prof. Melsen have significantly enriched and expanded their knowledge and skills.”

Prof. Melsen has been a longtime member of the WFO, and her honorary fellowship in the WFO brings her great satisfaction as she realizes that her research has been accepted internationally, she said. Prof. Melsen graduated with her dental degree from the Royal College of Dentistry in 1964. After serving in private practice and community dentistry, she became a research associate in the Department of Anatomy while simultaneously pursuing her postgraduate education in orthodontics. In 1971, as a specialist in orthodontics, Prof. Melsen became the acting head of the Department of Orthodontics at the Royal Dental College. From the beginning, she organized courses with colleagues from around the world. By 1975, she was professor and head of the Department of Orthodontics, which she oversaw until 2012. Today, she is affiliated with the University of West Australia, the University of Hannover and the Department of Odontomastnologia at the Universita di Torino in Torino, Italy. Since 1986, she has maintained a part-time private practice in Lubeck, Germany, which is limited to adult patients. Currently, she sees patients 2½ days per month.

Prof. Melsen has authored six books, 18 book chapters and 380 papers in the fields of growth and development based on research of human autopsy material, bone biology, biomechanics, interdisciplinary treatment, skeletal anchorage and tissue engineering. Much of her early research cannot be duplicated, as researchers no longer have the access to human autopsy material that she had in her early years of research. In addition, she has been involved in multicenter studies in South Korea, Australia, Belgium and Italy, and is writing a book on current research on asymmetry, which she hopes to complete in a year’s time.

This fall, Prof. Melsen has a full lecture schedule that will find her traveling more than half the time. In November, she honored one of her close colleagues, Dr. Charles Burstone, who died earlier this year. In conjunction with the 2015 Congress of the Italian Society of Biomechanics and Segmented Orthodontics (SIBOS) Nov. 20-21 in Rome, Italy, she delivered a special lecture in Dr. Burstone’s memory.

Over the years, Italy has become Prof. Melsen’s second home. From 1958 to 1974, she was a professional tour guide in Italy and later became a visiting professor at several Italian universities. Since 2015, she has been able to combine her love for the Italian culture with her love for orthodontics. She and Dr. Gavagio Fiorelli lead the Orthodontic Biomechanics Summer School. The 2016 session, which will be held in Lido di Cammarate, Italy, is already overbooked.

Throughout her career, Prof. Melsen has collaborated with bone biologists, biomechanical engineers and endocrinologists. Her experience has shown her the importance of this approach. “We would find out so little alone,” she said. “We can’t work alone. It is ridiculous to think so. Future research will be the result of several disciplines working together.”

In addition to her work in the specialty of orthodontics, Prof. Melsen devotes her time and resources to help underprivileged children in South America, specifically those in northeast Brazil. She is a longtime supporter of Viva.org, an organization that supports thousands of projects to assist at-risk children in 21 countries.

Prof. Melsen has received many honors for her work. In 2000, she received the Knighthood of Dannebrog 1st degree, the highest award possible for university-affiliated researchers. The Order of Dannebrog is one of Denmark’s two Royal Orders of Chivalry. In 2006, she received the Bagger Sorensen Award for landmark research. In addition, Prof. Melsen has given numerous named lectures, including the Sheldon Friel Memorial Lecture, the Alton Moore Memorial Lecture, the Wendell Wylie Memorial Lecture, the Robert Moyers Memorial Lecture, the Northcote Memorial Award, the Bluys Memorial Lecture and the Ticiano Bacetti Memorial Lecture. She has honorary memberships in 11 orthodontic and dental organizations around the world.
At the conclusion of the 8th International Orthodontic Congress in September, four WFO fellows completed their service on the WFO Executive Committee. The WFO salutes these members for their service and dedication to the organization, the specialty and orthodontic patients around the world.

Dr. Thierry De Coster of Brussels, Belgium, served a five-year term on the Executive Committee as one of the two representatives for Europe.

Dr. De Coster is a past president of the Société Belge d'Orthodontie. Currently, he is a board committee member of the Société Française d’Orthopédie Dentofaciale and is the president of the International Association of French Speaking Orthodontists.

From 2000 to 2002, he served as vice president of the European Federation of Orthodontics. Dr. De Coster, who has contributed greatly to the specialty in Europe and abroad, has published numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals and is an international lecturer.

Dr. Kurt Faltin Jr. of São Paulo, Brazil, served a five-year term on the Executive Committee as the representative for Central and South America.

Dr. Faltin is a professor and head of the postgraduate orthodontic program at Paulista University. Dr. Faltin is a past president of the Asociación Latinoamericana de Ortodoncia and the Asociación Brasileira de Ortodontia e Ortopedia Facial. Dr. Faltin is a diplomat of the Brazilian Board of Orthodontics.

For Dr. Faltin, the past five years has brought many travels, which have given him the opportunity to explore new countries and to make new friends. “It has been five years of hard work, pride and joy,” he said. “We (the Executive Committee members) were working in perfect harmony, following the same target conducted by our friend and president, Dr. Roberto Justus. The meaning of my job as an Executive Committee member is surely an example of devotion and dedication to our mission, without receiving a cent for this unique activity.”

We were entirely focused on the growth of our profession, for the best of all our patients. This undoubtly touches me, moves me.”

Dr. Somchait Satravaha of Bangkok, Thailand, completed two five-year terms on the WFO Executive Committee as one of the two representatives for Central and East Asia.

While serving on the WFO Executive Committee, Dr. Satravaha appreciated working with orthodontic leaders from all over the world to reach the WFO’s goals, to encourage a high standard in orthodontics and to promote friendship among orthodontists throughout the world.

“The accomplishment we are most proud of is the feeling that orthodontics has no boundary,” she said. “I am proud and happy that we could make it possible to have both the Chinese Orthodontic Society and the Taiwan Association of Orthodontists as members of the WFO and the Asian Pacific Orthodontic Society.”

Dr. Satravaha is the president of the Advisory Board of the Thai Association of Orthodontists (ThaAO) and is the president of the ThaAO Mobile Orthodontic Unit for clinic lip and palate patients (see the related article on page 12). She is also the past president of the Asian Pacific Orthodontic Society, the ThaAO and the Thai Orthodontic Foundation. Dr. Satravaha is a diplomate of the Thai Board of Orthodontics.

Dr. Satravaha is an honorary member of the Association of Philippine Orthodontists. In 2015, the ThaAO recognized her efforts on behalf of the specialty by presenting her with the Lifetime Achievement Award. The Dental Alumni Association at Chulalongkorn University also presented her with the Outstanding Alumni Award in 2014.

Dr. David Turpin of Federal Way, Washington, USA, served a five-year term as one of the three representatives for North America.

Dr. Turpin will deliver the Golden Jubilee Special Lecture during the 50th Indian Orthodontic Conference in Hyderabad, India.

“My term on the Executive Committee of the World Federation of Orthodontists has been enriching for a number of reasons,” Dr. Turpin said. “During this period of time, I had the opportunity to attend meetings in 10 countries while making at least 30 presentations. As a result of this experience, I learned that orthodontic leaders throughout the world share common interests. They are always prepared, tend to think ‘big’ and strive to improve the quality of orthodontic care delivered in their respective countries. As a result, the opportunity for excellent orthodontic treatment is rapidly expanding in nearly every country now represented by the WFO— an accomplishment we can all be proud to acknowledge.”

Editors of major orthodontic journals meet in London to discuss the future of publishing

Editors of the major orthodontic journals participated in the Editors Forum on Sept. 27 during the 8th International Orthodontic Congress® in London. The theme was “Potential challenges and controversies for orthodontic publishing over the next decade.”

The 10 editors shared their thoughts with the public and debated the scientific challenges that orthodontists will face in the future. The editors expressed clear concern about the need to strengthen the ethical principles in science and the need to raise the level of evidence for decision making. They also expressed clear concern about the need to strengthen the ethical principles in science and the need to raise the level of evidence for decision making.

The editors expressed clear concern about the need to strengthen the ethical principles in science and the need to raise the level of evidence for decision making in clinical practice, said Jorge Faber, editor-in-chief of the Journal of the World Federation of Orthodontists.

Participants had first-hand access to important information on how to plan their research work and write their manuscripts. The session, chaired by Dr. Felice Festa and Dr. Martin Gohourge, was a unique opportunity to understand the perspectives of the 10 people who read the most and filter much of the information that is produced in the specialty.

The following editors participated in the forum:

- Dr. Anne Marie Kuipers-Jagtman, editor-in-chief of Orthodontics and Craniofacial Research;
- Dr. Elliott Moskowitz, editor-in-chief of Seminars in Orthodontics;
- Dr. Dianne Rekows, who represented Dr. Steven Lindauer, editor of The Angle Orthodontist;
- Dr. Jorge Faber, editor-in-chief of the Journal of the World Federation of Orthodontists;
- Dr. Rolf Behrents, associate editor of the Journal of Orthodontics and Craniofacial Orthopedics;
- Dr. Rolf Behrents, editor-in-chief of the American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics;
- Dr. Avindra Nanda, editor-in-chief of Progress in Orthodontics;
- Dr. Martin Gohourge, editor-in-chief of the Journal of Orthodontics;
- Dr. Craig Dreyer, editor-in-chief of the Journal of Orofacial Orthopedics;
Establishment of New Certifying Boards

In regard to the establishment of a new certifying board, the attendees agreed that all educationally qualified orthodontists should be given time-limited board certification at the outset. This should be followed by later examinations. In addition, the certifying board should establish and publicize a deadline date for educationally qualified orthodontists to accept initial certification.

Recertification

Committee members agreed that recertification is important because certifying boards serve and protect the public by elevating the standard of care. Consequently, the group recommended the following:

- Recertification of boarded orthodontic specialists is important to maintain a high level of the standard of care.
- All board-certified orthodontists should be recertified periodically, preferably no less than every five years and no more than every 12 years. The board of directors should determine this length of time.
- Recertification should include the submission of clinical cases.

Selection and Replacement of Examiners/ Directors

Attendees felt that examiners and directors should not have commercial conflicts of interest. Questions related to the selection of directors and their length of service brought forth a number of opinions. All quickly agreed that an initial selection of these individuals should be based upon their educational background and established credentials. In conclusion, the group recommended the following:

- Initial directors of the certifying board, as well as their successors, should not have commercial conflicts of interest.
- Ideally, the directors should equally represent all regions or constituencies within the area that the certifying board represents.
- Directors should agree to serve for a minimum of three years and a maximum of as many as nine years or regions or constituencies.
- Directors should be replaced in a planned and agreed to basis.

Examination Process

Most agreed that five to 10 cases should be the minimum requirement. Opinions on the types of cases to include in the model display were more varied. In the end, the group offered the following recommendations regarding the examination process:

- All orthodontists, including recent graduates who have completed their orthodontic training within the past 36 months of application AND who possess the educational qualifications approved by the board, should be able to apply and take the board exam.
- Candidates must display clinical cases (five to 10). Candidates who are within 36 months of their graduation may have a lesser case display requirement and may display cases treated during their residency.
- All educationally qualified orthodontists, including residents in their final year of their training program, may take the written examination.
- Specific requirements for the case display should be set by the board of directors and be prominently publicized so they are accessible to all candidates.

The American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) and the WFO organized the symposium on board certification during the 8th International Orthodontic Congress in London. Pictured here are the ABO representatives: From left: Dr. Chan-Hsi Chung, ABO secretary-treasurer; Dr. Eladio DeLeon Jr., ABO president; and Dr. Steven Dugoni, ABO president-elect. The WFO encouraged all interested individuals to attend this free symposium on Sept. 27.
The Canadian Association of Orthodontists (CAO) installed its 2015-2016 officers during the Annual General Meeting in Victoria, British Columbia, in September. Dr. Jean-Marc Retrouvey of Montreal, Quebec, is president; Dr. Robert Klimbimovich of Calgary, Alberta, is president-elect; Dr. Rick Odegaard of Kamloops, British Columbia, is 1st vice president; Dr. Sheila Smith of Toronto, Ontario, is 2nd vice president; and Dr. Michael Paroccan of Toronto, Ontario, is secretary-treasurer.

The Thai Association of Orthodontists’ (ThaAO) Mobile Orthodontic Unit for cleft lip and palate (CLP) patients has completed its work at the Maharaj Nakorn Ratrasahis Hospital, and, as of Oct. 20, is now seeing CLP patients at the Sawanpracharak Hospital in the Nakthon Sawan Province, which is north of Bangkok. Over the past five years, the Mobile Orthodontic Unit volunteers worked to establish a Cleft Lip/Palate Center at the Maharaj Nakorn Ratrasahis Hospital. This unique center provides comprehensive interdisciplinary treatment, including orthodontics, to cleft lip and palate patients. Before this center was created, cleft lip and palate patients could only seek treatment at university clinics in Thailand. The goal is to establish a similar clinic at the Sawanpracharak Hospital.

The Thai Association of Orthodontists’ Mobile Orthodontic Unit has successfully established a cleft lip/palate center at the Maharaj Nakorn Ratnasahis Hospital in Thailand. The Mobile Orthodontic Unit volunteers, who are now working to establish another center in Thailand, held a farewell party Aug. 25, at the hospital. Representatives from the Thai Red Cross Society, the deputy director of the hospital, and the director and deputy director of the Cleft Lip/Palate Center were all in attendance.

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