WORLD NEWS

WFO Executive Committee elects Dr Allan Thom as vice-president in March

The World Federation of Orthodontists (WFO) Executive Committee elected Dr Allan Thom of Tunbridge Wells, England, to serve as vice-president in March. Dr Thom has completed one five-year term on the Executive Committee (2005-2010) and was elected to another five-year term during the 7th International Orthodontic Congress (IOC) and 4th Meeting of the WFO in February in Sydney, Australia.

Dr Thom, along with Dr Thierry De Coster of Brussels, Belgium, represents Europe on the Executive Committee. As vice-president, Dr Thom will assume the duties of the president at the president's request or in the president's temporary absence. While Dr Thom will not automatically succeed Dr Roberto Justus of Mexico City, Mexico, as WFO president in 2015, he, along with the members of the 2010–2015 and 2005–2010 Executive Committees, will be eligible to be elected to the office of president.

“I am very pleased to announce that Dr Thom will serve the WFO in the capacity of vice-president,” Dr Justus said. “He has proved his leadership abilities in many ways over the years through his involvement with the British Orthodontic Society and the European Federation of Orthodontics. He also has steadfastly dedicated his time and given his support to the WFO and its goals.”

Dr Thom is a past president of the British Orthodontic Society (BOS), the European Federation of Orthodontics, and the British Orthodontic Technicians Association. A life member of the BOS, Dr Thom is also the recipient of the BOS Special Service Award. He is a member of the European Orthodontic Society and the American Association of Orthodontists.

Dr Thom served as a consultant orthodontist and honorary senior lecturer for Guy’s Hospital in London from 1997 to 2008. He has been in part-time private practice for more than 30 years. Dr Thom also has a master’s degree in law and maintains a medical law and medical ethics practice through which he works closely with attorneys.

“To be elected by one’s peers to a position of responsibility and leadership is a great honor,” Dr Thom said. “I am very conscious and respectful of this. I have, for the past 5 years, jointly represented Europe on the WFO Executive Committee and very much look forward to continuing in this role and working with the newly elected executives who bring a wealth of knowledge to the WFO. It will be a pleasure being alongside the new president, Dr Roberto Justus, who has and I know will continue to contribute so much to the WFO.

“There will be challenges and opportunities, which will be utilized to enhance the specialty of orthodontics globally. The WFO, amongst many other activities, will support new and emerging orthodontic societies, encourage the coordination of training programs leading to the practice of high-quality ethical treatment for our deserving patients around the world, and continue to promote and support the best interests of our fellows.”

More than 3,600 delegates attended the 7th International Orthodontic Congress and 4th Meeting of the World Federation of Orthodontists (WFO), February 6–9, in Sydney, Australia. The delegates, of which more than 2,200 were orthodontists, represented 93 countries and 90 WFO affiliate organizations. The largest delegations came from, in order, the Australian Society of Orthodontists, the American Association of Orthodontists, the British Orthodontic Society, the Japanese Orthodontic Society, France, the Chinese Orthodontic Society, the New Zealand Association of Orthodontists, Germany, and Indonesia.

Photo by Marco Palmero.
WFO Council convenes, elects new Executive Committee

The World Federation of Orthodontists (WFO) Council convened February 4 prior to the 7th International Orthodontic Congress (IOC) and 4th Meeting of the WFO in Sydney, Australia. Seventy-eight of the 133 councilors were able to attend the Council meeting. During this session, the WFO Council elected the members of the Executive Committee and approved two amendments to the WFO Bylaws. It also received reports from Dr Athanasios E. Athanasiou, the 2005–2010 president, and Dr William DeKock, secretary-general, as well as a report from the Executive Committee. Dr Richard Olive of the Australian Society of Orthodontists and Dr Paul Jonathan Sandler of the British Orthodontic Society reported on the 7th IOC and the 8th IOC, respectively.

During the past 15 years, the WFO has seen tremendous growth in both its affiliate organizations and general membership. In his report to the Council, Dr DeKock noted that the number of WFO affiliate organizations has grown from 69 organizations in 1995 to 108 in 2010. The WFO has also had a 21% increase in membership since the 6th IOC in 2005. Today, the WFO membership exceeds 8,000 individuals.

The Council elected the new Executive Committee, and Dr Lee Graber, past president of the WFO and president-elect of the American Association of Orthodontists, installed the new committee. On the 2010–2015 committee, Dr Joseph Bouserhal represents Africa and the Middle East; Dr Himawan Halim represents Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, and Singapore; Dr Keiji Moriyama and Dr Somchait Satravaha represent Central and East Asia; Dr Kurt Faltin Jr represents Central and South America; Dr Theerry De Coster and Dr Allan Thom represent Europe; and Dr Thomas Ahman, Dr F. Amanda Maplethorp, and Dr David Turpin represent North America. Dr Roberto Justus is president, and Dr DeKock is secretary-general. Dr Sandler, chair of the 8th IOC, represents the British Orthodontic Society, host of the 8th IOC, on the Executive Committee.

Dr Justus formally recognized the retiring members of the 2005–2010 Executive Committee: Dr Athanasios E. Athanasiou, Greek Orthodontic Society; Dr James Gjerset, American Association of Orthodontists; Dr Julia Harfin, Sociedad Argentina de Ortodoncia; Dr Larson Keso, American Association of Orthodontists; Dr Jung Kook Kim, Korean Association of Orthodontists; Dr Francesca Miotti, Società Italiana di Ortodonzia; Dr Richard Olive, Australian Society of Orthodontists; Dr B. Ian Watson, Australian Society of Orthodontists; and Dr Abbas Zaher, Egyptian Orthodontic Society.

The WFO Council also approved two amendments to the WFO Bylaws. Article 8.3.3 was amended to ensure proper budgeting of the Executive Committee meetings. Article 13.1 now states that proposals for amendments to the WFO Bylaws must be submitted to the Executive Committee not less than 5 months prior to the next Council meeting. The Executive Committee must forward proposed amendments to the Council not less than 3 months before the next Council meeting, and the Executive Committee must approve its recommendations regarding amendments to the Bylaws by a two-thirds vote before submitting them to the Council.

Dr Justus also announced that Requests for Proposals for the 9th IOC in 2020 will be sent to all affiliate organizations by December 31, 2010. The deadline to reply will be December 31, 2011. The Executive Committee will choose the host organization in 2012.
As of December 31, 2010, the World Journal of Orthodontics (WJO) will no longer be the official journal of the World Federation of Orthodontists (WFO). The WFO will continue to contribute to the WFO World News section in the WJO through December.

WFO to part ways with the World Journal of Orthodontics

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Give a Smile™ (GAS) is the pro bono charitable program of the Australian Society of Orthodontists (ASO). Every year, each participating ASO orthodontist treats one orthodontic patient from the public dental health waiting list. Since the program was founded in 2005, more than 250 ASO orthodontists (60% of the membership) have joined the program and treated more than 700 patients, reducing the waiting list by 10%. Here, the GAS Executive Committee meets with the new ASO president, Dr Mike Razza, and representatives from Thrive PR to discuss the GAS public relations campaign. The group met February 8 during the 7th International Orthodontic Congress and 4th Meeting of the World Federation of Orthodontists in Sydney, Australia. From left are Dr Ted Crawford, Annette Armitage (standing), Leah Robinson, Dr Jono Skilton, Dr John Armitage, Lisa Poisel (Thrive PR), Sarah Bamford (Thrive PR), and Dr Razza. Photo by Marco Palmero.
Symposium on Orthodontic Certifying Boards ignites interest in board certification

More than 100 orthodontists convened for the first Symposium on Orthodontic Certifying Boards February 5 prior to the 7th International Orthodontic Congress (IOC) and 4th Meeting of the World Federation of Orthodontists (WFO) in Sydney, Australia. These orthodontists included presidents of WFO affiliate organizations and representatives from the 15 recognized orthodontic boards around the world.

One of the WFO’s priorities is to support and encourage the development of orthodontic boards. Specifically, in 2005, the WFO set out to affiliate orthodontic boards around the world; to support the development of national and regional orthodontic certifying boards by providing guidelines; and to provide a board standard against which any of the orthodontic boards could be measured.

At the beginning of the symposium, Dr Roberto Justus, incoming WFO president and chair of the Committee on National and Regional Orthodontic Boards, announced the completion of these original objectives as stated 5 years ago during the 6th IOC, including the establishment of the Committee on National and Regional Orthodontic Boards and the creation of the WFO Guidelines on the Establishment of New National and Regional Orthodontic Certifying Boards. This document, developed with the help of representatives from the recognized boards, offers recommended examination standards. He then introduced the two speakers, Dr Jeryl English, president-elect of The American Board of Orthodontics (ABO), and Dr John Carter, past president of the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics (CDABO).

Dr English offered specific examples of how the ABO selects and trains examiners and how the ABO examination is designed to be completely objective through use of the objective grading system, discrepancy index, and case management form.

“Dr English also explained how, for many years, the ABO was not able to increase the percentage of boarded orthodontists until it came up with the Initial Certification Examination (ICE) and the Gateway Program,” Dr Justus said. “The ICE is similar to the medical model through which the medical doctors are able to get board certification at the time they graduate or soon after. The Gateway Program gives certification to those orthodontists who have completed the ABO’s written examination and who sign a contract that they will present their clinical cases within a 5-year period. Dr English reported that by using the ICE and the Gateway Programs, the ABO has been able to increase the number of boarded orthodontists to 54%. In addition, over 300 orthodontists presented their clinical cases at this year’s examination in February. This highlights the success of both programs. His lecture ended up taking a full hour, rather than 25 minutes, because attendees asked him many questions.”

Dr English appreciated the attendees’ questions. “My observations were that many countries are trying very hard to establish a board-certification process to ensure the quality of care is at the highest level to protect the public,” he said. “I do think the other boards are following the ABO in the board-certification process. It is my hope that each country will establish a board that is similar in makeup to that of the ABO. One of the missions of the ABO is to assist other countries in establishing certifying boards, and meetings, such as the one in Australia, help immensely with firsthand exchange of information.”

Dr Carter’s presentation included specific examples of how CDABO helps the ABO by giving preparatory courses to potential candidates, as well as the methods currently used to educate residents, faculty, and orthodontists about the board-certification process. He also explained the training that CDABO members receive to become examiners to aid the ABO directors in the clinical examination of candidates and discussed how CDABO encourages board certification and provides continuing education at its annual meeting.

Following the two presentations, all attendees were divided into five breakout sessions to answer six questions. Each group was led by representatives from a certifying board. The groups discussed the following topics:

- Potential changes to the current WFO Guidelines on the Establishment of New National and Regional Orthodontic Certifying Boards
- How to make the public aware of the importance of receiving board certification by a board-certified orthodontist
- The advantages of establishing a College of Diplomates
- The methodology of training, selecting, calibrating and synchronizing examiners
- Methods to encourage orthodontists to become boarded
- The current statistics on the number of board-certified orthodontists in each country or region

Dr Simon Freezer of Adelaide, Australia, participated in the session that focused on ways to encourage board membership and to make the public aware of the importance of board certification. The group concluded that “there is a need to promote the awareness of the process and benefits of board certification (to orthodontists) through printed, Web-based information and other material presented at congresses and regional meetings,” he said. With the help of this type of information and future symposia, Dr Freezer hopes that organizations will establish new certification boards.

For those organizations considering the formation of a new board, the symposium attendees suggested that “small affiliate organizations should join other affiliate organizations in establishing a regional board before establishing individual affiliate boards,” Dr Justus said.

The breakout groups also came to the following conclusions:

1. All educationally qualified orthodontists should initially be given time-limited board certification with the understanding that later examination will be necessary.
2. A deadline date for accepting initial board certification by educationally qualified orthodontists must be established and publicized.
3. Recertification of boarded orthodontic specialists is important to maintain a high level of the standard of care.
4. All board-certified orthodontists should be recertified periodically. The interval of certification should be established by the board of directors of the certifying board and not be less than 5 years or more than 12 years.
5. Recertification should include the submission of clinical cases.
6. Those orthodontists selected to serve on the board of directors should not have commercial interests.

7. Ideally, a board of directors should represent equally all regions or constituencies within the area that the board represents.

8. Board directors should agree to serve a minimum of 3 years. The maximum length of service should not exceed the number of regions or constituencies represented. (If there are 8 regions, the maximum term of service would be 8 years.)

9. Board directors should be replaced in a planned manner.

10. All orthodontists, including recent graduates, who completed their orthodontic training within 36 months of application and who possess the educational qualifications approved by the board, should be able to apply and take the board exam.

11. Candidates must display clinical cases (5 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.

12. All educationally qualified orthodontists, including residents in their final year of their training program, may take the written examination.

13. 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.

14. A College of Diplomates within the organization can be a support group from which orthodontists can seek professional help.

15. The orthodontic board can seek advice from the college regarding policies and guidelines for the examination process, as well as to assist in problem solving when needed.


17. Calibration should include some form of repetitive measure of the models, radiographs, and photographs, possibly utilizing a gold-standard case(s) for practice. Some form of training should be provided for examiners. Each scoring measure from two to three different examiners, when added together and averaged, should yield the inter-examiner variability provided for the student examination.

18. Annual calibration should take place, regardless of the examiner’s skill level or prior experience.

19. There should be an emphasis on the importance of video and audio recording in the testing environment, even for oral examinations and evaluation of models.

20. During the initial selection of examiners, boards should look to experienced clinicians and/or university professors.

“This symposium was planned in an excellent way in order to initiate representatives to the actual situation of the orthodontic boards,” said WFO Executive Committee member Dr Joseph Bouserhal of Beirut, Lebanon. He participated in the breakout group that discussed the WFO guidelines for orthodontic certifying boards. “There was high interest and a good presence from the invited organizations and an interactive discussion. The symposium was a real success and should be repeated. Establishing certifying boards is an important step for the advancement of the specialty of orthodontics. We hope these boards will reevaluate their status and compare their bylaws to the WFO guidelines and the recommendations of the symposium. For those who have the intention to create new certifying boards, they were initiated to the way to do it and given the guidelines to follow. Their task has been enormously facilitated.”

The WFO Committee on National and Regional Orthodontic Boards will study the recommendations from this symposium and determine its next steps. Dr David Turpin of Federal Way, Washington, USA, and Dr Thomas Ahman of Lima, Ohio, USA, are the new chair and co-chair, respectively, of the committee. Both are members of the WFO Executive Committee.
World Village Day provides global exposure to participating WFO affiliate organizations

The 7th International Orthodontic Congress (IOC) and 4th Meeting of the World Federation of Orthodontists (WFO) featured the unique World Village Day February 8. Through this special event, IOC attendees participated in the 22nd Australian Orthodontic Congress, the 7th Asian Pacific Orthodontic Conference (APOC), lectures offered by the Arab Orthodontic Society, lectures offered by the British Orthodontic Society, the European Village Day, and the South American Village Day.

“Our decision to hold the World Village Day on the third day worked well,” said Dr Richard Olive, chair of the Sydney International Orthodontic Congress Committee. “All the sessions were well-attended.”

The World Village Day provided participating organizations with global exposure, and the attendees were able to evaluate their treatment practices on an international scale.

“It is always beneficial to see what is happening in the way of research and best practice in other countries,” said Dr Winifred Harding of the New Zealand Association of Orthodontists. She served as chair of the APOC. “It can be reassuring that what you are doing is of the highest standard, or it can leave you to return home striving to improve.”

22nd Australian Orthodontic Congress
More than 70% of the Australian Society of Orthodontists (ASO) members attended the 22nd Australian Orthodontic Congress. The ASO served as one of the hosts of the 7th IOC. Drs Andrew DiBiase of the United Kingdom, Dave Gane of the United States, Hong He of the Chinese Orthodontic Society, Lysie Johnston of the United States, Chung How Kau of the United States, Young Guk Park of Korea, Richard Roblee of the United States, Wayne Sampson of Australia, David Sarver of the United States, Kenji Takada of Japan, and Mark Yanosky of the United States were all speakers for the Congress.

One of the highlights of the Congress was the Stanley Wilkinson Memorial Oration and International Reception that was held February 7 at the Sydney Opera House. During this event, Dr Olive received honorary life membership from the ASO. Dr Mike Razza of Western Australia succeeded Dr Shane Fryer of New South Wales as president of the ASO.

The ASO also presented Distinguished Service Awards to Drs John Armitage and David Taylor in recognition of their services to the ASO. The ASO also recognized Dr Taylor for the launch of his book A Brace of Orthodontists, which offers the history of the ASO.

The Australasian Orthodontic Board presented Quality Awards to Drs Armitage, Ted Crawford, and Jim Hawkins in recognition of their contributions to the Board.

Asian Pacific Orthodontic Conference
The Asian Pacific Orthodontic Society (APOS), a host of the 7th IOC and 4th Meeting of the WFO, incorporated its 7th APOC into the World Village Day. The theme was “Looking Ahead.” The speakers included Drs Wey Mang Chek of Malaysia, Yinzhong Duan of the Chinese Orthodontic Society, Maria Therese S. Galang of the United States, Shigemi Goto of Japan, Himawan Halim of Indonesia, Christopher Ho of Australia, Sang Cheol Kim of Korea, Nathamuni Rengaranjan Krishnaswamy of India, Jiu-Xiang Lin of the Chinese Orthodontic Society, Wei Lin of the Macau Association of Orthodontics, Kai-Woh Loh of Singapore, Somchai Manopatanakul of Thailand, Isao Matsumoto of Japan, Hideo Mitani of Japan, Christopher Robertson of New Zealand, Tian-Min Xu of the Chinese Orthodontic Society, and Yan-Qi Yang of the Hong Kong Society of Orthodontists.

“[The presentations were well thought out and showcased the best from the APOS orthodontic organizations,” Dr Harding said. “The APOS also introduced the Hendro Kusnoto Memorial Lecture. “It was very special to have had this occasion for Dr Shigemi Goto to deliver the inaugural lecture,” she said.

Arab Orthodontic Society Lectures
Between 80 and 100 orthodontists attended the lectures offered by the Arab Orthodontic Society. WFO President Dr Roberto Justus began the meeting, and Dr Abbas Zaher, immediate past vice-president of the WFO Executive Committee, delivered a lecture on behalf of Dr Samir Bishara of the United States, who could not attend the meeting. Dr Joseph Bousheral of Lebanon and Dr Zaher of Egypt chaired the first session. Dr Akram al-Huwaizi of Iraq and Dr Adel Bahaitham of Saudi Arabia chaired the second session.

“The meeting was a good opportunity to gather all attendees from the Arab societies and was also a setting to present to other attendees from other parts of the world the work carried out in the Arab societies,” Dr Zaher said.

British Orthodontic Society Lectures
The British Orthodontic Society’s lectures attracted more than 300 attendees. The program featured eight orthodontists.

Drs Alison Murray and James Spencer, both of the United Kingdom, offered clinical research presentations in which they shared their experiences and results from clinical trials they are carrying out. Dr Nigel Hunt, of the Eastman Dental Institute in London, presented his work on the involvement of muscles in the etiology of malocclusion, while Dr Marco Rosa of Italy discussed the treatment of missing lateral incisors. Dr Tania Murphy of the United Kingdom shared her personal experience of undergoing an osteotomy, and Dr Trevor Hodge discussed the challenges faced in the United Kingdom following the introduction of orthodontic therapists. Dr Timothy Wheeler of the United States demonstrated what could be achieved when treating with aligners. Dr Sverker Toreskog of Sweden completed the day’s sessions with a presentation on his clinical work.

European Village Day
The European Federation of Orthodontists (FEO) coordinated the European contribution to the World Village Day. Drs Francesca Miotti of Italy and Olivier Mauchamp of France, president and immediate past president of the FEO, respectively, co-chaired the European Village Day.

The theme for the European Village Day was “Orthopedics and Function: A Century of Research in Europe,” with the lectures showcasing state-of-the-art orthodontic treatment in Europe. The invited speakers, representing the various FEO affiliate societies, illustrated their most recent work.

“A general overview and an update on functional treatment was provided by all enthusiastic speakers to a very attentive and interested audience, who provided the presenters with many very stimulating questions,” Dr Miotti said. “The FEO is proud to have been a part of a very important and successful event in Sydney.”

Dr Jose Dahan of Belgium illustrated the relationship between form and function and the various appliances available. Dr William Clark of the United Kingdom reported on his 30 years of experience in using the Twin-block appliance on Class II malocclusions. Dr Juha Varrala of Finland presented the effectiveness of early orthodontic treatment with an eruption guidance appliance. Dr Veronica Guintini of Italy illustrated her team’s research on the efficiency and long-term
stability of Class II treatment and emphasized the important role of timing and mandibular morphology in the individual response to functional treatment. Dr Letizia Perillo of Italy reported on a 20-year follow-up after FR-2 treatment on the Class II malocclusion. Dr Urban Hägg of the Hong Kong Society of Orthodontists critically summarized the treatment of Class II malocclusion. Dr Olivier Sorel of France presented a study on the immediate effect and the long-term value of functional treatment with different activators, including the Herbst, Andresen and Teucher. Dr Christian Sander of Germany illustrated the application and the skeletal influence provided by the bite-jumping appliance in more than 300 cases and compared the results with activator and bionator treatment. Dr Gregory Antonarakis of Greece emphasized the importance of individual response to treatment related to the variations of magnitude of the anteroposterior intermaxillary forces. Dr Michael Hanggi of Switzerland discussed the correlation between the pharyngeal airway and the skeletal pattern and its role in determining obstructive sleep apnea. Dr Michel Limme of Belgium illustrated his long experience with the “neuro-occlusal rehabilitation” in 5- to 6-year-old children. Dr Yocheved Ben Bassat of Israel reported on functional treatment for craniofacial asymmetry patients.

South American Village Day

The South American Village Day explored the different approaches of open-bite treatment. More than 80 people, representing the various organizations from Latin America, attended this conference. The speakers included Drs Gerson Cabezas of Ecuador, Octavio del Real of Chile, Kurt Faltin Jr. of Brazil, Laura Irurzun of Argentina, Lawrence Koenig of Peru, Nelson Mucha of Brazil, Julio Saldarriaga of Colombia, and Augusto Ureña of Argentina.

“...the subject of treatment of open-bite malocclusions is a very difficult one because it involves facial harmony, diagnosis, neuromuscular behavior, the best treatment plan for each individual patient, the treatment by itself with clinical evidence, and the stability after treatment in the long term,” Dr Faltin said. “All these aspects were taken into account during the various presentations, which were all of high quality in essence, material, and communication.”

While the lecture timetable did not allow for discussion, the attendees had the opportunity to meet with the speakers at the end of the conference, Dr Faltin said. “It was a very efficient World Village Day.”

British Orthodontic Society debuts Web site for 8th International Orthodontic Congress in 2015 in London

The British Orthodontic Society (BOS), host of the 8th International Orthodontic Congress (IOC), reached out to orthodontists and their staff members during the 7th IOC in Sydney, Australia, to promote the next congress. The 8th IOC will be held September 27–30, 2015, in London.

The organization announced the newly created Web site for the 8th IOC, www.wfo2015london.org, and distributed more than 4,000 key rings bearing the URL. The BOS also hosted a cocktail party February 6 to build excitement for the upcoming IOC. More than 150 British orthodontists attended the 7th IOC.

The BOS provided additional information on the 8th IOC and London from its exhibit booth. Those who stopped by could relax on couches and take tea. A large-screen TV featured a specially recorded interview with London Mayor Boris Johnson, who encouraged delegates to visit London and explore the many benefits of the United Kingdom capital.

AAO offers support to WFO Executive Committee, strengthens connections with WFO affiliates

For the first time, members of the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) Board of Trustees met with the World Federation of Orthodontists (WFO) Executive Committee during an International Orthodontic Congress (IOC). The two groups met February 4 prior to the 7th IOC and 4th Meeting of the WFO in Sydney, Australia. This meeting, meetings with several other WFO affiliate organizations, the WFO Council meeting, an AAO-sponsored reception for international orthodontic residents and a booth in the Exhibit Hall were all ways the AAO participated in the 7th IOC.

The formal meeting between the AAO trustees and WFO Executive Committee members allowed the two groups to explore how they might assist each other in the future. Dr Robert James Bray, now the AAO immediate past president, said they discussed how the AAO might help with the 8th IOC in London in 2015, among other topics. In 2005, one of the AAO constituent organizations held its annual meeting during the 6th IOC in Paris. Dr Bray hopes that this might occur again during the 8th IOC. “The more we are aware of the needs of the WFO, the more we can adapt to them,” he said. “The opportunities are endless.”

WFO President Dr Roberto Justus appreciated this time to meet with the AAO representatives. “I thanked the AAO trustees for attending the 7th IOC and for wishing to explore mutual areas of interest. We discussed joint ventures to promote international student membership in both organizations and to increase the students’ participation in orthodontic meetings. We also discussed resources we might share, as well as how to help orthodontists obtain visas so they can attend orthodontic meetings.”

The AAO also held individual meetings with the Australian Society of Orthodontists (ASO), the British Orthodontic Society, the Chinese Orthodontic Society, the Japanese Orthodontic Society, and the Taiwan Association of Orthodontists. The meetings allowed the AAO leaders to establish new relationships and to discuss how the AAO might better serve its international members, Dr Bray said. Since the 7th IOC concluded, Dr Bray has received more than 100 emails from the orthodontists he met while in Sydney.

Overall, the experience has opened doors for future meetings, said Dr Bray, who appreciated the hospitality of the ASO members.
“We got a lot accomplished. All the trustees, the WFO Executive Committee, and others—everyone was really thrilled with how these meetings played out.”

The AAO delegation, which also included AAO President-elect Dr Lee Graber; Secretary-treasurer Dr Michael Rogers; and trustees Dr John Buzzatto, Dr Gayle Glenn, Dr Robert Varner, Dr Morris Poole, and Dr Brent Larson, took part in the WFO Council meeting February 4. The AAO, as a WFO affiliate organization, holds eight voting seats on the Council. Dr David Turpin, editor-in-chief of the American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics and an ad hoc member of the AAO Board of Trustees; Dr Thomas Ahman, immediate past speaker of the AAO House of Delegates; and Dr F. Amanda Mapleton, an AAO member and past president of the Canadian Association of Orthodontists, were elected to the WFO Executive Committee during the WFO Council meeting.

In an effort to reach out to orthodontic residents, the AAO held a reception for the students February 5. “It was very well received, in my opinion,” Dr Bray said, noting that all the AAO representatives were dressed alike in a distinctive Hawaiian shirt for the reception. This allowed the orthodontic residents to find the AAO leaders easily in the crowd.

The AAO also had its first exhibit booth at an IOC. The trustees took turns working at the exhibit. “We really got to see the individuals who wanted to learn more about the AAO,” Dr Bray said.

Asian Pacific Orthodontic Society announces new officers, host of 9th APOC in 2014

The Asian Pacific Orthodontic Society (APOS) held its executive meeting February 7 in conjunction with the 7th International Orthodontic Congress (IOC) and 4th Meeting of the World Federation of Orthodontists (WFO) in Sydney, Australia. Dr Somchai Satravaha, immediate past president, presided over this meeting, during which the Executive Committee elected new officers and announced the host of the 9th Asian Pacific Orthodontic Conference (APOC).

Since the founding of the APOS in 2001, the organization has grown from nine affiliate member organizations to 16. “This demonstrates the respect and goodwill that the APOS has earned throughout the past years,” said Dr Crissie Santayana, the immediate past secretary-general of the APOS. “It is noteworthy to mention that most of the TAD innovators have come from the Asian-Pacific region, and, hence, are some of the most sought-after conference speakers.”

The following individuals were elected to officer positions: Dr Kai-Woh Loh of the Association of Orthodontists, Singapore is president; Dr Kazuo Tanne of the Japanese Orthodontic Society is vice president; Dr Takanari Murakami of the Thai Association of Orthodontists is secretary-general; and Dr Girish Karandikar of the Indian Orthodontic Society is the honorary treasurer.

The following individuals represent the affiliate member organizations on the APOS Executive Committee: Dr Bryce Lee, Association of Orthodontists, Singapore; Dr Crissie Santayana, Association of Philippine Orthodontists; Dr Shane Fryer, Australian Society of Orthodontists; Dr Mohammad Emadal Haq, Bangladesh Orthodontic Society; Dr Tian-Min Xu, Chinese Orthodontic Society; Dr Urban Hägg, Hong Kong Society of Orthodontists; Dr Girish Karandikar, Indian Orthodontic Society; Dr Himawan Halim, Indonesian Association of Orthodontists; Dr Kazuo Tanne, Japanese Orthodontic Society; Dr Cheol-Ho Paik, Korean Association of Orthodontists; Dr Wei Lin, Macau Association of Orthodontists; Dr Noraini Binti Hj. Alwi, Malaysian Association of Orthodontists; Dr Winifred Harding, New Zealand Association of Orthodontists; Dr Prakash Bhattachari, Orthodontic & Dentofacial Orthopaedic Association of Bangladesh (ODOAB); Dr Mubassar Fida, Pakistan Association of Orthodontists; and Dr Tanan Jaruprakorn, Thai Association of Orthodontists.

The APOS Executive Committee announced that the Malaysian Association of Orthodontists will host the 9th APOS in 2014. The 8th APOC will be held November 23–26, 2012, in New Delhi, India. The APOS held its 7th APOC in conjunction with the 7th IOC; please see the related articles on the World Village Day.

To learn more about the APOS or APOC, go to www.ap-os.org.

European Federation of Orthodontics convenes for annual General Assembly

The European Federation of Orthodontics (FEO) held its annual General Assembly and Board Meeting in December 2009 in Thessaloniki, Greece, in conjunction with the 12th Panhellenic Congress of the Greek Orthodontic Society and the Orthodontic Society of Northern Greece.

The FEO promotes orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics in Europe by improving cooperation among the constituent associations, harmonizing programs and training sessions, and encouraging research. The FEO now represents 19 scientific orthodontic societies.

The following individuals are serving on the 2010 FEO Board: Dr Francesca Miotti of Padova, Italy, president; Dr Bärbel Kahl-Nieke of Hamburg, Germany, vice president; Dr Julian O’Neill of Northamptonshire, England, secretary-general; Dr Panagiotis Skoulakis of Athens, Greece, secretary-general adjunct; Dr Michel Steil of Luxembourg, Luxembourg, treasurer; Dr Jose Dahan of Brussels, Belgium, administrator; and Dr Olivier Mauchamp of Grenoble, France, immediate past president.

As part of its 2009 General Assembly, the FEO presented the 2007 and 2008 FEO Awards. This honor recognizes the best paper published within the previous two years in an FEO affiliate society journal.


Dr Paola Cozza and co-authors F. Ballanti, M. Castellano, and E. Fanucci received the 2008 FEO Award for the paper “The Role of Computed Tomography in the Evaluation of Orthodontic Treatment in Adult Patients with Obstructive Sleep Apnea Syndrome (OSA),” which was published in Progress in Orthodontics (Prog Orthod 2008;9(1):6–16).

The 2010 FEO General Assembly and the FEO Award Ceremony will be held in November in Florence, Italy, during the Annual Scientific Congress of the Società Italiana di Ortodonzia (SIDO), which will host the FEO event.

The FEO welcomes prospective full and corresponding members. To learn more about the FEO, go to www.feo-online.com. You may also contact Dr Miotti at francesca@francescamiotti.it; Dr Kahl-Nieke at kahl-nieke@uke.uni-hamburg.de; or Dr O’Neill at julizone@yahoo.co.uk.