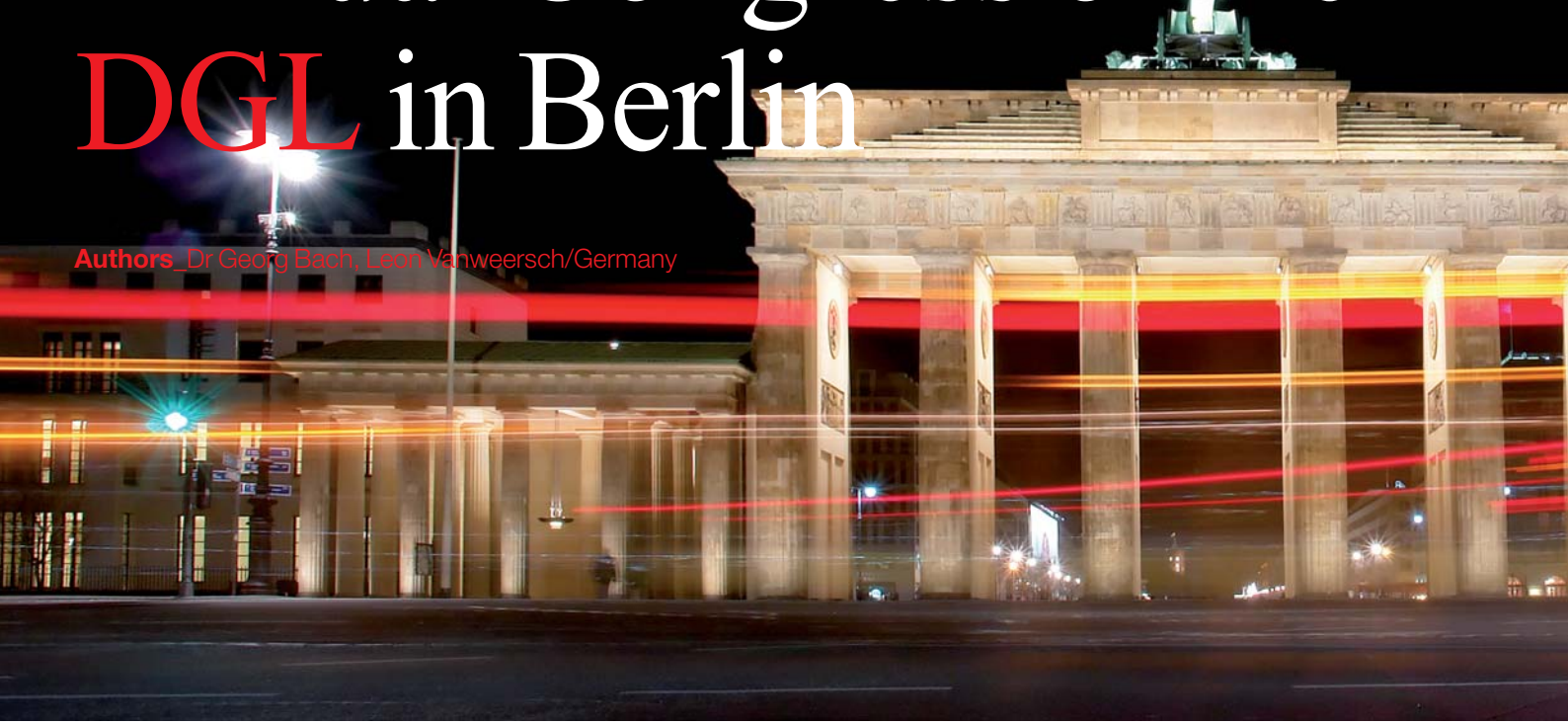
A very successful 20th Annual Congress of the DGL in Berlin

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_More than 250 participants visited the yearly congress of the DGL, which was held together with the 14th LASER START UP, a symposium specially organized for new comers in the world of laser dentistry. Many dentists praised again this very nice concept of sharing two congresses in laser dentistry at one location, which was this year the Palace Hotel in the heart of Berlin.

20 years DGL was the jubilee topic of this congress. Prof Dr Norbert Gutknecht, president of the DGL, reviewed with happiness the past 20 years of this scientific society, which is fully associated with the German Association of Dentistry—the main scientific dental society in Germany. Prof Gutknecht stated that the DGL in particular and laser dentistry in total are now definitive accepted in general dentistry. He mentioned further that in the future dental laser research should focus on the integration of laser light with other high-tech therapy methods like CAD/CAM. Gutknecht's stated his credo: Laser therapy is a profit for dentistry in general.







Gutknecht welcomed in his presidential opening speech many invited national and international guests. Among these guests were Prof Joseph Arnabat (President of the Spanish Dental Laser Society and Organizing Chairman of the WFLD World Congress 2012 in Barcelona), Prof Umberto Romeo (Organizing Chairman of the European Division WFLD Laser Congress 2011 in Rome), Prof Carmen Todea (President of the Romanian Dental Laser Society) as well as Prof Carlos de Paula Eduardo (a long-time Friend of the DGL and Division President of the South-American WFLD Division), and last but not least the Honorary President of the DGL, Prof Friedrich Lampert (University Aachen). The DGL President shared not only his vision concerning the past but also concerning the future in his lecture about the future of laser dentistry. Gutknecht stated that there is still a long way to go, and new techniques but also new wavelengths will improve the spectrum of indications in laser dentistry and simplify many dental procedures in daily dental therapy.

Many other well-known lecturers gave their statements of laser dentistry during the two days congress and here we can only mention some of them. Dr Georg Bach (Freiburg/Breisgau) declared the curious situation that on the one side we have very valid and excellent scientific results, on the other side the acceptance within the universities and other scientific societies is still very conservative and critical. Dr Bach observed also an improving number of laser dentists but by far not so fast as it could be. Bach sees the solution in a systematic development of education in laser dentistry and a better cooperation between the DGL and the different other dental societies in Germany.

Interesting were the results from three different lecturers in the field of laser supported endodontics. Dr Michael Hopp (Berlin), Prof Carmen Todea (Timisoara) and Dr Iris Brader, MSc (AALZ, University Aachen) were unanimous in their statement that the Nd:YAG laser offers the best wavelength for bacterial reductions in the root canal. Especially Dr Iris Brader showed with a success rate of 91% successfully treated cases an even better clinical result in her private dental clinic then in Gutknecht's publication from some years ago.

Two lectures in the field of peri-implantitis therapy with lasers showed the success story in this field against classical methods. Prof Dr Herbert Deppe (University Munich) showed the significant advantages of CO_2 laser therapy against conventional therapy methods. Assoc-Prof Dr Sabine Sennhenn-Kirch-









ner (University Göttingen) presented success rates with diode and Er:YAG laser therapy. The field of periimplantitis therapy is already now the definite domain of laser therapy.

Prof Carlos de Paula Eduardo (University São Paulo) showed again very convincing results out of his preferred scientific research field in esthetic dentistry. Especially the fascinating pictures in his presentation were highly appreciated by the auditorium.

Dr Rene Franzen (AALZ, University Aachen) presented a basic lecture highlighting the importance of understanding the absorption of diode lasers in soft tissues. Dr Jörg Meister (AALZ, University Aachen) gave a lecture about the biophysical understanding of erbium lasers in dentistry. Andreas Querengässer (AALZ, University Aachen) presented interesting results of laser activated rinsing solutions in the root canal with an Er,Cr:YSGG laser. Dr Thorsten Kuypers, MSc (AALZ, University Aachen) demonstrated the successful combination of Er:YAG cavity preparation with CAD/CAM manufactured crown inlays, Dr Ralf Borchers, MSc (AALZ, University Aachen) compared different diode laser settings in oral surgery, Dr Peter Kleemann, MSc (AALZ, University Aachen) showed the exiting possibilities of laser-supported orthodontics and Dr Peter Fahlstedt, MSc (AALZ, University Aachen) presented several clinical cases with different wavelengths.

A further absolute domain of laser dentistry is laser supported pediatric dentistry. Dr Gabriele Schindler-Hultzsch, MSc (AALZ, University Aachen) showed her own Laserkids®-Concept in a Split-Mouth-Design. She showed the very high acceptance of laser dentistry by kids! Also Dr Maziar Mir, Msc (AALZ, University Aachen) presented different clinical cases in pediatric dentistry. Another highlight of the congress was the lecture of Prof Dr Dr Siegfried Jänicke (University Osnabrück) about lasers in oral and maxillofacial surgery. He stated that the CO_2-laser as scalpel substitute in oral surgery is definitive. Another profound scientist in this field is Prof Umberto Romeo (University Rome), who showed significantly better results in laser surgery in comparison with conventional methods. Also Dr Stefan Grümer, MSc (AALZ, University Aachen) gave a comprehensive lecture about periodontal surgery with a Nd:YAG laser.

Prof Dr Anton Sculean (University Bern) and Assoc-Prof Dr Andreas Braun (University Bonn) presented in their respective lectures the promising possibilities of photodynamic therapy in the field of periodontology.

A very important part of the congress was also the LASER START UP 2010. Beside the lecturers, which gave introduction lectures for dentists interested in the field of laser dentistry or starting laser dentists, also the leading dental laser companies and distributors are part of the success of the LASER START UP congresses (since 14 years), as already written for the second time now organized together with the DGL congress. Especially the Saturday is the day where introduction workshops and laser demonstrations by the companies are given. The concept of this LASER START UP congress is divided in four fields:

_Laser basics and laser physics
_Presentation of the indications in laser dentistry
_Presentation of all wavelengths in laser dentistry
_Demonstration of legal aspects and invoicing of laser therapy.

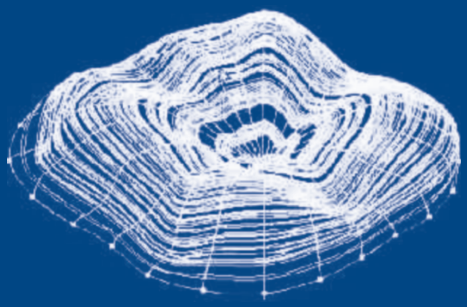
The LASER START UP 2010 and the integrated workshops and demonstrations were also this year very well visited. In the main podium at the end of the second congress day the auditorium had also the ultimate chance to discuss their view on laser dentistry with all lecturers of the congress. After an hour of intensive exchange and discussions Prof Gutknecht, DGL president, closed this very informative and successful DGL congress 2010 in Berlin._

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