First year of AALZ Greece full of activities!

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_AALZ's vision is to educate dentists from all over the globe and make them specialists in the field of laser dentistry. The AALZ educational programs are based on fundamental laser physics, neutral and objective information on current laser systems, skill training and evidence based description of dental indications. That is the reason that AALZ has become a synonym of quality educational programs amongst dentists who are willing to buy or already use a laser system in their clinic. As with many other countries that became again clear with Greek colleagues. In 2010 AALZ Greece was established by AALZ and RWTH Aachen University adjunct faculty members Dr Antonis Kallis and Dr Dimitris Strakas. In this first year many Greek dentists have participated in our programs and added their names to the long list of our students over the years.



On January of 2010 the first Laser Safety Course was held in Athens and was followed by one more in June. During the 30th Panhellenic Dental Congress in October 2010, AALZ Greece participated with its own exhibitor booth. Supported by AALZ's General Manager Mr. Leon Vanweersch, the booth attracted the interest of many Greek colleagues, who were informed in detail about the offered accredited programs and the future scheduled dates of them.

Already in November the first Mastership/Fellowship Status Program of AALZ Greece was ready to ini-








tiate. A day before, on November 14 a very professionally organized meeting was held in Kastri, in the northern part of Athens. About 100 dentists gathered from early morning (although an election day for Greece) to enjoy the one-day Congress 'Improvements and Innovations in Laser Treatments'. Main lecturer and invited speaker of the event was Prof Norbert Gutknecht who captured the audience's interest with his three lectures on different aspects of laser dentistry, including laser assisted endodontic treatments, cavity preparations with erbium lasers and principles of periodontal therapy using Nd:YAG and diode lasers.

Very interesting lectures were also given on various topics, including marketing management of a modern dental laser office, clinical presentations of laser treatments and aesthetic facial applications with new generation laser systems. One very interesting part of the day was the on-spot live clinical applications on patients, that were taking place in a separated area of the hall and the procedure was projected via camera on screen. The audience could really watch live the treatments and the comfort of the patients during the procedure.

At the end of the day, Prof Norbert Gutknecht gave a welcome speech to the participants of the first Greek Mastership Course, emphasizing the fact that AALZ's educational programs are still the only accredited by the German Government and the European Union. Investing your professional future in laser dentistry, means that you seek the professional education offered by AALZ and RWTH Aachen University. On Monday and Tuesday, November 15 and 16, the first Module of the Mastership Course took place. Dr Rene Franzen, physicist of RWTH Aachen University, covered many topics in the field of laser physics and laser safety (Laser Safety Officer certification) in two long days. Laser structure, function and handling and laser-tissue interactions were also explained in detail. At the end of the second day Dr Franzen gave also a presentation about the ILIAS system, the extremely helpful e-learning platform that AALZ's students use throughout their studies. Although tired, the participants were extremely satisfied by the quality of Module I and this was an inspiration for them to expand their level of understanding concerning the fundamentals of laser dentistry in the upcoming Modules.

The second Module of the Mastership Course in Greece is set for 27, 28 February & 1 March 2011. Due to the intense demand of many other dentists, AAZ Greece was literally forced to repeat the first Module on 25 and 26 February 2011, thus giving the opportunity to those who apply on time to participate. For those interested please E-mail aalzgreece@gmail.com or visit the website www.aalz.gr.

The immediate success of the Mastership Course in Greece is just one more proof that the high standards and high quality of studies which AALZ offers since 1991, have set AALZ's brandname not only as pioneer but also as constant leader in laser dentistry education for dentists worldwide._

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