

Personalia

Prof. Jörg Neugebauer is AO President

Prof. Jörg Neugebauer, DDS, PhD, Secretary General of BDIZ EDI, was elected President of the Academy of Osseointegration (AO) at this year's Annual Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina. This is the first time that a German dentist has led the prestigious international academy, which is based in North America. The BDIZ EDI warmly congratulates its long-standing board member.



Handover of the Presidency from Prof. Hom-Lay Wang to Prof. Jörg Neugebauer.

With this honorary position, Neugebauer crowns his dedicated work in the AO (which has more than 4,000 members in 70 countries) since 1995. It is considered one of the leading international associations in the field of oral implantology with a high degree of practical relevance.

Neugebauer initially presented his scientific findings at the Annual Meetings. In 2002, he was awarded the prize for the

best poster presentation. Since beginning his work at the University of Cologne, he has served on various AO committees and was appointed head of the Clinical Innovations Committee, which plays an important role at the Annual Meetings. He was also actively involved in the organization of one of the international AO Summits, which take place every four years. Succeeding Prof. Hom-Lay Wang, Prof.

Neugebauer will play a key role in shaping the content of the next Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington in 2025.

Fostering exchange between Germany, Europe and America

The dentist and oral surgeon from Landsberg am Lech in Southern Germany has set himself ambitious goals. For example, he wants to promote the further expansion of the "OsseoAlliance", an association of specialist scientific societies operating globally, to exchange scientific findings to improve patient care in practice. This will involve not only promoting exchanges between Germany, Europe and North and South America, but also continuing the activities in Asia that were intensified by his predecessor. His honorary position as Secretary General of BDIZ EDI and his membership of various professional associations such as the EAO also serve him well. For the AO's Annual Meetings, he is planning a much more practical approach, with the aim of involving the younger generation and placing much more emphasis on digital knowledge transfer.

Neugebauer has also been heavily involved in BDIZ EDI for many years: as chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board, which is responsible for the specialist articles in *BDIZ EDI konkret* and *EDI Journal*; as moderator of the European Consensus Conference (EuCC) under the auspices of BDIZ EDI, which produces an annual

guideline for implant dentistry; and as chairman of the Quality Committee, which deals with material testing.

Jörg Neugebauer has been Professor of Digitalisation in Dentistry at Steinbeis University in Magdeburg since 2021. He is also a lecturer at the Department of Oral, Maxillofacial and Plastic Facial Surgery, Polyclinic for Oral Surgery and Implantology, Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery, University of Cologne, Germany.

AWU

Inaugural speech of the new President in Charlotte.



Three questions for Professor Neugebauer



You have just become the 38th President of the Academy of Osseointegration (AO). How do you feel about taking the helm of the AO?

When I first had the opportunity to attend an AO Annual Meeting in 1994, I was highly impressed by the professionalism of the event and the immense amount of knowledge that was presented. It never occurred to me at the time that I would be responsible for all this in the future and that I would be able to shape the direction of the Academy.

Can you share your vision for the coming year with us?

Over the past four decades, the AO has accumulated a great deal of knowledge at a high scientific level. My goal—not only for the 40th Annual Meeting in Seattle—is to disseminate this knowledge as well as possible and as widely as possible to practising dentists. To en-

sure that patients receive the best possible implant treatment and that those patients for whom implant therapy would be the best treatment option actually receive it. Unfortunately, many patients are still denied implant therapy because their family dentist often does not have sufficient knowledge to provide the best possible treatment.

The AO Annual Meeting will be held in Seattle in 2025. Can you talk about the highlights of the meeting?

Although a lot of knowledge has been gained in recent years, dentists have many, sometimes controversial, treatment options at their disposal. It is not always easy to find the right treatment in a given situation. That is why the topic is Controversies in Implant Dentistry—how to make it easy.

Thank you very much for your insights into the AO.