"I owe some of the best memories and friendships of my life to YDW"

INTERVIEW with Ahmed Hawas, International Scientific Officer

Ahmed Hawas studied in Alexandria, Egypt, and is now working as an International Scientific Officer in London, Great Britain.

AIM: What is important about the person Ahmed?

After graduating from the dental school in Alexandria, I went on to being an all drilling, filling dentist for a few years until I realized I was passionate about prosthodontics. I went to Manchester for one year where I did my MSc in prosthodontics, after which I returned to Alexandria to become the drilling, filling, and this time crowning dentist. In addition, I started teaching undergraduates at Pharos University in Alexandria. After a few years, I decided to come to London for a PhD in implant dentistry. I just finished the first year of my research. I enjoy travelling and experiencing different cultures, I like watersports and recently have started playing golf (I had to wait until it was over for Tiger Woods to make my move).

AIM: What can YDW do for young dentists?

Young dentists are not always young scientists; they do not necessarily all go to the IADR or have the possibility of publishing in Nature. Most dentists are clinicians with a scientific background and a lot have clinical research going on within their clinic or have ideas based on cases, observations and experience. YDW can do a lot by creating a platform on which these dentists can present, share and discuss their views to and with the rest of the world.

AIM: Which concrete projects do you have in mind?

I have always believed that the contribution of YDW to IADS was very important in the scientific sense. This was previously fulfilled by ex-IADS lovers coming back to give lectures and hands-on courses. This year, we introduced the YDW Scientific Day, a series of lectures and workshops given by YDW member dentists at the IADS congress. The topics were very interesting and diverse. For next year's YDW Scientific Day I will try to gather many ex-IADS people, who are currently influential dentists/lecturers, to come and celebrate the IADS 60th birthday. We will have two days comprising a variety of lectures and workshops. Another point is the scientific YDW-forum at the FDI World Congress, a great way to discuss issues in the current dental world. Everyone who is interested in the topics of the Forum should read the scientific part of the magazine. The third point is the Visiting Program. For next year, the plan is to recruit more member clinics that will offer this and formalize the application procedures.

AIM: What does YDW mean for your life? YDW means that I can still positively contribute to the worldwide dental community, to which I ow some of the best memories and friendships of my life.