

Dental Summer 2011—Where young dentists in Germany meet

TEXT: Juliane Gnoth

It was the second time that members and friends of Young Dentists Germany (BdZA) gathered at the Baltic Sea not far from Lübeck in the place called Timendorfer Strand. In 2010 BdZA developed the cooperation with IFG, a company that has organized courses and congresses for dentists for many years.





BdZA and IFG invite to Timmendorfer Strand

Their high-class education has its prize, but Wilhelm Hakim and his team discovered the potential of the young generation—their future customers. After making the concept for the Dental Summer events, they offered BdZA members plus students short before graduation free participation in the meeting. In 2011, 250 students and young dentists came to Timmendorfer Strand to spend two days

listening to top lecturers. Many could not attend as the number was limited. From adhesive techniques to functional analysis, the dental topics were widespread and completed by courses like shaolin trainings. Last year, BdZA rewarded Wilhelm Hakim and his team from the IFG with the 1st German Dental Alumni Award for excellent efforts concerning the education of young dentists. But not just the courses are special in the Dental Summer concept, also the after-lecture-happen-



ings are not as usual. When normally participants of congresses and lectures just leave, they gather together at the Dental Summer.

Social life at Dental Summer

Every evening of the four days offers barbecue or even big parties to take part in. In this leisure atmosphere, young colleagues meet settled dentists and can share experiences and tricks. As the congress hotel is located directly by the seaside, each break gives the chance to have a quick rest in the sun and being at an educational event feels more like holidays than usual. Like last year, the IFG Summer Party was the main event. Again, the band The Clou made the crowd dance and party for hours. But before going to the parties, many participants of the congress shared a special experience—the official beach volleyball contest. Twelve teams with four players each were randomly chosen and started the contest on Thursday after the lectures. The weather was

changing daily, but the contestants were taking it seriously and played the finals even with tough rain and cold wind. The winning team got high-quality dental loupes each and celebrated their win at the farewell party on Saturday. The four final teams played each evening after being in the courses all day, but also other participants wanted to see the games and joined the whole crowd at the beach.

BdZA and the future

The active members of Young Dentists Germany used the week also to work on their ideas and plans for the future. Jan-Philipp Schmidt, President of BdZA, and Wilhelm Hakim from the IFG, underlined their will to continue the cooperation as the Dental Summer event is a very attractive gathering for the young generation. For BdZA it is a good opportunity to get new members and the IFG generates new costumers—no reason not to plan for Dental Summer 2012.



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