Barcelona meets laser specialists from more than 45 countries

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_From 26 to 28 of May, the 13th World Federation for Laser Dentistry (WFLD) World Congress and the 12th annual meeting of the Sociedad Española de Láser Odontoestomatológico (SELO) were held in Barcelona. This meeting gathered more than 500 specialists from all around the world.

The high scientific standard of the invited lecturers, as well as the high quality of both oral presentations (150) and posters (140), tagged the event as highly prestigious. The congress was developed in four simultaneous rooms: two for the lecturers and the other two for the oral presentations. There was also a big space reserved for the poster presentations. In one of the conferences rooms, in which general aspects of laser application in dentistry were treated, simultaneous translations from English to Spanish took place during all the congress. In the other main room, more specific and advanced aspects of laser in dentistry were discussed. The scientific programme of the congress was meticulously organized, avoiding that a lecture of a certain field overlapped with another lecture on a similar subject.

There was also a big space for the trade fair, in which recent technologies and devices in the field of dentistry were presented. The congress held the main manufacturers of lasers in dentistry from around the world at its disposal.

The different social events that took place during the congress days also played a major role in its success. On the first day, the opening ceremony was celebrated, with the presence of the delegate of the rector of the University of Barcelona, honorable Dr Miquel Viñas, the dean of the dentistry faculty of the International University of Catalonia. honorable Dr Lluis Giner, the President of the Dentists Association in Catalonia, honorable Dr Josep Lluis Navarro, the president of the World Federation for Laser Dentistry, Dr Jean-Paul Rocca, the president of the Sociedad Española de Láser Odontoestomatológico, Dr Josep



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Arnabat, and the president of the congress, Dr Antoni España. At the inaugural ceremony of the congress and after the speeches, a representation of the Spanish folklore took place. In addition, snacks and Catalan cava were served.

The scientific committee rewarded the best oral presentations of "young researchers". The ten best oral presentations were selected and repeated in one of the main rooms, with a jury awarding the best ones.

During the closing ceremony, president Dr Jean-Paul Rocca thanked the organizing committee for all the effort carried out during the congress preparation and emphasized that "the Barcelona congress has been the best among all the WFLD Congresses held so far, and exceeding this would be difficult".

On the last day of the congress, a closing dinner was prepared in a restaurant located in the Montjuic mountain, with wonderful views of all the city of Barcelona. During the dinner, there was a prize draw for a diode laser, offered by Syneron Dental, the Congress' Gold Sponsor. The President of the SELO, Dr Josep Arnabat, presented Dr Isao Ishikawa with a commemorative plaque of acknowledgement for his career and support, and Dr Antoni España with another gratitude plaque for his work as previous President of SELO.

In the meeting, the new President of the WFLD, Dr Aldo Brugnera Jr., was introduced and dedicated a few words to all the people at the dinner._

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