



Prof. Dr Herbert Deppe

# Dear colleagues,

\_On this years' 44<sup>th</sup> congress of the DGZI in Düsseldorf, I was elected president of the society by the members' assembly after being assessor of the executive committee for three years. In my role as the president-elect, I want to move forward the intensification of the contacts with other specialised fields as periodontology or colleagues from prosthetics and biomechanics. Thereby, I would like to extend the already existing personal contacts as well as those of the DGZI and also initiate joint congresses with other specialised fields as the German Association for Periodontology. Furthermore, it is my heartfelt concern to intensify the collaboration between oral maxillofacial surgeons and the dental profession.

Traditionally, the DGZI has also a lot of international contacts, especially to colleagues in Japan and Switzerland. We are also strongly connected with the Arabian area, although keeping contact here is not easy in view of the continuing political tensions. This is another issue, which I would wish to address intensively within the executive committee. In general, there is no need to reinvent the DGZI. We should tackle things in all modesty. Thereby, we want to remain faithful to our values which are on the one hand letting established practitioners feel at home in the DGZI and on the other hand stick to the clear scientific demand of our society.

In the upcoming year, we as the German Association of Dental Implantology (DGZI) are faced with a lot of challenges. From my point of view, one of the biggest challenges is the strengthening of the implantological societies, which should occur in a cooperative way. The difficulty of establishing this cooperative thought becomes clear when thinking of the joint event of the big implantological societies in Munich planned in the year before which unfortunately failed to come about. In the area of science, development has to focus on materials research on the one hand—especially in the area of high-performance ceramics—but also on the bioligisation of implants on the other hand.

Finally, a personal remark should be allowed: We have to remind ourselves day-to-day that we have one of the greatest professions. Here, modesty is called for. This also includes the insight that one or another step is better made by someone else and thus react accordingly. With this in mind, I would go along with the executive committee: Keep your feet on the ground—and keep reaching for the stars!

Yours sincerely  
Prof. Dr Herbert Deppe