

UNAM congress opens in Mexico City

DGZI extends relationship to the university

_Professionals, students, academics and researchers from different universities had been invited to the International Congress of the Dental Faculty of the UNAM. The focus of the event lied on the public health and private sectors, as well as the general dental community in Mexico. The German Association of Dental Implantology (DGZI) joined the congress, represented by Dr Rolf Vollmer as only representative from Germany (Fig. 1). DGZI speakers significantly influenced the implantological programme.

More than 7,000 colleagues visited the International Congress of the Odontological Faculty (Congreso Internacional de la Facultad de Odontología) of the UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Méxiko) at the World Trade Centre in Mexico City (Fig. 3) from 7 to 9 May 2015. Amongst the guests was the German

Association of Dental Implantology (DGZI e.V.), which was represented by Dr Ralf Vollmer, first Vice President and Treasurer of the DGZI, as well as the representatives of the United States Dr Suheil Boutros and Dr Mazen Tamimi from Jordan (Fig. 2).

After Mario Rodrigues (Fig. 2, second from right), an exponent of the Dental Faculty of the UNAM, had spoken at the international podium of the DGZI Congress in Düsseldorf last year, the implantological programme was largely dominated by DGZI speakers. The breaks during the congress were used for more intensive talks on possible future cooperation between the DGZI and the National University of Mexico.

From Mexican side, there has been interest in the existing training programmes of the DGZI. Both sides are open to further enhance their relationship. The

event presented more than 20 national speakers, hands-on-courses and clinical procedures in various lecture halls, which were simultaneously translated. In addition, the largest trade fair of the country took place with more than 200 exhibitors: the 63rd Expo Dental AMIC International.

UNAM School of Dentistry Dean, Mr. José Arturo Fernández Pedrero, thanked AMIC for the support received and encouraged all institutions to work together for a better dentistry that benefits all Mexicans. Shortly before his speech an interesting video by Dr Enrique Edwards entitled "A Day at UNAM Faculty of Dentistry" was screened. It showed vignettes of events at the school, from classes to practices, from free dental care offered to the public to students engaged in recreational activities in the large campus of the university.

The National Autonomous University of Mexico is one of the oldest and biggest universities of the American continent. According to the annual "World University Ranking" of the British consulting company QS in 2010, it is the best Latin-American University but ranked in the 222nd place worldwide.

With the expansion of its activities in Latin America, the DGZI shows courage and innovation in the implantological training scene._

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