

Prof. Dr Norbert Gutknecht

DGL President & Organising Chairman
of the 16th WFLD World Congress



Anniversary congress in Aachen from 1 to 3 October 2018

Dear friends of laser dentistry,

It is my great pleasure to be able to welcome you in Aachen, Germany, for this extraordinary congress event: 30 years of WFLD/ISLD, 27 years of DGL and 12 years of WALED. With this anniversary congress, we are making it possible for many colleagues from all over the world to jointly participate in the scientific presentations and clinical treatment sessions.

If we are considering the application of lasers in dentistry, we have to realise that while it is a well-established treatment method today, it was only initiated 30 years ago. Diverse universities have conducted research which in the end has led to a scientifically ensured application of these methods. At the same time, scientists and doctors have come together in working groups which have eventually become the foundation for the establishment of laser societies. Today, nobody would question an indication-based application of lasers in dentistry anymore.

The ISLD (International Society for Laser Dentistry), as well as the DGL were founded with the objective to promote the application of lasers in dentistry in both science and practice. In 1998, the DGL and ISLD thus became associated and have been closely collaborating ever since.

As part of this collaboration, the DGL successfully organised the ISLD World Congress in Berlin in 2006. As one of the founding members of DGL and Organising Chairman, I am especially happy and honoured that

the DGL will again be the hosting society of the anniversary congress of WFLD/ISLD in Aachen, Germany, and that Prof. Dr Lynn Powell as a founding member of ISLD has taken over the position as Chairman of the Scientific Committee.

We will offer scientists and practitioners the scientific and clinical platform to present and discuss their research results and clinical cases, and to stay up-to-date with the developments and possibilities, as well as with the limits of applying lasers in oral medicine. The workshops offered as part of the congress are dedicated to continuous clinical education and are thus acknowledged with further education credits.

As you know, it is not only the aim of a congress to further educate oneself scientifically and clinically but also to socialise with friends and colleagues. I am thus looking forward to enjoying good food and live music with you at Rahe Castle on Tuesday evening.

With all this in mind, I would like to wish us all a harmonious congress.

Yours

Prof. Dr Norbert Gutknecht