

24th Annual Meeting of the Academy of Osseointegration (AO)

authors_ Rolf Vollmer and Rainer Valentin, Germany

The 24th Annual Meeting of the Academy of Osseointegration (AO) was held at the San Diego Convention Center from February 26–28, 2009. Slogan of this meeting was "A New Wave in Implant Therapy". AO is one of the international partner organizations, a so called affiliate association of DGZI (German Association of Dental Implantology). AO is a purely scientific association, similar to the DGZI, with more than 6,500 members worldwide, who have specialized in dental implantology. Top experts from all over the world presented their scientific studies in the form of expert lectures and workshops. In his welcoming speech Steven G. Lewis DMD, the current President of the Academy of Osseointegration, introduced the meeting program and welcomed the colleagues from all over the world. He specially thanked DGZI, which was represented by Dr Rolf Vollmer, Dr Rainer Valentin and DGZI's international representative Dr Mazen Tamimi. They were also accompanied by a small group of interested colleagues.

Steven G. Lewis pointed out: This year we selected the topic: "A New Wave in Implant Therapy."

The mission of the academy is "to advance oral health and well being by disseminating state-of-the-art and clinical and scientific knowledge of implant dentistry and tissue engineering and by defining expertise in the field of implant dentistry."

The president thanked his program directors for doing such an excellent job. Furthermore, he expressed his thanks to the sponsors who made this congress feasible for a magnitude of approximately 3,000 participants.

Furthermore Steven G. Lewis remarked about the educational objectives:

The goal of this year's Annual Meeting is to provide attendees with the most current educational experience in implant dentistry. The overall objective is to explore technological breakthroughs in implant dentistry and their impact on clinical practice. Tech-





nology and new techniques must always maintain a balance with science based therapy.

Our aim is to provide a comprehensive program including current innovations in restorative and surgical techniques; the team approach; practice management; improved diagnostics with computed tomography (CT); digital volumetric tomography (DVT) and photography; and current concepts from some of the most well-known presenters around the world.

The ultimate goal is to provide relevant, predictable techniques to integrate into clinical practice that will improve patient care.

Target Audience

The program is targeted toward everyone who has an interest in implant therapy. This includes: students in training programs, dentists with limited implant experience and specialists with extensive training in implant dentistry. Auxiliary staff, including hygien-

ists, assistants and laboratory personnel will also benefit from this meeting.

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Affiliate Groups

The Academy of Osseointegration strives to create the most scientifically and clinically advanced meeting in osseointegration on a yearly basis. We welcome you to attend this meeting and are certain that you will enjoy it. In addition to the annual session of the AO, we also suggest that you consider attending the meetings of our friends in other groups dedicated to osseointegration throughout the world. Four of those groups, the ABROSS in Brazil, ADI in the UK, AOS in Australia, and DGZI in Germany can be accessed by clicking on their logos below.

