



Fig. 1

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15th International WFLD Congress—Preview

International **laser** summit in **Nagoya**, Japan

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From 17 to 19 July 2016, **Nagoya** is going to host the 15th International WFLD Congress with Hajime Yamamoto and Isao Ishikawa as honorary presidents and Kenji Yoshida as the Chair of the Organising Committee. This year's theme is going to be "Light to brighten the future"—illustrating the society's endeavour to move away from traditional laser dentistry and dental care, towards new developments by incorporating light into both diagnosis and treatment.

Research and dental practice

As the submission period has already ended in May 2016, the congress organisers are now finalising the congress programme which is composed of invited lectures, symposiums, workshops, oral and poster sessions as well as exhibitions and seminars. International laser specialists from both engineering and medical fields, including dentistry, will assemble to deliver lectures and presentations on the latest scientific findings in their fields: Thus, the preliminary keynote lectures include topics such as "Er:YAG Laser Supported Endodontic Retreatment" by Adam Stabholz (Israel), Aldo Brugnara Junior (Brazil) and Am-

brose Chan (Australia), "Low Level Laser Therapy in Esthetic Dentistry" by Carlos de Paula Eduardo (Brazil), Kenji Yoshida (Japan), Norbert Gutknecht (Germany) and Samir Nammour (Belgium), and "Current Surgical and Therapeutic Uses with Future Prospects for CO₂ Lasers in Oral and Maxillofacial" by Toni Zeinoun (Lebanon) and Umberto Romeo (Italy). The WFLD2016 organisers hope that the diverse programme will promote further advancement of academic research and clinical applications, heralding "the beginning of a new development of medical devices and a new expansion of the industry in Japan".

High scientific standards

Strict criteria and high standards were applied to reviewing the scientific abstracts. For example, all submissions with regard to research and studies on human or animal subjects must abide by the Declaration of Helsinki of the World Medical Association, which provides guiding principles for experimental procedures. Furthermore, they must be approved by an IRB (institutional review board). In addition, the WFLD2016 Programme Committee has established

Fig. 1: Nagoya, famous for its light illuminations, welcomes WFLD2016 with its theme „Light to brighten the future“.

its own set of submission guidelines (please see congress homepage for further information).

WFLD Basic Laser Certification

In order to give official accreditation for passing a test on the basic knowledge of laser dentistry, WFLD has developed a special Laser Certification course. Lecturers will be high-calibre international professionals who are well-experienced in dental laser applications.

15th anniversary in Japan

WFLD's history started in 1988 with the foundation of ISLD (International Society for Laser in Dentistry). In the same year, the first International Congress of Laser Dentistry was held in Tokyo, Japan. Ever since then, the society has been active as an international organisation for laser dentistry, holding its international congresses every two years in different locations. After 14 years, WFLD2016 is going to be the third congress taking place in Japan. Since 2002, the JSLD (Japanese Society for Laser Dentistry) has served as a full WFLD member. History is coming full circle as Hajime Yamamoto, professor emeritus at Tokyo Medical and Dental University and ISLD's first president, is this year's WFLD Congress president. Isao Ishikawa, professor emeritus at Tokyo Medical and Dental University and this year's second congress president, already was appointed congress president in 2002.

Industry meets history

Nagoya is rich in both history and industry. Located at the centre of Honshu, Japan's main island, it is home to traditional industries such as ceramics and textiles as well as modern industrial branches like automobiles, aviation and machine tools. Not only does Nagoya thus play an important role in Japan's industry, but it also has become an international city of a population of 2.24 million people.

Nagoya's main sites mirror this dichotomy of history and modernism: On the one hand, Nagoya is famous for its castle. Crafted in 1612, its magnificent gold-plated kinshachi (tiger-headed dolphins) on the topmost castle roof are notoriously the most wonderful of all kinshachi in Japan. On the other hand, Nagoya hosted the World Design Expo in 1989, leading to aesthetic developments and modernisations in its infrastructure. A major aspect of these changes, which is still predominant today, is Nagoya's famous light illumination, creating a comfortable and safe atmosphere for citizens and visitors alike. This modern influence is also palpable in Nagoya's famous environment-friendly Oasis 21 area, combining parks, public and commercial facilities. Spaceship-Aqua, a

modern-design shopping complex illuminated by large-scale LEDs and fed on well water, has become its flagship. Its axis pointing towards Nagoya Castle, this piece of modern architecture builds a bridge to Nagoya's ancient history.

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Online registration closes 8 July, 2016.

Fig. 2: Fountain and cherry-blossom trees in Nagoya.

Fig. 3: Nagoya Castle.

Fig. 4: Spaceship-Aqua in Oasis 21, one of Nagoya's design flagships.



Fig. 2

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Fig. 3

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