

Association for Dental Education in Europe

ADEE Newsletter

President's Welcome Message

Prof. Malcolm Jones

This is my first message to you as the new President of the Association for Dental Education in Europe. May I start by wishing everybody in ADEE, and indeed the wider dental education community in Europe, a very Happy New Year for 2008. Most of you will have had the opportunity to have had an 'all too brief' period of vacation, as one year has turned into the next. Usually there is then the shock of the return to a backlog of mail on the desk (of course you all kept up with your e-mail whilst you were away!) but also an opportunity to briefly reflect on what the next 12 months will bring.....

As part of that process this year I have the opportunity

to publicly reflect on my new extra responsibility as your President and the main challenges and opportunities that we might face together in ADEE during my two year term.

However, before I do that, let me thank you all again for making me your President - I am both delighted and greatly honoured. I am also looking forward to working with the very talented and hard working Executive team to build on the excellent work started during the Presidency of my exceptional predecessor, Professor Heikki Murtomaa. Heikki is his usual calm and considered way, has, I feel, done an excellent job for ADEE over the last two years and I know he will be a hard act to follow but, be assured, I will give it my very best shot!

At the end of 2007, in the autumn, as incoming President of ADEE, I was asked to speak at an important seminar which was held in Manchester on dental education. At this seminar, which happens approximately every 6-7 years, all of the key stakeholders in the UK come together to assess the main challenges to come in over the next decade. The speakers were a mix of national and international figures in dental education – the listeners included many of the commissioners and opinion

formers for this area in the UK. Some of those discussions are, I believe, of much wider interest in Europe and, as a consequence, are to be shared by being published in the EJDE later in the year; however, I mention the meeting here since it did give me an early opportunity to speak about ADEE, past, present and future whilst trying to do a little bit of scenario planning on what dental education in Europe might look like over the next decade or so!

When I was in high school, a long time ago, I developed an interest and passion for history under the tutelage of an exceptional schoolmaster with a very advanced approach to the teaching of this subject. It could easily have been an interest that I might have followed into Higher Education if Dentistry hadn't got in the way! What it has left me with is a continuing interest in the subject - I have a Max Hasting's book, *Nemesis*, on the history of the WW II in the Pacific, beside my bed at the moment! Thus, I have a tendency to approach issues initially from a more historical perspective. So let me, at this point, remind you of the origins of ADEE and the continuing importance of its beginnings to the current environment. Since the early 1960s the main European leaders and



*Prof. Malcolm Jones
President, ADEE*

opinion formers of our profession have met via a variety of informal, and then formal, networks. As a result, I would suggest, that it is in the specific area of education where the very best and most visibly productive collaborative advances have been made for the profession in Europe. Initially there was a network (some have unkindly termed it a travel club!) of Dental Deans which met annually in various venues across Europe. There were also, of course, important meetings of both undergraduate and postgraduate teachers, some of which were WHO sponsored (1968 & 1970) and others, FDI sponsored (*Deans/Dental Educators* 1971). It is greatly to the credit of the profession in general, and dental academics in particular, that the various groups and forums came together so early to create a formally constituted 'Association for Dental Education in Europe', 'ADEE', which is the envy of many

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other professions in Europe. Thus ADEE was founded in Strasbourg in 1975. The birth, by good fortune, came at about the same time that the European Dental Directives were being drafted, then implemented, and so the infant ADEE was able to make a significant contribution in that area. Being able to make its mark so early in its life was very fortunate.

In 1975 it was stated that: ***'the main purpose of ADEE should be to promote the advancement of dental education in Europe; to foster co-operation and communication among dental and medical educators in Europe and to maintain contact with dental and medical educators elsewhere; to review and evaluate suitable procedures training dental teachers in Europe'***.

This 'main purpose' remains valid as the European Union has expanded, the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) has become more clearly defined, and partners from countries around the world have become associate members and partners in the collaborative work. However, what the passage of time has brought is a greater focus to our mission, which has been updated to include the following:

-To promote the advancement and foster convergence towards high standards of dental education
-To promote and help to co-ordinate peer review and quality assurance in dental education and training
-To promote the development of assessment and

examination methods

-To promote exchange of staff, students and programmes

-To disseminate knowledge and understanding on education To provide a European link with other bodies concerned with education, particularly dental education

-To influence the political decision making process in Europe with regard to matters relating to dental education and the profession

I think we would all recognize these aims and would be able to think of many very pertinent examples where ADEE has made a major contribution under each 'bullet'. However, I think what has driven the Association forward and made it grow so rapidly has been its ability to quickly and flexibly respond to the requirements of the Commissioners, Ministers and 'powers that be' in Europe. Examples are easy to find of this very positive characteristic of ADEE. In the 1970s there was the ADEE response to article 2 of the directives that I have already mentioned: ***'to ensure a comparably demanding standard in the training of dental practitioners in the community with regard both to the training of dental practitioners and that of practitioners in specialised dentistry'***. (Article 2 – Directive 78/688/EEC).

In the 1980s this work continued but, in addition, the foundations of the organisation of the Association were put in place and the ADEE started an expansion which has led us to where we are

today: it is clear that ADEE is the most representative body of dental education opinion in Europe and is, arguably, one of the most important representative bodies of the profession across the continent. In 1975 there were 39 individuals from 18 countries attending the first meeting – now there are regularly 300 - 350 delegates representing nearly 200 dental school, institute, associate and other member bodies coming from more than 40 countries. So at a conservative estimate, ADEE is representing more than 5000 dental academics largely, but not exclusively, based in the schools of Europe. An advantage is that this, of course, gives ADEE a fantastic resource of knowledge and experience on which we can draw. It also means that potentially we have by far the most powerful voice in Europe in matters concerning the education and development of the profession.

A significant further expansion of ADEE occurred in the 1990s under the strong leadership of Derry Shanley in particular (but amongst others). During this time (and into the early years of the 21st Century) the Association's principles of ***'sharing good practice'***, ***'mutual assistance and support'*** and ***'working towards equalization of standards'*** have drawn in many new members from across the continent. This has been particularly true for the new member states of the EU (2004) and those that still aspire to join the European community. This expansion of membership was greatly assisted by the work of 'DentEd' over three Thematic Networks spon-

sored by the EU. The inclusive and supportive way of working perpetuated by the DentEd approach and popularised by Derry Shanley, has had a huge effect on collaborative working in dental academia across Europe. In 2007, as the funding from the EU came to a conclusion, the series of projects came to an end with a very successful closing event and report, put together under the outstanding leadership of one of our previous Presidents, Fons Plasschaert, ably assisted by too many to mention here, but including the most recent project administrator, Jessica Keogh. I should reassure you, at this point, that the Executive are determined that this important work initiated by DentEd will continue under the auspices of the ADEE.

In the early 2000s, already there have been many drivers for change in dental education - these will continue to provide the opportunity for ADEE to maintain its important leadership role both for dental education and the profession as a whole. Perhaps the best example of this relates to the key action lines of the Bologna Process.

The Bologna Process 10 Key Action Lines

- 1. Adoption of a system of easily readable & comparable degrees***
- 2. Adoption of a system essentially based on two cycles***
- 3. Establishment of a system of credits***
- 4. Promotion of mobility***
- 5. Promotion of European co-operation in quality assurance***
- 6. Promotion of the European dimension in higher education***

- 7. Focus on lifelong learning
- 8. Inclusion of higher education institutions & students
- 9. Promotion of the attractiveness of the European Higher Education area
- 10. Doctoral studies and the synergy between the European Higher Education Area and the European Research Area

Since these were agreed by ministers in 1999, for delivery within a decade, the members of ADEE have seen them to be a great opportunity to continue the process of equalizing and improving dental educational standards across Europe and the European Higher Education Area. We should be grateful to Mariano Sanz, another former President, for all the work he did to alert us to the opportunity they presented in a number of presentations to our annual meetings. Perhaps a number of DentEd documents, prepared in partnership with ADEE, would not have progressed and been unanimously adopted by ADEE so rapidly, had it not been for the 'Bologna Driver'. Examples would be 'Profiles & Competencies of an EU Dentist', 'Curriculum Content, Structure and ECTS' and 'Benchmarking & Quality Assurance'. All of these documents are of continuing interest, both nationally and internationally, and the information in them helped inform many of the working groups at the Global Congress held in Dublin at the end of last year. Incidentally, the significant papers coming from that very successful world congress will appear in the EJDE in the Spring of this year. Let us now consider some of the challenges and opportunities to come. For the moment I shall keep this part quite brief since, undoubtedly, it will be the subject of future articles in the Newsletter. A new Executive meets in March 2008 and, no doubt, this will give the opportunity to consider and, where appropriate amend, existing strategy. There is also the chance for further development and to consider various approaches for implementation. Of course, constantly, we shall strive to keep the membership of ADEE fully involved in the debate and

we shall always be responsive to your views.

Below is my personal take on what I see to be the main challenges and opportunities for the organization over the next few years – many of them require further discussion of course – you may think of them of what we locally and colloquially term 'my starter for ten' – something to begin the discussion:

Future Opportunities & Challenges for ADEE & Dental Education in Europe

-To be fully representative of all dental schools, institutes and academics involved in dental education and training in Europe as a whole.

T-o help achieve this, increase ADEE institutional membership to 100% (now approaching 80%). Develop and implement the plans for individual membership.

-ADEE to takeover and continue the work of DentEd & to maintain its momentum. In particular, to make sure that the various policy documents and guidelines are kept up to date and remain 'living documents'.

-Continue and, indeed, expand and develop the ADEE service of 'School Visitation'. This is vital in the sharing of good practice. - Linked to this process is the further development of all guidelines/ protocols to help maintain the journey towards harmonisation.

-To continue to strongly support schools in new EU member states and also for those countries seeking future admission.

-Help, assist and support all schools working towards 'Bologna' compliance by 2010.

-Recognise that further development work is needed in the areas of Postgraduate/Speciality training. In other words: 'Bologna 3rd Cycle'. Increase engagement of all key players in dental education

through the establishment of more Special Interest Groups. Don't forget hat many of our members teach all members of the 'Dental Team' – they also are increasing

involved in the provision of continuing Professional Development (CPD). Consider whether this provides an opportunity to provide more leadership in these areas.

-Lobby in Europe more effectively on behalf of academic dentistry.

-Focus on maintaining the excellent engagement that we have with Deans and Heads of Dental Schools and Dental Educational Institutes in Europe (and internationally). This means close working with the new Forum of Heads and Deans of Dental Schools (FEHDD) and thus with the various national committees of Deans.

-Maintain engagement with national 'competent authorities'

-Achieve better strategic alignment with other European professional representative groups (e.g. Council of European Dentists – CED & European CDO Group). We are always more powerful when we speak with one voice!

to everything that is done on their behalf – in other words get the 'communication thing' right!

I think that is enough about the future for the moment, no doubt we will get the opportunity to think about our strategic priorities and how we are going to respond to these opportunities in the coming months and, I guess, years.....

Let me conclude by expressing once again, on your behalf, a big thank you to my predecessor, Heikki Murtomaa. I would also like to thank the previous Secretary General, Anders Nattestad, he held this role for 5 years and has made a major contribution to turning ADEE into a more professionally run 21st Century organisation...thanks to you both! Be assured you will not get a complete rest (and Heikki is on the Executive as outgoing President in any event) - we shall continue to want to draw on your expertise and knowledge in the future.

All the very best to you all in ADEE for 2008!

Malcolm Jones

Secretary General's report

Dr Henk Kersten

Every year in January the membership of Executive Committee of ADEE changes. This year not only did people come or go but we had some people change their position within the executive committee

We said goodbye to Jacinta McLoughlin, Valerie Roger-Leroi and Anders Nattestad and joining us as new members are Argyro Kavadella from Athens Dental School and Gökhan Alpaslan from Gazi University in Ankara. Both have been appointed as members for three years.

Heikki Murtomaa has now become Past-President and handed over the reigns to Malcolm Jones as President for the coming two years. I, Henk Kersten move from Treasurer to Secretary General and Damien Walmsley stepped into the Treasurer role from his previous member role. We believe that in spite of the 'loss' of valuable people this strong team can face the future with great confidence.

With the closing of the Dented projects ADEE is at the start of a new era. The last 10 years were characterised by fast growth in the organisation making it more professional, innovative and the leading voice in European Dental Education.

The ADEE Business Plan (2007-2010) approved by the Executive Committee in February 2007 outlines plans for activating current ADEE members to assist with the recruitment of new mem-

ber schools through an ADEE ambassador program and also through a new form of membership called institutional individual membership. This type of membership allows individuals to become a member of our association with specific benefits as long as your school or institution is a full paying member already.

We report on the Ambassador program later in the newsletter.

The business plan also outlines proposals to extend and develop the annual meeting, gain political influence in Europe and find additional financial resources. For this year we focus on the first mentioned issue, because our current members, like you, are a prerequisite for a lively and growing organisation.

Although ADEE now counts approximately 75% of European schools among its members, we have to grow further in order to fully represent dental education in Europe. For that, additional benefits like educational courses and this newsletter are necessary.

In the Executive also the need for a monthly, one-page news bulletin is discussed and will be further considered. To facilitate these wishes, the three members in the Executive all have accepted a designated task. Ilze Akota has taken over editorship of the Newsletter from Anders Nattestad, Argyro Kavadella will guide the individual membership and Gökhan Alpaslan will coordinate the group of ADEE Ambassadors.



Dr Henk Kersten
Secretary General, ADEE

I will travel to Dallas, Texas next month to attend the ADEA 85th Annual meeting and to represent ADEE. You can expect a report on this meeting in the issue

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Anders Nattestad, former Secretary General for his commitment and dedication to ADEE over the past 10 years. I will do my very best to keep ADEE on track, and continue what the wonderful work he started. I look forward to working on all these future developments

I am very much looking forward to seeing you all in Zagreb, Croatia this autumn in my new role as Secretary General and remind you to add these dates to your calendar. We hope to have our meeting website open for registration at the beginning of April so keep an eye out on www.adee.org for all details.

Until the next issue...

Henk Kersten

Site visit to Moscow

Dr Henk Kersten, Rapporteur

From November 11-14th, 2007 an ADEE team visited the Dental Department of Moscow State University of Medicine and Dentistry (MSUMD). The team was invited by the University's President, Professor Yuschuk and the Dean of the dental school, Professor Ivanov to have a look at the schools' teaching methods and facilities and to make comment on these.

The MSUMD has a history that dates back more than 80 years while the first dental surgery school in Russia appeared in the 19th century. At present the university has 11 faculties with a total of 105 departments teaching approximately 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students in 11 different programmes. The dental programme is five years in total. On graduation one year of general dentistry is mandatory for every graduate before being registered as an independent practitioner. Each year 400 new students enrol in this programme that has a success rate of 90%. There are around 2000 dental students who apply.

The school is housed in three different buildings of which, due to the distance and heavy traffic, one is not easy to reach from the two other buildings that are close to each other. By smart scheduling the travelling for students and staff is reduced as much as possible.

The visiting team was chaired by Fons Plasschaert and also existed

of Ingrida Cema, Heikki Murtomaa and Henk Kersten as Rapporteur. Because of travelling between the different buildings and the necessary simultaneous translation, the schedule of the visit was very tight. In contrast with the visit to Ankara, on which was reported in the last Newsletter, there was little time for discovering new beverages and we had Russian snow instead of Turkish sun!

The visitors were impressed by the quality and clarity of the pre-site visit report which contained a great deal of valuable information. The program for the visit was well prepared and where changes were requested, these were made in a positive, constructive and helpful way. The University and the

school must be congratulated for the open manner in which it identified its strengths and weaknesses. The school is blessed with a dedicated, enthusiastic and well trained staff. The students are motivated and very appreciative. These characteristics made the visit very pleasant and worthwhile.

The visiting team would like to thank everybody involved with our visit. A special thanks goes to Dr Kate Fabrikant and Professor Edith Kuzmina who perfectly organized the visit and so warmly took care of us.

The report and findings of the visit is currently with the management of the university and school and once it is accepted by them it will be published on www.adee.org



The ADEE visitation team (left to right), Fons Plasschaert, Henk Kersten, Ingrida Cema, Heikki

ADEE Ambassador Programme

This initiative was approved by the ADEE Executive Committee in September last year

Principle:

The ADEE ambassador is a representative of ADEE in the country or region in which the ambassador has been appointed. The primary roles of the ambassador are described below and are basically to help ADEE recruit more schools and institutions as members and increase the visibility of ADEE in the country or region. The ambassadors are appointed by the executive committee of ADEE for terms of two years. Reappointment of the same ambassadors is possible, but depends on performance.

The responsibilities of the ADEE ambassador are:

-Maintenance of information on member and non-member schools and institution

-Increase the visibility of ADEE in the country or region in example by inviting the ADEE president to national meetings of interest or by circulating electronic copies of ADEE newsletter or pertinent links to articles of European Journal of Dental Education

-Recruit new schools or institutions as members

-Maintain and retain existing members of the organization

-Assist the ADEE administrator when member schools do not pay their annual fee

-Provide the executive committee with an annual report on achievements

The benefits for an ADEE

ambassador

Free individual membership for the duration of the appointment

Free registration for annual meetings during the appointment

Special designation on name badge at annual meeting to demonstrate role

Coordination

A Member of the Executive Committee will have as a designated task to find ambassadors and propose them to the Executive, to inform the ambassadors on whatever is of their interests and coordinate their activities.

During the annual meeting the ambassadors will have their meeting, chaired by the Coordinator. During this meeting they change ideas, discuss problems and ways to solve these, and learn from each other.

Navigational Dentistry

Dr. Marjoke Vervoorn

ACTA and Moog FCS are currently developing a virtual reality environment for simulating clinical procedures in dental education. The SIMODONT system will enable students to have an almost true clinical experience during preclinical practical.

SIMODONT takes dental education into the cutting edge territories of technology which were thus far reserved to avionic research. The sheer limitless possibilities of computer technology are transposed into the dental learning environment, thus improving its quality and

efficiency whilst reducing costs and the environmental burdening of dental training at the same time. The force feedback system of the SIMODONT is specifically tuned to simulate hard resistances while cutting tissue of a 3D image with a 3D bur. Preliminary experiences with SIMODONT by dentists have shown the feasibility of simulating cutting procedures on real teeth.

Currently King's College and ACTA are looking into the possibilities of future cooperation in development.



The first prototype of the SIMODONT will be unveiled in Amsterdam in June 2008.

Site visit to Yeditepe, Turkey

Prof Richard Oliver, Rapporteur

January 2008 started on a very positive note with a site visit to the Dental Faculty of Yeditepe University in Istanbul. Fons Plasschaert led a team of visitors that comprised of Deborah White (rapporteur), Christina Lindh, Michele Giuliani and Richard Oliver to the most easterly part of Europe and the most westerly part of Asia. After arriving the team were taken to their hotel that commanded spectacular views across the Bosphorus towards Asia. Our first evening was spent enjoying a meal in the company of the Dean and senior members of staff at a waterside restaurant that looked towards one of the road bridges across the Bosphorus, adjacent to the Ortaköy Mosque. The mosque, built in the 18th century, has suffered in the recent earthquake, the minarets rising at an angle slightly less than perpendicular and moving at a rate of 3 cm. per year.

At breakfast on the first morning we were treated to the stunning sight of the sun rising over the hills on the eastern side of the Bosphorus, setting windows on fire in the western part of the city. The Dental faculty is on the Asian side, and is part of Yeditepe University. This is a private university established in 1996 by the Istanbul Education and Culture Foundation, an initiative of Mr Bedrettin Dalan who is Chair of the Board of Trustees and an ex-mayor of Istanbul (who, when in office, successfully eliminated pollution from around an area of Istanbul called the Golden Horn).

The Dental Faculty is one of eleven faculties within Yeditepe University, and is housed in a building, with a medical clinic on the lower ground floor. The Dental School admits about 50 students per year who pay \$25,000 per year each. For this money they have excellent modern, purpose-built facilities, plentiful full-time staff who are dedicated to

education and clinical supervision, the clinical units each have a computer terminal, electronic patient record and access to on-line teaching material and adequate dental nurse support. The school is working hard to produce an integrated, odontologically-based undergraduate curriculum, with an impressive amount of time devoted to curriculum development. There is a new building that will soon house postgraduate students (for training to Master or PhD level in Paedodontics, Endodontics, Oral Surgery, Orthodontics, Prosthodontics, Conservative Dentistry and Oral Implantology), a dental nurse and dental hygiene training programme. The Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Türker Sandalli, has created a good school with a good atmosphere and has a clear vision for advancing dental education for the dental team in Turkey.

On the second full day we were taken to Yeditepe's main campus (Yeditepe means seven hills) which is situated close to the top of the tallest hill in Istanbul. Again there are impressive facilities for basic science with committed and enthusiastic staff who are undertaking cutting-edge research. Returning to the dental school we met a selection of undergraduate students who were enthusiastic and optimistic about their future careers. In the evening we were hosted to an evening meal in the staff restaurant of the dental school, the high spot of the evening being a duet between Fons Plasschaert on violin and a local pianist.

Istanbul is a city of 13 million inhabitants on two continents. We were privileged to meet some very pleasant and generous people who are at the forefront of dental education in Turkey.



Ass Prof Didem OZDEMIR-OZENEN
Coordinator of the site visit



The visiting Team (L-R)
Debbie White, Richard Oliver, Fons Plasschaert, Christina Lindh, Michele Giuliani



A clinic setting at the dental school and hospital

ADEE Executive Committee Members 2008



President, Prof. Malcolm Jones
Secretary General, Dr Henk Kersten
Treasurer, Prof Damien Walmsley
Editor, Prof. Michael Manogue
Elected Member, Dr. Ilze Akota
Elected Member, Dr. Argyro Kavadella
Elected Member, Prof. Gökhan Alpaslan

Administrator: Ms Jessica Keogh

34th Annual Meeting

3rd-6th September 2008, Zagreb, Croatia

“Career Development in Dental Education”

including a lecture sponsored by Wrigley
www.adee2008.org (coming soon)

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