President’s Message

This is my final message to you as ADEE President. In September we held our 37th annual meeting in the warmth of the beautiful Gloria Resort and Conference Centre Antalya, Turkey. The theme was Research and its impact on Dental Education and there was positive feedback from all participants. The proposal of greater involvement by members in annual meetings with a session dedicated to topic-related papers was very successful and will continue in the future.

This month you will receive a copy of an ADEE publication entitled, ‘35 Years of ADEE. A focus on the future - ADEE in the 21st Century’ which gives an overview of ADEE’s past and sets out plans for the future work of the Association.

At the beginning of my Presidency I commented on my responsibilities and the tasks and challenges which together we needed to address in the two years period. I set myself three priorities:

- The convergence of Dental education in Europe.
- The relevance of the ADEE for each member and membership of all European schools.
- International activities and profile.

Following the update and publication of the Taskforce documents on the Profile and Competence and Curriculum Content, the Quality Assurance review is currently underway. Following consultation and revision it will be presented to the General Assembly next year in Lyon. The 35th anniversary publication will also reflect these important outcomes of DentEd which is advancing convergence in European Dental Education.

ADEE’s presence at the ADEA meetings in Washington and San Diego, the IADR meeting in Barcelona along with our active participation at the EDSA and IADS congresses were excellent opportunities to raise awareness of ADEE’s aims and mission in Dental Education. One milestone was the first meeting with the incoming President of the Council of European Chief Dental Officers (CECDO), Dr. Paul Boom, in Amsterdam and also my address as ADEE President at the autumn meeting of the CECDO in Berlin. We were pleased to have Dr Boom speak at our General Assembly in Antalya.

The ADEE mission is encapsulated within the statement: Learning together to improve oral health and quality of life. With support from Alister Wilson from Waverly Management Consultants, identified three elements for the main activities in the next three years:

- Working towards higher standards in dental education across Europe
- Creating dynamic opportunities for educators through exchange, through creative collaborations and through connections
- Acting as a hub that provides an interface for its members to meet and connect with each other and with other professional bodies

This provides an excellent compass for the EC and for all ADEE members as they support the development of ideas and initiatives to effectively realise ADEE’s mission and vision.

In conclusion, I wish to thank Jon Cowpe, Argyro Kavadella and their team for the successful work in the ongoing EU Project focussing on continued professional development (CPD). I also recognise the importance of the developing ‘European Oral Health platform’. I salute our Editor Michael Manogue on the announcement of an increased Impact factor in 2011 for the EJDE.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the members of the Executive Committee, to Majella Giles and all my colleagues who have supported me in the last two years. I appreciate the team’s hard work. I wish my successor Professor Cecilia Christersson all the best for 2012 and look forward to our continued work together.

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The ADEE Executive Officers met in Brussels on the weekend of the 5th and 6th November to hold a mini executive meeting. Your Secretary General took advantage of the Euro tunnel for the short trip to Belgium. Sunday was a busy day with a long agenda; officers planned the year ahead discussing possible visits, reflecting on the conference in Turkey and looking forward to the 2012 annual meeting in Lyon. Other matters planned include a new look website and the publication of a book on 35 years of ADEE. News of the website will be communicated to the members as work progresses in the New Year.

We held our Mini Executive in Brussels because we were participating in the Public Conference on the Modernisation of the Professional Qualifications Directive (PDQ) on Monday 7th November in the Charlemagne building. European Commissioner Barnier opened the day long Conference. The panellists in the session on the health dimension of the Directive included Bernadette Vergnaud MEP (SD-France) and Baroness Young of Hornsey (House of Lords-UK). During these discussions ADEE President Winfried Harzer promoted our Profile and Competence document as an example of good practice. The template of the ADEE Profile and Competence Taskforces is now used by other professions throughout Europe. In fact the delegation representing Irish Pharmacists also endorsed the good work of ADEE.

Members of the executive left Brussels pleased that our voice has been heard in Europe. The Association, with assistance from Hill & Knowlton have previously talked with MEP’s and policy makers at the commission leading to our constructive participation in the discussions at the public hearing. We have also opened an ongoing dialogue with the Council of European Dentists.

It must be remembered that discussions on the PDQ are only at the Green Paper stages. The next steps are as follows; the European Commission will publish its draft legislative proposal on 20th December 2011, taking into account the opinions expressed by stakeholders, including ADEE, during the consultations in 2011. Once published, the draft proposal will go under the common legislative procedure, so called co-decision, whereby the European Parliament and the Council of the EU (Member States representatives) will amend it and adopt it by the end of 2012. We will keep you informed of future developments.
Public health associations and businesses partner to improve oral health in Europe

Thomas Ulmer and Cristian Bușoi

New platform will promote better access to dental healthcare and increased awareness of preventative measures

Brussels, 12 September 2011 - Partners from public health associations, dental education and businesses today announced the launch of the European Platform for Better Oral Health, intended to help improve oral healthcare and reduce the cost of oral diseases in Europe. Today, less than 50 percent of Europeans still claim to have all their original teeth. The platform, which goes live on the 4th annual World Oral Health Day, is the result of efforts by a diverse group of stakeholders to respond to the growing oral health challenge in Europe.

The platform’s members, including the European Association of Dental Public Health, the Association for Dental Education in Europe, Wrigley Oral Healthcare Programs, GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare and the Council of European Chief Dental Officers will launch today the platform’s website www.oralhealthplatform.eu. Over the next year, the platform members will tackle the growing challenges to oral health in Europe and promote education, prevention and access to better oral health across the continent.

In announcing the launch of the platform, Professor Kenneth Eaton, President elect of the European Association of Dental Public Health, said, “Today, less than 50 percent of European citizens still claim to have all of their original teeth. Working together, the partners in the European Platform for Better Oral Health are determined to tackle the oral health crisis in Europe by educating citizens and challenging policymakers in Europe to start treating oral health with greater urgency.”

Oral diseases remain a major public health challenge in Europe, despite the fact that they could be easily prevented by routine oral hygiene practices such as using fluoride-containing toothpaste, mouthwashings, flossing, chewing sugar-free gum and getting regular dental check-ups. It is crucial to address the major oral challenges of children and teenagers as well as of the increasingly ageing European population. Today, many Europeans do not know how to follow even these basic practices, and as a result, 5 to 10% of annual public health spending is devoted to treating oral diseases, estimated as costing EU Member States around € 70 billion a year. As a matter of fact, oral disease is the fourth most expensive disease to treat.

The European Platform for Better Oral Health will support the development of a common European approach towards oral health policy by raising awareness among the public and European policymakers. Specifically, it will support policy initiatives to address the major challenge of oral health inequalities in Europe, increase funding for the prevention of oral diseases and create better understanding of the links between oral health and general health.

The platform will also improve citizens’ knowledge of oral health and their access to reliable data, by strengthening evidence-based information and by eventually becoming a single point of reference for citizens across Europe for information on oral diseases, their prevalence and how to prevent them through routine dental hygiene practices.

About the European Platform for Better Oral Health

The European Platform for Better Oral Health is a joint initiative of the European Association of Dental Public Health (EADPH), the Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE), the Wrigley Oral Healthcare Programs, GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare and the Council of European Chief Dental Officers. The Platform has been created to respond to the call to action launched by Dr. Cristian Bușoi and Dr. Thomas Ulmer, Members of the European Parliament in 2010. It promotes a common European approach towards education, prevention and access to better oral health in Europe. The activities of the Platform are supported by the Wrigley Oral Healthcare Programs and GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare. For more information, please see www.oralhealthplatform.eu

This article first appeared in The Parliament Magazine’s special edition for Gastein European Health Forum on 26/9/2011.

European Journal of Dental Education - distribution and access

Michael Manogue Editor in Chief

Currently, copies of the Journal are distributed quarterly to all ADEE member institutions. In most instances, copies are addressed to the Dean’s office and we encourage Deans to make these copies available to colleagues and students in their schools. Individual institutional members also receive their own copy. Most libraries receive access to the online version as part of a consortium agreement reached by the Publisher, Wiley Blackwell.

It is important to note that all colleagues working in ADEE member institutions have electronic rights of access to the Journal and I would urge anyone who experiences difficulty in gaining that access to contact administrator@adee.org for assistance.

Gradually, more journals are moving to an online only version of delivery. In addition to the scheduled February 2012 issue of our Journal, we are publishing an online only issue in order to manage some of the backlog of waiting papers. I am very grateful to authors for their patience and consideration in this matter.

As we only have a small print run we will, in due course, open negotiations to consider if we should also move to an online only process of production. After all, this is the way that most of us read and research the literature now. It should then be possible to make the Journal available through a secure / password protected section of the ADEE website, for example.

Your views on the suggestion of online only production and current access to the electronic issue would be most welcome. Please contact administrator@adee.org

Learning together to improve oral health and quality of life
We are pleased to report that on world oral health day 2011 public health associations, dental educators and businesses joined forces to launch the European platform for better oral health in response to our call to action which we handed over to European health commissioner John Dalli on the same day last year.

The platform is a joint initiative from the European association of dental public health, the association for dental education in Europe, the council of European chief dental officers, the Wrigley oral healthcare programmes, and GlaxoSmithKline consumer healthcare. Working together, the partners are determined to tackle the rising oral health challenge in Europe by educating citizens and calling on EU policymakers to start tackling oral health with greater urgency.

Oral diseases remain a major public health challenge in Europe today. Only 41 percent of Europeans still claim to have all their original teeth. At the same time, a set of routine oral hygiene practices exists such as using toothpaste containing fluoride, mouthwashes, flossing, chewing sugar-free gum and getting regular dental check-ups that can effectively help citizens improve their oral health and prevent dental diseases. In this context, it is especially important to teach children and teenagers good oral care habits early and to help the elderly improve their oral health.

Despite achievements in national prevention policies, many Europeans still do not know how to follow even these basic practices. As a result, 5—10 per cent of annual public health spending is devoted to treating oral diseases, estimated as costing EU member states around €70bn a year.

Platform members call for the development of a common European approach towards oral health policy. They are determined to work in close cooperation with the European institutions over the next years to: Promote oral health and the prevention of oral diseases as a key element of the general health for citizens; Develop the evidence base for EU action on oral health and provide sound recommendations for action; Address the major challenge of oral health inequalities in Europe, as recognised by the European parliament’s resolution on reducing health inequalities in the EU; Educate citizens to improve daily oral hygiene practices, especially among at-risk populations—children, teenagers and the elderly; Work towards mainstreaming oral health policies across other EU policies and expanding the scope of oral health policy to related issues.

In their effort to improve citizens’ knowledge on oral health and access to reliable information, the Platform members have launched a dedicated website www.oralhealthplatform.eu, to which content will be added in the course of the coming months. Their hope is to establish the website as a single point of reference for citizens across Europe for information on oral diseases, their prevalence and how to prevent them through daily hygiene practices.

ADEE: A European link for Dental Scientific Associations

Argyro Kavadella

ADEE was invited to share knowledge and expertise with the European Academy of Craniofacial and Dental Disorders (EACD) in the field of postgraduate education and dental specialties during their annual meeting held in Lesvos, Greece in September. The pre-congress meeting was devoted to ‘The current status of the postgraduate/postinitial educational programs on TMD/OFP in Europe’ and the speakers addressed the issue of harmonised postgraduate education in Europe, regarding the specialty of Temporomandibular disorders and Orofacial pain.

ADEE Treasurer, Dr Argyro Kavadella represented the Association and outlined its views and experiences in a talk entitled ‘ADEE’s perspective on dental specialisation education in Europe’. The lecture included knowledge and information acquired from past years’ ADEE’s Special Interest Groups on the ‘Harmonisation of Dental Specialty Education and Training in Europe’ chaired by Jonathan Cowpe; previous years’ relevant lectures given by Kenneth Eaton, as well as from key experiences of other dental specialties and disciplines who have developed common educational guidelines, under the auspices of ADEE. Outcomes from the 2010 ADEE-ORCA European Cariology Curriculum Development Workshop held in Berlin and the 1st European Workshop in Implant Dentistry University Education held in June 2008 in Prague were other significant resources. In addition, the lecture included an overview of the current European legislation on dental specialties, drawn from the European activities of ADEE and its involvement in the recent re-evaluation of the Professional Qualifications Directive 2005/36.

Dr Kavadella spoke of the value of cooperation with other Scientific Associations, sharing knowledge and experiences, in order to develop their own educational curricula for undergraduate and postgraduate education on TMD/OFP. She suggested that participation in the ADEE Annual Meetings would be beneficial for the members of the Educational Committee of EACD, providing an opportunity to meet European colleagues and keep informed on current educational developments. ADEE and EACD have agreed to work and learn together in the future, for the enhancement of dental education.
ADEE: an important stakeholder in the European Higher Education area

ADEE was invited to participate in the ‘Conference on the Modernisation of Higher Education’ organised by the DG Education and Culture of the EU in cooperation with the Polish EU Presidency. Future policies on European Higher education were presented at the conference held in Sopot, Poland in October. ADEE was represented by Dr. Argyro Kavadella.

The Modernisation Agenda of the European Commission addresses the interlinked roles of Europe’s Universities; education, research and innovation. Alongside the fundamental local, regional and national roots of universities, the European framework is increasingly important in the evolution of the modern University profile. Europe needs universities able to build on their own strengths and differentiate their activities on the basis of these strengths. While all institutions share certain common values and tasks, not all need the same balance between education and research, the same approach to research and research training, or the same mix of services and academic disciplines. Universities must be enabled to improve their performance, be in tune with modern developments and become more competitive - in short, to become leaders in their own renaissance and to play their part in the creation of the knowledge-based society. The Commission suggested that the following changes are key to future success:

1. Break Down the barriers around universities in Europe
2. Ensure real autonomy and accountability for universities
3. Provide incentives for structured partnerships with the business community
4. Provide the right mix of skills and competencies for the labour market
5. Reduce the funding gap and make funding work more effectively in education and research
6. Enhance inter-disciplinarity and trans-disciplinarity
7. Activate knowledge through interaction with society
8. Reward excellence at the highest level
9. Make the European higher education area and the European research area more visible and attractive in the world

The Commission concluded that Universities are key players in Europe’s future and for the successful transition to a knowledge-based economy and society. However, this crucial sector of the economy and of society needs in-depth restructuring and modernisation if Europe is not to lose out in the global competition in education, research and innovation.

Speakers addressed the Commission’s strategy and identified four areas of modernisation:
- European Higher Education on the World Stage
- Social Dimension: Making higher education more attractive to all and opening up to non-traditional learners
- Ensuring quality: excellence, quality and relevance
- Funding Universities: diversification and good governance

Best Poster Awards Antalya 2011

‘Supporting Students’ clinical Transition with Virtual Learning Materials’ won Best poster 2011. Authors White D.A; Peryer D.G; Mackenzie, L; Coulson, L; and Patel U.S are from Birmingham University Dental school.

A student authored poster from the University of Aberdeen, entitled ‘Student-Led Implementation of a Novel Approach to Dietary Analysis and Advice’ was recognised as a ‘Poster of High Standard’. The authors Sanderson, R; Hamilton, C; Foley, JI; Zaheer Ali, MS; Dakers, S and Noble, MC were presented with certificates by the ADEE President.

R. Sanderson & M.S. Zaheer Ali, Aberdeen accept High Standard certificates from Prof. Harzer

Delegates attending the EU Conference on the Modernisation of Higher Education held in Sopot, Poland
Prior to the ADEE meeting in Antalya, the SCiPE (Special Care Dentistry) taskforce met for a two-day workshop. The taskforce was established in 2010 by the Education Committee of the International Society for Disability and Oral Health to promote and harmonise global education and training in Special Care Dentistry (SCD). On the first evening, short oral presentations were given by Dr. Inma Tomas (Spain), Dr. Gabriela Scagnet (Argentina), Dr. Mina Borromeo (Australia), Dr. Sue Greening (UK) Prof Ilknur Tanboga (Turkey) and Dr. Maureen Romer (USA) who spoke about current programmes in SCD in their own countries. These presentations clearly exhibited diversity in the scope and teaching of SCD at both undergraduate and post-graduate level. Dr. Shelagh Thompson (Wales) presented a paper on the current availability of education and training in SCD worldwide and the role of life-long education in SCD as a possible means of reducing inequalities in oral health. Prof June Nunn (Ireland) led a discussion on the possible value and potential role of SCD global curricula.

Following an 'ice-breaker' session led by Dr. Clive Friedman (Canada), 32 delegates from 25 countries took part in workshops, building on previous online Delphi consensus work which had been coordinated by Dr. Alison Dougall (Ireland) prior to the event. The workshops were the first opportunity for the taskforce to meet and work face-to-face focusing on the essential core items, skills sets and learning outcomes which might be required at undergraduate and post-graduate levels in SCD.

After long days the desired outcome was achieved with two draft consensus documents tabled. The success of the event was celebrated and President Elect of iADH Dr. Dimitris Emmanouil (Greece) toasted the dynamics within the group, which despite diversity of culture, opinion and background had collaborated positively and amicably throughout.

Two curricula work-streams are currently working on the production of curricula guidance documents including learning outcomes and assessments in SCD at undergraduate and post-graduate levels. This stage of the process is scheduled for completion by summer 2012. An additional work-stream, led by Dr. Gustavo Molina (Argentina) will look at methods to establish, facilitate and maintain networks thus encouraging educational research within SCD.

The iADH Education Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank their sponsors DIACO and ADEE also most importantly to thank ADEE; their very much appreciated support and assistance in facilitating this workshop.

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Reykjavik Nursing staff visit Dublin

The Nursing Department in the Dublin Dental University Hospital were delighted to host a visit by five dental nurses from Reykjavik in May 2011. The initial request came from Professor Peter Holbrook through his ADEE connections, demonstrating the advantage of inter-collegiate relationships.

The Reykjavik Dental Hospital has 5 nurses who look after ALL aspects of support for clinical teaching. The visit, arranged to allow staff members to attend our various clinics and departments to shadow staff in roles similar to their own. It was a very beneficial visit for both institutions as we compared roles and responsibilities of dental nurses within each institution and also the regulatory requirements between countries.

Individual schedules were arranged with visits to all clinical areas, the Central Sterile Services Department and to our Medical Records area. Meetings were also set up with Dental Nurse Tutors to discuss nursing education both at an undergraduate and postgraduate level. The visitors found the visit very beneficial as they identified a number of areas of best practice within DDUH that were of particular interest, including water line disinfection and undergraduate nursing education developments through the use of technology.

The visitors were also able to give feedback on processes used at Reykjavik that might assist us here in DDUH. This was the first visit of its kind to be hosted by the nursing department and we would be delighted to nurture and expand these activities over the coming years.
Excellence in Dental Education Awards - ADEE 2011

ADEE Excellence in Dental Education Certificates were presented to Early Career and Mature Educators by Prof. Richard Oliver, (pictured below right) Chair of the Excellence in Dental Education Advisory Committee (EDEAC) during the 2011 annual meeting in Antalya, Turkey.

Among the special interests groups which met at the ADEE annual meeting in Antalya, was a meeting of the Association of Basic Science Teachers in Dentistry - ABSTD entitled Basic Sciences: the New Frontier in Oral Disease. After an introduction by Jon Bennett (Peninsula, UK), Paul Anderson (London) talked about Nanotechnology for Graduating Dentists which included nano particles, nano composites and osseo-integration. John Jansen (Nijmegen) gave the meeting a history of Innovations in Dentistry: Tissue Engineering which ranged from the 15th century ‘holy healers’ to implants, regenerative medicine, embryonic and adult stem cells, and fully functional bioengineered teeth! Alan Mighell’s talk (Leeds) was entitled The $1,000 Genome and looked forward to DNA sequencing of single cells and personalised medicine and its impact on the dental team, training and expectations. Josie Beeley (Glasgow) in a paper entitled Proteomics and the Human Proteomic Project – the Key to Oral Health explained the basis of this and how a map of the protein architecture of the human body would become a resource to help elucidate and advance diagnosis and treatment of disease.

Şükrân Atamer-Şimşek (Marmara) discussed the problem of Drug Induced Oral Disease and New perspectives in Oral Lichenoid Disease were addressed by Sertan Ergun (Istanbul). The meeting concluded with a presentation from Andreea Didilescu (Bucharest) entitled Statistical Genomics - A Need in Oral Research? With the accumulation of a vast amount of genomic data, the identification of aberrant patterns may lead to better diagnosis of disorders which are unpredictable or have poor prognosis.

The meeting concluded with a general discussion on the impact of research in the biomedical and basic sciences on the future of dentistry, how equip our graduates for these changes and how to achieve this within the dental curriculum. Suggestions as to how ADEE may be able to progress this were also considered. (A report on the ABSTD meeting will appear shortly in the European Journal of Dental Education).

Professor Oliver will end his term as Chair of EDEAC at the end of 2011. ADEE President Winfried Harzer thanked him on behalf of the Association for his service to the Excellence Committee and wished him well in his forthcoming retirement.

Association of Basic Science Teachers - ABSTD

Josie Beeley

A group of delegates who attended the ABSTD Meeting in Antalya, Turkey September 2011
ADEE 2015 Annual Meeting Hosting - First Notice

At the 2011 General Assembly the President of ADEE announced a call for proposals to host the Annual Meeting in 2015. Interested parties may access Bidding Procedures and Meeting Guidelines documentation on the MEETINGS page of www.adee.org. Please keep in mind that the deadline for submission of proposals is 1st February 2012.

ADEE 2012 Annual Meeting

Date for your diary: The 2012 Annual Meeting will be held from 29th August - 1st September 2012 in Lyon, France. The theme is 'Evidence based dentistry: from bench to clinic'. Further information regarding abstract submissions and registration details will be available shortly. See the www.adee.org homepage for links to the meeting web pages.

Online Payments System

The ADEE on-line payments system is a secure method for all members, institutional, individual and corporate to pay their annual membership fees online. Invoices for 2012 membership dues will be issued in January. We urge you to avail of this convenient system to keep your membership up to date. Visit the Payments page on www.adee.org. Remember, you pay a reduced meeting registration fee if your school has paid their annual dues.

Regional Issues

The ADEE network is always available to assist members in any way we can. If you have any issues or concerns feel free to contact the ADEE Central office. Contact details for members of the ADEE Executive Committee are available on the Committee page of www.adee.org.

Your News

Keep in touch with your ADEE colleagues. Send us updates, notices or announcements from your school. Please email news items to administrator@adee.org.

Recruitment News

University of Pittsburgh, USA. We wish to recruit a Postdoctoral Associate in dental informatics for two NIH-funded research projects. The projects aim to improve the management of electronic patient data in dentistry and to facilitate their reuse for research. Detailed information is available at http://bit.ly/oFsiyv. Applications may be submitted electronically to Dr. Titus Schleyer, Director and Associate Professor, Center for Dental Informatics, 331 Salk Hall, 3501 Terrace Street, Pittsburgh, PA 1526, USA. Email: titus@pitt.edu, Web: http://di.dental.pitt.edu/ and should include: a brief cover letter describing your background and interest; a CV and the names of two referees.