

Leadership and Preparation for the College's Future

The role of President of ICD is twofold. Firstly, it is to take responsibility, with the help of the Executive Committee, the Secretary General and office management, to ensure the actions of the International Council are attended to in a prompt and orderly manner and reflect their wishes. Secondly, it is to provide leadership for the College that protects and enhances the Core Values clearly stated in the Bylaws and College articles. I am fortunate to have an amazing team to work with, a cohesive and hardworking group of people with the same sense of purpose and the goals of the College at heart. In past months, the [College committees](#) and the Executive Committee have worked harder than I have ever known.

An in-depth analysis of our membership and management of the membership strategy has been undertaken by Dr. Jackie Robinson (Australia). Never has this been done in such detail and with such breadth. The directions that will follow, I am sure, will change how we approach membership issues in the years to come. Membership is our lifeblood and defining the management of this is crucial to maintaining the relevance of the College in the challenging years ahead.

The College Bylaws are getting a thorough revitalization under the guidance and leadership of Dr. Jack McLister (Canada). This is a laborious task, detailed and structured but again, if the College is to be relevant for the future, it's an essential feature we must take seriously.

A particularly pleasing project initiated by Dr. Donna Brode (Canada) and brought to fruition under the guidance of Dr. Ian Doyle (Canada) is an interactive map

recognizing some (100) of the humanitarian, educational and leadership projects the College is involved in around the world. It's a wonderful exposition and a first of its kind in portraying what we do. Check it out on the [website](#) and feel proud!

Our Communications Committee Chair Dr. Keith Suchy (USA) has "set the fuse" for a significantly upgraded communications network, and with the support of our Editor Dr. Dov Sydney and Operations Manager Chelsea White, we are entering a new era of good communications; a core necessity for College relevance!

As part of my role to represent the College at Section level, I have attended my own Section VIII induction ceremony, and there is something special in attending one's own in the role of International President. The Section is strong, very active in humanitarian activities and contributes significantly at the International Council level.

I also attended induction celebrations in Taiwan and Japan. The Taiwan Section is in good shape. The International Council met in November in Taiwan last year, and many inductees were admitted to the College. This year was smaller, but there was a very high caliber of dentists, a credit to the Section. A wonderfully hospitable Section board made me feel at home and welcome. It was an opportunity to review the College activities at a personal level with individual Board members and their Council representative. A big thank you to them for the warmth and friendship extended.

In Japan, I attended meetings in the company of Dr. Sydney (Israel), who is leading the organizational aspects as General Chair of the College Centennial Committee. Vice President of the College Dr. Akira Senda (Japan), who will be President for the duration of the 2020 Centennial celebrations, gave us a tour of the intended venues and organizational teams. The meetings revolved around suitability of the locations, possible style of the celebrations and management. Budgetary considerations are now underway to formalize this event, which will be spectacular. Dr. Mauro Labanca (Italy) is subcommittee chair for the Centennial Gala and is planning it with flair and expertise.

Speaking of our Centennial, I'm very pleased that we recently signed an agreement designating Henry Schein Inc. as our Centennial Partner, where they will be generously providing their expertise and resources in marketing and promotion to ensure that 2020 will be a memorable year for the College.

My visit to Japan was also an opportunity to meet with the executive team of the Japan Section and to attend their induction ceremony, which was beautifully organized with dignity and style - a wonderful experience. They extended friendship and warm hospitality. The Japan Section has endorsed Nagoya for the Centennial celebration, and I am confident it will be a great success. We are getting reports that our Sections globally are now actively involved in arranging events for the 2020 year to showcase the College and give prominence to the values for which we all stand. This is humbling and exciting.

My most recent visit is to the European Section meeting in Geneva. The Section has already committed to having its 2020 Board meeting in Nagoya at the time of the Centennial celebrations. This has been a wonderful catalyst and gesture and has encouraged other Sections to initiate their own styles of celebrations.

The first six months as International President have been busy, challenging and exciting, and I thank all those who have given me support as the year passes.



CENTENNIAL PLANNING IN JAPAN

At the dinner following the Section VII Convocation, College and commercial leaders joined together to demonstrate their support for the Centennial in Nagoya in 2020. (L/R): College Vice President Akira Senda, Japan Section President Takashi Miyazaki, College Editor and Centennial Chair Dov Sydney, Immediate Past President Japan Section Tadashi Mitzutani, College President Clive Ross, President J. Morita Corporation Mr. Haruo Morita and Managing Director GC Corporation Mr. Tetsuro Sakuma.