

More than 500 attendees visit **ISOI Conference** in **Tokyo/Japan**

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From 17 to 18 November 2012, ISOI president Dr Naotaka Sugiyama, conference president Dr Tomohiro Ezaki and Prof Shoji Hayashi from Kanagawa Dental College in Yokohama proved superb conference hosts. In his opening speech, Dr Sugiyama particularly highlighted the importance of the collaboration between ISOI and DGZI. To honour this partnership, ISOI, which has around 1,000 members, founded a DGZI Japan Section in 2007. Dr Sugiyama also emphasised the importance of the scientific exchange between the two partner associations for those Japanese members who want to maintain German dentistry standards, especially in the field of oral implantology.

Before starting the lectures, Dr Sugiyama announced this year's many activities of ISOI. He also talked about the participation of ISOI board members at the DGZI Congress in Hamburg, Germany, last October. ISOI and DGZI confirmed their partnership for an exchange of scientific and technical information in

implantology, today and in the future. In this vein, ISOI's President encouraged the audience to participate in the 2013 DGZI Congress in Berlin, Germany. He expressed his hope that many friends and colleagues of ISOI will take part. Members would benefit from this, since a high number of Japanese participants will result in a simultaneous interpretation of the lectures. In addition, he advised ISOI members who have already gained authority or a clinical certificate of AIAI in Japan to become DGZI Experts and Specialists. This certificate of the German Association of Oral Implantology (DGZI) is highly esteemed both in Germany and Japan. Already before the congress began, authorisation and clinical examination for dentists as well as implant authorisation for hygienist and technician were carried out by written and oral examination.

The DGZI board was represented by its vice president Dr Rolf Vollmer, Dr Rainer Valentin and Prof. Dr Mazen Tamimi from the DGZI International Section.



first implantology curriculum in Japan at a private university in Yokohama. At present, this type of post-graduate education has not been offered anywhere in Japan. Meanwhile, however, the Japanese ISOI members have acknowledged the potential of improving implantological treatment by rigorous professional training, consequently raising standards significantly.

All attendees of the ISOI conference in Japan were met with warm hospitality, and there was an exceedingly positive attitude towards DGZI, which bodes well for a continued successful collaboration and scientific exchange in the future. At the subsequent social gathering and party, participants gave us a pat on the back and a positive feedback for the questionnaire of this meeting.

The congress' central topics were the opportunities and risks of aesthetic, surgical and prosthetic implantology as well as dental CT, anaesthesiology and ENT. In addition, clinical cases and failure cases were presented. While Dr Vollmer reported on the latest research with regard to heat development during implant site preparation, Dr Valentin introduced a new technique of harvesting autogenous bone. Participants were also very interested in a hands-on seminar on pig jaws, in which nerve transpositioning techniques were practiced. The course was led by Prof. Dr Tamimi, who gave a theoretical introduction to the topic and demonstrated a step-by-step procedure supported by video transmission. The contents of those lectures held the key to a successful operation and a final implant stage. They also gave us the latest technology and knowledge of dental implantology. During the post-discussion session, the audience was asked to contribute questions and suggestions. Lectures for hygienists and dental technicians were held in the other congress rooms. For example, Dr Ezaki explained the opportunities of risk management to auxiliaries in a special session.

The success of this meeting has contributed to our goals and we look forward to the future of ISOI and DGZI. The many positive reactions from ISOI members and the many things we have learned from the lectures were both delighting and encouraging. Therefore, the boards of both of the two associations agree that the meeting in Japan and the meeting at the DGZI Congress in Germany should become recurring elements in their calendars.

We hope to see many colleagues from Japan at our meeting at the Palace Hotel in Berlin on 4 and 5 October this year and we invite our friends from Germany to join us in Japan from 16 to 17 October to experience the warm welcome and hospitality of the Japanese people and colleagues.

The Japanese colleagues were especially interested in utilising the DGZI's vast experience and in adopting its successful educational design. This is exemplified by Prof. Hayashi's goal of implementing the

