In Praise of Clinical Teachers

I am writing this on October 5, World Teacher’s Day, 2015.* It is a glorious autumn day—sunshine brightens tree colors, and the early morning chill is a crisp reminder of wintry times to follow. This year’s renewed sense of purpose associated with the return of the academic school year coincided with the September Seoul, Korea meeting of the International College of Prosthodontists (ICP). This is arguably the best example of a global gathering of young and seasoned clinical educators, who in their own singular way are committed to the comparable worldwide teacher organizations’ mandate.

The ICP’s professional remit is not exclusively directed at clinical educators, yet its commitment to promote, share, and advance the discipline continues to enrich its teachers’ scholarly mission. It ensures this through excellent biennial programs, partnership with The International Journal of Prosthodontics, and support for Young Prosthodontic Educators’ (YPE) workshops. The latter continue to be hosted by the Karlsruhe Academy in Germany and organized by a pro bono faculty representing the Journal’s editorial board; hence the understandable appeal of the College’s uniqueness in attracting young clinical teachers seeking solidarity for their own educational mission.

ICP meetings also serve to make me feel increasingly indebted to the numerous global clinical teachers whose well-stocked minds and unflinching intellectual honesty have made prosthodontics what it is today. These educators stayed relevant while the times kept a-changing, and above all burnished and sustained a scholarly ethos that continues to inspire younger clinical educators from around the world. Given this context, the IJP continues to pay tribute to clinical scholars whose impact on clinical teachers’ lives has been unique and enduring; and Charles Goodacre has been an exemplary role model in prosthodontic scholarship. His integrity of commitment and self-effacing style remain admirable and endearing, as reflected in his command of worldwide respect together with lasting and affectionate relationships. I am confident that our IJP’s readership will appreciate a summation of his career’s trajectory as well as take pride in the accomplishments of one of our own.

George Zarb
Editor-in-Chief

**“Empowering teachers, building sustainable societies” is the World Teacher’s Day slogan for 2015.**