



RESEARCH

CORNER

Notes from Scotland

Report from Alison MacDougall, RDH, Senior Canadian Representative to the International Federation of Dental Hygienists (IFDH)

I attended the workshop and meetings of the House of Delegates of the IFDH in Edinburgh, Scotland, from 27–30 June 2010, in my role as Senior Canadian Representative. Wanda Fedora, Past President of CDHA, also attended these meetings in her role as Junior Canadian Representative.

Over the past three years, I have been involved with IFDH as Chair of the Membership Committee. To date, there are twenty-four national dental hygienists' associations as members to IFDH. Currently four other countries are exploring the option of joining this international organization. One of the goals of the membership committee was to engage the dental hygiene student population to encourage their participation within IFDH, and I am pleased to report that there will be a student membership category (\$25) added to the existing membership categories of IFDH.

Alison MacDougall (left) shares a light moment with Marjolijn Hovius, President, IFDH.

I was honoured to participate in a 2-day workshop sponsored jointly by IFDH and Proctor & Gamble. My role was to act as facilitator of one of four work groups and our group explored the topic of "Promoting Evidence-based Dental Hygiene Practice, Procedures and Products". The results of the 2-day workshop were compiled into a presentation by JoAnn Gurenlian, and presented during closing ceremonies of the *International Symposium on Dental Hygiene*.

The House of Delegates (HOD) of the IFDH meets once every three years in conjunction with the *International Symposium on Dental Hygiene*. The HOD has a very hectic schedule with a detailed agenda to cover; and this year was no exception. The HOD voted to create Special Interest Groups (SIGs) within IFDH. These SIGs were created to foster more effective communication between members and delegates who have common interests and goals, and to reduce the break down in communication that has happened to previous working groups of the IFDH.

The helm of executive leadership at IFDH is now held by Maria Perno Goldie, President, JoAnn Gurenlian, President Elect, Leah Littlejohn, Treasurer, Catherine Walden, Vice President, and Angela Fundak, IFDH Administrator.

The 18th *International Symposium on Dental Hygiene* was held in Glasgow, Scotland, on July 1–3, 2010, with over 1200 delegates in attendance. The theme was *Oral Health—New Concepts for the New Millennium*. The Scientific Programme was diverse and delivered on its promise to "update, inspire and challenge".

The 19th *International Symposium on Dental Hygiene* will be held in South Africa in 2013.



Alison and Wanda Fedora, CDHA's representatives at the IFDH and ISDH.



Glasgow 1st – 3rd July 2010



▲ At the opening ceremony of the conference, the band in regalia.

18th International Symposium on Dental Hygiene

Report from Wanda Fedora, RDH, Junior Canadian Representative to the International Federation of Dental Hygienists (IFDH)

The setting for the *International Symposium on Dental Hygiene 2010* was the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre on the banks of the River Clyde in Glasgow, Scotland. The British Society of Dental Hygiene and Therapy hosted over 1200 dental hygienists from across the globe to an opening ceremony with an atmosphere that revved to a roar as the national representatives marched in with their flags to the accompaniment of a band of pipes and drums decked in their Scottish finery.

Our Masters of Ceremonies, Marjolijn Hovius and Maria Perno Goldie, President and President Elect of the International Federation of Dental Hygiene, welcomed the attendees and invited everyone to join in the many scientific sessions and self development opportunities, as well as in the entertainment activities that were slated for the next few days. Our organizers had prepared a buffet of delicacies from haggis to oat cakes, and we could sample it all.

We moved from the opening ceremonies to the exhibit hall where the exhibitors indulged delegates with their newest and brightest ideas and products. The exhibit hall proved to be a popular spot with lunches and receptions day and night. What a great place to meet other dental hygienists from so many different countries sharing a passion for their profession! It was exhilarating. The thirty-five registered Canadian delegates seemed to be able to find each other over and over again despite the other 1165 people in our midst.

Sessions over a three-day schedule, ranged in variety from the oral systemic link to periodontal pocket access issues, and almost any other topic that would intrigue a dental hygienist. Equally interesting were the poster presentations from fellow dental hygienists who displayed the



▲ Some of the Canadian delegates at the ISDH.

results of their research, and fielded questions from their colleagues. An enjoyable format of short sessions provided an opportunity to hear interesting updates from professionals in their area of expertise. Hands on demonstrations also allowed delegates to try out tools of the trade and experiment with techniques while hearing from the industry representatives. So much to do and yet so little time when you are caught up in the atmosphere of the event.

The gala dinner set the stage for the Sunstar World Dental Hygienist Ceremony, sponsored by the Sunstar Foundation for Oral Health Promotion. The dinner was a first class display of Scottish delights but the highlight of the evening was the presentation of the top award for research to Canada's own—Sherry Priebe DipDH, BDS(DH), RDH, MSc. Sherry was recognized for her research in oral squamous cell carcinoma and cultural risk habits in patients at the oncology hospital in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. It was truly a proud night for Sherry, and all of her colleagues in Canada.

The Organizing Committee of the British Society of Dental Hygiene and Therapy is to be congratulated for an excellent symposium that satisfied our personal and professional appetites. Way to go UK!

Poster presentations

Fran Richardson, BScD, MEd, MTS, RDH, and Lisa Taylor, RDH, BA, BEd, from the College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario, presented a poster each at the *International Symposium on Dental Hygiene* in Glasgow.



▲ Fran Richardson



▲ Lisa Taylor

World Dental Hygienist Award winner: Research category



▲ Sherry L. Priebe, DipDH, BDSc (DH), RDH, MSc, University of British Columbia, Canada, is the proud recipient of the Award for Research. Sherry is pictured on the far right.

Sherry, on her Award

Sherry writes:

"The *International Symposium on Dental Hygiene* was wonderful to attend in Glasgow, Scotland and the honour was mine to represent Canada, our BCDHA and UBC who assisted to make my accomplishments a reality. The Scottish people were lovely and the UK dental hygienists prepared a fantastic conference in every way for us. The gala award ceremony was like a fairytale. I am so thankful to have good memories after such hard work with my

master's study. My presentation was well received on the Saturday of the conference, and a great sense of networking for future research was initialized! My research article entitled 'Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma and cultural oral risk habits in Vietnam' is published in the *International Journal of Dental Hygiene*, August 2010.

I am honoured to have been recognized with such a prestigious award in furthering world dental hygiene research. My passion has always been in assisting people to achieve optimum oral health through research, education and clinical practice. My world outlook of dental hygiene embraces people's oral health relating to cultural similarities and differences. Key contributions have been made to the oral cancer patients at the oncology hospital in Ho Chi Minh City, the global dental community as a whole, and specifically to dental hygienists, and to the general public based upon education from the research results and discussions. It is exhilarating to see my efforts come to fruition in this award and touch the lives of innumerable people. I look forward to further research and to presenting global cultural trends that affect us as dental hygienists in Canada."

The editorial office of CJDH welcomes news of Canadian dental hygiene researchers' presentations, awards, grants, or recognition to showcase on this page, Research Corner. If you would like to highlight your own or another dental hygiene researcher's achievements, we'd like to hear from you. Contact Publishing Editor, Chitra Arcot, at journal@cdha.ca or the Acquisitions Editor, Linda Roth, at acquisitions@cdha.ca