

CONTINUING EDUCATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY: THE VIRTUAL FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY

Continuing Education has become an essential feature in the advancement of the dental profession globally. Today, Information Technology gives any dentist, in almost any part of the world, ready and easy access to online education. A broadband internet connection can bring a live professor into the home or office in virtual reality at the click of a button.

Dr Sascha Jovanovic, founder of the web-based Global Institute for Dental Education (giDE), has been instrumental in breaking down the barriers of time and distance to make it possible for clinicians across the globe to access training from leading educators in the field of dentistry through his brain-child, the WebLIVE! Online Education Programme.

The principle of the global online Faculty is no different from the principles that govern 'conventional,' institutional education. Its aim is to deliver the highest quality, most relevant education and training to the clinician seeking to improve skills, modify technique or learn something entirely new in order to treat patients with the highest care possible. Online education also means that the clinician need not close his practice, nor leave his country to learn from leading international educators.

According to Dr Jovanovic, the 'virtual faculty' is a new form of dental education. It breaks a mould that has been in place for a very long time, which is that clinicians come together in one place, once or twice a year to learn from expert educators. Online learning is a shift away from that thinking. And most importantly, a clinician can choose to take a course online that is very specific to his particular needs. Many have found that a high percent of the lectures and courses offered at congresses are not relevant to their practice. Through giDE, dentists in any part of the world can find the lecture or full curriculum that meets their needs precisely and can enhance and support their practice immediately.

An added advantage is its cost-effectiveness. The real cost of travelling to a congress is not reflected in the registration fee or even the travel and hotel while there. Rather, it is the time away from the practice on top of those

other expenses that is the real cost. The feedback from clinicians who participate in online lectures has, without fail, mentioned that the ability to train and review from the convenience of their home or office is invaluable.

In January 2004, Dr Jovanovic began the first full curriculum course titled "Advanced Implant Therapy", a 12-lecture series which ran for 6 months. Each lecture was recorded exactly as presented and is offered today as recordings On Demand through the giDE website. Over 60 clinicians from at least 17 different countries participated and were awarded Certificates of completion at the end of the 6 months. In addition to those lectures, Dr Jovanovic began to give special online lectures to meetings in Australia, France, the UK and Benelux countries. Today, he and other members of the online faculty present online lectures regularly in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Africa and are not limited by language or time zones.

The giDE faculty members include over 20 professors from major universities around the world, who are leading experts and opinion leaders in both research and clinical work. All are involved in conducting the live courses presented through the WebLIVE! Online Education Programmes from various centres around the globe. On Demand lectures, which have been pre-recorded, are also available.

A recent addition to the Education Programmes is the series of DVD instruction videos. The Live Clinical Series presents real-time clinical procedures performed live by world-class clinicians on actual patients with full narration. The Faculty Lecture Series features specially selected titles



Dr Sascha Jovanovic, founder of the Global Institute for Dental Education

from the most popular WebLIVE! faculty lectures where the viewer can study, view and listen to presentations on the most current clinical topics and research data. All the DVD's have English narrative with translation to various other languages.

The field of dentistry is constantly evolving through the emergence of new techniques and procedures and

education is the foundation of success for both clinician and patient. By visiting gIDE online, dentists can join colleagues from around the world in the new and exciting world of the Virtual Faculty.

Global Institute for Dental Education Online Faculty:
www.globalinstituteonline.com

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FOR DENTAL EDUCATION

FACULTY MEMBERS 2006/7

		<p>Dr Patrick Henry Perth, Australia Prosthodontist</p>		<p>Prof Henry H Takei Los Angeles California Periodontist</p>	
<p>Prof Nitzan Bichacho Tel Aviv, Israel Prosthodontist</p>		<p>Dr Sascha Jovanovic Los Angeles California Periodontist</p>		<p>Peter Schupbach, PhD Zurich, Switzerland Oral Biology and Histology</p>	
<p>Dr Didier Dietschi Geneva, Switzerland Prosthodontist</p>		<p>Dr Joseph Kan Loma Linda, California Prosthodontist</p>		<p>Prof Massimo Simion Milan, Italy Oral Surgeon</p>	
<p>Dr Mauro Fradeani Pesaro, Italy Prosthodontist</p>		<p>Dr Brian Le Sage Beverly Hills, California General Dentist</p>		<p>Dr Bernard Touati Paris, France Prosthodontist</p>	
<p>Dr Roland Glauser Zurich, Switzerland Prosthodontist</p>		<p>Dr Pascal Magne Los Angeles California Prosthodontist</p>		<p>Prof Georg Watzek Vienna, Austria Oral Surgeon</p>	
<p>Dr Ronald Goldstein Atlanta, Georgia General Dentist</p>		<p>Dr Ed McLaren Los Angeles California Prosthodontist and Ceramist</p>		<p>Dr Peter Wöhrle Los Angeles California Prosthodontist</p>	
<p>Dr L Stephen Buchanan Santa Barbara, California Endodontist</p>		<p>Dr George Perri Los Angeles, California General Dentist</p>			

and more.....

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