President’s Message

Section VIII is vibrant and continues to grow as we build to our 100th Anniversary celebrations in 2020. Our organisation is filled with passionate and driven Fellows, influencing and providing many great services in underprivileged communities and contributing greatly to the reputation and outcomes achieved in and by the dental profession.

Our Section Fellows continue to lead and inspire. Dr Clive Ross CNZM became our Section’s third International College President and the first New Zealander. Jackie Robinson was successfully elected to the level of Honorary Life Member of our section. Honorary Fellow, Laureate Professor Eric Reynolds AO FICD FTSE FRACDS received the very prestigious Prime Minister’s Prize for Innovation in 2017.

On the evening of the 24th March, 123 guests, Fellows and partners gathered for our most recent convocation and induction ceremony at the Parkroyal Hotel in Sydney. 37 new Fellows were inducted.

We celebrated these inductees’ exceptional achievements and contributions to our profession and our community. Another highlight of the evening was the presentation to two very worthy recipients of Honorary Fellowship. Honorary Fellowship is conferred by the Board on an individual, other than a member of the College, not necessarily a dentist, who has rendered conspicuous service to the cause of dental science, has contributed to the promotion of the dental profession or has otherwise significantly advanced the dental profession and oral health in the community. Sir Asher Joel KBE, FRSA, MLC was the first Honorary Fellow inducted into Section VIII in 1975. Martin Halas was named as the second Honorary Fellow to our Section in 1990. Subsequent Honorary Fellows were: Peter Lazar AM (NSW, 2003), Eric Reynolds AO (VIC, 2007) and Laynesh Gebrehiwot (Eritrea, 2014).

Wendy Toulmin AM became the seventh Honorary Fellow in the 54 year history of Section VIII in recognition of her 30 years of volunteer work in Congo with her husband and Fellow, Graham Toulmin AM. Their time in Zaire, (now the Democratic Republic of the Congo), has been a true partnership in every sense of the word and neither could have accomplished as much as they did without the other. Wendy conducted literacy classes with the local ladies and balanced the clinic books in 3 currencies. She trained local people in bookkeeping, clinic and project management and proposal writing.

In more recent years, Wendy organised the clinic and staffing at Aru. She also organised the timetable of lecturers to cover the subjects of the courses taught at the Aru Dental School. She personally taught courses in English, computer studies, oversaw research projects in French with students and oversaw building projects.
In brief, Wendy Toulmin AM has worked tirelessly to help improve oral health in the Congo communities.

Keith Mentiplay became the eighth Honorary Fellow of Section VIII in recognition of over 30 years of leadership and active support for dentally related humanitarian projects and other significant initiatives within the dental profession. Keith is well known to many and well respected within the dental profession and dental industry in Australia from his many years as the General Manager of ADEC Australia and past President of the Australian Dental Industry Association. Many Section VIII project leaders and our administration officer, Ron Robinson, have had long term working relationships with Keith over the years. Keith’s vision and dedication are both professional and personal. Keith frequently volunteered his technical skills readily with gusto and resilience in challenging environments such as Timor Leste and Congo.

Keith Mentiplay

Congratulations to both Wendy and Keith.

In addition to the formalities of the evening, we had two excellent speakers, Dr Graham Toulmin AM and Dr David Sheen AM. Graham shared an entertaining presentation, “Thirty Years Work in Congo: Past, Present and Future.” David spoke on “Volunteering in Timor Leste: What has been achieved? Where to next?” See later in this newsletter for further 2018 induction dinner details.

Thank you to the excellent Board members of the Section for your support and guidance in leading our proud Section VIII of the ICD. A warm welcome to our newest Board member, Dr Graeme Ting of New Zealand. Congratulations and welcome to the new inductees. You are in good company.

President, Dr John R. Owen AM

Registrar’s Report

Membership
The Australasian Section of the ICD now has a total membership of 724. Comprised of:

- 633 Active Fellows
- 78 Retired Fellows
- 8 Honorary Life Fellows (including 2 Masters)
- 5 Honorary Fellows

635 Fellows are from Australia, 77 from New Zealand and others have spread to many parts of the globe with Fellows now living in Cambodia, Eritrea, Fiji, Qatar, Timor L’este, Papua New Guinea, the UK and the United States.

Eighty two percent of Section VIII Fellows are male and 18% are female. Sixty percent of our Fellows are in the age range of 55-75 years old.

Vale Fellows

It is with great sadness that the Board and Fellows of the International College of Dentists learned of the passing of The Honorable Dr Derek Freeman AM in early February at age 93. Derek was the longest serving Fellow of the Australasian Section of ICD, having been inducted at the inaugural Section VIII induction ceremony in Perth 1964.

The Honourable
Derek studied dentistry at the University of Sydney and at Toronto. He served in the RAAF from 1945 to 1946. He chaired the Fluoride Committee of the ADA which was launched in 1958. Derek also served as President of the ADA (NSW). Derek served on the inaugural Board of the Australasian Section of ICD for 14 years from 1971 to 1985 holding the positions of Regent, Vice-President, President and Immediate Past President. He played a pivotal role in the early development of the Section.

In 2007 Derek was named one of the first Honorary Life Members of the Section in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the governance of the Australasian Section of ICD. His Honorary Life Membership was testimony to the high regard in which Derek is held within the ICD. Derek was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 1982 in recognition of his services to dentistry.

2018 Australia Day Honours
I am pleased to report that in the most recent Australia Day Honours, two of our Fellows received awards:

**Professor Laurence Walsh AO**
Prof Walsh became an Officer (AO) in the General Division of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to dentistry and to dental science education, as an academic and author, to improved health and safety standards and through roles with professional associations.

**Emeritus Professor Grant Townsend AM**
Prof Townsend became a Member (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia for significant service to dentistry in the field of craniofacial biology and to dental education through research, teaching and mentoring roles.

**Project Grants Supported by Our Section**
Our Fellows continue to generously support oral health projects in underprivileged communities within our region by making donations with their membership renewals. Fellows donated $13,000 towards oral health projects in 2017. At this time, our Section is supporting the projects listed below:

- ADRF ICD Community Oral Health Award
- Cambodia (Healthy Kids Cambodia and M’Lop Tapang)
- Fiji (Smiles for the Pacific)
- Nepal (Project Yeti and Village Health Improvement Program)
- NZDRF ICD Grant
- Papua New Guinea (Dental School)
- South Australia (Community Outreach Dental Program)
- Vanuatu (Torres Island Project)
- Vietnam (Ho Chi Minh City OMFS visits and Long Tan)
- Western Australia (Kimberley Dental Team)

2018 Annual Board Meeting

The Section VIII Board meets annually to progress Section business. Between Board meetings, several Board teleconferences are held throughout the year. The 2018 Board meeting was held on March 24th in Sydney.

The Section’s strategic framework, developed in 2015, guides the Board in planning and enhancing the future of our Section:

- To foster collegial collaboration within the dental profession
- To recognise leadership within the dental profession
- To engage with and support Fellows and future leaders
- To support projects that improve oral health and education in underserved areas in our region

Registrar, Tom Tseng

Board members: Keith Watkins (VIC), Jackie Robinson (International Councillor), David Crum (NZ), John R Owen AM (WA), Petrina Bowden (QLD), Rick Sawers AM (SA), Clive Ross CNZM (International President and Councillor), Tom Tseng (NSW), Ian Meyers OAM (QLD)
• To demonstrate good governance and uphold high ethical professional standards

At the recent Board meeting, as always, nominations of new Fellows were considered by the Board. In addition, the Board conducted its annual review of applications for ICD grants. The Board approved 14 grants for 2018 for projects in Australia, Cambodia, Fiji, Nepal, PNG, Timor Leste, Vanuatu and Vietnam, as well as grants supporting dental research through the ADRF and the NZDRF. Their progress will be detailed in the November newsletter.

The Board is progressing plans for celebrating the 100th anniversary of ICD in Australia and New Zealand in 2020. The Board determined that the 100th anniversary function in Australia will be held in Melbourne. Local organising committees, chaired by Keith Watkins and David Crum, will make recommendations to the Board on the Section’s 100th Anniversary functions in 2020. The Section celebrations will be scheduled so as not to conflict with the international celebrations to be held in Nagoya, Japan in November 2020.

Section VIII is in a strong financial position. The Board reviewed five year budget projections in order to make sound decisions on funding of grants over the next five years and on the level of renewal fees needed to support Section business and initiatives. The Board determined that funding for grants will be increased to $45,000 per annum from 2019 and renewal fees will be increased to $180 AUD from 2018. The budget for FY2019 was approved by the Board. The Board is intentionally approving deficit budgets to judiciously and gradually reduce accumulated funds while keeping sufficient funds in reserve and keeping membership renewal fees to a minimum.

The Board completed an in-depth review of Board structure and succession planning over the past 12 months. The review was conducted in light of changing Board requirements since appointment of an Administrative Officer and the introduction of local committees to assist with nominations of new Fellows and organisation of local ICD events. At the recent Board meeting, the Board adopted recommendations arising from the review. Specific recommendations adopted by the Board will be phased in according to a transition plan which is under development and will include:

• The Board will be comprised of six Regents representing New Zealand, NSW/ACT, QLD/NT, SA/TAS, VIC and WA and two International Councillors.

• The President will retire from the Board after his/her term of office but will retain the title of “Immediate Past President” and will act as an advisor for the term of the incoming President.

• The Board Officer positions of Vice-President and Treasurer will be consolidated into a “President-Elect” position.

• The terms of office for Board Officers (President, President-Elect and Registrar) will be two years and the maximum term of office for the Editor will be two consecutive two year terms.

• Regents are required to progress to an Officer position on the Board or retire from the Board after serving a maximum of two consecutive two year terms as a voting Regent on the Board.

• The International Councillors are required to progress to a position on the Executive Committee of ICD or retire from the position of International Councillor after six years of service on the International Council.

• New Regents will join the Board as a non-voting “Regent-Elect” one year prior to the biennial changeover of Officers or as otherwise required to fill vacancies on the Board.

Section VIII has always enjoyed strong relationships with the ADA and the NZDA and these relationships greatly benefit the Section. The Board decided to formalise the relationship with the NZDA and our application for affiliation with NZDA has been approved. Initiatives for supporting and building relationships with future leaders within our profession are being explored with the ADA and the NZDA. The Board approved introduction of an ICD “Young Leaders Volunteer Grant” which will be promoted to recent dental graduates in conjunction with the ADA and the NZDA.

The Board’s Strategic Action Plan 2018-2019 has been updated with actions agreed by the Board at the annual meeting. Arrangements for the ICD induction ceremony functions in Auckland on 17 August 2018 and in Adelaide on 3 May 2019 were advised to the Board by the respective Board members who are organising the events.

**New Board Member, Dr Graeme Ting**

The Board is pleased to advise that Dr Graeme Ting of New Zealand has been appointed to the Section VIII Board as Regent-Elect for New Zealand. Graeme
will replace David Crum as the Regent for New Zealand when David departs the Board after the 2019 induction ceremony in Adelaide.

Graeme is registered in New Zealand as a Specialist in Hospital/Special Needs Dentistry and was registered and worked in the UK as a Specialist in Special Care Dentistry until 2017 when he returned to New Zealand. Graeme has a particular interest in providing oral health care to older people with medical problems, as well as people with physical and intellectual disabilities. His research and Masters thesis explored the oral health needs of nursing home residents with dementia. Graeme’s most recent role was as a substantive Consultant in Special Care Dentistry for King’s College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. Graeme is now Senior Lecturer and Head of Discipline, Special Care Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Otago.

Graeme graduated from the University of Otago School of Dentistry in 1989. In 2002 Graeme became one of the inaugural Fellows in Special Needs Dentistry of the RACDS. In 2010 Graeme became the Associate Director of Research and Policy for the NZDA and combined this role with clinical work at specialist level for the three hospitals of the Auckland District Health Board. Graeme is Vice-chair of the Dental Committee for the World Federation of Haemophilia.

**Financial Report**

**Renewal Payments and Donations**

In 2017 $98,106 AUD were collected in membership renewal payments, an increase from $94,958 AUD in 2016. The Board approved an increase in the annual membership renewal fee to $180 AUD to increase the level of funding available for dentally related humanitarian projects supported by our Section. Donations made by Fellows with the 2017 membership renewal payments totalled $13,021 AUD. By comparison, donations totalled $12,050 with 2016 renewal payments. 29% (185) of fee paying Fellows made donations in 2017 compared to 28% (176) in 2016. Donations ranged from $10 to $500.

A big thank you is extended to the NZDA and Jill Watson for their assistance in collecting annual membership renewals and donations from New Zealand Fellows.

**New Fellow Fees**

At the end of March 2018 $17,645 had been collected in payments for new Fellows in this financial year. This compares to $15,530 collected from new Fellows at the end of April 2017.

**Capitation & Initiation Payments**

This financial year $40,332 in capitation fees and $2,574 in initiation fees were paid to the International Council Office.

**Grant Payments**

ICD grants totalling $41,500 were paid in the last financial year. Total expenditure of $48,000 in grants was approved by the Board at the recent Board meeting held in Sydney. The number of grant applications has increased year on year making it necessary to review processes used to prioritize, approve and review grants. Where applicable, additional funding through the Global Visionary Fund of ICD is sought for projects led by Section VIII Fellows.

**Cost of Newsletters**

Expenses for production of newsletters have been dramatically reduced ($3.09 for June 2016 newsletter compared to $2.09 for June 2017) due to the number of Fellows who have elected to receive only electronic copies of the newsletters. Currently 47% of members receive only electronic newsletters.

**Audit FY2017**

The annual audit conducted for FY2017 confirmed income of $150,602 for the year and expenses of $168,328 resulting in a net loss of $17,726. This was within the budget approved by the Board.

**Capital & Budget**

At the end of March 2018, capital funds of Section VIII totalled $362,302. $130,000 is held in reserve. The Board has approved budget expenditure for FY2019 to reduce accumulated funds above the reserve. Excess expenditure is primarily dedicated to financial support for dentally related humanitarian projects led by Section VIII Fellows.
As advised in the President’s Message in this newsletter, an ICD induction ceremony and dinner were held at the Parkroyal Darling Harbour on the evening of 28 March. Thirty-seven new Fellows were inducted on the night. Our congratulations go to:

Dr Shilpi Ajwani (NSW)
Dr Cecilia So (NSW)
Dr Timothy Crofts (WA)
Dr Phillip Deane (QLD)
Dr Lydia See (WA)
Dr Hayley Dixon (NSW)
Dr Alannah Freer (QLD)
Dr Russell Gordon (WA)
Dr David Grant (VIC)
Dr Chris Handbury (TAS)
Dr Denice Higgins (SA)
Dr Alex Holden (NSW)
Dr Brian Hurwitz (WA)
Dr Ralph Kelsey (QLD)
Dr Errol Kilov (TAS)
Dr Lydia Lim (NSW)
Dr Dominic Longo (WA)
Dr Naveen Kumar Vellore Loganathan (NSW)
Dr Chaturi Neboda Wathuragamage (WA)
Dr Vasuki Mylvaganam-Delillo (NSW)
Dr Jane McAdam (QLD)
Dr Timothy McAnulty (NSW)
Dr Maria McGowan (QLD)
Dr Ky-Anh Nguyen (NSW)
Dr Anthony Rotondo (QLD)
Dr Tihana Dinvic-Resnik (NSW)
Dr Mahmood Siddiqi (PNG)
Dr John Christensen (QLD)
A/Prof Axel Spahr (NSW)
Dr Mark Spencer (NSW)
Dr Smitha Sukumar (NSW)
Dr Vijay Tumeluri (NSW)
Dr Vanessa William (WA)
Dr Valerie Woodford (QLD)
Dr Munira Xaymardan (NSW)
Prof Qingsong Ye (QLD)
Dr Geoffrey Young (NSW)

Among the 37 new Fellows inducted in Sydney, Dr Mahmood Siddiqi became the first dentist from Papua New Guinea to be inducted into the International College of Dentists in the 98 year history of ICD. Mahmood Siddiqi has played with dental education in Papua New Guinea through his well-deserved ICD Fellowship. He is currently the Chairman, Division of Dentistry, at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences at the University of Papua New Guinea. He also serves as Senior Lecturer and Coordinator of the postgraduate dental program. Mahmood works closely with dentists from Australia who regularly contribute to the education of dental students in PNG, collaborating with Paul Abbott AO (WA), John McIntyre AM (SA) and Len Crocombe (TAS) to develop the curriculum and upgrade the BOH and BDS programs at the University of PNG.

Another special part of the induction ceremony was the awarding of Honorary Fellowship to Wendy Toulmin AM (NSW) and Keith Mentiplay (NSW). President John Owen AM gives details in his President’s Message in this newsletter.

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Another special part of the induction ceremony was the awarding of Honorary Fellowship to Wendy Toulmin AM (NSW) and Keith Mentiplay (NSW). President John Owen AM gives details in his President’s Message in this newsletter.
The evening was made even more special with the inspiring presentations given by David Sheen AM and Graham Toulmin AM.

Dr Sheen AM spoke about his many years of volunteer work in Timor Leste. He first visited Timor Leste in December 1999, along with Dr Sandra Meihubers AM. They saw first hand the destruction wreaked by militia groups supported by the former Indonesian government after the people of Timor Leste had voted for independence. 90% of the infrastructure in the country was destroyed and many Timorese were murdered, badly injured and severely traumatised. Over the ensuing years, David and Sandra have secured aid, established outreach dental services and recruited and enthused numerous volunteers from Australia. Their focus for the future lies with mentoring and supporting the education of more Timorese dental professionals, such as Dr Fernando Jong, who is also a Fellow of our Section.

Enquiries about volunteering in Timor Leste can be sent to David at dashing-dave@bigpond.com or the program Coordinator, Blanche Tsetong at: tsetongb@hotmail.com.

Dr Toulmin AM spoke about his past thirty years working in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Graham, Wendy and their four young children first landed in Butembo, Zaire in December 1987. Since that time, they have returned to Congo numerous times opening dental clinics and more recently a Dental School in Aru. Even when not in Congo, they have dedicated themselves to fund raising and raising awareness of the dire needs for the communities they serve in Africa.

Photos from the 2018 Sydney induction ceremony and dinner can be found on the History/Photo Albums page of our Section website: http://www.icdsectionviii.org/photo-albums.html.

Calendar of Section VIII Events

**Future Induction Ceremonies**
- 17th August 2018  
  Auckland (during the NZDA Conference)
- 3 May 2019  
  Adelaide (during the ADA Congress)
- 13th November 2020  
  Nagoya, Japan (100th Anniversary)

**Future Local Functions**
- 9th May 2018  
  Brisbane Dinner, 6:30pm
- 31st August 2018  
  Melbourne Mix & Mingle, 3:30pm
- 14th September 2018  
  Perth Sundowner, 6:00pm

Invitations with full details are sent to all Fellows well in advance. Enquiries may be directed to the Administrative Officer, Dr Ron Robinson, at: admin@icdsectionviii.org.
2017 International Council Meeting
The International Council gathered on 11-12 November 2017 in Taipei, Taiwan for their 2017 meeting. Thirty-eight Councillors representing Fellows of 122 countries participated in discussions and committee work for the two days of the meeting. Clive Ross CNZM (NZ) and Jackie Robinson (NSW) represented Section VIII at the meeting. David Thomson (QLD) acted as Speaker for the meeting for the fourth consecutive year.

2020 Centennial Celebrations
The Taiwan Council meeting was the launching ground for preparations for ICD Centennial celebrations to be held in Nagoya, Japan in November 2020. The highlight of the centennial events in Japan will be an international gala event on November 13 to which all ICD Fellows worldwide will be invited. The Centennial theme - celebrating the first 100 years of the College, the branding statement and logo were announced to Councillors.

On 26 September 2018, a delegation from the ICD Italy District will have a private audience with Pope Francis, during which he will extend his blessings and congratulations on the upcoming centennial milestone of the College.

ICD Global Projects Interactive Map
The College motto “Recognising Service and the Opportunity to Serve” lives through the countless humanitarian, educational, public health and leadership projects conducted by ICD Sections, Regions and individual Fellows across the globe. For several years, the International Council has considered ways to share these initiatives with ICD Fellows worldwide. At the 2017 Council meeting, Fellow Donna Brode (Canada) demonstrated the initial stage of a user-friendly interactive projects map featuring data on all ICD projects which will be available on the ICD website in due course. The map will be used to encourage volunteer participation of Fellows.

Our own Section has a project map that can be accessed via the Australasian facebook site: https://www.facebook.com/ICDAustralasian/
ICD Global Collaborations

The College has advanced two important collaborative educational initiatives, the Dental Safety Program and the Get Smart About Antibiotics Program, over the past 12 months. In 2018 production will begin on an educational video on antibiotic resistance which is affecting the health of global populations. Through the combined efforts by ICD and the US CDC, the video will be made accessible free of charge to all Fellows worldwide on the ICD website. Links to the Dental Safety Program and the Antibiotics Program can be found on our Section website: http://icdsectionviii.org.

Global Visionary Fund (GVF)

The Global Visionary Fund is a collaboration with Henry Schein Dental to support dentally related humanitarian projects around the world through equipment, instruments and consumables provided by Henry Schein. In 2017 Jonathan Cole of New Zealand was awarded a grant through the GVF for oral surgery instruments for the Smiles for the Pacific program in Fiji.

Finance

An analysis of dues revenue of all Sections shows that 55% of dues revenue for ICD comes from Section I (USA), 8% from Section 5 (Europe), 8% from Section 8 (Australasia) and 6% from Section 2 (Canada).

Communications

- Facebook - a protocol for inclusion criteria and acceptance of posts on Facebook has been introduced; analysis of Facebook visits shows that postings about projects are most popular and postings about awards for Fellows are least popular
- Globe analytics show that 62% of Fellows view “The Globe” on tablets; the Impact Section is the most popular; the number of views increases after ICD functions
- E-communications from ICD to Fellows now include:
  1. Digital Globe (annual)
  2. Press Releases
  3. GVF News (launched in August 2017)
  4. Council Update from the Executive Committee (launched in October 2017)
  5. College Today (biannual)
  6. College Updates (as per President or Council Office)

2018 Membership Committee

Jackie Robinson was requested to chair the Membership Committee for 2018. The Membership Committee was established as a standing committee in 2015 to address stagnant or declining membership in some Sections. There are numerous issues with recruitment and retention related to nomination processes, perceived value of ICD Fellowship, financial barriers, cultural differences and variations in attitudes towards criteria for Fellowship and the desirable numbers of Fellows to be admitted in a Section. Each Section is unique in challenges faced.

The Future and Strength of Our Section Depend on You

Although the Australasian Section of ICD has exhibited incremental growth of about 3% on average each year over the past ten years, this growth is not to be taken for granted. The future and strength of our Section depend on Fellows within the Section nominating colleagues who deserve the recognition of ICD Fellowship for the significant contributions they make to our profession and to the community.

The Section VIII nomination guidelines and form can be downloaded from the Section website (http://www.icdsectionviii.org) or can be requested from the Admin Officer at admin@icdsectionviii.org. The guidelines give the criteria used by the Board to evaluate nominees. In addition, Board members and members of local nominating committees are happy to discuss the suitability of potential nominees with Fellows in advance of making nominations. For reference, a copy of the Section VIII database can be found on the Section website under Publications.
Installation of 2018 Executive Officers

At the conclusion of the 2017 Council meeting, the 2018 International Officers were installed:

President: Clive Ross CNZM (NZ)
President Elect: Bettie McKaig (USA)
Vice President: Akira Senda (Japan)
Treasurer: Richard Smith (USA)
Editor: Dov Sydney (Israel)
Secretary General: John Hinterman (USA)

The 2018 International Council meeting will be held in New York City on November 26-27.

2018 ICD Grants

An ICD grant was awarded for ‘Oral care capacity and oral health in late adulthood’. The goal of this project is to better understand the relationship between poor oral health and cognitive difficulties in older adulthood. The research tests a recent proposal that older adults’ oral care capacity might be critical for understanding how poor oral health and cognitive decline are linked. This is both timely and important because the Australian population is ageing and older age remains the single most important predictor of cognitive impairment. A better understanding of exactly how cognitive decline is linked to poor oral health in late adulthood therefore has potentially important implications for dental practice.

Contact: adrf@dentalresearch.org.au

Australian Dental Research Foundation (ADRF)

The Australasian Section supports many worthwhile oral health related projects throughout Australasia and the Asia Pacific Region. This is core to our identity. Due to limited space in this newsletter we have only included a selection of projects. The November newsletter will contain more comprehensive information on the ICD projects supported by our Section.

You can view further details on these worthwhile projects on our Section Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/ICDAustralasian/

PNG Dental School & Dental Association

Associate Professor Len Crocombe is overseeing the development of dental education and services in PNG. The first aim is to train the new young teaching staff in research methods, concentrating on public health projects which will provide the information most urgently needed to enable effective future planning.

Then, secondly we aim to assist the local graduates to establish a strong PNG Dental Association. As the PNG Department of Health has such extreme medical problems to deal with, we do not expect to
receive a great amount of further support to provide new positions for dental personnel or other support to broaden the outreach of dental services in PNG.

Contacts:
Len Crocombe, leonard.crocombe@utas.edu.au; John McIntyre AM, john.mcintyre@adelaide.edu.au

Mobile Dental Unit for Project Yeti, Nepal

Project Yeti commenced in 2012 and focuses on the provision of quality dental care, both preventative and restorative, to the underprivileged people of Nepal. Project Yeti operates on minimal costs thanks to the support of volunteers, including the Kopan monastery which offers free accommodation and meals for volunteers. The ICD grant will be applied towards the purchase of a second mobile dental unit which will be used in Kathmandu and will allow the project to extend the provision of care to orphans in the Kathmandu valley and further afield to the Tibetan settlement in the country district of Solukhumbu.

Contact:
George Manos, georgemanos1972@gmail.com

National Oral Health Survey, Vanuatu

In October 2017 six keen Kiwis flew up to Loh Island, in the far northern Torres group, to implement a NOHS and run a relief of pain clinic. Big working days at the only medical centre in the island group: relieving pain through extractions, donating Colgate packs, ultrasonic scaling, placing fissure sealants, teaching sterilisation skills, sampling water for fluoride content and learning community needs and wishes. One of the local Vanuatu health care co-workers in 2017 died from Ludwigs Angina illustrating the need for dental treatment options in remote locations. In August 2018 Liz will return to Vanuatu for pain relief visits and implementation of a fissure sealant and tooth brushing programme. Interestingly, the water tested high for ground rock fluoride in some places on Loh and optimal in others.

Contacts:
Liz Webb, webbonpon-ga@xtra.co.nz; David Goldsmith, dgold@netconnect.com.au

Smiles for the Pacific Dental Project, Fiji

We are working to organise a ground breaking dental congress in Fiji for August this year. The Congress will bring together 1-2 representatives from all 19 South
Pacific island groups. This allows for several days of lectures and brainstorming about how to lift the oral health status of the people of these nations.

A congress such as this has not been done before, so this promises to be a most worthwhile exercise and the feedback thus far is encouraging. Additional to lectures from Australasian clinicians time will be set aside for presentations and collaborative sessions to see how through sharing ideas we can help each other.

If you have any interest in attending please get in touch with me as we would love to hear from you even if it is just ideas about how to add value to the conference.

Meanwhile our volunteer clinic in Lautoka, Fiji will receive 3 visiting dentists this month but we are always keen for more volunteers as the clinic is very short staffed and the workload is large.

Contact: Jonathan Cole, jcole@xtra.co.nz

Section VIII Grant Applications

An increasing number of grant applications are being submitted to the Board and funds are limited. The Board will next consider grant applications for 2019 and beyond when the Board meets in Adelaide May 2019. The revised guidelines and application form for Section VIII ICD grants is posted on the Section website: (http://www.icdsectionviii.org).

LOCAL COMMITTEES, SECTION VIII 2017 - 2019

- NSW & ACT: Tom Tseng (Chair), Deb Cockrell, Peter Duckmanton, Scott Davis, Stephen Dahlstrom (ACT)
- QLD & NT: Ian Meyers (Chair), Julee Birch, Michael Foley, Anders Blomberg
- SA & TAS: Rick Sawers AM (Chair), Daniel DeAngelis, Sam Gue, Chris Pazios
- VIC: Keith Watkins (Chair), Eryn Agnew, Anu Polster, Warren Shnider, Felicia Valianatos
- WA:
  Event Organising Committee: John Owen AM (Chair), Yee Sang Welten, Lyn Loreck, Michael McGuiness AM
  Nominating Committee: John Owen AM (Chair), Andrew Heap, Simon Shanahan, Brian Koch
- NZ: David Crum (Chair), Clive Ross CNZM, John Boyens

Local ICD committees were convened in 2016 following feedback from the 2015 survey of Section VIII Fellows. The local committees assist with nominations of new Fellows and with organising local ICD functions.

100th Anniversary

Watch this space for details about the 2020 100th Anniversary celebrations locally and in Nagoya, Japan.

“Celebrating the First 100 Years”

Diamond sponsorships have enabled the ICD Council Office to enhance communications across the globe with all Fellows in recent years.

In our region, Henry Schein-Halas is a Diamond Sponsor of ICD.

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