

Together we are strong



Dear Colleagues,

Hopefully you had a pleasant start into the year 2008. We can look back on a very successful 2007 and look ahead into another promising and inspiring working season. Important advances have been achieved, like the expansion of ESOLA into SOLA, providing a worldwide scope. Don't forget the various great conferences like SOLA Bruges in May or the Stratford meeting in September, all of them showing the ever-increasing importance of laser dentistry.

Today, SOLA represents a flourishing network of universities, practitioners, and manufacturers who complement each other in terms of experience and discovering new outlooks.

This leads me to a concern of growing importance: We all have to consolidate our efforts in order to maintain our achievements and provide further developments. Universities, practitioners, and manufacturers have to pull together now and in the future. Indeed, looking at approaching events, this concept appears to be a successful one: with the help of manufacturers, we are able to organize conferences as a platform for the important exchange of views between universities and practitioners. Many valuable experiences collected by individual laser users thus become available for our whole community. Scientific progress can therefore also be promoted and spread among researchers and practitioners.

Since 2007, we have regularly held the so-called President's Circle as a meeting of representatives of the national societies, whose number has increased dramatically. We can report about the foundation of

SOLA-Ukraine, SOLA-BeNeLux, and last but not least, SOLA-France within the last year. These meetings not only intensify the contact between the participating societies, but also aim to coordinate the meetings of the individual societies. The number of events is continually increasing, with the result of decreasing participant numbers at the single conferences. Having an inter-coordinated schedule worldwide will give better results to each single meeting. The bi-annual SOLA Conference, to be held next in 2009, is the big gathering for all, in order to provide an even wider base for the exchange of experience.

Finally, laser manufacturers should also further join their efforts and work together to strengthen the position of laser-assisted dentistry in general. The first meeting hosted by a panel of various laser manufacturers is planned for this year in Germany. We are greatly looking forward to this new idea and hope for enthusiastic participation from all sides – dentists as well as companies.

To continue our endeavour to steadily increase the importance of laser dentistry, we should remember one guiding principle: Together we are strong!

Yours sincerely,



Prof. DDr. Andreas Moritz
President of SOLA
Editor-in-Chief JOLA