

IAFO Secretary's Report for the Year 2011

Dear members,

Usually, it is a pleasure to present the report of the IAFO for the preceding year. But this time, I begin with a heavy heart—our beloved President, initiator and guiding light, Prof. J.G. Kannappan, is no more. Prof. Kannappan passed away peacefully in Chennai in December 2010, aged 76 years. He is sorely missed and it will take time for the void to be filled. Our condolences to the bereaved family.

It has been almost a year since the 8th National Conference of the IAFO was organised in Sardar Patel Post Graduate Institute of Dental and Medical Sciences, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, on 29–31 October 2010. Thanks to the able support of the management and the organising committee, the members of the IAFO, faculty members of various institutions in the country, and the enthusiastic students interested in this specialty, the conference was a grand success. Approximately 800 delegates attended the preconference and conference. During the conference, Dr. B.S. Bagi invited the 9th IAFO National Conference to be organised by the local IDA branch in Belgaum, Karnataka. The IAFO unanimously agreed to the invitation. However, due to unavoidable circumstances, the conference did not come to fruition in Belgaum. Hence the 9th National Conference has been relocated here to Salem, and we thank the organisers for coming forward at short notice.

As before, the last one year has seen the IAFO grow steadily, with life members crossing the 130 mark. Enquiries regarding membership to the IAFO continue to increase. We have also received enquiries concerning pursuing study in forensic odontology. All interested persons are given relevant information, encouragement and guidance so that the subject of forensic odontology gains and participation in it is maximised. In this regard, may I add th

of qualified forensic odontologists is on the ascendency, with at least two pursuing their post-graduation in Glamorgan University in the U.K.—an institution recognised by the Dental Council of India (DCI) for such training. At the same time, efforts have been re-initiated by the IAFO to propose to the DCI to approve post-graduate courses in India as well. Such efforts have support from other prominent dentists, both members of the DCI as well as well-wishers and workers in forensic dentistry. Such a person—Prof. Ajit Dinkar—is in attendance at the conference and we will hear more from him on this matter.

What has made the year 2011 momentous so far for the IAFO is the organisation of the association's highly successful first National Workshop on Forensic Odontology in Vidya Shikshan Prasarak Mandal (VSPM) Dental College, Nagpur, on 30–31 July. The association's heartfelt thanks to the management and the organising committee. With regards to the functioning of the IAFO, the office-bearers have been in communication with each other regarding the association's activities—the Executive Committee members of the IAFO met in Krupa Dental Clinic, Bengaluru (Karnataka), on 27th February 2011, as well as in VSPM Dental College, Nagpur (Maharashtra), on 30th July 2011, to discuss a number of issues. One of the decisions at the meeting was to honour late Prof. J.G. Kannappan as 'Founder President'.

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Secretary, IAFO
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