



Reliving Great Events

Don't you hate it when someone tells you about a great meeting they attended? It isn't so bad if they are talking about a meeting that is repeated, such as a course that is run by a group, as you can still attend the same program in the future. On the contrary, when it is an annual session from a society or a special, by invitation only, meeting, you can only regret the fact that you were not in attendance. For me, when this happens, I wonder why it was even mentioned since I can only feel left out. So, you might ask yourself why I'm now going to tell you about an exceptional meeting that I recently attended. Trust me, I'm not gloating; instead, this editorial will give you a heads up on a way to discover what you may have missed.

The meeting I attended was the 2010 Academy of Osseointegration Silver Anniversary Summit: "Impact of Biological and Technological Advances in Implant Dentistry." The primary speakers at the meeting were individuals from the basic sciences who spoke about their areas of expertise, while also providing insight on future translation of this research into clinical practice. Following the scientific presentations, there were two very thought-provoking talks on the need for technology assessment and for the establishment of clinical outcomes to be routinely provided in oral and written presentations. The mix of science and outcome reporting was thought provoking and stimulating.

Following the presentations, the speakers led breakout groups that allowed members of the audience to participate in a thorough discussion of their assigned topic areas. The dialogue that ensued promoted a more in-depth appreciation of the topics.

After the initial presentations, breakout groups, and plenary sessions, colleagues in three dental specialties provided their interpretation of the future implementation of the cutting-edge science described in the Summit. Not only was the science stimulating, but the educational experience was designed to ensure that those in attendance would gain meaningful knowledge from the program.

As promised at the beginning of these comments, the fact that the Summit was witnessed by a small number of attendees is no cause for concern. That is because the proceedings of the meeting will be chronicled in a supplemental issue of JOMI to be published in January and mailed along with the January/February issue. I think you will find this to be a great present for the New Year!

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Editor-in-Chief

Editor's note: In an effort to publish JOMI's growing backlog of accepted articles in a more timely fashion, beginning in 2011 (Issue 1, January/February) all technology and case report articles will appear in online format only. The titles/authors of these articles will be listed in the respective issue's Table of Contents and the article abstracts will be printed in the issue. The full articles will be available online at www.quintpub.com/journals/journals.php3.