



## Mission Possible

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The Osseointegration Foundation has been organized to develop financial resources to support the research, educational, and charitable objectives of the Academy of Osseointegration. This declaration of mission has been further elaborated in the following statement of position:

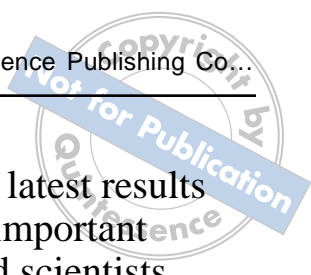
"The Academy of Osseointegration, the world's preeminent dental implant organization, has established the Osseointegration Foundation to assist those individuals involved in the study and application of the osseointegration phenomenon. The Academy's membership, which consists of almost 3,000 individuals in 54 countries, represents the most highly trained professionals in the field of surgical and reconstructive oral and maxillofacial implant treatment.

The Academy of Osseointegration and the Osseointegration Foundation were established to provide a focus for a rapidly advancing technology which recognizes that bone will bond with certain alloplastic materials to create a dynamic, load responsive interface. The nature of this bond and these materials make the technology applicable for a variety of medical and dental situations. Lost teeth can be replaced, hearing can be restored, reconstructive and cosmetic surgery can be enhanced and oral-facial skeletal abnormalities can be corrected by these procedures.

Inherent in the mission of both the Academy of Osseointegration and the Osseointegration Foundation is fostering the research and education of practitioners. The practitioners, in turn, enrich their patients' lives by the quality of treatment provided and enhance their students' knowledge and skills by teaching the most advanced procedures. The funds raised by the Osseointegration Foundation are essential for the continuation of existing research grant programs currently administered by the Foundation, and more importantly, to enable new programs to be launched.

Thousands of individuals have already been successfully restored through treatment involving the medical and dental applications of osseointegration technology. Thousands more will benefit from the advances made possible through the charitable programs of the Osseointegration Foundation.

Advancing current knowledge requires funding. Following the discovery of the phenomenon of osseointegration almost 30 years ago, implant research has steadily increased. Scientists and clinicians have explored many of the variables related to the biology and physics of the osseointegrated bond and its practical applications. However, the more detailed an investigation is, the more sophisticated the research equipment usually must be, and an increase in sample size or subject numbers is



often required.

Outstanding scientific meetings require funding. Disseminating the latest results of ongoing research is one of the Academy of Osseointegration's most important functions. At each of the Academy's Annual Meetings, world-renowned scientists and clinicians discuss their findings and experience with attendees. Such opportunities for continuing education have helped to make the Academy of Osseointegration Annual Meeting the single most significant dental implant meeting in the world. Providing support for the distinguished essayists and awards for superior presentations encourage both top-level research and participation by scientists and clinicians. New knowledge gained by practitioners at the Academy's meetings ensures that patients receive the most advanced care available anywhere.

Providing quality care for patients in need requires funding. A series of in-treatment patient education hand-books, funded by the Osseointegration Foundation, is currently produced by the Academy of Osseointegration. The Academy and the Foundation are working together to create additional audiovisual patient education materials. Furthermore, the Osseointegration Foundation will offer charitable implant therapy to selected individuals without the personal means to pay for needed treatment."

The Osseointegration Foundation has embarked upon a broadly based campaign of solicitation to establish an endowment fund which will serve as the cornerstone of all of its future philanthropic endeavors. Members of the health-care professions, corporate colleagues and friends, and interested and beneficiary patients are all encouraged, and indeed urged, to enlist in this significant Foundation effort that provides needed support for a broad spectrum of worthwhile programs.

To create funding for research and investigator support that will bring significant advances to implant science, to provide direct patient care, enhance and sustain excellence in clinical practice, and to further the knowledge/skills of clinicians and educate the lay public concerning the merit of implant-supported restorations; our mission is possible, and it is incumbent upon all of us in the implant community to assure its unqualified success.