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FGDP(UK) Dean calls for greater diversity

IAN MILLS, DEAN OF FGDP(UK), HAS CALLED FOR THE LEADERSHIP OF DENTAL ORGANISATIONS TO BETTER REFLECT THE DIVERSITY OF THE PROFESSION.

In an address to Faculty members and professional leaders at the FGDP(UK) Annual Dinner and Awards in March, the Dean said that dental leaders have a "moral obligation" to ensure that their organisations "support social justice through a culture and environment of inclusivity".

He described as "unacceptable" the persistence of "many barriers which intimidate and inhibit certain individuals from engaging with dental organisations", and said that the best way to change perceptions and encourage engagement was by ensuring diversity of gender, age and ethnicity within Boards at both national and local level.

Outlining the opportunity, he said diversity "modulates attitudes and behaviours, undermines 'group-think', and delivers improved performance within an organisation". He continued, "Social and professional diversity reflects the diversity within our profession, and can provide insight into the different views, attitudes and beliefs which may exist. This is a healthy environment which can stimulate discussion, debate and reflection, and in turn, provides a degree of internal accountability. We need diversity to understand the

changing needs of our profession, to connect with new members and ensure that we continue to be relevant."

Giving the example of students and early careers dentists, he said that as Dean he "can try to understand the challenges they face and what they need and want from the FGDP, but in reality, it is simply my interpretation. The different groups within dentistry need to have a voice".

Dr Mills said this was "particularly true of women in dentistry". He noted that when he was elected to the Faculty Board in 2003, there was only one female board member out of 30 (3.3%), and that while this had improved to 6 out of 16 today (38%), the board remained "a male dominated environment" at a time when "there are more female undergraduates than male, and the number of women on the dental register exceeds the number of men."



Ian Mills' address at the FGDP(UK) Annual Dinner, 12 March 2020

He added that FGDP(UK) and the British Dental Association would be announcing details of a joint symposium on diversity in dental organisations, with a particular focus on gender balance, in due course.

Faculty member appointed Deputy CDO for England

CONGRATULATIONS TO FGDP(UK) MEMBER JASON WONG MBE WHO HAS BEEN APPOINTED DEPUTY CHIEF DENTAL OFFICER FOR ENGLAND.

A general dental practitioner in a large mixed practice in Grantham, Jason is Chair of the Local Dental Network and was a long-standing Secretary of Lincolnshire Local Dental Committee. Earlier this year, he received an MBE for services to NHS dentistry and oral health, having been recognised in particular for his pivotal role in significantly reducing tooth decay among under-fives in his local area. Jason succeeds Faculty Fellow

Janet Clarke MBE in the role shared with Eric Rooney MBE.

FGDP(UK) Dean, Ian Mills, said:

"Jason is a wonderful ambassador for dentistry, representing the very best of its values. I'm sure the whole profession will join me in delight at his appointment to such a critical role, in which he will be able to bring his significant knowledge and rounded experience as a GDP."



New Vice Deans at FGDP(UK)

SUSAN NELSON AND ONKAR DHANOYA HAVE BEEN INAUGURATED AS FGDP(UK)'S NEW VICE DEANS.



Susan is Lead Dentist at Shore Road Dental & Implant Clinic, a private practice in Holywood, County Down, where she specialises in implant dentistry. A member of FGDP(UK) since 1998, she examined and sat on the core group for the MFGDP(UK) and MJDF for 16 years, and also served as Director of the Faculty's Northern Ireland division. She was elected to represent the region on the Faculty Board in 2017, re-elected earlier this year and chairs



dental group, since 1986, providing treatments including dental implants, facial aesthetics and orthodontics at its three practices across the North East of England. He represents the Yorkshire and Northern region on the FGDP(UK) Board and holds Fellowships both of the FGDP(UK) and the International College of Dentists. Chair of North Tyne LDC, and past President of the BDA's Northern Counties branch, he has been a clinical teacher at Newcastle Dental Hospital since 1995. He chairs the Faculty's

the FGDP(UK) Education and Qualifications Committee. She is also Deputy Chair of the Northern Ireland branch of the BDA, and will take on the role of Regional Clinical Lead for Portman Healthcare later this year.

Professional Affairs Committee, served as Vice-Dean from 2018-19, and chaired the working group which developed the recently-published *Implications of Covid-19 for the safe management of general dental practice*.

The new Vice Deans were elected by the Board for one year terms. Ian Mills, Dean of the Faculty, commented:

"On behalf of all members of the Faculty, I congratulate Susan and Onkar on their election as Vice-Deans. They bring with them significant experience and insight into general dental practice, which will be of great benefit to myself, FGDP(UK) and the wider profession. I would also like to express my thanks to Abhi and Roshni for their advice and hard work over the last twelve months, and in particular for their support throughout the current pandemic, and I am delighted that they will continue to play important roles on the Board."

Tashfeen Kholasi elected to FGDP(UK) Board

THE NORTH EAST AND NORTH WEST THAMES MEMBERSHIP DIVISIONS WILL BE REPRESENTED ON THE FACULTY'S BOARD BY TASHFEEN KHOLASI.



Tashfeen is an Associate Dentist and Chief Clinical Information Officer in general dental practice. She has recently been appointed as an examiner for the MJDF. A Clinical Tutor in Special Care & Sedation at King's College London, she has worked in a range of roles, including in primary care referral services, secondary care and as a Fellow in Clinical Leadership at Health Education England.

She has a Diploma in Conscious Sedation and a Master's in Legal Aspects of Medical Practice, and is currently studying for Diplomas in

Healthcare Leadership & Commissioning and in Digital Leadership. With a strong interest in digital health, Tashfeen also has a BSc in Computer Science & Maths, is a member of the NHS Digital Academy, a Fellow of the Faculty of Clinical Informatics, and served two years as Clinical Lead for Digital Dentistry at NHS England.

The Faculty also re-elected Vice-Deans Abhi Pal and Roshni Karia to represent the West Midlands and South East and South West Thames regions respectively, Susan Nelson to the Northern Ireland seat, and Quentin

Jones for the North and South Wales membership divisions.

Ian Mills, Dean of FGDP(UK), said:

"It's a pleasure to welcome Tashfeen to the Board, and I have no doubt the Faculty will benefit greatly from her breadth of expertise in many areas of primary care dentistry, including digital technology. I would also like to congratulate Abhi, Roshni, Susan and Quentin on their re-election. I am privileged to be able to draw upon all their skills, knowledge and experience, which are vitally important as we prepare the Faculty for the future."

College of General Dentistry (CGDent) launches first qualification

THE DIPLOMA IN PRIMARY CARE ORTHODONTICS IS THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT BY CGDENT.



Training for the qualification is provided by IAS Academy through its Advanced Orthodontics course. The comprehensive syllabus covers assessment, diagnosis and treatment planning, as well as provision using the complete range of orthodontic appliance systems (including but not limited to fixed

functional, aligners, Inman and removable). Students also gain an understanding of the science of orthodontics, as well as the evidence and research underpinning care, and the course trains dentists in how to treat more complex malocclusions, including extraction cases.

Education is delivered both on-campus and online in five 3-4 day blocks over 14 months, and includes both hands-on and theoretical study, as well as one-to-one mentoring for 20 treated cases in preparation for the diploma examination.

Prof Nairn Wilson CBE, Chair of the College of General Dentistry, said:

"We are excited to be launching our new qualification. With its impressive breadth, scope and depth, the IAS Academy's advanced course is perfectly aligned to training in preparation for the DipPCOrth. The involvement of IAS gives us confidence that those who take the examinations will be well prepared and set for professional success."

For further information on the Diploma in Primary Care Orthodontics, email operations@iasortho.com.

FGDP(UK) supports oral health lessons for toddlers

The Department for Education recently consulted on proposals to include oral health within the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, which would make it a mandatory teaching topic in nurseries, nursery schools and primary/infant school reception classes in England.

FGDP(UK) submitted a supportive response, highlighting that despite tooth decay being almost entirely preventable, tooth extraction remains the number one reason why children are admitted to hospital. The Faculty also argued that many children and parents are unaware of the importance of good oral health.

Whilst oral health is being added to the curriculum for primary and secondary school children from September 2020, the Faculty believes that the inclusion of oral health in the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum would contribute to the success of oral health education at later stages.

Helpline service available to FGDP(UK) members

FGDP(UK) MEMBERS IN THE UK AND IRELAND CAN ACCESS HELPLINE FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING SUPPORT.

The helpline is provided by Health Assured, the UK's largest independent employee assistance programme. The organisation is accredited by the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy.

Available 24/7, the service is part of the Royal College of Surgeons' Confidential Support and Advice Service, which has been expanded during the Covid-19 pandemic in recognition of the additional pressures on healthcare professionals at this time.

If you would like confidential support and advice on personal or professional issues, call 020 7869 6221. Your call will be answered by a trained counsellor who will ask for your name and organisation.



Confidential Support and Advice Service

24/7 helpline 020 7869 6221

The banner features a stylized illustration of two human heads in profile, facing each other. The head on the left is colored green and has a white dental mask covering its mouth. The head on the right is colored yellow and has a white brain-like structure inside. The background is a solid orange color.

Please state that you are a member of the Royal College of Surgeons.

Further information is available at <https://www.rcseng.ac.uk/careers-in-surgery/csas/>

A list of other services which provide health and wellbeing support is included in the Faculty's summary of guidance and resources for dental professionals during the Covid-19 pandemic.

College of General Dentistry launches a new Art & Science of Dentistry Prize for students in Wales

Awarded in conjunction with the Dental Society of Wales (Y Gymdeithas Ddeintyddol), it is open to those studying dental surgery at Cardiff University School of Dentistry, with applications welcome from all year groups including those who graduate in 2020.

Entrants must submit a referenced vlog or poster featuring their investigation, literature review or primary research into a subject relevant to general dental practice which has had an influence on the improvement of oral health care for all.

Entries can be in English or Welsh and from one or two students. The closing

date is 30 August 2020 and the prize will be presented at the Welsh Dental Society's Annual Meeting in Cardiff on 17 October 2020. Further details on how to apply and tips on what makes a good entry are available at <https://cgdent.uk/2020/04/27/the-art-science-of-dentistry-prize-cardiff-dental-school>.

ICO names and shames non-payers

FGDP(UK) REMINDS DENTAL PRACTICES OF THE NEED TO PAY DATA PROTECTION FEES.

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) has begun to contact all UK-registered companies to remind them of their legal responsibility to pay the annual fee, which ranges from £40-2,900 according to a company's size and turnover, and which all organisations processing personal information have been required to pay since May 2018.

The regulator maintains an online register of organisations which have paid the fee and names non-paying organisations. It also fines non-payers, but says the fines are likely to be reduced or waived during the coronavirus pandemic if an organisation can provide evidence that non-payment is due to financial

reasons linked to the crisis, and if assurance is given of when payment will be made.

Fees can be paid at <https://ico.org.uk/fee> and dental practices can contact the ICO's small business helpline for further advice (0303 123 1113; Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

Covid-19: webinars on preparing for the challenges ahead

During the spring and summer, the Deans of the Dental Faculties of the Royal Colleges in the UK and Ireland have been co-hosting a series of webinars about issues facing the dental profession during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Topics include the risk-based approach to Covid-19, health and wellbeing in dentistry, myth busting and Covid-19, Covid-19: preparing for the challenges ahead, and much more. Go to <https://www.fgdp.org.uk/dental-webinars> to watch the webinars and learn more.

British Dental Journal and Evidence-Based Dentistry now available to FGDP(UK) members

Members and Fellows of the FGDP(UK) can access the journals through their OpenAthens account. To set one up, email athens@rcseng.ac.uk using the email address registered to your FGDP(UK) membership.

MJDF Members, Joint Members and Joint Fellows can access the journals through the e-library of the Royal College of Surgeons of England using their RCS login.

50 dentists appointed to new FGDP(UK) Academy

THE ACADEMY HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO RECOGNISE SIGNIFICANT AND ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FACULTY'S ACADEMIC WORK.

The Faculty has so far appointed 50 dentists to the new Academy. Appointments are made as Member or Senior Member of the FGDP(UK) Academy in relation to the responsibility and commitment of

specified roles, such as in the development of the Faculty's guidance and standards, and the delivery and assessment of its exams and educational programmes.

Membership is for a three-year term, renewable based on an individual's continuing contribution. It is intended that the Academy will move across to the College of General Dentistry upon the transfer of FGDP(UK).