

From the Editor's Desk

The volcanic skies, which marked the progress of the largest ITI event ever are now a distant memory. I hope that all the excellent papers presented during those days and the social activities are what has stayed in your memory, rather than the inconvenience of the journey home.



In this issue of the Forum Implantologicum you will find some photographs from the World Symposium as well as impressions of selected sessions contributed by the Editorial Board. And because the journeys home were so very inconvenient for many, we have also included a blow-by-blow account of one journey home – I promise it will make you smile and probably awaken a sense of solidarity. One of the main sections in this issue deals with sinus lifts. We have contributions from Hideaki Katsuyama and Paul Fugazzotto, which also act as an introduction to Volume 5 of our Treatment Guide series – the first to include a DVD along with the book, due to the complexity of the procedures involved. The book is set to be published at the end of the first quarter next year and Members and Fellows will, as always, receive a copy.

This issue of the Forum Implantologicum can almost be referred to as “historical”. For the first time, the Forum will appear in eight languages. The English master version will go out as usual around mid-November and the remaining seven language versions will be sent out some months later. The Editorial Board is looking forward to receiving some feedback from Fellows and Members, who are now able to read the Forum in their own language. In the same way, all future volumes of the Treatment Guide series will also be

printed in a total of eight languages, thus bringing the content reliably to many more of our membership.

This issue should really be dedicated to one of our pioneers: Although not a dentist, Walter Widmer, as one of the founding members of the ITI, is someone who has continuously contributed to the progress and development of the ITI throughout its 30 years. And for the first 10 years of the ITI Center's life, Walter and a secretary alone were responsible for coordinating, administering and running everything. I recommend you read the interview with him, in which he shares some thoughts about the past and present of the ITI. We also have a second interview that looks at our new University Programs Committee presented by Chairman Hans-Peter Weber.

The preparations for the next World Symposium are already underway, but before then we will have a number of national congresses and at the same time we can look forward to a lot of activity in regard to Study Clubs. Our President has devoted his column in this issue to the Study Clubs and how they will benefit all of us.

Erik Hjorting-Hansen
Editor-in-Chief