



30 years promoting periodontal health  
for a better life

## INTRODUCTION



The European Federation of Periodontology (EFP) is celebrating the 30th anniversary of its foundation: 30 years of promoting periodontal science and clinical practice, 30 years of periodontal health for a better life. We are proud of the outstanding level of collaboration and exchange we have achieved between our 37 scientific societies from all around the world, even though every one of them keeps its autonomy and identity. As the EFP has gone global in recent years, diversity has become one of our strengths. Our native languages are different, but we all speak gum health – this is our common language. Then, the production of scientific evidence and a shared vision of periodontal health for a better life are the secrets of our unity.

**Lior Shapira**, EFP president 2021-22



On behalf of the EFP, I would like to express my sincere thanks to Joanna Kamma for both initiating and delivering this wonderful book, documenting the history of the EFP for posterity. Joanna, you have thoughtfully and meticulously produced this book on 30 years of the EFP, aided by Paul Davies' skilful editing. We truly appreciate all the many hours of work you have put into this amazing project that will be treasured by all. Thank you!

**Nicola West**, EFP secretary general since 2019

## AUTHOR'S NOTE



The European Federation of Periodontology celebrated its thirtieth anniversary in December 2021 and this book sets out to record the substantial achievements of the EFP in its short but illustrious history. The federation started with 11 European national societies of periodontology, based on the core values of democracy and diversity, and is now a global federation.

True to its motto, 'Periodontal health for a better life', the EFP is a highly active organisation, dedicated to ensuring that periodontology remains a modern, forward-looking, evidence-based science of clinical healthcare. The EFP prioritises the pursuit of excellence in education, training, and research, along with the art and science of the clinical practice of periodontology in serving the interests of patients. It strives to raise public awareness on oral and general health and develop preventive strategies, using a wide array of communications tools.

The federation's success can be attributed to the inspiration, dedication, and insight of numerous exceptional committee members and colleagues who conceived, founded, and led the EFP over the years. Many have offered bold, selfless, and unswerving leadership, generously contributing their insight, experience, time, and expertise.

On a personal note, writing this book has been a fantastic journey for me. It has provided an opportunity to re-connect with founding members of the federation and to discuss the views of the younger officers who lead and will lead the EFP into the future. I would like to sincerely thank all my esteemed colleagues (featured in this book) for their fantastic recollections, testimonies, and anecdotes. Finally, a big thank you to Paul Davies for his phenomenal assistance in editing this book.

**Joanna Kamma**, EFP publications editor, EFP president 2005-06

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*30 years promoting periodontal health for a better life*

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# And the Federation was born

According to Ubele van der Velden, one of the founders of the EFP, "The seeds for the emergence of the European Federation of Periodontology were sown by the collapse in 1970 of a forerunner organisation, an association for periodontal research with divisions in different European countries called ARPA (*Arbeitsgemeinschaft für PARadentose-Forschung/Association pour les Recherches sur le PARadentose*). It took many years before the time was deemed right to think again about a European periodontal association.

"In the meantime, in 1974 the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* was founded at the initiative of the British, Scandinavian, and Swiss periodontal societies. In subsequent years, co-operation between the British, Scandinavian, and Dutch societies of periodontology resulted in the organisation of the North Sea Conferences on periodontology, held once every five years from 1980.

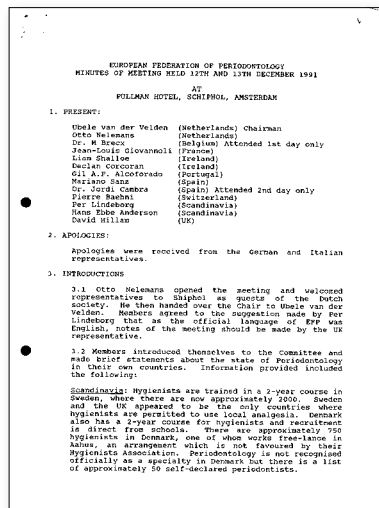
"At the second North Sea conference in 1985, there were discussions about the possibility and desirability of re-establishing a European periodontal organization, and the idea was further discussed at a dinner in Paris involving Jean-Louis Giovannoli from France and me from the Netherlands, where we talked about how our national periodontal societies were facing similar challenges and suggested the idea of joining forces."

In 1986, Ubele van der Velden, together with Hans Rodenburg (Netherlands), and Daniel van Steenberghe (Belgium), invited nine European societies of periodontology – the Belgian, British, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Scandinavian, Spanish and Swiss – to discussions about forming what was initially called the "European Co-ordination Committee in Periodontology". The invitation was accepted.

With Ubele van der Velden in the chair, five meetings were held which eventually led to the creation of the EFP. First, there were two meetings of the European Co-ordination Committee in Periodontology: in Montreux, Switzerland on 18 September 1987 and in Marrakech, Morocco on 22-23 May 1988.

At the Montreux meeting, held in conjunction with a joint meeting of the Swiss and Dutch societies of periodontology, the idea of a co-ordination committee to improve communication between societies and avoid unnecessary duplication when inviting speakers to give lectures at conferences was discussed. The committee was also seen as a forum to enable the societies to compare the status of periodontology and training programmes in different countries, with the long-term objective of achieving uniformly high standards in all European countries.

It was at the second meeting, in Marrakech, which took place during the Xes Journées Françaises de Parodontologie



**Minutes of the December 1991 meeting** where the EFP's constitution and by-laws were approved.

**Second meeting of the European Co-ordination Committee in Periodontology.**



conference, that the decision to use the name European Federation of Periodontology was accepted, although the title was not yet formally adopted.

The first meeting of the "EFP in formation" took place in Santa Margherita, Italy, on 6 June 1989. At this meeting, it was agreed that a scientific conference should be held and, if successful, should then take place at five yearly intervals. This could, perhaps, eventually replace the highly successful North Sea Conference.

A second "EFP in formation" meeting took place in Maastricht, Netherlands, on 16 May 1990, at which the proposals for the constitution and objectives of the European Federation of Periodontology were put forward and it was decided to stage the first EuroPerio congress, at EuroDisney in Paris in May 1994.

At the fifth meeting of the committee, at the Pullman Hotel at Schiphol Airport in Amsterdam, Netherlands, on 12-13 December 1991, the constitution and objectives of the European Federation of Periodontology were formally adopted by 11 societies of periodontology (the Belgian, British, Dutch, French, German, Irish, Italian, Portuguese, Scandinavian, Spanish, and Swiss).

**The EFP was born.**

# Five continents, 37 members

## EFP MEMBER SOCIETIES



The EFP is its members, the national societies of periodontology that make up the federation. The EFP has three categories of membership – full members, associate members, and international associate member – and new members are accepted at the federation's annual general assembly. Following the March 2021 assembly, the EFP had 37 member societies: 26 full members, four associate members, and seven international associate members.

Full members of the EFP form the federation's governing body, operating through the general assembly at which they have the right to vote on all strategic decisions. Until the end of 1996 the EFP had only one category of membership, enjoyed by the 11 founding members and the 14 other societies that joined in the federation's first five years. The EFP's constitution and by-laws were changed in 1996 to create the new category of associate member. From 1997, new members of the federation first become associate members for a trial period of five years, after which they become eligible for full membership. The criteria for both categories of membership are similar:

- The society must be from a European country (according to the World Health Organization's definition of its European region).
- The society should have been active for a minimum of three years before its application.
- The society should have clear, written by-laws that contain inclusion criteria for membership and board-election systems, and they must be democratic – ideally with a regular turnover of senior officers to avoid "cronyism".
- The society should prove that it is the only official representative society of qualified periodontologists and/or dentists with a specific interest in the field of periodontology in its country.
- The society must prove that it is independent of other national societies (such as a national dental association) in its governance and financial operations.

- The society should demonstrate that its members have a high level of internationally recognised knowledge – by organising conferences, by publications, and by other means. Conferences and congresses should be of a high level with internationally renowned speakers and take place at least once every three years.

The decision on accepting applications for associate membership are taken by the executive committee and then recommended to the general assembly which has the final say.

Before being nominated for full membership, an associate member must provide a full report on its situation and the changes that have taken place within the society and its country over the five-year probationary period. It needs to demonstrate that it has taken an active part in the activities of the EFP (such as attendance of the general assembly, promotion of EuroPerio congresses, participation in Gum Health Day). If a society regularly misses the general assembly or does not engage in EFP activities, it is challenged to improve its engagement and its membership can be reviewed by the general assembly. This situation arose in 2020.

The final decision for accepting an associate society as a full member once the five-year period has ended requires a recommendation by the executive committee to the general assembly, which ratifies the decision provided there are no objections.

### Going global

The decision to create the category of international associate members was made in 2018, reflecting the EFP's strategy of becoming the leading global force in periodontal science and clinical practice. Other than being non-European (according to the WHO definition), criteria for membership are similar to those for full and associate members. Meetings between the EFP and interested societies were held at EuroPerio 9 in June 2018 and the first application was received from the Mexican Association of Periodontology in September 2018 followed closely by the Taiwan Academy of Periodontology. At the general assembly in Bern, Switzerland, in March 2019, the first six international associate members were welcomed into the EFP family.

Commenting on the arrival of the first international associate members, Anton Sculean said that it was "a very exciting new phase in the development, visibility, and global influence of the EFP. It offers a unique opportunity to disseminate all the knowledge and information related to the prevention and treatment of periodontal and peri-implant diseases and to spread the EFP philosophy on a global scale."



# EFP member societies, by year of joining

1991		
Belgium		FM Belgian Society of Periodontology
France		FM French Society of Periodontology and Oral Implantology
Germany		FM German Society of Periodontology
Ireland		FM Irish Society of Periodontology
Italy		FM Italian Society of Periodontology and Implantology
Netherlands		FM Dutch Society of Periodontology
Portugal		FM Portuguese Society of Periodontology and Implants
Scandinavia		FM Scandinavian Society of Periodontology *
Spain		FM Spanish Society of Periodontology and Osseointegration
Switzerland		FM Swiss Society of Periodontology
United Kingdom		FM British Society of Periodontology
1993		
Greece		FM Hellenic Society of Periodontology and Implant Dentistry
Turkey		FM Turkish Society of Periodontology
1994		
Denmark		FM Danish Society of Periodontology
1997		
Austria		FM Austrian Society of Periodontology
Czech Republic		FM Czech Society of Periodontology
Hungary		FM Hungarian Society of Periodontology
Israel		FM Israeli Society of Periodontology and Osseointegration
Poland		FM Polish Society of Periodontology
Slovenia		FM Slovenian Society of Periodontology
1998		
Norway		FM Norwegian Society of Periodontology and Implantology
Sweden		FM Swedish Society of Periodontology and Implantology
1999		
Finland		FM Finnish Society of Periodontology
2001		
Croatia		FM Croatian Society of Periodontology
2002		
Morocco		AM Moroccan Society of Periodontology and Implantology
2003		
Serbia		FM Serbian Society of Periodontology
2012		
Romania		FM Romanian Society of Periodontology
2013		
Lithuania		FM Lithuanian Society of Periodontology
Ukraine		AM Ukrainian Society of Periodontology **
2014		
Russia		AM Russian Society of Periodontology
2017		
Azerbaijan		AM Azerbaijani Society of Periodontology
2019		
Argentina		IAM Argentine Society of Periodontology
Australia		IAM Australian Society of Periodontology
Brazil		IAM Brazilian Society of Periodontology
Georgia		IAM Georgian Society of Periodontology
Lebanon		IAM Lebanese Society of Periodontology
Mexico		IAM Mexican Association of Periodontology
Taiwan		IAM Taiwanese Academy of Periodontology
2021		
Singapore		IAM Society of Periodontology Singapore

FM = full member, AM = associate member, IAM = international associate member

\* The Scandinavian Society of Periodontology was one of the founding members in 1991 but its membership ceased in 1999 once the Finnish society had joined those of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden in becoming full-member societies.

\*\* The Ukrainian Society of Periodontology voluntarily ended its membership in 2021.

# Aims, strategic plans, partners, and professionals



Strategic-planning workshop in Paris, November 2006

The EFP's original aims, as set out at the foundational meeting in Amsterdam in December 1991, were to promote periodontal health in Europe through: professional education, research, monitoring and evaluation, compiling a directory of registered periodontists, public education and awareness, promotion of interprofessional relationships in the periodontal discipline, establishing guidelines for EFP approval of relevant products, and offering itself as an advisory body to governmental and non-governmental agencies on issues relevant to periodontal health and education.

Later, it became necessary to further define and refine the aims of the federation and its strategic approach to implementing them. The EFP embraced strategic planning as a disciplined approach to producing fundamental decisions and actions to shape and guide the organisation's activities.

The EFP's first strategic plan (2008-2012) stated that the federation should be "the driving force of periodontology (including implant dentistry) in Europe – inspirational, innovative, influential," and its purpose was "the promotion of periodontology and, more generally, periodontal and general health both in Europe and worldwide by means of research, education, and further development of its science." The plan articulated the EFP's four overarching strategic objectives as: *improved health, policy, education, and research* and highlighted the various stakeholder groups with which the EFP needed to engage.

In the second strategic plan (2013-2016), the federation's strategic vision was expressed in a new slogan: "*Periodontal*

## "The driving force of periodontology (including implant dentistry) in Europe"

*health for life*". The strategic objectives remained in place, but *education* was expanded to become *education and training*, and a fifth objective of *communication* was added to ensure that the EFP's work was broadly disseminated to achieve more impact.

In the next strategic plan (2017-2021), the strategic vision was revised to its current form of "*Periodontal health for a better life*", while the strategic objectives

were given an expanded and clearer shape: *improved health & wellbeing, education & training, policy & influence, science & research, and communication & awareness*.

The EFP's current strategic plan (2021-2025) explains the EFP's strategic objectives and which committees are responsible for delivering them.

1. **Improved health and wellbeing:** Improve and promote periodontal health globally as part of oral and general health and wellbeing, ensuring social and economic inclusion, by working in partnership with patients, governments, professional bodies, industry, consumer groups, and other organisations.

*Workshop committee, European projects committee, communications committee.*

2. **Education and training:** Maintain, refine, harmonise, and further develop the highest standards of education and training in the art, science, and practice of periodontology and implant dentistry to increase knowledge/awareness among all health professionals of the importance of periodontal diseases and their consequences.





Core executive committee strategy meeting in Brussels, 2019.

*Postgraduate education committee, undergraduate education committee, EuroPerio committee, Perio Master Clinic committee, JCP management board, communications committee, and scientific affairs committee.*

3. **Policy and influence:** In collaboration with national member organisations and through strong leadership, influence policy at national and international levels, including the recognition of periodontal diseases as a public-health problem as well as a source and consequence of social inequality. The recognition of periodontology as a dental speciality in the European Union is a fundamental prerequisite.

*Workshop committee, European projects committee, communications committee, executive committee.*

4. **Science and research:** Promote the research and knowledge base in all aspects of periodontology and implant dentistry, with global dissemination and application of research findings to enhance patient and public awareness and promote the practice of evidence-based and patient-centred care and, in turn, clinical outcomes.

*Workshop committee, scientific affairs committee, European projects committee, communications committee, congress committee.*

While communications was removed as a specific strategic objective, the plan explains: "An important focus of the new strategic plan is communication across all aspects of the strategy, to align our structure and processes, and increase our global impact to healthcare professions, patients, and the public."

### Professional support

To help turn its strategic plans into action, the EFP relies upon the support of professionals in operations, event organisation, and communications.

Mónica Guinea has worked as the EFP European co-ordinator since 2003, responsible for supporting the executive and other committees and for being the main channel of communication between the EFP and its affiliated national societies. She also supports the treasurer and helps co-ordinate EFP events.

In 2016, Sharon Legendre became EFP head of operations, responsible for strategic and general management,

supporting the executive committee, liaising with the EFP's partners, implementing projects, and liaising with international institutions and organizations.

Cândice Gasperin joined in 2020 as EFP head of communication, responsible for defining the EFP's strategy in communications, social media, and press relations. She leads the communications team in implementing strategies defined by the executive committee and co-ordinates the federation's initiatives to ensure the consistency of the EFP brand (see Communications, pages 36-37).

From the very first EuroPerio congress (Paris, 1994), the federation has used professional conference organisers and since 2010 it has had a contract with Mondial Congress & Communications, which has organised all the congresses since EuroPerio7 (Vienna, 2012) as well as the various editions of Perio Master Clinic.

### Partnership with industry

The EFP partners are an exclusive group of companies, with a portfolio of products and technologies within the dental sector, that helps the EFP fulfil its mission by providing unconditional grants to the federation. Partnership agreements, which provide benefits for both parties, are signed by the EFP with each partner for a renewable period of three years. The first partnership package was launched in 2008 and the first three partners, who signed up for 2009-2011, were Dentaïd, Oral-B, and Sunstar. The European projects committee oversees the campaigns and other projects that the EFP develops with these partners (see Projects, pages 28-29).

*Current partners: Curasept, Colgate, Dentaïd, GSK, Oral-B, Strauman.*

*Past partners: Geistlich, Johnson & Johnson, Sunstar.*

# The EFP's main ambassador

## THE PRESIDENT



Each EFP president serves a one-year term in a role that involves being the main public voice and face of the federation, acting as its ambassador in national and international meetings, and collaborating with institutions and industry.

The president works very closely and collaboratively with the secretary general and treasurer – a triumvirate that is critical to the success of each presidential term. As the president changes each year, there is a risk that EFP strategy and direction could oscillate as each president, understandably, seeks to make their mark and leave a legacy. Therefore, a delicate balance needs to be struck to allow presidents to deliver their vision, while at the same time respecting the longer-term EFP strategic plan.

To help this process, there is a “presidential ladder” whereby, after election by the general assembly, the future president first serves three years on EFP committees, undertaking roles that familiarise them with how the EFP operates.

The 30 EFP presidents so far have come from 18 different countries and most of them have also played leading roles in their respective national societies of periodontology.

**Pierre Baehni (president, 1994-95):** “During my presidency, there were three remarkable events that consolidated and shaped the future of the EFP. EuroPerio1, which took place in May 1994, was a landmark happening. The congress reflected the advancement in the field of periodontology in Europe and epitomised the spirit of that time. The Jaccard-EFP Research Prize was instituted with the objective of promoting research in the field of

periodontology in Europe. The Nordic countries were initially represented in the EFP by the Scandinavian Society of Periodontology (ScSP) but the federation, in a bold move, decided that individual countries could be represented by their national societies, so the Nordic countries were able to apply for full membership in replacement of the ScSP. This was a delicate issue because the ScSP was a well-established and strong society.”

**Michel Brex (president, 2002-03):** “During my year as president of the EFP, the Belgian ministry of justice registered the EFP among the non-profit international organisations, AISBL (*association internationale sans but lucratif*), under Belgian law which is unique in Europe. So, the official language of the EFP is French but its working language can be English.”

**Joanna Kamma (president, 2005-06):** “During my term as president, one of the objectives was to revive strategic planning. A planning committee was formed – past-president Morten Klepp, president-elect Pier Paolo (Sandro) Cortellini, and me – and we created an initial planning document and proposed hiring a strategic-planning consultant. This proposal was approved at the 2005 general assembly in Madrid. After that, the executive committee participated in three workshops run by The Prospectus Company, where the core components of the strategy – vision, strategic objectives, and an action plan – were developed. These were presented at the 2007 general assembly in Florence and adopted as the EFP’s first strategic plan. It was a personally enlightening experience to be involved in the working group of this important project.”



**Michèle Reners (president, 2013-14):** "During my presidency, I proposed, with the support of Phoebus Madianos and Søren Jepsen [who would become the following two presidents], setting up the guidelines for the president's role – so that the elected members of the executive committee are involved in each EFP committee before their presidency – and for the tasks of the EFP representatives. Also, it was important for me to integrate juniors into the EFP committees."

**Phoebus Madianos (president, 2014-15):** "It was an exciting journey through which we have advanced the global scientific role of the federation, while improving the transparency of internal processes of decision-making and encouraging national societies to be more actively involved in their role."

**Søren Jepsen (president, 2015-16):** "I had the great privilege to serve as EFP president in 2015-16 and to experience many highlights during this time. 2015 was an excellent year for the EFP. Important milestones included the extraordinary success of EuroPerio8 in London, the release of the far-reaching conclusions and guidelines from the 'Prevention Workshop', our delegation to the European Parliament in Brussels, the initiation and intensive preparations for the 2017 World Workshop on the Classification

## "The president works closely with the secretary general and treasurer"

of Periodontal and Peri-implant Diseases and Conditions, together with the American Academy of Periodontology. 2016 was the year when an EFP delegation visited the World Health Organization in Geneva, when our organisation launched a large media campaign "Periodontal health for a better life", and we celebrated our 25th anniversary in Berlin, where all previous EFP presidents were invited to attend."

**Juan Blanco (president, 2016-17):** "As president, I focused on trying to have a better union between all the national societies that belonged to the EFP and a more professional federation. Therefore, we formed the European project committee as a forum of discussion of Europe-wide projects between the EFP and the national societies. During this year, the head of operations was introduced and a new strategic plan approved."

**Anton Sculean (president, 2018-19):** "One remarkable achievement during my presidency was the decision to create a category of international associate members. During the general assembly in Bern, the EFP accepted six societies from countries outside of Europe as the first international associate members. Another initiative was to set the basis of an EFP project, 'Gum health tracker', focusing on periodontal health in elderly people."

**Filippo Graziani (president, 2019-20):** "My year as president saw the entrance of the first six international associate members, the launch of a new website, and a strategic meeting in Brussels which drafted a new strategic plan (2021-25). Perio Workshop 2019 draw up the EFP clinical practice guideline for the treatment of periodontitis stage I-III, which will have a lasting impact on the daily practice of clinicians worldwide."

**Xavier Struillou (president, 2020-21):** "As president, it was essential for me to establish direct discussions with the presidents and the representatives of our national societies, especially during the pandemic when all our traditional links were broken. All these meetings, organised by Mónica Guinea (EFP European co-ordinator), were moments of true exchanges and some of the best memories of my year of presidency. I'm really happy that Lior Shapira, who succeeded me as president, decided to continue this initiative to enhance the links between the EFP president and the national societies."

**Lior Shapira (president, 2021-22):** "There were two noteworthy achievements for the EFP during my presidency. During the last decade, the federation has had collaborative projects with other medical professionals – such as diabetologists and cardiologists – to emphasise the connection between periodontal health and systemic conditions. But those experts see only severe and hard-to-treat patients and do not focus on mild cases and prevention. The best target group for the EFP is family physicians, who see most patients and have disease prevention as their primary target. I initiated a collaboration between the EFP and European family physicians (WONCA Europe), which will promote oral health as part of general health. The second achievement was to implement my motto that 'good leadership means listening to the member societies', and I consulted with the national societies on many important and sometimes controversial issues and brought their opinions to the EFP management. My message to them was always: 'Your voice matters!'"

## The presidents of the EFP

1. Jean-Louis Giovannoli (France) 1992-1993
2. Mariano Sanz (Spain) 1993-1994
3. Pierre Baehni (Switzerland) 1994-1995
4. Lavinia Flores de Jacoby (Germany) 1995-1996
5. Ubele van der Velden (Netherlands) 1996-1997
6. Gil Alcoforado (Portugal) 1997-1998
7. David Hillam (UK) 1998-1999
8. Alki Andronikaki (Greece) 1999-2000
9. Gianfranco Carnevale (Italy), 2000-2001
10. Declan Corcoran (Ireland), 2001-2002
11. Michel Brex (Belgium), 2002-2003
12. Stefan Renvert (Sweden) 2003-2004
13. Morten Klepp (Norway) 2004-2005
14. Joanna Kamma (Greece) 2005-2006
15. Pier Paolo Cortellini (Italy) 2006-2007
16. Joerg Meyle (Germany) 2007-2008
17. Richard Palmer (UK) 2008-2009
18. Uroš Skalerič (Slovenia) 2009-2010
19. Korkud Demirel (Turkey) 2010-2011
20. Birgita von Troil (Finland) 2011-2012
21. Moshe Goldstein (Israel) 2012-2013
22. Michèle Reners (Belgium) 2013-2014
23. Phoebus Madianos (Greece) 2014-2015
24. Søren Jepsen (Germany) 2015-2016
25. Juan Blanco (Spain) 2016-2017
26. Gernot Wimmer (Austria) 2017-2018
27. Anton Sculean (Switzerland) 2018-2019
28. Filippo Graziani (Italy) 2019-2020
29. Xavier Struillou (France) 2020-2021
30. Lior Shapira (Israel) 2021-2022

## Future presidents

31. Andreas Stravropoulos (Sweden) 2022-23
32. Darko Božić (Croatia) 2023-24
33. Moritz Kebschull (Germany) 2024-25



EFP presidents gather at the 25th anniversary of the federation, Berlin 2016.





# The early years of the EFP

BY DAVID HILLAM

EFP secretary general 1991-98, EFP president 1998-99

My first involvement with what was to become the EFP was in 1988 when I was asked to represent the British Society of Periodontology (BSP), of which I was then president, at a meeting of the "European Co-ordination Committee in Periodontology", to be held in conjunction with the Xes Journées Françaises de Parodontologie, organised by the French Society of Periodontology in Marrakech, Morocco. The purpose of this committee was to improve communication between European periodontal societies and thereby avoid unnecessary duplication when inviting speakers to give papers at conferences. It would enable societies to compare the status of periodontology in their own countries with that of other territories in Europe and provide leverage for the weaker ones to improve their standing. In the same way, training programmes for specialist periodontists and hygienists could be compared, with the eventual hope of achieving uniformly high standards in all European countries.

There was unanimous agreement among all representatives at the meeting to support these objectives. However, some reservation was expressed that this new grouping might threaten the independence of individual societies, which could lead to their being subsumed within a larger bloc. Also, some national periodontal societies could not, at that time, issue policy statements themselves but had to express them via their national dental association. It was for these reasons that the decision was made early on that the new organisation would be a *federation* of independent societies and that all member societies must be able to represent periodontology for their own countries and express their views on the subject independently of any other body.

Thanks to the leadership of Ubele van der Velden, rapid progress was made over the next year in determining the objectives of the federation and the way forward. It was proposed that, to secure substantial discounts on the cost of the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*, all member societies should subscribe to the journal on behalf of their members. At the meeting held in 1989 in Santa Margherita in Italy, this idea was resisted by some representatives, especially those with a substantial number of members

who could not read English. It was also proposed that a scientific conference should be held and, if successful, should then be held every five years. This conference could, perhaps, eventually replace the highly successful North Sea Conference organised by the Dutch, Scandinavian, and British societies. In fact, following the success of EuroPerio1 (Paris, 1994) it was decided that the interval between EuroPerio conferences should be three years and the North Sea Conference were discontinued.

When the European Co-ordination Committee meeting for 1990 was being planned, the name "European Federation of Periodontology" had already been mentioned and at a meeting in May that year in Maastricht (Netherlands), proposals for the constitution and objectives of "the European Federation of Periodontology" were put forward. These were refined and formally adopted in December 1991 at a meeting in Amsterdam, so 1991 was the year that the EFP was formally inaugurated.

Recommended training programmes for postgraduate and undergraduate education in periodontology were promulgated and a system for inspection of the former was set up so that universities could advertise that their courses had EFP recognition. The Nordic countries, at first represented by the Scandinavian Society of Periodontology, were subsequently represented by separate Danish, Finnish, Norwegian, and Swedish societies. There were some problems as there were two periodontal societies in Denmark and delicate negotiations took place to resolve the matter.

Niklaus Lang set up the European Workshop in Periodontology, which had its first meeting in 1993. There was initially some confusion as to whether these workshops were formally part of the EFP but, following improved communication between the parties concerned, the matter was amicably resolved and the EFP had greater input to the subsequent workshops.

It has given me immense pleasure to see the EFP grow from being an ambition of a few people around a table to the strong, successful organisation that it is today. It has become, arguably, the most important voice for periodontology in the world and I am proud to have been present at its inception.

# Putting strategy into action

## THE SECRETARY GENERAL



**EFP secretaries general:** (from left) **David Hillam** (UK) 1991-1999, **Mariano Sanz** (Spain) 2000-2006, **Pierre Baehni** (Switzerland) 2006-2010, **Stefan Renvert** (Sweden) 2010-2016, **Iain Chapple** (UK) 2016-2019, **Nicola West** (UK) 2019-.

The EFP secretary general is the glue that holds the EFP triumvirate together, running the day-to-day business and managing the professional support team. The secretary general has overall responsibility for the running of the EFP and must work hand-in-hand with the president and treasurer to succeed. Responsibilities include reviewing and updating the strategic plan and the federation's objectives and having an overview of the operational plan created by the head of operations. Along with the treasurer, the secretary general serves as one of two EFP members on the management board of the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*.

### **Pierre Baehni (secretary general, 2006-2010)**

"In 2006, the EFP celebrated its 15th anniversary. By then, the federation had become a well-established entity. It had organised four successful Euro-Perio meetings and gained a certain fame in the field of periodontology in Europe. I recognised that it was time for the EFP to evolve, to mature and to become more robust. I saw the need to modify the EFP business model and to run activities in a more professional and effective way.

"Significant steps taken during my tenure as secretary general included developing strategic planning and remodelling the EFP management because we needed to adapt and upscale the structure with professional assistance in secretarial and financial activities, public relations, sponsor-

ship, and the organisation of meetings. Other important moves were accepting the World Health Organization's European region as our definition of Europe and liaising with international organisations such as the American Academy of Periodontology and the Asian Pacific Society of Periodontology."

### **Stefan Renvert (secretary general, 2010-2016)**

"During these years, the EFP moved from hiring a different professional conference organiser for each EuroPerio congress and signed a long-term contract with Mondial Congress & Events as our core organiser. A new committee focused on communications was created in 2010 with Edwin Winkel as chair and Nítida Branding was hired to provide communication support. My focus included developing the EFP website, disseminating the results of the EFP workshops, and introducing the *JCP Digest* to provide easy-to-read articles for practitioners.

"During my time as secretary general, the EFP's strategic plan was developed, to meet the needs of the national societies, and the general assembly was restructured to increase their input. Perio Master Clinic was introduced as a 'high end' meeting on specific topics, and we allocated many resources to our campaign, led by Nairn Wilson, to get periodontology recognised as a speciality by the European Union."

**"It was time for the EFP to mature and become more robust"**





# I am delighted that sustainability has been embraced by all

BY NICOLA WEST

EFP secretary general 2019-

I am honoured to serve as secretary general of the EFP and consider myself very fortunate to have taken over this responsibility from Iain Chapple, who has exceptional insight and experience in the federation. Over the last three years, I am proud to have produced tremendous multidirectional growth and increased the impact of the EFP with the support of my friends and colleagues.

One of my fondest achievements was co-leading the 2019-2025 Strategic Plan with Filippo Graziani, when I introduced a sustainability agenda for the EFP and wrote our *Sustainability Manifesto*. I am delighted that our sustainability programme has been embraced by all and is now a key consideration in all EFP initiatives, such as EuroPerio10, Perio Master Clinic 2020 when its chair Declan Corcoran flew the green flag in Dublin, and our partner projects. This, I hope, will enable the EFP to thrive in perpetuity.

I am proud to have been instrumental in our sustainability initiative, working with head of operations Sharon Legendre to integrate and implement sustainability across all remits of the EFP – our journey encompassing not only periodontology but dentistry as a whole. This takes long-term commitment and humility – humility to pay as much attention to what we have already achieved as to what remains to be undertaken. This journey is made possible only by engaging and working hand in hand with our stakeholders, putting sustainability at the heart of our strategy, and framing decisions in terms of their environmental, social, and human impact. We have adopted a forward-looking mindset, focusing on new opportunities – such as those that are present at our EuroPerio10 congress in June this year in Copenhagen – and adhering to our pillars of sustainability: sourcing responsibility, acting on climate change, being committed to circulating creativity, and fostering diversity and inclusion in supporting both individuals and communities. The EFP is committed to building a more sustainable future and a better working world for all.

Delivering on another goal of mine for the EFP – advancing the periodontal literature – I was delighted to commission two white papers from the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), the research and analysis division of the Economist Group. The first paper, published in 2021, covered the societal and

economic impact of periodontitis, and the second will focus on oral diseases, emphasising how oral health is a vital component of overall health and wellbeing. The EFP considers this to be an influential and unique opportunity to deliver on our strategic vision of "Periodontal health for a better life".

In addition to these initiatives, I have effectively managed the day-to-day operations of the EFP, notably guiding the organisation through General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and creating our EFP Virtual offering which encompasses Perio Sessions, Perio Talks, and the EuroPerio Virtual Series. EFP Virtual has succeeded in increasing the availability and diversity of our educational material, appealing to a wider audience across the world.

Recognition of the EFP's success was embodied in the Federation's winning the prestigious European Association of the Year Award in 2021, the initiative and application led by Sharon Legendre. The judges commented: "This sector experienced unique sets of challenges during the pandemic and this organisation appears to have met them head on. Successful overall achievements. Well done!"

As secretary general, my vision is to see that the profile and importance of periodontology – particularly in conjunction with its influence on health in general – continue to grow in recognition by the dental and medical professions, patients, and the public.

I would like to take this opportunity to champion the wonderful management team that work tirelessly behind the scenes, enabling the Federation to succeed. I am privileged to work with such an amazing team of Sharon Legendre, Mónica Guinea (European co-ordinator), and Cândice Gasperin (head of communications). Their output, creativity, dedication, and team spirit do credit to us all and we truly value their guidance, support, and friendship.

**"My vision is to see the profile and importance of periodontology continue to grow"**

# Investing for the future

## THE TREASURER



**EFP treasurers:** (From left) **Michel Brex** (Belgium) 1992-2000, **Edwin Winkel** (Netherlands) 2000-2007, **Iain Chapple** (UK) 2007-2013, **Joerg Meyle** (Germany) 2013-2019, **Monique Danser** (Netherlands) 2019-.

The EFP treasurer is arguably the most important position in the EFP as it involves defining and delivering the financial strategy and the day-to-day operational finances. The treasurer has very difficult decisions to make, because each EFP activity carries a cost – it is easy to spend money on valuable and impactful projects, but generating income is harder.

The most important source of income is EuroPerio and, unless each congress generates a surplus of between €1.0 million and €1.5 million, the EFP can rapidly descend into a negative balance. The treasurer therefore needs to generate operational income through the EFP's partnerships with industry and to develop and manage an investment portfolio. That way, even if a EuroPerio congress fails financially or is postponed, the EFP can not only survive but continue to thrive.

### **Michel Brex (treasurer, 1992-2000)**

"The federation's bank account was opened in Luxembourg. It was the first country to accept the EFP as a European entity. But at the time it was very difficult with all the different currencies and all the various laws. Finally, we made it!"

### **Iain Chapple (treasurer, 2007-2013)**

"Serving as EFP treasurer at a time of exponential growth was a huge privilege and honour. My main focus was developing the EFP partnerships, greater transparency in EFP financial operations, and increasing our reserves from €1.2 million to €3.1 million. I dissolved the European Economic Interest Group (EEIG) to simplify operations and supported Jean-Louis Giovannoli's new vision of the Perio Master Clinics."

### **Joerg Meyle (treasurer, 2013 - 2019)**

"Thanks to Iain Chapple and the board, we had a sound financial situation. The expanding activities and different projects created an increasing workload for the whole board

**"It is easy to spend money on valuable projects, but generating income is harder"**

and especially for the treasurer. I was keen to increase not only the scientific and translational activities but also the savings and investments, which sometimes caused some tension. We developed a budget to allocate sufficient financial resources to the different projects, while limiting expenses. I think that the two years of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic have told us that this strategy was correct."

### **Monique Danser (treasurer, 2019-)**

"During my time as treasurer, we have changed banks and started to invest in sustainable investments rather than just investing. I planned a strategy with our new bank to secure as much financial back-up for the EFP as possible while investing wisely and sustainably. Joerg had started to make the work of the treasurer more digital and without paper, and I have refined this aspect which is now working much more smoothly.

"These last two years, I have been able to present an overview of the EFP's finances to the members several weeks ahead of the general assembly, so that they can study it and prepare questions – something they had been asking for. I set up regular meetings with the partners, who now receive a complete overview of all our activities, to which they can respond and build extra actions, such as workshops and campaigns. Since the pandemic arrived, we have tried to reduce costs while spending in new areas of communication and education, such as webinars and online platforms."



# Twelve action-packed years of leadership

BY IAIN CHAPPLE

EFP treasurer 2007-13, EFP secretary general 2016-19

**M**y time in a leadership role at the EFP began in 2007 at the general assembly in Florence. I remember being very nervous about taking on the role of treasurer from Edwin Winkel as I inherited two organisations – the EFP AISBL (*association internationale sans but lucratif*), a non-profit association under Belgian law, and the EEIG (European Economic Interest Group), where we managed funds from industry such as the EuroPerio sponsorship and the monies from the EFP partners. At the time, the EFP had €1 million in the AISBL and €235,000 in the EEIG. These funds sound significant, but if one EuroPerio congress failed, the EFP would have been bankrupt! It was a challenge managing two organisations and filing end-of-year accounts in French. However, it was also a privilege and a truly wonderful experience working with like-minded, committed, intelligent, passionate, and friendly colleagues – we became friends and a cohesive EFP family.

As treasurer in those days, because you held the purse strings, you were also responsible for strategy, alongside the secretary general and president. Working with a great team, I drafted the strategic plans for 2008-2012 and 2013-2017, and I managed to dissolve the EEIG at the 2010 general assembly in Ljubljana, Slovenia, making EFP management so much simpler. In 2013, I persuaded Wiley (publisher of the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*) to allow the EFP to charge €31 for journal subscriptions while reimbursing Wiley only €29. This provided €2 per individual (a total €26,000) for Maurizio Tonetti as editor-in-chief to develop the *JCP*. Before completing my term as secretary in 2019, the charge had increased to €35, therefore ensuring that the new editor-in-chief, Panos Papapanou, will be able to innovate and grow the journal.

I had the honour of serving with seven presidents (Sandro Cortellini, Joerg Meyle, Richard Palmer, Uroš Skalerič, Korkud Demirel, Birgitta von Troil, Moshe Goldstein), all fantastic people and I ended my second term in Jerusalem at a truly memorable general assembly. One of my proudest moments was signing up our first EFP partners in 2009 – Dentaïd, followed by Sunstar & P&G (Oral-B). This provided funds to cover our annual running costs, ensuring that – for the first

time – the EFP could survive if a EuroPerio failed or was cancelled. I now reflect on this and how SARS-CoV-2 impacted our EuroPerio10 in Copenhagen (postponed from 2021 to 2022). Joerg Meyle, my successor as treasurer, and a great friend and colleague, inherited a balance of €3.04 million as we signed up more partners and EuroPerio became the biggest perio conference in the world.

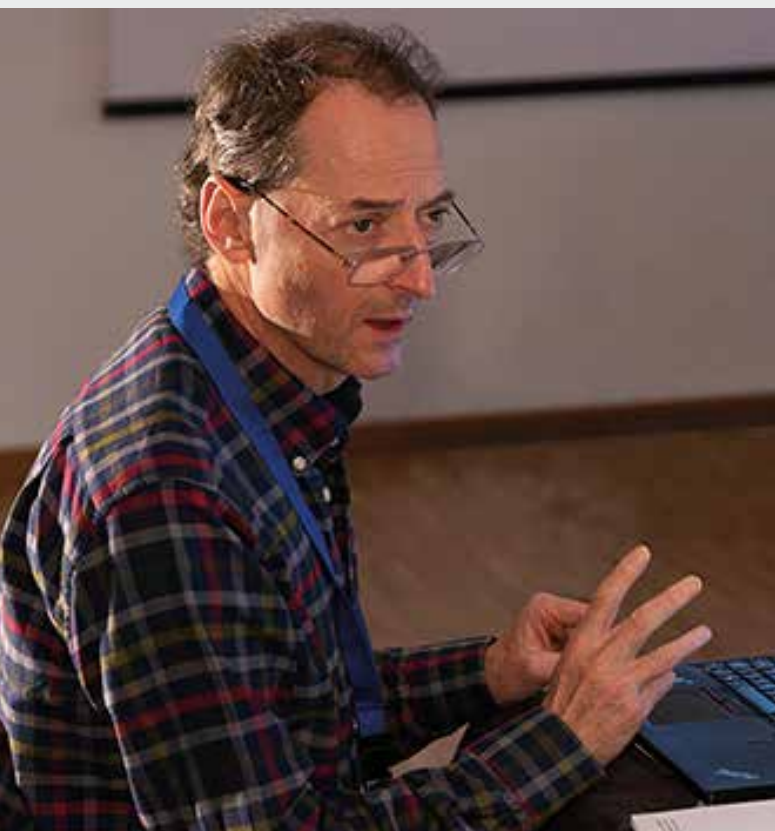
I must also mention the secretaries general with whom I worked, Pierre Baehni and Stefan Renvert

– passionate and committed EFP stalwarts who gave so much to the federation and were such a pleasure to work with. I must not forget Mónica Guinea, who ran the EFP finances day-to-day and supported me loyally and superbly throughout. I have wonderful memories of my time as EFP treasurer that I shall treasure in a different way for the rest of my life.

You never leave the EFP. It is in your blood, which makes it very hard when it is time to move on (both Pierre Baehni and Stefan Renvert had told me this). After I finished my term as treasurer in 2013, I was lucky to be asked to serve as chair of the scientific affairs committee, where I was able to launch the *JCP Digest* research summary – which had been a vision of Stefan – and have it translated into six languages.

**"You never leave the EFP – it is in your blood, which makes it hard when it's time to move on"**





## "I have lost count of the high-quality and effective EFP brands we have created in the last 12 years"

To become secretary general in 2016, after Stefan had completed his second term, was a huge privilege. My first task was to continue to professionalise the EFP: we had Mónica, but to grow we needed more professionals. Therefore, in 2016, acting on a tip-off from our communications consultant Javier García, we interviewed and immediately appointed Sharon Legendre as our head of operations, over dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn hotel in Frankfurt airport, one of Søren Jepsen's great venues for meetings. Sharon, having worked for the Spanish cardiology society, brought great experience, clarity, and a refreshing new way of working. Not long afterwards, we opened the first EFP office in Madrid – originally an idea of Joerg Meyle – a well-located small space for Sharon and Monica (and, later, Cândice Gasperin, who became our head of communications). I visited to crack open a bottle of champagne on the small communal terrace – a lovely event and great milestone.

I must also recognise Javier García, who for many years innovated in modernising the EFP in terms of social media, our image, and our ambition. It started when Mariano Sanz put me in the back of a taxi with Javier between the Complutense university and La Granja where we were holding one of the EFP workshops. Mariano had a wry smile on his face at the time and, after a 90-minute drive, "Perio for a better life" was born, alongside some very ambitious plans for a global EFP.

We still work closely with Javier's recruits – Diego Fontecha on camera, Santi Quiñones in communications, Paul Davies in editorial writing (who followed Peter Wix) – it sounds like a rock band, but the team did indeed rock and Sharon managed to somehow control us and keep us in order.

As chair of the scientific affairs committee and then secretary general, I was privileged to serve with another six great presidents (Michèle Reners, Phoebus Madianos, Søren Jepsen, Juan Blanco, Gernot Wimmer, and Anton Sculean), and with Joerg Meyle as treasurer, who invested wisely and elektronified the entire EFP finances. Joanna Kamma – ever present and critically important to the soul of the EFP – was always working hard and quietly so for the federation, playing a huge role via our newsletters and history documents.

Then came the first Perio Master Clinic (Paris, 2014), another visionary idea from Jean-Louis Giovannoli. I was sceptical at first and, as treasurer, reluctantly said "OK, let's try it." But I was wrong, because it was a great innovation and, like Jean-Louis' original idea for the EuroPerio congresses, Perio Master Clinic is now another strong EFP brand.

I have lost count of the EFP brands we created in the last 12 years, but they are all important, high-quality, and effective brands. There followed another strategic plan to write for 2017-2021, and an operational plan to deliver it. The latter, generated by Sharon, ensured we delivered the whole strategic plan by 2019 – ahead of schedule. The final act took place at EuroPerio9 in Amsterdam in June 2018, when we signed up our first international associate members – Mexico, Argentina, Taiwan, Australia, Brazil, and Lebanon – and I thank Toni Sculean as president at the time for his excellent ambassadorial role here.

I cannot finish without special mention of my great friend and crutch (a prop to lean on) Mariano Sanz, who throughout challenging times was always there, supporting me 100%. Wise, honest, loyal to the EFP and always demonstrating great equipoise – thank you, Mariano, for just being you!

# Democracy in action

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY



General assembly in Berlin, April 2016

The general assembly is the official governing body of the EFP and ultimately decides on key strategic issues and authorises the executive committee to act on behalf of the membership. Unlike, for example, the American Academy of Periodontology – whose members are individual practitioners – the EFP's members are the national societies of periodontology. Each society has an EFP representative who can vote at the general assembly on the society's behalf. The annual meetings of the general assembly are attended by each member society's president and EFP representative.

Voting members of the general assembly are the full EFP members, a category of membership for which certain criteria must be fulfilled. The society must be "European" according to the definition of the European region of the World Health Organization (which, in February 2020, included 53 countries). It must also show that it is the sole representative body for periodontology in its country and its competence as a representative periodontal society. The associate members do not have voting rights but can attend the general assembly and can speak during the meeting.

In 2019 the EFP introduced a new category of membership – international associate members – in recognition of the federation's global footprint and influence and the tremendous engagement of some non-European countries in EFP events such as EuroPerio, Perio Master Clinic, and Gum Health Day. The international associate members do not have voting rights, but a representative appointed by the group attends the

### The EFP's members are the national societies of periodontology

general assembly to take part in discussions and influence outcomes.

As it celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in December 2021, the EFP had 26 full members, four associate members, and seven international associate members.

The general assembly meets annually – usually in March –

and if critically important issues arise that require the body's agreement, extraordinary general assemblies can be held. Several of these have taken place over the years – to formally approve the accounts, to liquidate the original European Economic Interest Group (which had been the federation's instrument to deal with money, contracts, and congresses), and in 2020 because Covid-19 restrictions prevented the scheduled general assembly from taking place and the accounts needed to be approved by the body.

#### EFP general assemblies

<b>Paris, France</b>	12-14 June 1992
<b>Amsterdam, Netherlands</b>	12-13 December 1992
<b>Madrid, Spain</b>	16-17 June 1993
<b>Lisbon, Portugal</b>	10-11 December 1993
<b>Paris, France</b>	15 May 1994
<b>Florence, Italy</b>	9-10 December 1994
<b>Gothenburg, Sweden</b>	8 June 1995
<b>Istanbul, Turkey</b>	8-9 December 1995
<b>Geneva, Switzerland</b>	28-30 June 1996
<b>Brussels, Belgium</b>	7-8 December 1996
<b>Kronberg, Germany</b>	29-30 November 1997
<b>Athens, Greece</b>	28-29 November 1998
<b>Rome, Italy</b>	27-28 November 1999
<b>Dublin, Ireland</b>	8-9 December 2000
<b>Berlin, Germany</b>	8 December 2001
<b>Madrid, Spain</b>	14 December 2002
<b>Stockholm, Sweden</b>	13 December 2003
<b>Aix-en-Provence, France</b>	4 June 2004 (EGA)



# Running day-to-day activities

## THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



*Executive committee meeting, Stockholm, September 2007*

▶▶ Vienna, Austria	11 December 2004
Bordeaux, France	18 June 2005 (EGA)
Madrid, Spain	9-10 December 2005
Geneva, Switzerland	14 October 2006 (EGA)
Florence, Italy	24 February 2007
Stockholm, Sweden	8 September 2007 (EGA)
Munich, Germany	23 February 2008
London, UK	28 February 2009
Amsterdam, Netherlands	19 September 2009 (EGA)
Ljubljana, Slovenia	27 February 2010
Istanbul, Turkey	5 March 2011
Helsinki, Finland	3 March 2012
Barcelona, Spain	5 October 2012 (EGA)
Jerusalem, Israel	15 March 2013
Brussels, Belgium	22 March 2014
Athens, Greece	28 March 2015
Berlin, Germany	23 April 2016
Santiago de Compostela, Spain	1 April 2017
Vienna, Austria	17 March 2018
Bern, Switzerland	30 March 2019
Online	21 April 2020 (EGA)
Online	3 October 2020
Online	20 March 2021
Vienna, Austria	26 March 2022

**Note:** The assemblies held online in April and October 2020 had been due to take place in Pisa, Italy while that of March 2021 had been scheduled to be held in Nantes, France.

EGA = Extraordinary General Assembly

The EFP's executive committee is the governing body that runs the federation's day-to-day business on behalf of the general assembly. The executive committee has a mandate from the general assembly to represent the member societies and is accountable for its actions to the assembly. The key strategic decisions taken by the executive committee are presented at the annual general assembly for approval. The committee has broad representation and comprises seven voting members – the current president, the previous president, the president-elect, the secretary general, the treasurer, and two members who are elected by the general assembly and who later become presidents under the "ladder" scheme – together with non-voting members comprising the committee chairs, the

JCP editor-in-chief, and two additional members (experienced advisers or former senior officers). The president serves a one-year term, while the other committee members are elected for terms of three years, renewable for a further three years.

In theory, motions can be passed by simple majority of the executive committee's seven members. However, this is considered to be unhealthy, and the committee has always sought to achieve a consensus without any need for a vote. In this way, any "politics" that might arise within this small group of seven voting members is avoided or diluted, and the broader interests of the EFP members (the national societies) are better represented. Minutes of the executive committee meetings are taken by the European co-ordinator, and meetings are also attended by the head of operations and the newsletter editor, to help in the dissemination of key decisions to the broader membership.

The way that the executive committee operates is governed by various by-laws and working documents. In 2016, the general assembly agreed that there could also be meetings of the "core executive committee" – the seven voting members plus two senior advisers – to discuss the most critical issues for the EFP. In parallel, the committee chairs meet with their teams to prepare for the meeting of the full executive committee, at which the suggestions of the core committee are debated and consensus sought. This new approach has proven to be more efficient.



# Education

## AT THE HEART OF THE EFP'S MISSION

Education has always been fundamental to the EFP's mission. Among the federation's founding aims were the promotion of "equal and high standards in the countries of the member societies" in undergraduate and postgraduate education, together with the creation of postgraduate training centres recognised by the EFP with minimal requirements established for a periodontal specialisation programme.

The EFP's work in education started in 1993 with committees on under- and postgraduate education chaired respectively by Mariano Sanz and Ubele van der Velden. In 1996 these committees produced two booklets – on curricular guidelines in undergraduate education and on standards in postgraduate programmes in periodontology – which were distributed to the deans of all dental schools and the heads of all periodontology departments in Europe, and to national societies of periodontology, the Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE), the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP), and the Fédération Dentaire Internationale (FDI). These guidelines were updated in 2005 (undergraduate) and 2009 (postgraduate).

The EFP's work in postgraduate education has been chaired by Ubele van der Velden (1996-2014) and Moshe Goldstein (since 2014), and in undergraduate education by Joerg Meyle (2007-10), Korkud Demirel (2010-2016), and Philip Preshaw (since 2016).

**Postgraduate education:** In 1996, the education committee produced the document *Quality standards for graduate programmes in periodontology*, which outlined the requirements for an EFP-accredited programme in periodontology. These guidelines were updated in 2005 by Ubele van der Velden and Mariano Sanz, defining the curriculum and competencies in line with the Bologna Process on higher-education qualifications.

In 2009, the seventh EFP European Workshop in Periodontology (see pages 24-25) was held at La Granja de San Ildefonso in Spain in conjunction with the Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE) with the focus on defining the scope and content

of postgraduate programmes – and undergraduate education in periodontology – and the outcomes of training.

The postgraduate education committee sets the standards for the programmes and oversees the examination of candidates to ensure consistency of standards and the full breadth of the curriculum. EFP-accredited programmes receive formal visits for re-accreditation every eight years. The first two programmes to receive EFP accreditation, in 1998, were the Academic Centre for Dentistry Amsterdam (ACTA) in the Netherlands (directed by Ubele van der Velden) and the University of Bern in Switzerland (directed by Niklaus Lang). A total of 18 programmes in 12 countries were accredited at the start of the 2021-22 academic year and three other programmes have at some point been accredited by the EFP. In 2018, the first programme at a university outside a country with an EFP member society joined the programme – the University of Hong Kong, whose programme was at that time directed by Maurizio Tonetti, then editor of the EFP's *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*.

**Undergraduate education:** The EFP has played an important role in establishing recommended curriculum content and outcomes for the teaching of periodontology at undergraduate level and in trying to raise standards and establish greater consistency. One outcome of the 2009 workshop with ADEE was the publication of a position paper and consensus view on the scope, competences, learning outcomes, and methods of periodontal education within the undergraduate dental curriculum. This document replaced the 1996 booklet *Curricular Guidelines in Undergraduate Education*, which had been used by higher-education institutions when reviewing their teaching of periodontology and implant dentistry. In 2016, the EFP conducted a survey of undergraduate education in periodontology in Europe and found great diversity in teaching methodology. It was concluded that the EFP could develop and disseminate a set of minimum recommendations to harmonise undergraduate periodontal education and assessment.



Trinity College  
Dublin



Complutense University  
Madrid



Universitat Internacional  
de Catalunya,  
Barcelona



ACTA  
Amsterdam



Hadassah-Hebrew  
University Medical Center  
Jerusalem



Diderot University  
Rothschild Hospital  
Paris



Institute of Odontology,  
Sahlgrenska Academy  
Gothenburg



Bern  
University



Strasbourg  
University



Yeditepe University  
Istanbul



KU LEUVEN  
Catholic University  
Leuven



UCL  
Eastman Dental Institute  
London



Rambam Health  
Care Campus  
Haifa



Hong Kong  
University



Turin  
University



University  
of Liège



GHENT UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF MEDICINE  
AND HEALTH SCIENCES  
Ghent  
University



King's College  
London

## EFP Alumni

EFP Alumni is a community that represents periodontists who have received the EFP certificate after completing their masters' courses at one of the accredited programmes, together with members of the faculties that teach the courses.

The executive-committee meeting in Königstein, Germany in October 2017 approved a five-member board for EFP Alumni, chaired by Filippo Graziani (then elected board member, president of the EFP in 2019-20), with the other members comprising Moshe Goldstein as chair of the postgraduate education committee, the "second year" elected member of the executive committee, and two elected representatives of the alumni. The first two elected alumni, chosen at the 2017 postgraduate symposium, were Bruno de Carvalho (University of Liège) and Myroslav Solonko (Complutense University of Madrid).

EFP Alumni brings together alumni of the EFP-accredited programmes to connect with each other and collaborate. One of its goals is to closely follow the professional paths of its alumni while also developing a cultural identity and a feeling of integration with the wider EFP community. The first big event organised for EFP Alumni was the "Perio Talks" session and EFP Alumni seminar at EuroPerio9 in Amsterdam in June 2018.

*Perio Life*, the magazine of EFP Alumni, launched in March 2021 and is published twice a year. It presents articles about and by alumni, but it is much more than the house magazine of EFP Alumni – the material is aimed at the wider periodontal and dental community, including those who may be interested in training on one of the EFP-accredited courses.

Country	Institute	Accreditation year	Director (nomination year)	Previous programme directors
Belgium	Catholic University Leuven	2001	Prof. Wim Teughels (2020)	Prof. Daniel van Steenberghe (2001-07) Prof. Marc Quirynen (2007-20)
Belgium	University of Liège	2016	Prof. France Lambert (2020)	Prof. Eric Rompen (2016-20)
Belgium	Ghent University Hospital	2021	Prof. Jan Cosyn (2021)	
France	University of Strasbourg	2010	Prof. Olivier Huck (2019)	Prof. Henri Tenenbaum (2010-2019)
France	Rothschild Hospital, Paris	2012	Dr Maria Clotilde Carra (2022)	Prof. Philippe Bouchard (2012-2021)
Hong Kong	University of Hong Kong	2019	Prof. George Pelekos (2021)	Prof. Maurizio Tonetti (2019-2021)
Ireland	University of Dublin, Trinity College	2007	Dr Ioannis Polyzois (2013)	Prof. Noel Claffey (2007-2013)
Israel	The Hebrew University Hadassah Medical Center, Jerusalem	2003	Prof. Moshe Goldstein (2006)	Prof. Aubrey Soskolne (2003-2006)
Israel	Rambam University Hospital Faculty of Medicine, Technion, Haifa	2008	Prof. Eli E. Machtei (2008)	
Italy	University of Turin	2017	Prof. Mario Aimetti (2017)	
Netherlands	Academic Centre for Dentistry Amsterdam	1998	Prof. Bruno Loos (2017)	Prof. Ubele van der Velden (1998-2017)
Spain	Universidad Complutense de Madrid	2002	Prof. Mariano Sanz (2002)	
Spain	Universitat Internacional de Catalunya, Barcelona	2015	Prof. José Nart (2015)	
Sweden	The Sahlgrenska Academy at Gothenburg University	2000	Prof. Jan Derks (2022)	Prof. L. Heijl (2000-2012) Prof. Ingemar Abrahamsson (2012-2022)
Switzerland	University of Bern	2008	Prof. Giovanni E. Salvi (2008)	Prof. Niklaus Lang (1998-2008)
Turkey	Yeditepe University, Istanbul	2005	Prof. Bahar Kuru (2016)	Prof. Selcuk Yilmaz (2005-2016)
United Kingdom	UCL Eastman Dental Institute University College, London	2000	Dr Francesco D'Aiuto (2017)	Prof. Maurizio Tonetti (2000-2005) Prof. Nikolaos Donos (2005-2017)
United Kingdom	King's College London Dental Institute	2021	Prof. Luigi Nibali (2021)	

Three other programmes have been EFP-accredited in the past, at the universities of Nijmegen (Netherlands), Jönköping (Sweden), and Tel Aviv (Israel).

# Biennial postgraduate symposium in periodontology



**5th EFP Postgraduate Symposium**  
**Lommel, Belgium** 19-22 September 2013



**6th EFP Postgraduate Symposium**  
**San Lorenzo de El Escorial, Spain** 17-19 September 2015

The EFP organises a biennial postgraduate symposium involving second- and third-year students of the accredited programmes, together with the programme directors and co-ordinators. The symposium provides opportunities for the postgraduate students to present their clinical or research work. It is also intended to encourage networking between students of the various programmes. Each symposium, attended by around 100 students and members of faculty, is organised by a different programme.

The initiative to create the symposium came from Ubele van der Velden (chair of the postgraduate education committee, 1996-2014) and Mariano Sanz (secretary general, 2000-2006).

"The postgraduate symposium is a special and unique event, which brings together students and teachers from all the accredited programmes," says current chair of postgraduate education Moshe Goldstein. "There is sharing of scientific knowledge and clinical expertise combined with social activities. These meetings have a catalytic effect towards the improvement of each programme, and we have been able to observe how the levels of the clinical cases as well as the research projects presented have improved from one symposium to another."

Eight symposia have been held:

- 1. Münchenwiler, Switzerland**  
(30 September-1 October 2005)
- 2. Heerlickheijd van Ermelo, Netherlands**  
(31 August-1 September 2007)
- 3. Istanbul, Turkey**  
(3-6 September 2009)
- 4. Old Windsor, UK**  
(1-4 September 2011)
- 5. Lommel, Belgium**  
(19-22 September 2013)
- 6. San Lorenzo de El Escorial, Spain**  
(17-19 September 2015)
- 7. Dublin, Ireland**  
(7-9 September 2017)
- 8. Lerum, Sweden**  
(5-7 September 2019)

The ninth symposium due to be held in September 2021 in Blankenberge, Belgium, on 1-3 September 2022.





# 25 years of EFP postgraduate education

BY MOSHE GOLDSTEIN

Chair, EFP postgraduate education committee 2014-2023

Since the day of its formation, a major goal of the EFP has been the promotion of postgraduate education in periodontology. One of the more important ways to achieve this goal was the establishment of an accreditation system for postgraduate education centres that would set a high level of training in periodontology and thus advance periodontal education and clinical practice in the countries of EFP member societies.

The task was put in the hands of Professor Ubele van der Velden from the Netherlands and a postgraduate education committee was formed. In 1996, this committee produced the document *Quality standards for graduate programmes in periodontology* and an EFP process for accrediting a postgraduate education centre was established. This process has two parts.

First, the documentation. The programme director must present a series of documents regarding four quality requirements from the programme. These relate to the qualifications of the director, the programme, the training facility, and the periodontal service provided. The documents are evaluated by the board of the postgraduate education committee.

Then comes the site visit. If the documents provided by the programme provide adequate qualification, a site visit is organised where the visiting committee physically evaluates the programme in all its aspects during a two-day visit. After positive evaluation, the programme receives a formal accreditation letter from the EFP and a certificate.

To achieve EFP accreditation, a training centre needs to prove high levels of clinical, educational, and research activity. The members of the teaching faculty must be exceptionally trained and demonstrate prominent clinical and scientific experience.

Thanks to the tenacious work over the years of the members of the postgraduate education committee and the EFP executive committee, this system has developed and grown. Today, the EFP accredited programmes enjoy a prestigious status, national and international recognition of their faculty members, and high-quality proof of their graduates wherever they practise.

Many postgraduate programme directors and their faculty, even though they already had well-established programmes, decided to join this project and invested the necessary efforts

to do so. As the EFP has become a global leader in the field of periodontology, nowadays the EFP accreditation system is open to postgraduate education centres from anywhere in the world and not only to programmes from countries with EFP member societies.

The first education centres were accredited in 1998 and today the prestigious programme has 18 accredited postgraduate training centres in 12 countries: Belgium, France, Hong Kong, Italy, Ireland, Israel, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and the United Kingdom. Other programmes are preparing to join and are at different stages of evaluation.

As of today, more than 600 students from 61 countries have completed the EFP postgraduate programme and received EFP certification.

A special and unique event for the accredited programmes is the EFP Postgraduate Symposium, a two-day event held every two years that brings together students and teachers from all the accredited programmes. During these two days, there is sharing of scientific knowledge and clinical expertise combined with social activities. These meetings have a catalytic effect towards the improvement of each programme, and we have been able to observe how the levels of the clinical cases as well as the research projects presented have improved from one symposium to the other.

Another prominent achievement of these symposia is the personal encounter and the friendship between students from different countries, a key for possible future scientific, academic, and clinical co-operation after graduation. The general feeling at the EFP Postgraduate Symposium is of a "scientific party" with an excellent professional ambience and special friendship.

When evaluating the achievements of the last 25 years, it can be noted with satisfaction that the original goals of the EFP regarding postgraduate periodontal education have been accomplished. The next goal is to have accredited postgraduate training centres in all countries with EFP member societies. This, together with the accreditation of programmes from non-EFP member countries, will allow the EFP to be the major leader in global periodontal postgraduate education as it is already in the scientific and clinical aspects of our profession.

# The long campaign for recognition of periodontology as a speciality

Gaining recognition of periodontology as a dental speciality in the European Union is one of the EFP's key objectives. The federation believes that EU speciality recognition would free periodontists from bureaucratic problems by enabling greater professional mobility and would also boost the exchange of knowledge, increase graduate applications, aid training, and increase access for patients, as well as result in improvements in patient services.

At present, periodontology is recognised as a speciality in 11 of the 27 members of the EU: Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, and Romania. It is also recognised by the UK.

When the European Directive on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications was approved in 2005, for a speciality to be recognised by the European Union there first needed to be recognition in two fifths of member states (at the time the EU had 24 member states and periodontology was recognised in 11, well below the threshold).

In 2006, the position paper "Periodontology as a Recognised Dental Speciality in Europe" – written by Mariano Sanz, Ubele van de Velden, Daniel van Steenberghe, and Pierre Baehni – was published as a guest editorial in the June 2006 issue of *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*.

In June 2011, a European Commission green paper on specialisation in medicine proposed that, for EU recognition, the number of EU countries in which a discipline needed to be recognised as a speciality be reduced from two out of five to one out of three. Under this proposal, periodontology would be eligible for consideration for recognition.

In August 2011, Iain Chapple wrote on behalf of the EFP to the European Commission in strong support of this proposal and the following year the EFP's campaign for the recognition of periodontology as a speciality at the EU began, with Professor Nairn Wilson, former dean and head of the King's College London Dental Institute, appointed as strategic executive officer to drive the project, with support from consultancy firm Hill & Knowlton Strategies.

In October 2014, Nairn Wilson met EU officers in Brussels to discuss updating Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications for dental specialties in Europe to facilitate the recognition of periodontology. The European

Commission agreed to proceed with this plan and support came from several EU states, notably Romania, Portugal, Sweden, and the UK, while Germany indicated that it would not oppose EU secondary legislation to have periodontology added to Annex V of the Professional Qualifications Directive.

The EFP's efforts continued with successful advocacy visits to encourage other member states to support the proposal and a meeting on 11 March 2015 between Prof Wilson, Hill & Knowlton, and Martin Frohn, head of the EU unit of free movement of professionals, showed encouraging results.

In September 2019, recognition of periodontology as a speciality was discussed at a meeting of the EU group of co-ordinators (GoCs) for professional qualifications and freedom of movement. A unanimous vote by all 11 countries that currently recognise and regulate periodontology as a speciality was needed at this meeting to have the issue placed on the agenda of the European Parliament. Unfortunately, Sweden – which wished to maintain a national process to assess everyone seeking entry to a speciality list – voted against the proposal and the process of recognition was blocked. Unless Sweden changes its position (which is considered unlikely), the EFP must wait for more EU states to independently recognise periodontology before returning to lobbying to get this issue back on the GoC agenda.

In some EU states, there has been strong resistance to speciality recognition from dental associations, worried that the recognition of more dental specialties may limit the scope of practice of general dental practitioners. But, as Nairn Wilson points out, "No dental association in countries that recognise and regulate periodontology and other distinct branches of dentistry wish to have the awards of speciality status reversed. Speciality status is descriptive, not restrictive."



**Nairn Wilson**  
EFP strategic executive officer,  
2012-2019

# Leading the world in evidence-based science

## PERIO WORKSHOP



The workshop committee is responsible for managing and delivering the globally influential European Workshop in Periodontology, which now operates under the brand of Perio Workshop. These workshops bring together experts from across the world – typically between 80 and 100 scientists are involved in each edition – to review the latest scientific evidence on key topics in periodontology and implant dentistry and reach a consensus. These meetings have drawn up a new classification of periodontal and peri-implant diseases, developed clinical practice guidelines that will shape everyday practice by dentists and periodontists for many years, and evaluated the evidence on the links between periodontal and systemic diseases. Other topics covered have included bone regeneration, periodontal plastic surgery, and the most effective ways to prevent periodontal disease.

Perio Workshop is one of the EFP's main activities because it establishes the knowledge base of the different areas of periodontology on a global scale. These expert meetings encourage the spread of knowledge through the establishment of systematic reviews, structured literature reviews, and consensus agreements of great relevance and impact to the scientific community.

The first workshops were famously run by Klaus Lang (Switzerland) in a renovated monastery in Ittigen, Switzerland, first under the auspices of the European Academy of Periodontology and then under a standing committee of the EFP, the workshop committee. These workshops were initially every three years and were substantial undertakings involving detailed narrative reviews of the literature that were debated and developed into consensus publications. Authors arrived with suitcases full of paper manuscripts – these workshops

pre-dated the era of digital publications – and participants worked through the night to reach conclusions within the allotted timeframes. Appropriate to the environment – a former Carthusian monastery – these workshops took the form of a type of conclave in which delegates were confined to the grounds until proceedings were concluded.

Five workshops took place in this manner until 2008, when Klaus Lang retired as chair of the workshop committee and was succeeded by Mariano Sanz (Spain), who moved the workshop to the stunning environment of La Granja de San Ildefonso, near Segovia in Spain. Just as Ittigen had become legendary with a unique personality and quality, La Granja developed its own style, with systematic reviews starting to inform the working groups, shorter working days of 11-12 hours, and iconic dinners with suckling pig, a speciality of the region.

The workshops became annual events and the EFP's scientific impact was strengthened via the joint workshops with the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP), the "world workshops" held in 2012 on periodontal and systemic diseases and in 2017 on the new classification, the latter taking place in Chicago. Other workshops have been held in partnership with relevant organisations, such as ADEE (European Association of Dental Education), ORCA (European Organisation for Caries Research), and the Osteology Foundation.

In 2020, David Herrera succeeded Mariano Sanz as chair of the workshop committee and the 17<sup>th</sup> workshop – which drew up the EFP S3-level clinical practice guideline on the treatment of stage IV periodontitis – was held in November 2021, having been postponed from the previous year because of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.



"EFP workshops have put the EFP and Europe in the forefront of global periodontology," says Mariano Sanz. "The knowledge base that originated in these workshops has set the path of current prevention and therapeutic periodontal care throughout the world."

For David Herrera, since the very beginning "the European Workshop has been one of the most important scientific events in dentistry." He says that, as the current chair of the workshop committee, "I have the honour of organising the workshops that will continue the challenging task of developing S3-level EFP clinical practice guidelines, which are becoming the reference for clinical practice worldwide."

As well as professors Lang, Sanz, and Herrera – who all chaired both the committee and the proceedings of the workshops – an important role has been played at the workshops by other leading periodontal scientists, notably the chairs of the working groups (typically there are four working groups at each workshop, reviewing the evidence in different areas) and the editors of the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*.



Major contributions have been made by Thorkild Karring, Jan Lindhe, Denis Kinane, Maurizio Tonetti, Iain Chapple, Søren Jepsen, Tord Berglundh, Anton Sculean, Moritz Kebschull, and Panos Papapanou.

The proceedings of the first three workshops were published by Quintessence Publishing and the findings of all workshops since 2002 have been published in open-access monographic supplements of the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*.

### World workshops

The workshops of 2012 and 2017 were "world workshops", jointly organised by the EFP and the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP). The 2012 workshop on periodontitis and systemic diseases involved over 90 of the world's leading dental experts in an intense scientific review of evidence linking oral diseases to general illnesses in three areas: diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and pregnancy.

In November 2017, the World Workshop on Periodontal and Peri-implant Diseases and Conditions took place in Chicago, USA, to draw up a new classification of periodontal and peri-implant diseases and conditions that updated the previous classification of 1999. The new classification was presented formally by the two organisations at the EuroPerio9 congress in Amsterdam on 22 June 2018.

### European Workshop in Periodontology (Perio Workshop)

- 1993: **Ittigen**. Clinical practice of periodontology.
- 1996: **Ittigen**. Chemicals in periodontics.
- 1999: **Ittigen**. Implant dentistry.
- 2002: **Ittigen**. Periodontal practice.
- 2005: **Ittigen**. Aetiology and pathogenesis leading to preventive concepts.
- 2008: **La Granja**. Contemporary periodontics.
- 2009: **La Granja**. EFP-ADEE (European Association of Dental Education). Periodontal education.
- 2010: **La Granja**. The biology of periodontal and peri-implant diseases.
- 2011: **La Granja**. Quality of reporting of experimental research in implant dentistry.
- 2012: **La Granja**. EFP-AAP. World Workshop. Periodontitis and systemic diseases.
- 2013: **La Granja**. Periodontal plastic surgery and soft-tissue regeneration.
- 2014: **La Granja**. Effective prevention of periodontal and peri-implant diseases.
- 2016: **La Granja**. EFP-ORCA (European Organisation for Caries Research). Boundaries between caries and periodontal diseases.
- 2017: **Chicago**. EFP-AAP. World Workshop on the classification of periodontal and peri-implant diseases and conditions.
- 2018: **La Granja**. EFP-Osteology Foundation. Bone regeneration.
- 2019: **La Granja**. Evidence-based guideline for periodontal therapy, stages I-III periodontitis (EFP S3-level clinical practice guideline).
- 2021: **La Granja**. Evidence-based guideline for periodontal therapy, stage IV periodontitis (EFP S3-level clinical practice guideline).

### Future workshops

- 2022: **La Granja**. Evidence-based guideline for peri-implant therapy (EFP S3-level clinical practice guideline).
- 2023: **La Granja**. Periodontal education at different levels: undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education.



# My 30 years serving the EFP

BY MARIANO SANZ

**President 1993, chair of the undergraduate education committee 1993-1996, secretary general 1998-2005, chair of the workshop committee 2008-2020, chair of EuroPerio5 (2006), and scientific chair of EuroPerio2 (1997) and EuroPerio8 (2015)**

About half of my life has been dedicated to serving the EFP, so I have many personal experiences linked to this organisation. Thanks to the EFP, I have not only gathered friends for life but have also grown as a professional and as a human being.

Everything started in December 1991 when I represented the Spanish Society of Periodontology (SEPA) at the inaugural EFP meeting in Amsterdam. I was then 33 years' old, president-elect of SEPA, and had a huge yearning for doing things beyond the borders of my home country. Already in 1989, only two years after I returned from my training in USA, I had participated as a member of the organising committee of the AAP World Workshop and it was there that I met Jan Lindhe, who taught me how to interact with other key opinion leaders and who opened my eyes to the notion that the future of periodontology should thrive in Europe rather than the USA. With this idea, a very small group of enthusiasts started the EFP in 1991.

We soon realised that the best way to gather strength in Europe was to organise a European perio congress and so EuroPerio1 was held in 1994. Our resources and manpower were then so limited that we shared the economic responsibility of the congress with an entrepreneur (Claude Labouse), and Jean-Louis Giovannoli, Edwin Winkel, and I signed the contract on behalf of the EFP with our personal assets, as the founding societies of the EFP did not have any mandate to take financial responsibility.

Fortunately, EuroPerio1 was a success and the relevance of EuroPerio congresses has not stopped rising since then. Under the leadership of Massimo de Sanctis, the organisational skills of Edwin Winkel, and with my contribution in designing the scientific programme, EuroPerio2 in Florence attracted close to 3,500 delegates. These first two EuroPerio congresses not only assured the financial stability of the EFP but demonstrated to our profession in Europe that the federation was a reliable organisation.

At the same time, the EFP needed to become the scientific and academic reference for periodontology in Europe. In 1993, Ubele van der Velden took responsibility for developing the EFP postgraduate programme and I played a similar role with undergraduate periodontal education. It was not easy at first to convince well-established periodontal departments across Europe that the EFP should be the reference centre for education and research in our speciality. The greatest opposition came from the European Academy of Periodontology (EAP), led by Klaus Lang, Jan Lindhe, and Daniel Van Steenberghe.

This organisation ran the European Workshop in Periodontology which, under Klaus Lang's leadership, held successful consensus meetings in 1993 and 1996. With a lot of perseverance and diplomacy, I convinced Jan Lindhe and Klaus Lang to join forces and the EAP eventually became the workshop committee of the EFP in 1999 when the third workshop was organised. In parallel, the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*, edited by Jan Lindhe, was adopted as the EFP's official journal.

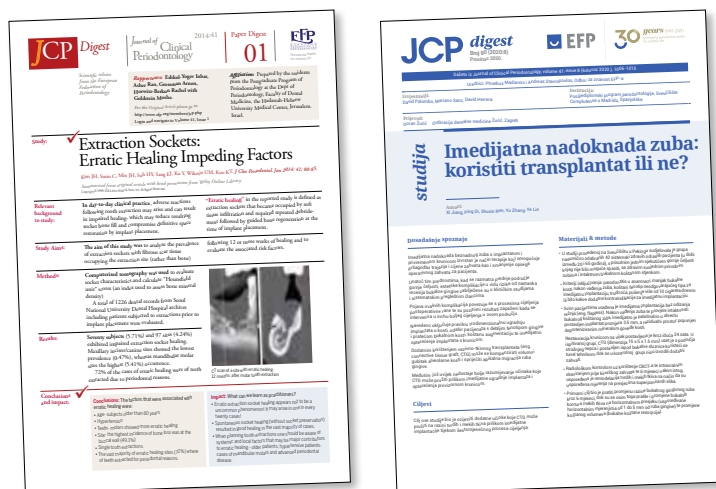
It was also important to develop the EFP as a European legal entity and, when I was secretary general – with the help of Edwin Winkel, Michel Brex, and David Hillam – the EFP finally acquired European legal status in 2002 when the government of Belgium published the federation's constitution and by-laws as a non-profit international organisation. During my 12 years as EFP secretary general, I had to co-ordinate many activities, with the support of the chairs of the standing committees, who successfully led the different working areas of our organisation: Ubele van der Velden and Moshe Goldstein in postgraduate education, Pierre Baehni and Søren Jepsen in research, Klaus Lang in organising workshops, Jan Lindhe and Maurizio Tonetti as *JCP* editors, Jean-Louis Giovannoli in organising EuroPerio congresses, Edwin Winkel and Joanna Kamma in creating a communications centre, while EFP executives such as Joerg Meyle, Stefan Renvert, and Iain Chapple were all fundamental in shaping this organisation.

Another important milestone in my contribution to the EFP was the organisation of EuroPerio5 in Madrid in 2006, which attracted more than 6,000 delegates and participants from all over the world. In 2008, during the sixth European Workshop in Periodontology, Professor Lang expressed his wish to end his chairmanship and I took this responsibility during the following 12 years, when the workshops were moved to La Granja in Spain and were organised annually rather than every three years. These workshops have established the knowledge base of modern periodontology, not only in Europe, but globally. I have particularly enjoyed organising these meetings, which has allowed me to liaise with the brightest luminaries in our field.

Over these 30 years, I am very proud to have been able to sit in the front row in this fantastic voyage, where the collective work of many people has put this organisation at the forefront of modern oral-health sciences and where the EFP has become not only the most powerful European organisation in dentistry, but also the most important global source of science transfer and education in periodontology and oral sciences.

# Focusing on research

## THE SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE



In 1992, the EFP established a research committee comprising Gil Alcoforado and Michel Brex to investigate how the EFP could promote research activity in furtherance of its objectives. In 1995, Mariano Sanz reported on the status of European research grants and, the following year, Pierre Baehni started to explore the possibility of establishing a European Periodontal Research Group, linked to the Periodontal Research Group of the International Association of Dental Research (IADR) as well as to the JCP Research Group and the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*. Between 1998 and 2000, the committee – chaired by Pierre Baehni, with Arie Jan van Winkelhof, Søren Jepsen, and Joanna Kamma as members – created a document that set out the mission, aims, scientific objectives, and primary milestones for the committee. The thus refreshed committee had the task of developing a resource centre for European research projects in periodontology and developing a database of research centres in Europe which included their main research lines.

In 2001, with Søren Jepsen now in the chair, the committee started a survey on periodontal research in Europe, with the aim of providing members of EFP-affiliated national societies with profiles of the various European research centres. The objective was to create a database available on the EFP website, provide the information necessary for the establishment of international networks of competence that could qualify for European funding, encourage international collaboration, and promote the efficacy of periodontal research in Europe. The survey was completed in 2006.

In 2003, the committee established an annual prize for research carried out at the EFP postgraduate programmes in periodontology and the first prize was awarded in 2004 (see

page 41). The committee was also involved in the selection of abstracts for presentation at the EuroPerio congresses.

In March 2013, the executive committee asked Iain Chapple to re-establish this committee in line with the strategic plan for 2013-17 whose objectives included “to promote research in all aspects of periodontology, including implant dentistry, with wide dissemination and application of research findings to enhance patient and public awareness and promote the

practice of evidence-based care”. As a result, the scientific affairs committee was established in 2014, responsible for research activities emerging from the three major EFP scientific activities – the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*, the EuroPerio congress, and the European Workshop in Periodontology. The committee’s promotion of research is manifested through the publication of *JCP Digest*, in the editing of *Perio Insight*, and in the content of EFP press releases.

The research committee was chaired by Gil Alcoforado and Michel Brex (1992-94), Mariano Sanz (1995), Pierre Baehni (1996-2000), and Søren Jepsen (2001-2013). The scientific affairs committee has been chaired by Iain Chapple (2014-16) and Phoebus Madianos (2016-22).

### Periodontal Practice Committee (2000-2008)

This short-lived committee was created to develop a strategy towards specialisation in periodontology in Europe, to develop position papers on therapeutic approaches in periodontics, to develop guidelines of periodontal practice, and to help develop evidence-based protocols in periodontal practice.

Chaired by Daniel Etienne (France) throughout its eight years, the committee undertook two questionnaire-based surveys of members of EFP-affiliated national societies of periodontology. The first survey was on demographics and insurance and was designed to have an impact on designing new European strategies to promote periodontal health services. The second survey assessed – both quantitatively and qualitatively – the level of periodontal services provided to patients and sought to evaluate trends in treatment.



# Working with partners and national societies

## EFP PROJECTS

The European projects committee emerged from a need to engage national member societies more regularly in the EFP's activities and outreach projects. The committee was created in 2017 at the Santiago de Compostela general assembly and its main task is to improve communication and share projects between the EFP and its affiliated national societies of periodontology. Its first chair (2017-2022) was Filippo Graziani (Italy).

It was felt that there was a risk that the EFP could become too distant from its member societies, and this committee provides a forum to discuss projects relevant to both the EFP and the national societies. There is a degree of rotation on the committee that enables the smaller societies to have a voice, consistent with the EFP's desire to be more inclusive.

Projects are initiated by the committee and then developed by the communications team and the materials are disseminated widely. Some of the initiatives of the European projects committee – workshops and outreach campaigns – have been funded by the EFP's industry partners. The campaigns have produced materials including guidance notes and infographics that have then been translated into different languages and used by the national societies, thereby maximising their impact.

Since 2017, the EFP has organised workshops and outreach campaigns with its partners focusing on specific areas of concern within periodontology. The materials produced by these campaigns are written by experts and based on the latest scientific evidence. Materials include scientific reports, recommendations, graphics, and videos. In some cases, dedicated workshops on the campaign topic were held first to review the evidence, and these small-scale workshops (15 to 25 participants) were organised by the European projects committee working together with the workshop committee.

So far two such workshops have taken place – the Perio-Diabetes Workshop in 2017, organised by the EFP and the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) in partnership with Sunstar, and the Perio & Cardio Workshop in 2019, organised by the EFP with the World Heart Federation (WHF) in partnership with DentaId.

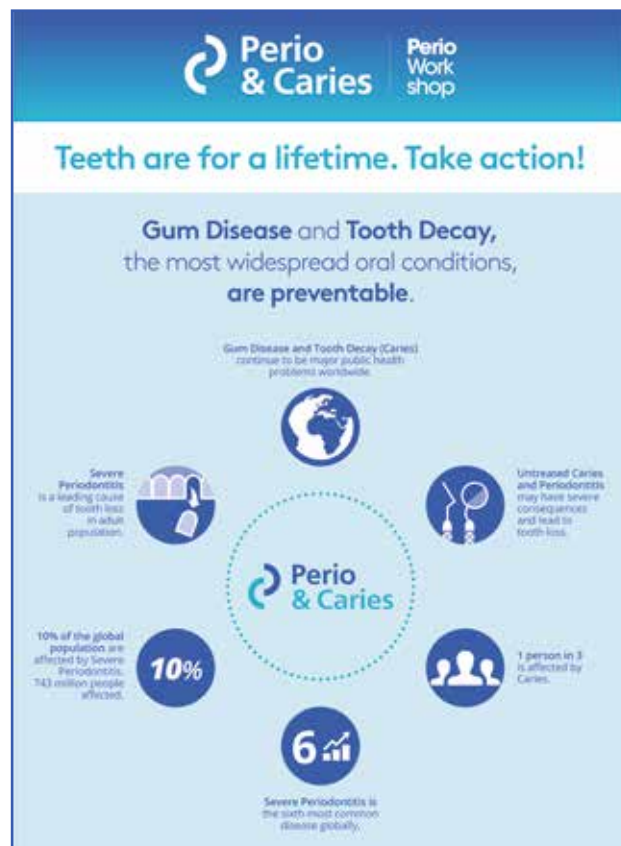
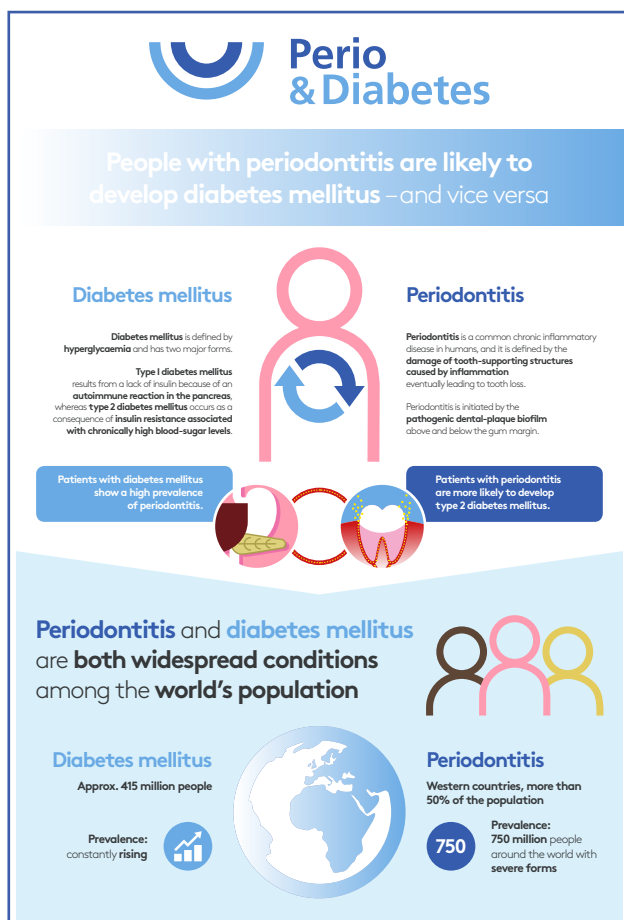
A third focused workshop is due to take place in July 2022 dedicated to collaboration between periodontists and family doctors. This workshop, sponsored by Curasept, will be organised by the EFP and WONCA Europe, the academic and scientific society for family doctors. It will



focus on the association between periodontal and systemic diseases and the role of dentists and family physicians in controlling non-communicable diseases and promoting healthy lifestyles.

Between 2017 and 2021, the EFP launched four campaigns supported by its partners:

- **Oral Health & Pregnancy** (in partnership with Oral-B) on the impact of gum health and oral health on pregnant women was launched in September 2017.
- **Perio & Caries** (in partnership with Colgate) on the boundaries between caries and periodontal diseases, based on the findings of Perio Workshop 2016 organised by the EFP with the European Organisation for Caries Research (ORCA), was launched in January 2018.
- **Perio & Diabetes** (in partnership with Sunstar) on the links between periodontal disease and diabetes, based on the findings of the Perio-Diabetes Workshop (2017) organised by the EFP and the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), was launched in November 2018.
- **Perio & Cardio** (in partnership with DentaId) on the associations between periodontal and cardiovascular diseases and based on the findings the Perio & Cardio Workshop (2019) organised by the EFP and the World Heart Federation (WHF), was launched in September 2020.

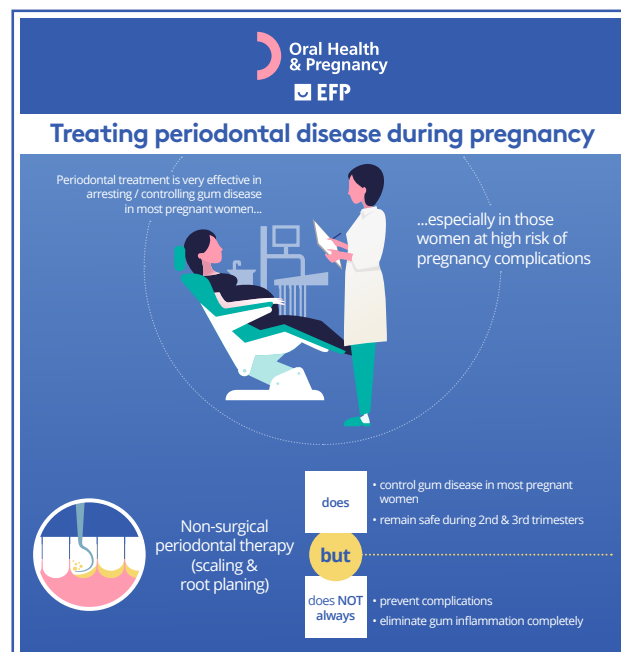


The European projects committee has also undertaken other initiatives in gum health and outreach:

**New Classification of periodontal and peri-implant diseases and conditions:** Reports, guidance notes, videos, and presentations explaining the new classification – the product of the 2017 World Workshop on Periodontology. These materials were later translated and disseminated by the EFP-affiliated national societies. Following the creation of the EFP S3-level clinical practice guideline for the treatment of periodontitis stages I-III at Perio Workshop 2019, a series of infographics was produced.

**A self-assessment test on gum health,** developed by DG Paro, the German society of periodontology, was translated by the EFP and integrated into the patients' area of the federation's website in 2020.

**Response to Covid-19:** The EFP responded rapidly to the outbreak of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in 2020, first developing a safety protocol for dental practices with a clear set of guidelines expressed in infographics and then, when lockdown measures eased, encouraging people to return to visit their dentists with the "Back to common sense"



that explained the importance of regular dental check-ups and the dangers of neglecting treatment in terms of both oral and general health. The European project committee also launched a survey to evaluate how the pandemic was affecting the oral-healthcare sector in Europe.

# The world's leading congress in periodontology

## EUROPERIO

The triennial EuroPerio congress is the most important event organised by the EFP and one of the world's biggest meetings in the field of periodontology. The most recent edition – EuroPerio9 in Amsterdam (2018) – attracted more than 10,000 attendees from 111 countries and featured 134 scientific presentations.

Since EuroPerio1 took place at EuroDisney in Paris in 1994, a total of nine editions of the EuroPerio congress have been held in different European cities. EuroPerio10 in Copenhagen was due to be held in 2021 but because of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic was postponed until June 2022.

Each EuroPerio congress is organised by an organising committee that is selected at a general assembly of the EFP. Each organising committee comprises a chair, a scientific chair, and a treasurer as well as other members including representatives of the EFP-affiliated society in the country that hosts the congress. Since EuroPerio7 in Vienna in 2012, the EFP has used the services of professional conference organiser Mondial Congress & Events to help organise the EuroPerio congresses.

**Jean-Louis Giovannoli (chair, EuroPerio1)** recalls the day he proposed a European perio congress to the other EFP founders: "At the time, everybody thought I was a

megalomaniac! But then everybody followed me and trusted me so much that I needed to succeed." He attributes the success of EuroPerio1 and the subsequent congresses to the interest shown in the discipline of periodontology, the "great work done on a daily basis by researchers, academicians, and clinicians," and the strength of the organising committees.

**Pierre Baehni (scientific chair, EuroPerio1; chair, EuroPerio3)** recalls that in preparing the first EuroPerio, a decision was taken early on to target the practitioner: "The title and themes chosen for EuroPerio1 reflect this preoccupation: what are the critical issues in periodontology today? What are our present limitations of diagnosis, therapy, prevention, and maintenance?" He describes EuroPerio3 in Geneva as a "milestone" in the evolution of the congress with 3,800 participants from more than 70 countries. "We were astonished and thrilled to know that we had reached people from all six continents," he says. "A small wonder, but EuroPerio had now become a global event in periodontology. The EuroPerio3 programme included innovations such as the creation of the forum for industry, which has since proven to be a very successful mode. And we invited the American Academy of Periodontology and the Asian Pacific Society of Periodontology to organise a joint session, which contributed to making the EFP a significant leader in the field of periodontology."



EuroPerio3, Geneva, 2000





**Joerg Meyle (chair, EuroPerio4)** recalls the difficulties that had to be faced in the run-up to the fourth congress, held in Berlin in 2003: "I'll never forget the difficulties we envisaged with the German tax situation, but also the friendship among the organising team with Jean-Louis, Maurizio, Pierre, and the board of the German society of periodontology. Then at the beginning of 2003 the SARS epidemic arose in Asia, which was a nightmare for us, and I am still thankful that it didn't develop into a pandemic similar to the one we are currently living through. Some weeks later the Iraq war started. This all resulted in many cancellations and four weeks before the start of the conference only about 40% of the final number of participants had registered – a nightmare! But finally, all went well!"

"EuroPerio congresses have set new tendencies for scientific and network gathering in dentistry," observes **Mariano Sanz (chair, EuroPerio5; scientific chair EuroPerio2 and EuroPerio8)**. "The model of large scientific congresses held every third year has resulted not only in a huge success in terms of attendance and visibility, but EuroPerio meetings have also evolved to be the global meeting point in dentistry."

**Stefan Renvert (chair, EuroPerio6; scientific chair, EuroPerio5)** praises the "fantastic team" that supported him in organising EuroPerio6 in Stockholm in 2009, mentioning Sandro Cortellini, Edwin Winkel, Ola Norderyd,

Iain Chapple, Jean-Louis Giovannoli, Johanna Renvert, and Mónica Guinea. "Despite the global recession during 2008-2009, working together we delivered a very successful EuroPerio congress with approximately 6,000 attendees. Apart from the scientific programme, one of the great memories for many people who attended was the introductory lecture by the Swedish photographer Mattias Klum. In Stockholm, we also introduced the classic EFP bag that has become an often-seen item at other congresses around the globe."

For **Francis Hughes (chair, EuroPerio8)**, the 2015 congress in London was "a milestone in terms of speakers, organisation, impact, attendance. For the first time we got close to 10,000 delegates and we became a focal point of global dentistry."

**Michèle Reners and Søren Jepsen (chair and scientific chair, EuroPerio9)** say that they were grateful to have been given the opportunity of organising "the greatest festival of perio ever, with more than 10,000 visitors from 111 countries all over the planet." Praising the great team involved, they add that they were "happy that we managed to invite more female and younger speakers and that the participants enjoyed the many innovations: PerioTalks and the Alumni Symposium, live surgery, the debate, the treatment planning session, the Perio Contest, and the 'nightmare session', as well as making good use the EuroPerio9 congress app."



**Europerio9**, live surgery with Giovanni Zucchelli

Looking ahead to the next EuroPerio congress in Copenhagen, **Phoebus Madianos (chair, EuroPerio10)** says: "Attending EuroPerio1 back in 1994 as a postgraduate student in Paris, I could never imagine chairing the tenth EuroPerio almost three decades later. What started as a wild idea of a few inspired periodontists 30 years ago has now become the largest and most prestigious congress in periodontology and implant dentistry in the world." **David Herrera (scientific chair, EuroPerio10)** adds: "When I was selected as scientific chair, I could never have imagined that EuroPerio10 would have to be postponed and organized during a pandemic. However, we were able to design both the EuroPerio Series of virtual talks and the main programme in Copenhagen, with 135 speakers from 31 different countries, including three live surgeries. I am sure that we will all enjoy the tenth edition of EuroPerio in June 2022."

**Congress committee:** The congress committee is responsible for choosing the venues for the EuroPerio congresses and works closely with the EFP's professional conference organiser Mondial Congress & Events. The

congress committee also assesses venues for Perio Master Clinic and International Perio Master Clinic. This committee is chaired by a former EuroPerio chair and has been chaired by Jean-Louis Giovannoli (France) from 2000 to 2018, by Gernot Wimmer (Austria) in 2019-20, and by Francis Hughes (UK) since 2020.

## The EuroPerio congresses

**EuroPerio1:** Paris, France, 12-15 May 1994

Chair: Jean-Louis Giovannoli, scientific chair: Pierre Baehni  
Participants: 1,200

**EuroPerio2:** Florence, Italy, 15-17 May 1997

Chair: Massimo de Sanctis, scientific chair: Mariano Sanz  
Participants: 3,700

**EuroPerio3:** Geneva, Switzerland, 8-11 June 2000

Chair: Pierre Baehni, scientific chair: Ubele van der Velden  
Participants: 3,800

**EuroPerio4:** Berlin, Germany, 19-21 June 2003

Chair: Joerg Meyle, scientific chair: Maurizio Tonetti  
Participants: 3,500

**EuroPerio5:** Madrid, Spain, 29 June-1 July 2006

Chair: Mariano Sanz, scientific chair: Stefan Renvert  
Participants: 5,892

**EuroPerio6 :** Stockholm, Sweden, 4-6 June 2009

Chair: Stefan Renvert, scientific chair: Pierpaolo Cortellini  
Participants: 6,868

**EuroPerio7:** Vienna, Austria, 6-9 June 2012

Chair: Gernot Wimmer, scientific chair: Richard Palmer  
Participants: 7,800

**EuroPerio8:** London, UK, 3-8 June 2015

Chair: Francis Hughes, scientific chair: Mariano Sanz  
Participants: 9,610

**EuroPerio9:** Amsterdam, Netherlands, 20-23 June.

Chair: Michèle Reners, scientific chair: Søren Jepsen  
Participants: 10,232

## Future EuroPerio congresses

**EuroPerio10:** Copenhagen, Denmark, 15-18 June 2022.

Chair: Phoebus Madianos, scientific chair: David Herrera

**EuroPerio11:** Vienna, Austria, 14-17 May 2025.

Chair: Anton Sculean, scientific chair: Lior Shapira



# Expert training for clinicians

## PERIO MASTER CLINIC



Perio Master Clinic, Paris 2014

Perio Master Clinic is an EFP-organised meeting focused on periodontal clinicians' training and expertise. Leading practitioners of periodontology and implant dentistry share their expertise in an intimate environment, offering hands-on training and updating participants on the latest research and innovations in clinical practice.

The event was created to "bridge the gap" between the bigger triennial EuroPerio congresses and give an opportunity to smaller EFP member societies, which would be unable to host a EuroPerio meeting, to help organise a major EFP conference.

Perio Master Clinics have been held in Paris, Malta, and Dublin, with the next one due to take place in 2023 in Antwerp. After the success of the first two editions of Perio Master Clinic, the EFP launched international versions outside Europe. The first of these took place in Hong Kong in 2019 and the second is due to take place in León, Mexico in 2023.

### • Perio Master Clinic 2014

Paris, France

Theme: Peri-implant plastic and reconstructive surgery

Chair: Jean-Louis Giovannoli, scientific chair: Pier Paolo Cortellini

### • Perio Master Clinic 2017

Valletta, Malta

Theme: Peri-implantitis: from aetiology to treatment

Chair: Korkud Demirel, scientific chair: Stefan Renvert

### • International Perio Master Clinic 2019

Hong Kong

Theme: Peri-implantitis: prevention and treatment of soft- and hard-tissue defects

Chairs: Maurizio Tonetti and Stanley Lai, scientific chair: Stefan Renvert

### • Perio Master Clinic 2020

Dublin, Ireland

Theme: Hard- and soft-tissue aesthetic reconstructions around teeth and implants – current and future challenges

Chair: Declan Corcoran, scientific chair: Anton Sculean

### • International Perio Master Clinic 2023

León, Mexico

Theme: Hard- and soft-tissue aesthetic reconstructions around teeth and implants – current and future challenges

Chair: Alejandro Garcia, scientific chair: Anton Sculean

Postponed from 2022.

### • Perio Master Clinic 2023

Antwerp, Belgium

Theme: Perio-ortho synergy

Chair: Peter Garmyn, scientific chair: Virginie Monnet-Corti

**Stefan Renvert (scientific chair, Perio Master Clinic 2017 and International Perio Master Clinic 2019):** "I was very honoured to be appointed as scientific chair of the second Perio Master Clinic meeting in Malta in 2017 and the first Perio Master Clinic meeting located outside Europe (in Hong Kong 2019), both of which focused on the diagnosis and treatment of peri-implantitis. It was a privilege to work closely with meeting chairs Korkud Demirel and Maurizio Tonetti and with our professional conference organiser Mondial Congress & Events to arrange two very successful Perio Master Clinic meetings."

**Declan Corcoran (chair, Perio Master Clinic 2020):** "With the Covid-19 pandemic sweeping across Europe, we put facilities in place to enable speakers who could not attend to give their presentations via pre-recorded videos. At the same time, the live webcasting of proceedings enabled participants who were unable to travel to Dublin to see all the presentations and discussions virtually. A total of 650 delegates attended in person. The fourth Perio Master Clinic was also the first EFP congress to be held upholding the principles of the *Sustainability Manifesto* that the federation launched in March 2020."

**Peter Garmyn and Virginie Monnet-Corti (chair and scientific chair, Perio Master Clinic 2023):** "The project for this next Perio Master Clinic germinated in our minds from the desire to talk about a purely clinical topic that has not been the subject of hard scientific publications. Ortho-periodontal synergy is based on teamwork in which the periodontal treatment has a preponderant place, and these treatments are often aimed at patients with stage IV periodontitis who require complex multidisciplinary management."



# Gum Health Day

## SPREADING AWARENESS AROUND THE WORLD

The EFP's annual awareness day on May 12, Gum Health Day, is now well established in the calendar of the federation's affiliated national societies and has proved a successful vehicle for bringing messages about periodontal health to an audience of potentially millions via television, radio, social media, and other campaigning outlets.

Gum Health Day is an international awareness day held every year on May 12, whose aim is to increase public awareness of the seriousness of gum disease, the health problems associated with it, and the importance of keeping gums strong and healthy.

The date of May 12 was chosen because that had been the first day of the EuroPerio1 congress in Paris in 1994.

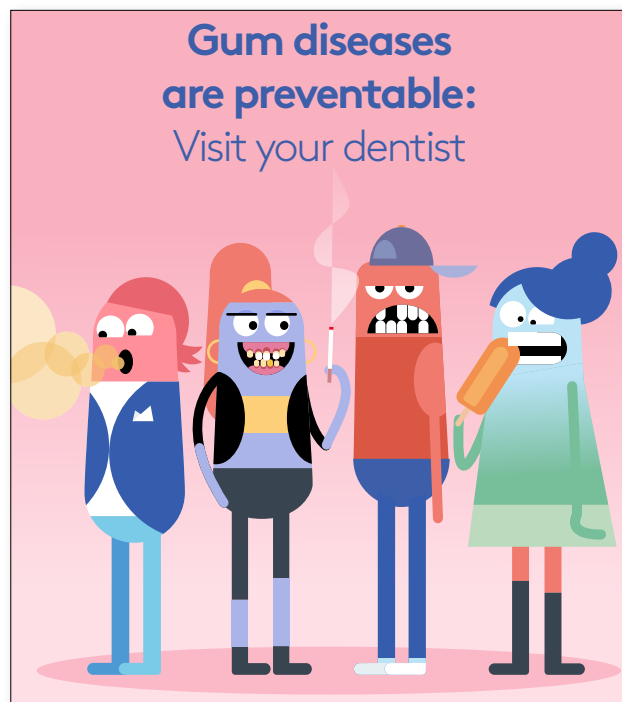
The origins of Gum Health Day date back to 2014, when the Spanish Society of Periodontology (SEPA) ran a pilot project for a European Day of Periodontology, using the slogan "Association between periodontal diseases and systemic conditions", which focused on this topic at an event that involved leading consultants from Spain's diabetes and cardiovascular societies.

Since the first awareness day in 2014, the event evolved to include most EFP-affiliated national societies of periodontology as well as other societies across the world, with as many as 47 societies involved in organising the event in 2019.

The name has evolved too. What started off as the European Day of Periodontology became European Gum Health Day and then simply Gum Health Day, as the event had become a global event.

The organisation of the event has also changed. Since 2017, it has been the responsibility of elected members of the EFP executive committee in their first year on the so-called "presidential ladder". Each year a new co-ordinator chooses a topic to focus on and, working with the EFP's communications team, prepares a campaign slogan, graphics, and audiovisual materials which are shared with the national societies so that they can organise their own campaigns for May 12.

Over the years, Gum Health Day has covered such topics as the links between periodontal and systemic diseases, the prevention of gum disease, and the correlation between healthy gums and an aesthetically pleasing smile. Materials used have included video animations, infographics, and leaflets handed out in shopping centres and other busy areas. And national societies have organised press conferences, university seminars, free periodontal screenings, and other events to drive home the message.



The following awareness days have been organised:

### European Day of Periodontology 2014

Slogan: "Association between periodontal diseases and systemic conditions."

### European Day of Periodontology 2015

Slogan: "Gum health links with oral and general health."

### European Day of Periodontology 2016

Slogan: "Healthy gums for a better life."

Co-ordinator: Juan Blanco.

### European Gum Health Day 2017

Slogan: "Fighting periodontal disease together."

Co-ordinator: Filippo Graziani.

### European Gum Health Day 2018

Slogan: "Health begins with healthy gums."

Co-ordinator: Xavier Struillou.

### Gum Health Day 2019

Slogan: "Healthy gums, beautiful smile."

Co-ordinator: Lior Shapira.

### Gum Health Day 2020

Slogan: "Say no to bleeding gums."

Co-ordinator: Andreas Stavropoulos.

### Gum Health Day 2021

Slogan: "Gum diseases are preventable."

Co-ordinator: Henrik Dommisch.

### Gum Health Day 2022

Slogan: "Treat your gums".

Co-ordinator Moritz Kebschull.

# Spreading the message of periodontal health for a better life

## COMMUNICATIONS



The Oral Health and Gum Hub, patient section of EFP website

Over the years, communications activity has become increasingly important to the EFP, and the communications committee is vital to the federation's work. It has a diverse portfolio of activities to manage, ranging from the federation's web presence to ensuring that member societies are engaged and informed about EFP activities and issues that have an impact on periodontology and implant dentistry.

The work of communications – which includes news and publications, press activity, social media, and the EFP's awareness campaigns – is performed by a team of professionals under the direction of the communications committee. This committee – originally known as the external affairs committee – was created at the EFP general assembly in Ljubljana, Slovenia in February 2010. At that point, the committee was charged with four main tasks:

1. To develop and improve communications between the EFP and its national society members and other professional bodies.
2. To develop and facilitate communication of key messages to the public.
3. To promote the recognition of periodontology as a speciality.
4. To promote and develop good relations with industry and sponsors.

The committee (under various names – external affairs, external and internal affairs, communications) was first chaired by Edwin Winkel (2010-2016) and then by Tiernan O'Brien (2016-2022). The committee's work involves key EFP officers – such as editor of EFP publications Joanna Kamma and webmaster Darko Božić – and a team of communications professionals.

This committee is the internal and external face of the EFP and interacts with all other committees and officers. Its broad portfolio of products includes news on the website; a monthly email newsletter; the magazines *Perio Insight*, *Perio Life*, *Perio Review*, and the *JCP Digest* research summary; the EFP's YouTube video channel and other social-media communications; material for the annual Gum Health Day, and the dissemination of special publications related to the federation's scientific and campaigning activity. These publications include the regularly updated *Dossier on Periodontal Disease*, the institutional brochure *Meet the EFP*, materials for clinicians on the 2018 classification of periodontal and peri-implant diseases and conditions, the *EFP Manifesto* on periodontal and general health, and the federation's Covid-19 safety protocol.

A key development in the EFP's adoption of a professional approach to communications was the appointment in 2013 of Javier García and his Nitida Branding consultancy as the EFP's communications partner. Nitida developed a fresh, modern visual identity for the EFP, along with a branding and communication strategy called "Herengracht 392 vision" (named after the address of Edwin Winkel's office in Amsterdam; an updated strategy – "Galway vision" – was produced when Tiernan O'Brien became chair of the committee). The EFP's strategic vision, embodied in the slogan "Periodontal health for a better life", was developed through this partnership, which was also involved in the dissemination of the outcomes of the European Workshops in Periodontology and the creation of the European Day of Periodontology (which later became Gum Health Day).

Although the involvement of Nitida consultancy ended in 2019, members of the team of communications professionals recruited by the consultancy – including Santi Quiñones (communications co-ordinator), Paul Davies (editorial co-ordinator), Diego Fontecha (video editor), and Fernando Morales and Gonzalo Herrero (graphic designers) – continue to provide service to the EFP.

Communicating the EFP's work to the press has become an increasingly important aspect of the federation's communications. Since 2014, Santi Quiñones has played a key role in developing its media strategy and forging relationships with the dental media, the health and science media, and the lay media in Europe and around the world. This approach involves issuing press releases, arranging the publication of articles by and interviews with EFP leaders, and organising press conferences at EuroPerio congresses, general assemblies, and other major events, such as one organised in Frankfurt, Germany in 2016 to mark the first 25 years of the EFP.

In the run-up to EuroPerio9, the EFP recruited Jackie Partarrieu, an experienced health-sector press officer, to co-ordinate press strategy at the EFP level and organise all press activities at the congress in Amsterdam in 2018. This was the first time that EuroPerio had a press officer on the ground, and it was a huge leap forward in terms of press communications.

The EFP has succeeded in getting considerable coverage of its activities and campaigns in specialist and general media across the world.

In 2018, the EFP collaborated with the Istituto Europeo di Design (IED), one of the world's leading design schools, where 32 students of a master's degree in communication and design developed materials to promote periodontal health and oral hygiene, helping the federation establish potential collaborators for future projects.

At the end of 2019, the EFP signed up Cándice Gasperin as head of communications, to co-ordinate the wide range of EFP communications activities such as external communication, social media, and digital strategies, and to improve communication in general between the EFP and its member societies.

In 2020, partly as a response to Covid-19 and the need to create online events, the EFP launched educational webinars (Perio Sessions) and live sessions on Instagram (Perio Talks), under the brand EFP Virtual (see page 40).

#### EFP website

The federation's website – [www.efp.org](http://www.efp.org) – is the hub of the EFP's communications activities providing news, publications, and a wealth of information about the EFP's work.

The idea of an EFP website was proposed back in 1998 by Rolf Attström from Malmö University and the first EFP website became operational in July 1999. In 2004, a new website ([www.efp.net](http://www.efp.net)) was launched, based around the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* and hosted by its then publisher Blackwell Munksgard, with Attström and Anders Nattestad (University of Copenhagen) responsible for the EFP input. Anders Nattestad recalls: "Rolf Attström and I met in 1993 because we shared a common curiosity about the internet and how it could be used for delivery of information and learning in dental education. We were pioneers in the use of the internet for this purpose."

In 2007, the executive committee selected Mepireak Internet Solutions from the Netherlands to work on the website design and appointed Edwin Winkel as web-master. In 2009, collaboration with Peter Collinson and Steve Disleris-Beck at Canterbury Web (the British Society of Periodontology's website provider) started and a new website ([www.efp.org](http://www.efp.org)) was launched in 2011 and enhanced in 2013 to include input from EFP-affiliated national societies and with three sections – corporate, public, and patients.

After a redesign in 2017, to provide a more modern look and with separate sites for professionals and patients, a new web provider (Liquid Light) came in and a new version of the website – with an expanded and enhanced section for patients – was launched in June 2020.



Edwin Winkel

**Edwin Winkel:** "There was no external affairs committee. I started it from scratch, with two great people – Tiernan O'Brien and Joanna Kamma – as the partners in crime, so to speak. This was a very good thing. It's like when you start a small company and everybody knows each other very, very well so you know exactly the tasks which are involved. We started with a limited number of people, and this was very important."

**Tiernan O'Brien:** "The communications committee had been established and nurtured by Edwin Winkel, and my job as the second chair of the committee was to grow and develop it along with my colleagues Joanna Kamma and Darko Božić. The nature of communications changed so much in society during these years that it became very clear from the beginning that we would have to bring in professionals to help us and to focus very heavily on social media. That is what we did, and it has worked very well."

"Both Edwin and I worked very closely in the early days with Javier García, who was an expert in the field of communications and brand management. Edwin had some experience with websites and online activity, I had the enthusiasm and the passion for change, and Javier had the expertise. While he was only with us for a few years, he gave the EFP communications management a structured vision and the modern communication tools to apply it. This was the first recognition of the value that professionals could bring to EFP communications."

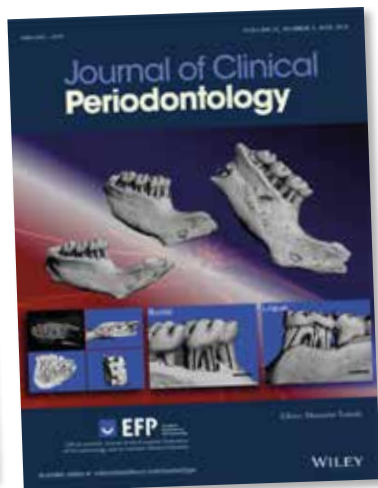


Tiernan O'Brien



# Science-led, focused on clinicians

## THE EFP'S PUBLICATIONS



### *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*

The EFP's *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*, published monthly, is a leading scientific publication and in 2020 was rated the number-one journal in dentistry, oral surgery, and medicine, with an impact factor of 8.728.

The *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* (JCP) serves an international audience by publishing contributions of high scientific merit in the fields of periodontology and implant dentistry. The JCP became the official journal of the EFP in 1993. It was first published in 1974 and its first editor (1974-1976) was Hans Rudolf Mühlemann, who was succeeded by Jan Lindhe (1976-2004) and Maurizio Tonetti (2005-2021). Since April 2021, the JCP has been edited by Panos Papapanou.



**Maurizio Tonetti:** "In my view, the impact of the JCP is measured in the way it has changed the field and has transformed periodontology. We need to think about who the real end-users are, and in our field the end-users are indirect – they are the patients with the disease. And the impact of the journal comes through the education of the clinicians and through the policies that are informed by the papers. And that is an enormous impact."

"The editorial strategy of the JCP brings value to perio as a discipline, to our academic world, to clinicians with the national societies and an international readership, and to our patients."

"I think three factors have helped to drive the JCP's success: credibility, integrity, and experience. Credibility is based on quality, so we need to make sure that the quality of what we publish gets better and better. Integrity of the research is also important, and we made big changes here in terms of transparency, disclosure of conflicts of interest and sources of funding. And we introduced a series of checks, so when authors submit a paper, they agree to

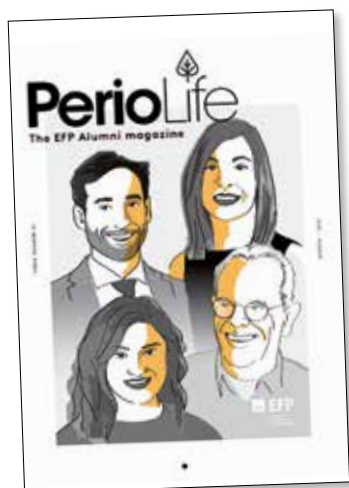
provide the raw data if I ask for it. The third element is experience. After 15 years as editor, you know the field, you have your finger on the pulse, and you can sense if something is not good or if it doesn't fit."

**Panos Papapanou:** "The strength of the JCP is its stature and the stature is directly related to the quality of the papers that appear in it. It is a very prestigious publication, so there is a lot of history involved, and Maurizio has done a fantastic job over this long tenure."

### *JCP Digest*

The EFP also publishes a monthly digest of research (*JCP Digest*) in seven languages. *JCP Digest* offers concise research in periodontology to enable clinicians to keep their knowledge up to date, summarising studies first published in the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*, with each issue prepared by a team of students at one of the EFP-accredited postgraduate periodontology courses, supervised by members of faculty.

This publication was an initiative of Stefan Renvert (secretary general, 2010-16) and was launched in 2014, initially under the editorship of Iain Chapple as chair of the scientific affairs committee and then since 2016 by his successor as committee chair Phoebus Madianos and by Andreas Stavropoulos, a member of the committee. The editor enjoys the co-operation of the JCP editor-in-chief in selecting the articles to summarise and the chair of the postgraduate education committee in co-ordinating the contribution of the postgraduate programmes. *JCP Digest* is published first in English and then translated into Croatian, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish.



### Other regular publications

The EFP also publishes newsletters and magazines under the editorship of Joanna Kamma, who has been EFP editor since 2010. The twice-yearly bulletin *EFP News* was launched in 2003 under her editorship, fulfilling a role similar to the original *The European Federation of Periodontology Newsletter*, edited by Declan Corcoran, which was published between 1994 and 2000. In 2019, *EFP News* was replaced by *Perio Review*, an annual report on the federation's activities.

In 2016, the EFP launched *Perio Insight*, which covers periodontal science and clinical practice through articles from experts, including debates on controversial topics within periodontology and implant dentistry. *Perio Insight*, which is published twice a year, has covered topics including the links between periodontal disease and Alzheimer's disease, the use of antibiotics, the choice of flap or tunnel techniques for mucogingival surgery, and the implementation of the EFP's S3-level clinical practice guideline on the treatment of stage I-III periodontitis.

In 2021, the EFP launched *Perio Life*, the magazine of EFP Alumni. It presents articles about and by alumni of the EFP-accredited postgraduate courses in periodontology, but it is much more than the house magazine of EFP Alumni – the material is aimed at the wider periodontal and dental community, including those who may be interested in training on one of the EFP-accredited courses.

The final regular publication in the EFP's portfolio is its monthly newsletter, which is sent by email to all members of EFP-affiliated national societies.

### Special EFP publications

As well as its regular magazines, the EFP has also issued special publications on specific topics related to periodontology, including:

- ***The EFP Manifesto – Perio and General Health* (2014)**: a call to action on the prevention, early detection, and treatment of periodontitis. It was the first formal declaration in international dentistry to condense years of research into the links between periodontal disease and systemic illnesses into an acknowledgement of periodontitis as a major public-health issue.
- ***Perio Focus green paper* (2017)**: Article originally published with the title "Impact of the global burden of periodontal diseases on health, nutrition and wellbeing of mankind: a call for global action" in the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* in May 2017. Written by Maurizio Tonetti, Søren Jepsen, Lijian Jin, and Joan Otomo-Corgel, the paper shows that there is a strong and coherent body of evidence that allows the identification of actionable preventive, diagnostic, and therapeutic strategies to effectively promote periodontal health and general wellbeing, and better manage the socio-economic consequences.
- ***EFP Sustainability Manifesto* (2021)**: an initiative of secretary general Nicola West, this manifesto expresses the vision of sustainability as being not only an environmental issue but also "a broader challenge that affects everything and everyone on the planet" and outlines seven key sustainability actions for the EFP: (1) engagement in our community, (2) travelling wisely, (3) making our events sustainable, (4) thinking digital 1: online not airline, (5) thinking digital 2: a sustainable office, (6) optimising efficiency, (7) mentoring.
- ***Time to take gum disease seriously* (2021)**: a white paper published by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), commissioned by the EFP, and sponsored by Oral-B, which provided a comprehensive and independent analysis of the societal and economic impact of periodontitis in six European countries across a 10-year period. The research analysed costs of different prevention and intervention scenarios, the years of healthy life gained, and the return on investment for each scenario.
- Since 2016, the EFP has published its ***Dossier on Periodontal Disease***, which explains the causes, consequences, impact, and treatment of gingivitis, periodontitis, peri-implant mucositis, and peri-implantitis. The same year, the EFP first published its institutional brochure *Meet the EFP*, which outlines the EFP campaigns, publications, events, and its affiliated national societies. Both these publications are updated regularly.



# A 25-year voyage with the EFP serving periodontology

BY MAURIZIO S. TONETTI

Editor-in-chief and ex-officio member of the executive committee 2004-2021, workshop committee member 1999-2021, scientific chair EuroPerio4 (Berlin, 2003), chair EFP International Perio Master Clinic (Hong Kong, 2019)

**M**uch of my professional life has been defined symbiotically by my association with the EFP. It started in Paris at EuroPerio 1 in 1994, where my work won the research award... love at first sight! I have lived the EFP transformation from the successes of the early vision to its becoming a powerful force shaping the speciality and health globally. Many moments – both happy and sad – have left lasting impressions.

This journey, however, can be best described by the strong emotions and values that motivated me and many colleagues (who became personal friends) to be their best and to do their best. The passion of service for a greater good, enthusiasm for doing something important, a sense of respect and awe for the many talents of others, the wish to contribute, the desire to debate and thereby find the best way, exchange becoming fulfilment, knowledge of being valued members of a unique team, hard work shared by many... and much more! These are not words but a shared legacy. And, yes, the professional relationship changing into the personal – and sometimes family – friendship.

Looking back at this journey, I see first the many people who truly built and shaped the EFP – too many to list but never forgotten, what a team! The EFP of values, the ethics of the doers. The organisational culture that enabled success, beyond imagination.

Because of my unique position – appointed not elected to office – I could contribute to the EFP from outside of the “political logic” and maintain a strategic view for both the organisation and the speciality. I have served with 16 presidents, five secretary generals, four treasurers, and countless committee members. I am thankful for what the EFP has allowed and enabled me to accomplish in the areas of evidence-based periodontology through the combined action of the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* and the workshop committee.

My objectives as editor-in-chief have been: (i) to publish high-quality, credible scientific evidence that we all can trust and use; (ii) to build a high-impact academic journal that will strengthen the speciality; and (iii) to turn the journal into a key asset of the EFP by bringing value to science through clinical relevance and translation into practice. The results – as shown by multiple metrics – have been beyond my best expectations and have truly transformed the discipline: bringing the impact factor from 1.64 to 8.73,

reaching an unprecedented readership with more than one million full-article downloads per year, receiving 10,000 new manuscripts for consideration... and much more.

With great joy and lots of sweat, I devoted two hours of my life to this mission every day for 16 years. In this effort I had the support of 12 associate editors, a dedicated editorial board, countless reviewers, and authors from around the world who shared and supported the values and the project. Key to the realisation of my vision, however, has also been the association with the workshop committee: serving under the leadership of Klaus Lang (one of my mentors) and Mariano Sanz (one of my brothers) on translating the evidence into clinical practice has been a true joy and has provided the best synergy to my editorial efforts.

Two critical examples come to my mind. First, the project for the first fully evidence-based European Workshop, shared with Klaus Lang in the year 2000, that has provided the method for every subsequent oral-health workshop (in periodontology and beyond!). Second, the ultimate ambition of putting together clinical guidelines in periodontology – shared and developed with Mariano Sanz since 2017 – and seeing their adoption as official policy in multiple countries. This has been an unprecedented success made possible by many incredible ingredients and a magnificent team. The EFP of ideas, of innovation that turns into impact.

I feel very fortunate to have been part of a true golden age for both periodontology and the EFP. The landscape for periodontal health has changed radically thanks to the efforts of the many individuals who have worked tirelessly under the EFP umbrella to make progress. They have been true giants with strong shoulders that have supported progress. As my generation leaves its testimony to the next ones, the glass is fuller – but it is still half empty. A lot of progress needs to be made; much is still to be achieved.

I know that new young leaders will follow and will perhaps find inspiration from the first 30 years. I know you will be better than us and move both periodontal health and the EFP forward. Let me be the wise older guy for a moment: uphold your values, try to be the best and do the best, be a doer, use your talent to serve, innovate, and be happy while you do it. The EFP can be the professional home where you will find the mates to continue the journey. Be a true leader and a team player through the force of ideas and the ability to innovate.



# Leading the perio conversation

## SOCIAL MEDIA, VIDEO, AND EFP VIRTUAL

### SOCIAL MEDIA

In recent years, the EFP has been active on social media and has built up a network of thousands of followers on various platforms.

In 2014, the federation launched its pages on Facebook and Twitter. The following year, the EFP launched on LinkedIn, followed by Instagram in 2018 and TikTok in 2020. In 2020, the EFP started to use Instagram Live for its Perio Talks sessions of conversations between clinicians who also respond to questions.

The EFP sees social media as a powerful tool for engaging a global audience and increasing awareness of the EFP's events, publications, and campaigns – all with the objective of fulfilling the strategic vision of periodontal health for a better life. The strong growth of social-media platforms in recent years, together with new features and ways of communicating, show that this form of digital communication can be a powerful way for the EFP to engage with global conversation on periodontology and implant dentistry, to encourage social interaction, as well as providing access to news, campaigns, and other initiatives for professionals and the public.

In 2021, the EFP started to provide a series of training sessions for EFP-affiliated national societies to help them develop their own social-media strategies.

### VIDEO

Since 2012, video has been an important communications tool for the EFP, with videos published both on its website and on its YouTube channel, which was launched in 2015 with the video *Perio and general health – the vital connections*, which focused on the findings of the 2012 World Workshop on the links between periodontitis and systemic diseases.



"Perio Greats" video featuring Jan Lindhe

The *Perio Greats* series of videos was started in 2012. It comprises interviews by Tiernan O'Brien (chair of the communications committee 2016-2022) with leading lights in periodontology and implant dentistry. Interviews have been released with Jan Lindhe, Niklaus Lang, Ubele van der Velden, Thorkild Karring, and Giovan Paolo Pini Prato.



One of the EFP Perio Sessions

### EFP VIRTUAL – a great step forward in education

In April 2020, in response to the Covid-19 lockdowns, the EFP launched Perio Sessions, a series of live interactive webinars about important scientific and clinical topics in periodontology and implant dentistry, starting with a presentation by Anton Sculean on the "Bernese" concept of treatment for single and multiple gingival recessions.

Two series of Perio Sessions were held between April 2020 and September 2021, when they gave way to the EuroPerio Series, webinars of a similar format related to the EuroPerio10 congress, due take place in Copenhagen, Denmark in June 2022.

In October 2021 the EFP created a new initiative called EFP Virtual as a hub for its online, interactive educational activities. As well as Perio Sessions and the EuroPerio Series, EFP Virtual includes the Perio Talks live sessions on social media (Instagram) which launched in July 2021. The aim of EFP Virtual is to provide high-value scientific knowledge about periodontology and implant dentistry to the dental community around the world.

# Acknowledging excellence

## PRIZES AND AWARDS

The EFP awards various prizes and awards to acknowledge important contributions to the science and clinical practice of periodontology and to the work of the federation itself. Some prizes and awards are given annually, some every three years at EuroPerio congresses, and others on an occasional basis.

### PRIZES

#### The Jaccard-EFP Research Prize in Periodontology

This prize was instituted by the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP) and the Jaccard Foundation (University of Geneva) in 1995 with the aim of promoting research in Europe. The prize is awarded once every three years at the EuroPerio congress. It is open to all members of EFP-affiliated national societies of periodontology. Three papers are shortlisted and then published in the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* and their authors invited to give oral presentations at EuroPerio. The winner is announced at the EuroPerio congress. The prizes (2022 edition) are: first prize, CHF10,000; second prize, CHF6,000; third prize, CHF4,000.

#### Postgraduate Research Prize

The objective of the prize, launched in 2004, is to promote research by students of the EFP-accredited postgraduate programmes of periodontology and is open to all postgraduate students at the programmes. The prize is awarded once a year. Since 2019, there have been prizes in two categories: clinical research and preclinical/basic research.

#### EFP Undergraduate Essay Competition

An essay competition for undergraduate dental students and dental hygiene/therapy students was launched in 2018, with winners receiving free registration for EuroPerio9. A second edition is being held in 2022 in relation to EuroPerio10.

**The EFP Innovation Award for Digital Solutions for Gum Health**, supported by EFP partner GSK, was launched in 2021. The award (first prize, €10,000; second prize, €6,000; third prize, €4,000) is aimed at encouraging research and it rewards digital innovation that makes a contribution to gum health worldwide in terms of new technology that helps patients, dentists, and researchers. The prize will be awarded annually.

### AWARDS

Following a proposal from Ubele van der Velden, in 2013 the EFP introduced several awards that can be conferred on people who have served in important roles on the federation's executive committee and who have made significant contributions to the EFP and European periodontology.

**The EFP Eminence in Periodontology Award** is given in recognition of outstanding service to the EFP and contributions to the understanding of the field of periodontology and the diagnosis and treatment of periodontal diseases. The EFP Eminence in Periodontology Award is conferred on an occasional basis and has been given on three occasions: to Ubele van der Velden (2014), to Gianfranco Carnevale (2015), and to Mariano Sanz (2021).

In addition, a special award – the **EFP International Eminence Award** – was given posthumously to Bob Genco in 2020.

**The EFP Distinguished Scientist Award** is given in recognition of outstanding contributions to the understanding of the field of periodontology and the diagnosis and treatment of periodontal diseases through published literature and through contributions to pre- or postdoctoral education and/or scientific conferences or symposia. Past winners:

- 2013 Jan Lindhe (Sweden)
- 2014 Niklaus P. Lang (Switzerland)
- 2015 Thorkild Karring (Denmark)
- 2016 Mogens Kilian (Denmark)
- 2017 Mike Curtis (United Kingdom)
- 2018 Jan Wennström (Sweden)
- 2019 Giovan Paolo Pini Prato (Italy)
- 2020 Andrea Mombelli (Switzerland)
- 2021 Tord Berglundh (Sweden)

**The EFP Distinguished Service Award** is presented to a member of one of the EFP-affiliated national societies of periodontology for distinguished service to the EFP in more than one area over a period of not less than 15 years. Past winners:

- 2013 Pierre Baehni (Switzerland)
- 2014 Jean Louis Giovannoli (France)
- 2015 David Hillam (United Kingdom)
- 2016 Edwin Winkel (Netherlands)
- 2017 Uroš Skalerič (Slovenia)
- 2018 Stefan Renvert (Sweden)
- 2019 Michel Brex (Belgium)
- 2020 Gil Alcoforado (Portugal)
- 2021 Gernot Wimmer (Austria)

**The EFP Board Service Award** has been given since the 2013 general assembly in Jerusalem to EFP presidents, secretaries general, and treasurers when they finish their mandate as a recognition of their service.

# The future of the EFP

Over the last 30 years, the EFP has established itself as the global leader in periodontology through its influential evidence-based workshops, the EuroPerio congresses and Perio Master Clinics, the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*, and the federation's campaigns and communications. Eight people who have played key roles in the federation over the last three decades reflect on the prospects for the EFP.

**Pierre Baehni:** "The name 'European Federation of Periodontology' was coined in 1988. Today, more than three decades later, it may be timely to highlight the significance of the original meaning. Indeed, 'federation' represents the core strength of the EFP, where each of the member societies has a voice and contributes to the enhancement of the organisation.

"Over the past 30 years, the development of the EFP has been remarkable and has resulted in the shaping of EuroPerio congresses, Perio Workshops, the recognition of periodontology as a speciality, to name just a few achievements. This was made possible through the inspiration, dedication, and insight of many dedicated committee members and colleagues.

"There is no doubt that the EFP is a success story. In recent years, however, advances in technology that provide new techniques have had a profound impact in the field of periodontology. It is imperative that the EFP address the effects and the consequences of these changes with caution, ethics, and leadership to maintain the essence of the speciality. The EFP slogan 'Periodontal health for a better life' has given a direction for the future. Make it happen!"

**Mariano Sanz:** "The EFP turned 30 years old and has consolidated itself as the most influential regional association in periodontology in the world. Many important events and milestones have happened over these years, and this excellent outcome results from the impact of many dedicated people and very involved national societies. As one of the core promoters and drivers of this federation since the foundation meeting in December 1991, I am proud of having witnessed this success story from the front row and I envision an even brighter future, with the EFP now focused on a global perspective with the aim of driving periodontology even further."

**Iain Chapple:** "Perhaps the most important aspect of the EFP that has driven its success to date has been the personalities and ethos of its executive-committee officers, who have always worked selflessly for the good of the federation and all it stands for, rather than for any personal gain or benefit. This is evident from the intense debates and sometimes passionate arguments held across the boardroom table, yet the opponents within those arguments remained the greatest of friends and would put professional differences to one side afterwards – as all great

friends do – and would sit next to each other at dinner and enjoy each other's company, humour, and humanity. This is a very special quality which must be protected at all costs because when an organisation grows at the rate the EFP has done, it becomes harder to maintain. That is why this history document is so important – we must never forget where we came from or who we are as a federation. It takes many years to build something special like the EFP... but only a few hours to destroy it."

**Joanna Kamma:** "Most important to the continued success of the EFP is that it continues to base its activities on high-quality scientific evidence derived from research, that it remains an inclusive and collaborative federation, that it operates always in a way that is transparent, democratic, and respectful, and that it has patients and public health at the centre of everything it does.

"To continue to thrive, it is essential that the EFP continuously activates the ties with all the individual societies in the federation, refresh its senior officers regularly, minimise internal politics, and remain focused on delivering its strategic objectives. The EFP has become a highly credible and respected organisation and we must now increase our influence on policy makers to fulfil our vision of periodontal health for a better life at a global level."

**Panos N. Papapanou:** "The central tenet of the EFP, 'Periodontal health for a better life', builds upon the translation of basic and clinical research in periodontology and implant dentistry into biology-informed, evidence-based, accessible treatments. The EFP's flagship publication, the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*, is currently the highest-ranked journal in dental medicine and a formidable conduit of research advances in our field. Let us all work together to sustain and enhance its stature, and broaden the dissemination of our research findings to a global audience."

**Lior Shapira:** "Our EFP will continue to promote oral and periodontal health in Europe and the whole world. We will partner with health organisations, the industry, and other stakeholders who share the same vision. During the last few years, the EFP has developed from a European organisation to a global one, with new international members, and we aim to continue to grow. The EFP will also focus on post- and undergraduate education, implementing high clinical standards to our profession. We will continue to promote and practice core values, such as diversity and sustainability."

**Nicola West:** "The future is exciting for the EFP. Our global reach is growing year on year, and we are now truly worldwide, working to support our national societies and their members to improve oral and systemic health. I am proud of our sustainability initiative, a journey that encompasses not only periodontology but dentistry as a whole. The EFP is committed to building a more sustainable future and a better working world for all. The future depends on what we do now."

**Andreas Stavropoulos:** "The EFP has the important task of convincing politicians of the importance of periodontal health, including its financial benefits for society. I am convinced that the EFP will continue to be the leading scientific organisation on periodontology in the world."