EDITORIAL

Artificial intelligence and team work in dentistry

The first IJED editorial of this year was dedicated to the future of printed journals, specifically in the realm of scientific publishing, and concluded that “Print isn’t dead, digital didn’t kill it…”

The current hype around artificial intelligence (AI) is hard to avoid. AI is making its way into our everyday lives with virtual assistants such as Siri, Google Assistant, and Alexa. There are a lot of possible applications for AI in healthcare, from reading CT and MRI scans to assisting doctors in following the latest research. Dentistry might be the fastest branch of medical science to adopt AI, not only because it can perform data analytics, but also because it can carry out routine tasks and functions that can help dentists to reduce their overall workload, be more efficient, and build stronger patient relationships. We know that with any given case there is a range of valid treatment options based on clinician preferences. Using AI and large datasets that include diagnostic results, treatments, and outcomes, it is now possible to measure the effectiveness of different treatment modalities in light of very specific symptoms and anatomical conditions. This is especially important given the range of new dental technologies, techniques, and materials that are introduced every year.

Relative to other areas of healthcare, standardization in dentistry is low. We see an increasing need for high-quality postgraduate programs in all fields of dentistry, dental technology, and digital technologies to keep up with innovations and to be able to use them for the benefit of our patients in daily practice.

We would like to address this topic in the new section we introduced in the first issue of IJED this year – Team Approach in Esthetic Dentistry. The goal of the case studies presented in this section is to show that solving complex cases requires a team of specialists, one of whom carries the responsibility until the end of treatment. In our first article in this series, we had the pleasure of

Why an egg on the cover? Eggs are one of nature’s great marvels. The morphology of their shells allows them to withstand significant loading, while the compound nature of their composition means they are hard, brittle, and resilient. This prevents cracks from spreading over their entire surface – similar to the windscreen in our cars. While the pores on the shell allow for the interchange of gases, they also seal the egg against microbial invasions, while pigments reflect infrared light so that the chick embryo is kept cozy and warm.
without the risk of overheating. In addition, the shell is fully recyclable, making it the unmatched ideal of packaging design. For all these reasons, we have decided to feature an egg on our cover.

publishing a case guided by Dr Istvan Urban, with the participation of other specialists, which concerned the situation of failing implants in a young patient. In the present issue, the case was led by Prof Markus Hürzeler, and demanded many specialists to complete the treatment successfully.

In both these case examples, we see that the patient was referred to specialists who have an extensive knowledge of dentistry as well as a feeling for their own strengths and weaknesses. Similar to architects planning a building, the medical lead finds and coordinates a team of specialists to complete the project, guiding the patient through a holistic treatment to reach the best possible solution.

We believe in high-quality education, we support educational programs around the world, and we would love you to contribute to our Team Approach in Esthetic Dentistry section.

Enjoy reading.

Sincerely yours
Alessandro Devigus and Nicola Pietrobon

The Bauhaus was arguably the single most influential modernist art school of the 20th century. Its approach to teaching, and to the relationship between art, society, and technology, had a major impact both in Europe and in the United States long after its closure under Nazi pressure in 1933. The Bauhaus was influenced by 19th- and early 20th-century artistic directions such as the Arts and Crafts movement as well as Art Nouveau and its many international incarnations, including the Jugendstil and Vienna Secession. All these movements sought to level the distinction between fine arts and applied arts, and to reunite creativity and manufacturing; their legacy was reflected in the romantic medievalism of the Bauhaus ethos during its early years, when it fashioned itself as a kind of crafts-person’s guild.

The famous Bauhaus art school opened in Weimar in 1919, and during its short lifespan it moved to Dessau and then to Berlin. The architecture, art, and design that was created there is still revered around the world to this day.

In this issue of The International Journal of Esthetic Dentistry we celebrate 100 years of Bauhaus with some selected images.

Images: Bauhaus Archive, Berlin © 2019 VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn