Website: http://www.sofia.lat

President: Dr. Gabriel M. Fonseca
Centro de Investigación en Odontología Legal y Forense (CIO)
Facultad de Odontología, Universidad de La Frontera - Temuco, Chile

presidencia@sofia.lat
gabriel.fonseca@ufrontera.cl

Contact: contacto@sofia.lat
29th INTERPOL Disaster Victim Identification Conference

9th INTERPOL Disaster Victim Identification Conference was held in Lyon (France), from 29 - 31 May 2018 and IOFOS was represented by the Vice-President, Ruediger Lessig (Germany), and the General Secretary, Ricardo Henrique Alves da Silva (Brazil). During the conference, the Forensic Odontology Sub-Working Group on DVI had its meeting on May 28th and 29th, and in the agenda was included the election for Chair and Deputy Chair. The Vice-President of IOFOS, Ruediger Lessig (Germany) was re-elected as Deputy Chair and Irena Dawidson (Sweden) was re-elected as Chair.

Figure 1: Ricardo Henrique Alves da Silva and Ruediger Lessig at 29th INTERPOL Disaster Victim Identification Conference
Croatian Association of Forensic Stomatologists and IOFOS

Hrvoje Brkić
President of IOFOS
University of Zagreb
School of Dental Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia
brkic@sfzg.hr
www.brkic.eu

The Congress of Forensic Medicine in the region of Alpe-Adria-Pannonia is held every year in one of the countries that make up this region. This year the 26th Congress was organized by University of Zagreb, Faculty of Medicine, as well as Department of Forensic Medicine, IOFOS and Croatian Association of Forensic Stomatologists.

The Congress was held in Pula from May 29th to June 2nd in a beautiful tourist resort, Park Plaza Histria on the Adriatic coast. Pula is an antic town full of monuments originating from that era, including one of the five most well-preserved Roman amphitheaters - the Pula Arena. This beautiful city hosted 120 participants from all over the world, mostly specialists in forensic medicine. The congress was opened by the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Croatia Mr. Davor Božinović.

In three days, four workshops were held: Research Focus in Forensic Medicine and How to Get This Published by Professor Roger Byard (University of Adelaide), Forensic Medicine Faces Migration by Jose Pablo Baraybar do Carmo (Forensic Coordinator in ICRC), Dental Age Assessment in Adults by Professor Hrvoje Brkić (President of IOFOS), Age Estimation Project by Professor Roberto Cameriere (University Macerata) as well as 67 oral and poster presentations.
On Friday, June 1st, a special session was held under the patronage of IOFOS. Forensic odontologists from Belgium, Brazil, Croatia, Denmark, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, FYR Macedonia and Serbia took part in this session.

The topics of the presentations were as follows: Identification, Dental Age Assessment, Education of Forensic Odontology, Legal Aspects, Criminal Legal Aspects and Dental Examination of Torture Victims.

On Saturday all participants went on a field trip to the inner part of the Istria peninsula where they had the chance to see the Višnjan observatory, and to visit private ranches where wines and olive oils of great quality are produced.
When West meets East

During the 24th meeting of the International Academy of Legal Medicine conference held in Fukuoka Japan from the 5th to the 8th of June 2018, Forensic dentists from the West and East shared academic experiences while enjoying fellowship and making new friends.

The meeting was attended by 600 delegates from around the globe. All aspects of forensic and legal medicine were addressed at the many lecture and hands-on sessions that were presented during the meeting.

In the session dedicated to age estimation and personal identification the invited speakers Prof’s Schmeling,
Ubelaker and Bernitz gave informative overviews in their respective fields. It was heartening to see full auditoriums during their lectures. Several other lectures and posters were presented by forensic dentists, mostly from Asia.

On the Wednesday evening of the conference a special dinner was organised for all the forensic dentists. A great time was had by all.

Although the general theme of the conference was “The new stage of Legal Medicine - From Asia to the World”, most key note speakers dedicated their talks to aspects of Human Rights and Quality Control. The message was clear, no one should be practicing forensic science in violation of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights (1948 General Assembly resolution 217A) and carrying out any procedures which are not in accordance with Best International Practice and internationally recognised quality control parameters.
Dr. Nazar Hag Mahmoud

The Godfather of forensic dentistry in Sudan

“Gone but never forgotten”

12 January 1975 – 15 January 2018

Dr. Nazar Elsheikh Hag was born in Bara, Northern Kordofan State, Sudan in 1975. During his early educational years Nazar was one of the brightest students in his school. He completed his dental degree in University of Khartoum. Upon his graduation in the year 2001, Nazar was awarded the prize for best academic performance in the field of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Nazar worked as a general dentist in Khartoum State for three years before travelling to the United States of America in 2004. He passed the American National Board Dental Examination then returned back to Sudan in 1975. His passion for new experiences and obtaining new knowledge had always motivated him. Nazar never forgot about his home town, so when he got a chance to have a dental center he insisted on establishing it there in Elabied city, his first love, and it’s called “Kordofan Dental Center”.

Nazar was clear about his interest in forensic odontology. He never stopped seeking an opportunity to train until he was accepted as a master student of...
forensic dentistry at the University of Western Cape, South Africa where he spent three years of training till he graduated in 2013. He was the first Sudanese dentist to specialize in forensic odontology. The Sudan Medical Council, in a historical moment, registered him as the first forensic dentist in Sudan.

Nazar had always believed in forensic odontology and always promoted for the new field in Sudan. Leading a campaign to shed light on the field, not only was he a leader but a mentor, guide and great supporter to every dentist involved in this field (beginning with myself!) As forensic odontology was a new field in Sudan, he decided to spend his life as an academician to share his knowledge with others. He taught at three universities. Also he liaised with the police by teaching in the Forensic Evidence Institute. Inspite of his busyness, his craving for learning never stopped. He obtained many certificates of training in many disciplines of forensic science. He also served as a vice president of the Sudanese Association of Forensic Odontology, and was a member of many different regional and international forensic odontology associations.

In November 2017, Nazar participated in a forensic conference in Saudi Arabia but returned suffering from a viral infection. Suddenly, his health deteriorated rapidly and he was hospitalized. No one saw what was coming, as no one could have expected this to be the beginning of the end. It was painful and heart breaking to see the man who spent his whole life helping and supporting people lying in an ICU bed struggling with death with only poor medical care but the support and many prayers of his friends all over the world. On Monday, 15th of January 2018, at the age of 43, Nazar passed away peacefully, just like he lived, leaving behind a pregnant wife and two children.

Nazar’s body may have left us, but his soul, passion, thoughts, smile, dignity, wisdom and dreams are still living within us, buried deeply in our hearts. He will always be remembered by us as the man who opened the door for all Sudanese who have chosen forensic odontology as a career. It was if he knew that he would be leaving us so early, hence his concerns and steps towards helping and supporting young dentists and promoting forensic dentistry among them, which make him remembered as a legend that will be honored. He truly deserved to be described as the Godfather of forensic dentistry in Sudan.
Course in computer identification and age estimation at Svalbard (Islands close to the North Pole)

Dear colleagues

We have decided to arrange a Nordic and an International IOFOS course at Svalbard again. The first was summer 2017 and was full and we think successful. Internet did in fact function as well at Svalbard as in Norway. The course is based on the Interpol DVI program “DVI system international” ver. 5, which may be used through Internet.

The course folder will be published on IOFOS Internet site and if the editor allow in this Newsletter.

The course will be in the end of February into March 2019. Then it is still winter at Svalbard but so much day light that it is possible to this unique arctic nature. The course will be held at Gjestehuset 102 as the previous. A number of excursions will be arranged, the most exclusive a snowmobile tour to the Russian mining society Barentsburg. For those who want to take the age estimation course, a dog sledge tour on the glacier will be included. We also hope conditions will be favourable to see the Northern light (aurora borealis).

The meeting fee includes the course, hotel, food and excursions. However, each participant will have to book his

Tore Solheim
Faculty of dentistry
Institute of Oral Biology
Pathology and Forensic Odontology
Oslo, Norway
solheim@odont.uio.no
own flight to Svalbard, which is not included. As you may see from the folder, there is a special arctic nature and atmosphere at Svalbard. Many people become fascinated by it and come back again and again. Study the folder and look at the recommended Internet sites.

With kind regards from

Tore Solheim.
Fourth International Continuing Course in Forensic Odontology
Longyearbyen, Svalbard (Spitsbergen)
February 27th to March 6th – 2019

Course 1. The computer program DVI System International ver. 5
Course 2. Medical age estimation – state of the art

Lecturers:
Assoc. Professor emeritus
Svend Richter, Iceland
svend@hi.is

Professor emeritus
Tore Solheim, Norway
solheim@odont.uio.no

Inst. of Oral Biology
Box 1052 Blindern,
0316 Oslo, Norway

Professor emeritus
Håkan Mörnstad, Sweden
hakan.mornstad@forodont.se

Information from and application to:
Professor Tore Solheim
Telephone: +47-22840378
Mob: +47-14447336
Fax: +47-22840302
E-mail: solheim@odont.uio.no

APPLICATION

PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION BY COMPUTER PROGRAM DVI SYSTEM INTERNATIONAL
Longyearbyen, Svalbard, February 27 to March 6, 2019
Please send the following information by e-mail to: solheim@odont.uio.no
Family name:
First name:
Postal address:
E-mail:
Home phone no:
Office phone no:
Mobile phone no:
Education:
Earlier IOFOS ID-course:
University affiliation, if any:
Course 1 only:
Course 1 and 2:
Hotel:
Want single room:
Come with spouse:

Language: English
Fee: Course 1: € 1500 Wednesday
February 27 to Monday March 4.
Course 2: € 400 Monday March 4 to Wednesday March 6
Fee covering course expenses, accommodation, excursions and meals
Deadline for application: December 15, 2018
Hotel cancellation cannot be done after this date.
IDEALS Congress 2018 "The Importance of Dental Ethics and Law" (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)
Date: 23-25 August, 2018

1st International & 16th National Conference of the Indian Association of Forensic Odontology (Goa, India)
Date: September 28th – 30th 2018
More info: https://www.iafo2018goa.com/

14th Brazilian Meeting of Forensic Odontology (João Pessoa, PB, Brazil)
Date: October 18th - 20th, 2018
More info: https://contatoabol.wixsite.com/cbol2018

3rd Meeting of the Brazilian Society of Forensic Sciences (Ribeirão Preto, SP, Brazil)
Date: November 4th – 8th, 2018
More info: http://www.sbcf.org.br/congresso/

AuSFO Symposium 2019, (Sydney, Australia)
Date: October 24th – 26th, 2019