



INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF DENTISTS

The oldest and largest international dental honorary society in the world

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COLLEGE UPDATE

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From International President
Dr. I. Leon Aronson

What Does the College Do for Me?

Dear Fellow Sydney

Recently, an ICD Fellow in a leadership position asked me, “What does the College do for me?” If I had my wits about me at the moment, I would have quoted President John F. Kennedy and simply answered, “Ask not what the ICD can do for you but what can you do for the ICD?”

I answered his question, and I am happy that it was asked as it made me realize how many do not appreciate the College at Large or understand its relevance to the Sections and Regions around the world. Is the College at Large necessary? Absolutely, let me share my thoughts on this question.

Even though Fellows from around the world may have different languages, customs or come from a different culture, as an ICD Fellow, we are interconnected. We are one! We all strive to accomplish the goals and mission of the ICD. While there are many, in simpler terms, they can be narrowed down to elevating the quality of dentistry and increasing the access to dentistry around the world, while developing, promoting and recognizing leadership.

The College at Large is the umbrella organization that binds the Sections and Regions around the world; without it we would not be international. That is what is unique about the ICD, otherwise we would be a disjointed organization, all doing good things but not sharing in the successes that occur in other parts of the world. I ask you to read *The Globe* from cover to cover and realize that each individual Fellow is a part of every project and all that is happening as a result of the International College of Dentists.

The College at Large is governed by the International Council, which is composed of the International Officers, Councilors representing each of the 15 Sections and staff at our world headquarters in Flint, Michigan, USA.

We are a chain of Sections and Regions, and we are only as strong as our weakest link. The College at Large is there to assist when needed and to monitor and stimulate growth in existing Sections and Regions and to develop new ones. There is strength in numbers, and oversight is needed to prevent stagnation and falling short in reaching our goals and mission. We are only as strong as the sum of our parts, and every link in our chain is important

I hope that my thoughts on this subject will help clarify why the College at Large and the International Council are so important.

We are all one and are working toward fulfilling the goals and objectives of the International College of Dentists and making it truly international and the

very best that it can be.

**Leon Aronson, DDS MS FICD
2013 International President
International College of Dentist**