

## ICD Holds Ground-breaking Convocation in New York City



**ICD Inductees take the Fellowship Pledge during the international ICD convocation in New York City, USA, on Nov. 27, 2016.**



**USA Section President Margot Culotta-Norton (left) and ICD Secretary General John Hinterman (right) induct Dr. Estela De Los Angeles Gispert Abreu, President of the Cuban Society of Stomatology, into the College.**

For the second consecutive year, ICD held an international convocation ceremony in New York City, USA on November 27 during the [Greater New York Dental Meeting](#) (GNYDM). Twenty-four new Fellows from nine countries were inducted, and the event was generously supported by GNYDM and [ICD Section I, District 2 New York](#), with a reception sponsored by ICD Diamond Sponsor, the [International Congress of Oral Implantologists](#) (ICOI). Additionally, Fellows of the newly-formed [ICD Colombia Task Force](#) assisted in running the ceremony smoothly. President of the USA Section, Dr. Margot Culotta-Norton, along with ICD Secretary General John Hinterman, addressed the inductees and presented the Orientation and Leadership Program.

Among the 24 inductees, three are from Cuba, which include the President and Vice President of the Cuban Stomatological Society (CSS) and the Chief Dental Officer of the Ministry of Health in Cuba. These Cubans' travel to the New York convocation was supported by the Cuban government and the GNYDM. Beforehand, the College received official cooperation from the Cuban government to reestablish itself in there, with the CSS acting as the ICD host. The first international ICD President Dr. Andres O. Weber, of Havana, was elected in 1928. Plans for a 2017 ICD convocation in Cuba are now under way.

The College also made a significant break-through with Guatemala during the New York convocation. The Dean of the dental school in Guatemala City, as well as the Director of Graduate Education in Guatemala City, were both inducted as new Fellows. Dr. Hinterman later accepted the offer for their dental school to act as the ICD host in Central America. Strategies to reestablish the College in Central America will begin early next year. It was also decided that the Spanish-speaking Caribbean Islands, including Cuba, would be separated from the Central America Region due to geographical and historical development differences.

[ICD Region 32](#) (English Caribbean Islands) experienced a change of guard in leadership during the New York convocation. The new leaders, as well as seven new Fellows from this Region, held a strategic planning session after the ceremony, and the group is off to a promising start. Former Regent Dr. Chris Ogunsalu, received recognition for his years as International Councilor and Regent of Region 32.

Through this historic, international event, the College has made ground-breaking ties with new nations, including Cuba, Guatemala and Botswana, and plans to continue its growth globally.