

WIN Newsletter June 2021

# DID YOU KNOW? Get to Know the WIN CORE GROUP with Adela Laverick

WIN global movement is gathering momentum and support from all around the world. WIN now has over 4,000 members from 136 countries. This includes a Core Group of 21 women who are working together with the administration team in Basel towards the mission of inspiring and engaging more females in to implant dentistry.

Adela Laverick shares her experience of getting to know WIN's Core Group during a virtual team meeting earlier this year.

#### My first impressions:

I felt so privileged to be amongst so many talented women from all around the world. Amongst the group were several professors, many notable speakers and accomplished clinicians...so much knowledge and expertise on one virtual screen! But, what was immediately obvious was the modesty of everyone involved and their keenness to work together towards the WIN mission. I was also struck by the fragility of confidence in the group, despite many of the women having achieved so much throughout their careers and already proved themselves to be worthy of the highest regard. Several openly shared a lack of confidence in 'selling themselves' to the wider dental world. This lack of confidence is so

common in women and leads to us doubting ourselves and perhaps shying away from challenges that we are well equipped to take on and excel at.



# The situation of low female representation in implant dentistry is seen throughout the world:

It is absolutely clear that the same issues are seen throughout the world. Globally, despite high numbers of women qualifying as dentists, relatively few are taking on the challenges of a career in implant dentistry. Of course there are some subtle cultural regional differences, but in general, the problems and barriers are the same wherever we look in the world. The positive that we can take from this is that similar solutions should therefore be successful in all countries. The WIN global community is working hard to identify solutions and through the WIN network these solutions can be implemented globally. Having a global community is so important to strengthen and support WIN, and in time, together, we will start to make a difference.

# How is WIN global working towards its mission?

WIN has identified 4 'pillars' or areas of activity to help to engage female dentists. These are:

- 1. Raising awareness of the situation and also of talented female implant dentists: with the newsletter, press and events.
- 2. Networking opportunities at WIN events, dental conferences and online.
- 3. Promotion of high quality dental education: via the WIN Classroom, with scientific summaries, ITI Curriculum, events and webinars and skill building workshops.
- 4. Mentorship: '1 to many' via WIN Circles, and '1 to 1' via mentorship programs.

## The importance of strong and supported leaders:

This strong Core Group of women are united in their vision for WIN and are passionate to make a difference. There is a palpable feeling of wanting to support not just the WIN mission, but also to support each other. Good leaders need a good support system to function well and maximise their potential, and WIN provides this support through both the Core Group and the excellent administration team in Basel. Being supported will help to

power our global leaders to drive the growth and development of WIN in their home nations.

Leadership is also about inspiring and motivating people to work together towards a goal. The WIN Core Group benefits from shared inspiration, ideas and experiences and the opportunity to learn from others who have had similar experiences. From this strong and passionate core leadership team the WIN message will gradually filter down through all of the individual nations, and so reach and inspire individuals.

### How can you help in your country?

Spread the word far and wide! The most difficult part is making our vision more 'visible'. Connecting with women in the right way so that they know they can reach out to WIN for support throughout their implant career.

Please do share our newsletter, stories, educational events.....

### The future is strong:

WIN is growing and as it grows it is gathering momentum throughout the world. It is 'poised' - ready to run and grow and gather members along the way.

Bringing the Core Group together was such an energising experience. There was so much positivity amongst the group and a true sense of joint empowerment.

At the end of the day we were asked to choose a word to describe how we felt. The most commonly chosen word was 'inspired'; others chose: motivated, supported, connected, recharged, empowered, happy. All such positive words, and all words that we would like our WIN members to associate with WIN membership.



Great leaders are true visionaries: they need to be willing to take risks and try new things. WIN is something new in implant dentistry and every one of the Core Group is committed to making it happen. The Core Group is committed to make a difference...to inspire, engage, be part of the change.