The IACA (the International Association of Comprehensive Aesthetics) has become the premier educational meeting in dentistry and, by far, the best meeting I personally have ever attended. And I hear that from almost every speaker who has presented at the IACA as well.

It’s not just the outstanding speakers, cutting-edge presentations or the diversity of concurrent lectures, which are critical in ensuring that everyone (team, hygienists, clinicians and technicians) has something to see that he or she is interested in during every time slot. In reality, it’s “The Event” — the positive attitude of those in attendance and the enthusiasm of everyone involved. It is infectious! People have commented that they almost learn as much in the halls as they do in the lectures because of the quality of the attendees.

The IACA is one of the few places where you can see presentations from the giants of dentistry as well as from up-and-comers who may someday be the giants of dentistry for their generation of dentists. Many of the best presentations are given by people you won’t see anywhere else — because they don’t fall into the status quo of accepted topics or information.

Many meetings actively prevent controversial advances in dentistry from being presented, denying you the chance to make your own decisions. I guess the easiest way to put it is that the IACA is 10 years ahead of current dentistry — literally, what you will hear is the “future” of dentistry, and those who jump on the train early will be light years ahead of other dentists in the field who only attend other meetings.

Lastly, the other thing I think is so wonderful about the meeting is the family atmosphere that is present. The IACA organizers seem to always pick great locations in order for dentists to bring their families with them for a vacation. Calgary, Alberta, Canada, where this year’s meeting is being held from August 1 to 3, is filled with so much for people of all ages to do — not to mention the beautiful mountain scenery that is there.

This is a great way to not only write off your vacation but get the best of worlds — a great vacation and a great education.

Don’t be one of those people who, every year after missing the IACA meeting and finding out how incredible it was from those who did attend, says, “I wish I would have gone!” Make sure you don’t miss out.

I’m looking forward to seeing you at the IACA!
Conference celebrates women’s achievements in dentistry

Registration is now open for the upcoming Successful Women in Dentistry conference. Attendees will earn 5 continuing education credits for their conference participation.1 This one-day conference will highlight the inspiring achievements women have made in dentistry — how women are positively influencing the dental industry today and creating opportunities for the future. Attendees will learn how to stay ahead of the curve with CEREC® CAD/CAM techniques and materials, how to implement best practices utilizing implants in their practices and how to incorporate approaches to create a balanced lifestyle in today’s world.

The conference will kick off with opening remarks by Dr. Lindsey Robinson, president of the California Dental Association. The keynote presentation, “Outlook for Women in Dentistry,” will be given by Dr. Kathleen T. O’Loughlin, executive director of the American Dental Association. Master of ceremonies and the director of education and president of Lee Ann Brady LLC., Dr. Lee Ann Brady, will be on hand to discuss “Posterior CEREC CAD/CAM Techniques and Materials.”

Presenting “Implant Diagnosis and Restorations” will be Dr. Cherilyn G. Sheets, a prosthodontist, international educator, author and researcher. Attendees will also hear from Dr. Cari Callaway-Nelson, an owner dentist of three dental offices in Las Vegas and Reno, Nev. As a working clinician, wife and mother of two, Callaway-Nelson will share her personal experience on managing her career and personal life with the topic “Lifestyle Balance.”

Register early to take advantage of a $50 savings off admission, plus earn a chance to win an iPad® mini. Early Bird registration of $95 ends May 1; regular registration costs $145. Admission for dental students is complimentary (limited seats available).

To receive the early registration discount, enter the promotional code, SWIDCDA, when you register at www.pacificdentalservices.com/SWID.

All proceeds from registration fees will be donated to philanthropic partner National Children’s Oral Health Foundation: America’s ToothFairy. The National Children’s Oral Health Foundation is dedicated to eliminating children’s preventable suffering from pediatric dental disease by providing programs and comprehensive resources to deliver community-based critical preventive, educational and treatment services.

Conference sponsors include Ivoclar Vivadent, Nobel Biocare, Crest, Oral B, Sirona Dental and Henry Schein.

Here in Anaheim
For more information on the Successful Women in Dentistry conference, taking place June 22, stop by the Pacific Dental Services booth, No. 766. To register or for information about travel and lodging, visit www.pacificdentalservices.com/SWID.

reception will immediately follow the conference from 4:30–6 p.m. Dentists, hygienists, dental students, dental operations managers and dental business and industry leaders are welcome. To register and for more information about travel and lodging, visit www.pacificdentalservices.com/SWID.

References
1. Approved PACE Program Provider FAGD/MAGD Credit. Approval does not imply acceptance by a state or provincial board of dentistry or AGD endorsement. 10/1/2012 to 9/30/2015.
2. Only early registered guests are eligible for the drawing for the iPad mini, and participant must be present to win. All proceeds from registration fees will be donated to the National Children’s Oral Health Foundation. Our apologies as we will be unable to accommodate any refunds for registration fees. iPad is a registered trademark of Apple Inc.
Get social in Seattle

AACD 2013 promises networking opportunities, camaraderie

For those who love attending dental conferences for the camaraderie and networking opportunities, AACD 2013 will offer several social events to help members connect with other dental professionals.

The American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry (AACD) will host AACD 2013 from April 24–27 in Seattle at the Washington State Convention Center. In addition to organizing a lineup of world-class dental educators, a number of social events are planned to help attendees make the most of their time in the city.

“One of the things that sets the AACD’s conferences apart from other meetings is our incredible social events,” said Ron Goodlin, AACD president. “Being social at AACD 2013 is almost as important as attending workshops and lectures. Connecting with like-minded professionals and being inspired by their work enhances your perspective on the field. Networking opportunities in Seattle are everywhere — and they’re a valuable part of your conference experience!”

On April 24, to kick off this year’s annual meeting, the AACD will host an evening welcome reception at the Experience Music Project (EMP) Museum, which is located at the base of the Seattle Space Needle. The reception is included in attendees’ tuition.

At the EMP, attendees will have a chance to learn about music’s impact throughout history. The EMP will help attendees explore musical revolutions from jazz to blues to the birth of rock ‘n roll and hip-hop.

On April 25, the AACD Charitable Foundation will host the Celebration of Smiles fundraiser, which benefits the AACD Charitable Foundation’s Give Back a Smile (GBAS) program. GBAS helps restore the smiles and lives of domestic violence survivors through the help of volunteer dentists and dental teams.

Celebration of Smiles will take place at the Tap House Grill, which is walking distance from the Washington State Convention Center. The Tap House is a Seattle staple that offers more than 160 beers on tap, including local craft brews. Wine and cocktails will also be available.

Tickets for the event can be purchased through the AACD’s online registration system at www.aacdconference.com.

In addition to the main events, there are other opportunities to be social in Seattle. The AACD hosts daily breakfasts and lunches in the exhibit hall so attendees can re-energize and chat with others.

To see who’s on this year’s lineup, check out the AACD’s digital version of the preliminary conference guide, available at www.bluetoad.com/publication/?i=85943. The digital conference guide lists courses, speaker bios, exhibitor lists, schedules of events and information about all the social events.