

EDITORIAL

This is a remarkable season for our journal. We are proud to see that our efforts to make this a welcome journal to the international dental community are building up to reality. In the last month of July (20–23 / 2003), the 39th Meeting of the Brazilian Academy of Dental Materials was held in Bauru, at Bauru School of Dentistry, University of São Paulo. During the three days of the meeting, researchers from all over Brazil and abroad received the most updated information on three major topics of interest in the field of Dental Materials: Dental Ceramics, Adhesive Systems, and Polymerization Contraction of Resin Composites. Highly qualified speakers addressed the issues in programmed lectures for an audience of over 250 attendees. Additionally to the main topics of the event, exciting discussions developed during symposiums that focused on the interpretation of laboratory studies on microleakage around adhesive restorations and the current trends on the teaching of Dental Materials in our schools. Researchers were able to share their most recent findings during the presentation of their work in the poster session, adding up to the large amount of updated information circulating in the event.

In order to share most of this current knowledge with our readers, our journal provides this special issue that contains the full, previously unpublished manuscripts with the contents of the lectures presented by the main speakers in the meeting: Drs. Van Thompson (New York University, USA); Franklin Tay (University of Hong Kong, China); and Roberto Braga (University of São Paulo, Brazil). Additionally, the abstracts of the presentations are included to offer the reader the information on the wide variety of research interests that were discussed in the meeting. This special issue sets a mark in our history for being not only the first, but also for achieving our goals in the improvements of the printing quality and for becoming the first to be fully published in English. This will hopefully enlarge the number of readers who will benefit from the information provided by the authors.

We hope you enjoy the issue.

Editors