

## **DENTASA Newsletter December 2008**

2008 is drawing to a close, and it was very eventful. The implementation of the ICD 10 codes and the opportunity of claiming directly from Medical Aids, has been quite a shift in the business perspective of dental technology.

### **NRPL**

The Department of Health allocated an 8.7% increase to all the Medical professions for 2009 including the profession of dental technology. DENTASA did send a letter of disapproval and requested a higher increase as material costs alone increased tremendously. No feedback has been received from the Department.

The 2009 NRPL is available for all members on the DENTASA Website.

### **CPD points**

CPD points will be implemented as of January 2009. All technicians need to accumulate approximately 30 points per annum. The courses and lectures given at the AGM, will add substantially towards obtaining your quota of CPD points and thus to ensure that you qualify for the renewal of your registration at the SADTC.

### **Branch meetings**

The branch meetings were held in September with a phenomenal attendance in the Western Cape, even in the most appalling weather. Since the AGM, there has been a notable increase in membership numbers and interest in the profession. The EXCO welcomes any new suggestions from all its members. Your feedback is essential for our growth and strength in the industry.

### **Election of Executive Committee Members**

The election of new **Executive members** of DENTASA will be held on **16 February 2009**.

The management of the affairs of the Association shall be vested in an Executive Committee, consisting of 12 Members of the Association. Four of the twelve members shall be elected from amongst the members practising in KwaZulu-Natal, Free State, Eastern Cape and Western Cape provided that one member must be elected from each of the abovementioned areas and only by the members practising in the specified areas.

Only paid up members of DENTASA may:

- Nominate office bearers
- Be nominated for office or
- Take part in the voting process

In accordance with the Constitution of the Association, **written nominations** for office bearers must reach this office no later than the **30<sup>th</sup> of January 2009**. Nominations may be posted, faxed or emailed to this office.

We can only stress the importance of your participation in the nomination and election process and thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter.

### **Employee matters**

DENTASA has posted an employee section on the website which will keep dental technician employees informed on all relevant and important matters.

In May this year, Council has made a resolution that the new minimum salary will be R7590. With this we would like to remind all employees that increases must be done in May of each year. Thus any requests or inquiries have to be submitted to council prior to this time.

During the AGM all members were informed that all technicians earning R9600 or less must be paid overtime. This is in accordance with the Basic Conditions of Employment Act.

DENTASA constantly endeavours to improve the profession, not only for laboratory owners, but also for employees. Our organization still needs more employee participation and 'feedback'.

If you have anything that requires immediate attention and resolve, please do not hesitate to phone Anso or Claudia or you can contact the office and have it placed on the agenda for discussion at our monthly EXCO meetings.

### **Facebook**

If new technology like You Tube and Facebook can work for Barack Obama, I'm sure we can make it work for us!

Join the Dental Technology Association of South Africa to discuss relevant issues such as the price increase for 2009, minimum salaries, and...love it or hate it....CPD points! You can post messages regarding job openings, equipment or labs for sale, and the Association will inform you about important legislation and meetings. A few years back, CAD CAM was a novelty, direct claiming would never happen and we will always have a gazetted price list...Yeah, right!

All can be debated and discussed here, thanks for joining DENTASA on Facebook!

### **AGM 2009**

After the most successful AGM of all time in 2008 it is time to start planning for the 2009 AGM. Diarize the AGM weekend now, and if you live far away, start looking for flights.

Unfortunately "The Castle" in Kyalami will not be our home next year, but get ready for an AGM of note at the Indaba Hotel on Friday 5 and Saturday 6 June 2009.

The whole of Friday will be set aside for lectures, followed by the traditional Cocktail evening with the traders on Friday evening. On Saturday we will host the Annual General Meeting, more lectures and finished off with a black tie dinner Saturday evening.

We are treading on a lot of new ground now, if you have any enquiries, phone us at the DENTASA office at 012- 460 1155 or visit our website at [www.dentasa.org.za](http://www.dentasa.org.za)

May you and your family enjoy a safe and wonderful Festive Season.