Two years ago, the European Aligner Society (EAS) started on its path as a scientific society whose aims are to provide information and education on aligner therapy, a treatment modality in which there has been an incremental growth in interest over the last decade among both clinicians and patients.

The first congress in Vienna in Austria, under former President Dr Graham Gardner, was a great success in terms of the scientific programme, visitor attendance and exhibitor presence. It represented our time point zero from where we started working on a common project with passion and enthusiasm.

One of the goals set by the EAS board for the second EAS congress is to continue to build on our success in Vienna by maintaining the quality of the lectures, compiling a scientific programme with the highest standards in orthodontic treatment and beginning to work on research awards.

The congress, to be hosted by our new president, Dr Francesco Garino, will take place in the breath-taking surrounds of Venice in Italy from 16 to 19 February 2018. The event is planned to provide the most complete scientific and clinical education to orthodontists providing aligner therapy not only in Europe but throughout the world. Our commitment is to provide comprehensive information on aligner therapy and to provide clinicians with the tools to offer the best treatment choices available.

With this aim, the scientific programme features many of the specialty’s most distinguished lecturers. The two-day programme consists of pre-congress courses and workshops in a variety of fields related to aligner orthodontics. In the plenary session, keynote speakers from both the academic and the clinical fields will be giving presentations on several aligner systems. Topics will cover biomechanics, auxiliaries, hybrid treatments, teen treatments, temporary anchorage devices and digital smile design. Drs Luis Carrière, Benedict Wilmes, Junji Sugawara, John Morton and Christian Coachman, among others, have already confirmed their participation as lecturers.

The special Breakfast with the Expert will be held on Sunday morning to give every participant the opportunity to have a peer-to-peer discussion with the best-known experts in the field of aligner orthodontics. A post-congress course on digital smile design to be held by Coachman will be the real novelty of this congress. The entire day on 19 February will be dedicated to this revolutionary approach to aligner orthodontics.

EAS recognises that the orthodontic aligner industry and allied companies are crucial in helping to identify EAS as a reference and the provider of gold standard meetings for aligner orthodontics so that excellence, best practice and research can be enjoyed and shared not only by EAS members but also by all event attendees. The society works closely with companies that operate in the field of aligner therapy, from manufacture to digital integration and efficiency in aligner treatment. EAS is therefore in a strong position to bridge the gap between clinicians and the latest products being developed by these companies. This symbiotic relationship results in up-to-date knowledge creating a better patient experience and improved treatment outcomes.

With the enchanting city of Venezia, this congress will provide an outstanding combination of educational, social and recreational opportunities. EAS looks forward to welcoming you to Venice!

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EOS Congress made return to Switzerland

Idyllically situated between the blue waters of Lake Geneva, the majestic snow-covered Alps and the Lavaux Vineyard Terraces UNESCO World Heritage Site, Montreux is considered by many to be one of Switzerland’s hidden gems. Every year, this medieval city, which over the course of its history has attracted artists and poets, draws visitors from around the world, most prominently for the annual Montreux Jazz Festival in July. From 5 to 10 of June this year, more than 2,100 dental professionals from 75 countries, enjoyed everything that Montreux has to offer, during the 93rd Congress of the European Orthodontic Society (EOS), which took place at the Montreux Music and Convention Centre (2m2c).

This year’s edition marked the return of the prestigious event to Switzerland since the last congress in the country was hosted in Geneva in 1983. Over the course of the next five days, it brought together professionals from all over the globe to discuss the latest scientific and clinical developments in the field. This year’s extensive programme was organised by 2017 EOS President, Professor Christos Katsaros and his team at the University of Bern. It focused on the alveolar envelope as the limit to orthodontic tooth movement and the different treatment strategies to expand the anatomical limits.

In a special session presented by the European Journal of Orthodontics, Prof. Martyn Cobourne and orthodontic consultant Dr Padhraig Fleming, both from the UK, as well as Forsyth Institute researcher Dr Alpdoğan Kantarci, from the US, debated accelerating tooth movement and its rationale and effect with moderator and journal editor Prof. David Rice. Furthermore, presentations in the greater programme covered the latest research on a variety of other important topics. Keynote speakers, all experts in their respective fields, critically analysed these subjects, followed by short presentations of new research data.

The main programme was complemented by a number of special meetings being held by orthodontic societies for students and teachers, among others. In addition to the programme, attendees were able to see and experience the latest innovations from some of the largest manufacturers of orthodontic products, including Align Technology and DW Lingual Systems. All in all, over 60 sponsors had their latest offerings on display. In the evenings, participants were able to enjoy the best Montreux has to offer, with a lake cruise and gala dinner at the world-famous Chillon Castle as the highlight of this year’s social programme.