

It is a pleasure to present the 4th edition of the LAOHA Newsletter. In this issue, we would like to highlight some of the activities supported by LAOHA during the past months. In January, we organized the Consensus Meeting “Periodontal disease and its impact on general health in Latin America” in São Paulo, Brazil. The objective of this meeting was to develop a plan to address gingival health problems in Latin America. Sixty invited participants from eighteen countries attended the meeting, including representatives from fifteen periodontal associations and leading scientific and educational organizations from Latin America. After the meeting, all participants attended the 37th International Dental Congress of São Paulo (CIOSP). Also, they visited the Colgate-Palmolive Global Technology Center (GTC). It is also worthwhile to mention that CIOSP hosted a meeting of the Ibero-American Observatory of Public Policies in Oral Health, an initiative of Latin American researchers. Partnering with LAOHA and Colgate, books by the Observatory were released during the CIOSP.

Join us in congratulating Dr. Belén Retamal-Valdés, from Chile, and Dr. Carlos Manuel Rubio, from Venezuela, for defending their PhD theses and becoming our first scholarship graduates.

In May, we gathered at the University of São Paulo to hold the LAOHA Summit “Moving from research to practice”. The meeting aimed to set up an alliance between LAOHA and the Caribbean Oral Health Initiative (COHI) to discuss a regional plan to address oral health problems in Latin America. We hope that this collaboration may strengthen our mission of contributing to the scientific development and oral health improvement of the Latin American population through research and education.

Our efforts have also been presented at international scientific meetings: IADR, held in Vancouver (Canada) in June 2019, and ORCA, which took place in Cartagena (Colombia) in July 2019. Moreover, LAOHA sponsored a relevant symposium in ORCA: “Non-carious lesions: developmental defects of the enamel and erosive tooth wear”.



**Claudio Pannuti**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Treasurer*

### Editorial Board:

Bernal Stewart, Fernanda Campos, Gilberto Pucca, Luciene Figueiredo, Magda Feres, Mariana Gabriel, Mariana Galante and Zilson Malheiros.

### Contact:

[contact@latamoralhealthassociation.org](mailto:contact@latamoralhealthassociation.org)

# Dental Associations from LATAM at CIOSP

by **Bernal Stewart and Zilson Malheiros**

In January, regional delegates from 16 countries gathered in São Paulo, Brazil, to discuss the impact of periodontal disease and its effect on general health in Latin America. During the meeting, the attendees had the opportunity of visiting the Colgate-Palmolive booth and symposia within the leading dental congress of the region - CIOSP - attended by over 50 thousand dental professionals.



Mr. Sérgio Leite - Colgate-Palmolive

## Symposium "Be a Coach of Your Patients for Complete Oral Health"

*Dr. Alex Haas, Professor at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul*  
*Dr. Oswaldo Scopin, Coordinator of the Graduate Course at SENAC - Brazil*  
*Mr. Sérgio Leite, Worldwide Director of Colgate-Palmolive*



Dr. Mariano Sanz

## Symposium "PerioCaries Project - A comprehensive approach to oral health"

*Dr. Mariano Sanz, Professor at University Complutense - Madrid/Spain*

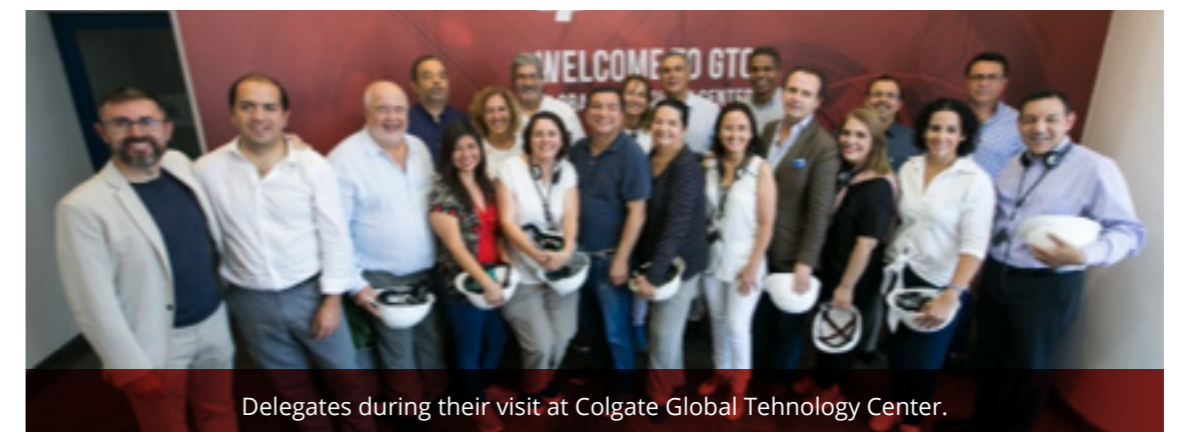


Delegates were hosted at the CIOSP by Dr. Patricia Bella Costa, Professional Relations Director of the Southern Cone for Colgate-Palmolive, Brazil.



Dr. Mariano Sanz with LAOHA and Colgate-Palmolive Directors.

The delegates also had the opportunity of visiting the Colgate Palmolive Global Technology Center (GTC) in Brazil. During the visit, they were hosted by the GTC Director, Abraham Cazes, Alexandre Gade, Plant Manager and their team. While at the site, they received a guided tour of the laboratories and the production plant.



Delegates during their visit at Colgate Global Tehnology Center.



## Learning of the contents of periodontal prevention OFEDO- UDUAL

by Maria Beatriz Ferro

The Academy's group continued working with the Schools of Dentistry of Latin America. On May 15th to 17th, in Santo Domingo, at the OFEDO-UDUAL Assembly, a workshop was carried out with Deans and Directors, consisting of 3 phases. On the First phase, the research results were demonstrated to the students based on the 2018 workshop feedback, with an increase of the sample of 421 students from 22 schools in 7 countries, and in which the learning of the contents of periodontal

prevention in clinical and community/ external activities of the students was demonstrated. On the second phase, a survey was conducted with the deans present about the scenarios of community practices to recognize the prevention contents applied and the analysis of risk factors for periodontal disease in such scenarios. In the third and last phase, a group workshop in which the results of the previous phases were analyzed, arriving at two important conclusions:

- 1) It is essential to have an integral view of the common and specific risk factors for Periodontal Disease and Dental Caries;
- 2) To cause a more significant impact on collective preventive actions, it is necessary to understand and work jointly for the needs of the communities. The commitment to OFEDO continues, so to contribute ever since college with oral health.



Participants of the XXIII OFEDO-UDUAL Assembly, held at Universidad Nacional Pedro Henrique Ureña in Santo Domingo-DR (Photo: Ofedo-Udual)



## LAOHA PhD Scholarship

by Magda Feres, Bernal Stewart e Zilson Malheiros

On behalf of the Latin American Oral Health Association and Colgate-Palmolive Company, we would like to congratulate Dr. Belén Retamal-Valdes from Chile and Dr. Carlos Rubio from Venezuela, on successfully completing their doctoral program.

This historical moment made it possible to fulfill one of the objectives of LAOHA:

the formation of new leaders for the development of dental research in Latin America. Dr. Retamal-Valdes and Dr. Rubio were the first students selected by LAOHA in 2016.

Dr. Retamal-Valdes has accepted a professor position at Guarulhos University, while Dr. Rubio is pursuing his post-doctoral studies in Spain.



Dr. Maria Ryan (Colgate-Palmolive's Chief Dental Officer) bestows Dr. Retamal-Valdes with a certificate of recognition.



Dr. Villar bestows her student, Dr. Rubio, with a certificate of recognition on behalf of LAOHA.

Dr. Retamal-Valdes expressed her satisfaction:

*"It is an honor and privilege to reach this point in my academic training with the support of LAOHA".*

## The Iberoamerican Observatory of Public Policies in Oral Health

by **Fernanda Campos, Mariana Galante, Mariana Gabriel, e Gilberto Pucca**

The Iberoamerican Observatory of Public Policies in Oral Health, created in December of 2016 in Mexico City, has the objective of gathering researchers from Latin America, Central America, and Spain that dedicate themselves to the study of public policies in oral health in their countries and outside them.

This group intends to strengthen the research in the field and extend the collaboration among the member countries of the Observatory, so that research in the area of public health and collective oral health may gain in

quality and number of publications and collaborations. Currently, our group has researchers, managers, and university professors from sixteen countries, all committed to the right to health for all people.

LAOHA, in turn, has the mission of contributing to the scientific development of dentistry and improvement of the oral health of the Latin American population through research and education; thus, our encounter and synergy of thoughts and ideals were almost natural.

*In view of the assumptions of the Observatory and the mission and institutional support of LAOHA, our group has been developing research that generates, beyond articles, doctoral and master's thesis as well as products of relevance to the health systems of each country. In 2 years, we have published a book (versions in [Portuguese](#) and [Spanish](#)) and organized a [Special Issue in Journal Universitas Odontológicas](#).*



Later this year, **sixteen e-books** of the member countries of the Observatory will be released at the SBPqO Meeting (Brazilian Division of IADR), addressing their health systems and how oral health is inserted. The e-books have versions in three languages: Portuguese, Spanish, and English.

The Observatory, in partnership with LAOHA and IADR, has been working on

the development of the research project denominated "Identification of the existing barriers and facilitators to the implementation of oral health programs and policies in Latin America", with the objective of understanding, through a qualitative assessment, the insertion of oral health in the public health system of three countries, Brazil, Chile, and Colombia.



In Brazil, as a result of the collaboration among partner universities, colleagues, and with the support of Colgate-Palmolive, [one book and four e-books](#) were released at the **International Dentistry Congress of São Paulo (CIOSP 2019)**, depicting experiences of the leading oral health public policy in the world, **Smiling Brazil** (Brasil Sorridente), which integrates the Unified Health System (SUS) in the country.

Lastly, we are developing our group's boldest study: "Epidemiological surveys in oral health, of population basis". This project integrates, beyond the collection, analysis, and delivery of reports to the countries, the capacitation of the

oral health human resources of each country. The objective is to provide tools so that each country may build their oral health surveillance system, having epidemiological studies as a data source for decision making.



In order to do that, we are producing a blended learning and bilingual course. With the support of the Teledentistry Center of the USP School of Dentistry (FOUSP), LAOHA, IADR, and the Culture and Extension Commission of the FOUSP, we are elaborating web classes, videos, written materials, exercises, workbooks, a bilingual book, and podcasts, among other material.

The first country to join the project will be Guatemala, through its National Council of Oral Health (CONASABU), participating in the construction and

development of this project. This fact reveals the significant commitment and effort that the local government has dedicated to change the oral health reality of the country, based on reliable data methodologically approved by the World Health Organization.

The planning is that the program is replicated in other countries in the next years. Other institutions that wish to conduct epidemiological studies in their countries with the support of the Observatory may get in contact at any time.

## What do we expect from the future?

- **To strengthen bonds of friendship, respect, and collaboration among Institutions in Latin America;**
- **To make the Observatory a space of debate, reflections, and real changes;**
- **To generate evidence that contributes to the decision-making by managers and policy formulators.**

*“Alone, we do nothing; we need to unite efforts and human and non-human resources if we wish to advance in our researches and projects. It does not suffice to publish for our peers; we must dialog more with society through the new communication tools that allow a more significant social impact”.*

**Dr . Fernanda Campos**



**Contact:**

Emails: [Observasaudebucal@gmail.com](mailto:Observasaudebucal@gmail.com)  
and [Fernandacsa@usp.br](mailto:Fernandacsa@usp.br)  
Phone: [+551130917891](tel:+551130917891)

# Latin American Summit

by **Luciene Figueiredo**

The LAOHA Summit was held in São Paulo, Brazil, on May 17th and 18th, 2019, at the School of Dentistry of the University of São Paulo (USP), with the theme “Moving from Research to Practice”. The event was also supported by the Caribbean Oral Health Initiative (COHI). The significance of getting scientific data to overcome the barriers of research and reach academics, professionals, and the population was widely debated, inspiring those present to create a regional action plan addressing relevant oral health issues in Latin America.

Members of both Associations, including professors and researchers from different countries, as well as LAOHA doctoral students, were distributed into groups, namely Consensus Outcomes,

Tele-Dentistry, Dental Education, and Daily Brushing. The groups were encouraged to suggest actions based on the meeting objectives: a) Identify opportunities in Oral Health Policies, in the Academy and Dental Profession; and b) Align a Regional Oral Health Strategy between LAOHA and COHI. The group discussions were based on lectures by professionals/researchers connected to the themes.

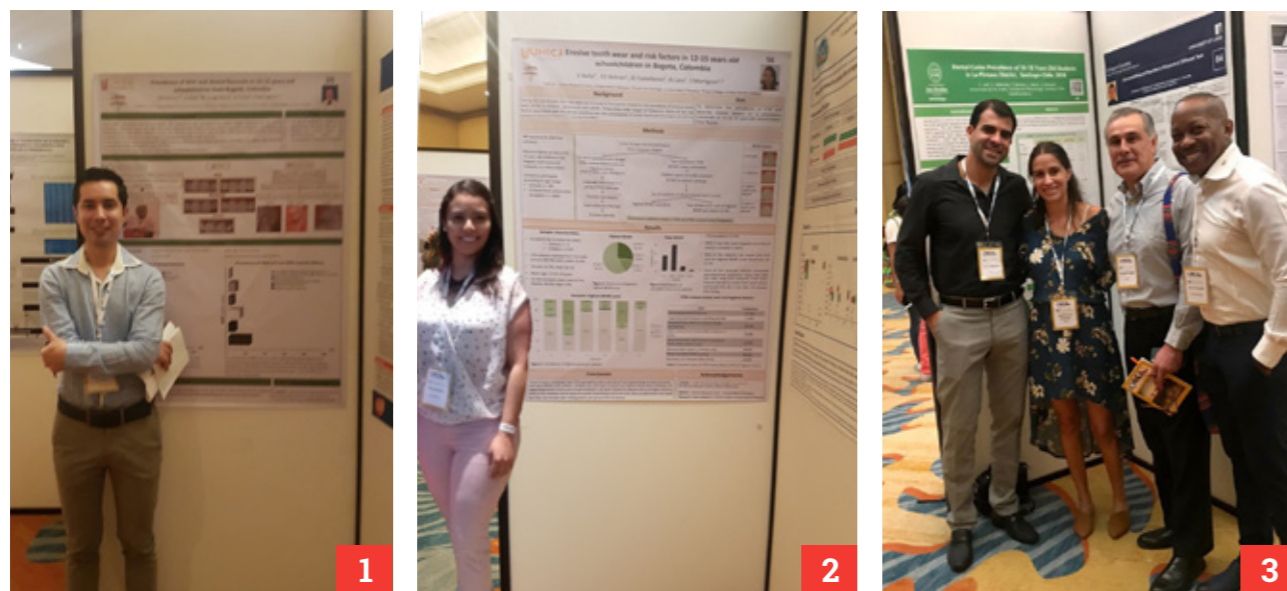
To enrich the event, digital management and transformation expert Fernanda Muradas was the special guest to address the theme “New Trends in Communication”.

As a closing event, the groups presented a work proposal for each area that will be developed in the coming years.





# LAOHA efforts were presented at international scientific meetings **IADR & ORCA 2019**



1. Dr. Edgard Beltrán presented at ORCA - Colombia.
2. Dr. Viviana Ávila presented at ORCA - Colombia.
3. Dr. Zilson Malheiros, Dr. Catalina Leal, Dr. Vicente Arangüis, and Dr. Bernal Stewart presented at ORCA - Colombia.
4. Dr. Cassiano Rösing, Dr. Gerson Langa, and Dr. Bernal Stewart presented at IADR - Canada.

# ORCA Symposium 2019

**Non-carious lesions:  
Developmental Defects of the Enamel and Erosive Tooth Wear**

by Bernal Stewart e Zilson Malheiros

On Saturday, July 6th, 2019, LAOHA sponsored a symposium in the 66<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Organization for Caries Research (ORCA) held in Cartagena, Colombia.



The symposium focused on general aspects, epidemiology, and clinical management of non-carious lesions, aiming to give a perspective on developmental defects of enamel (including molar incisor hypomineralization - MIH - and dental fluorosis) and erosive tooth wear by comparing works in Latin America and the United States with those conducted in the rest of the world, as well as clinical management aspects.

The program of the event was the following:

Topic	Lecturer
Welcome and introduction	<b>Prof. Stefania Martignon</b> Universidad El Bosque, Bogotá, Colombia Kings College London, London, UK
Erosive tooth wear	<b>Prof. David Bartlett</b> Kings College London, London, UK
Dental fluorosis	<b>Prof. Angeles Martínez-Mier</b> Indiana University, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA
Molar incisor hypomineralization	<b>Prof. David Manton</b> University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia
Discussion	<b>Chairs:</b> <b>Prof. Christian Splieth</b> - Greifswald University, Greifswald, Germany <b>Prof. Stefania Martignon</b> - Universidad El Bosque, Bogotá, Colombia Kings College London, London, UK

