

# Prosthodontics in Practice: **Science or Handicraft?**



## Professor Harold W Preiskel

Harold is Emeritus Professor of Prosthodontics at King's College Dental Institute, London. He is also in speciality private practice. He has recently had his name inscribed on the Hall of Fame in Prosthodontics at the renowned Ohio State University College of Dentistry, the only name from outside North America!

### Key facts about your speaker include:

- Obtained MSc at Ohio State in 1963 after graduation.
- First President of The International College of Prosthodontists.
- Appointed "Distinguished Lecturer of the Year 2008".
- Awarded the Webb-Johnson Medallion in 2008.
- Author of 100 scientific articles, active in research, teaching & practice.

**Within one professional lifetime prosthodontics has progressed from the hammering of swaged metal to the hum of computer driven CAD/CAM systems. Imaging, diagnostic methods and treatment modalities have made unimaginable strides providing the specialty with life enhancing therapeutic possibilities.**

### Course Objectives

- 1 To help the practitioner understand the significant developments within Prosthodontics.
- 2 To profit from the experience of others.
- 3 To derive maximum benefit from modern techniques.

This presentation, practical in nature, will examine more than quantum leaps in prosthodontic progress; it will highlight the lessons to be learnt from mindless technique worship and the disappointments of false messiahs. Prosthodontists were among the first to appreciate the importance of understanding human jaw movements and their significance upon any restoration placed in the mouth - a factor today overlooked at the peril of operator and patient alike. Furthermore the oral environment is better understood.

The removable prosthesis, now the Cinderella of prosthodontics, still has a place in our armamentarium, albeit in a changed role; similarly, the tooth-supported fixed prosthesis. It is disturbing that the implant appears to be the default restorative option irrespective of the advances made in endodontics and periodontics. The place of osseointegration techniques in modern prosthodontics will be examined in the light of the speaker's first 30 years experience in the field and initial 50 in years the specialty.