Smile-on showcases training for nurses

mile-on, a leader in health-care education, showcased its new training package in dental nursing education to delegates at the British Dental Association conference.

DNNET II is designed to help train dental nurses studying for the National Certificate or NVQ level 3 in Oral Health Care Dental Nursing and as an update for established nurses.

The complete training package offers important information for nurses to gain a General Dental Council-recognised qualification, which is crucial since the introduction of the statutory register for dental care professionals.

The 15-module programme uses a blend of media (audio, video, animations and interaction) to engage, encourage and increase retention of the material and explores subjects such as anatomy, oral medicine and pharmacology, oral health, dental disease and treatment options for endodontic, restorative, prosthetic, periodontal, orthodontic cases and extractions and minor oral surgery.

A spokeswoman for Smile-on said: ‘Delegates agreed the benefits of the programme were impressive, offering a flexible educational up-date for established nurses and the best curriculum, by leading experts in real life scenarios, preparation advice for examination and registration and all the tools to make a fulfilling and successful career for training dental nurses.’

For more information on DNNET II, call 020 7400 8989 or email info@smile-on.com.

Global network links dentists

A n ‘innovative global network’ aiming to strengthen dental links of Indian origin from all over the world, was launched at the British Dental Association conference.

Dentalghar, which means the ‘home of dentistry’, was created by the visionary Professor Raman Bedi who joined forces with the market leader in healthcare education Smile-on and Henry Schein Minerva to bring Dentalghar to life.

Professor Bedi was the Chief Dental Officer of England from 1 October 2002 to 1 October 2005.

Dentalghar aims to link thousands of dentists who share common values.

All members are able to contribute to polls, surveys and articles and professionals will have 24 hour access to new perspectives, fascinating insights and the chance to discuss their experiences and receive advice.

Professor Raman Bedi, who hopes that Dentalghar will become a ‘major force in the industry’ said: ‘In dentistry, proportionately speaking, we have more worldwide dentists of Bangladeshi, Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan origin than our medical colleagues, and so this factor gave rise to the momentum for starting Dentalghar. Dentalghar is not only an arena to meet and discuss issues, but also to create opportunities where many of us outside India can think about how we can give something back to our country of origin.’

A spokeswoman for Smile-on said: ‘Dentalghar offers an invaluable opportunity for dental professionals to join a global network and explore the latest news, case studies, interviews, special offers and charitable events.’

Professionals looking to study abroad will also find outstanding information on work permits, visas and qualifications and there is also an excellent opportunity to win bursaries and to contribute to volunteer work in the UK and all around the world. Delegates at the conference agreed that this innovative online community would give professionals from all walks of life a voice that would be heard by thousands.’

‘Take risks’ urges entrepreneur

M illionaire and entrepreneur Charon Gill advised dentists to ‘throw caution to the wind’ at this year’s British Dental Association conference.

The guest speaker admitted that ‘going to see a dentist is scary enough, but opening my mouth to 1,000 dentists is traumatic!’

He added: ‘Are entrepreneurs born or bred? I don’t know, but all I wanted was to be successful to make my grandfather proud of me.

‘I needed £6,000 to start my own business so I went to the Bank of Scotland – they gave me £5,000, but I needed £5,000 more, so I got it eventually and the deal was done. My advice is to do the deal first and you’ll find the money later – it’s out there somewhere.

‘If you want success you have to throw caution to the wind one day, and never be shy – talk about your business because if you don’t, no one else will.’

When asked how to ‘mitigate the risks’ in the recession, Gill said: ‘Now is a challenging time with the credit crunch, but every situation creates opportunity. If you’re not sure about it do a business plan so you know where you want to go – it’s like a road map. Evaluate it on a weekly basis and make sure you stay on the right track.’

Paralympian offers inspiration

F ive times Paralympian and medalist Marc Woods gave dental professionals the ‘insight to achieve beyond their expectations’ at the conference held by the British Dental Association.

As a gold sponsor of the British Dental Association conference, the dental manufacturer, Philips, hosted a seminar by the Paralympic Marc Woods.

Diagnosed with cancer at 17, Mr Wood had his leg amputated. He became an international swimming champion and has represented Great Britain in five Paralympic Games.

He now works as a leadership coach and motivational speaker.

‘During the seminar he talked about the importance of taking personal responsibility and how everyone in the team (from principle to the cleaner) has a part to play.

‘He also emphasised the importance of involving each person in the practice and developing smaller and broader teams.

‘Mr Wood’s seminar was preceded by a Philips-hosted seminar and interactive quiz by Mike Lewis, professor of oral medicine entitled ‘The mouth is the window of the body. What can you see?’

‘This looked at the important role dental professionals can play in the early diagnosis of systemic disease, and how this can impact on patient outcomes.

‘Philips also launched its first ever Sonicare for Kids at the conference – a toothbrush aimed at children aged four to 10 years of age.

‘The new brush is based on the core Sonicare technology but incorporates a number of innovative new elements.’

A spokesman for Philips said: ‘Validating studies conducted amongst children aged between four and 10 years of age, found that Sonicare for Kids removes more plaque than a child’s manual toothbrush, and this was found to be up to 75 per cent more in hard-to-reach areas.

‘Thanks to the in-built timer and quadpacer with its musical tones indicator, the children trialling the brush also used it to teach their children how to brush effectively.

‘With Sonicare for Kids, parents can provide their children with a fun way to start achieving exceptional results now and as they develop, providing effective brushing habits for a lifetime of good oral care’.

‘I needed £6,000 to start my own business so I went to the Bank of Scotland – they gave me £5,000, but I needed £5,000 more, so I got it eventually and the deal was done. My advice is to do the deal first and you’ll find the money later – it’s out there somewhere.

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