



1993年に入会して

(一社) 国際歯科学士会日本部会会長

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思い返しますと、1993年の総会にて、榎本赳先生および江間誠一郎先生からご推薦を頂き、重厚なガウンを纏って10人の同期の仲間と共に入会させて頂きました時から数えて30数年間の年月が経ちました。その間、委員会委員、理事、事務局長、副会長などを経験させていただきながら会務の多くを勉強させていただき、多くの歴代会長から薫陶をうけ、多くのフェローの知己を得ましたことは、私の大きな財産となりました。

過去に本会は、運営で大小の困難な時期を経験しましたが、その困難を乗り越えて、たゆみない発展をして参りました。その1つの出来事は、2011年に発生した東日本大震災であり、当該年度の総会・認証式の開催にあたっては、被災者が苦しんでいる時期に華美な式の開催を計画することは、定款に奉仕の精神を掲げる団体としては不適切ではないかという判断でありました。しかし、認証式というニューフェローにとって大切なイベントを中止するのも適切ではないという意見がフェローより寄せられ、当時の天野恵会長の英断により、世間で許される範囲の形式で総会・認証式が開催されました。

その2つ目は、1957年に本会が設立されて以来、学術・親睦を主体とする任意団体として活動してきましたが、2010年、社会から認められた団体として、一般社団法人に発展・移行しました。当時会長を務められていた齋藤毅先生の英断と、法人化に関わった多くのフェローの英知を集め、司法書士の協力を得て、法人化いたしました。

2026年6月6日の2026年度総会におきまして、1/35の理事として選任して頂き、直後に開催されました理事会において、第34代会長に推戴され、総会において承認していただきました。多大なる功績を残されました前任の富士谷盛興会長からバトンタッチを受け、重責を担うことになりました。浅学非才な私にとりまして、大変光栄でありますとともに、身の引き締まる思いをしております。

本国の首相が就任時に『働いて、働いて……』と行政府の長として決意を述べておりましたが、過去には、アメリカ合衆国の第16代大統領のエイブラハム・リンカーンが、南北戦争の終結時に激戦地であったゲティスバーグで、『government of the people, by the people……』の有名な演説を残しました。この名言を引用して、今後2年間の会務運営を託されました理事および委員会委員一同は、『organization of the fellow, by the fellow, for the fellow』として会務を運営させていただく所存です。

今後は、2026年度総会資料に記載されております事業計画に従って、健全財政運営を基本とし、各国部会との交流を図り、日本部会がアジア部会の雄として活躍出来るように、会務運営を遂行させて頂く所存ですので、フェロー各位におかれましては、ご理解とご協力を賜りますようお願い申し上げます。

Joined in 1993

MAKOTO KOITABASHI

President of the International College of Dentists Japan Section

Looking back, it has been over 30 years since I joined the ICD Japan Section at the 1993 general meeting, recommended by Dr. Takeshi Enomoto and Dr. Seiichiro Ema, donning a dignified gown along with ten of my classmates. During that time, I have had the opportunity to serve as a committee member, director, secretary-general, and vice-President, learning much about the association's affairs. I have also received guidance from many past Presidents and gained many fellows, which has been a great asset.

In the past, this association operated as an academic and social organization, but it has evolved from a voluntary association into a responsible general incorporated association, the Japan Section, and I have witnessed its development and transformation.

I have experienced some difficult periods, both large and small, in the management of this association, but we have overcome those difficulties and developed together. One such event was the Great East Japan Earthquake of 2011. Regarding the holding of the general meeting and induction ceremony for that year, the decision was made that planning a lavish ceremony during a time when disaster victims were suffering would be inappropriate for an organization whose articles of incorporation uphold a spirit of service. However, opinions were expressed by the fellows that canceling the certification ceremony, an important event for new fellows, would also be inappropriate. Therefore, thanks to the decisive action of then-President Amano, the general meeting and certification ceremony were held in a format that would be considered acceptable by society.

Secondly, since its establishment in 1957, the association had held academic and fellowship events as a voluntary organization. In 2010, however, it transformed into a general incorporated association, a society-recognized organization. Thanks to the decisive action of then-President Saito, the combined wisdom of many fellows involved in the incorporation process, and the cooperation of a judicial scrivener, the association was transformed into a respectable general incorporated association.

At the 69th General Assembly on June 6, 2026, I was elected as one of the 35 directors.

Immediately afterward, at the Board of Directors meeting, I was nominated as the 34th President, a position approved at the General Assembly. Receiving the baton from my predecessor, President Morioki Fujitani, who left behind a great legacy, I, a person of limited knowledge and ability, am deeply honored and humbled to assume this heavy responsibility.

Just as the Japanese Prime Minister, upon taking office, declared her resolve as head of the executive branch with the words, "Work, work...", in the past, Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, delivered his famous "government of the people, by the people..." speech at Gettysburg, a site of fierce fighting at the end of the Civil War. Drawing on this famous quote, all directors and committee members entrusted with the management of the association's affairs for the next two years intend to operate the association's affairs as "organization of the fellow, by the fellow, for the fellow."

Currently, the global situation is expected to change significantly. However, in accordance with the action plan outlined in the materials for the 69th General Assembly, we intend to manage the Japan Section in a sound financial manner, foster exchanges with national sections, and ensure that the Japan Section can play a leading role in the Asian Section. We ask for the understanding and cooperation of all Fellows.