Dear Delegates,

my name is Björn Bierlich and I am the Treasurer of the International Association of Dental Students for the current term 2018/19.

My IADS journey started in 2016, I was a beginner in the dentistry studies when I discovered an advertisement for an International Voluntary Program of “IADS” on Facebook. I went to Mozambique for a month, without knowing anyone, neither participants, organizers nor “IADS”. It was the best decision in my life, I made long-lasting friendships and exactly those brought me to my very first IADS-Meeting in Beirut, Lebanon. The vibes which caught me in Mozambique continued in Beirut - from the very beginning I understood what IADS is.

**IADS is a platform for very open-minded, career-oriented dental students from all over the world who meet to exchange their experiences in professional life and seek to enrich the development of its members in all dimensions as scientific skills, leadership skills, global networking and also regulatory advisory.**

Since my beginnings in 2016 I had the chance to work in almost all fields of IADS:

After volunteering in Mozambique, I had the chance to organize and manage these kind of events as Voluntary Chairman. I hosted a Training-New-Trainers event in my hometown Dresden, Germany and also got qualified as a trainer. I represented IADS at many occasions as e.g. IDS (International Dental Show), Cellivia Congress Berlin, Zhermack Experience Verona etc. Last but not least I gained experience in the Executive Committee and served our association as its Treasurer.

During the past term IADS strongly moved to a new direction: Global Oral Health. **It is good to see IADS alongside with prestigious organizations as WHO, IFMSA, FDI etc. fighting for more awareness of oral health in the world.**

Nevertheless we should not forget about the smallest but most important component of our association: the dental student. The dental student, wherever he lives, wherever he studies, should be back in the center of our association - we should serve him to develop in all dimensions. That’s why we have to reinforce our traditional fields as Clinical Exchanges, Research Exchanges, Scientific Webinars, Soft Skill Trainings and Voluntary Work.

Could it just be „Members first, but Reputation second“?

If you share the same vision about our association and if you would like to support me on that vision, I would be honored to count on your vote.

PS.: If you would like to get some impressions about my political positions during the past term, I posted two statements I wrote on the left. To open, just click on it.

Best wishes,

Björn Bierlich

Candidate for Presidency 2019/20