

Dawson Center

In early May, Dr. Pyke traveled to the renowned Dawson Center for Advanced Dental Education in St. Petersburg, Florida. It was truly an exceptional educational experience. The staff at the Dawson Center is committed to helping dentists become true “physicians of the masticatory system” (their term!) instead of mere “tooth doctors”. In other words, it is critical that dentists evaluate the stability and harmony of the entire “chewing system”, which comprises not only the teeth, but also the temporomandibular joint and the muscles of the head and neck. Treatment can then be designed to optimize the function of all these components, and thus ensure long term oral health.

The “hands-on” portion of the course really brought this to life as the participants evaluated each other, including mounted models, transcranial radiography, and Doppler examination of the temporomandibular joints.

It was definitely an intense but worthwhile week, but there was also some time to relax on the beach, do some shopping, visit the famous Salvador Dali museum, and take a dolphin sighting tour!

They will be returning to the Dawson Center in November for the next stage of their ongoing training process to become (as the Dawson Center calls it!) “master dentists”!