



# Communiqué

Quarterly Newsletter of the

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY**

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Members are urged to submit items of interest for publication in the next issue by November 10, 2003 to:

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## **President's Message**



### **Candace M. Jones, RDH, MPH**

Those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer are over and fall is here. This season reminds us of the abundant harvest that comes from cultivating the talents of our members and nurturing our partnerships in anticipation of tremendous growth. Here is a bushel of good news laden with thanks to each of you.

AAPHD membership has increased to 782 members from 591 members one year ago. Our goal is to reach 1000 members by 2008. How can you recruit a new member? If each of us reached out to just one person, we can easily reach our goal. Tell someone why you value

being a member of AAPHD. Be proud of the Association and your own contribution toward advancing its work! You make a difference!

I would like to ask each of you to consider how you might contribute to AAPHD by serving on a standing committee or strategic goal committee, writing an article for the journal or newsletter, representing AAPHD at a meeting or event, helping organize a session at the 2004 NOHC, submitting or reviewing abstracts for the 2004 NOHC, recruiting a new member, mentoring a new or existing member, writing a check to the AAPHD Foundation or increasing your dues from a regular voting member to a contributing or sustaining member. AAPHD needs you!

Our financial status is improving – thanks to new members, the 2003 National Oral Health Conference (NOHC) making a profit, and good fiscal management. The NOHC met its goal due to the increase in attendance and the profit will be shared equally between AAPHD and the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD). It appears we will have a break-even budget or perhaps end up in the black this fiscal year. The AAPHD Foundation is also doing extremely well. Thanks to the generosity of our members, we have \$128,000 in pledges, of which over \$68,000 has been received. Thanks to **Linda Niessen**, our Foundation chairperson, and other committee members for their diligence and persistence. Please contact Dr. Niessen if you would like to contribute to this worthy cause.

We have launched our Association's strategic plan and need your ideas and participation in the five goal areas of finance and development, membership, legislative and advocacy, workforce and Surgeon General's Report on Oral Health and Call to Action. For an update on these goal committees and how you can get involved, see the article found in the newsletter, visit our website and contact the chairpersons. Please consider sharing your energy and talents within one of these groups and contributing to the growth of AAPHD.

Your Executive Council continues to forge partnerships with ASTDD, the American Association of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD), the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) and the National Dental Association (NDA) as well as Special Care Dentistry. We meet with each association's leadership several times a year to share information and identify where partnerships could be formed to help each other reach mutual goals.

**Linda Kaste** represented AAPHD at the 2003 Dental Education Summit sponsored by the ADA. Please see her report on page 5. **Bob Weyant** represented AAPHD at the Annual Meeting of the Recognized Specialty Certifying Boards and Specialty Organizations sponsored by the ADA. **Marilyn Woolfolk** represented the Association at the NDA meeting in

*(Continued on page 3)*

## AAPHD Foundation Closing in on Short-Term Goals

The AAPHD Foundation is pleased to announce that it has reached one of its major goals – receiving over \$100,000 in pledges to the Foundation. Contributions already received has just exceeded the \$60,000 level and is expected to grow by another \$10,000 before year’s end due to letters being sent in August to members who have made pledges.

**Linda Niessen**, AAPHD Foundation Chair, announced during the NOHC that a special fund had been established to honor **Stan Lotzkar**, which will be used to support activities of the American Board of Public Health Dentistry. A special fund has also just been established in memory of **Hersh Horowitz** who passed away in August. Contributions may be made by calling the AAPHD office.

AAPHD members will soon receive another opportunity to accept **Joe Doherty’s** challenge to contribute \$1,000 during their career. Pledge forms will be distributed with the AAPHD Dues statements in September.

Members of the Foundation Committee met in August by conference call to discuss plans for a fund raising activity in Los Angeles at the NOHC, guidelines for establishing special scholarship funds and ideas for how money will be distributed through grants.

Thank you to the following AAPHD members who have already accepted the challenge and contributed to the AAPHD Foundation!

### AAPHD Foundation Contributors

#### Dunning Level

Chester Douglass  
Joseph Alderman  
Linda Niessen

#### Ayers Level

Georgia dela Cruz  
Linda Kaste  
William Maas

#### Striffler Level

J. Michael Allen  
Myron Allukian  
Kathy Atchison  
Robert Bagramian  
Jay Balzer  
Elizabeth Bernhard  
Ron Billings  
Irene Bober-Moken  
Isabel Garcia & Eric Bothwell  
Brian A. Burt  
Lois Cohen  
Robert Collins  
Marsha Cunningham  
Conan Davis  
Jack Dillenberg  
Joe & Helen Doherty  
Terri Dolan  
Robert Dumbaugh  
Caswell A. Evans  
Denise Fedele  
Mary Foley  
Janie Fuller  
Steve Geiermann  
Barbara Gooch  
Harry Goodman  
Ralph Green  
Veronica Greene  
Mark Greer  
Kathy Hayes

#### Lawrence Hill

Irene Hilton  
Alice & Hersh Horowitz  
Suzanne Hubbard  
Elvine Y. Jin  
Robert M. Johnson  
Donald W. Johnson  
Rhys Jones  
David & Candace Jones  
Judith Jones  
Rebecca King  
Dushanka Kleinman  
Raymond Kuthy  
Robin Lawrence  
Steven Levy  
Gene P. Lewis  
John D. Mahilo  
Dolores M. Malvitz  
H Berton McCauley  
Steven Uranga McKane  
Hermine McLeran  
Robert Mecklenburg  
M. Raynor Mullins  
Sena Narendran  
Dean Perkins  
Sharon J. Perlman  
Scott M. Presson  
Gary Rozier  
Vladimir & Saundra Spolsky  
Mary Tavares  
George Taylor  
Scott Tomar  
Jeanine Tucker  
Jane Weintraub  
Robert Weyant  
Alex White  
American Board of Dental  
Public Health

#### Other Contributions

Anonymous  
Jackie Balcom  
Kimberly Benkert  
Marsha Butler  
Daniel Caplan  
Aida A. Chohayeb  
Ann Drum  
Ronald Elliott  
James Freed  
Karla J. Girts  
Sharon Gordon  
Tegwyn Hughes  
Amid Ismail  
Beverly Isman  
Homer Jamison  
Lireka Joseph  
Jayanth Kumer  
Warren Lemay  
Stuart Lockwood  
Michael Marcinuk  
Christine Matis  
Timothy Mitchener  
Robert H. Mitton  
Nicholas Mosca  
Laura Neumann  
Dai-il Paik  
Midge Pfeffer  
Jose Rodriguez  
Bryon E. Roshong  
John Stamm  
James Sutherland  
Susan TenganJames Toothaker  
Minoru Yagi  
Naham Cons Fellowship Donations  
Joanna Jenny Fellowship Donations  
Best Clinical Practices Association  
Close Out

#### Lotzkar Fund

Don Altman  
Victor Badner  
Ronald Burakoff  
E.M. Campbell  
Joan Collins  
Joseph Doherty  
Teresa Dolan  
Chester Douglass  
Caswell Evans  
James Freed  
Alice Horowitz  
Elizabeth Jones  
Kaumudi Joshipura  
Linda Kaste  
Raymond Kuthy  
Steven Levy  
Mark Macek  
Gary Martin  
Robert Mecklenburg  
Susan Reed  
Richard Rozier  
Karen Schneider  
Mary Tavares  
George Taylor  
John Warren  
Ardell Wilson  
Louie/Hench Charitable  
Gift Fund  
American Board of Dental  
Public Health  
Linda Nissen  
Donald McNeal  
Richard Mumma Jr.  
Olusegun Alonge  
Scott Presson

# Lights, Camera, Call to Action: Spotlight on Oral Health

2004 NOHC, May 3-5

Pre-Conference Sessions: April 30-May 2  
Los Angeles Airport Marriott

This Hollywood theme has been selected and the planning process is underway for the 2004 National Oral Health Conference at the Los Angeles Marriott. The large, collaborative planning group is meeting every other Thursday and the lead, AAPHD-ASTDD planning group on interim weeks. If you have ideas for invited sessions, please send them to any member of the planning committee (listed right).



The call for abstracts for contributed sessions will be out at the end of the summer with **abstracts**

**due on December 5, 2003.** Online submission of abstracts will be available for the first time this year at our website, [www.aaphd.org](http://www.aaphd.org), starting around October 1. In addition to traditional contributed oral and poster sessions, poster discussion sessions are being planned as a new format for this meeting. Sequential presenters will provide brief oral presentations of their posters in a structured, timed format. Presentations will be grouped by topic to enhance interactions among presenters and the audience.

Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend.

Submitted by **Jane Weintraub**, *President-Elect*



## President's Message (con't)

New Orleans and I represented AAPHD at the ADHA meeting in New York. These meetings provide opportunities to learn about each other's organizations and discover shared visions and purposes and pave the way for expansion of our public health efforts.

**Joe Doherty** is resigning as the AAPHD Historian after 16 years of service. I want to thank Dr. Doherty for his years of service, commitment and dedication to the Association and his commitment and dedication. The Executive Council has commissioned Dr. Doherty to write the history of AAPHD and I know we will all look forward to learning more about our Association. **Joe Alderman** has agreed to serve as our new historian and will take over in October. Thank you, Dr. Alderman and we look forward to working with you.

After almost four years as our Editor of the *Journal of Public Health Dentistry*, **Scott Tomar** will resign in August 2004. **Gary Rozier** will head up the search committee for a new journal editor. Scott, thank you for

your leadership as our editor. We appreciate the expertise that you have provided in making the journal one of the leading scientific publications among health associations.

On October 25-27, your Executive Council will hold its mid-year meeting in San Francisco in conjunction with the annual meeting of the ADA. We will again attend the reference hearings and share the views of public health dentistry. We look forward to meeting with representatives of the ADA, AAPD, ADHA and the NDA in order to cultivate these relationships. If any of our members are attending the ADA meeting, you are welcome to attend our Executive Council meetings at the Renaissance Parc Fifty-five Hotel.

**President-Elect Jane Weintraub** and the planning committee are hard at work on the 2004 National Oral Health Conference in Los Angeles. It promises to be a star-studded event that you won't want to miss. Mark your calendar for May 3-5, and don't miss the pre-conference sessions from April 30-May 2, 2004.

## NOHC Planning Committee Roster

<i>Representative</i>	<i>Organization</i>
Kaihe Akahane	Regional Dental Medicaid
Myron Allukian	AACDP
Kathryn Atchison	UCLA-Local Arrangements
Patrick Blahut	IHS
Nathela Chatara	AAPHD National Office
Bob Dumbaugh	ABDPH Executive Director
Caswell Evans	ABDPH Past President
Chris Forsch*	ASTDD Representative
Barbara Gooch	CDC
Alice Horowitz	NIH/NIDCR
Bev Isman	Pre-Conference Sessions
Bob Isman	State Dental Medicaid
Candace Jones	AAPHD President
Nancy Martin	Round Table Sessions
Nick Mosca*	ASTDD Representative
Lynn Mouden	ASTDD President
Mark Nehring	HRSA, MCHB
Linda Niessen	AAPHD Foundation
Dean Perkins*	ASTDD Executive Director
Ted Thurn	ADHA
Pam Tolson*	AAPHD Exec Director
Jane Weintraub*	AAPHD President-Elect
Bob Weyant*	AAPHD Vice-President

*\*Core Planning Group*

# Association in Action

## Engaging Members in Development of the Strategic Plan

In March 2003, AAPHD released a draft Strategic Action Plan that established a set of goals and strategies to achieve those goals over the next 3 to 5 years. The goals are in alignment with the mission and values of the organization and consistent with its budget. The draft plan was discussed at the Town Hall meeting at the NOHC and adopted by the membership. The Strategic Action Plan describes a number of potential strategies to reach AAPHD's goals and recognizes the need to develop a tracking mechanism, identify resources and establish a timeline for each strategy. AAPHD has established a committee to "flesh out" each goal, each consisting of two co-chairs and a liaison from the Executive Council (EC). Over the next few months, each Goal Committee will be convening via conference calls to carry out its charge. Following is the first update from committee:

### **Goal 1: Implement a public health policy and advocacy plan to increase political influence.**

The committee chair is **Larry Hill** and Vice-Chair is **Kathryn Atchison**.

### **Goal 2: Increase revenue and reserves.**

The Goal 2 Committee has been examining potential means of generating sustainable non-dues revenue. **Mark Greer** is the Chair and **Reg Louie**, Vice-Chair. The Committee collaborates with the Finance & Development Committee, with the support of **Dolores Malvitz**, **Steven Levy**, **David Jones**, **Becky Eden** and **Kimberly Benkert**, members who volunteered to serve as members of the strategic plan goal committee.

The Committee is considering a variety of possibilities, including: the development of membership incentives; exploring federal and private grants to support conference expenses; paid advertising in the journal, newsletter and website; development of the Association's capacity to serve as a CERP certification reviewer, provide direct technical assistance with grant writing and produce additional professional workshops; and even the possibility of fun activities, such as raffles, associated with national conferences. The committee welcomes member in-put. If you have ideas or would like to join this Committee, please contact **Mark Greer** at [mhkgreer@mail.health.state.hi.us](mailto:mhkgreer@mail.health.state.hi.us).

### **Goal 3: Respond to the National Call to Action to Promote Oral Health**

With member input, AAPHD will develop and promote a response to the call to action that defines actions and activities at the national, state and local level by 2005. **Mark Siegal** and **Bob Isman** co-chair the Goal 3 Committee, and **Bill Maas** is the EC liaison. Because the goal is directly related to the National Call to Action (CTA) and its many strategies, work on the goal lent itself to being split among five subcommittees, each corresponding with one of the CTA's actions. Subcommittees and chairs are:

Action 1: Change perceptions of oral health - **Sue Sanzi-Schaedel** [susan.m.sanzi-schaedel@co.multnomah.or.us](mailto:susan.m.sanzi-schaedel@co.multnomah.or.us);

Action 2: Overcome barriers by replicating effective programs and proven efforts - **Rebecca King** [rebecca.king@ncmail.net](mailto:rebecca.king@ncmail.net).

Action 3: Build the science base and accelerate science transfer - **Kevin Hardwick** [Kevin.hardwick@nih.gov](mailto:Kevin.hardwick@nih.gov).

Action 4: Increase oral health workforce diversity, capacity and flexibility - **Beth Mertz** [bethm@itsa.uscf.edu](mailto:bethm@itsa.uscf.edu).

Action 5: Increase collaborations - **Diane Brunson** [diane.brunson@state.co.us](mailto:diane.brunson@state.co.us).

Members have been invited to serve and participate on the subcommittees where they can focus their interests to identify specific action steps. The possibilities are endless, and we invite all interested members to contact either the Committee co-chairs or one of the Subcommittee chairs to express their interest.

Over the next few weeks, subcommittees will develop a manageable group of action steps that are of high interest to members. The Goal 3 subcommittee chairs, committee co-chairs and EC liaison will come to consensus on which action steps and collaborations should be recommended to the EC for action at its October meeting. We hope the process results in opportunities for participants to continue to be engaged in implementation of an activity that grew out of this planning process.

### **Goal 4: Identify and disseminate a public health core curriculum model for dental and dental hygiene schools.**

Chair **Linda Kaste** and Vice-Chair **Steve Geiermann** are working on a critical issue, the future of the dental workforce particularly public health, including a lack of public health principles in curriculum and training.

The committee has begun an initial fact-finding to review data sources and issues identified from the initial ad hoc forum held at the 2003 Annual Business Meeting. Discussions with **Richard Valachovic** and **Karl Haden** from ADEA have further illustrated gaps in knowledge, such as national board scores not being available beyond the individual school. On a more positive note, they pointed us towards additional valuable resource materials and offered recommendations as to individuals who could add a unique and vital perspective to our charge. A listing of sources reviewed thus far and proposed composition of the membership of this committee is forthcoming.

### **Goal 5: Increase membership and member participation at meetings and on committees.**

An active and supportive membership from local, state and national perspectives is vital to propel AAPHD along newly forming strategic directions. Goal 4 becomes the catalyst for all association activities and provides opportunities that may have not been possible previously. The members of the Goal 4 committee are listed below:

**Jim Sutherland**, Chair and EC Liaison, [jsutherland@hrsa.gov](mailto:jsutherland@hrsa.gov)

**Mary Foley**, Vice Chair, [mary.foley@state.ma.us](mailto:mary.foley@state.ma.us)

**Kathy Mangskau** [kmangska@state.nd.us](mailto:kmangska@state.nd.us)

**Kathy Lituri** [lituri@bu.edu](mailto:lituri@bu.edu)

**Steven Steed** [stevensteed@utah.gov](mailto:stevensteed@utah.gov)

**Stuart Lockwood** [slockwood@adph.state.al.us](mailto:slockwood@adph.state.al.us)

**Linda Jorgenson** [lmjorgensonrdh@yahoo.com](mailto:lmjorgensonrdh@yahoo.com)

**Phil Bilger** [paskbilger@worldnet.att.net](mailto:paskbilger@worldnet.att.net)

**Ramon Baez** [guileee@yahoo.com](mailto:guileee@yahoo.com)

## Association In Action

The key strategies developed during the Town Hall meeting include: 1) Assess, Recruit, Retain Membership; 2) Conduct Membership Survey; and 3) Association Marketing.

During the coming months, the committee will incorporate these strategies into attainable objectives and will look to delegate and regionalize this exciting work to ensure the highest level of participation and the greatest potential of enhancing our membership levels.

### Call for Comments on AAPHD Interim Diversity Policy

The Committee on Diversity Policy requests input from the AAPHD membership regarding the Interim Diversity Policy, which was revised in October 2002. The Executive Council adopted the proposed statement as interim policy in April 2004 but final approval by the membership is pending. The final vote is anticipated at the 2004 AAPHD Town Hall meeting. Please review the interim diversity policy posted on the association's website [www.aaphd.org](http://www.aaphd.org) or printed in the June *Communique*. Your written opinions, proposed revisions and/or comments should be forwarded by October 1 to **Maria Rosa Watson** [work\\_mrw@yahoo.com](mailto:work_mrw@yahoo.com) or **Gustavo Cruz** [gdc1@nyu.edu](mailto:gdc1@nyu.edu). Thank you for your input!

### 2003 Dental Education Summit Report

On July 28, the ADA hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dental Education Summit, titled "Innovative Approaches to the Delivery and Financing of Dental Education". Briefly, the history of the education summits follows the Future of Dentistry Report that led to the 1<sup>st</sup> Summit in 2001, which focused on faculty recruitment, indebtedness and cost of education. A 2<sup>nd</sup> Summit was held in 2002 to update the above issues, with focus on specialty groups and fundraising related to creating a national endowment for dental education.

Approximately 50 persons attended, representing dental specialty areas, academia, the American Dental Education Association (ADEA), various components of the ADA, including President **T. Howard Jones**, Executive Director **James Bramson** and the ADA Foundation. A formal report of the Summit will be provided to the ADA. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Summit was included in Board of Trustees Report 10 to the ADA House of Delegates and reflected Resolutions 34 to 39. A request was made to have the report on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Summit be made more publicly available beyond the ADA report. While awaiting these more formal reports, the following paragraphs provide a quick glimpse at the content of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Summit.

**Barkley Payne** from the ADA Foundation provided an update on the development of a national endowment for dental education. ADA resolutions 65H and 66H in 2001 led to the Dental Education Workgroup with the ADA Foundation. The Workgroup has drafted vision and mission statements, developed a preliminary budget (5 to 10% of amount raised) and plans a feasibility study with a contractor.

New Models of Dental Education and Innovative Partnerships for Dental Education included presentations by several speakers. **Jack Dillenberg**, Dean, A.T. Still University of Health Sciences, Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health, described the focus of the new dental school in Arizona. **Howard Landesman**, Dean, University of Colorado School of Dentistry, spoke on support for orthodontic residents via corporate sponsorship. **William Lobb**, Dean, Marquette

University School of Dentistry, explained the dental school's partnership with the Delta Dental Plan of Wisconsin.

Reviews of developing models for faculty recruitment and retention were provided. Specific activities included the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) Workshop by **Larry Nissen**, AAOMS President; the American Association of Endodontists (AAE) Foundation Fellowship Program by **Samuel Dorn**, AAE Immediate Past-president; the Kellogg Foundation Award to ADEA to Develop Health Leadership and Dental Faculty Diversity by **Paula Friedman**, ADEA president; and Graduate Medical Education Funding by **Richard Valachovic**, Executive Director of ADEA.

The Summit contained workgroup sessions to develop perspectives on Innovative Partnerships, Curricular Innovation and Faculty Shortages. Each group considered external changes since the last summit; actions needed by organized dentistry to continue to address the problems in dental education and to promote and encourage practitioners to care about the issues facing dental education; what can be done to improve the lines of communication between the local dental community and the dental education community; and the impact of these issues in relation to the dental workforce and access to care.

A wide range of discussion occurred during the Summit. Topics included the suggestion of the ADA to develop an "I give back" program in which dentists volunteer in education and committee service, the need for outcomes from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Dental Pipeline initiative and that probably local level intervention is needed rather than ADA central office directive. It appeared unanimous that a 4<sup>th</sup> summit be held, and that activities between the summits are to be encouraged.

Submitted by **Linda Kaste**

### Advertising Accepted

Advertising is accepted for publication for employment opportunities in dentistry and public health. Product and service advertising is not accepted.

### Advertising Rates

¼ Page \$100   ½ Page \$200   Full Page \$400

Announcements for educational opportunities are published once each year at no charge to AAPHD members. Program directors who wish to publish such announcements more frequently will be charged at the regular advertising rates.

For details, contact the AAPHD National Office by phone 217-391-0218 or fax 217-793-0041 or email [natoff@aaphd.org](mailto:natoff@aaphd.org).

## 2003 Community Dentistry Awards

Institution	Name		
<b>Dental Hygiene Student Awards</b>			
Northern Arizona University	Samantha Scott	University of Iowa	Shamayne Franl
University of Colorado	Lindsay Reid	Southern Illinois University	Amanda Dang
Clayton College & State University GA	Rhonda Cobb	Indiana University	Sean Leland Cook
Georgia's Health Sciences University	Raquel Arrocha Rios	University of Kentucky	Wendy Humphrey
Southern Illinois University-Carbondale	Rachel Woods	University of Louisville	Steven Anderson
University of Louisville	Lavinga Ogawa	Louisiana State University	William Gregg
Western Kentucky University	Jamie Summers	Boston University	Kathrine Morin
Louisiana State University	Thuy Nguyen	Harvard University	Nina Bardwaj Casaverde
University of Louisiana at Monroe	Komeak Jackson	Temple University	Joan Santiago
MA College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences	Robin Krause	Tufts University	Peter Tziros
Mount Ida College MA	Concepcion Cerda	University of Maryland	Cecilia Ashton
University of Maryland Dental Hygiene	My Thuy Truong	University of Michigan	Edariz Castilla
University College at Bangor ME	Nicole Hodgdon	University of Missouri-Kansas City	S. Vizcarra, L. Davidson, R. Vilorio & P. Rekhi
University of New England ME	Stella Sirois	University of Mississippi	Carletta Barness
Baker College of Port Huron MI	Melissa Gibbons	University of North Carolina	Donald Hull
University of Michigan	Julie Ashenfelter	Creighton University	Kevin Hudson
University of Minnesota	Stacy L. Plant	University of Nebraska Medical Center	Jesse Neal
Farmingdale State University NY	Maria-Elena Bilello	New Jersey Dental School	Anita Maddali
Oregon Institute of Technology	Sharity Ludwigx	University of Buffalo	Jason Lee
University of South Dakota	Jamie Tordoffx	Columbia University	Angela Yoon
Tennessee State University	Janae Jamison	Case Western Reserve University	Heather Petroff
Baylor College of Dentistry	Carrie McMurdiox	Oregon Health Sciences University	Randall Jenkins
Weber State University UT	Gretchen Buhler	University of Pennsylvania	Kameron Amberg
University of Vermont	Villa Rakochoy	University of Pittsburgh	Salman Jaffer
West Liberty State College WV	Lora Crouse	Medical University of South Carolina	Kim Coxe
<b>Dental Student Awards</b>			
University of Alabama	Tiffany Dean	Meharry Medical College	Kimberly Randall
University of California, San Francisco	Ali Attaie	Baylor College of Dentistry	Jacquelyn Nguyen Vo
University of Southern California	Julius Kong	University of Texas-Houston	Adrienne Address
University of Colorado	Katrina Nassz	University of Texas-San Antonio	Pamela Brown Baer
University of Connecticut Health Center	Nicole M. Cambria	Virginia Commonwealth University	Phillip Cook
Howard University	Raven V. Roberts	University of Washington	Jennifer Withrow
University of Florida	Stephanie Reeder	Marquette University	Nicole Martin
Medical College of Georgia	Rhoda Bird Joyner	West Virginia University	Marciea Evick
		University of British Columbia	Lucien Bellamy
		University of Toronto	Jessica Steinman
		University of Saskatchewan	Glenda Orr
		University of Laval	Isabelle St-Amour

### Dental Volunteers to Honduras

Dentists and dental hygienists are invited to join a mobile four-chair dental team for a workweek in Honduras. The villages to be served in February-March 2004 have no access to dental care. Volunteers will either supervise placement of self-cure sealant by Honduran technicians using four-handed techniques **or** anesthetize and 'prep' small one-surface lesions for packing and carving amalgam by trained technicians. Modern portable dental equipment is used by both teams. Train with a colleague in 2004 and return in 2005 to train another. An interpreter is provided for those not fluent in conversational Spanish. You should be in good health, possess a valid passport and able to pay your air fare to San Pedro Sula plus a modest amount for meals, lodging and transportation in Honduras. Expenses are federal tax-deductible. Over 130 dentists, hygienists, dental students and support personnel have served on previous teams. Many have described their week in Honduras as a "once in a lifetime experience." Stay over for a second week and visit Mayan ruins, enjoy ocean beaches or the offshore islands noted for scuba diving. Contact:

**David Mehlich, DDS, DrPH**  
 14195 Mystic Seaport Way; Ft. Myers, FL 33919-7001  
 Ph/Fax: 239.415.0495  
 Email: davidmdrph@earthlink.net

# Announcements

## New Best Practices Information Available

A web-based resource that presents best practices information for developing state-of-the-art oral health programs is now available through the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD) Web site ([www.astdd.org](http://www.astdd.org)). These materials include:

- **Best Practice Approach Reports** that describe dental public health strategies, summarize supporting evidence (research, expert opinions, field lessons and theoretical rationale), review best practice criteria and use current practices to illustrate successful implementation methods.
- **Descriptive Summaries of Dental Public Health Activities** which are searchable by topic and state. This collection provides a platform to share information on current practices and offers a technical support network for contacting resource people directly involved in implementing dental public health programs.

The best practices resource was developed by the ASTDD through a Cooperative Agreement with the CDC. These resources will be expanded over time as analyses are completed on additional dental public health practices.

Through best practices, effective programs will be better able to help achieve the nation's Healthy People 2010 oral health objectives. These efforts will assist in building infrastructure and capacity in state, territorial and community oral health programs.

For more information, contact **Dean Perkins**, ASTDD Executive Director at 573-636-0453 or e-mail [astdd@earthlink.net](mailto:astdd@earthlink.net) or **Dr. Julie Tang**, ASTDD Best Practices Project Director, at 480-654-2183 or e-mail [jtang@astdd.org](mailto:jtang@astdd.org).

## ADA Recognizes Community Dental Projects

The ADA's Council on Access, Prevention and Interprofessional Relations has announced the winners of its 2003 Community Preventive Dentistry Award and its 2003 Geriatric Oral Health Care Award. The awards are sponsored annually by the ADA through its Foundation and supported by grants from Johnson & Johnson Oral Health Products and Pfizer Consumer Healthcare Group, respectively.

The Community Preventive Dentistry Award recognizes innovative programs that target a variety of community groups. The first place winner is "First Grade Dental Education." The project of the Alliance to the Indiana Dental Association's First District Dental Society began in the 1970's and serves the children in ten counties in southwestern Indiana. Designed to provide age-appropriate dental education to children at a key time in their lives, the program reaches approximately 3,000 children annually in 53 schools. "Smile Kentucky" in Louisville, "Children's Dental Day" of Lincoln, and "KanSmile" in Topeka received Awards of Merit.

The Geriatric Oral Health Care Award is given to programs that further the understanding and management of oral health care for the elderly. "Mobile Dental Van Program" in New Orleans received this year's award. Funded by the Older Americans Act and jointly operated by the New Orleans Council on Aging and the City of New Orleans Health Department, the program has provided on-going dental care to low-income senior citizens. A mobile dental van visits

meal sites, senior centers and housing facilities, offering dental necessary for good oral health. Services are provided at low cost, based on the clients' ability to pay, by a licensed dentist on a that has two dental suites, a small waiting/clerical area and is fully handicapped accessible.

The Council expresses its heartfelt congratulations to all of the award recipients. For information about 2004 entries, please contact **Jan Babcock** at [babcockj@ada.org](mailto:babcockj@ada.org).

## Call for Sessions Proposals

The annual conference of the Association for Community Health Improvement, "Community Health in Challenging Times: Proven Practices, Promising Innovations," is scheduled for October 23-25, in Nashville. The meeting is a cross-disciplinary conference with representation from health care, public health and community groups dedicated to community health. NACCHO and the National Network of Public Health Institutes are among the organizations participating in the conference. Consider proposing a session. See the complete conference program at [www.hospitalconnect.com/communityhlth/conference/annual.html](http://www.hospitalconnect.com/communityhlth/conference/annual.html).

## Master's Degree in Dental Public Health University of Iowa College of Dentistry

The University of Iowa College of Dentistry's Department of Preventive and Community Dentistry invites applications for its two-year MS degree program in Dental Public Health for the academic year beginning August 2004. The program is accredited by the ADA and dentists who complete the program meet the educational requirements for board certification by the American Board of Dental Public Health (i.e., no additional residency program is required). Dental hygienists also are invited to apply (although ineligible for board certification). Courses are in the areas of literature review, research design, biostatistics, epidemiology, statistical computing, health care organization, prevention, administration, financing, health behavior and promotion, teaching methods and field training. A thesis involving original research is required. Applicants must generally be prepared to pay all their own costs (tuition, living expenses, etc.) during the first year. However, very limited financial assistance is occasionally available, after matriculation, possibly in the form of a 25% research assistantship that confers in-state tuition eligibility. During the second year only, a Dental Public Health specialty-training grant can support trainees (tuition/fees, field training expenses, professional meeting travel, and stipend) who are U.S. citizens/permanent residents. International applicants must take the TOEFL and GRE and submit an application by October 31. U.S./Canadian applicants must take the GRE and can be considered thereafter.

For additional information, please contact **Dr. Steven Levy**, Graduate Program Director, N330 DSB, College of Dentistry, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242; Phone 319-335-7185; FAX 319-335-7187; e-mail [steven-levy@uiowa.edu](mailto:steven-levy@uiowa.edu).

### Congress Confirms IHS Director

**Charles W. Grim**, DDS, MHSA, was sworn in as the Seventh Director of the Indian Health Service on August 6. Nominated by **President Bush**, he had been unanimously confirmed by Congress. Chuck, a diplomate of the American Board of Dental Public Health, is also a member of AAPHD. He is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry and a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

“Dr. Grim’s emphasis on health promotion and disease prevention, and his support of treatment programs, reflects a vision that will ensure a healthier future for generations to come. Since his appointment by the President last August, Dr. Grim has demonstrated his ability as a compassionate leader, effective manager, and worthy advocate for Indian health programs. Dr. Grim has the background and experience to lead the Indian Health Service and serve the American Indian and Alaska Native people,” said **Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy G. Thompson** when announcing the appointment.

The IHS is the principal federal health care provider and health advocate for Indian people and its goal is to raise their health status to the highest possible level. With an annual budget of \$2.8 billion, the IHS currently provides health services to approximately 1.5 million American Indians and Alaska Natives who belong to more than 557 federally recognized tribes in 35 states. IHS services are provided directly and through tribally contracted and operated health programs. Health services also include health care purchased from more than 9,000 private providers annually. The Federal system consists of 36 hospitals, 63 health centers, 44 health stations and 5 residential treatment centers. In addition, 34 urban Indian health projects provide a variety of health and referral services.

As director, Chuck will direct the work of the nearly 15,000 employees of the agency, 13 % of which are members of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. Chuck has been a member of the commissioned corps throughout his 21-year career and was promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral in 2001. The IHS clinical staff consists of approximately 2,687 nurses, 950 physicians, 351 engineers, 424 pharmacists, 319 dentists, 148 sanitarians, and 83 physician assistants. The IHS also employs various allied health professionals, such as nutritionists, health administrators, engineers and medical records administrators.

### HHS Agencies Join with the AADR to Promote *Healthy People 2010* Oral Health Objectives

The federal government and the American Association for Dental Research (AADR) have formed a strategic partnership to promote the elimination of disparities in oral health, particularly those related to dental caries, periodontal disease and oral cancer. In a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed on May 6, the AADR and the federal co-lead agencies for the *Healthy People 2010* focus area on Oral Health pledged to support a major effort to achieve three critically important objectives: reduce tooth decay in children and adolescents, reduce periodontal disease in adults and increase the percentage of adults whose oral cancer lesions are diagnosed at the earliest stage.

“Partnerships such as this one are critical if we are to achieve the objectives set forth by *Healthy People 2010*,” said **Dr. Richard H. Carmona**, Surgeon General and Acting Assistant Secretary for Health. “We look forward to working with AADR to achieve objectives related to reducing oral disease, particularly in those groups that are at high risk, such as people with low income. People in the public health community are guided by the findings of both biomedical and behavioral research studies to develop innovative and effective strategies for improving people’s health.”

The Surgeon General noted a high level of interest in promoting oral health since publication in 2000 of the *Oral Health in America: A Report of the Surgeon General*. More recently, in April 2003, Dr. Carmona participated in the release of *A National Call to Action to Promote Oral Health*, which cited the need to “build the science base and accelerate science transfer” as a specific action area.

Under this partnership agreement, AADR will

- Provide information to members regarding the *Healthy People 2010* oral health objectives.
- Urge health researchers to focus on achieving the *Healthy People 2010* objectives through related research and publication of their research findings.
- Encourage AADR sections to organize symposia and annual sessions related to the targeted *Healthy People 2010* objectives.
- Participate in the *National Call to Action to Promote Oral Health*.
- Educate policy makers about the three targeted oral health objectives.

“The AADR is committed to reducing oral health disparities and increasing the oral health literacy of health professionals, policy makers, and the public,” said AADR President **Kenneth J. Anusavice**, PhD, DMD. “This MOU offers us an ideal opportunity to align our efforts with those of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. We plan to use our publications and our communications network to promote awareness of the *Healthy People 2010* objectives and to encourage researchers to design their studies with a view to reducing the burden of tooth decay, periodontal diseases and oral cancer.”

### Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day is September 16

HHS Secretary **Tommy Thompson** announced that HHS, ABC Radio Networks and Radio Unica are working together to get the word out about Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day, scheduled for Tuesday, September 16. Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day is part of a national campaign that aims to close the health gap between the health of communities of color and the general population. The campaign, “Closing the Health Gap,” was launched in November 2001. By encouraging individuals to visit a health care professional or make an appointment to do so on or near September 16, HHS hopes to help generate a greater understanding of the importance of regular health screenings.

## News Bits and Bytes

### High Blood Pressure Screening Urged for All Adults

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force has reaffirmed its recommendation that clinicians measure blood pressure of all adults who are 18 and older because of good evidence that early detection and treatment of high blood pressure can significantly reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease.

The Task Force is the leading independent panel of private-sector experts in prevention and primary care and is sponsored by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. The recommendations, published in the August 1, 2003, issue of the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, update those made by the Task Force in 1996.

Hypertension affects approximately 25% of the U.S. adult population of the. However, one-third of patients with high blood pressure are unaware that they have the disease because they lack warning signs and symptoms and have not been screened.

The Task Force also looked at blood pressure measurement in children and adolescents but found insufficient evidence that it accurately identifies those who have a higher risk of developing cardiovascular disease (CVD) and insufficient evidence that treating it decreases the incidence of CVD.

The recommendations and materials for clinicians are available at [www.ahrq.gov/clinic/3rduspstf/highbloodsc/hibloodrr.htm](http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/3rduspstf/highbloodsc/hibloodrr.htm).

### IOM Report on Academic Health Centers

The Institute of Medicine has released *Academic Health Centers: Leading Change in the 21st Century*, which identifies actions and public policy steps that will enable Academic Health Centers (AHCs) to respond to current trends regarding their roles in education, research and patient care. The report also describes strategic management systems that all AHCs will need to establish to enable a more coordinated and cohesive system.

More information on this report, including a summary, is available at <http://www.iom.edu/report.asp?id=13728>.

### New Consumer Tool to Help Reduce Medication Errors

AHRQ and the National Council on Patient Information and Education (NCPIE) released a new resource called *Your Medicine: Play It Safe* to help consumers use prescription medicines safely. The 12-page brochure includes a detachable, pocket-sized medicine record form that can be personalized.

An English version of the guide can be found at [www.ahrq.gov/consumer/safemedsp/safemedsp.htm](http://www.ahrq.gov/consumer/safemedsp/safemedsp.htm) and a Spanish version at [ahrq.gov/consumer/safemedsp/safemedsp.htm](http://www.ahrq.gov/consumer/safemedsp/safemedsp.htm). The guide is also available on the NCPIE Web site [www.talkaboutrx.org](http://www.talkaboutrx.org).

### The Role of Community-Based Participatory Research

AHRQ released a new brochure, *Creating Partnerships, Improving Health* to provide leaders of community- and faith-based organizations with an overview of the issues involved in community-based participatory research. In community-based participatory research, subjects give more than informed consent, they share their knowledge and experience in helping identify problems to be studied, define research questions in ways that are culturally appropriate and use study findings to improve community life and practice.

Community-based participatory research is a collaborative process of research that encourages the active and equitable involvement of community and faith leaders and organizations in addressing research problems and recognizes the assets of community and researchers. A print copy is available by sending an e-mail to [ahrqpubs@ahrq.gov](mailto:ahrqpubs@ahrq.gov).

### Orthodontists Support Fluoridation

According to the June/July 2003 issue of *The Bulletin of the American Association of Orthodontists*, The American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) House of Delegates approved the following resolution regarding fluoridation at their 103rd annual meeting: "In the interest of the public health, the AAO supports the fluoridation of municipal water supplies when the procedure is accomplished in conformity with guidelines promulgated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and all relevant professional, health, state and local authorities."

### Bioterrorism Workshop Materials Available on Audiotape

Versions of several 90-minute Web-assisted audioconferences sponsored by AHRQ on topics related to bioterrorism and health systems preparedness are now available on audiotape for \$10 per tape. Call 800-358-9295 or e-mail to [ahrqpubs@ahrq.gov](mailto:ahrqpubs@ahrq.gov) to request: AHRQ 03-AV06A *Disaster Planning Drills and Readiness Assessment*, which was held April 15; AHRQ 03-AV10A *Surge Capacity Assessments and Regionalization Issues*, which was held June 17; and, AHRQ 03-AV04A *Addressing the Smallpox Threat: Issues, Strategies, and Tools*, which was held March 3. These conferences discuss the latest health services research findings, promising practices, and other important information for state and local health officials and health system decision-makers.

### ADA Foundation Announces New Leadership

**Arthur A. Dugoni**, Dean of the University of the Pacific's School of Dentistry, has been elected president of the ADA Foundation (ADAF), the charitable arm of the ADA. He succeeds retiring president, **Anthony Volpe**, DDS, a senior executive with the Colgate-Palmolive Company. Dr. Volpe is a founding member of the ADAF board and served as president for seven years.

Dr. Dugoni, a San Francisco orthodontist, is a former president of the ADA and the American Association of Dental Schools. He has earned the Presidential Citation and the Distinguished Service Award from the ADA, the Pierre Fauchard Academy Gold Medal and the American College of Dentists' William John Gies Award. He was named to the FDI World Dental Federation List of Honour.

**Steven W. Kess**, Vice President of Professional Relations, Sullivan-Schein Dental, is the foundation's new vice president. He has served on the ADAF board for seven years.

The ADAF is dedicated to improving health and making lives better. Since 1991, the ADA Foundation has disbursed more than \$11 million dollars to support such charitable activities.

## National Health Law Program Publications

*Toward a Healthy Future: Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment Services For Poor Children and Youth* is a manual that provides comprehensive information about EPSDT and offers practical suggestions for working with and improving the EPSDT program. It includes background information on the needs of children and youth, a basic overview of the Medicaid program, legal requirements for EPSDT, common barriers encountered and examples of how these problems can be addressed. The manual is \$55.00.

NHELP and The Access Project revised and expanded *Immigrant Access to Health Benefits: A Resource Manual*. Essentially a primer on health access for immigrants, the \$25 manual details and explains basic eligibility requirements for key federal and state programs and identifies issues that can be significant barriers to access to health care for immigrants and their families.

Both can be ordered by calling 310-204-6010 or via e-mail [nhelp@healthlaw.org](mailto:nhelp@healthlaw.org). More information is available at [www.healthlaw.org/publications](http://www.healthlaw.org/publications).

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## Future Meetings

### **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Hispanic Dental Association**

October 10-11 ~ Washington, DC  
800-852-7921

### **ADA Annual Session**

October 23-26 ~ San Francisco  
[www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org)

### **Association for Community Health Improvement**

“Community Health in Challenging Times:  
Proven Practices, Promising Innovations”  
October 23-25 ~ Nashville

[www.hospitalconnect.com/communityhlth/conference/](http://www.hospitalconnect.com/communityhlth/conference/)

### **3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Mobile Health**

October 31-November 2 ~ Las Vegas  
[www.intlmobilehealthassn.org](http://www.intlmobilehealthassn.org)

### **1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Evidence-Based Dentistry**

November 7-9 ~ Atlanta  
[www.us.elsevierhealth.com/CE/ICED/](http://www.us.elsevierhealth.com/CE/ICED/)

### **Annual Meeting Society for Public Health Education**

November 14-16 ~ San Francisco, CA  
[www.sophe.org](http://www.sophe.org)

### **APHA 131<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting and Exposition**

November 15-19 ~ San Francisco  
[www.apha.org](http://www.apha.org)

### **National Health Policy Conference**

January 28-29 ~ Washington, DC  
[www.academyhealth.org/nhpc/](http://www.academyhealth.org/nhpc/)

### **National Conference on Chronic Disease Prevention & Control**

February 18-20 ~ Washington, DC  
[www.ChronicDisease.org](http://www.ChronicDisease.org)

### **Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco**

February 18-21 ~ Scottsdale, AZ  
[www.srnt.org](http://www.srnt.org)

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY