

Timeline of Historical Highlights in Organized Prosthodontics and the American College of Prosthodontists

1918 The **National Society of Denture Prosthetists (NSDP)** was formed when a few distinguished dentists interested in the field of prosthetic dentistry sought to learn the extent and differences in the techniques and concepts used in different parts of the country. This group's goal was to correlate, develop and enlarge the anatomic, physiologic and technical facets of prosthetics.

1940 NSDP was renamed to **Academy of Denture Prosthetics (ADP)** and the words study, investigate, promote and disseminate became fundamental concepts to the group's mission statement.

1947 As the discipline evolved, the need to establish Prosthodontics as a specialty of dentistry and to establish the individual's level of prosthodontic knowledge became apparent. The **American Board of Prosthodontics (ABP)**, sponsored by the ADP, was incorporated as the official governing body responsible for setting the standards and criteria for being recognized as a board certified prosthodontist. The ABP develops and administers the certification examination in prosthodontics to identify those individuals who have the knowledge, skills and attributes deemed important to the advancement of the specialty.

1953 The **American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics (AAMP)** was founded. Maxillofacial Prosthetics is an ADA recognized subspecialty of Prosthodontics. The AAMP is an association of educationally qualified prosthodontists who are engaged in the art and science of maxillofacial prosthetics. The Academy is devoted to the study and practice of methods used to habilitate esthetics and function of patients with acquired, congenital and developmental defects of the head and neck; and of methods used to maintain the oral health of patients exposed to cancericidal doses of radiation or cytotoxic drugs.

1969-70 A small group of federal service/military prosthodontists joined together to form **The American College of Prosthodontists (ACP)** to better represent the needs of individuals with special training/education in prosthodontics. This nucleus of 338 charter members formed the only prosthodontic organization where membership is based on educational criteria.

1970 November 4, The incorporation of ACP as the ADA recognized organization for the specialty of prosthodontics and establishment of a means for stimulating interest in the specialty among young dentists. Further goals would be to represent prosthodontists and prosthodontics, encourage and assist junior members to prepare for board certification; improve and standardized training programs, hold annual meetings and promote interest in prosthodontics so that that public would be aware of and receive high quality prosthodontic care.

1971 The first **Annual Session of the ACP** convened on February 11, 1971 at the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago, Illinois.

1972 The **Federation of Prosthodontic Organizations (FPO)** sponsors the ABP.

1973 January, The first issue of the ACP's membership publication, the *Newsletter*, was published.

1976 The first **ACP Prosthodontic Research Award** was established.

1979 December, ACP membership reaches **1,012 members**.

1982 The ACP purchased its **first equipment** for the Central Office – a computer and word processor.

1982 The first ACP Prosthodontic Research Award was renamed in honor of Dr. John J. Sharry, as the **John J. Sharry Prosthodontic Research Competition**.

1985 The **ACP Education Foundation** was formed. In response to the demand for education and research the foundation was developed to provide the resources required to support the vision of the College and the needs of the specialty. The ACPEF is a nonprofit 501 (c)3 organization governed by an independent Board of Directors with representatives from the College, leading academic institutions and the corporate community all working together for the overall advancement of the specialty.

1986 The first **ACP President's Award** was presented to Dr. Mohammad Mazaheri by ACP President Dr. Noel D. Wilkie during Annual Session in Williamsburg, Virginia.

1990 ADP was renamed to **Academy of Prosthodontics** to better represent the broad range of treatment provided by prosthodontists.

1990 During the 21st Annual Session of the College in Charleston, South Carolina, the first **ACP House of Delegates** convened.

1991 The ACP's membership publication, the *Newsletter*, changed its name to the *Messenger*.

1991 The College debuts the "**What is a Prosthodontist?**" brochure to help educate consumers about the specialty.

1992 The first issue of the *Journal of Prosthodontics* was published.

1992 ACP membership reaches **2,000 members**.

1994 As the ADA-recognized organization for the specialty of prosthodontics, the **ACP is the new sponsor of the American Board of Prosthodontics** upon dissolution of the FPO.

1994 The **Prosthodontic Forum** is formed. Sponsored by the ACP, the Forum is a group of member organizations with a special interest in the discipline of prosthodontics whose mission is to provide a vehicle for exchanging information and concerns with other prosthodontic organizations.

1994 The **ACP headquarters is relocated from San Antonio to Chicago**. The ACP Central Office is located in the American Dental Association headquarters building at 211 E. Chicago Ave. in Suite 1000, on the 10th Floor.

1995 The **ACP celebrates 25 years** of advancing the specialty of prosthodontics throughout this anniversary year.

1995 The ACP sponsored the **1st International Symposium on Evidence Based Dentistry** at the Omni Hotel in Chicago. The McMaster University-based workshop focused on research and was exclusively designed for the specialty.

1996 The ACP debuts a website, called "a homepage on the Internet... a sort of electronic table of contents," **www.prosthodontics.org**.

1997 The College adopts a new **ACP Logo**.

2000 The College advocates for the specialty by developing and submitting the required ADA Council on Dental Education and Licensure **Re-recognition of the Specialty Report**, which was accepted by the ADA in 2001.

2001 The **ACP Center for Prosthodontic Education** was formed. With a goal of providing superior prosthodontic continuing education for dental professionals including general dentists, prosthodontists, dental technicians, dental hygienists and dental assistants, the CPE focuses on developing high quality seminars and hands-on training courses.

2001 The **ACP Dental Technician Alliance** was formed. To foster a team-building mechanism between technicians and their prosthodontic partners, the ACP developed the Dental Technician Alliance. The ACP recognizes the significant role that the dental technician plays in the day-to-day operations of a prosthodontic practice, and offers an array of valuable benefits and professional services including providing an opportunity to develop productive relationships and increasing communications with other professionals.

2003 April The **ADA Adopts New Definition of the Specialty**: "Prosthodontics is the dental specialty pertaining to the diagnosis, treatment planning, rehabilitation and maintenance of the oral function, comfort, appearance and health of patients with clinical conditions associated with missing or deficient teeth and/or oral and maxillofacial tissues using biocompatible substitutes."

2005 The **ACP celebrates 35 years** of advancing the specialty of prosthodontics throughout this anniversary year.

2006 The ACP and ACPEF sponsor *Reframing the Future of Prosthodontics: An Invitational Leadership Summit* to examine critical issues facing prosthodontics and the future of prosthodontic education.

2006 The College introduces a new membership category for educators, the **Academic Alliance**.

2007 The ACP debuts a new design for the *Messenger* newsletter.

2007 During Annual Session in Scottsdale, Arizona, the **ACP House of Delegates voted to dissolve** after the conclusion of business in Scottsdale.

2007 The College introduces two new membership categories the **Global Alliance** and the **Predoctoral Alliance**.

2007 The ACP conducts its first online **Election**.

2008 ACP membership reaches **3,000 members**.

2008 June The College launches a new weekly e-newsletter for members the ***Wednesday Wake-up Call™***.

2009 The College launched **Prosthopedia®**, an online resource library of videos, photos, documents and curriculum showcasing: best practices in the specialty field of prosthodontics; Clinical procedures from the major disciplines in prosthodontics and Educational curricula from American Dental Association Accredited Dental Schools.

2009 The College launches **Facebook** and **Twitter** accounts to engage members in Social Networking.

2009 The College introduces a new membership category for graduate students interested in prosthodontics the **Advanced Program and Graduate Student Alliance**.

2010 The College advocates for the specialty by developing and submitting the required ADA Council on Dental Education and Licensure **Re-recognition of the Specialty Report**, which was accepted by the ADA in 2001.

2010 The **ACP celebrates 40 years** of advancing the specialty of prosthodontics throughout this anniversary year.