

ACPEF 2005 Grants

In February, the ACPEF Board of Directors voted to provide grants to the following programs and projects.

Scholarships: \$100,000

Up from \$80,000 allocated for scholarships in 2004 and \$10,000 per year in all previous years, the Board's decision to increase its investment in assisting prosthodontic residents with some of the often overwhelming burden of pursuing this specialty marks a 25 percent increase over last year's 800 percent increase.

Previously, only first-year students were eligible to receive support from the ACPEF. This year, in addition to the continuing program of \$2,500 awards for first-year students, each program director was asked to select one student in his or her program to receive \$1,000.

Pre-ADEA Meeting Educators' Symposium: \$60,000 for Partial Underwriting

Following last year's overwhelmingly successful pre-ADEA symposium, Creating a New Vision for Prosthodontic Education, the ACPEF Board voted to provide funding for the 2005 pre-ADEA meeting symposium, Enhancing Learning Through an Electronic Prosthodontic Curriculum. Held on March 4, 2005, more than 80 percent of participants rated the program good or excellent.

Continue and Expand the ACP's Search Engine Project: \$50,000

The ACPEF committed \$36,000 in 2004 for this program that displays the ACP Web site first whenever a person is searching the Internet for information on prosthodontic-related dental concerns. Hits on the Find a Prosthodontist feature of the ACP Web site increased by 79% in 2004 as a result of the ACPEF's investment.

Support for a Fellowship Designed to Encourage Academic Careers: \$8,333 per year for three years

The Graser Fellowship Fund launched by Dentistry at the University of Rochester provides funding to encourage recruitment and retention of qualified faculty who are capable of providing quality prosthodontic education to the undergraduate dental student and who can stimulate and nurture a grassroots interest in the student to desire pursuing the specialty.

Funding to Advance a Model Program to Enhance Dental Technician Training Program

The Northeastern Gnathological Society (NGS) is dedicated to the advancement of the relationship between the dentist and the technician. The NGS has developed a relationship with the New York City College of Technology (NYCCT) to enhance the education of future technicians so that their skill sets and experiences upon graduation meet the high-tech requirements of today's leaders in prosthetic dentistry and the laboratories that serve them. The NYCCT offers the only accredited dental technician program in the area. The school's cooperation with the NGS has expanded its curriculum to include NGS technology seminars and programs and an opportunity for every student to engage in internships and externships to introducing students to all aspects of the clinical evaluation and techniques required to deliver prosthodontic treatment at the highest level.

The NGS and the NYCCT came to the Foundation seeking \$10,000 to upgrade the school's equipment so that students have access to and experience with the types of technologies they will require expertise with in the field when partnering with prosthodontists in delivering the highest quality care. This program can serve as a model for other dental technician programs.

Start-Up Costs to Assist a New Post-Graduate Prosthodontics Program

The Foundation approved a \$20,000 grant to help cover some of the costs of opening a new post-graduate prosthodontics program at Queens Hospital in New York. The new program was initiated on July 1, 2004 with three residents and has received the requisite Initial Accreditation status from the Commission on Dental Accreditation with no adverse recommendations.

Continue to Assist the ACP in its Public Relations Program: \$95,000

In 2004, the ACP's public relations outreach (with the assistance of the ACPEF) put prosthodontics in the Wall Street Journal and USA Today and in front of more than 6 million television viewers on local news health segments. The ACPEF committed \$95,000 to supplement the ACP's investment of \$200,000 for 2005.