The mission of the ACP Education Foundation is to secure and steward resources with the aim of advancing prosthodontics. The Foundation provides funding to support education, research, and advancement of the specialty.

Support for Education

The first version of the Digital Dentistry Curriculum was piloted by five institutions during the 2017-18 school year. An Executive Summary of the recent white paper, “The Current Impact of Digital Technology on Prosthodontics”, was created at the request of educators looking for a shorter version to share internally at their institutions.

The abstract compilation from five scientific journals was updated for the third time, with 90 new abstracts added. The full compilation is available at Prosthodontics.org.

The Foundation sponsored the 2017 Postdoctoral Resident Support Program, a package of ACP educational resources for more than 620 residents. This program introduces residents to the community of prosthodontics and provides information to maximize their training and education.

It also includes administration of a National Prosthodontic Resident Exam through the Advanced Prosthodontic Program Directors to help residents assess their knowledge. 444 residents from 46 different programs took the exam in 2017. In addition, 269 residents received support to attend the ACP Annual Session through the Foundation.

For predoctoral and postdoctoral prosthodontic educators, the Foundation hosted meetings on April 7-8 in Chicago, with 90 attendees representing 51 institutions, and on Nov. 1 in San Francisco, with 152 attendees representing over 70 institutions.

At the spring meeting, the attendees learned the next steps of the ACP Digital Dentistry Curriculum Initiative and received an important update on the current issues regarding Specialty Recognition from ACP President Dr. Susan E. Brackett. The predoctoral session focused on developing implant competency measurement while the postdoctoral session included topics such as proposed revisions to prosthodontic standards and the Postdoctoral Dental Matching Program.

In the fall, the groups joined for a morning session that included presentations on the Digital Dentistry Curriculum, multiple choice question writing, and concept mapping. After splitting, the predoctoral group focused on OSCE and competency assessment, while the postdoctoral session included an update on the ABP Section D Exam, integrating digital workflows, and prosthodontic program highlights.

Clinical Practice Guidelines

The ACP-led Clinical Practice Guidelines for Recall and Maintenance of Patients with Tooth-Borne and Implant-Borne Dental Restorations were accepted and published on the National Guideline Clearinghouse, a website run by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The Clinical Practice Guidelines have been downloaded more than 3,000 times – showing their importance to the medical community.

The Clinical Practice Guidelines initiative was funded in part by an unrestricted educational grant to the ACPEF from the Colgate-Palmolive Company. Thank you to Dr. Donald Curtis and Dr. Avinash Bidra for their work and leadership on this project.

Support for Advancement of the Specialty

Clinical Practice Guidelines

TheACP-led Clinical Practice Guidelines for Recall and Maintenance of Patients with Tooth-Borne and Implant-Borne Dental Restorations were accepted and published on the National Guideline Clearinghouse, a website run by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The Clinical Practice Guidelines have been downloaded more than 3,000 times – showing their importance to the medical community.

The Clinical Practice Guidelines initiative was funded in part by an unrestricted educational grant to the ACPEF from the Colgate-Palmolive Company. Thank you to Dr. Donald Curtis and Dr. Avinash Bidra for their work and leadership on this project.

Annual Appeal

Dr. Mark Hutten chaired the 2017 Annual Appeal Committee. All ACPEF funds support programs in research and education, but Appeal support specifically allows the Foundation to grow its endowment and underwrite some programs not covered by active major gift commitments, and also helps offset operational expenses of the Foundation. Through their hard work, the 2017 Member Annual Appeal surpassed goals for money raised ($172,898 - 115% of goal) and member participation (523 members - over 100% of goal).

Founders Society Award

Dr. Karen J. Bruggers (pictured, right, with ACPEF Chair Dr. Lyndon Cooper) was recognized as the recipient of the Founders Society Award. In the spirit of its founders, the Foundation presents the Founders Society Award to honor individuals who have made a significant impact on the growth and development of the Foundation and who have demonstrated an extraordinary level of commitment to the Foundation.
Support for Research

The ACP Education Foundation awarded $56,856 in research grants as follows:

ACP Education Foundation Research Fellowships
Each fall, the Foundation awards research fellowship grants in the amount of $6,000. These are awarded to support meritorious research proposals that seek to advance basic scientific and applied clinical knowledge in the area of prosthodontics. Fellowships are sponsored by the Foundation and an unrestricted educational grant from Procter and Gamble Company, a supporter of the program since 2005.

Oral Microbiome Changes Associated with Fixed Dental Prosthodontic Restoration
Sarah Kay Youn Yoon Lee, DDS, University of North Carolina (2018)

Dynamic Virtual Articulation: Trueness and Precision
Michael R. Hsu, DDS, University of Maryland (2020)

An in vitro Study of Osteoblasts Response to Surface-Modified Titanium and PEEK
Maryam Gheisarifar, DDS, Marquette University (2019)

Effect of Accelerated Aging on the Mechanical and Optical Properties of the New Translucent Zirconia
Amir H. Nejat, DDS, MS, Louisiana State University (2020)

Influence of Abutment Material, Ceramic Thickness and Luting Cement on the Color of Lithium Disilicate
Diana Cuesta, DMD, University of Illinois at Chicago (2019)

2017 Sharry Awards Competition
Held annually since 1976, the John J. Sharry Research Competition stimulates and acknowledges original research in prosthodontics by students. The 2017 competition was chaired by Dr. Geoffrey Thompson.

1ST PLACE
Fracture Resistance of Pressed and Milled Lithium Disilicate Anterior Complete Coverage Restorations Following Endodontic Access Preparation
Petina Gerogianni, DDS, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (2017)

2ND PLACE
Improving Poly(methylmethacrylate) Resin Using a Novel Nano-Ceramic Coating
Ghaith Darwish, DDS, University of Illinois at Chicago (2017)

3RD PLACE
Effect of Surface Modification of Zirconia on In-Depth Transformations and Flexural Strength
Kan Wongkamhaeng, DDS, MS, University of Iowa (2016)

2017 GSK Prosthodontist Innovator Award
Supported by GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare through an unrestricted educational grant, this research award is intended to advance the understanding of prosthodontics related biological and/or materials systems, human behavior, cost and care delivery, as well as economic modeling and quality of life investigations.

Dr. Eszter Somogyi-Ganss received the award for her research titled “Induced physiological bone modeling and remodeling in the absence of mechanical loading by internal pulsed electromagnetic implant in edentulous jaw: a pilot study in animal model”.

Dr. Somogyi-Ganss is currently a full-time Assistant Professor-Teaching Stream in Prosthodontics at the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto and Clinical and Research Director at the Craniofacial Prosthetic Unit at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.