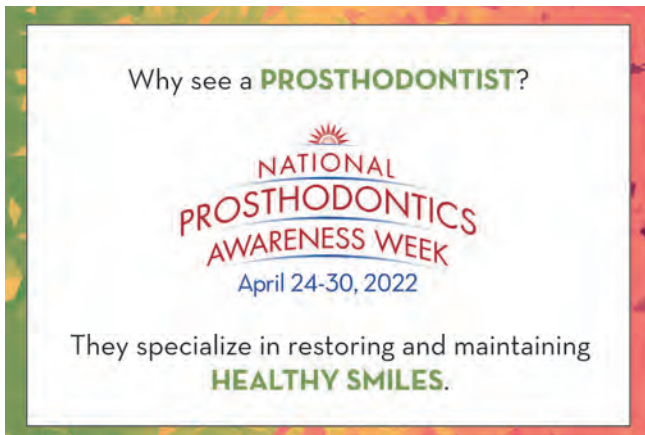
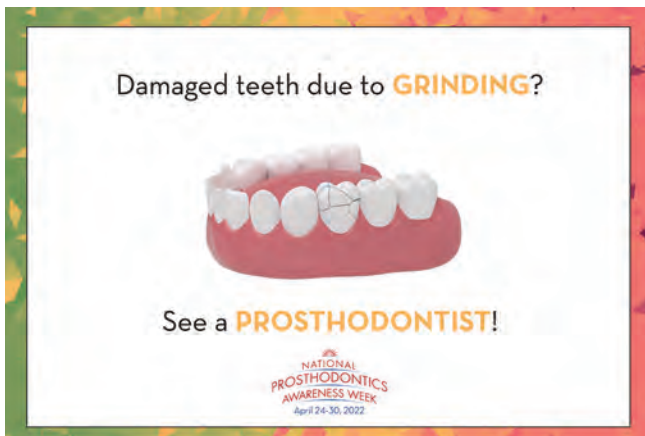
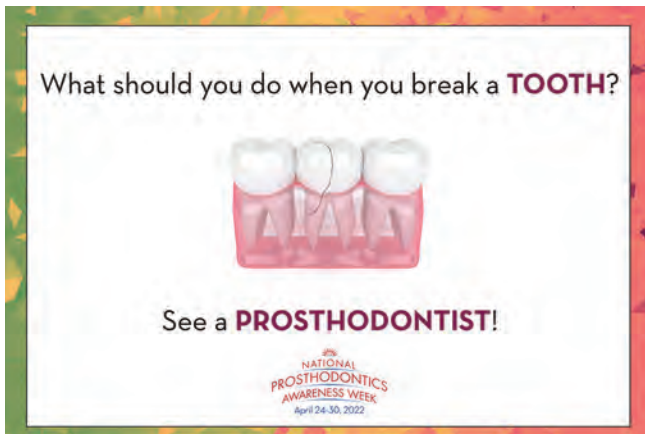


2022 National Prosthodontics Awareness Week

Samantha Rawdin, DMD
PR NPAW Committee Chair

This year National Prosthodontics Awareness Week (NPAW) took place April 24-30, with celebrations taking place in-person and online throughout the country!



Once again, the NPAW and PR committees of the ACP were merged with the mission of increasing awareness of our specialty, not just during the week of NPAW, but throughout the entire year. Our committee met several times to discuss ways we could engage with our members, prospective prosthodontists, and the general public. For this year’s NPAW, we came up with many ideas that were utilized by ACP members, and many members came up with creative ideas to celebrate NPAW on their own!

As a group, we noticed that many of our patients were coming into our offices and clinics with chipped and broken teeth, which led us to focus our NPAW Facts on managing these situations. We created different images and corresponding captions for each of the seven days of NPAW. These images were downloaded over 560 times. Based on a video created by committee member Dr. Bhavika Thakkar, we created a new video that describes what a prosthodontist does on a daily basis. We also shared an interactive Prosthodontic Jeopardy created by Dr. Roberta Wright. We created a checklist to be shared with general practitioners when treating patients about to undergo head and neck cancer treatment. Select *Journal of Prosthodontics* articles were made available for free to all readers during NPAW. And the ACP hosted Instagram takeovers throughout the week, run by prosthodontists in private practice, education, and in post-graduate programs. The Instagram takeovers were viewed by over 1,200 individuals and the stories reached over 10,000 unique accounts!

Here are some of your submitted highlights from NPAW:



Harvard School of Dental Medicine hosted lectures by Dr. Jason Lee on implants in the esthetic zone, and case presentations by their residents.



The University of Alabama displayed their resident research posters, hosted lectures, and presented awards, including to some third-year dental students who show interest in pursuing prosthodontics.



Uconn School of Dental Medicine under the direction of Dr. Avinash Bidra and Dr. John Agar provided an information booth at the Uconn Health Center cafeteria, promoted NPAW on monitors located throughout their facility, hosted a lunch and learn, an open lab night, and several lectures from Dr. Avinash Bidra and Dr. Ajay Dhingra.



The University of Michigan hosted several in-person and virtual lectures, and a graduate prosthodontic clinic open house.

“At PennPros, we celebrate NPAW because it allows us to create awareness about our specialty while also connecting with our student body. Prosthodontics is a mindset. The goal of our workshops and CE courses during NPAW is to open doors and encourage interested students to apply for residency.”

- DR. LEEN MUSHARBASH

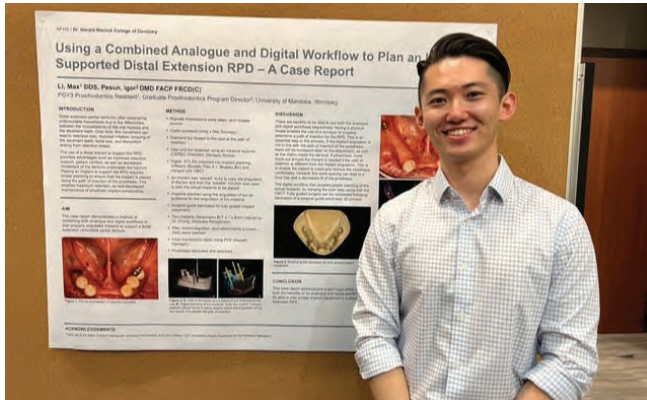


Stony Brook University celebrated with Dr. Kenneth Kurtz delivering the keynote address for the annual Sreenby Research Day.

2022 PR & NPAW Committee

Dr. Samantha Rawdin, Chair
Dr. Juliet Tchorbajian, Vice Chair
Dr. Alison Fishman
Dr. Gabriela Lagreca
Dr. Francine Misch-Dietsch

Dr. David Remiszewski
Dr. Constantine Stavrinoudis
Dr. Bhavika Thakkar
Dr. Roberta Wright
Dr. Elphida Ayzazian, Division Director



University of Manitoba presented resident posters at the local dental association's annual meeting.



Dr. Juliet Tchorbajian lectured at North Shore University Hospital.



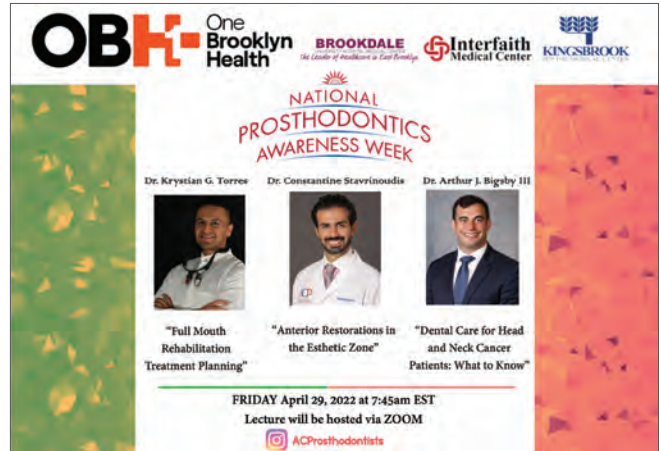
UPenn celebrated with a photography workshop, case reviews, and lectures on applying to residency programs, intraoral scanning, and digital workflows.



Dr. Sharitha Uchil with SAAV Prosthodontics hosted an open house and gave complimentary treatment to one lucky new patient.



Dr. Brandon Kofford with Cary Prosthodontics delivered ice cream to their referring dental offices



Dr. Constantine Stavrinoudis lectured at One Brooklyn Health Hospital, created a local publication in Manhasset Magazine, and provided complimentary oral cancer screenings in collaboration with the Oral Cancer Foundation.

“We continually observed how negative the response was to the pandemic and wanted to find a way to increase our happiness and help those around us. We wanted to find a way to help people smile again. We realized that we regularly provide teeth and hope to many who don’t have them by restoring their smile. Thus, Smile Again was born. To us it is more than just providing teeth, it’s helping someone Live Again, Eat Again, and Smile Again!”

- DR. CHRISTOPHER JONES & DR. MICHAEL GURNEY



Dr. Christopher Jones and Dr. Michael Gurney with Boise Prosthodontics celebrated by providing services to the community through their Smile Again Idaho program.



The University of Iowa hosted a guest lecture by Dr. Robert Schneider who presented on what a prosthodontist does.

REMOVABLE	FIXED PROSTH	IMPLANTS	DENTAL MATERIALS	GRAB BAG
<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>
<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>

PR & NPAW committee member Dr. Roberta Wright contributed an interactive Prosthodontic Jeopardy game that is available for any prosthodontic program to use during NPAW, or throughout the year! You can download this at Prosthodontics.org/NPAW



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"Prosthodontists have the same training as general dentists"
 False: Prosthodontists require additional 3 - 4 years of specialty training to be able to work with tissues and bone regarding replacement teeth and other restorations. This dental specialist continually strives for natural outcomes requiring hours of labour as each tooth has its own shape, colour, translucence and balance. The goal is to create durable, beautiful, functional and stable tooth replacements.

"Once you have an implant supported denture or regular denture you don't need to see your prosthodontist or dentist anymore"
 False: Your mouth is continually changing; you should continue to see your dentist regularly for oral examinations. Mouth tissues can show signs of disease, such as diabetes, that first display themselves in the mouth. Your dentist will check for signs of oral cancer, examine your gum ridges, tongue and jaw joints, as well as check your dentures for correct fit. Looseness may be caused by soft and hard tissue changes. Bad odour can be caused by absorption of fluid and accumulation of bacteria. Dental implants require regular maintenance and hygiene visits. So keep scheduling those twice-yearly visits!

Dr. Brian Kucey with Kucey Dental posted a blog on his website about what a prosthodontist does.



Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) highlighted their prosthodontics faculty and celebrated with matching temporary tattoos.

“Celebrating NPAW is important to us because we strive to help people understand how important your dental health and finding the right doctor/dentist is!”

- DR. SHARITHA UCHIL

The University of Maryland hosted several lectures and hands-on workshops focusing on prosthodontics specifically regarding veneers, complex implant cases and women in prosthodontics. Speakers included Dr. Amelia Orta and Dr. Loana Tovar Suinaga.

We loved hearing about all of the different ways everyone celebrated NPAW and we already have our wheels turning for how to increase involvement in 2023. If you have ideas or would like to be involved next year, please let us know! Even though NPAW is over, you can still promote our specialty. Don't forget to share ways that you're showcasing prosthodontists throughout the year. Sending a big thank you to everyone who celebrated this year, our PR/NPAW committee members and our ACP staff. We couldn't do this without you! ■



Dr. Samantha Rawdin maintains a private practice in New York City.