



54TH ANNUAL SESSION  
NOV 6-9 • MARCO ISLAND, FL

# DISTINGUISHED RESEARCHER AWARD

*Recognizing outstanding contributions through original research, literature, teaching, or clinical applications*



## DR. WEI-SHAO LIN

Dr. Wei-Shao Lin, is a tenured professor and chair of the Department of Prosthodontics and Co-Director of the ITI Scholarship Center at the Indiana University School of Dentistry. He received his DDS in 2003 from Chung-Shan Medical University in Taiwan, followed by a certificate in prosthodontics and a surgical implant fellowship at the University of Rochester in 2010. Dr. Lin also earned a PhD in Educational Leadership and Organizational Development from the University of Louisville in 2020 and an MBA in Healthcare Administration from the University of Southern Indiana in 2022. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in artificial intelligence. Dr. Lin's research interests include dental implants, digital dentistry, and deep learning and neural networks. He has published more than 120 research and clinical articles in peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Lin is a Diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics and a Fellow of the American College of Prosthodontists. He also serves as an associate editor for the *Journal of Prosthodontics*. Additionally, Dr. Lin maintains an intramural dental implant and prosthodontics practice at the Center for Implant, Esthetic, and Innovative Dentistry at the Indiana University School of Dentistry.



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# DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

*Recognizing outstanding service to the College and the characteristics of a true humanitarian*



## DR. KENNETH MALAMENT

Dr. Kenneth Malament received his DDS from NYU College of Dentistry and a specialty certificate and master's degree from Boston University School of Graduate Dentistry. He is a Past President and Diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics. In Boston, Dr. Malament has a full-time practice that includes a dental laboratory with Master Dental Technologists.

He is a Clinical Professor at Tufts University in postgraduate prosthodontics. He served as the Secretary of the American College of Prosthodontists, has held leadership positions in many esteemed dental organizations, and has been honored with numerous awards.

He was on the research and development teams for two different well-known ceramic products and developed instrumentation used in clinical practice. He has been a consultant to three journals and has published in the dental literature in the areas of all-ceramic survival statistics, fixed and implant prosthodontics, risk analysis, occlusion, material science and periodontics.



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# EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

*Recognizing exceptional skills as a dental educator*



## DR. DAVID DONATELLI

After completing the graduate prosthodontic program at Temple University School of Dentistry, Dr. David Donatelli returned to Pittsburgh to teach part-time at the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine and maintain a private practice limited to prosthodontics. In 2011, he returned to Philadelphia and Temple University Kornberg School of Dentistry as a full-time faculty member in the Department of Restorative Dentistry. He was the course and clinic Director for removable prosthodontics. After COVID, he was in a private practice in Chalfont, PA performing advanced rehabilitative and reconstructive dentistry until his hire as Graduate Prosthodontic Program Director at the University of Louisville School of Dentistry. Dr. Donatelli is a Fellow of the American College of Prosthodontists, a Diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics, serves on the Board of Directors for the ACP Education Foundation, and has held leadership positions in numerous esteemed dental organizations.

# JUNIOR EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

*Recognized exceptional skills as a junior dental educator*



## DR. SHIVANI SUVARNA

Dr. Shivani Suvarna is a distinguished board-certified prosthodontist, who served as a full-time faculty member at UConn School of Dental Medicine. She completed her residency training at the University of Washington School of Dentistry. Dr. Suvarna is a diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics and a fellow of the American College of Prosthodontists. At UConn, Dr. Suvarna was extensively involved in teaching within the predoctoral prosthodontics curriculum and directed the RPD course. Dr. Suvarna is known for her innovative and student-centered approach to teaching, empowering students with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in prosthodontics. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, she has been instrumental in developing the digital implant curriculum at the school, leveraging cutting-edge technologies to enhance patient care and treatment outcomes. Dr. Suvarna currently is in full-time private practice in Bellingham, WA.



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# DISTINGUISHED CLINICIAN AWARD

*Recognizing outstanding contributions to clinical dentistry and sciences or health professions*



## DR. RUTH APONTE-WESSON

Dr. Ruth Aponte-Wesson is a professor in the section of oral oncology and maxillofacial prosthodontics, department of head and neck surgery at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. She received her DDS from the University of The Andes, Merida, Venezuela. She completed her residency and fellowship training at the University of Alabama Birmingham School of Dentistry.

Dr. Aponte-Wesson is a diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics and is a fellow of the American College of Prosthodontists.

Dr. Aponte-Wesson joined MD Anderson Cancer Center in 2014 and is a member of a large multidisciplinary practice. As a team member of the oral oncology service, she has the unique opportunity to help prevent and manage multiple oral morbidities related the various lines of cancer treatments, particularly those related to head and neck cancers. Another of her passions focuses on the prosthetic rehabilitation of the patient after head and neck cancer treatment. She has been in numerous leadership positions of many esteemed dental organizations, including past president of the ACP Houston Chapter. Dr. Aponte-Wesson has been honored with numerous dental awards.

# DENTAL TECHNICIAN LEADERSHIP AWARD

*Recognizing outstanding service to prosthodontics and the dental laboratory profession*



## MR. ROBERTO ROSSI

Mr. Roberto Rossi is a Master Dental Technician (MDT) with over 30 years of expertise in esthetic restorations and smile design. Born in the USA and raised in Italy, he developed a deep appreciation for artistry and craftsmanship from a young age. After returning to the US at 20 to pursue his passion for dentistry, Mr. Rossi has distinguished himself in the field by collaborating with leading prosthodontists and general dentists.

His advanced training includes a prestigious master's program at the New York University School of Dentistry, where he gained invaluable knowledge and skills. He has consistently sought out continuing education opportunities with world-renowned ceramists, maintaining the highest standards in his laboratory. This dedication to his craft has earned him a reputation as one of the most skilled and reliable dental technicians in the industry.

Mr. Rossi's unique journey and diverse interests not only shape his technical abilities but also reflect his commitment to excellence in all aspects of his life.





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# MAJOR GENERAL (RETIRED) BILL B. LEFLER FEDERAL SERVICES AWARD

*Recognizing excellence in leadership, patient care, mentorship, and service*



*This award is proudly  
sponsored by:*



U.S. ARMY



## DR. PETER BARNDT

Dr. Peter Barndt graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute with a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1998. He completed dental school at the University of Michigan and received his certificate in prosthodontics and a master's degree from the University of Connecticut Health Center in 2005. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics, a fellow of the American College of Prosthodontists, and belongs to other esteemed dental organizations. Dr. Barndt has practiced prosthodontics in the Navy Dental Corps for 18 years. He served as the digital dentistry specialty leader for the Navy Dental Corps for 5 years, developing and teaching both laboratory and chairside CAD/CAM technology. He also served as program director for prosthodontics and was the Chief of Fixed Prosthodontics at the Naval Postgraduate Dental from 2012 to 2014. Dr. Barndt currently practices at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.



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# PRIVATE PRACTICE PROSTHODONTIST AWARD - REGION 1

*Recognizing extraordinary collegiality, outreach, and community service*



## DR. MARIE FALCONE

Dr. Marie Falcone is a board-certified prosthodontist and owns a private practice in Darien, CT. She earned her DDM degree at the University of Pennsylvania. While in dental school, she was awarded a dual degree position to complete a master of bioethics. She then completed her prosthodontic residency at the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine and completed her MDS. Dr. Falcone then joined the private practice community and had the privilege of serving as the first ever female president of the Connecticut section of the ACP. She is active in her local dental community and through her leadership has enhanced the public understanding of the specialty. She is focused on raising awareness about how the expertise of a prosthodontist can help shape and impact a patient's treatment outcome. Dr. Falcone's commitment to education and mentorship further reflects her appreciation for the specialty and she hopes to inspire the next generation of prosthodontists through her passion and enthusiasm.





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# PRIVATE PRACTICE PROSTHODONTIST AWARD - REGION 2

*Recognizing extraordinary collegiality, outreach, and community service*



## DR. SARIT KAPLAN

Dr. Sarit Kaplan graduated from the prosthodontic program at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry in 2000 following her graduation from Hadassah Dental School. She became a diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics while raising her two young children as a single parent, working in private practice, and teaching in the prosthodontics residency at the University of Maryland. She has been a very dedicated clinician to her patients as well as her students.

Dr. Kaplan volunteers treating patients pro-bono and volunteered chairing the dental services in a large local nursing home for years. She has served as the ACP Maryland Section President, and has served in leadership positions in several esteemed dental organizations. Dr. Kaplan is owner of the largest prosthodontic practice in Maryland, serving patients that come from all over the states and internationally.

# PRIVATE PRACTICE PROSTHODONTIST AWARD - REGION 3

*Recognizing extraordinary collegiality, outreach, and community service*



## DR. KELLIE SCHAUB

As a third generation dentist, Dr. Kellie Schaub follows in the footsteps of her father and grandfather, caring for the most complex patients as a prosthodontist.

She was born and raised in Denver Colorado. Prior to dental school, she received her BS in biology from the University of Toledo. She then returned to Indiana and the Indiana University School of Dentistry. She completed both her DDS and MSD in prosthodontics, and also started her teaching career while there.

After graduation from dental school, she worked as an associate in a prosthodontic practice for 2 years, before opening her own start up practice. Shortly after opening Indianapolis Dental Center, she opened Indy Acrylics, a full-service removable prosthetics lab that serves her office and others. Throughout her years of private practice, Kellie still enjoys teaching as an Adjunct Clinical Faculty at IUSD and continues to teach one day a week.



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# PRIVATE PRACTICE PROSTHODONTIST AWARD - REGION 4

*Recognizing extraordinary collegiality, outreach, and community service*



## DR. SERGIO ORTEGON

Dr. Sergio Ortegon is a diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics and a maxillofacial prosthodontist that graduated from the Universidad Javeriana in Bogota, Colombia in 1998. He practiced for several years as a general dentist before completing a year of advanced education in general dentistry and 3 years of graduate prosthodontics and an MDS at the University of Connecticut Health Science Center. In addition, he did a 1-year fellowship in maxillofacial prosthetics at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. He is currently an adjunct faculty at the University of Texas School of Dentistry-Houston and a clinical consultant for the Texas Children's Hospital Department of Plastic Surgery. At present, he is the president of the Houston Chapter of the ACP. Dr. Ortegon has published in peer-reviewed specialty journals and lectures locally and internationally. He has a private practice limited to his specialty and subspecialty in Houston.

# PRIVATE PRACTICE PROSTHODONTIST AWARD - REGION 5

*Recognizing extraordinary collegiality, outreach, and community service*



## DR. LARRY OVER

Dr. Larry Over is a 1985 honors graduate of the OHSU School of Dentistry. He completed a general practice residency in the United States Air Force in 1986. He then served as a general dentist in Italy for three years. He completed residencies in both prosthodontics and maxillofacial prosthetics, and also received an MSD from the Indiana University School of Dentistry and Medical Center in 1992. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics, a Fellow of the American College of Prosthodontists, and belongs to several other esteemed dental organizations. He is an adjunct professor in the department of restorative dentistry at the OHSU School of Dentistry and the department of otolaryngology and head and neck surgery at the OHSU School of Medicine. He is a visiting lecturer at Lane Community College and at the OHSU School of Dentistry. He is a regular contributor to prosthodontic and maxillofacial prosthetic peer reviewed literature. Dr. Over maintains a full-time private practice limited to prosthodontics and maxillofacial prosthetics in Eugene, OR.



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# PRIVATE PRACTICE PROSTHODONTIST AWARD - REGION 7

*Recognizing extraordinary collegiality, outreach, and community service*



## DR. IZCHAK BARZILAY

Dr. Izchak Barzilay received his DDS from the University of Toronto in 1983, a certificate in prosthodontics from the Eastman Dental Center in Rochester, NY in 1986, and a MS from the University of Rochester in 1991. He is currently the CEO and founder of the Build Your Smile Dental Foundation, Toronto, ON, head of the division of prosthodontics and restorative dentistry at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Toronto, adjunct assistant professor of dentistry for the School of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Rochester, Rochester NY, a professor at George Brown College of Applied Arts and Technology in Toronto, associate in dentistry at the University of Toronto, Toronto, and has served in leadership positions in numerous esteemed dental organizations.

He has published on various topics including immediate implants, bonding plastics to various metals and other material and implant related topics. Dr. Barzilay holds fellowships or diplomate status for several dental organizations.



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# DAN GORDON LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

*Recognizing lifetime achievement*



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sponsored by:*



## DR. CARL F. DRISCOLL

Dr. Carl F. Driscoll currently serves as a clinical professor at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry, where he served as the director of the prosthodontic residency for 21 years from 1997-2018 as a tenured professor. He also served as the residency director with the US Army at Walter Reed Army Medical Center for three years prior to moving to the dental school. His residents have received many research grants and have won many awards for their research activities. Dr. Driscoll retired from the US Army after twenty years of service with the rank of Colonel. Dr. Driscoll continues to lecture nationally and internationally, published numerous journal articles, and co-authored three textbooks. He has received many awards from the military as well as prosthodontic organizations and has been an external examiner internationally on many occasions. Dr. Driscoll is a diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics and a Fellow of the American College of Prosthodontists. Dr. Driscoll has served as president of the American College of Prosthodontists, President of the American Board of Prosthodontics, and has served in leadership positions in several other esteemed dental organizations. In addition to his teaching commitments, he is in private practice in Bethesda, MD.





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# PRESIDENT'S AWARD

*Recognizing outstanding vision and leadership*



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## DR. LARS BOUMA

Dr. Lars Bouma completed his dental education at the Baylor College of Dentistry, part of the Texas A&M University System. Following graduation, he pursued advanced training through a graduate practice residency at the John L. McClellan Veterans Administration. He later commissioned in the United States Air Force, where he attended the prestigious Air Force Postgraduate Dental School at Wilford Hall Medical Center, earning a certificate in prosthodontics along with a MSD from the University of Texas Health Science Center. After eleven years of honorable service, he resigned his commission to focus on private practice.

Throughout his career, Dr. Bouma has held numerous leadership positions within the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP) and other esteemed dental organizations. His dedication to the field has earned him numerous awards and accolades. A recognized leader in his specialty, he frequently lectures both nationally and internationally, and has contributed extensively to scientific literature, authoring several research papers.

Currently, Dr. Bouma operates a full-time private practice in Oklahoma City, specializing in prosthodontics. He is a fellow and past president of the American College of Prosthodontists, and a diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics.