A lifetime journey to a beautiful smile

Why you deserve an exemplary crown

Meeting the people who make dentistry better
Introducing GoToAPro, a new online consumer dental resource

- Watch compelling patient videos about their prosthodontic transformations
- Check common dental conditions and symptoms and discover treatment options
- Read frequent dental questions and ask the experts your questions
- See remarkable before and after photos of patients treated by prosthodontists
- Locate a prosthodontist near you, even while on the go using GoToAPro mobile
Parents have a lot to worry about. But we were never prepared for William’s malformed teeth and the years of attention they would require. Our prosthodontist was the saving “light at the end of the tunnel.” Her vision for William’s smile, her attention to detail and her knowledge about everything teeth gave us the comfort of knowing William would have a great smile. We are not the only ones who noticed William’s inner is now in dental school.”

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From the Editor

Our new *ACP Messenger* and the message

Lyndon F. Cooper, D.D.S., Ph.D.
ACP Messenger Editor-in-Chief

The often quoted, “if you don’t like change, you’re going to like irrelevance even less,” seems to sum up the push to improve the communications efforts of the American College of Prosthodontists. How do we prosthodontists share our skills and interests with the larger community of dentistry and medicine and how do we clearly tell the world about prosthodontics? The answer is change.

“Our message of your smile, our specialty is our profession’s message and each member is a 100 percent owner of this message.”

Consultants tell us that change involves a three step process of “see, feel, modify behavior.” The ACP has looked at what needed changing through a communications audit and clearly our members want to be acknowledged and recognized in their local communities and look to the College for direct help. We see.

Kotter and Cohen stated that successful organizations (that’s us; our ACP!) embrace change and influence feelings. ACP members feel the urgency for change. Fortunately it’s not about who we are, but rather how we communicate who we are in our communities. The evidence surrounds us; it isn’t pretty, but it’s starkly realistic. I’ve had the opportunity to hear concerns about prosthodontics in education, in research and in the marketplace, and in all cases we prosthodontists want to be relevant. The kudos for small achievements, the recognition for greater accomplishments, a dissenting admonition or two, several frustrated expletives, and other vocalized emotions about our feelings surrounding prosthodontics in our community is a central part of this process. We feel. These feelings are an important part of what we are experiencing.

Modified behavior is the third part of change in a successful organization. We prosthodontists must find a new voice in the community. Our message is clearly one of caring and expertise; your smile, our specialty. That’s what prosthodontists have always represented. Our new commitment is to share this message with everyone in all communities.

There are many ways we communicate as professionals and as a professional organization. Together, a shared vision and common voice can elevate both the individual and the organization to the highest level of recognition and achievement. Our message of your smile, our specialty is our profession’s message and each member is a 100 percent owner of this message. Misbehave! Tell everyone, share your story, use every format and enjoy every moment.

About the author

ACP Fellow Dr. Lyndon F. Cooper is the Chair and Stallings Distinguished Professor of Dentistry of the Department of Prosthodontics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is Immediate Past President of the American College of Prosthodontists as well as the Editor-in-Chief of the ACP Messenger.
CASE PRESENTATION

A lifetime journey to a beautiful smile

ACP member Jean Wu, D.D.S. and patient Diane Kimbro Share their story of hope, trust and friendship

ACP members are exemplary clinicians who provide extraordinary care. The ACP Messenger provides a glimpse into the treatment offered by the specialty and its practicing prosthodontists.

Diane was about three years old when she was prescribed tetracycline for a problem with her knee. Of course no one knew then that taking the drug would cause teeth to be stained or darkened.

It was in fifth grade when the questions from classmates and friends started coming in. “What happened to your teeth?” She naturally began to hide her teeth and not smile.

Diane always wondered what it would feel like to have white teeth and a beautiful smile. While she knows that not everyone will understand, for her it was a long and difficult process to build up the strength to ask for help. Finally, in her early 30’s, she started researching teeth whitening.

“The most rewarding part of dentistry is not only to help people who are in pain and have serious infections, but to improve their quality of life.”

She asked some of her tennis friends whom she trusted and separate referrals were made to Sheets and Paquette Dental Practice in Newport Beach, CA. She was comfortable and confident with everyone at Sheets and Paquette from the front office staff, to the dental hygienists, to her eventual hero and friend, Dr. Jean Wu.

Dr. Wu started Diane on a slow, conservative approach with a long term goal to improve her overall dental health. Diane was confident with her decision to move forward with the plan, but there was still the ‘fear of the unknown.’

The two-year process included various forms of bleaching, Invisalign braces for six months and eventually, porcelain veneers. Her trust in Dr. Wu was strengthened every step of the way and the bond between the two women became one of trust and friendship.

In August of 2011, the process that spanned most of her lifetime was complete and her smile is now one of confidence and pride.
Laboratory work testing the shades during preparations.

The patient’s teeth before treatment.

The patient’s teeth before treatment from the right.

The patient’s teeth before treatment from the left.

Before treatment view of top teeth.

Before treatment view of bottom teeth.

Front teeth close up during preparations.

Laboratory work testing the shades during preparations.

The patient’s smile after treatment
The patient's teeth after treatment from the left.

The patient's teeth after treatment.

The patient's teeth after treatment from the right.

Diane's long process beginning at childhood was one of turning fear into hope, and at the core of her dental treatments was the trust and friendships built at Sheets and Paquette. Dr. Wu says, “The most rewarding part of dentistry is not only to help people who are in pain and have serious infections, but to improve their quality of life.”

“This has been a particularly long journey for Diane and I’m proud that our whole team was able to contribute to her incredible results. What we will now enjoy is seeing Diane enter this next phase of her life with renewed enthusiasm and confidence to accomplish anything that she desires.”

About the author

ACP member Dr. Jean Wu received her dental degree from the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center and prosthodontic training from University of Pittsburgh. She currently works in private practice in Newport Beach, CA.

Noteworthy ACP Events 2011-2012

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Organization Name</th>
<th>Event/Course Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<th>Web site</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American College of Prosthodontists</td>
<td>Grow Your Prosthodontic Practice Revenues Through Ethical Marketing</td>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
<td>November 18-19, 2011</td>
<td><a href="http://www.prosthodontics.org">www.prosthodontics.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>American College of Prosthodontists</td>
<td>Grow Your Prosthodontic Practice Revenues Through Ethical Marketing</td>
<td>Las Vegas, NV</td>
<td>February 17-18, 2012</td>
<td><a href="http://www.prosthodontics.org">www.prosthodontics.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>American College of Prosthodontists</td>
<td>42nd Annual Session</td>
<td>Baltimore, MD</td>
<td>October 31 - November 3, 2012</td>
<td><a href="http://www.prosthodontics.org">www.prosthodontics.org</a></td>
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<td>ACP Massachusetts Section</td>
<td>Massachusetts Section Winter Meeting</td>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
<td>January 25, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACP Massachusetts Section</td>
<td>YDC/2012 Prosthodontics Specialty Program</td>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
<td>January 28, 2012</td>
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Perhaps you have never needed a crown made for one of your teeth. Or perhaps you’ve experienced this many years ago and have forgotten the process and are no longer concerned. Now you sit here in the prosthodontist’s office and you may have questions about the crown you will soon have made for your tooth. Will this procedure hurt or damage my tooth? How long will this whole procedure take? What will my crown look like? What can I eat with my crown? How long will this crown last? Is this crown good for me? Will this truly be the best crown? These are good questions that deserve answers.

Your crown is a prosthesis that is made explicitly for you. Your tooth is unique; unique like a fingerprint. And someone else’s crown cannot fit your tooth. Your crown will be and must be made for you and you alone. It’s remarkable that science and engineering has developed ways of making exact copies of an intricate object over and over again (think about the millions of iPhones out there). It’s quite another miracle that dentistry makes millions of teeth that are all different, each individualized for each individual patient. The process of making an outstanding individualized crown is truly a remarkable achievement.

An exceptional crown will be one that can perform all the duties of a tooth and cannot be differentiated from the natural teeth in your mouth. Three important features are notable. One is that the crown must attach seamlessly to your remaining tooth and root. This connection cannot allow bacteria or plaque the opportunity to cause more decay or increase the risk of inflammation leading to gum disease. Another is that the crown must be mechanically strong. It has to remain attached to your tooth and it must not break. Finally, it has to look like and chew like your tooth. An exceptional crown does these things well at the micrometer level. The ‘margin’ of your crown – where your natural tooth and the crown meet – should be perfectly closed (within 50 – 100 micrometers). A strong crown is made using superior materials and to exacting dimensions. This requires extremely skillful management of your gum tissues and during the precise process of preparation or grinding your tooth so a crown can be placed on it. Too much and the tissues are at risk; too little and the crown will be weak. The crown must complement your smile and requires exceptional esthetics by providing the proper shape, the correct color and materials that mimic the appearance of your own teeth.

It’s hard to imagine that a crown has so many features or hidden parts. Our emerging dental technology has advanced these clinical procedures to a high level of quality and achievement. Impression materials and procedures are vastly improved. Lasers modify tissues and new impression polymers capture precise details. Computers are now capable of recording jaw movements and scanners can replace impressions.

Digital cameras and spectro-photometers have been developed that capture the color dimensions of your teeth. New dental materials make crowns more beautiful and even stronger than before. These details are learned, practiced and ingrained in the advanced education your prosthodontist receives and continues through his or her commitment to lifelong learning.

Ask your prosthodontist for an exceptional crown.
At the Chair

How do you spell R.E.S.P.E.C.T.?

Jacinthe Paquette, D.D.S., F.A.C.P.

Prosthodontists differentiate themselves from other dental health care providers as expert diagnosticians. This article highlights the role and responsibility of the prosthodontist in making the best scientifically-based decision.

For your prosthodontist, the decisions made “at the chair” relative to your care are important ones that will be with you for a lifetime. Some decisions may be simple ones and some may be quite complex in nature. Yet, often what might appear to be simple at the surface such as the creation of a crown to repair a broken tooth, for example, can actually require numerous decisions to be made. These decisions include how to best preserve and protect the health of your tooth, how to best incorporate the necessary functional elements, and how to create beautiful esthetic outcome.

Respect nature: One must keep in mind that the restoration of a tooth is the restoration of a biological system. And, like all biological systems a tooth and the tissue environment around it are delicate and must be respected and preserved. The more conservatively treated tooth maintains integrity and strength. And, additionally, the stronger tooth better protects the delicate vital structures contained within. Preservation of nature’s gifts helps ensure the longevity of these structures over time and can reduce the occurrence of long-term complications or the need for re-treatments overtime.

Respect function: The way a patient’s jaw functions is unique to each individual patient. Prosthodontists are trained to recognize and understand certain elements of jaw function that assists in creating a restoration to fit within an individual’s functional framework. This attention to functional details helps prevent repeated adjustments of the crown being placed that can often compromise the final structural and esthetic outcome of the crown and creates a stable and comfortable bite relationship.

Respect natural esthetics: Replicating nature and the beauty of the natural dentition is a sought after goal in creating a crown or multiple crowns. This ensures the restoration will be undetectable in the end. A beautiful crown is not only the result of a nice color match or selection, but is created with a shape and luster that mimics nature.

The advanced training required of prosthodontists provides them with the ability to understand the intricate elements necessary to create the best restoration suited for you. This attention to detail and respect for oral health, beauty, and function results in a restoration that strives to recreate the dentition you once had.

About the author

ACP Fellow Dr. Jacinthe Paquette, Associate Editor of the ACP Messenger, maintains a full-time private prosthodontic practice in Newport Beach, California. She serves on numerous editorial boards, advisory boards, and peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Paquette also serves as Co-Executive Director of the Newport Coast Oral Facial Institute, a nonprofit international teaching facility.

www.gotoapro.org
Duplicating nature: building your beautiful crown

Lee Culp, C.D.T.

The blending of art and science is the alchemy of quality dentistry. Somewhere in the process of providing every patient who seeks the ‘perfect’ restoration of their tooth, art and science intersect. Your prosthodontist has identified every aspect that makes your tooth ‘your tooth.’ He or she has taken every precaution to save the biologic and anatomic parts of your mouth and conserved them in creating an ideal crown to replace your worn or damaged tooth. Prosthodontists work hand in hand with master dental laboratory technicians to create restorations especially for you.

Dental technologists are highly skilled artists who may choose to focus on waxes and stones, or may work in the new and completely virtual realm of the computer with the designing, modeling and then reproducing an exact replica of your tooth. Using information provided by your prosthodontist, great care is taken to design your crown. Each restoration is a sculpted masterpiece representing great details taken from careful examination.

Any great plan must be perfectly executed. The technologist’s skill is critical here. The crown must...

1. Fit with exactness and this requires accurate replication in modeling and careful fitting of the constructed crown.
2. Be physically strong which depends on the technician’s knowledge of materials and their proper use.
3. Be of ideal form and the laboratory technician must reproduce the anatomy of the tooth with the highest of reliability.
4. Have the proper color and the prosthodontist must provide thorough clinical information to guide the technician’s decision making with this.
5. Have the right texture, a detail often overlooked and can then require additional attention. And finally
6. Possess matching visual properties (translucency, opalescence, etc.).

Putting this all together in a simple single crown requires great knowledge, skill and experience. Behind the scenes, a highly trained technologist is working with remarkable attention to detail. Combining of all of this information, blending the art and science of dentistry, is truly alchemist’s formula for dental excellence.

Dental technology is both art and science. Crowns are created from remarkably sophisticated materials using combinations of sculpture and color art developed over time and using digital technologies, metallurgy or the science of materials and ceramic science known for only the past decades.

About the author

Lee Culp, C.D.T. is the Chief Technology Officer at DTI Technologies, where he guides the development of the DTI digital technologies program, and their applied applications to restorative dentistry.
As clinicians, scientists and educators, prosthodontists play a vital role in diagnosing dental disease and in treating some of the most devastating and complex dental conditions. Difficult oral health challenges exist for individual patients in every community across our country. Tooth loss and rehabilitation can have tremendous patient impact and social implications as well. Prosthodontists are on the front lines every day working with their patients to meet their oral health challenges and to achieve high quality results.

The ACP Education Foundation is supported by a community of ACP members, patients, families and friends of prosthodontists, and our corporate donors. The active participation of our community has enabled the Foundation to achieve many significant milestones, such as funding cutting-edge education and research initiatives and funding scholarships for dentists pursuing prosthodontics as a specialty. These become the residents who our prosthodontists will ultimately recruit as associates in their practices or to purchase their practices.

The Foundation launched a new Planned Giving Program this year. Planned giving allows donors to combine their personal philanthropic goals and financial planning. A planned gift to the Foundation can be an important investment vehicle, and empowers donors to leave a legacy that will make a difference to future generations of prosthodontic residents, faculty and practitioners. Dr. Charles J. Goodacre, Dean of Loma Linda University School of Dental Dentistry, and I co-chair the Foundation’s Planned Giving Program Steering Committee.

It is the spirit of giving and volunteering that fosters our specialty’s tradition of excellence and distinguishes us in the field of dentistry. If you have not been a supporter of the ACP Education Foundation, please consider making a gift. If you have been a past supporter, consider increasing your support to a higher level. Your help is essential for accomplishing the Foundation’s mission!

The mission of the ACP Education Foundation is to secure and steward resources with the aim of advancing prosthodontics through education and research.

Founders Society Award

In honor of the ACPEF’s 25th Anniversary, the Board of Directors in 2010 created the Founders Medallion Award honoring the nine individuals who founded the ACP Education Foundation.

This year, the ACPEF has created the Founders Society Award to recognize individuals who significantly impacted the growth and development of the Foundation. In 2000, the ACPEF launched the New Vision Capital Campaign under the extraordinary leadership of Jonathan L. Ferencz, D.D.S., F.A.C.P. and Thomas J. McGarry, D.D.S., F.A.C.P. We recognize them as the first Founders Society Award recipients for their legacy of vision, leadership, service and dedication to the Foundation and the specialty of prosthodontics.

Congratulations to our colleagues Dr. McGarry and Dr. Ferencz!

About the author

ACP Fellow Dr. David Felton is Dean of West Virginia University’s School of Dentistry. He completed his D.D.S. and MS (Prosthodontics) degrees at University of North Carolina School of Dentistry where he later served as Director of Graduate Prosthodontics from 1989-1992 and Chair of Prosthodontics from 1992-2002. Dr. Felton is a Past President of the American College of Prosthodontists and currently serves as the ACP Education Foundation Chair and Editor-In-Chief of the Journal of Prosthodontics.
A shared vision

President

Once entering the office as President, there is a realization of the accountability needed to guide the specialty in serving the organization, our members and also our patients. This is a time of gathering knowledgeable people around you, which include your Officers, Board of Directors, the ACP Education Foundation and the Executive Director along with a cadre of Central Office staff, as they are your “dream team” who quickly become your lifeline. One immediately learns the inertia and momentum created by nurturing these relationships as a common and shared vision is embraced.

2011 has been a most unique year in the College's history, beginning with the ADA submission of the Re-recognition of the Specialty document to reaffirm our specialty and a second challenge with a communications audit that assessed our ability to connect with membership. While the recognition of the specialty document clearly points to future directions of the specialty, perhaps the most important outcome of this past year was the creation of an effective public relation media presence to enhance awareness of prostodontics by the public. This ACP Messenger publication is but one facet of the new College. These were no small feats and they reflect earlier changes set forth within the College laying a foundation for future growth and accomplishments.

For these strategic efforts to occur required implementation of a shared vision that first began with the change in our bicameral governance structure, from a House of Delegates to Regional Directors which would be engaged directly as members of the Board of Directors. This restructuring required a significant degree of trust and wisdom by the membership and the House of Delegates. As a direct result, this transformation has had a huge impact on how the College communicates with its members and has created a vibrant organization that is more nimble.

Lily T. Garcia, D.D.S., M.S., F.A.C.P.
ACP President-Elect

It also took the good judgment of our leaders, members and corporate sponsors in endowing the ACP Education Foundation. It should be acknowledged that corporate sponsors support our meetings with financial contributions that significantly reduce meeting registration fees as well as partnering with us in contributing to the ACPEF to advance our specialty. It is the recognition of our mission and goals as a common vision that validates our strategic plans. This type of undertaking requires both member and corporate support to create success as well as engaging our corporate sponsors as mutual stakeholders.

A shared vision could not have materialized without the actions of the membership. The first action began as a simple project of developing a grassroots effort to reach the public, which later became known as National Prosthodontics Awareness Week™ (NPAW™) that has received proclamations by state governors across the nation. We also began an oral cancer screening during our Annual Session as a public service. In reaching out to the public, they learned what a prosthodontist is and how we may be of service. We also learned of our inherent nature of giving back to the patients we serve. Many prosthodontic graduate students have taken NP AW™ to new levels by providing pro bono care or sharing their educational experiences with their colleagues.

The revitalization of our sections has emerged under the direction of our seven Regional Member Directors. The focus has shifted towards making members aware of the benefits of membership in the College to sharing new ideas or concerns that allows immediate assessment by the Board of Directors via the Regional Directors. The most important outcome is the membership networking that has occurred creating greater involvement and a stronger specialty and College.
A shared vision

Nancy Deal Chandler, M.A., R.H.I.A., C.A.E.
ACP Executive Director

Prosthodontists are seeing more informed patients enter their offices armed with the information or misinformation they read in magazines or found on the Internet. But how much do these patients really know about the value of seeking the care of a prosthodontist?

The Board of Directors launched our new public relations program immediately following Memorial Day of this year. This program includes three major initiatives:

- Creation of a public relations presence in the Central Office to build relationships with the media and achieve placements in the press that inform the public about our priority messages;
- Development of an intuitive and engaging ACP consumer web site, GoToAPro.org -- rich with information about the questions the public has about their own dental care and oral health; and
- Redesign of the ACP Messenger from a members-only tabloid newspaper to an educational magazine that not only showcases ACP member prosthodontists, but also offers useful information to patients about their treatment options and outcomes.

The heart of the College’s new public relations initiative is to give the public a better understanding of what a prosthodontist is and does, and why a prosthodontist is the best choice for optimal restorative and esthetic oral health care. This patient advocacy initiative will empower consumers with the information they need to make informed decisions about their dental and oral health care.

We encourage our ACP members to fully support this new program and to do their part in educating consumers in their own communities. The powerful partnership of our members across the country and the strategic resources of the ACP’s national headquarters and volunteer organization will serve to increase consumer awareness about prosthodontists and the care they provide. The 16th century quote from Sir Francis Bacon, “knowledge is power” resonates with our time and our reality, and it is our job together to promote care by prosthodontists at every turn, and to all who will listen.

The art of communication

Prosthodontics is a term growing in significance in our communities. Not often used in past decades, we hear it more frequently in the general community today. This is no accident.

The ACP is strategically working to increase the awareness of prosthodontics and prosthodontists. These are two different tasks that require teamwork. Together, ACP members support the preservation and promotion of the specialty. The College in turn supports individual prosthodontists and their practices. The new ACP Messenger is one part of this complex task. Our new ACP logo and its message “Your Smile. Our Specialty.” is one of the tools you now have to help promote our specialty.
Research: the pursuit of excellence

Kenneth S. Kurtz, D.D.S.

Patients referred to prosthodontists often have unique problems requiring expertise developed by the years of additional training after dental school. As part of the training, prosthodontists learn the importance of selecting the appropriate dental material to create crowns and bridges for both teeth and implants. As the coordinator of care across several specialties, the prosthodontist often relies upon scientific research to decide the treatment plan for a patient. During their training period, some prosthodontists complete a research project. In the prosthodontic community, knowing what to use and when to use it has become an integral part of graduate training programs across the United States.

The June issue of the Journal of Prosthodontics had fourteen published papers, and more than half of the submissions were research reports! Maybe the subheading should read: “Research, Implant, Esthetic and Reconstructive Dentistry.” Dr. David Felton, the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal should be very proud of being accepted for ranking by Thomson Reuters Journal Citations Reports. This will encourage more submissions to the journal from our current student researchers and international colleagues. The initial ACP/ACPEF Young Prosthodontist Innovator Award was given in 2010 to Seiichi Yamano, D.D.S., Ph.D., D.M.D., M.M.S.C. and we are again accepting applicants for this year’s fully funded $25,000 award. The scope of the research is any area of science that contributes to the understanding of prosthodontic tooth replacement therapies.

Thirteen abstracts were submitted for judging in the 2011 Sharry Research Competition. Three finalists will present their findings at the Annual Session in Scottsdale. Student involvement in research is critical as they are the future of our specialty. ACP member Dr. Steve Sadowsky has been instrumental in creating student research presentation niches at both the American Prosthodontic Society and the Pacific Coast Society for Prosthodontics meetings. ACP member Dr. Tony Randi has worked tirelessly at the Columbia University School of Dental Medicine fostering mentored research projects for their prosthodontic residents. The Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics has increased its funding support for student memberships for prosthodontic residents in the American Association for Dental Research in a program administered by Dr. Vicki Petropolous at the University of Pennsylvania.

We are making an effort across the specialty and country to foster the culture of research amongst our students. A meaningful mentored research project may tip an individual towards considering a career in academia and validates our specialty as one which introduces the concept of continuing scholarship to our student base. There is no better time to partner with industry to verify the validity of new technologies via mentored research projects. Collaborative research between programs is another initiative for student involvement.

If any members have any ideas to foster research or are looking for project collaborators please send your questions/information to: ksk4@nyu.edu.

About the author

ACP Fellow Dr. Kurtz, Chair of the ACP Research Committee, graduated from the New York University College of Dentistry, and after twelve years of general dental practice, returned for prosthodontic training at Montefiore Medical Center and subsequent maxillofacial prosthetic training at the Bronx Veteran’s Administration Medical Center/Columbia University School of Dentistry. He is the Assistant Director, Advanced Education Program in Prosthodontics for International Dentists at NYUCD. He also serves as Director- Maxillofacial Prosthetics, Graduate Prosthetics, New York Hospital- Queens.

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American Board of Prosthodontics News

What board certification means to you

Thomas D. Taylor, D.D.S., M.S.D., F.A.C.P.

Board certification is probably the most consistent way in which patients searching for the best in medical and dental care can evaluate the credentials of care givers and the services they provide. Practitioners who have undergone board certification in their respective specialties have been subjected to rigorous examination of their knowledge base and skills in providing care. Board certification means that the practitioner has met certain standards and has been judged competent by a panel of their peers. The public has become more aware of the value of board certification and its role in quality assurance in health care. In the specialty of prosthodontics those dentists who successfully complete certification have been examined as to their knowledge base, critical decision making ability and, most importantly, have been evaluated as to their clinical experience and skill. Board certification adds one more layer to a practitioner’s educational expertise and credibility.

The American Board of Prosthodontics continues to see steady growth in the number of candidates for examination each year. This positive trend is extremely encouraging. To further improve the examination process a new type of oral examination was introduced in 2009, the Section C Scenario based examination. Section C Scenario is a series of 3 clinical scenarios presented to the candidate during the course of one hour that the candidate is asked to respond to a series of standardized questions. This can reduce the number of patient based presentations from 3 to 2 for those candidates who choose to take the Section C examinations.

In 2011 the ABP made additional changes to the Section B oral patient presentation examinations to reduce the difficulty candidates have in identifying patients with the required patterns of edentulism that meet the categories of combined fixed and removable, full arch fixed and full arch removable treatment. These changes will be phased in over the next four years to allow current candidates to continue with their patient treatment preparations under the old guidelines but allowing new candidates to use the new guidelines should they choose to do so.

The description of both the old and the newly revised patient treatment descriptions are available in the Guidelines for Certification on the ABP website www.prosthodontics.org/ABP under the heading “Certification and Recertification.”

Questions regarding the certification process should be directed to Dr. Tom Taylor, executive director of the ABP at ttaylorabpros@comcast.net.

About the author

Dr. Thomas Taylor is Professor and Head, Department of Reconstructive Sciences, University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine, where he specializes in Prosthodontics and Maxillofacial Prosthetics. He holds a B.S. degree, University of Iowa, a D.D.S. degree, University of Iowa, and an M.S.D. degree, University of Minnesota. He completed his residency in Prosthodontics and Maxillofacial Prosthetics at the Mayo Clinic. Dr. Taylor is a Past President of the American College of Prosthodontists and currently serves as the Executive Director of the American Board of Prosthodontics.

www.gotoapro.org
LEADING THE INDUSTRY

Meet Dr. George W. Tysowsky

Our profession is part of the larger dental industry. Our members are key opinion leaders and share experiences with innovators and manufacturers of the products that serve our patients. Here we recognize a leader of industry who strongly identifies with our vision and our plans for improving prosthodontics and oral health care.

“The College represents a level of excellence that demonstrates the highest standard of dentistry that establishes a goal for product development benchmarks.”

Ivoclar Vivadent is a research and development based organization, that values its partnership with the American College of Prosthodontists in supporting professional education and validating the application of new technologies. As a leading global dental materials manufacturer focused on developing new technologies to improve clinical dentistry, Ivoclar Vivadent recognizes the ACP’s many leading educators and critical thinkers in the profession. The College also represents a level of excellence that demonstrates the highest standard of dentistry that establishes a goal for product development benchmarks. Therefore, Ivoclar Vivadent proudly supports both the ACP and the ACP Education Foundation to better assure the survival and growth of quality dentistry.

Ivoclar Vivadent is creating new materials and processes that provide optimum esthetics, durability and function to all dental restorations. Our new technologies cannot be implemented without the proper training of both dental clinicians and technicians. During the July 7-8 Scientific Meeting focusing on Implant Superstructures at Ivoclar Vivadent headquarters in Schaan, Liechtenstein, ACP member Dr. Clark Stanford presented on “All-ceramic Restorations: What Is the Evidence for The transformation Occurring in Restorative Dentistry?” The ACP’s expertise was instrumental to this carefully integrated program that brought an international attendance of clinicians and researchers together to highlight the best knowledge in ceramic functions. Ivoclar Vivadent’s partnership with the ACP also encompasses establishing clinical guidance and validation of new technologies. Critical input regarding the relevant benefits and clinical outcomes of new materials and procedures is necessary. ACP Fellows are leading clinicians and researchers in the field whose input and expertise are particularly important for validating, evaluating and testing the clinical relevancy of these technologies and procedures.

About Dr. Tysowsky

Dr. George Tysowsky, Vice President of Technology for Ivoclar Vivadent, Inc., is a member of the ACPEF Board of Directors and is a strong advocate within both the ACP and corporate dentistry for excellence in dentistry and prosthodontics.

Dr. George Tysowsky, shown here at Ivoclar Vivadent corporate research offices, is a dentist and investigator who helps lead product and technology innovation in dentistry.
Meet Dr. Thomas G. Reddy

How did you come to serve the dental profession by working in the industry?

While pursuing my career in the U.S. Army Dental Corps., I never envisioned being in corporate dentistry. I assumed I would be in private practice, an academic position or a combination of the two. I have now been with Nobelpharma (Nobel Biocare since 1996) for almost 20 years, and have focused exclusively on training, education and institutional activities. Although I have never lost sight of the fact that I am in a “for profit” industry, it became readily apparent that success and growth in this industry will only occur through collaborative interaction with clinicians, educators and researchers in private practice, academic and federal settings.

What are some of the significant efforts and technological advances that the industry has made to improve patient care?

Clinical research, product innovation, patient safety, training and education to name just a few, demand an interactive and professional relationship between the dental profession and industry. The technical evolution that has occurred, beginning with the 1980’s era of functional, but esthetic challenged designs, and traditional healing procedures, to the current era of immediate placement, immediate function and esthetic excellence, was a direct result of those collaborative relationships. The future of osseointegration, just in the multiple clinical opportunities associated with current trends and innovations in digital technology, promises to be even more exciting.

The most significant accomplishment of our industry, ultimately leading to improved patient care, has been its absolute commitment in support of dental implant education. Nobel Biocare alone educated almost 70,000 dental professionals in the U.S. and Canada in 2010, and through the first 6 months of 2011, an additional 50,000! A variety of efforts, such as support of pre-doctoral education at no cost, implant curriculum development,


Prosthodontists: cancer expertise on your side

Rhonda Jacob, D.D.S., M.S., F.A.C.P.

Oral tumors on the roof of the mouth or upper jaw are most often treated by surgery and create a deficiency that connects the oral cavity of the mouth with the cavities of the sinus and nose. When only a portion of the roof of the mouth or the palate is removed, a maxillary obturator prosthesis supported by the remaining teeth is worn by the patient at all times. This prosthesis is very effective in preventing food and liquid from leaking back into the nose, and keeps air from escaping from the mouth into the nose preventing the unintelligible, nasal quality speech that occurs with this type of palatal defect. Unfortunately patients who have no remaining upper teeth or have their entire palate removed are greatly disabled because an obturator prosthesis has nothing to connect to.

For the past 20 years, use of the fibula or calf bone to reconstruct the mandible or lower jaw is now almost universal in major medical centers. However, use of the fibula to reconstruct the maxilla has only been reported in the past few years. This is largely due to the success of the obturator prosthesis in restoring function in the immediate and long-term postoperative course of a partial palate removal, and the fact that total palate removal is rare. In a total palate reconstruction, placing the fibula in the small space occupied by the palate, shaping a complete alveolar or jaw ridge form, and stabilizing the bone to other facial bones requires considerable expertise. When the fibula reconstruction is complemented with implants and prosthodontic rehabilitation, the patient’s life is transformed.

This 55 year old patient’s experience exemplifies the tremendous strides we are making in maxillofacial prosthetics. A large salivary gland tumor required removal of approximately 2/3 of the roof of her mouth and associated anterior maxillary or upper front bones. Her remaining teeth served dutifully with magnetic retainers to hold an edentulous obturator, but these were eventually lost. Eighteen years later, cumulative biologic mouth changes resulted in a poor fitting of the obturator, causing pain and ulceration within the mouth and maxillary defect. Fortunately, she underwent upper jaw reconstruction using an immediate fibula flap to reconstruct the entire palate and both sinus areas. This permanently closed the large connection between her mouth and sinus cavities. Four months later the patient underwent dental implant placement in the upper and lower jaws and in another three months she had an implant retained removable upper and lower jaw prosthesis placed.

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After four years, due to plastic surgery and prosthodontic collaboration, the patient is enjoying better oral function than she had prior to her initial diagnosis of cancer.

About the author

ACP Fellow Dr. Jacob received her dental degree from the University of Iowa College of Dentistry and her prosthodontic certificate with rotations in the Veterans Hospital and University Hospital. She then went on to continue her training at MD Anderson Cancer Center for where she has worked for over 30 years as a maxillofacial prosthodontist. Dr. Jacob’s holds the position of Professor of Dental Oncology and Prosthodontics (Maxillofacial). This has included an opportunity to mentor more than 100 one-year fellows in maxillofacial prosthodontics. Dr. Jacob also serves a President of the American Board of Prosthodontics.
Elevating the specialty

The Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) has directed specialty organizations to use CODA revised language to rewrite their specialty standards by winter 2012. The public, profession and the U.S. Department of Education recognize CODA as the accrediting agency in dentistry. The specialty standards define each specialty and exactly what we are licensed to do in our practice.

Changes in language required self-assessment and change

CODA previously categorized knowledge as “in-depth, understanding and familiarity” and skills as “proficient, competent and exposed.” The new language combined knowledge and skills into three levels. The terms in-depth and understanding are to remain for levels of knowledge with only competent remaining for the level of skill. The ACP is using this opportunity to write new standards that reflect what prosthodontists should be learning and practicing in the future as technology and evidence-based information advances.

A lengthy, collegial, and electronic process

The Task Force used a knowledge-based approach to write new standards that would be empowering and acceptable to all prosthodontic educators. Information was collected from important resources including: the definition of our specialty; the ACP 2011 response to the Council on Dental Education and Licensure Periodic Review of Dental Specialty Education and Practice; the Prosthodontic Parameters of Care Publication; the Prosthodontic Diagnostic Index; current standards of other specialty(s); and Glossary of Prosthodontic Terms. The process included statements of what the specialty of prosthodontics should be in 10-20 years. A large quantity of information was condensed through agreement of what was needed. The clinical standards were drafted first and then didactic standards were written to support what prosthodontists do clinically. Intent statements were composed to provide clear expectations of each educational standard.

E-mail and interactive conference calls were the primary venues for our discussion. An online scheduling system coordinated times for members to meet. The process is evidence of the growing capacity and efficiency of the ACP, its members, and the Central Office Staff.

Moving Ahead

These newly crafted standards will now go to CODA for evaluation, comments and final review before distribution as the CODA Standards document for our specialty. We feel this process and shared ACP dedicated efforts are creating a document that will serve us well for defining prosthodontics in the future.

About the author

ACP Fellow Dr. John Agar is retired from the U.S. Army in which he served as clinician, educator, consultant and commander. He is currently Director of Graduate Prosthodontics at the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine. He is Past President of the American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics and is a Past President of the American Board of Prosthodontics. Dr. Agar also currently serves as Treasurer on the ACP’s Board of Directors. If you have any questions please e-mail them to Dr. John Agar at Agar@uchc.edu.
TECHNICAL STARS

Domenico Cascione, C.D.T. – A former accomplished pianist from Bari, Italy, Domenico Cassione has emerged as one of prosthodontics’ inspiring dental technologists. A C.D.T. and master ceramist, Domenico founded his lab in Bari while pursuing metallurgy research and perfecting complex esthetic rehabilitation.

Today, Domenico is the Director of Oral Design Center Laboratory in LA, California and is Clinical Assistant Professor and Course Director for the Advanced Dental Morphology for Esthetic Restoration at the University of Southern California Ostrow School Of Dentistry. In 2007, he was awarded the Judson C. Hickey Award in the research category in the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry. He has both authored and co-authored several articles in dental literature and serves as an advisory board member of Spectrum Dialogue magazine.

Domenico shares his skills and knowledge with students, residents and faculty and to provide patients restorations that bring life-long satisfaction. To achieve this, Domenico has included undergraduate dental students on his dental healthcare team. At the graduate level, Domenico aids young dental technicians and aspiring prosthodontists in developing skills that will enhance their accuracy, artistic ability and attention to detail. Students work with various materials and sophisticated instruments to create dental prostheses reflecting art and science. He shares enthusiasm, innovation and exploration using new instruments, equipment and materials.

As a Dental Technician he helps to provide a valued healthcare service and positively affects patients’ oral health and self image. “That gleam a patient receives from having confidence in their teeth is the same gleam I receive from an audience listening to my music,” says Domenico of his work.

YOUNG STARS

Prosthodontics is a growing specialty in dentistry. Among the expanding number of recent graduates, there are many superstars and the ACP is the professional home for these up and coming superstars. Read below and see the remarkable achievements of our youngest members.

Suchada Kongkiatkamon, D.D.S., M.S.

Dr. Suchada Kongkiatkamon received her D.D.S. degree, graduating at the top of her class from the Srinakharinwirot University, Bangkok, Thailand. A 2011 graduate of the University of Illinois at Chicago Advanced Specialty Education Program in Prosthodontics, she received a Masters of Science in Oral Sciences. Her research, titled “Immobilized Dentin Matrix Protein 1 on Titanium Surfaces Facilitates Osteogenic Differentiation of Stem Cells,” addressed a novel surface modification that has potential to improve osseointegration. Remarkably, she also published two additional papers while at UIC that are published in the Journal of Prosthodontics and the Journal of Dental Education addressing gender disparities and gender trends in research, leadership and academics.

Dr. Kongkiatkamon’s goals are to give back to the community and to improve patients’ lives. She is presently a Clinical Fellow in the Section of Oral Oncology and Maxillofacial Prosthodontics at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Her ultimate objective is to improve the quality of life of patients affected by acquired or congenital defects by reducing the diseases associated with those treatments. She expects to integrate those experiences with her prosthodontic knowledge and skills to best meet what patients’ need and expect.

Dr. Kongkiatkamon believes that prosthodontic rehabilitation has the potential to transform not only a person’s smile, but his or her entire life. Her future goals are to work in academics and research in a university setting. With the background in prosthodontics and maxillofacial prosthodontics, she is learning to care for patients with a wide range of needs and complexities. She sees teaching as an opportunity to further give back to society in many ways through academics.
Prosthodontists in Their Communities

This fall ACP Fellow, Thomas J. Balshi, D.D.S., F.A.C.P., a private practitioner in Fort Washington, PA, hosted the Swing for a Smile golf outing with his team at Pi Dental Center. Good Morning America’s Robin Roberts served as the honorary chair at the Saucon Valley Country Club in Bethlehem, PA. All proceeds of the event benefitted the Pi Foundation, Pi Dental Center’s organization with the mission to reach out and treat patients with the most dire medical conditions and no resources to be cared for.

ACP member L. Scott Brooksby, D.D.S., a private practitioner in Las Vegas, performs in home exams and procedures to patients in the area. Here, Dr. Brooksby is performing ozone therapy on a patient at home. He is using an aseptico portable dental unit with suction and handpiece connectors as well as an anaerobic generator to reduce the bacterial population on the teeth.

Prosthodontic residents from the Indiana University School of Dentistry participated in the West Side Health Fair in Indianapolis in 2010. The residents did screenings for several people and also educated them on oral health topics. The residents also distributed free samples to attendees such as tooth brushes, tooth pastes, mouth washes and brochures for how keep teeth clean and healthy.

Several weeks before NPAW™, ACP Fellow and Georgia Program Director Philip Baker, D.D.S., F.A.C.P., received a request from a local non-profit education, technology and recreation program named MACH Academy, Inc. for underprivileged youth located in South Augusta. The organization's theme this year is, "Reach for the Stars" and is geared to placing young people in a positive and safe environment that allows them to explore education, career goals and aspirations. The prosthodontic residents from Georgia presented three 1-hour sessions for groups ages 4-7, 8-11, and 12 and up.

ACP member Clark Stanford D.D.S., Ph.D., volunteered his time at the Annual Family Conference for the National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasias Annual Meeting held near St. Louis, MO in July. The NFED is a family organization that seeks the best care and support for its families. During the Annual Family Conference, dental consult exams are performed by a team of pediatric dentists (Drs. Tim Wright and Frank Ferrington) along with Dr. Stanford for prosthodontic consultations. This year 84 patients were seen in a morning session in which clinical field exams and discussions regarding options for prosthodontic were provided as well as locating local specialists to provide care.
**Our Community**

**ACP Staff visit UIC** – The ACP Central Office staff was immersed in prosthodontics during a day at the UIC College of Dentistry. Organized by ACP Past President and Head of Restorative Dentistry Dr. Stephen D. Campbell, the staff learned about the specialty and dental education, met with UIC faculty and residents, and toured the dental school and clinics. A highlight of the day allowed ACP staff to shadow residents in the clinic and the lab. The goal of the visit was to educate the ACP staff about prosthodontics and to offer insight about our ACP members and their daily work.

1. Prosthodontic resident Dr. Maiko Sakai works on her patient in the UIC Prosthodontic Clinic.

2. Prosthodontic resident Dr. Suchada Kongkiatkamon works with materials for her patient.

3. UIC Faculty Dr. Alex Chan works on his patient.

4. Prosthodontic resident Dr. Michael Young discusses treatment options.

5. Prosthodontic resident Joshua Kristiansen explains to his patient the next steps needed to be taken in his treatment plan.

ACP Fellow and Program Director John Agar, D.D.S., M.A., F.A.C.P., and prosthodontic residents for the University of Connecticut School of Dentistry were invited during NPAW™ week at the Bloomfield Senior Men’s Breakfast. Residents presented to a room of 45 on topics such as what the specialty of prosthodontics encompasses and the care a prosthodontist provides. This was actually the second year in a row the residents were invited to present. They were very well received the previous year and were asked to come again.
1. Dr. Roy T. Yanase received the Kenneth Wical Award at the annual graduation dinner hosted by the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Prosthodontics, Loma Linda University School of Dentistry. Pictured: sitting from left to right: Dr. Wical and Dr. Yanase; standing from left to right: Dr. Charles Goodacre and Dr. Mathew Kattadiyil.

2. Dr. Lawrence E. Brecht, Chair of the 2011 NPA W Committee, spoke to 75 dental laboratory technical students on the relationship between our technical colleagues, prosthodontists and prosthodontics.

3. The New York Section Distinguished Service Award was presented to Dr. Gary Goldstein for his contributions to prosthodontic research and his clinical and academic achievements. He was presented with a certificate and a $500 donation was made from the New York Section to the ACP Education Foundation on his behalf.

4. The East Bay Chapter of the CA Section held a dinner meeting in May. There were a mix of residents from the Veteran’s Administration and University of California San Francisco, faculty, lab technicians and private practice prosthodontists. Pictured left to right: California Section President Dr. Ann Wei, Dr. Lily Huynh, Dr. Natalie Bui, Dr. David L. Pfeifer, Dr. Cynthia Morford, and Dr. Catherine Do.

5. The New Jersey Section held their spring meeting in May in Edison, NJ co-sponsored with the New Jersey Society of Periodontists. Pictured left to right the New Jersey Board of Directors: Drs. Mauricio Lavie, David Lipani, (Speakers, Sonia Lezy and Brubh Miller from N. Vancouver, Canada) Anthony Sallustio, Jack Piernatti and Reena Varghese.

6. Mr. Enrico Steger and Dr. Larry Sims presented at the Georgia Section recent continuing education meeting in July. Approximately 50 people attended the presentation on zirconia.

7. Residents from the University of Maryland celebrate their recent graduation. Pictured left to right: Drs. Monica Parekh, Elias Rivers, Joanna Kempter and Daniel Greenbaum.

8. New York Section Board of Directors promote NPA W at their spring meeting at the Union Club. Pictured Left to Right: Drs. Lawrence Brecht, Ads Estafan, Caroline Grasso, Daniel Schweitzer, Igor Gerzon, Debra Cohn, and Anthony Randi.

9. During the National Prosthodontics Awareness Week, Loma Linda University’s graduate prosthodontic students Drs. Doris Kore and Miguel Pappaterra visited the Linda Valley Care Center, Loma Linda, California, to coordinate a panel describing modern solutions to typical dental issues encountered by the elderly.

10. Dr. Igor Gerzon, President of the New York Section addressing members at the section’s spring meeting.

11. Drs. Farhad Vahidi, Igor Gerzon and Mamta Mehra at the New York University College of Dentistry open house during NPAW.
Save the Date to Celebrate
National Prosthodontics Awareness Week™

The American College of Prosthodontists advocates for the valuable role that prosthodontists play on the dental team. National Prosthodontics Awareness Week™ focuses on raising public awareness about the critical importance of a healthy mouth.

Find out more at www.prosthodontics.org/npaw