2018 National Prosthodontics Awareness Week Recap

This year’s NPAW saw increased member engagement and activity, all under the unified message of distinguishing prosthodontists as the specialists for missing teeth. ACP members across the country, and the world, engaged referring dentists, completed pro bono work, and raised awareness in their local communities.

One of the newest grassroots efforts this year was the robust social media activity, created by members sharing photos of some of their favorite cases. Other notable achievements from NPAW 2018 include:

- Over 350 members participated in NPAW activities
- Official proclamations were made covering over 9 million people
- Members from all 7 regions participated
- NPAW social media posts received over 22,000 interactions

Thank you to all members who put their valuable time and energy into making NPAW 2018 a success. Here is a list of NPAW activities organized by Region and State. If your activity is not listed please send a brief description with photos to media@prosthodontics.org!

Region 1

Connecticut: ACP CT President Dr. Marie Falcone hosted a “Ladies Night in Dentistry” at a local chocolate shop, where she had an NPAW display, gave a lecture, and discussed the ways a prosthodontist can change a life. Many leading women in dentistry were present, and photos of the event were shared on social media.

The UConn Post Graduate Prosthodontics program celebrated NPAW with several activities throughout the week. Residents gave presentations on prosthodontics to staff and visitors of UConn Health, Dr. Avi Bidra gave a Lunch & Learn lecture to pre-doctoral students, the prosthodontics department hosted a Lab Night what students showed off tricks in the dental lab, and ACP Resident Committee co-chair Dr. Akanksha Srivastava lectured dental students interested in prosthodontics. UConn also had NPAW advertised on their TV monitors, displayed in the hospital and shared several photos on social media.

Several ACP members in Connecticut posted about NPAW on social media including Drs. Akanksha Srivastava, Dave Remi, and Rob Slauch.
Massachusetts: Harvard School of Dental Medicine held an Advanced Prosthodontic Forum, which included a lecture by Dr. Miguel Vidal on a “Career in Prosthodontics,” and then residents led an interactive planning workshop where students could develop a treatment plan for complex cases.

Dr. Lisa Thoms with Dentsply Sirona spoke to the Waltham, MA Boys and Girls Club about oral health, and the Mayor officially proclaimed NPAW in the City of Waltham.

Dr. Roberta Wright posted about NPAW on social media.

Dr. Vincent J. Mariano of EMA Dental offered complimentary consultations during the month of April, and posted a video promoting the offer.

New Jersey: ACP Vice President Dr. Stephen Hudis offered complimentary oral cancer screenings, published a Letter to the Editor in the Princeton, NJ newspaper, and had signs promoting NPAW and Oral Cancer Awareness Month.

Dr. Andrew J. Dietz posted about NPAW on Facebook multiple times, describing what a prosthodontist does.

Rutgers School of Dental Medicine advertised NPAW on their lobby TV monitors throughout the week, there was a table set up in the cafeteria in the University Hospital to inform people about prosthodontics, and a presentation was given to the RSDM senior class regarding what a prosthodontist is and why it is a good career choice.

New York:
Dr. Marshall Fagin appeared on the ESPN 1520 radio show “On Target with Penny Wolfgang” to discuss prosthodontics.

Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine did an interactive activity with several third year dental students where they practiced crafting facial prosthetics.
Dr. Siamak Najafi made 5 NPAW posts on Instagram highlighting favorite cases, before and after photos, and garnering hundreds of interactions.

Drs. Gabriel Carranza, Samantha B. Rawdin, Terry Y. Lin, and Natalie Baker also posted about NPAW on social media.

**Region 2**

**Florida:** Dr. Rachel Schultz Squire celebrated NPAW by offering packets of flower seeds with a message of "raising awareness" to patients.

Dr. Derek Gatta filmed a segment on dentistry and prosthodontics at his local NBC affiliate, and also posted photos of the filming on social media.

NSU College of Dental Medicine posted a picture with their NPAW sign on social media.

Dr. Randold Binns posted photos of complicated cases on Instagram to his 21.2k followers.

On behalf of Dr. Hasan Yap, the City of Fort Lauderdale officially proclaimed April 8-14, 2018 as National Prosthodontics Awareness Week.

Dr. Paivi Samant had NPAW celebrations all week long with cake, presents, and social media posts.

Drs. Jorge Mosquera, Luiz Gonzaga, Marcela Cardona, and Ruth Rojas also posted on social media to celebrate NPAW.

**Georgia:** The ACP Georgia Chapter and the Advanced Education in Prosthodontics Department at Augusta University hosted a pizza party for the undergraduate dental students, where faculty and residents discussed the specialty, what to expect in residency, and shared clinical cases with students. Prosthodontic residents also provided a free set of complete dentures to a military veteran as part of NPAW.

Dr. Amelia Orta posted photos of complicated cases on Instagram.
Maryland: At University of Maryland School of Dentistry, the prosthodontics residents and Dr. Carl Driscoll celebrated NPAW by engaging predoctoral students. All residents gave presentations on various topics: life of a prosthodontic resident, residency application process, and types of patients they see in clinic.

Dr. Vincent Prestipino posted a blog about NPAW on his practice’s website.

Dr. Elias Rivera posted the NPAW logo on social media.

North Carolina: The UNC Graduate Prosthodontics residents gave a lecture to students, faculty, and staff of the UNC Dental School on digital dentistry.

Dr. Jonathan Hunter Dawson received an official proclamation from the City of Greensboro declaring National Prosthodontics Awareness Week in the city.

Drs. Mollie Griswold, Mark Scurria, and Rosanna Marquez posted on social media to highlight NPAW.

Pennsylvania: Dr. Robert Bentz celebrated NPAW by giving out carnations to patients, promoting NPAW on social media, delivering custom made NPAW tomato pie pizzas to neighboring dental offices, and concluded the week with an informative seminar.

Dr. Andrea Smith posted videos with prosthodontic trivia on Facebook each day, with prizes awarded after each post. The videos garnered over 23k views on Facebook.

Penn Dental Medicine had an entire week full of activities starting with an informative table at an oral cancer walk and 5k. The school’s Prosthodontics Club, which has over 65 members, organized three lunch and learns for
the week, an evening keynote address from Dr. Lyndon F. Cooper which was also streamed online to over 120 viewers, and had hands-on microscope sessions. The club also gave out NPAW cookies and had a very successful social media campaign using the hashtag #Pennpaw.

Pi Dental Center held an open house designed to thank patients and educate the general public. The event featured technology tours and dental Q & A boards. Dr. Glenn Wolfinger and the clinical team also provided complimentary diagnostic evaluations. Attendees received gift bags with Pi Dental Center’s own blend of coffee, gift cards for dental treatment, and gift cards for local businesses.

Dr. Elaine Torres-Melendez spoke at a senior center, emphasizing prosthodontists as the specialists for replacing missing teeth. Dr. Torres-Melendez also presented at two study club meetings where she discussed NPAW, made special shirts that said #prosthodontics down the sleeve, and a special opportunity to showcase the week during a treatment involving immediate implant loading on a patient with MS.

Virginia: Dr. Scott Miller was interviewed on WCYB, a local NBC affiliate, posted on social media and a race care he sponsors displayed an NPAW sign.

Dr. David Schielder posted about NPAW on social media.

Washington, DC: Dr. Edward K. Brown Jr. posted the NPAW logo and photos of his work on social media.

Region 3

Alabama: Dr. Cramin P. Wiltz, of Madison Prosthodontics, received an official proclamation from the Governor of Alabama declaring April 8-14, 2018 as Prosthodontics Awareness Week in the state.
Dr. Wiltz also hosted an open house for medical professionals in his area, and posted about NPAW on social media.

Dr. Roger Allen, a non-member, displayed a ‘prosthodontist’ sign outside of his practice and then sent in pictures to the ACP.

**Illinois:** In Chicago, Mayor Rahm Emmanuel declared April 8-14, 2018 as National Prosthodontics Awareness Week in the City of Chicago. This is where ACP Central Office is located.

The University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry was very active on social media throughout NPAW. The college shared photos of their prosthodontic residents, highlighted their women in prosthodontics and posted a video featuring Dr. Stephen Campbell.

Drs. Albert C. Park and Stuart Schelkopf posted photos of complicated cases and posted about why prosthodontics matters on social media.

**Kansas:** Dr. Edward M. Amet wrote a paper that will be submitted to the ACP’s Journal of Prosthodontics titled “Rescue of Existing Mandibular Implant Prosthesis with Locator Attachment Implants.”

Dr. Avi Bidra was the keynote speaker for the 22nd Annual Dr. Dan Cruz Memorial Lecture at the UMKC Midwest Dental Conference. Several ACP members from Missouri and Kansas were in attendance, along with University of Missouri-Kansas City Advanced Restorative Studies dental students, UMKC dental school faculty, and general dentists.

**Kentucky:** The Kentucky Section of the ACP, led by Dr. Ahmad Kutkut, hosted a special Prosthodontics Study Club meeting with guest speaker Dr. John Cavallaro on the topic of “The Surgical Prosthodontist's Role in Contemporary [Implant] Dentistry.” Directed by Drs. Ayah Rashwan (UKCD), Varun Nigam (UKCD), and Sean Aiken (U of L), 30 ACP members, residents, and students from Lexington and Louisville were in attendance.
The University of Louisville Department of Oral Health and Rehabilitation hosted three separate discussions on complex cases, with time for discussion, which the entire campus community was invited to. Presentations were given by Drs. Gerald Grant, Daniel Montero, Jym Rae Charette, Hazem Yousef, Loana Tovar Suinaga, and Judith L. Wulff. Dr. Tovar was also featured in U of L’s campus news and the NPAW activities were shared on social media.

The University of Kentucky College of Dentistry published an article on “Denture Fit and Comfort” on their patient facing website.

The LSU School of Dentistry held resident presentation and taught undergrad students about CAD/CAM and 3D printing.

Dr. Brandon Stapleton posted about NPAW and updated his practice’s cover photo on Facebook.

**Michigan:** The University of Michigan School of Dentistry had an event where 40 pre-doc students got the chance to scan each other using 3Shape scanners. There were also presentations and pizza!

Dr. Lydia Cornejo posted about a favorite case on Instagram.

**Minnesota:** Dr. Mitchell Loeb posted photos on social media to celebrate NPAW.

**Missouri:** The Missouri Section of the ACP held a section meeting, organized by MO President Dr. Cynthia A. Petrie. A presentation was given by two residents from the Advanced Education Program in Endodontics at UMKC, with members from the Missouri and Kansas ACP sections in attendance. The participants enjoyed the meeting’s focus on interdisciplinary collaboration between the specialties.

**Ohio:** Drs. Nick Jacobs and Damian Lee, from The Ohio State University, travelled to Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine to discuss prosthodontics with the school’s undergraduate students.

Prosthodontic residents at The Ohio State University hosted a Lunch and Learn which featured “Prosthodontic Jeopardy.” Hosted by Drs. Sweety Shah and Aneeqa Malik, students were on teams and answered prosthodontic related questions for bragging rights.
On April 13th, the 53rd Annual Carl O. Boucher Prosthodontic Conference was held in Columbus, OH. The conference welcomed more than 160 guests, residents, doctors and staff members. Guest lecturers included Drs. Curtis Jansen, Oded Bahat, Nathanial Farley, Clark Stanford, and Al Guckes. 3rd year residents Drs. Ryan Mizumoto and Rashmi Radhakrishnan also had an opportunity to present their research. Residents from other prosthodontic programs presented posters, including OSU, Michigan, Indiana, Louisville, Buffalo, and Case Western Reserve University.

Dr. Valerie Cooper once again crafted several sets of free dentures, utilizing digital technology. Dr. Cooper shared the progress of her pro bono work on Instagram to her nearly 5k followers.

Drs. Damian Lee, Ryan Mizumoto, and several others from Ohio posted about their NPAW efforts on social media.

Wisconsin: Dr. Nate Farley made Instagram posts showing the milling process and the planning process for a full mouth of crowns.

Dr. Kendra Schaefer posted the NPAW logo on social media and answered the question ‘What is a prosthodontist?’

Region 4

Arizona: Dr. Kent Howell posted photos of complicated cases on Instagram.

Nebraska: Creighton D3 students Drs. Jim Kelly, Andrea Hall, and Kirstin McCarville fabricated removable prostheses for patients in an Omaha shelter during NPAW. Students worked in groups of 2-3 to provide care to 5 patients needing removable prostheses from the area shelter.

Texas: Drs. Sheena Allen and Priscila Schaefer of Dallas Dental Arts Center had a raffle, handed out cookies, and posted about prosthodontics on social media throughout the week.
An annual oral cancer screening held at the University of Texas coincided with NPAW and Oral Cancer Awareness Week. Several ACP members from MD Anderson Cancer Center participated in this activity, made possible by the collaborative efforts of the Head and Neck Surgery Department and the Section of Oral Oncology and Maxillofacial Prosthodontics. This public service was organized and chaired by Drs. Mark Chambers and Ann Gillenwater, whose special interest is in oral premalignant lesions. Other members who participated include Drs. Ruth Aponte Wesson, Naif Sinada, Muayad Al-Furaih, Eugenio Aquino, Midhat Asfar, Mark Chambers, Woo Chi, Richard Cardoso, and Benjamin Fitzharris.

Dr. Naif Sinada posted on Instagram each day of NPAW highlighting complicated cases, before and after photos, and denture fabrication. Dr. Sinada challenged his colleagues and almost 9k followers to also post prosthetic photos for NPAW.

Dr. Ernesto Carmona Jr. did free repairs to all patients that needed repairs on their dentures or partials and came in during NPAW.

Dr. Marcela Alvarez made a video of before and after photos that was shared on Instagram.

Dr. Eva Boldridge Izu posted photos with patients on social media to celebrate NPAW.

Texas A&M Graduate Prosthodontic Program co-hosted the Bullard Lectureship in Prosthodontics and Implant Dentistry with Dr. Stephen M. Parel as the distinguished lecturer. Twelve UT San Antonio graduate prosthodontic residents joined and table clinics were presented.
UT Health San Antonio held a Prosthodontics Open House and, in coordination with ASDA, welcomed dental students for discussion about graduate and predoctoral prosthodontic cases. They also demonstrated lab work, diagnostic procedures, and showcased resident cases. Dental students from all four years showed up to learn more about the specialty.

Region 5

California: Sheets, Paquette & Wu Dental Practice posted about NPAW on social media several times, sharing patient testimonials, linking to GoToAPro.org, and answering the question ‘what is a prosthodontist?’

Dr. Ronald Kowlowski included NPAW in his weekly e-newsletter “The Koslowski Courier” and also received an official proclamation from the California 27th Senate District declaring NPAW 2018.

Drs. Saj Jivraj, Favian Cheong, Gregory Guichet, and David Guichet also celebrated NPAW by posting on social media.

Oregon: At Oregon Health & Science University all students were invited to participate in a competition where they had 30 minutes to complete a maxillary complete denture setup. 14 students signed up, 5 spectators, all 7 prosthodontists working in the department served as judges. The winner got $100, runner up got $50 cash, and everyone got pizza!

Dr. Jorge Garaicoa posted a video of the OHSU competition on social media, and explained why he loves prosthodontics.

Washington: Dr. Stephanie Zeller posted a video showing a full arch maxilla from start to finish, and explained what she does as a prosthodontist. Dr. Zeller has 11k followers and her video garnered over 4k views on the social media platform.
Dr. Armand Bedrossian posted several complicated cases on Instagram, highlighting the specialty to his 21.3k followers.

Drs. Ashley Hoders and Jae Seon Kim also posted about NPAW on social media.

**Region 6 (Federal Services)**

**Army:** Dr. Bryan McLaughlin, Chief of Prosthodontics at Fort Bliss, hosted a Lunch and Learn lecture titled “Implant Restoration Tips and Tricks” to Army dentists and staff at Fort Bliss in Texas. During the lecture Dr. McLaughlin went through all the steps to restore a single implant, as many of the dentists in attendance are recently out of dental school and want to know how to restore implants.

**Region 7 (International)**

**Canada:** Drs. Charlene Solomon and Igor Pesun helped celebrate NPAW in Canada at the University of Manitoba. The university had the NPAW logo displayed on clinic monitors at the College of Dentistry and the prosthodontic faculty participate in and Oral Cancer Awareness Initiative that was organized by the Manitoba Dental Association and the Never Alone Foundation and held at the Winnipeg Outlet Mall.

Dr. Cecilia Aragon posted about five complicated cases on Instagram, highlight the treatment process and sharing before and after photos.

Dr. Faraj Edher also posted about some complicated cases on Instagram for NPAW.

**Costa Rica:** Dr. Eugenio Brenes made several social media posts discussing prosthodontics throughout NPAW.

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