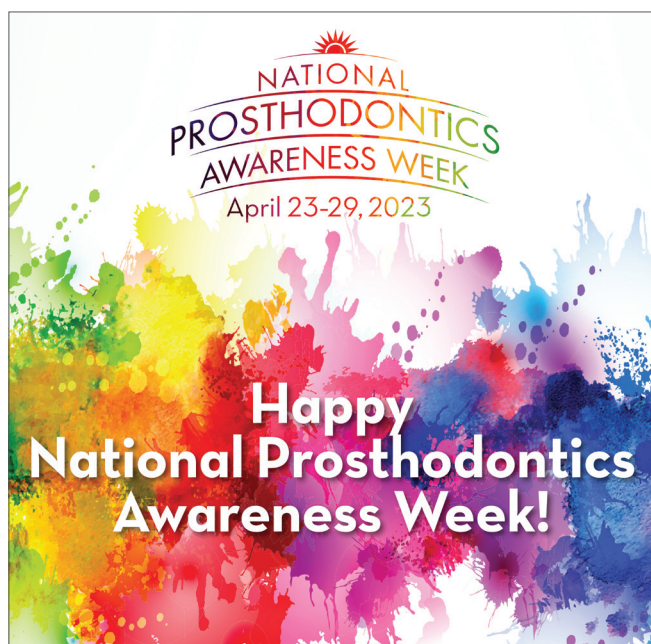


2023 National Prosthodontics Awareness Week

Samantha Rawdin, DMD
PR NPAW Committee Chair

National Prosthodontics Awareness Week (NPAW) took place April 23-29, with celebrations taking place in-person and online throughout the country spreading awareness about our specialty!



#NPAW2023

The National Prosthodontics Awareness Week (NPAW) is held annually during the last week of April. The mission of the NPAW/Public Relations Committee is to serve as a grassroots initiative to engage members and create resources for members to use in celebration of NPAW to raise awareness about prosthodontics in their community. This year for NPAW, the committee wanted to focus on the following questions:

1. What is a prosthodontist?
2. Who should see a prosthodontist?

The committee meets virtually several times during the year to define our goals for NPAW and brainstorm ideas for resources that would benefit our members beyond NPAW.

2023 was an exciting year for both our committee and the ACP membership. Highlights of the committee work include creating NPAW facts that focused on the types of treatments that prosthodontists do and a before and after template that was created by a graphic designer. These were shared all over social media and PDFs were made available to print and display in offices and clinics. A press release template, proclamation request template, and email template were created for members to engage the local media in their community. We facilitated Instagram takeovers during the week of NPAW on the ACP official Instagram page. This gave our followers an inside look at different prosthodontic practice settings from every segment of our membership including private practitioners, residents, educators, and armed forces. The #NPAW2023 was used on social media over 500 times throughout the week.

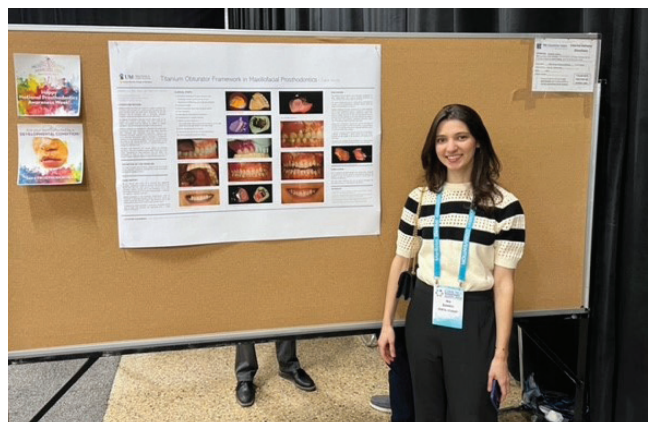
Many of our members reported activities during NPAW and showed that our membership celebrated in many diverse ways. We had members who lectured on different prosthodontic topics. There were multiple in-person events like open houses in offices and laboratories. There were hands on training for dental students on inlay/onlay preparation, students participated in lunch and learns, poster presentations, panels to answer questions to undergraduate students, and photography workshops. I was blown away by the level of interaction and thoughtful ideas from our members.



UConn School of Dental Medicine celebrated NPAW with residents giving daily presentations during their lunch hours, gave tours of their lab facilities, and exposed dental students to an array of laboratory procedures involving both analog and digital workflows.



The UT Health, School of Dentistry at Houston celebrated NPAW 2023 with their 3rd year residents presenting "Complex Prosthodontic Cases" completed during their residency program and the 2nd year residents created a video entitled "A Day in the Life of a Pros Resident."



The University of Manitoba celebrated NPAW at the Manitoba Dental Association Annual Meeting with residents presenting clinical posters to show the type of cases that the prosthodontic residents are treating.



Nova Southeastern University held events throughout the month of April in celebration of prosthodontics and in conjunction with National Prosthodontics Awareness Week!

“To us, inspiration is about creating a culture where everyone feels valued, supported, and empowered to be their best selves. Inspired by the American College of Prosthodontists National Prosthodontics Awareness Week, we organized a full month of activities in April to increase awareness of the specialty to predoctoral students. By including our faculty, residents, colleagues and students we like to create a sense of belonging, which allows us to unlock the full potential of prosthodontics and open our door to future colleagues.”

– DR. ALEXANDER A. BENDAYAN, PROFESSOR & CHAIR OF PROSTHODONTICS, NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY



Dr. Bhavika Thakkar lectured to second-year dental students at UMKC School of Dentistry as they prepared for the predoctoral clinic. She used NPAW facts to motivate students to take interest in prosthodontics.



Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command San Diego celebrated NPAW 2023 with special keynote speakers Dr. Charles Goodacre, Dr. Peter Barndt, and Dr. Laleh Abdolazadeh.

“NPAW is important because it celebrates the only recognized dental specialty on comprehensive oral rehabilitation, esthetics, dental sleep medicine, TMD, and more. It is important to spread awareness that prosthodontists have extensive training in restorative dentistry, dental materials, and the latest digital technology and lab processes.”

- DR. ERIC HU



During NPAW, Pi Dental Center in Fort Washington, PA, hosted an open house with tours, dental education, and prizes.



Dr. Eric Hu provided a free CE lecture to the Fort Hood Dental Activity military and civilian providers in celebration of NPAW 2023



Dr. Robert Bentz and Bentz Dental Group in Montgomery County, PA spread the mission of NPAW by sharing information with patients in the office, on social media and worked to spread the word throughout the Philadelphia Metropolitan area.

2023 PR & NPAW Committee

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

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



Dr. Omaid Ahmad and Dr. Jeffery Ryther gave an oral health awareness lecture at Bellevue Senior Living Community in Green Bay, WI in honor of NPAW 2023.



Dr. Juliet Tchorbajian celebrated and promoted National Prosthodontics Awareness Week by providing a lecture on a Prosthodontist's Approach to Full Mouth Implant Rehabilitation at The Greater Long Island Dental Meeting hosted by the Nassau and Suffolk County Dental Societies.



The ACP Massachusetts Section hosted an event at Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine open to prosthodontic residents, dental students, and dental colleagues where they held a resident poster competition and Dr. Russell Giordano lectured on the latest biomaterial trends in digital dentistry. Dr. Gabriela Lagrecia took over the ACP Instagram account and highlighted the event.

It has truly been a pleasure serving as the chair of this committee for the last few years, there is no way that this long list of accomplishments would have been achieved without the help of my committee members and dedicated ACP staff members. Thank you all for your continued support and participation. I can't wait to see what great things the NPAW Committee will come up with next! ■



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