

Letter of Intent

Dear ACP members:

It would be my great pleasure to serve as a Regional Membership Director, Eastern Region 2 for the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP). My goal as a Director is to further professional relationships amongst prosthodontists, other dental colleagues, the dental industry and the general public. As someone who has experience in academia, private practice, clinical teaching and held leadership roles within the Florida Prosthodontic Association (FPA), I would bring a well-rounded perspective, and can help with efforts to increase collaboration amongst our membership and dental health partners. While serving as president of the FPA, I initiated the process of making the FPA a Florida section of the ACP. This was set in motion a few weeks ago. As a Regional Membership Director I would like to increase collaboration between state sections of the ACP. It is also very important to involve prosthodontic residents with the ACP early on during residency and foster mentorships relations with younger colleagues. The ACP faces a changing landscape within the field of dental health care, including diminishing resources, emerging technologies and growing competition for health dollars. Therefore, it is important to have a strong ACP membership that can work collaboratively, while enhancing the identity of our specialty in the public domain and maintaining high standard of care. This requires our members to constantly stay involved with the ACP and recognize the important role prosthodontists play within organized dentistry.

Sincerely,

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CURRICULUM VITAE

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EDUCATION:

Prosthodontics 2004 University of Tennessee Health Science Center and VA Hospital, Memphis Residency
DDS (Hon) 2001 College of Dentistry, University of Tennessee, Memphis, Tennessee
M.A 1987 University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland (Speech-Language Pathology)

ACP HONORS AND AWARDS:

2003 Third place in John J. Sharry Research Competition, American College of Prosthodontists
2001 Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement in the study of Prosthodontists at UT, Memphis American College of Prosthodontists

ACP MEMBERSHIPS:

American College of Prosthodontists 2003 to present

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Immediate past president of Florida Prosthodontic Association FPA
Board member of FPA since 2011
President of the ACP Florida Section (current)

EMPLOYMENT:

2005-present Private practice
2006-2008 Part time clinical Assistant Professor, College of Dentistry, University of Florida
2004-2005 Assistant Professor, Dept. of Restorative Dentistry, University of Tennessee, Memphis
1991-1992 Speech and Language Pathologist, Halifax County-Bedford District School Board, Halifax, Scotia, Canada
1988-1991 Speech and Language Pathologist, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Ottawa, Canada
1987-1988 Speech and Language Pathologist, Children's Psychiatric Research Institute, School Health Services, London, Ontario, Canada

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND PRESENTATIONS:

1. "Biofilm and Nicotine Alters *Candida Albicans* Susceptibility to Antifungal Agents". Lee, H., Samant, P.A, and Babu, J.P. Abstract number 0565. *J. Dent Res.* 85, 2006.
2. Samant, P.A., J. Gary, and J.P Babu.. "Effect of Nicotine on biofilm formation by *Candida Albicans* on denture acrylic surfaces in vitro". *J. Dent. Res.* 84:2005, 34th Annual meeting of AADR, held in Baltimore, MD (Abstract number 189).
3. "Binding of *Candida Albicans* to Fibronectin Influenced by Growth Conditions". Shiloah, Y, Samant, P.A., and Babu, J.P. Abstract number 2708: *J. Dent. Res.* 84, 2005.
4. 'Growth Conditions Affect *Candida Albicans* Interactions with Fibronectin', P.Samant, J.Gart, M.Pabst, J.Babu. Poster Presentation at International Association for Dental Research Conference, Honolulu, HI, March 2004.
5. 'Relationship Between Tobacco Usage and *Candida Albicans* Colonization of Denture Acrylic Surfaces', P.Samant, J.Gary, J. Babu. Oral presentation at John J. Sharry Research Competition, Dallas TX, Nov 2003.
6. '*Candida Albicans* Biofilm formation on Denture Acrylic Surfaces Influenced by Nicotine', P.Samant, J. Gary, J.Babu. Poster Presentation at International College of Prosthodontics Meeting, Halifax, Canada, July 2003.
7. 'Effect of Nicotine on Biofilm formation by *Candida Albicans* on Denture Acrylic Surfaces, in vitro', P.Samant, J.Gary, J. Babu. Oral Presentation at International Association for Dental Research Conference, San Antonio, TX, March 2003.
11. 'Lactoperoxidase Antimicrobial Activity against *Candida Albicans*', P.Samant, E. Thomas, M. Jeffreson. Poster presentation at International Association for Dental Research Conference, Vancouver, Canada, March 1999.
12. 'Lactoperoxidase Antimicrobial Activity against *Candida Albicans*', P.Samant, E. Thomas, M. Jeffreson. Oral and poster presentations at Hinman Student Research Symposium, Memphis, Tennessee, September 1998.

GRANT FUNDING

1. 'Effect of Saliva and Tobacco Components on Biofilm Formation by *Candidada Albicans* on Denture Acrylic Surfaces, in vitro', (PI: Paivi Samant) University of Tennessee, College of Dentistry, Alumni Endowment Fund, 2003-2004. \$10,500.