Letter from the Chair

Right now, our specialty is moving into the future with a meticulous plan to guide us.

The ACP Education Foundation funded the ACP Leadership Summit on Reframing the Future of Prosthodontics this past summer. The Summit revealed the full picture of the prosthodontic specialty at this moment and measured it against current and emerging patient and education needs to determine the appropriate size of the specialty. The Summit was initiated by ACP President Steve Campbell, D.D.S., M.MSc. His vision was to create a detailed plan that addresses and directs the future of prosthodontic education, research, and practice to meet existing and future patient care needs. The plan also provides for a vital prosthodontic presence in dental schools and postgraduate specialty programs. The ACP Education Foundation will provide much of the financial support for the Summit’s programs in 2007. In doing so, the ACPEF will continue to fulfill its promise to advance prosthodontics by supporting education, research and public relations.

ACPEF Announces Scope of Prosthodontic Research Symposium

The ACPEF is proud to co-host the inaugural UNC/ACPEF Scope of Prosthodontic Research Symposium in January 2007, which
• Assessed and evaluated the current scope of research among prosthodontists and in prosthodontics
• Identified current and emerging priorities in prosthodontics-related research
• Directed the future of prosthodontics-related research to the highest priority, most immediate patient-care impact projects
• Identified opportunities for collaboration to increase success, minimize costs, and increase alignment in the specialty
• Created a compelling case for support to increase resources for funding prosthodontics-related research

There is more information in this issue of the ACPEF Update on the symposium.

ACPEF Announces New Student Support Program

The ACPEF will pay each prosthodontic resident’s ACP membership for 2007. The ACPEF examined its student support program aiming to provide the most benefit for all prosthodontic residents. Covering the membership costs allows all residents access to the Journal of Prosthodontics, the ACP Messenger, discounted continuing education opportunities, and access to the exclusive Prosthodontic Diagnostic Index among the countless other benefits of membership in the only organization recognized by the ADA to represent the specialty. ACP membership gives residents entrée to the community and possession of the information necessary to maximize their training and education. Having them as members strengthens the influence of the prosthodontics in the larger dental community.

I know you will join me in welcoming all new and returning students to the ACP!

Sullivan/Schein Increases ACPEF Support

The ACPEF is pleased to announce a major new commitment by Sullivan/Schein Dental, a Henry Schein company, to increase its support of the Foundation. Through the joint efforts of Mr. Steve Kess, vice president of Henry Schein and Dr. Tom McGarry, ACPEF chair, Sullivan/Schein generously committed to absorbing the outstanding New Vision Campaign pledges of two other companies totaling more than $35,000 and pledged an additional $10,000 to Sullivan/Schein’s original $25,000 New Vision Campaign pledge. This expansive new commitment increases the Sullivan/Schein total pledge to more than $90,000. “Sullivan/Schein is a recognized leader in the newest dental technologies and is excited to provide these additional resources to the ACPEF”, Kess said. “The company supports prosthodontics so that the specialty can continue its mission of leading dentists in the application of new technological advancements in patient care.”

On behalf of the ACPEF, Dr. McGarry extended the thanks of all prosthodontists for these new resources so that the specialty can continue its focus on the newest technologies with Sullivan/Schein as a partner.
The names of the leaders in prosthodontic research are instantly recognizable, in large part because of their talents and scientific accomplishments.

But there is also what Christian S. Stohler, D.M.D., describes in his article “Prosthodontic Research: Breaking Traditional Barriers” as “a decade of low priority for research, with a heavy focus on old questions ...” that has, perhaps, limited the number of prosthodontists who have chosen to focus on research and has led to what the article deems “negative consequences for the discipline of prosthodontics and those who practice the specialty.”

In an effort to advance the promise and achievements of prosthodontic research, the ACP Education Foundation partnered with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Dentistry to host the inaugural “Scope of Prosthodontic Research” symposium. This symposium, held on Jan. 11-12, and coordinated by Dr. Lyndon Cooper of the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Dentistry’s Department of Prosthodontics.

“We are honored to host this important symposium, which comes at a critical time in the life of prosthodontic research,” said John N. Williams, D.M.D., M.B.A., dean of the School of Dentistry. “Within our own school of dentistry and at dental schools nationwide, we are seeing how this research is translating into expanded treatment options for a wide variety of patients. It is crucial that we do all we can to further encourage the advancement of prosthodontic research.”

Leading investigators involved in prosthodontic research that includes interests ranging from materials science to neuroscience to salivary biology presented to an audience represented by almost every post-graduate prosthodontic program in the United States. The symposium’s purpose is to examine the scope of prosthodontic research today and create a plan for its future that incorporates the strengths of this research and meets both existing and emerging patient needs.

The ACPEF, created by the ACP in response to demand for research support, has funded prosthodontic-related research since 1985. All of this particular research has been conducted by post-graduate students completing their specialty training. In supporting this prosthodontic-related research, the ACPEF has provided necessary and otherwise unavailable funding for more than 120 projects that have increased the overall understanding of many dental conditions and promising treatment outcomes.
2007 ACPEF Research Grants

Proposal for a 1-year prospective clinical trial on the implant survival with immediately-loaded 2-implant Locator attachment retained mandibular overdentures.
Dr. Jmi Bassett,
University of Illinois at Chicago
Advanced Graduate Prosthodontics Program
Department of Restorative Dentistry

A comparative study of the accuracy of plastic impression transfer copings for single implant restorations
Monica A Fernandez, D.D.S
Graduate Prosthodontics Department
Indiana University School of Dentistry

Effect of Attachment Number on Retention Characteristics in Overdentures.
Chin-chuan Fu, DDS, MS
Prosthodontic Resident, Department of Prosthodontics
School of Dentistry, The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Does vitamin D deficiency contributes to abnormal synthesis of cementline-layer on titanium implant, and thus negatively affects the implant osseointegration?
James A. Kelly, D.D.S.
Graduate Prosthodontics Resident
University of California, Los Angeles, School of Dentistry
Center for the Health Sciences

Evaluation of Obstructive Sleep Apnea Patients’ Oral Appliance Titration Protocols
Paul M. McLornan, B.D.S.
Research Advisor: Ronald G. Verrett, D.D.S., M.S.
Department of Graduate Prosthodontics
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

Enhancing dental Implant Osteointegration via non-viral gene delivery
Dr. Tarek Sharkas
Charles Sfeir DDS, PhD
Director, Center for Craniofacial Regeneration
University of Pittsburgh, School of Dental Medicine and McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine

Genetic Markers for Accelerated Bone Loss of Edentulous Jaws
Jaijam Suwanwela, DDS
University of California Los Angeles, School of Dentistry
Division of Advanced Prosthodontics, Biomaterials & Hospital Dentistry Center for Health Sciences

Molecular analysis of edentulous oral mucosa formation in type 2 diabetes mice – Preliminary data
Seiichi Yamano, DDS, PhD, DMD
Advanced Graduate Prosthodontics
Harvard School of Dental Medicine

ACPEF Welcomes Two New Board Members

Dr. Karen Bruggers of Cary, N.C. and Dr. Stephen Hudis of New York joined the ACPEF Board in November 2006. Dr. Bruggers has been working with Dr. Susan E. Brackett to build ACP members support of the ACPEF Annual Fund. Dr. Hudis was instrumental in the success of the New Vision Campaign and has led the outreach to industry for the Annual Fund. The ACPEF Board of Directors welcomes Dr. Bruggers and Dr. Hudis!

3M ESPE Challenge Grant to ACPEF

As it did in 2005 and again in 2006, 3M ESPE is offering a challenge to the ACPEF. If the ACPEF can raise $20,000 in first-time donor gifts, it will match those donations with a gift of $20,000. All ACP members who make their first Annual Appeal gifts in 2007 will have that gift matched dollar-for-dollar by 3M ESPE.

This grant doubles the value of each donor’s gift and multiplies the impact it will have on advancing the specialty and the discipline of prosthodontics. Help the ACPEF maximize this opportunity by making your gift today!

Check out the new ACPEF website and URL at www.acpef.org
The best of what dentistry is has always been prosthodontics. The ACPEF supports the advancement of prosthodontics to lead the specialty to new levels of excellence and to increase consumer awareness of and access to superior oral health care. Your support of the ACPEF gives excellence momentum.

Prosthodontics
Moving Forward

• More than $250,000 in student scholarships since 2004
• Ground-breaking and influential prosthodontic education & research symposia
• Start up costs for new post graduate prosthodontic program at New York Hospital Queens
• Purchase of equipment for dental technology program at New York City College of Technology
• Nationwide broadcast and print promotion of the prosthodontic specialty
• Prosthodontic related research
• Support for the Gerald N. Graser Fellowship at the University of Rochester
• An endowment fund at $1 million to help support programs that lift the specialty
The mission of the ACP Education Foundation is to improve overall dental health in the United States through dissemination of educational information to the general public and support for prosthodontic education, research and patient care.

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Notes from the 2006 Annual Session in Miami

The 2006 ACP Annual Session was incredibly successful for the ACP Education Foundation with donations up more than 34 percent above last year’s meeting. Many thanks to all those who gave so generously and those who joined staff at the Foundation booth to educate colleagues about the value of the ACPEF to everyone in prosthodontics.

Many volunteers helped throughout the two days. Dr. Barry Goldman, program director of Montefiore, and his students helped set the pace for the success of the fundraising. A very generous gift from Dr. Goldman and donations from all Montefiore prosthodontic residents, of which the entire program attended the Annual Session, earned the school top honors. Kudos to Montefiore for being the only prosthodontic program with 100 percent ACPEF participation!

Thanks to all the ACP members who spent time at the ACPEF booth—your generosity and participation makes all the difference! Dr. Nicholas F. Abu Jamra, Dr. Caroline Barsoum, Dr. Robert M. Bentz, Dr. Robert Berg, Dr. Lars Bouma, Dr. Susan E. Brackett, Dr. Karen Bruggers, Dr. Michael Cafarella, Dr. David Clary, Dr. Donald A. Curtis, Dr. S. Murat Dogus, Dr. Graziano Giglio, Dr. Barry Goldman, Dr. Charles Goodacre, Dr. Stephen Hudis, Dr. Peter Johnson, Dr. Dick Jones, Dr. Leon B. Kobren, Dr. Paul Kudyba, Dr. Mohammad Mazaheri, Dr. Lillian Mitchell, Dr. Thomas D. Taylor, Dr. Robert Wright, Dr. Fredrick A Shaw III, and Dr. Robert Wolfe.

The Legacy Circle

The ACPEF has established the Legacy Circle to honor those individuals who leave an indelible mark on this specialty with a planned gift. Please consider the ACPEF in your estate plans. Your gift reinforces your legacy in this specialty and lifts the ACPEF to even greater successes. Legacy Circle members will be recognized by peers as well as future generations as the most devoted supporters of the cause.