2015 William J. Gies Awards for Vision, Innovation and Achievement

The ADEAGies Foundation’s William J. Gies Awards for Vision, Innovation and Achievement were presented at a celebration dinner on Monday evening at the Sheraton Boston Hotel. The Gies Awards, named after dental education pioneer William J. Gies, Ph.D., debuted in 2008 and honor individuals and organizations that exemplify the highest standards in oral health and dental education, research and leadership. The Procter & Gamble Company was the premier sponsor of the awards.

The honorees were selected by a distinguished panel of judges consisting of the ADEAGies Foundation Board of Trustees. The 2015 Gies Award recipients are (in alphabetical order):

Carol A. Aschenbrener, M.D., Chief Medical Education Officer (2011–14), Association of American Medical Colleges
Gies Award for Outstanding Achievement by a Public or Private Partner

Walter C. Guralnick, D.M.D., Professor Emeritus of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Harvard School of Dental Medicine
Gies Award for Outstanding Innovation by a Dental Educator

The Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® (ELAM®) Program, Drexel University College of Medicine
Gies Award for Outstanding Innovation by a Dental Educator

Stuart M. Hirsch, D.D.S., Vice Dean for Development, New York University College of Dentistry
Gies Award for Outstanding Vision by a Public or Private Partner

Peter J. Polverini, D.D.S., D.M.Sc., Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, University of Michigan School of Dentistry
Gies Award for Outstanding Achievement by a Dental Educator

Eduardo D. Rodriguez, M.D., D.D.S., Chair of the Department of Plastic Surgery, Director of the Institute of Reconstructive Plastic Surgery, Helen L. Kimmel Professor of Reconstructive Plastic Surgery, New York University Langone Medical Center
Gies Award for Outstanding Innovation by a Dental Educator

Jeanne Craig Sinkford, D.D.S., Ph.D., Senior Scholar in Residence, American Dental Education Association
Gies Award for Outstanding Vision by a Dental Educator

Tufts Dental Facilities Serving Individuals with Disabilities
Gies Award for Outstanding Innovation by an Academic Dental Institution

University of Manitoba Faculty of Dentistry
Gies Award for Outstanding Innovation by an Academic Dental Institution

“The Gies Awards are our chance to honor the women and men who have dedicated their careers to educating students, and to celebrate our partners working to create a new health care norm where oral health is inextricably linked to overall health,” says Richard W. Valachovic, D.M.D., M.P.H., President of the ADEAGies Foundation and President and CEO of ADEA.

“The dental health professions are forever changed by the work and commitment of the 2015 award recipients, and we are so pleased to recognize them in Dr. Gies’ name.”

For more than 10 years as the philanthropic arm of ADEA, the ADEAGies Foundation has enhanced the oral health of the public through programs that support the development of individuals and innovative practices in the dental professions.
Transformation of the Dental Hygiene Curriculum Slow but Steady

By Laura Iverson

The will to move forward and create transformation in dental hygiene programs is strong. In 2013 the American Dental Hygienists’ Association (ADHA) embarked on a path that will eventually change dental hygiene curricula across the country. New programs and changes to curriculum will help dental hygienists meet the oral and overall health needs of the public moving forward.

The 335 dental hygiene programs across the country are diverse. A pilot program started at seven schools challenges them to look at curriculum through different lenses—collaboration, alliances, technology, interprofessional education and access for all. “No transformation can take place unless we first think it, believe in it and move forward,” said Ann Battrell, M.S.D.H., ADHA Executive Director.

Program directors from two of the programs shared their experiences. Susan Kass, RDH, M.Ed., Ed.D., Program Director of the Dental Hygiene Program at Miami Dade College, said their program is very traditional with a focus on private practice employment. Community involvement is a large part of the curriculum.

Dr. Kass noted that dental hygienists are a natural choice to meet the changing needs of the community and health care in general. “Dental hygienists are educated, licensed and we have this already existing workforce,” said Dr. Kass. Curriculum changes will bolster the programs with more interprofessional education opportunities to meet those needs, as well as more public health-oriented courses.

The dental hygiene program at Eastern Washington University (EWU) is experiencing a different set of challenges. Rebecca L. Stolberg, M.S.D.H., Chair of the Dental Hygiene Program, notes that dental hygiene is missed in the health care workforce, unlike physician assistants and nurse practitioners. The team at EWU is also pursuing approval of dental therapy programs.

The new model at EWU will offer a one-year postbaccalaureate degree. Each year a small group of students will be chosen based on prior dental hygiene experience, dental hygiene restorative skills and a demonstrated desire to serve the community. Coursework is planned in operative dentistry, advanced health assessment and diagnostics, advanced pharmacology and community-based primary oral health care.

Challenges for both programs are abundant. State regulators and legislatures put up the majority of the fight. There are limits on credits and how programs are structured. CODA standards are now approved and awaiting implementation.

Dr. Kass encourages small steps in curricular change. It starts with changing the mindset of faculty and program directors. It is important to meet with faculty to brainstorm ideas that move programs forward, creating buy-in and excitement around change. Doing thorough research to educate legislators and others is also key to moving dental hygiene programs forward. The presenters encouraged all attendees to be confident and make the change they want to see in dental hygiene.
Poster Exhibition Displays New Findings

Posters were on display in the Exhibit Hall on Sunday and Monday during the ADEA Annual Session & Exhibition, furnishing details on research from dental schools across the country.

“I’ve seen some very interesting work,” said Gail Williamson, Professor of Dental Diagnostic Sciences at Indiana University School of Dentistry. “It’s good to see science behind some of the things that we think are true. We don’t know until we actually study and see how significant the results are; [the research] informs our practice and the education of our students.”

“Some of these posters relate to my background,” added Richard Corwin, General Practice Director at the University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry. “I teach the seniors, and there are quite a few posters related to some of the work we’re doing right now. I find it very valuable.”

Congratulations to the winners of the Student Poster Awards Competition, sponsored by DENTSPLY International, Inc.

**First Place**
An Exploration of Clinicians’ Attitudes and Practices in Oral Health for Older Adults
Presenter: Annetty Soto, D.M.D., Boston University
Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine

**Second Place**
The Junior Faculty Experience: Development of Teaching Skills
Presenter: Lauren Hum, Harvard School of Dental Medicine

**Third Place**
Electronic Health Records: A Valuable Resource for Evaluating Methodology and Outcome for Regenerative Endodontic Procedures at Rutgers School of Dental Medicine
Presenter: Kayla Tavares, D.D.S., Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, School of Dental Medicine

CORRECTION:
In the Monday Session News, the article on page 5, “Sharing Data Across Schools Made Easier with a New Data Dental Repository,” listed one of the institutions that developed BigMouth as the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio School of Dentistry when it should have been The University of Texas School of Dentistry at Houston. In addition, HIPPA should be HIPAA. We apologize for these errors.

Need Help with the Mobile App?
Visit the mobile app booth in the registration area, open during registration hours.
Navigating the Department of Education’s “Two or More Races” Designation

By Kendall Young

On Monday the ADEA Policy Center featured a session titled “The Two or More Race Designation: How Schools are Navigating This New Paradigm,” which explored how dental student applicant/enrollment data is presented to the dental education community. “The question of how students define themselves and how we capture their information from a data perspective will continue to evolve,” said Bryan Cook, Ph.D., ADEA Senior Vice President for Institutional Capacity Building.

Dr. Cook discussed the history of recent changes to the reporting requirements for “two or more races” from the U.S. Department of Education. Since the implementation of the “two or more races” option, there appeared to be a decline in some underrepresented minority students in U.S. dental schools. When the “two or more” race category was disaggregated by racial groups, the result was an actual increase. The new data displays can better inform schools’ admissions and diversity goals.

Todd Ester, D.D.S., Director of Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry, highlighted the importance of unpacking the data. “Students have expressed a desire to be defined by all of their racial identities,” Dr. Ester said. Schools have the ability to collect more data for a better picture of their classes.

Dennis Mitchell, D.D.S., M.P.H., Senior Associate Provost for Faculty Diversity and Inclusion, discussed how Columbia University College of Dental Medicine (Columbia CDM) has strived to serve its diverse community. Columbia CDM has continuously collected data on the racial composition of its campus community. The school has used this data, in combination with ADEA’s data, as a tool to better understand its students’ identities and create an inclusive environment that has fostered success. “We have confetti and tissues in our offices to help support our students. We are with them from start to finish and want to help them all the way through,” Dr. Mitchell concluded.

As a result of feedback from the ADEA community, descriptive data, including a breakdown of the “two or more” students by racial category, will now be provided.
Collaborating on a Faculty Mentorship Program

By Ian Murphy

Sunday afternoon’s Chair of the ADEA Board of Directors Symposium session, “Unlocking Potential Through Collaboration: A Shared Model for Faculty Mentoring,” featured a four-person panel. Participants discussed how their schools built faculty mentorship programs around a shared model originally launched at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Dentistry (UNC SOD).

UNC SOD was charged with developing a faculty mentor program in 2011, and a plan founded on the concept of mentor teams was approved in early 2013. “We thought it was important to make sure it had institutional commitment,” UNC SOD’s Rebecca Wilder, B.S.D.H., M.S., said. “We wanted input from everyone. That’s how you get buy-in.”

The hope was that the program would result in better career satisfaction for mentors and mentees alike. Its goals include better orientation in academic roles, developing leadership skills and promoting retention. New hires must fill out a survey outlining their career goals, and mentor/mentee teams are required to meet twice a year.

The entry questionnaire generates mixed reactions from new faculty members, panelists said. “It gives them something to think about coming in,” said Karen Novak, D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D., who scrapped the existing mentor program at The University of Texas School of Dentistry at Houston in favor of UNC SOD’s model to accommodate an influx of professors coming out of private practice. “It tells them, ‘This is your chance—you are the one who is really in charge of your academic development and career.’”

Similarly, the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine (Pitt SDM) had a new-faculty orientation, but “recognized that we need to do more than just a welcome,” said Zsuzsa Horvath, Ph.D. In cooperation with the faculty development committee, she looked to UNC SOD’s model as a template for Pitt SDM’s mentor program, which took form in 2014.

The programs are similar in that they focus on junior faculty, said Janet Guthmiller, D.D.S., M.S.W., who helped launch the UNC SOD program before moving to the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry. The programs have also faced similar challenges regarding resources, faculty rewards for participation, program growth and time. The collaboration has paid off with robust mentoring programs that deliver satisfaction in mentoring and careers alike. “We shared ideas, frustrations and challenges,” Dr. Guthmiller said. “And now that I’ve found a new home in Nebraska, I’m looking forward to creating another variant.”

TAKEAWAYS

- Collaboration helped three dental schools build robust mentoring programs based on a template launched at UNC SOD.
- Operating under a top-down directive, UNC SOD won buy-in from all stakeholders by getting their input prior to launch.
- The programs are founded in mentor/mentee teams and require participation and reporting.

Stay Connected:
Internet Hot Spots

Complimentary Wi-Fi is available in all of the ADEA meeting spaces throughout the Hynes Convention Center. Look for the wireless network “ADEA” and use the password adea2015.
ACA’s Impact Still Developing
By Ian Murphy

Presenters at Monday’s “Affordable Care Act: An Update and the Impact on Dentistry” session stated that the ACA is a work in progress—and it will continue to affect health care delivery for years to come.

“We’re still in the early implementation stages in many ways,” said Peter Damiano, D.D.S., M.P.H., of The University of Iowa Public Policy Center and The University of Iowa College of Dentistry & Dental Clinics. “Any major policy change like this is going to take years to get into the DNA of the public.”

The ACA had already installed some 50 provisions by the time its individual mandate kicked in last year, many of those aimed at the small business and individual markets. The states opting to expand Medicaid are proving to be central to the experiment, Dr. Damiano said, and Accountable Care Organizations and patient-centered care systems may be crucial to delivering on the ACA’s promises.

Changes to the health care delivery system are difficult to manage, he said, and dental educators have the added challenge of bringing dental care into the conversation. “Those, I think, are the real challenges,” Dr. Damiano said. For dentistry, “true integration is going to take a real culture shift,” he added. “We need to expose our students to these changes so at least they have heard the terms.”

The key could be to make dental care’s integration into the ACA’s landscape personal for future dental professionals, said Renée Joskow, D.D.S., M.P.H., CAPT, Senior Dental Advisor at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). HRSA has committed more than $82 million to fund training for dental practitioners over the next five years.

“We have to include more of a public health view,” she said. “Make them understand how they can change it, and that’s how we’ll change the culture.”

TAKEAWAYS

■ While many ACA provisions including the individual mandate have launched, its full effect on health care delivery is still unclear.

■ Early indicators say that the ACA has helped keep health care costs down somewhat, but no miraculous change has yet occurred.

■ Dental educators need to expose students to the changes that could be coming in health care, and make them understand how they can affect the debate.

Trust in Government Bottoming Out
By Ian Murphy

A Washington insider’s opportunity to speak about current affairs and their effect on dental education, the Political Spotlight plenary session is always a highlight of the ADEA Annual Session & Exhibition. This year’s session was no different. Gloria Borger, Chief Political Analyst for CNN and a U.S. News & World Report columnist, appeared yesterday to lend her perspective on the nation’s political climate.

As the world deals with threats from ISIS and other crises, Borger said, not much is getting done at home. In recent weeks, for example, John Boehner’s GOP-led House tried to shut down the U.S. Department of Homeland Security by tying its funding to the repeal of President Obama’s executive order on immigration. “In the real world,” she said, that “would be comparing an apple and an orange.”

Little progress has been made in reducing partisan gridlock. “After the midterm elections, I was one of those people who thought that each side would have to get something done, but silly me—that didn’t happen,” she said. As a result, “trust in government is completely bottoming out. Only 11% of the American public trusts the government to do the right thing all or most of the time.”

With only about 60 competitive districts left since Congressional redistricting, there’s no incentive for representatives to compromise, she said. Open primaries could make elections more competitive, but voters would have to demand the change.

Obama has promised to circumvent Congress to get things done in his final two years as president, something Republicans decry as executive overreach. The move ensures that more policy decisions will wind up in the courts, Borger said. “Democrats need to worry less about John Boehner, and more about John Roberts.”

While signs such as 5.5% unemployment indicate that the U.S. economy has bounced back from recession, people are still not confident about their own economic futures—an insecurity 2016 presidential hopefuls from both parties will exploit. “Income inequality is going to be the largest issue in the presidential campaign,” Borger predicted. “You don’t feel the growth unless you feel it in your pocketbook.”

TAKEAWAYS

■ Americans’ trust that government will do the right thing “all or most of the time” has reached a record low 11%—and Congress’ approval rating is even lower.

■ There’s little incentive to get things accomplished in Congress, since the vast majority of districts are “safe” for representatives of the two major parties.

■ Candidates from both parties will concentrate on the issue of income inequality during their 2016 presidential campaigns.
Tuesday, March 10

The Chair of the ADEA Board of Directors Symposium—Financing the Future of Dental Education
8:00 – 9:30 a.m.
CC, Room 313, 3rd Level

Closing Plenary Session—The Rise: Creativity, the Gift of Failure and the Search for Mastery Featuring Sarah Lewis, Ph.D.
Sponsored by DENTSPLY, International Inc.
10:00 – 11:15 a.m.
CC, Ballroom ABC, 3rd Level

ADEA CCI Open Session Features Tufts University President

The mission of universities has traditionally been two-pronged, focusing on teaching and learning on one hand, and research and scholarship on the other, said Tufts University President Anthony Monaco, M.D., Ph.D. But that mission is changing, as universities shift their roles to encompass commitments to social responsibility and civic engagement. “Our vision of a university is how these three things fit together,” Dr. Monaco said, speaking at the ADEA Commission on Change and Innovation (CCI) Special Open Session on Sunday. The annual ADEA CCI lecture provides ADEA members with a broad understanding of the forces of change and innovation in higher education.

“We want to be innovative and a center of creative scholars across a broad range of schools who have a profound impact on one another and the world,” Dr. Monaco said. Universities can no longer simply educate students, but must prepare them to tackle the multifaceted problems posed by the modern world. “We want to make sure that students don’t drift through their education without having the kind of faculty interaction which leads to a transformational educational experience.”

Increasing interdisciplinary collaboration has been a key aspect of this effort. For example, Tufts has created a number of high-level professorships in fields that cross disciplinary boundaries, such as cognitive neuroscience, and has established programs such as the Advanced Education Program in Oral Medicine at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine.

Civic engagement is “a university-wide tradition that is very embedded in our own DNA,” said Dr. Monaco. He highlighted the work being done by the Tufts Sharewood Project, which provides free unscheduled medical care to underserved populations in Boston. Also of note were the Tufts Dental Facilities, which provide dental care for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities while giving dental students and allied dental students the training they need to serve these populations. “It really does have a high impact on the public health,” he said.

TAKEAWAYS

- Universities have the opportunity to go beyond their teaching and research missions in creating innovative approaches to local and global challenges.
- Dental medicine has a central role in the broader field of health, in connection with medicine, nutrition, public health and other disciplines.
Throughout health care, and certainly in dental education, the environment in which we live and work is shifting. Whether it’s federal reform, demographic trends, new collaborative care models or changes within our individual institutions, our faculty, administrators, students, community partners and others must break new ground.

How we leverage the opportunities of this new world, and how we work with one another to navigate it, will be the theme of the 2016 ADEA Annual Session & Exhibition, “Shaping Tomorrow, Together,” March 12–15, 2016 in Denver, CO.

In addition to plenary speakers, workshops and seminars, attendees will be able to interact with one another and reflect on how they can support each other in shaping the future of dental education and overall health care.

Join the conversation and share your best teaching techniques by submitting abstracts for educational programming for the 2016 ADEA Annual Session & Exhibition. The deadline for submitting educational sessions (seminars, workshops and small group discussions) is Monday, June 1, 2015. The deadline for submitting an ADEA TechExpo session or a poster proposal is Tuesday, September 8, 2015. For complete instructions on submitting a program proposal, visit adea.org/2016/Submit.

We hope you’ve had a productive and enjoyable experience at the 2015 Annual Session & Exhibition, and we’re looking forward to seeing you next year!

Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.

— John F. Kennedy