



Summer 2012 Edition

AAMP CONNECTIONS

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE



I would like to thank the AAMP for the opportunity to participate, for the past 25 years, in one of the most rewarding aspects of my professional career—membership in this Academy. While the AAMP is not a large organization, its membership is active and dedicated to our mission "...to study and practice methods used to habilitate esthetics and function of patients with acquired, congenital and developmental defects of the head and neck..." I believe the AAMP fosters this mission in many ways.

First, and probably most obvious, are our annual scientific sessions. The invited presentations are an opportunity to hear from world leaders discussing the state of the art in our field. Our continuing education courses, as well as our corporate sponsor exhibits, give us an opportunity to experience some of the more relevant products available in our field. Within the past few years, the new format of our poster competition/presentations has allowed us to create a venue to hear from some of our younger members, the lifeblood of our organization. I have to admit, hearing about the work being done by our future leaders in our field is my favorite part of our meetings.

I believe the greatest value of our Academy is the intangibles that it offers. It is a place to meet folks with similar interests and develop friendships that in many cases go beyond our annual meetings. I have frequently contacted or been contacted by the friends I have made in the Academy to answer questions related to patient care, research, reimbursement, how to make a patient referral, or to ask for collaboration on a project. My message to our members, especially newer members, is to get involved! Participate in the social outings; they are a wonderful venue to meet folks while enjoying a fun and unique activity. Also, talk to the officers. We more than welcome interested folks to participate in our committees.

This year's meeting will be a joint collaboration with the International Society for Maxillofacial Rehabilitation. Special thanks to Dr. Betsy Davis, representing the AAMP, and Dr. Harry Reintsema, representing the ISMR, as Co-Program Chairs. They have assembled a program of leading speakers from throughout the world. The format of the program this year will be a little different than usual. It will consist of plenary sessions in the mornings and concurrent abstracts, workshops, and panels in the afternoons.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Officers, Directors, Chairs and Committee Members for their dedication and countless hours of work and efforts on behalf of the Academy. The Academy would not exist without your enthusiastic team approach!

I look forward to seeing everyone in Baltimore!

-Dr. Steve Haug

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President Elect:
Dr. Larry Brecht

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AAMP EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2011-2012



Dr. L. Brecht

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Dr. Steven P. Haug

Indiana University
Indianapolis, IN

President Elect

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New York University
New York, NY

Vice President

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Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, SC

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Rochester, MN

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Dr. Robert M. Taft

Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
Falls Church, VA



Dr. B. Davis



Dr. Chambers



Dr. J. Markt



Dr. T. Salinas



Dr. R. Taft

AAMP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2012

Dr. Arun B. Sharma
(San Francisco, CA)

2013

Dr. Peter Gerngross
(Houston, TX)

2014

DR. GERALD T. GRANT
(Bethesda, MD)

Dr. Joseph M. Huryn
(New York, NY)

Dr. Craig A. Van Dongen
(Providence, RI)

Dr. Alvin G. Wee
(Omaha, NE)



AAMP Board of Directors 2012 (Left to Right):

Drs. Peter Gerngross, Gerald Grant, Alvin Wee, Craig Van Dongen, Joseph Huryn, and Arun Sharma.

AAMP COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2011-2012

External Organization Nominations

» Dr. Lawrence B. Brecht

Public and Professional Relations

» Dr. Peter J. Gerngross

Awards

» Dr. Glenn E. Turner

Insurance and Oral Health

» Dr. Craig A. Van Dongen

Program

» Dr. Betsy K. Davis

By-Laws

» Dr. Alvin G. Wee

International Relations

» Dr. John F. Wolfaardt

Historical Archives

» Dr. Paul R. David

Publications and Nomenclature

» Dr. Alvin G. Wee

Internet / Home Page

» Dr. Steve A. Wagner

Liason to the ISMR

» Dr. Arun B. Sharma

Auditing

» Dr. Villa L. Guillory

Ethics and Medico-legal

» Dr. Harold Kolodney

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» Dr. Robert M. Taft

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» Dr. Gerald T. Grant

Research

» Dr. Joseph M. Huryn

Educational Standards

» Dr. Theresa M. Hofstede

Memorial

» Dr. Craig A. Van Dongen

Strategic Alliances

» Dr. Robert M. Taft

Federal Services

» Dr. Alan J. Sutton

Nominating

» Dr. Robert M. Taft

Student Membership

» Dr. Glenn E. Turner

Wikipedia

» Dr. George C. Bohle, III

Fellowship

» Dr. Thomas J. Salinas

Time and Place

» Dr. Jeffery C. Markt

CURRENT AAMP MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Current membership	466
Fellows	120
Associate Fellows	45
Affiliates Fellows	22
Technician Auxiliary	3
Life Fellows	95
Life Affiliate Fellows	5
Students	176

ELEVATION OF AAMP STATUS

Full Fellow: Drs. Thomas Gunnell, Carlos Tello and Olga Kharevich

Affiliate Fellow: Drs. Beatriz Mattos, Sharad Gupta, Laith Abdulhadi, Celia Dutilh and Jan Dutilh

AAMP Members interested in joining a particular committee should contact the Committee Chair.



(Left to Right) **2012 Executive Officers** of AAMP: Drs. Robert Taft, Mark Chambers, Betsy Davis, Steven Haug, Lawrence Brecht, Jeffrey Markt, and Thomas Salinas

Through this interview, Dr. Brecht shares his views on prosthodontics (particularly, maxillofacial prosthetics), what inspires and motivates him to keep moving forward, and gratitude toward his supportive family.

Like many of us, Dr. Brecht decided to enter prosthodontics, in particular **maxillofacial prosthetics**, to help create a difference in his patients' lives. While there are many dental and prosthodontic colleagues who can make aesthetic dental restorations, our craft is one that is not "so easy", as the interventions we make are tangible and substantial. Dr. Brecht points out that there is an intellectual, as well as a clinical challenge in providing the care that we do for our patients. He also emphasizes the joy and stimulation that we can achieve by interacting with both our medical and dental colleagues. In many ways, the maxillofacial prosthodontist bridges these two worlds. Dr. Brecht's residency at Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital in affiliation with the Harvard School of Dental Medicine was instrumental in providing him with the dental-medical connection that has been crucial in helping him to see the seamlessness of medicine and dentistry. While that may seem the norm now, such a connection was still a fairly new concept among dental educational models in the mid-1980's.

Regarding his **motivation and inspiration**, Dr. Brecht relates that he has been truly blessed by having wonderful mentors who have provided him with guidance and course correction throughout his life. Although anyone who succeeds may get there through his/her own drive, initiative and intelligence, Dr. Brecht reminds us that we all need mentors to help bring out our best. As "old-school" as it seems, Dr. Brecht attributes much of his inspiration and motivation to have come from the many nuns and religious brothers that taught him in the Catholic grammar school and high school that he had the privilege of attending. These instructors taught him the value of study, hard work, and intellectual curiosity and instilled in him a lifelong love of learning. More importantly, though, they also served as *role models* in how they lived their lives of sacrifice and discipline by placing the needs of others before themselves. Dr. Brecht shares that they taught him the importance of being part of something bigger than one's self and that the greatest joy in life is helping those around you. The Latin motto of his high school was "*Non Scholae, Sed Vitae*", which translates into, "*Not for School, but for Life*". Dr. Brecht thinks about this message every day of his life, as he tries to put into perspective what it is that he is doing.

In his professional life, Dr. Brecht speaks respectfully of one of his great **mentors**, Dr. Francis Panno, former Chair of Prosthodontics at NYU College of Dentistry where Dr. Brecht had been a dental student. Dr. Brecht explains that Frank still remains a cherished advisor, friend and confidante who always brings clarity of thought and perspective to any situation. Frank also taught Larry the importance of prudence and judgment. Dr. Brecht's partner in practice, Dr. Jon Ferencz, is another individual who has had an enormous influence as a mentor, as well as Dr. Peter Lockhart (who currently holds a position at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte) from his days in Boston. There are so many dear friends and mentors in the AAMP that Dr. Brecht feels he would do a great disservice to try to mention them all, as he may forget someone.

On a different yet related note, Dr. Brecht also provides insights on where **maxillofacial prosthodontics is headed as a discipline**. As medicine, surgery and dentistry become more and more dependent upon technological advances in diagnosis as well as treatment, our unique understanding of *both* these areas positions us wonderfully to be the leaders in many ways in providing *guidance* in the overall treatment plans for patients requiring management of trauma, cancer or congenital deformities. Dr. Brecht thinks that we also need to look ahead to the age when *biologics and biomimetics* will replace *prostheses* in the management of many of the problems we face daily. Will we become the blacksmiths of the medical field by maintaining old and outdated treatment modalities? Or will we be the leaders in, and early adopters of technological advances? Or more importantly, will we be the *inventors and developers of these advances*? This will require changes in our already few training programs and the demands placed on our ranks that are already too few in number. To these points, Dr. Brecht once again proposes that we should consider a change in the term *Maxillofacial Prosthodontist* in describing *who we are and what we do*. Dr. Brecht eludes to the philosophical question he asked Dr. Wolfaardt to answer when he gave his presentation at the 2011 AAMP meeting: "*Does the term 'maxillofacial prosthetics' accurately describe what it is you do on a daily basis and is it understood by your colleagues?*" And of course, then there is the question of how we will be compensated reasonably for our skills, expertise and years of education.

On **family and friends**, Dr. Brecht resounds his feelings of being truly blessed. His beautiful wife, Bernadette, has been his advocate and staunch supporter of his work for more than 32 years. She has provided the glue that holds everything together, as is so often the situation when there is a family to be cared for and raised. Dr. Brecht hopes that he has some sense of 'balance' in his life but knows that this may not be the case, although his three wonderful and beautiful daughters, Kate (25), Olivia (22) and Sarahbeth (18) work hard to keep him connected. Dr. Brecht sums up that that they are what life is all about -- that family gives meaning to one's own life vocation. He loves them more than they will ever know.



From left to right. Mrs. Bernadette Brecht, Olivia, Sarahbeth, Dr. Larry Brecht, and Katharine.

AAMP'S 59TH ANNUAL MEETING—2011

By: Dr. Peter Gerngross

The American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics (AAMP) held its national 59th annual scientific session at the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort and Spa at Gainey Ranch, Arizona, October 29 through November 1, 2011. The three-day scientific program provided multiple evidence-based lectures, poster presentations, and continuing education courses advancing mainstream concepts and new developments in head and neck surgical oncology, craniofacial reconstruction, and maxillofacial biomaterials and rehabilitation. Multiple awards were given throughout the course of the meeting including the Barron Award to Dr. Ryan Wallace (Fig.1) and first place JPD-sponsored Research Award recipient to Dr. Chad Hanna (Fig.2). Dr. Hanna's research presentation was entitled, 'The use of laser Doppler flowmetry and IMRT cumulative dose-volume histograms to evaluate the nature of the radiation induced ischemic process.'



Figure 1. (Left to Right) Dr. Jeffery Rubenstein (AAMP Awards Committee Liaison) with Barron Award Winner, Dr. Ryan Wallace



Figure 2. (Left to Right) Dr. Joseph Huryn (Chairman of Research Committee) presenting Dr. Chad Hanna with the first place award for the 2011 Annual Poster Competition.

To see more pictures from 2012 AAMP Annual Meeting, log onto :
http://www.maxillofacialprosth.org/AAMP_dynamic/memberlogin.asp

ADVANCES IN MAXILLOFACIAL PROSTHETICS—2012

AAMP members are invited to attend the American College of Prosthodontists' 42nd annual session. This session will feature a variety of speakers to provide an overview on topics relating to maxillary reconstruction using digital design and simulation, treatment considerations for fixed or removable implant-supported prostheses, radiation therapy, and types of injury, care, and restoration for wounded service members. This session will account for **4 CE credits**. Fee is included with Annual Session registration. For registration and more information, visit: www.prosthodontics.org.



Moderator: **Lawrence E. Brecht, D.D.S.**, New York

Wednesday, October 31

1:00—1:50 pm

Maxillary Reconstruction: Digital Design for Functional Outcomes

2:00—2:50 pm

Considerations for Treating Mandibulectomy Patients with Fixed and Removable Implant-Supported Prostheses

3:00—3:50 pm

Radiation Therapy Basics and Controversies

4:00—4:50 pm

Maxillofacial Prosthetics and Combat Related Injuries

Johan Wolfaardt, BDS, M.Dent, PhD
University of Alberta

Avinash Bidra, BDS, MScD, FACP
University of Connecticut Health Center

George C. Bohle, DDS, FACP
Oklahoma City

William O. Wilson, DDS, MS, FACP
United States Navy

MAXILLOFACIAL PROSTHETIC TRAINING PROGRAMS

Directed by AAMP Fellows

Mayo Graduate School of Medicine

Program Director: Dr. Thomas J. Salinas
Mayo Clinic, School of Medicine
Department of Dental Specialties
Rochester, Minnesota

MD Anderson Cancer Center

Program Director: Dr. Theresa M. Hofstede
University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center
Department of Head & Neck Surgery
Houston, Texas

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Acting Program Director: Dr. Joseph M. Huryn
Department of Surgery, Dental Service
New York, New York

University of Alabama at Birmingham

Program Director: Dr. Ruth Aponte-Wesson
University of Alabama, School of Dentistry
Department of Prosthodontics
Birmingham, Alabama

UCLA

Program Director: Dr. James A. Kelly
UCLA School of Dentistry
Division of Advanced Prosthodontics,
Biomaterials and Hospital Dentistry
Los Angeles, California

United States Air Force

Program Director: Dr. Alan J. Sutton
Wilford Hall Medical Center
Lackland Air Force Base
San Antonio, Texas

United States Navy

Program Director: Dr. William O. Wilson
Maxillofacial Prosthetics Department
Naval Postgraduate Dental School
National Naval Medical Center
Bethesda, Maryland

United States Air Force Maxillofacial Prosthetic [12-Month] Training Program

By: Dr. Alan J. Sutton

Curriculum: The USAF Maxillofacial Prosthetics Fellowship began in 1984, with 21 fellows from the three major military services having been trained to date. It is a 12-month clinical and laboratory based program held at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center and San Antonio Military Medical Center. Applicants for this program must have completed an ADA-accredited residency in Prosthodontics and be a member of one of the three uniformed services (US Air Force, Army, Navy). The fellowship program is accredited by the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation, having received its most recent recertification in 2012.

Specific Goals: To provide a comprehensive education in maxillofacial prosthetics to equip graduates with a foundation for managing patients requiring the unique and highly specialized services of the maxillofacial prosthodontist. Fellows are training to serve as educators and mentors for Air Force graduate programs. Additional goals are to train service-oriented professionals and promote development of wartime readiness knowledge/skills required to augment the primary health care team to meet contingency and humanitarian

mission requirements.

Activity Outline: The fellowship focuses on prosthetic rehabilitation of patients with intraoral and extraoral defects of the head and neck resulting from wartime injuries, trauma, cancer ablation, and congenital abnormalities. Emphasis is placed on close interaction and support of medical/surgical services, including but not limited to ENT, Radiation Oncology, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Ophthalmology, Plastic Surgery, Neurosurgery, Speech Pathology, and Pulmonary Medicine. In addition to management of the maxillofacial patient in the operating room setting, the curriculum includes comprehensive training in the diagnosis, treatment planning, prosthetic rehabilitation, and laboratory fabrication of prostheses and devices for maxillofacial patients with varied patient needs. Furthermore, with in-house stereophotogrammetry and cone beam computed tomography, the fellow receives training in surgical planning, medical modeling and custom device/guide fabrication with the use of Rapid Prototyping Computer Bio-modeling and Computer-Aided-Design programs and printers.

The fellow participates and directs maxillofacial literature reviews and teaches during annual maxillofacial prosthetics study clubs at the USAF Prosthodontics Residency.

Didactic Overview: Fellows are directed in review of classic and contemporary literature providing an in-depth understanding of maxillofacial prosthetics.

Method of Evaluation: With a one-on-one fellowship program, the fellow is given feedback daily and directly with each patient treated. Each fellow has reviews semiannually and following completion of the program. Additionally, following each formal rotation, the fellow is given formal feedback by each department program director.



WHASC/SAMMC Max.Prost. Faculty. From left to right: Ms Nancy Hansen, CDT, CCA, Dr. Sarra Cushen, Fellow, Dr. Alan Sutton, Program Director.

University of Alabama Maxillofacial Prosthetics Training Program:

A Father-Daughter Story

By: Dr. David J. Reisberg

We've all heard the saying, "Turnabout is fair play." Here's a story with a twist that I think you'll find entertaining.

Dr. Ruth Aponte-Wesson, a member of our academy, graduated from the University of the Andes Dental School in her native Venezuela before studying prosthodontics and maxillofacial prosthetics at the University of Alabama. In 2001, she was offered a faculty position at the University of Alabama (UAB) Maxillofacial Prosthetics Clinic. She continues in that position today, caring for patients with congenital and acquired maxillofacial conditions.

So far, the story seems straightforward enough. What I haven't mentioned yet is that both of Ruth's parents are dentists; her mother, a periodontist and her father, a prosthodontist. In the 1970s, both her parents completed postgraduate training in the United States at UAB (with Ruth and her baby brother in tow) before returning home to Venezuela for distinguished academic careers. Ruth decided to follow in her parents' footsteps and attended dental school. And perhaps you've guessed it...she had her parents as two of her professors. One particular day of dental school remained impressed in Ruth's mind. Her father took her and a group of fellow dental students to a nursing home to watch him make an obturator for an elderly patient. The experience inspired Ruth to seek further education in maxillofacial prosthetics at UAB.

In 2006, Ruth's mother passed away. Her father decided to take some time off from his teaching duties to deal with the loss. He planned to travel in Europe for a few months but then had a change of heart. He decided to accept, of all things, a fellowship in maxillofacial prosthetics. He already had some practical experience but decided it would be a good time to formalize his education in the field. He worked hard in his fellowship and learned a lot. He also brought a lot to his program, owing to his many years of practical dental experience. He and his program mentor developed a strong mutual respect for one another that only grew through his year of training. His professor was strict, but fair. Ruth's father had an excellent work ethic; he was always prepared and eager to learn. At the end of his fellowship, he felt it was a unique and meaningful experience. He said he had a "tough boss," while his professor described him as her "best student." Oh, did I mention that Ruth's father studied at UAB? And who was his professor, teacher, and mentor while he was there? That's right...Dr. Ruth Aponte-Wesson.

"And now," as the late and venerable Paul Harvey used to say, "you know the rest of the story." Thanks to Ruth and her father for sharing it with us.



Above. Ruth and her father

CONGRATULATIONS DIPLOMATES

We would like to congratulate the following AAMP members on successfully challenging the American Board of Prosthodontics!

Dr. Laleh Abdolazadeh
Dr. Stephen Alfano
Dr. Sandra Kamel Al-Tarawneh
Dr. Daniel Seth Greenbaum
Dr. Andrea Lynne Henderson
Dr. Terry Yi-Kung Lin
Dr. Bader Ahmad
Dr. Joanna Kempler

On August 25, 2012, the **Navy Dental Corps celebrated its 100th year with a centennial celebration** at the National Building Museum in Washington DC. Dr. Bob Taft was Master of Ceremony over 650 attendees. The picture below represents a group of AAMP life fellows and past Presidents.



By: Mrs. Camille Taft

AN EXCERPT FROM THE BATTLEFIELD

When one thinks of a battlefield, an image that comes to mind is a place where two or more forces meet in minor and major conflicts--ending in victories and losses on all sides. I have recently grown to appreciate and understand something I had never considered before as a battlefield, as the most prominent and threatening sight of war that ever existed...THE HUMAN BODY.

I had heard horror stories about people losing their tongues, voice boxes, and other parts of their mouths and necks as a result of the surgery required to save them. Nice thoughts, huh?

After a battery of tests were taken, I met with the main surgeon. He described what he thought needed to be done, which included removing my lower right jaw bone, a portion of the fibula in my left leg, and three lymph nodes in my neck. The fibula bone would replace my jaw bone and be covered with a flap of skin. I would also have to have a tracheotomy and a feeding tube.

Planning the Battle

Reconnaissance was done to determine just where the enemy was deployed and the size of its forces. Personal observations, CAT-scans, and X-rays provided the primary intelligence information. This information was shared with a highly trained large group of key personnel, part of the Omaha Veterans' Health Care Center's Brigade. Decisions were made. They defined their responsibilities, the weapons to be used, and in what order the assaults were to take place.

The Battle

On October 14, 2011, at 7:30 a.m. the assaults commenced. One by one, they eventually obliterated the insidious enemy that threatened my life. The major battle lasted for 12 hours. It was now my turn to muster every weapon I could find to defend myself against myself.

The next day, as I grew conscious, I found my movement was impaired by numerous tubes attached to me... one especially that was inserted in my nose. My face and mouth were numb, and I couldn't talk. At that point, I wasn't sure if I even had a tongue or voice-box. All I know is, I felt pretty helpless. . . The "mind over matter" battle had begun.

The medicine proved to be a worthy ally. Without its maneuvers and protective measures, pain's forces would have overrun the battlefield. When the mind and medicine troops joined forces, pain didn't stand a chance. At night, the medicine infantry and cavalry were fortified to protect the battle-scarred area, allowing me to sleep.

As the battle continued, day by day, the enemy forces dwindled. By the seventh day, they were virtually gone. I returned to the Vets' Hospital for a follow-up with the ENT unit. After my most favorite PA removed the stitches to which the tube was attached in my nose, he gingerly pulled the tube up and out. Once it was out, I immediately screamed, "Thank you, God!"

I also thanked the doctor, nurses, receptionists, and everyone else I passed while leaving the hospital. They may have thought I was crazy. On the ride home, I thought of all the foods and drinks I could safely consume. I'm sure I was gaining some weight just thinking about it.

Conclusion

There are many who will go through bouts of cancer and other illnesses that challenge their existences. Sharing my recent battles with the enemy, and beating him, hopefully will speak to some vets who face the same kind of challenges, and help them in a lot of ways, a few ways, or anyway. Some things I discovered in this process:

- No matter how bleak the situation looks or feels, you have a greater chance of conquering it with a positive attitude.
- You will also increase your chances of success by doing what the people who are trying to help you tell you to do, and be happy about it.

Having God help me made all the difference in the world. I know He was guiding the minds and hands of those fighting to save me. What more could I ask for? I will continue to fight as long as I have any fight in me. With Him providing it, that is all I need. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Respectfully,
Howard "Buzz" Bigham
Omaha, NE

Buzz is a patient of the VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System in Omaha

Dr. Gopi Naveen Chander from India was recently awarded the Mastership and Fellowship from the International Congress of Oral Implantologists.

Dr. Michael L. Huband from the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry was recently inducted into the Pierre Fauchard Academy.

Dr. William A Lyzak and his business partner, Dr. Dean Boldin, were recently awarded the Empowerment Award for Outstanding Medical Professional during a recent annual conference for the Indian Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Both dentists have helped residents at The Caring Place shelter in Valparaiso for more than five years, providing dental services for victims at no cost. Both men were surprised to receive the award, saying providing the service is "the right thing to do."

Colonel (Dr) Alan J. Sutton of the United States Airforce was conferred the American College of Prosthodontist's Major General Bill B. Lefler Federal Services award for the year 2012.

Dr. Thomas D. Taylor, Professor and Department Head of Reconstructive Sciences at the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine, recently received the Kenneth Wical Award for Excellence in Prosthodontics from Loma Linda University.

Career

Dr. Omaid K. Ahmad, Assistant Professor at the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry, has been appointed Director of Implant Prosthodontic Clinic in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Dr. Avinash Bidra, Assistant Professor at the University of Connecticut Health Center, has been appointed Assistant Program Director of the prosthodontics residency program.

Dr. Myung (Brian) Cheng recently moved and is currently the Section Head of Maxillofacial Prosthodontics of the Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio.

Dr. Michael L. Huband is currently the Director of Maxillofacial Prosthodontics at the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry.

Dr. Rhonda Jacob has retired from MD Anderson Cancer Center as Professor Emeritus and is pursuing a career with Clear Choice Dental Implant Center, Houston, Texas. Dr. Jacob is also currently serving as Vice President of the International College of Prosthodontics.

Dr. Thomas J. Salinas was recently promoted to Professor in the Department of Dental Specialty at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

Dr. Timothy Saunders, Professor of Clinical Dentistry at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry, Detroit, Michigan, was recently appointed as Assistant Dean for Clinic Administration.

Dr. Aaron G. Segal, a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Prosthodontics and Digital Technology, has been appointed Director, Advanced Education Program in Prosthodontics at Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine in New York.

Dr. Joseph A. Toljanic recently accepted a position at the College of Dental Medicine at Midwestern University in Chicago, Illinois, as Professor.

Dr. Samuel Zwetchkenbaum recently accepted a Geriatric Dentistry Fellowship at the New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging within the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, School of Osteopathic Medicine, Stratford, New Jersey.

Membership Highlights

Dr. Lawrence E. Brecht, Associate Professor and Director of Craniofacial Prosthetics, Institute of Reconstructive Plastic Surgery, New York University, is currently serving as President-elect of the Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics.

Dr. Alan B. Carr, Professor at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, recently assumed the position of Director of Education for the American College of Prosthodontists.

Dr. Gopi Naveen Chander from India was elected to the Executive Council - Indian Prosthodontic Society and is currently one of the managing Editors for the *Journal of Indian Prosthodontic Society*.

Dr. Betsy K. Davis, Associate Professor and Director of the Maxillofacial Prosthetic Clinic, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, South Carolina, is currently serving as Treasurer of the International Society of Maxillofacial Rehabilitation.

Dr. Steve E. Eckert, Professor Emeritus at the Mayo Clinic is serving as Past President of the Academy of Prosthodontics, Treasurer of the International College of Prosthodontists and is the Editor-in-Chief of *The International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Implants*. He is also serving on the Board of Directors and as an Examiner for the American Board of Prosthodontics.

Dr. Salvatore J. Esposito, from Beachwood, Ohio, is currently serving as Executive Director of the American Prosthodontic Society.

Dr. Theresa M. Hofstede, Assistant Professor at the Section of Section of Oral Oncology and Maxillofacial Prosthodontics, Department of Head and Neck Surgery was recently appointment Director of their Maxillofacial and Dental Oncology Fellowship program.

Dr. Joseph M. Huryn, Professor at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, is currently serving as Board of Councilors for the American Prosthodontic Society.

Dr. Lori G. Ransohoff from Tampa, Florida, is currently serving as President of the Florida Prosthodontic Association.

Dr. David J. Reisberg, Professor at the Department of Plastic, Reconstructive and Cosmetic Surgery at the University of Illinois at Chicago is currently the Immediate Past President of the International Society of Maxillofacial Rehabilitation.

Dr. Arun B. Sharma, Professor at the University of California in San Francisco, is currently serving as Board of Councilors for the International Society of Maxillofacial Rehabilitation and the American Prosthodontic Society.

Dr. Robert M. Taft, Deputy Director of the Navy Dental Corps, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, is currently serving as Director of Maxillofacial Prosthetics and on the Board of Directors of the American College of Prosthodontics. He is also serving as Secretary-Treasurer and Examiner for the American Board of Prosthodontics.

Dr. Thomas D. Taylor, Professor and Department Head of Reconstructive Sciences at the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine, is currently serving as President of the Academy of Prosthodontics and Immediate Past President of the International College of Prosthodontists. Dr. Taylor is also serving his 12th year as Executive Director for the American Board of Prosthodontics.

Dr. Alvin G. Wee, Associate Professor at Creighton University, was recently elected as Treasurer of the International Association of Oral Facial Rehabilitation and Membership Regional Director of the American College of Prosthodontics.

Dr. Jonathan P. Weins from West Bloomfield, Michigan, is currently serving as Past President of the American College of Prosthodontists, as well as Vice President and Examiner for the American Board of Prosthodontics.

Dr. John F. Wolfaardt, Professor at the University of Alberta / Institute of Reconstructive Sciences in Medicine, Edmonton, Alberta, is currently serving as President of the International Society for Maxillofacial Rehabilitation.

JOSEPH B. BARRON AWARD

On behalf of my mother and our entire family, I want to thank the Academy for honoring my father and for having my father's name honor others. We are very pleased to be here tonight to make the first presentation of the Joseph B. Barron Award and to present it to Dr. V. Vladamir Frias, who is being recognized for his outstanding work, commitment and potential in research, education, and quality patient care.

Several years after my father retired from active practice, always the non-conformist, he built a pyramid in the backyard of our house. It was a pyramid made up of hundreds and hundreds of his study models, moulages, prostheses of eyes, ears, noses, palates, jaws, half faces, crania, teeth, even a hand or two. He called it his monument to his life as a maxillofacial prosthodontist.

I must admit I found it quite macabre and grotesque, seeing this pyramid rise up in the far corner of the backyard. Of course, I was used to seeing my father's work since I was a kid—his baking an ear or a nose in the kitchen oven, or his sewing eyelashes into silicone rubber eyelids, as we sat around the table. In fact, my first plane ride was when I accompanied him to a maxillofacial Academy meeting in New York in 1956. So I was used to my father's work, his love, his devotion. But seeing this huge pyramid go up of what, for me, were anonymous rubber and plaster body parts, was very disturbing. It looked like a pyre of debris, of decay.

The day after my father passed away in 1998, I went outside to the backyard. I was drawn to that pyramid. It was as if a veil had been lifted from my eyes, and my heart and I finally got it. What I had thought of as a monument to decay had become something completely life affirming, beautiful, and heroic. These were not anonymous disembodied prostheses of ears, eyes, and noses. These were not simply cases, studies, statistics, material experiments, inventions. These were my father's patients. Each prosthesis was connected to a name, a person, a family, and a hope. These were the people he was committed to helping and protecting. These were the people who came to my father's of-

fice late afternoons and evenings, after his dental patients had all gone home. These were the people, the mankind he befriended, for whom he cared and about whom he cared.

My father was a great clinician and technician. He was called an artist for the incredible skill of his hands and the passion of his heart. He was a noted educator and lecturer in the dental and maxillofacial departments that he helped develop in a number of universities and hospitals, and to the young doctors he trained.

But my father's goal was not to further his career as such. And it certainly was not to make money. In those early pioneering days of the 50s and 60s, he had to use the money he made in dentistry to support his work in maxillofacial prosthetics. No, my father's goal, his primary focus, was to make the lives of his patients better physically and to make them feel better about themselves emotionally.

When he spent hours investigating how some material or magnet would or would not work, it was in order to improve the life of a particular patient. When he spent countless hours writing pleading and scolding letters to government agencies or insurance companies that would not provide funds for his patient's needs claiming, as one did, that "a secretary doesn't need a nose to type," he was doing that to help his patients, to help restore their faces and their dignity.

The house will be sold, the pyramid, which should really be put in a museum, will be taken down, and all those parts of faces of those he helped to heal will disappear. But the real monument to, the real legacy of my father, his work, and the work of his colleagues, will not disappear. It will be carried on by the great works, courage and compassion of Dr. Frias and a new generation of young doctors, who, with loving commitment, will continue to carry the banner and burden of advancing research and education, while always focused on the true goal—that of caring for the health, comfort, hope, and humanity of their maxillofacial patients.

We are so pleased to present this Joseph B. Barron Award to Dr. V. Vladamir Frias.

Thank you.
Tom Barron
New Orleans
October 30, 2001



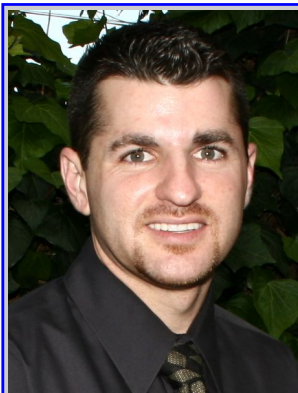
2001: Vladamir Frias, DDS, MS (1st Award Recipient)

Dr. Vladimir Frias completed his fellowship in Maxillofacial Prosthetics at Columbia University/Bronx VAMC in 2001 and received the ACP/ESPE fellowship in Geriatric Prosthodontics. He then completed an implant fellowship at Columbia University in 2002. He was an Assistant Professor in the Division of Prosthodontics from 2001 to 2003 and Director of the Undergraduate Implantology and Graduate Prosthodontics Implant courses. He founded the *New York Maxillofacial Foundation* in 2002 which still funds low cost treatment for patients unable to afford maxillofacial prosthetic treatment. He currently maintains a private practice in Implant Surgery and Prosthodontics in Batavia, NY.

"Maxillofacial prosthetics is probably the most overlooked specialty in dentistry. However when maxillofacial treatment is required it is possibly the most life-changing treatment a dentist is able to offer."

--misquoted from Dr. John D. Piro ;)

Established in remembrance of Dr. Joseph B. Barron, Past President of the AAMP and Ackerman Award Winner, the **Joseph B. Barron Award** recognizes maxillofacial prosthetic residents who exemplify personal qualities and academic prowess with a potential to be major contributors to the specialty, Fellows in the Academy, and future leaders. Given their exceptional clinical abilities, as well as admirable contributions to research and the community, we wanted to highlight past winners and see what they are doing now. It is clear that their impressive accomplishments continue. They each share a sentiment below.



2011 Winner: Ryan C. Wallace, DDS, FACP

Dr. Wallace is appointed at the UCLA School of Dentistry where he lectures and instructs in the areas of General Dentistry, Prosthodontics and Maxillofacial Prosthetics. He works in conjunction with Dr. Kelly (Barron Award Recipient 2009) with maxillofacial education whenever possible. Dr. Wallace additionally has a full-time private practice in prosthodontics in Santa Monica (1460 7th Street #205, Santa Monica, CA 90401). Currently, Dr. Wallace is developing lectures in gnathology as well as for international maxillofacial prosthetics venues.

"In conventional prosthodontics we always strive to know the answers to why and how. The only difference with maxillofacial prosthetics is that we often must answer these questions ourselves. I believe that diligent practice of evidence-based decision making is the starting point for every maxillofacial prosthodontist. From there we may derive solutions to the numerous unique challenges required to rehabilitate these patients."



2010: MAJ Thomas R. Gunnell, DDS, FACP, FICOI

After completing the maxillofacial prosthetics fellowship in 2010, and prior to his deployment, Dr. Gunnell had been stationed at Fort Sam Houston, TX, serving as the Chief, Oral and Maxillofacial Prosthodontics. Since March of this year, Dr. Gunnell has been deployed to Camp Phoenix, Kabul, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) where he serves as the Officer In Charge. Dr. Gunnell will return to the U.S. in August. He was selected and will serve as the U.S. Army Dental Command Executive Fellow, while simultaneously completing Command and General Staff College.

"What this country needs, it cannot buy. It needs dedicated Soldiers who see service to their country as an affair of the heart."

General Creighton Abrams---former Army Chief of Staff

United States Air Force

Due to space limitations, interviews with the previous Barron Award Recipients listed below can be found in the 2013 *AAMP Connections*.

2009: James Kelly, DDS, MS, FACP 2008: Michael Forde, DDS, MDS and Marvin Alameda, DDS

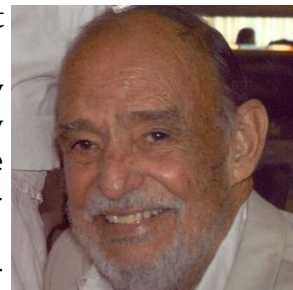
In Memory of LOU GUERRA, AAMP Past President

By: Dr. Craig A. Van Dongen

Luis "Lou" Richard Guerra, D.D.S., M.S., New Orleans area maxillofacial prosthodontist and leader in the dental community, passed away on Wednesday, August 31, 2011. He was 77.

Lou was born in Texas where he graduated Valedictorian from St Joseph's Academy High School in Laredo in 1952. He received his undergraduate and Doctor of Dental Surgery degrees from Loyola University in New Orleans, then continued his professional training at the University of Texas where he received his certification in the area of prosthodontics and maxillofacial prosthetics. He also earned a Masters Degree in Biological Sciences.

In addition to his forty years of private practice, Lou had a distinguished academic career. He served as a dental professor at several dental and medical schools. Lou's professional expertise included many specialties, including his work with Louisiana State University (LSU) Dental School, Department of Prosthodontics, and LSU Medical School, Department of Otolaryngology. Lou also served as the Head of the Dental Implant Team at LSU Dental School, and most notably, he acted as Chief of the Department of Dentistry at Charity Hospital for over thirty years. Lou was a pioneer in dental and medical research with many major projects. He worked with many prominent physicians and dental specialists to advance the knowledge in various areas, including plastic surgery, oral surgery, dental implant prosthetics, maxillofacial prosthetics, and reconstructive facial surgery/reconstruction. He wrote and/or co-authored over 50 publications including professional articles and textbooks.





AAMP PUBLICATION AND NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE

The Balance of Life

Albert Einstein once observed that life is like riding a bicycle – to keep your balance, you must keep moving. As a “type-A” personality, I usually have no problem “moving” per se. It is the balancing of various destinations, including individual pursuits, private relationships, and career, that can pose a personal challenge. Our organization, the AAMP, is not unlike some of the individuals within its membership. Seeking a balance, redefining priorities, and maximizing relevant factors are essential to maintaining the organization’s vitality.

Compiling the various factors that contribute to our “well being” in a “helicopter view” may be necessary to reassess priorities and to achieve balance. For the individual, examination of emotional, spiritual, physical and mental components may be needed. In order to assess one’s balance in private life, factors to assess may include time spent and quality of family relationships, friendships, and community involvement. Seeking a balance in career requires involvement in clinical practice, education, scholarship and service.

For the AAMP to achieve “balance”, several factors must be assessed yearly, including **financial viability** (mechanisms to insure positive flow and reserve), **membership** (methods to secure renewals, sustain interest, and to attract new members), **leadership** (selection of strong individuals for renewal), **image** (benefits to the public and larger medical community), as well as **vision/direction** (a relevant mission in changing times). Once these factors have been assessed, priorities must be redefined in order to direct our yearly strategic efforts and to achieve positive change toward a healthier organization.

Though difficult to achieve, balance is of utmost importance to the strength and vigor of the individual and organization. By committing ourselves to its importance, we can make positive steps toward achieving that balance. Let us remember these famous words by Calvin Coolidge, **“Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence.”**

Sincerely,
Alvin



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