January/February 2022 Volume 15, Issue 1

DCDS Connection

Official Publication of DCDS A tradition of integrity and care since 1908



Mission Statement

Serving the professional needs of our members

In This Issue

The Write Stuff	2
Impressions	3
From the Hub	4
New Dentists	5
Members Message Board	6
Facility Rental	8
Nomination Slate	10
TAMUCOD	16
DCDS Foundation	17
Classified Advertising	21

Dental Assisting Assistance

by Angela Bush, RDA, DCDS Dental Assisting School Program Director

Challenges faced in hiring/retaining today

f you are having difficulty finding quality candidates to interview for dental assistant positions, know that you are not alone. In the best of times, staffing your office can be difficult, and now the COVID-19 pandemic has seemingly reduced the number of people actively seeking jobs in health-related fields. Furthermore, with that reduced ability to hire new staff comes an added strain on current staff who are expected to take up the slack for an indefinite time. What can be done outside-the-box to help this situation?

Two years ago, DCDS opened the DCDS Dental Assisting School (DCDSDAS) in an effort to advance our members' dental teams by providing quality trained dental assistants, so having the DCDSDAS in your back pocket can be a great member benefit. Supporting and utilizing this dental assisting school provides these three out-of-the-box ways of helping you hire and retain staff.

Externships

In addition to comprehensive in-house training, the DCDSDAS program provides dental assisting students with on-the-job learning opportunities through shadowing/clinical externships in both general practice as well as the dental specialties. Our preference is to place our students in externships near their home and within a field in which they show interest.

Hosting an extern allows you the opportunity to preview future dental assistants before they begin job hunting. Although it also provides you with an extra helping hand, it is important that the practice office staff understands that they will be providing a learning experience. If you are interested in participating in the DCDSDAS externship program, please complete the online form found here so we can match you with a student when they become available.

Promoting the Career

Who better to encourage people to become dental employees than those working in a dental office? Your positive voice reaching out to patients, family members and friends has far more influence than a paid advertisement; and having promotional materials in your waiting room gives them added incentive to find out more.

DCDSDAS cannot send possible staff your way unless we have students to teach, so we are constantly reaching out to our DCDS members to refer prospective students. Please send them to our website at www.dcdsdas.org. If you need more promotional cards, please contact the DCDS office at 972-386-5741.

Skill Enhancement for Current Staff

Cross training current staff or helping your staff gain confidence in the areas they don't usually work in through continuing education can help minimize the repercussions of being understaffed. Training instills a feeling of value in your staff and shows that you're committed to providing them with the resources they need. In turn, they're more likely to enjoy their work and remain in your practice longer.

DCDSDAS will soon be offering classes in BLS/CPR and determining the feasibility of other topics, so watch for course information coming in Spring 2022. Do you have trouble areas in which you would like your current dental assistants to take refresher courses? Let us know through this quick survey found by clicking here.

LEAVE A REVIEW!

If you have hosted an extern from the DCDS Dental Assisting School, leave the school a review to let others know about the great education our students are receiving!







Yelp

Facebook (

Google

January/February 2022 DCDS Connection

The Write Stuff

Missy Jaynes, DDS, President

Ringing in the New Year



"An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves."

— William E. Vaughan

With that saying in mind, I guess I must be a pessimist

because I sure am ready to get out of 2021! Although I would have to say that 2021 was better than 2020, I imagine a lot of us are ready to just get back to normal.

I remember the excitement of most New Year's Eves as a kid out at parties with my parents, and then with my friends; but I remember New Year's Eve in 1999 with both excitement and fear. It was with trepidation that my husband at the time and I left our one-year-old at home with my mom while we went to an amazing party with a dance floor over the pool and fortune tellers/palm readers. And it was with relief that we found the world did not end the next day. The world has seen some excitement in the 22 years since, and now I am fine with a fancy meal and a nice glass of wine to quietly celebrate the New Year!

DCDS wraps up each year with a solid push on membership, making sure dentists in Dallas County understand the benefits of being within the Tripartite. The fall campaign offered non-members the last quarter of 2021 free if they committed to join with auto-renew for 2022, with top recruiters given a chance to win free 2022 state dues. An email and/or call was made to all members who had not renewed their dues for 2021. The DCDS staff did an excellent job of ensuring numbers were up-to-date by taking the non-member list to review addresses for movement out of the Dallas area.

TDA President Dr. Debrah Worsham issued a challenge to the TDA Board of Directors to each recruit one member. I also challenged the DCDS Board, Membership Development committee and the New Dentist Committee to do the same. And now I challenge you to do this as well... just recruit just one member!

Twenty years ago, membership organizations were a crucial aspect of a professional career. They opened up opportunities for networking and professional development that simply weren't matched by other resources. However, in this age of social media whereby a world of peers is only a tweet away, the benefits of joining a membership organization is being questioned. So are the benefits still relevant? I think so!

Remind your peers that being a member of the Dallas County Dental Society, the Texas Dental Society and the American Dental Association means being a part of a bigger family. And it means you get some valuable benefits as well.

Here are a few of my favorites. TDA ensures member dentists can work with the state legislature so that new laws protect Texas dentists. DCDS works in conjunction with the TDA to help dentists and patients resolve disputes, outside the courtroom. We have life and practice resources from TDA perks. Continuing education is a no-brainer with free registration for The TDA Meeting and the Southwest Dental Conference as well as through General Membership Meetings. And how do you comply with rules and regulations and know when things have changed? Through membership, of course!





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Contributions: articles, letters to the Editor. announcements, advertisements, or other materials submitted for inclusion in DCDS Connection should be submitted electronically via email to the managing editor. Submissions must be received by the second Friday of the month prior to the month of publication. Acceptance of any submission is at the discretion of the Editor, and subject to editing for brevity or content. Anonymous letters or contributions will not be considered for publication. All submitted items must be accompanied by contact information, including the author's name, mailing address, telephone and/ or email address. Illustrations should be submitted as .jpeg, .pdf, .eps or .tiff files. Photographs should be high resolution (300 dpi or better) and include a copyright release or statement of permission. Display and classified advertising will be accepted from reputable firms or individuals on a space-available basis in accordance with DCDS Guidelines. For current advertising rates or more information call 972-386-5741 X 225, or email rosemary@dcds.org.

EditorShad Hattaway, DDS

Managing EditorRosemary S. Martinez

Executive DirectorJane D. Evans

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Impressions

The Free Second Opinion



when the have all seen it offered, and some of us provide it ourselves: a free second opinion.

I have worked in several polar-opposite environments regarding

how they valued my time as a dentist. Some offices think getting as many patients as possible is good for business no matter how we get them through the door. Other offices did not have any flexibility on how a new patient came through the door and felt their approach was the only way to gain a new patient.

Why do we feel offering our expertise for free will be the best in caring for our communities? On the flip side, how are we determining the value of charging our patients to access our professional recommendations? If you're offering a free second opinion, why are you not offering a free first opinion?

If you genuinely want to help your community by offering free services, do it with an altruistic intention. Set designated time aside every month and just do it out of the goodness of your heart. Excluding my involvement with the Dallas County Dental Society, I volunteer 20 or more hours every month, giving back in any capacity I can (most of it is dental-related). If you are going to be offering your services for a premium, make sure your expert advice is as good as it possibly can be. Remember, the expert opinion is formed by the here and how—it is constantly evolving.

The free second opinion is not just an opinion when it comes from another dental professional concerning dental care. This opinion is a professional recommendation. If a patient is getting a true "opinion," they are most likely talking to their drunk uncle, who has no idea what he is talking about because he doesn't have the expertise or experience to handle the matter.

Editorial by Shad Hattaway, DDS, Editor

So, how do we offer a genuine second opinion without hurting the profession? Patients come into our dental offices because we are oral health experts. An expert is someone who has extensive knowledge or ability based on research, experience, or occupation in a particular field of study.

Here's the caveat: we do not always agree on the particulars as oral health experts. With the access to resources we currently have, this can be increasingly difficult thanks to the internet. Patients get turned around and have no idea how to approach their care when one person says they need to do this and another says they only need to pay this much.

On the rare occasion when a patient comes to me for a second recommendation, I try to approach things as neutral as possible. We are already not on even playing ground compared to the previous provider because we know this patient has had issues with their last recommendations. I ask them not to share what the previous provider has recommended until I have completed my patient interview

and clinical exam. After I have reached my conclusions, I present them to the patient and ask them to tell me how they differ from their past recommendations. I will often see the other treatment plan given to the patient, and I'll have to go back into the clinical part of my exam because I missed something the other provider has noticed. I'm not ashamed to admit I am human.

In the end, I think my goal is the same as all of you. I just want to make sure this person is taken care of as best as possible and make enough to provide for my family. I have invested vast amounts of time and money into myself to join this profession. Every day I am humbled and grateful to be in my current position. The sustainability of our job is dependent on keeping the integrity of our work alive. If you donate your time, do so with a whole heart that adds to our profession and does not take it away. Our time should not only be the old adage "drill and fill and bill," but also our professional recommendations. We should take care of our profession, and in turn, our profession will take care of us. Stay safe, and God bless.



From The Hub

by Jane D. Evans, Executive Director

Looking ahead to a better year!



ith 2020 and 2021 behind us, my hope is that 2022 will be the year the pandemic fades away. The pandemic has certainly affected many of us in different ways. The one

thing I am most thankful for is being able to get together again with family and DCDS members. Your DCDS Team has continued to work for you throughout the pandemic and we look forward to (hopefully!) more in person meetings in 2022.

Southwest Dental Conference

The long awaited move back to the Hilton Anatole Dallas will happen in 2022. Mark your calendars for August 26-27 to visit with your colleagues, attend first class continuing education and relax in the Lazy River.

DCDS Diversity

I hope you have taken advantage of the CE courses the DCDS Diversity Committee has sponsored, which they plan to continue in 2022. The Diversity Committee has also received a grant from the ADA to host a Diversity Retreat in the Spring of 2022.

DCDS Dental Assisting School

Our Dental Assisting School was able to remain open during the pandemic and continues to graduate students that are hired immediately. If you are interested in hosting an extern, contact Ms. Angela Bush at 972-386-5741, ext. 222 or email angela@dcds.org. Ms. Bush and Dr. Lee Oneacre are taking the BLS Instructor course in January 2022, which will allow them to provide CPR training for the students and for members.

DCDS Foundation

Many thanks to Drs. Robert McNeill and Stephanie Ganter who organized a fundraiser in their office late October 2021 with funds being donated to DCDS Foundation and the TDA Smiles Foundation. If you would like to have more information on how you can host a fundraiser in your office contact Ms. Rosemary Martinez at 972-386-5741 ext. 225 or email rosemary@dcds.org.

Dues Dollars at Work/Membership Value

TDA Financial Services is launching "Dental Concierge App" early January which will be a valuable tool in tracking your CE Credit. Watch for details from TDA in early January 2022.

Right: Young students hold hands in support as Dr. Laura Rabe examines their teeth during Give Kids A Smile - Dallas 2020

Give Kids a Smile

Dallas ISD is allowing in-person activities with their students again in the new year, so the DCDS Foundation will be able to do oral screenings as well as oral hygiene instruction during Give Kids a Smile - Dallas 2022. Now is your chance to improve the dental health of low income children, so make this a priority for your team!

Give Kids a Smile - Dallas 2022 February 4, 2022 • 4:00 - 5:30 pm

We need you, members of your staff, hygienists and assistants to volunteer so we can make an impact at eight after-school sites across Dallas.

More information is available on page 21. Email DCDS Foundation Manager Rosemary Martinez at rosemary@dcds.org to sign up today!







Members of the DCDS Legislative Committee hosted a fundraising reception in Rockwall, Texas for Rep. Justin Holland, who is running again for the Texas House of Representatives. The Committee works in conjunction with TDA's Department of Legislative, Regulatory and Governmental Affairs to preserve the integrity of Texas dentistry in the public policy-making area.

New Dentists

News and perspective from dentists under 10 years of practice

by Andrew Arango, DDS, MD

Preparing for medical emergencies



edical
emergencies
can happen
unexpectantly to
anyone at anytime. It
could be your first few
months in practice or it
could happen on your
retirement day. At some

point, all dentists will find themselves having to deal with a medical emergency.

The best way to address medical emergencies in the office is by preventing them from ever taking place. The first step is to take a thorough medical history for each of your patients, ensuring that you take adequate time to speak with elderly patients or those with several comorbidities who may be on numerous medications. If a patient stops breathing or has an adverse effect from a medication, the history can provide valuable clues to what may be going on. Sometimes we feel pressured to see more patients in a single day than we were accustomed to in dental school, and we can easily overlook important details about a patient's medical history. Those working for corporations may feel especially pressed to see a certain number of patients in a day, but in some cases, spending a little extra time collecting the appropriate information can be key to patient safety.

As the dentist in the office, it is important to remember that ultimately you can be held responsible for any medical complications that occur involving you or your staff. Educating your staff is critical; at the end of the day if a medical emergency presents itself you will not be managing it alone. Check with your staff to make sure they are up to date with their BLS training and know where necessary medical supplies are located. When first joining a practice, I would recommend taking an inventory of all your office medical supplies. Ensure you know where everything is, and that all your basic BLS/ACLS medications are accounted for and not expired. About a year into practice, a family member of one of my patient's collapsed in the waiting room. The patient's spouse was able to provide a guick medical history, and all signs pointed to a myocardial infarction. Thankfully, the office

had recently reviewed our emergency protocol and were able to get me the tools I needed quickly to stabilize the patient and get him to an appropriate treatment center with no long-term sequalae.

Currently with COVID, many offices are unfortunately experiencing high staff turnover. Consequently, all new staff need to be educated on how to manage emergencies. Everyone serves a role. One must never assume that just because a staff is experienced, that they know how to handle medical emergencies. One example of preparation is to hold quarterly mock code scenarios with the entire staff. This allows everyone to keep their skills sharp in a low

stress setting and serves as a refresher for BLS, which is only taken every 2 years.

The most common medical emergencies in a typical dental practice include vasovagal syncope, angina, hypoglycemia, seizures, and allergic reactions. All of these have straightforward treatments and solutions if one can recognize them. It all starts when the patient comes in the door with a thorough medical history and a properly trained staff. Beginning practice as a new dentist be overwhelming, but patient safety should always be a top priority. You never know when an emergency could occur—whether in the treatment room or the office lobby—and one must be prepared.





On-Hold Messaging Will:

- Present a cordial, professional image
- Reduce caller hang-ups
- Shorten perceived hold times
- Educate & inform patients
- Reinforce other marketing efforts
- Introduce new providers & staff
- Encourage online check-in & referrals

- Manage your content on a near real-time basis
- Select the precise messages your callers need
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- Generate a new weekly production sequence and so much more...

For a live, online virtual tour of our AUFFLE Content Management System, please contact us today!

Ask us about the special program for DCDS Members



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YEARS IN BUSINESS

DCDS Member's Message Board

Upcoming Events

February 4 – Give Kids a Smile

February 15 – General Membership Meeting

April 19 – General Membership Meeting

Register at www.dcds.org/events



Welcome New Members!

General Dentists Pediatric Dentistry

Madeline Anderson Prashant Kaushik

Shane Burns Daniel Overfelt
Hao Dang Matthew Pepper

Shazia Farooqui Huy Pham Theodore Hume III Brian Ta

Rabia Kadwani Alejandra Vela

In Memoriam:

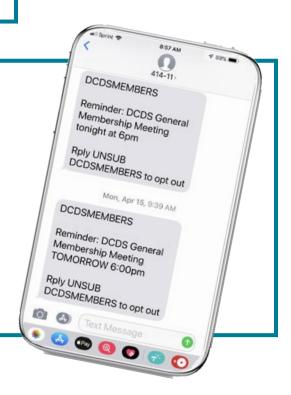
Dr. Terry Bawcom

Dr. John Leonard

TEXT MESSAGE REMINDERS

Have you ever wished you could receive reminders for DCDS meetings and events? Do you forget to put events/meetings on your calendar? DCDS implemented text messaging so you will not forget another meeting. Just sign up and you will be reminded of future meetings and events.

Text DCDSMEMBERS to 37373



Lida Pishbin

DCDS Membership Benefits

Being a member of the associations that work to protect your profession is important to the success of a practice...pass along the benefits to your peers!

- Free registration to DCDS's annual Southwest Dental Conference (And to The TDA Meeting!)
- Peer Review mediation service to reconcile complaints between patients and doctors
- Rent DCDS meeting facilities at special member rates
- Free or discounted continuing education via seminars & General Membership Meetings
- First opportunity to hire fully trained world-class assistants from DCDS Dental Assisting School
- Preprinted school excuse forms provided free of charge to dentists treating school-age children
- Confidential free notary public
- DCDS Connection, the bimonthly newsletter of Dallas County Dental Society (member advertising at reduced rates)
- Member mailing labels available for purchase
- Grassroots legislator contact program with state and national legislative representation
- · License and permit renewal reminders
- · Networking/social opportunities with colleagues

Dallas County Dental Society members receive ALL membership benefits offered by Texas Dental Association, including free entry to TDA TEXAS Meeting.

Dallas County Dental Society members receive ALL membership benefits offered by American Dental Association, including photo directory and public referrals through Find-a-Dentist.

www.dcds.org/membership

Looking for a job?

Have a position to fill in your office?

Want to sell or buy office space and office equipment?

List it on the DCDS.org Job Bank/Practice Sales! Members list for free (\$75/month for non-members.) Email a brief summary (100 words or less, in paragraph format) of the post to: rosemary@dcds.org.





Watching a colleague suffer and feeling helpless is difficult and heartbreaking.
Dentists Concerned for Dentists is a 24-hour confidential alcohol and drug abuse hotline you can call for assistance.

Your phone call could be the lifesaving step for someone who is hoping and waiting.

- Founded exclusively to help dentists, hygienists, assistants and family members.
- No fees or charges.
- All contact is held in absolute confidentiality.

The Dentists Concerned for Dentists program provides a strictly confidential peer assistance program for health care professionals who struggle with drug and alcohol abuse. Please share this confidential hotline with your colleagues.

A confidential phone call may be the greatest gift a peer dentist, staff or family member could receive.

DENTISTS CONCERNED FOR DENTISTS

24-hour Confidential Hotline **214-206-7496**

HELP YOURSELF

If you're in crisis, there are options available to help you cope. You can call the above hotline at any time to speak to someone and get support. For confidential support available 24/7 for everyone in the United States, you can also call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.

Need Meeting Space?

As a member of the DCDS, you can take advantage of low member rates when renting the Society's Executive Office for your next meeting.

The Dr. O.V. Cartwright Reception Hall is perfect for registration and a pre-function gathering.

The Dr. Paul P. Taylor Executive Board Room can seat 14 around a large conference table.

The Dr. D. Lamar Byrd Auditorium is 1,650 square feet of meeting space that can seat up to 200.

Audio/visual equipment is also available.

DCDS facilities include free parking, free wifi, use of small kitchenette, and ability to bring in food and non-alcoholic beverages.

For more info, contact
Ashley Hawkins at 972-386-5741 x231 or
email info@dcds.org.





Spring General Membership Meetings

FEBRUARY 15

In-Person or Virtual Meeting Options



Restorative Dentistry in a Digital Age - When You Can Barely Turn a Computer On

EDWIN "MAC" MCDONALD, DDS

AGD Code: 157

CE Hours: 2 Technical and/or Scientific

CE Verification provided

Issues and Activities of the Texas Dental Association

DEBRAH J. WORSHAM, DDS

Join us in February as TDA President, Dr. Debrah Worsham provides a brief update regarding the recent news, actions and changes at the Texas Dental Association.

Learning Objectives:

your lab technician

Review the role of digital photography

· Recognize the importance of partnering with

· Become familiar with designing a smile and

occlusal scheme in 3 shape software

· Review the role of intraoral scanning



In 2022 restorative dentistry can be fully digital. The digital process includes diagnosis, design, and delivery of very precise and beautiful restorations. This digital process provides flexibility, precision, and speed not possible in traditional restorative dentistry workflow. This new world requires a close partnership between the dentist and lab technician and the implementation of new technology. It also provides new opportunities for a well trained dental assistant to expand their role in the practice. We will look at digital photography, intraoral scanning, digital smile design, model printing, and transfer of the smile design to the mouth.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR BOTH IN-PERSON AND

VIRTUAL ACCESS.

TO CHANGE YOUR VIEWING PREFERENCE AFTER REGISTRATION, PLEASE CALL THE DCDS OFFICE.

REGISTER TODAY FOR ALL EVENTS AT WWW.DCDS.ORG/EVENTS

FREE FOR DCDS MEMBERS, MEMBER STAFF AND DENTAL STUDENTS.

NON-MEMBER DENTISTS AND NON-MEMBER STAFF ARE \$95.

Reception: 6:00 p.m.
Business Meeting: 6:30 p.m.
CE Presentation: 6:45 p.m.



50 Shades of Gray: An Overview of Radiographic Pathology

PARAS PATEL, DDS

AGD Code: 731/739

CE Hours: CE Hours: 2 technical and/or scientific

CE Verification provided

This course will cover disease entities that are commonly encountered affecting the jaw bones that may be discovered through our imaging studies. It will familiarize the practitioner with the clinical and radiographic presentations of certain diseases and their etiology. We will discuss how to develop a differential diagnosis, what it takes to obtain a definitive diagnosis, and most importantly what treatment options are currently available to the oral healthcare team in managing these diseases and our patients.

Learning Objectives:

- Become familiar with the radiographic features of the pathologic process that is observed
- Develop an accurate differential diagnosis for specific disease presentations
- Understand the etiopathogenesis of the discussed lesions
- Establish confidence in discussing specific diagnoses with patients
- Discuss treatment/management options for specific lesions with patients

APRIL 19

In-Person or Virtual Meeting Options

2022-2023 DCDS Nomination Slate

Elections will take place at the February 15, 2022 General Membership Meeting. Check your USPS mail in early January for mail-in absentee ballot to use if you cannot attend the meeting.

POSITION	TERM	
Board of Directors - Director	3 Years	Bob Hunsucker
	3 Years	Stephanie Ganter
Editor-elect	2 Years	N/A
Program Chairman	1 Year	Salvator LaMastra
Southwest Dental Conference Vice Chair-elect	1 Year	Gabby Dizon
Secretary/Treasurer-elect	2 Years	N/A
Delegate to the Texas Dental Association	3 Years	Brad Crump
	3 Years	Celeste Latham
	3 Years	Danette McNew
	3 Years	Matt Roberts
	3 Years	Jacqueline Plemons
	3 Years	Carmen Smith
	3 Years	Chi Trieu
	3 Years	Drew Vanderbrook
	3 Years	Jon Vogel
Alternate Delegate to the Texas Dental Association	1 Year	Todd Baumann
	1 Year	Sara Ehsani
	1 Year	Lynne Gerlach
	1 Year	Wayne Woods
Financial Advisory Committee	5 years	Drew Vanderbrook
Judicial Committee	5 Years	Jacqueline Plemons
Nominating Committee	2 Years	Mitra Bolouri
	2 Years	Brad Crump
	2 Years	Eduardo Tanur
	2 Years	Drew Vanderbrook
Peer Review Committee	3 Years	Avra Louis
	3 Years	Layla Lohmann
President-elect	1 Year	To be nominated from the floor

DCDS Connection January/February 2022



DALLAS COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

Committee Interest Form

DALLAS COUNTY	Name:	_ Email:
DENTAL SOCIETY		ad-hoc committee member. Below I have checked at least one inderstand all positions are one year unless otherwise noted.
COMMUN	ITY-BASED PROGRAMS:	
impr	Idation – Help promote the Foundation's mission to ove access to care, education and research, working e the community on dental education programs.	Peer Review – Upon written request, mediate disputes between doctors and patients or third parties. (three-year term; requires 4-hour training class provided by TDA)
LEGISLATI	VE / GOVERNANCE AREAS:	
the T	Delegate / Alternate Delegate – Attend all meetings of TDA delegation to the ADA House of Delegates. e-year / two-year term)	Legislative Action – Be informed on legislative matters relating to dentistry and assist in a grassroots legislative strategy that promotes dental issues. (five-year term)
	regic Planning – Collaborate to progress the vision, ion and goals of the Society.	■ TDA Delegate / Alternate Delegate – Attend all meetings of the DCDS delegation to the TDA House of Delegates. (three-year / one-year term)
PEER / ME	MBERSHIP FOCUSED AREAS:	
leade	rds – Recommend nominees for dentist and community er of the year awards and other awards that recognize obers for their contributions to dentistry.	Constitution and Bylaws – Maintain the Constitution and Bylaws; approve wording of amendments. (three-year term)
	S Connection Editor – Supervise the editing and uction of the Society's bimonthly publication. (two-year)	Judicial – Approve the eligibility of potential Society members. (five-year term)
	nbership Development – Conduct recruitment and ntion efforts.	New Dentist (out of school 10 years or less) – Serve as an advocate for new dentists in all areas.
Bylav	amentarian – Interpret rules of procedure in DCDS ws and the American Institute of Parliamentarians dard Code of Parliamentary Procedure.	☐ Retirement – Focus on needs and programs specifically designed for dentists in or near retirement.
	ia – Focus on social media content needs, including site blogs.	Diversity and Inclusion – Promote training and events to bring awareness of diversity and inclusion.
EDUCATIO	NAL VENUES:	
	hwest Dental Conference – Help to execute the various cts of the Society's annual Conference.	
LEADERSH	IP:	
	ctor – Serve in one of six positions as a liaison between Board and membership. (three-year term)	Secretary / Treasurer – Keep minutes of all meetings, prepare annual budget and give a financial report at the Board of Directors meetings. (two-year term)
	ram Chair – Schedule continuing education programs for ral membership meetings.	☐ I will work where needed.
I RECON	/IMEND DRF	OR THECOMMITTEE

January/February 2022 DCDS Connection

Diversity in the Dental Office

Carmen Smith, DDS Chairman of DCDS Diversity and Inclusion Committee



everal years ago, I referred patients to a specialist near my office. Excellent treatment was provided and patients seemed to like the referral. One day, I went to visit this office

for an in-person discussion concerning our mutual patient. As I looked around the office and consult room. I noticed the pictures on the wall of patients that were treated in this office. Every patient on the wall was white and some were mutual patients. This was very concerning, as I referred patients of diverse backgrounds, who were in active treatment, and the diversity was not represented on the walls of this practice. This may not seem like an issue to some, however, if you are a non-white patient who will see this wall every time you visit the office, and you don't see your picture or one that resembles you, the culture of the office is now questioned. Am I valued as a patient, as well as, am I receiving the same care as the white patient?

It is 2021 and these unconscious biases still exist, even in the wonderful world of dentistry. When you look at your dental team, is it reflective of the community that your practice serves and patients that you treat? If the art on your walls includes smiling faces, are those faces reflective of the patients you serve? If you practice in Dallas County, chances are your patient base probably looks a little different than it did 20 or 30 years ago. With an attractive job market in the area, Dallas has seen a tremendous growth population of people

of varying race, ethnicity, religious affiliation, education, gender, and sexual orientation. As dentists, especially those who are practice owners or aspire to be, it is important to recognize and embrace these differences, and not remain status quo.

There are several benefits to hiring a diverse dental team.

- 1) Diversity brings perspectives that otherwise may not be considered. For instance, a patient may have cultural practices that are not the "norm" that they display in the office. An employee of that same culture may understand the practice and relay this to the team, bringing about understanding and acceptance and not reluctance and hesitancy to treat the patient.
- 2) Diversity brings a larger pool of talent. If you are limiting yourself to a "certain look", you are limiting your practice the ability to choose the best applicants, and those better skilled for the tasks at hand.
- 3) Diversity can also lead to higher production, which can lead to higher profits. When a patient enters a practice and sees someone that looks liked them, or some aspect of the office environment is reflective of their culture, it gives them a sense of comfort. When a patient finds comfort in a dental home, they tend to stay and refer others.

Diversity and inclusion in the dental office is not a difficult concept. It takes a willingness to embrace differences and perspectives, as well as, intentional behavior shifts. As the dentist, start with a self-evaluation. Think of some biases that you may have and why. Are these biases based on your own experiences, or are these norms that have been passed on to you and you accepted them as truth?

We all have biases, regardless of gender, race, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation or religion. Until we start to recognize and acknowledge the root cause, we will remain status quo and these biases will continue to show up in the staff that you select and the culture that you create in your office. As dentists, we are the leaders of the dental team so it is imperative that fostering an environment of diversity and inclusion begins with us. As we move into a new year, let's all make a commitment to be open to learning and respecting our diversity, and truly embracing a culture of inclusion in our respective practices.





Dental assistants who train through the DCDS Dental Assisting School know more than just the basics. They are specialized assistants who can take x-rays and perform CPR. They have foundational knowledge of nitrous oxide sedation and are HIPAA/OSHA proficient. They are trained to work as part of a dental team.

DCDS member dentists are given the unique (and first) opportunity to hire new, fully trained dental assistants from each graduating class. For more information, please contact the Program Director, Angela Bush, at info@dcdsdas.org or visit https://www.dcds.org/dental-assisting-school.



NOW ENROLLING STUDENTS FOR SESSION STARTING MARCH 7.

www.dcdsdas.org











Gaining New Perspectives

DCDS Mentorship Program accelerates personal and professional development

Association enabled Dallas County Dental Society the opportunity to match a new group of young dentists and fourth year dental students with experienced dentists who are willing to share their insight of dentistry. The match occurred in late October at a reception at Mi Cocina with 11 DCDS members stepping forward to provide counsel and guidance to those starting on their dental careers. Additional dentists have signed up as mentors but could not appear in person.

Dr. John Tunnell, Chairman for the DCDS New Dentists Committee led the event. "The mentor/mentee reception was a huge success and exceeded expectations," he said. "After so many months of social distancing, it was great to connect with friends and colleagues in person once again. As life slowly gets back to normal, I hope the new mentor and mentee relationships born out of the reception will continue to grow and provide value in the lives of these new dentists for years to come."

36 mentees joined in on the evening activity, enjoying complimentary food and drinks while networking with others who work in their respective areas of Dallas. Dr. Dhwani Shah, who graduated in 2019 from the University of Southern California School of Dentistry, found great value in the event. "When I first moved

to Texas, I didn't know very many people in the area so I had a difficult time integrating myself into the dental society," explained Dr. Shah. "However, I was very pleased to be at the mentor/mentee reception because not only did I meet dentists and dental students, but I felt that I found my true home. I got to listen to insights about how our dentists give back to the community and also understand what it is like being a fourth year dental student during the pandemic. After listening to my colleagues' real life experiences about practicing in the Dallas area, I feel more confident that I made the right decision moving to Dallas. My mentor is a warm, kind hearted doctor whom I look up to. I believe that she is the kind of individual who will help me carve my path in this field as well as support my passion in being part of organized dentistry. We share similar values in giving back to the dental community, thus I am looking forward to building a strong rapport with her moving forward."

Mentees and mentors were provided with a DCDS Mentorship Program Guide. Follow-up from the event will include making direct connections between mentees with their mentors. New dentists in Dallas County who were unable to participate in the October event are invited to call the DCDS office at 972-386-5741 for more information on the Mentor/Mentee Program.















FORT WORTH AGD CE SERIES #2 CHRISTENSEN BOTTOM LINE 2022

Presented by Dr. Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

Monday, April 1 | 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Worthington Renaissance Fort Worth Hotel - 200 Main St, Fort Worth, TX 76102

7 HR LECTURE CREDIT | SUBJECT CODES:

070 Endodontics, 130 Electives, 180 Occlusion, 310 Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, 610 Fixed Prosthodontics, 690 Implants, 780 Esthetics/Cosmetic Dentistry

THE CHRISTENSEN BOTTOM LINE

This fast-moving "bottom line" course includes the areas of dentistry with the most activity and change in any given year. It is easily understood and has numerous summaries that help attendees to interpret the ongoing advancements in the profession. The course encourages audience participation, and questions and answers and is presented in an enjoyable and humorous manner.

Topics to be covered include • CAD/CAM • Implant Dentistry • Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery • Fixed Prosthodontics • Endodontics • Equipment • Esthetic Dentistry • Laboratory Technology • Occlusion • Lasers



ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Gordon J. Christensen is Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Practical Clinical Courses (PCC), Chief Executive Officer of Clinicians Report Foundation (CR) and a practicing prosthodontist in Provo, Utah Gordon and Dr. Rella Christensen are co-founders of the non-profit CLINICIANS REPORT FOUNDATION (previously named CRA). Since 1976, they have conducted research in all areas of dentistry and published the findings to the profession in the well-known CRA Newsletter, now called CLINICIANS REPORT. Gordon's degrees include: DDS, University of Southern California; MSD, University of Washington; PhD, University of Denver; and two honorary doctorates. Early in his career, Gordon helped initiate the University of Kentucky and University of Colorado dental schools and taught at the University of Washington. Currently, he is adjunct professor at the University of Utah

School of Dentistry. Gordon has presented thousands of hours of continuing education globally, made hundreds of educational videos used throughout the world, and published widely.

COURSE RATES

	Before March 1	After March 1
AGD Members	\$299	\$399
Non-members	\$399	\$499
New Dentists*	\$199	\$299
Staff Members & Dental Students		\$125



AGD CHAPTER-FORT WORTH, TX Locally Approved PACE Program Provider for FAGD/MAGD credit. Approval does not imply acceptance by any regulatory authority or AGD endorsement. 11/22/2019 - 11/21/2021 Provider ID# 219203

TO VIEW ADDITONAL CE EVENTS VISIT

WWW.TAGD.ORG/EVENTS

^{*}dentists practicing 7 years or less

Texas A&M University College of Dentistry

By Caleb Vierkant

Acting dean adds perspective

r. José Luis Bermúdez arrived on campus November 1 as Texas A&M College of Dentistry's new Acting Dean. He plans to focus on the positives, and amplify them, as he dives into his new role.

"I want to help make it possible for everyone in this college to focus on their teaching, their research, all their service to students and to the community, with minimal obstacles and noise in the system," says Bermúdez, who joined the Texas A&M University faculty in 2010.

He is Professor of Philosophy and the Samuel Rhea Gammon Professor of Liberal Arts, previously serving as both Associate Provost for Strategic Planning and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. He replaces Dr. Lynne Opperman, Regents Professor, who had served as interim dean of the College of Dentistry since June 1.

Bermúdez was born in Colombia and completed secondary education at St. Paul's School in London before earning his undergraduate, masters and doctorate degrees at the University of Cambridge. After faculty posts at Cambridge and the University of Stirling, he moved to America for faculty and director roles at Washington University in St. Louis before joining Texas A&M.

"I've always been an active scholar, an active teacher, but I've done increasing amounts of university management and academic leadership," Bermúdez says.

He arrived at Texas A&M as Liberal Arts Dean around the same time as President Katherine Banks, who was then Dean of Engineering. As two of the first external deans at A&M, they went through some similar experiences and challenges, he says, explaining that Banks thought it would benefit the College of Dentistry to have his perspective in a leadership role.

While philosophy and liberal arts do not have much in common with dentistry at first glance, he says a fresh perspective and previous experience in academic leadership are two strengths he brings to his new role as acting dean. He intends to analyze issues from multiple points of view, to get a full understanding by listening and learning from everyone involved.

"I think, certainly in the first weeks here, that's really going to be my emphasis: Trying to understand what the college is, trying to understand how different people see it," he says. "My main qualification for being here is that I have no connection to dentistry, no history with the college. Completely fresh perspective, but a lot of experience in managing complex

organizations and trying to make them work better to support academic operations."

Bermúdez says that his overarching goal for his tenure as acting dean will be to set up for success whomever is selected for the permanent dean position. Opportunities exist for improving day-to-day operations, he says, though he emphasizes that the college's educational programs remain as strong as ever.

"I've met with many of the students; I'm meeting them class by class," he says. "The message that I have to all of them is that none of this reflects any perceived weakness or any perceived deficiency in the educational mission here. There is obviously always room for improvement and fine-tuning, but our programs here are among the jewels in the crown at A&M."

The College of Dentistry offers fantastic professional training, with a talented student body and dedicated faculty, Bermúdez says, adding that the building blocks are here for a "really transformational dental college."

"I don't know if you've ever seen that Japanese film *Rashomon* by Akira Kurosawa. I can't remember the details but it's about one episode being told ... and then you get six different perspectives on the same episode," he says. "A lot of what goes on when you try to make sense of a complex institution is a bit like *Rashomon*. The job is to piece together all these different perspectives. That involves listening very carefully to what people say and figuring out how it all fits together."





Texas A&M College of Dentistry (formerly Baylor College of Dentistry) in Dallas is a part of Texas A&M University and Texas A&M Health Science Center.

Founded in 1905, the College of Dentistry is a nationally recognized center for oral health sciences education, research, specialized patient care and continuing dental education. Learn more at dentistryinsider.tamhsc.edu or follow @TAMUdental.

Practice Fundraises for Oral Health

The Dental Specialists raise \$16,000+ for DCDS Foundation and TDA Smiles

Dr. Bob McNeill and Dr. Stephanie Ganter raised the roof with music, food and fun as they led their practice office, colleagues and friends in raising \$18,947 for promoting oral health in Texas. The "Giving Back Fundraiser" money raised was split between DCDS Foundation and TDA Smiles Foundation.

The office designated November 1-6 to be their Giving Week, with new patient payments donated that week for the cause. Dr. Ganter expressed her delight in that offering. "As a new doctor," she said, "It was so fulfilling treating patients during our Giving Week knowing that our contributions would be used to help those in need."

They kicked off the week with an evening of pre-Halloween entertainment that included doctors dressed as bikers, door prize drawings for purses and handbags, DJ with lively dance music, food truck and beverages.

But the tremendous financial gain for their cause that evening did not come without a visible loss—Dr. McNeill generously gave up his hair in return for donations! Various dental colleagues, including DCDS Foundation President Dr. Michael Rainwater, took turns relieving Dr. McNeill of his locks by scissors then razor. Dr. McNeill laughed over his newly scalped scalp, saying, "My hope is this will encourage other doctors to do the same."



















Your DCDS Foundation at Work!

by Dr. Michael Rainwater

DCDS Foundation recruits members to work at Dentistry with a Heart

The Park Cities Rotary event Dentistry with a Heart (DWAH) celebrated it's 10th year on October 30th, 2021, treating 24 patients from Salvation Army Rehabilitation Center for basic dental services of extractions, fillings and cleanings. Salvation Army has been a partner with DWAH from their first year. This year they not only helped identify patients, but hosted the dental screening portion on October 28th. This early screening reduced on-site crowding at the Agape Clinic, improved time and patient flow and allowed patients to go directly to their dental chair. Working with their program director, Jason Clevenger, DWAH was able to verify all patients were vaccinated for Covid 19 and tested three days prior to event.

This was the fifth year Agape Clinic hosted the event with private practice dentists, students from Texas A&M Dental School, Agape Clinic staffing and the Park Cities Rotary, who organizes the event each year. In addition to dental treatment, patients health vitals were checked with some coming back to the Agape Clinic for future medical care.

Park Cities Rotary volunteers who guided the event through the day included Chairman Fred Brown, Karen Farris, Ruth Alhilali, Phillip Bankhead, Richard Stanford, Pam Carvey, Barbara Jeffries and Jodie Ray. An extra big thank you goes to Patsy Watson, who organized all the food for the day.

Our dentist volunteers were Drs. Sarah Kong, Gabrielle Dizon, Stephanie Ganter, Rob Levy, Jim Reisman, Martin Kahn and Michael Rainwater. The amazing hygienist Melissa Gruenwald and dental students from the Texas A&M University College of Dentistry contributed great care; Krysten Barnes, Candace Fielder, Maher Lawand, Amanda Hsieh, Caitlinn Kolibaba and Alexandria Talley. Oral Surgery residents Joel Elizondo and Patrick Wong. Thank you to Dr. Joshua Liescheski who mentored our students and Angela Wilson and

Dr. Kishore Shetty for your support from Texas A&M College of Dentistry. Nothing happens without assistants, so many thanks to Petra van Beveren and Sharon Beltran. Working with Agape Clinic is always such a blessing! Thank you Paul Hoffmann, Dr. Barbara Baxter, Gary Foster and all your staff for hosting our day.

\$27,600 of dentistry accomplished made a big impact for our patients and provided an opportunity for all our volunteers to make a difference.

What a great way to spend a Saturday!

Below: The Dentistry with a Heart team from the October 2021 event.



Above: DCDS members who are part of the Dentistry with a Heart team include Drs. Sarah Kong, Michael Rainwater, Stephanie Ganter, Gabrielle Dizon and Robert McNeill. Not pictured Jim Reisman, Rob Levy and Martin Kahn.



DCDS Foundation Aids C/FB ISD

A \$500 grant from the International College of Dentistry allowed the DCDS Foundation to aid approximately 500 students at Blair Elementary and Farmers Branch Elementary. Oral health kits containing toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, activity sheets and Find-a-Dentist information were delivered to the Title I schools in early December, along with a link to the DCDS ToothTalks video, found here.

Right: Assembly of the 500 oral health kits sent to schools, with thanks to DCDS Foundation and ICD.



TO VOLUNTEER

WWW.DCDSFOUNDATION.ORG

TO GIVE

DCDS Foundation is now an eligible charity listed on AmazonSmile. This program through Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon. com purchases to the Foundation when selected by customers. Our unique charity link is https://smile.amazon.com/ch/75-2790709.



What is Charitybuzz?

Dallas County Dental Society Foundation has partnered with the online platform Charitybuzz to help raise funds for our charitable activities.

Charitybuzz is an internet company that raises funds for nonprofit organizations through online charity auctions with celebrities and brands. Auction experiences include music, entertainment, business, politics, sports, art, fashion and other industries.

The website allows for bidders all over the world to bid on items that have been posted—fundraising is not restricted to the community in which the item is offered. The site auctions unique experiences as well as items.

How can I help?

We encourage our members to visit charitybuzz.com to experience the plethora of auction items that are listed, but also to obviously bid on those which will benefit the Dallas County Dental Society Foundation.

We also urge DCDS members to consider contributing an item or an experience that will allow DCDS Foundation to receive a sizeable return if the item sells. Examples include art, sports memorabilia, vacation homes or timeshares, as well as meetings with local or national celebrities.

In early January, DCDS Foundation will have active auction items that have been donated by a member: These items can be viewed at https://www.charitybuzz.com/support/5604.





To donate an item or an experience, please contact Dr. Hedley Rakusin at hrakusin@gmail.com.

Give Kids A Smile®



Give Kids A Smile® is an annual volunteer initiative providing free educational, preventive and restorative services to children from low-income families. Thousands of dentists across the country will take time from their practices to help underserved children who aren't getting the oral health care they need.

Will You Join Us?

Give Kids a Smile focuses on the epidemic of untreated oral disease among disadvantaged children and delivers the message that dentists alone can't solve this problem without a real commitment from government and society. And to provide an effective platform from which dental societies can advocate common sense, market-based solutions to local access problems.

Your Community Needs You!

Help make a difference in the lives of children in your community. Please consider volunteering your times and talents for this year's Give Kids A Smile!

Date: Friday, February 4, 2022

Time: 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Location: Eight DISD Title I Locations

(screenings and oral hygiene education)

To volunteer, or for more information, contact:

Rosemary at info@dcdsfoundation.com



Your Transition

is closer than you think!

Is your practice ready?

Go with a Guide that knows the territory!

Hoping one day to get top dollar for your practice?

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Wondering how to coordinate the real estate and practice sale?

"Seek advice now... while your practice is at its peak!" DALLAS OFFICE 214.893.0410 Serving the Central U.S. Info@OfficeNetworkUSA.com #1 TRANSITION AUTHORITY Practice of the Month - Euless

2019 – 2021 Average: \$765K 4 ops., Digital, only 3 yrs. old 1800 active FFS & PPO patients

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Certified Shredding Promotion for Dallas County Dental Society Members

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\$25 flat fee per container.

Minimum charge per service of \$75.

Contact 214-352-0113, option #2 for details about preferred member rates

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Classified Advertising

Classified Advertising for DCDS Connection is accepted on a space-available basis and must meet the advertising guidelines of the DCDS. Rates and information are posted on-line at dcds.org or call 972-386-5741.

Employment

Dentist Needed - Abilene, TX

Exciting, non-private practice opportunity. Steady pay, great benefits and work-life balance. No billing, no insurance, no quotas. Just provide the very best, comprehensive dental care to a very special patient population.

Click here to apply. For more info, visit AbSSLC.org or call 325-268-6928 and ask for Dr. Bullock

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OFFICE TO SHARE

Rent space in our new fully digital and equipped dental office located in Richardson near 75 & Campbell Rd; available 2-3 days per week on a daily fee basis. Take a video tour at DrJackBodie.com.

Call 214-212-9413 or email Jack@DrJackBodie.com for details.

Click here to check out Job Bank/ Classified ads on the DCDS Website for more opportunities!



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January/February 2022 DCDS Connection



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Follow DCDS and SWDC on social media!











Registration begins March 2022 for the Southwest Dental Conference (SWDC). We are excited to be moving the Conference to the Dallas Hilton Anatole, August 26-27th, 2022. Come experience a more intimate setting for learning, networking, and fun for everyone!

The change in venue is bringing in new speakers and new exhibitors to make this meeting a landmark year as we celebrate the 95th year of the SWDC!

Our theme this year is "Empowering Dentistry as Essential Health Care." We have something that will energize, inspire, and educate the entire dental team in all specialties of care and career stages.

We will have hands-on workshops to develop new skills and procedures such as:

- Neonatal and infant tongue tie releases using lasers

- Mastering dental photography with your smartphone
- Exquisite temporaries made simple
- Therapeutic Botox training with cadaver anatomy review
- Endodontic instrumentation
- Surgical techniques for the general dentist
- Oral pathology screening with devices

We expect many of these popular workshops to sell-out quickly, so you want to register early to save your spot!

There will be fabulous team training that you will want your entire office to be a part of such as:

- "Win It! Three Laws of Teamwork that Create a Booming Practice"
- Dental assistant mastery courses

 Insurance success, medical billing, case acceptance, OSHA, HIPPA, and more for the front office

Don't forget about our extremely popular CE Express 1-hour power courses for dentists and dental hygienists!

The Exhibit Hall will be buzzing with a packed house of new and returning vendors. See the latest and greatest that dentistry has to offer and enjoy entertainment and networking near the Exhibit Hall as well.

Save the date on your calendar and your team's calendar for August 26-27th, 2022. You will not want to miss this Conference!



Dr. Sarah Poteet 2022 Southwest Dental Conference Chairman

