

Regent's Report



George Stratigopoulos
ACD Regent

Are You Ethical?

Surely, all dentists reading this would answer with a resounding yes. But what does ethical mean in 2017? The definition seems to be changing. The only constant is change. We all consider ourselves ethical, and we all know dentists in our community down the street who have ethical issues. Ah, yes --- it's always that dentist down the street. Let us look at this a little closer as research progresses on the ACD Gies Report on Dental Ethics. Since we can't ask dentists if they are ethical, we asked them to rate the importance of

qualities related to the profession to determine what they felt were the most important to the professional success of a dentist. There were six focus groups in four states. Two-thirds of the dentists have been members of organized dentistry. Heading up the list was technical expertise. No surprise there. However, close behind in second position was financial success. Farther down the list were ethics and oral health outcomes. I find the current order interesting to say the least.

Other focus group results

(continued on page 2)



2016 ACD President Steve Chan, Sue Chan, Diane and Regent George Stratigopoulos at ACD in Denver



ACD Regent George Stratigopoulos with Student Achievement Award Winners at Anaheim Spring Breakfast 2016. The 2016 ACD Student Achievement awards winners in our Section were: Theresa Baldwin (LLU) Shannen Dalton (Western), Rebecca Moss (UCLA) and Alexandra Chamberlain (USC).

Chairman's Report



Gary Carlsen
Chairman, Southern California Section

Ethical Issues in Oral Health Care

Gerald R. Winslow, PhD, presented at our Section's sponsored lecture at the CDA Anaheim meeting in May. He is a professor of ethics at Loma Linda University specializing in bio-medical ethics. The room was packed with a cross section of oral health care providers: hygienists, general dentists, auxiliaries and dental specialists. Dr. Winslow explained the need for dental ethics: developing professional integrity, professional self-respect and earning societal trust. He explained that the sources of ethical values include family, religion, society, culture and profession. Moral agency begins when a person says, "No." and eth-

ics begins when one says, "Why?" Ethics -- values, virtues and principles -- are relative to time and place and there are no universal principles.

Dr. Winslow discussed the Tuskegee Study as an example of severely compromised ethics. The study began in 1930 and left 400 syphilitic African American males untreated until death. The study was stopped in 1972, and President Clinton apologized in 1997.

Dr. Winslow's survey of 245 responding dentists, hygienists and educators in California and Indiana asked for the most important ethical issues currently facing dentistry. The Top 10 (from 10 to 1) were unethical or illegal use of auxiliaries, patients making bad choices for care, students practicing on patients, failing to refer appropriately, academic integrity, dealing with

(continued on page 6)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2** Editorial: Make Dentistry Great Again?
- 3** Steve Chan, Year of the Monkey
- 4-5** ACD 2016 Convocation
- 8** ACD/ICD 2017 Spring Breakfast



Harriet Seldin

Make Dentistry Great Again?

We are at a challenging health policy crossroads. I write this days before Donald Trump is inaugurated as President. He, his choice for Secretary of the US Department of Health & Human Services, and the Republican-led Congress are all poised to “repeal and replace” the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The promise in the ads supporting Republican healthcare proposals is for a healthcare system putting “patients and doctors in charge.” The promise by Democrats a few years ago was an ACA where people could “keep their doctors,” but that didn’t work out so well for everyone. However, Democratic elected officials, hospital and community clinic officials and their patients are demonstrating to keep the ACA. They are afraid of losing healthcare. We don’t know how these changes in the political winds will affect dental practices and our patients.

Most of our patients have dental insurance through employer-provided plans. Although their medical insurance has been seriously impacted with high-deductible ACA-approved coverage, dental insurance has remained as it was---but with a

push toward in-network dental offices and lower reimbursement. This is especially the case for small employers who may provide Covered California plans for employees.

Some of our patients have lost their jobs and employer-paid health insurance. Those patients are required to enroll in government-approved health insurance policies. Many are now Medi-Cal beneficiaries (50% of kids and 1/3 of all residents) or they are on Covered California plans with “skinny networks” with a very limited list of facilities where their care is covered. While these patients are not required to purchase dental insurance, if they have medical benefits via Medi-Cal or Covered California, they have the dental benefits of those programs. Some patients have switched dentists in order to have care in their “skinny networks.” If the mandate for individuals to have health insurance is dropped, then some of these patients may drop their plans.

If the Federal government decreases or
(continued on page 6)

Regent’s Report continued...

show that tensions between dentists are increasingly based on the fact that individual dentists are setting personal standards based on commercial intent rather than the common professional values of days gone by. Patients also see dentists as being more commercially driven rather than having a common service motive as was the case in years past. There is distrust among patients as they note that each dentist has something different to say.

Fragmentation of the profession is threatening its very integrity. Dentists cannot agree on the goal of a practice, the right treatment plan, or even the definition of whether a restorative margin is intact. Something as simple as the fictitious names used by many practices are causing a distancing in the doctor-patient relationship. Patients cannot name their dentists like a few years ago. It may well be they don’t know their names. They now go to

ABCD Dental rather than Dr. XYZ’s office whose name was on the front door.

Lastly, there seem to be an increasing number of entities pushing dentists to succeed by some standards that are different from the professional values of service to humanity that have prevailed over the past few decades. I look forward to seeing the ACD Gies Report when it is completed, and hope that it will be useful in improving ethical standards in our profession. Interesting times.

**PLEASE SEND US YOUR
EMAIL ADDRESS**

Send to

drhfseldin@aol.com.

We’d really like to be able
to communicate with
Southern California Section
Fellows via email.

ACOLADE is published by the Southern California
Section of the American College of Dentists.

George Stratigopoulos
drgeorge@san.rr.com
Regent
Ph: 858-277-7200
Fx: 858-277-6931

Gary Carlsen
jawssdoc@aol.com
Chairman
Ph: 714-847-6044
Fx: 714-842-3145

Doug Christiansen
doug@deanzadental.com
Secretary/Treasurer
Ph: 858-274-8900
Fx: 858-274-8982

Harriet Seldin
drhfseldin@aol.com
Editor
Ph: 858-274-2483

Member Publication
American Association
of Dental Editors



1997, 2003, 2007 &
2016 Section
Newsletter Award

2016 ICD/ACD Spring Breakfast



CDA past-president Walt Weber at breakfast buffet, Anaheim Hilton.



Michael Schneider and Bruce Toy. Dr. Toy is the ICD Regent, District 13.



Jim Van Sicklen and ADA Trustee Lindsey Robinson at Anaheim Spring Breakfast. Dr. Robinson was our speaker at the breakfast.



Russ Haag, Andy Severson, Ron Fritz



Alan Felsenfeld and Jim Van Sicklen



Norman Nagel, Tom Stewart and Alan Felsenfeld



Kevin Keating and Beverly Kodama

Year of the Monkey by Steve Chan

The 95th Presidency of the College began with a story of my family's 135 year journey to reach this Podium. From DC to Denver, and 104,000 air miles in-between, this year was an incredible life experience – in the *Year of the Monkey*.

We rekindled relationships with ACD Sections (2-3 times a month) across the country and Canada. Fortune cookies, abacuses, and “custom” gavels made lots of friends. We explored panel discussions -- on “The leadership pipeline”, “Cohesion and Inclusion”, and “Inspiring leadership.” Out there, I discovered the soul of the College.

We reexamined our traditional areas of intersection with the ADA. The trend analysis of Annual Meeting and Convocation costs is unsustainable. We're compelled to explore choices.

There are business decisions and downstream implications.

We extended the hand of the College – to leadership from the National Dental Association, the Hispanic Dental Association, the national Indian Dental Association and the Academy of General Dentistry. We opened doors. We believe in inclusion.

We exist to advance leadership. We are starting to build a Leadership Institute. Build better leaders and we build better organizations. Build better leaders and we build a better profession. Build better leaders and we build better images of who we are in our communities. We believe in investing in people.

We gathered in Williamsburg.

(continued on page 7)



**95TH Annual Meeting & Convocation
American College of Dentists
October 19-20, 2016
Denver, Colorado**

2016 New Fellows from Southern California

Yaara Berdan
Calabasas
Endodontics—7 years
Assistant Professor, Ostrow USC
President, OKU Chapter USC
President, Alumni Chapter Alpha Omega

Paul G. Bohman
Ventura
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Xerxez M. Calilung
Irvine
General Dentistry—26 years
Past President, Orange County Dental Society
Delegate, ADA

Janice C. Chou
Newport Beach
Endodontics—19 years
President, Orange County Dental Society
Delegate, CDA

Raed Fawaz
Mission Viejo
General Dentistry—24 years
Past-Pres., Orange County Dental Society
Delegate, CDA
Past-Pres., Orange County Chapter, World Lebanese Cultural Union

Mathew Kattadiyil
Loma Linda
Prosthodontics—20 years
Prosthodontics Program Director, LLU
Amer. College of Prosthodontists
“Educator of the Year”

Paul H. Krebsbach
Los Angeles
Periodontics

Lester Machado
San Diego
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
President, San Diego Dental Health Foundation
Past-Pres., San Diego County Dental Society

Bijan Modjtahedi
Fountain Valley
General Dentistry—14 years
Trustee, CDA
Past-Pres., Orange Country Dental Society
Fellow, International Congress Oral Implantology
Master, Academy of General Dentistry



Doug Cassat with New Fellows Lester Machado, Janice Chou and Xerxez Calilung.



New Fellows Raed Fawaz, Janice Chou, Xerxez Calilung and Bijan Modjtahedi.



New Fellows and Sponsors at ACD Convocation



Dr. Raed Fawaz, a new fellow, with his wife Yaneli.

Accolades to 15-Year Fellows:

Anne E. Bowman
Jamul

Russell E.K. Chang
Los Alamitos

Terrie K. DeBord
Downey

Niles F. Guichet
Orange

Alan H. Kaye
Beverly Hills

W. Ronald Redmond
San Clemente

Richard G. Stevenson, III
Los Angeles

In Memoriam:

Howard P. Boller
Oak Park

Ronald M. Kaminishi
Santa Ana

William E. Hendrix
San Diego

Frank Kratochvil
La Jolla

Accolades to 25-Year Fellows:

Luke H. Iwata
Loma Linda

Ronald S. Mito
Los Angeles

Dean R. Reynolds
Los Angeles

Dennis L. Roginson
Westlake Village

Bruce W. Schutte
Glendora

Eugene Sekiguchi
Monterey Park

Alan J. Sherman
Laguna Niguel

Accolades to 50-Year Fellow:

Nathan Friedman
Sherman Oaks

George J. Higue
Huntington Beach

My ACD Annual Meeting Experience by Krishna Desai, UCLA Dental Student

As a dental student, attending the ACD annual meeting was a unique experience. Meeting the distinguished Fellows and learning about their contributions to our profession was inspirational. Every member of the College exemplified the mission of advancing excellence, ethics, professionalism and leadership in dentistry. It was eye-opening to see the breadth of influence each Fellow has had on the profession and realizing the potential that I have to contribute to the profession as well.

I am grateful for my opportunity to attend the ACD meeting and support the ACD's initiative to get younger dentists involved with the College. It was a privilege to be in company of such accomplished, highly respected individuals. I plan to spread awareness about this prestigious organization and dedicate myself to the founding principles of the ACD. Thank you for the wonderful opportunity of being invited to the annual meeting, and thank you for inspiring me to be a part of the College one day.

Krishna Desai, a 4th year dental student, was sponsored by our Section to attend the 2016 ACD meeting in Denver.



ACD Awardee Dorothy Perry, RDH (retired faculty at UCSF and UCLA) with Regent George Stratigopoulos at Denver ACD events.



Past Regent Jack Conley, Mace Bearer at the ACD Convocation in Denver

Editor continued...

removes its payment towards expanded Medicaid/Medi-Cal and Affordable Care Act/Covered California plans, then a lot of people may lose dental insurance. But flexibility in coverage might bring back plans with higher reimbursement rates and wider networks. Patients may have more choice of dentists. Will the dentist-patient relationship change?

According to the ADA's Health Policy Institute, the business of dental practices has been in a negative trajectory, but may be stabilizing. More dentists are employed in community clinics, corporate practices and institutional settings. Graduating dental



Pua, a 12 year old golden retriever, "borrows" a kong from another dog at the beach.

students are over their heads in debt, but US News and World Report again says dentistry is the best job in the Country. The nature of how and where dentists practice is changing. Some private practices are thriving, with new technology and expanding their practices into non-traditional services. While some patients are demonstrating to keep the ACA, others are optimistic their choices for healthcare, including dentistry, will improve.

We are in a time of regulatory uncertainty. Will the HHS Office of Civil Rights Sec. 1557 Final Rule be repealed by the Trump Administration? This Obama administration Rule is set to impose new costly regulations on practices that receive Medicaid or Medicare funding. Will the Medical Device Tax be permanently repealed? Will Medi-Cal dental fees rise to cover the cost of care? If Federal regulations are cut back, will State and local regulation increase for us in California?

Underserved patients covered by the Medicaid expansion of the Obama administration are now under risk in the Trump administration. In the past

year, the number of homeless people in Southern California has risen dramatically. They are seen in charitable dental clinics and private non-profit community health centers. Will there continue to be Federal funding towards dental care of indigent and low income adults in the Trump administration, or will these facilities rely on State and charitable funds only? Will the economy improve so less of these people need help?

There was a time, I'm told, when a new dentist had to just put out a shingle, and patients would walk in. For years after dental insurance became a popular employer-paid benefit, there was little pressure on dental fees. Years ago, Delta Dental paid dentists based on the 90th percentile. Don't think anyone seriously thinks those days are coming back.

Will there be a way to keep the oral health care safety net and preserve the private practice of dentistry, with flexibility for patients and for dentists? Is dentistry already great? Will it be greater in the future?

Chairman's Report continued...

"bad" dentists, the pressures of corporate dentistry, misleading advertising, insurance coverage dictating treatment and lastly over treatment. During Dr. Winslow's audience interaction, the number one issue was over treatment.

During my 44 years practicing oral and maxillofacial surgery, I have encountered many of the above examples. One of the first principles ingrained into my training was, "First do no harm." Early in my career I treated a young man who had not one, but two wisdom teeth displaced into his maxillary sinuses. Since the openings were large, I was able to retrieve them with specialized instruments. Later I called the general dentist and asked why he didn't stop with one tooth in the sinus. The ethical standards of care in dentistry and recognized specialties advise us to refer appropriately if the complexity is beyond one's level of skill and training,

Today there is a trend toward dental offices offering multiple specialty services. This may result in unfortunate outcomes unless the patient asks about the dentist's training and clinical experience. The CDA code of ethics stipulates the following guidelines regarding specialty vs. general practice:

- Dentists must meet the educational requirements and standards set forth by the ADA for each recognized specialty to announce "specialist in" that arena.
- Non specialists who wish to announce the services available in their practices are not required to state that their services are being provided by a general dentist.
- Specialists are not required to use "practice limited to," nor are they required to limit their practices exclusively to announced specialty area of

dental practice.

- Non specialists are not prohibited from using "practice limited to," nor are they prohibited from limiting their practice to announced areas of dental practice.
- Non-specialists are not required to state that their announced area of dental practice is not recognized as a specialty area of the ADA.

What are the ethical principles that guide us with complex issues?

Veracity, or telling the truth, provides the patient information to make an informed decision. Integrity helps develop strong core values which result in honest disclosure to the patient. As a result the special trust that the American public has in our great profession of dentistry is reinforced.

2016 Board of Directors Meetings



Harriet Seldin, Gary Carlsen, Bruce Coyle, Doug Cassat, Doug Christiansen, George Stratigopoulos at ACD Section Board of Directors meeting, August 27 2016, the Country Club of Rancho Bernardo in San Diego.



Russ Haag, Doug Cassat and Paul Johnson at S CA Section BOD meeting February 27, 2016 at San Juan Hills Country Club in San Juan Capistrano,

Dates to Remember

ACD/ICD Southern California Spring Breakfast
Anaheim CA
May 5, 2017

ACD 2017 Annual Meeting & Convocation
Atlanta, Georgia
October 18-19, 2017

Fellowship Nominations
Due January 15, 2018

ACD Central Office

Steven A. Ralls, Executive Director

American College of Dentists
839 Quince Orchard Blvd., Suite J
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-1603

888-ACD-1920 / 223-1920
Ph: 301-977-3223
Fx: 301-977-3330
Email: office@acd.org
Web site: www.acd.org

Year of the Monkey continued...

Dentistry's three honor societies: the American College, International College (U.S.), and the Pierre Fauchard Academy (U.S.) – met for the first time in history. We engaged in frank conversations.

We went through discovery. ACD E.D. Steve Ralls, who lead a distinguished twenty-year tenure for the College, announced his retirement. We now have a new *Navigator*. We see new adventures ahead.

Convocation speaker, former

Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta, made the unprecedented decision to ground the entire airspace of this country – in the heat of 9-11. It's the 15th anniversary. The audience was spellbound.

Amidst the thundering drums and crashing cymbals, the *Year of the Monkey* was complete at the Gala — with Chinese Dragons and Chinese Lion Dancers – prancing among the tables of nearly 1000 guests.

This year, I went through discovery.

The magic comes from the journey. As your ACD President, I was given the privilege – to *move* those – who *move* the profession.

We touch many lives. The true magic is because someone says “*I believe in you.*”

Chan, our past Regent, was the 2016 president of the American College of Dentists, and the College's first Asian American president

The American College of Dentists
and
The International College of Dentists

Spring Breakfast

May 5, 2017 • 7:15 a.m.
Anaheim Hilton

Welcome our speaker,
Steve Chan, DDS
Past-President of the American College of Dentists

For more information call Doug Christiansen
(858) 274-8900 or doug@deanzadental.com

For hotel reservations, call CDA Housing Bureau
promptly (714) 765-8868

ACD/ICD Spring Breakfast

Send check payable to
ACD S CA Section

To: Dr. Christiansen
3737 Moraga Ave #B400
San Diego CA 92117

Name _____

Guest Name _____

Email Address _____

_____ tickets at \$49 per ticket
\$65 after April 25th.

Total enclosed: \$ _____



American College of Dentists
Southern California Section
Dr. Harriet F. Seldin
3737 Moraga Ave., #B113
San Diego, CA 92117
2017, Vol. XXXIII

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
JACKSON, MS
PERMIT NO. 80