

## DIY Leadership? Not When You Can Call an Expert

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Smart organizations know when to call the plumber. The DIY approach is great for tackling issues in your own back yard. But to achieve far-reaching goals or make an impact on complex challenges, you need to call in the experts.

The AAE Foundation is focused on promoting excellence in education. "We want to see great new teachers entering the field, strong endodontic departments and a growing group of top-notch academicians and researchers. Ideally, every endodontic educator would have the skills to be a leader at his or her institution," said President Dr. A. Eddy Skidmore. "The Foundation has the funds to invest, but to fast-track academic progress we need help from a variety of specialized resources."

The American Dental Education Association (ADEA) is an important partner in making Dr. Skidmore's vision a reality. ADEA is the sole organization representing academic dentistry. Its members are over 19,000 students, faculty and administrators from all areas of dental and allied dental education. ADEA offers programs, networking and opportunities that enable current and future educators to achieve their personal best.

In addition to its focus on individual educators, ADEA is also the collective voice for dental education. The organization has a strong presence in Washington and promotes the positions and advances the issues that are most important to its constituents.

"ADEA's goals coincide with our own," notes Dr. Skidmore. "We know that endodontic departments don't always have the resources to provide professional development for faculty, and we're pleased to lend a hand by offering



*Dr. Eric Rivera of University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill is one of the AAE's educators and a Foundation supporter.*

grants for educators to attend some of ADEA's most popular events and activities."

The ADEA Leadership Institute is a great example of this collaboration. The Institute is a year-long course designed to groom promising educators to take the helm at their institutions. The cost is \$50,000. The Foundation funds half the tuition for one educator to attend. Dr. Marc Levitan is the 2012 recipient of this scholarship.

"The skills to mobilize others and guide them toward a vision don't always come naturally. I am excited to obtain formal training in becoming an effective leader," says Dr. Levitan. "What I learn will improve my teaching and enhance my effectiveness as an AAE District III Director. This knowledge will ultimately benefit endodontists at all levels."

The course covers issues such as conflict resolution, decision making, mentoring and team building. Participants also study the politics of academic institutions, educational advocacy and they learn how to interact effectively with key decision makers. Each participant receives individualized assistance in career planning and advancement.

The Leadership Institute is designed for mid-career educators, but ADEA offers programs for educators at every stage in their professional lives. Neophytes can begin to acquire the skills they need for a strong academic career at the Institute for Teaching and Learning. This intensive introductory course is conducted in two phases. Participants attend a week of classes at both





Dear Colleague:

Retirement frees you to work for love instead of money. The satisfaction of volunteering for a great cause can be the most rewarding kind of compensation. My experience as president of the AAE Foundation has brought that message home.

Having a hands-on role in the success of my colleagues and of our specialty is incredibly exciting. Recently, we received a note from Lisa Leone, a resident at The Ohio State University. She thanked the Foundation for providing \$24,500 needed to complete her study of emergency patients with facial swelling.

How wonderful that Lisa was able to count on her specialty for support. Our Research and Scientific Affairs Committee sets high standards for these grants. The effort Lisa put into preparing an excellent proposal elevates us all. Since 2001, the Foundation has invested over \$3 million in research at 50 different institutions. A total of 218 quality scientific studies resulted from this funding.

It is also a special thrill to watch recipients of the Foundation's Fellowship Awards becoming leaders at their institutions and within our specialty. Anne Williamson, Natasha Flake and Jeffrey Janian are program directors at University of Iowa, University of Washington and University of California, San Francisco respectively. Mo Kang is the Jack A. Weichman Chair in Endodontics at the University of California, Los Angeles. Anne, who was one of the first fellows, also serves as the Foundation's secretary. She will be the general chair of this year's Annual Session.

Foundation donors can take personal pride in the accomplishments of each and every grant recipient and the contributions that they are making to our specialty. Although I've said this many times before, I think it bears repeating. A pledge is not a gift to charity. A pledge is an investment in young endodontists like Lisa, Anne, Mo, Jeffrey and Natasha. They are our future. They are the people who will take our science, clinical practice and technology to new levels of excellence. If you have not pledged, I urge you to support that progress with a minimum commitment of \$400 a year for five years. If you are already a donor, thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A. Eddy Skidmore".

A. Eddy Skidmore, D.D.S., M.S.  
President

## Positioning Endodontics Future Educators



*Dr. Tory Silvestrin*

When Dr. Tory Silvestrin accepted the post-doctoral residency at Loma Linda University, he knew he would be among the first to pursue a combined endodontic-implant residency, an unparalleled opportunity. However, he did not realize he would soon become the AAE Foundation's newest Endodontic Educator Fellowship recipient. "The

fellowship validates the goals I strive to accomplish and will propel me into the realm of education. I couldn't be more excited to embark on the path that lies ahead," said Dr. Silvestrin.

The AAE Foundation will fund Dr. Silvestrin's tuition and provide him with a \$2,500 monthly stipend during his three-year residency at Loma Linda University.

After hard work through dental school at the University of Washington, Dr. Silvestrin has positioned himself at the top of his class for a future in the specialty. He was intrigued by endodontics early in dental school. "I enjoy the ability to focus and resolve a pointed, complex problem using a variety of tools – including my hands and intellect," he said. Improving the overall wellbeing of a patient is one of Dr. Silvestrin's key interests. The combination of diagnostic and problem solving skills is also something that attracted him to the science.

Though early in life, Dr. Silvestrin didn't envision himself as a career educator, he found himself constantly partaking in activities centered on teaching others. Silvestrin served as a writing center and dental school tutor, coached tennis lessons and was a Kaplan instructor during his time in higher education. He became captivated by the impact he was able to make on the lives of others. "This [captivation] lit the spark in me to realize that education would be an important part of my future," Dr. Silvestrin said.

Dr. Silvestrin believes that being an educator will allow him to be multidimensional and enjoy a variety of tasks and duties. After being personally influenced by his own educational mentors, Dr. Silvestrin is ready to give some of that knowledge back to others. "Nothing makes my day a greater success than giving back to others and devoting myself to others," he said.

Outside of endodontics, Dr. Tory Silvestrin is an accomplished marathoner, was a collegiate tennis player and still plays competitively. He enjoys spending free time with his parents, sisters, nieces, nephews and friends.

The AAE Foundation's Endodontic Educator Fellowship validated the goals that Dr. Silvestrin is striving to accomplish and will help propel him into the realm of education with assistance along the way. "I couldn't be more excited to embark on the path that lies ahead," he said.

## Enhancing Endodontic Education



*Dr. Karl Woodmansey*

Upon completing his endodontic residency at Baylor University College of Dentistry, Dr. Karl Woodmansey took the plunge into solo private practice. Though the ultimate success of opening and maintaining his own practice in Montana was personally and financially rewarding, Dr. Woodmansey felt that something was missing from

the equation.

"After three years, I realized that just practicing clinical endodontics wasn't enough for me," Dr. Woodmansey said. "I found solo practice to be socially isolating." Recalling his time in residency at Baylor, Dr. Woodmansey remembered being professionally and socially challenged each day by his colleagues. These memories ultimately led him back to a career in academics. He was fortunate to be invited to return to his alma mater for a full-time assistant professor faculty appointment.

Dr. Woodmansey applied for and was awarded the postgraduate fellowship award. This award provides \$100,000 to an endodontist that has been in practice for ten years or less and goes to a career in education, committing at least five years. Though there are significant differences in compensation between education and private practice, Dr. Woodmansey has, "found that the intangible rewards of teaching outweigh the pay disparity, and I hope that as an educator, I can further enhance the reputation and respect of endodontic educators."

He is confident that a career in an academic setting is the best fit for him. "I compare it to an athlete who has evolved from being a player to becoming a coach," he said. "In this position I can contribute to the education of Baylor's dental students, endodontic residents and to my profession as a whole." He is currently enjoying the wealth of opportunities that have already crossed his desk, including research, writing, lecturing, product testing and legal counseling.

"I'd like to thank each individual supporter of the AAE Foundation. Without their generous and continued support, this award would not have been possible," Dr. Woodmansey said. He looks forward to a long, productive and personally rewarding career in academic endodontics.

# Commendable Future Educators Supported by the Foundation

In 2011, the AAE Foundation selected three worthy individuals to receive the Endodontic Educator Fellowship Award. Due to a severe winter storm in Chicago, the interview process was delayed, and the recipients were not recognized in the Spring 2011 Focus.

## 2011 Fellowship Recipients



*Dr. Rene Chu*

**Dr. Rene Chu** is currently a resident at the University of Iowa. The fellowship has given him the opportunity to pursue his goal of a future career in academia. Though Dr. Chu always knew he was interested in education, after spending time as an adjunct faculty at his dental school, he was certain he had found a good match. "Though I enjoyed interacting and treating patients, the more time I spent in the academic environment, interacting with faculty and students, I happily realized that I was meant to pursue a career in education," he said.

Involvement in organized dentistry has always been a passion of Dr. Chu's. He is confident that a career in education will give him the opportunity to actively participate. As an educator in the future, he hopes to become a strong representative of the specialty. He is assured by a specialty that constantly pushes the limits of understanding and treatment. "More than ever now, it seems evident that endodontics is a specialty that is looking toward the future, not only to improve outcomes but to introduce new treatment modalities," Dr. Chu said. He is excited about his future and is appreciative towards the AAE and AAE Foundation, which exist to support and drive the specialty forward.



*Dr. Johnah Galicia*

**Dr. Johnah Galicia** began his residency at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in 2011. From a family of educators, he has always felt that a career in teaching runs in his blood. His mother, who is now retired, was a teacher for 35 years. Seeing her accomplishments and contributions made a difference in Dr. Galicia's life. "She has always been my inspiration to be an educator," he said.

When he learned about the fellowship from an endodontic colleague, he felt it was a natural transition. He was teaching pre-doctoral dental students at the University of Pennsylvania, which sparked his interest in advancing to teach in a dental specialty.

As an educator, he hopes to be supportive, inspiring and knowledgeable as his past instructors have been. "The school is a perfect venue to promote and instill in the minds of students the importance of saving the

natural tooth, which is the main goal of endodontics," said Dr. Galicia.



*Dr. Melissa Marchesan*

**Dr. Melissa Marchesan** came to the United States from Brazil in 2010 to begin teaching as an associate professor in the department of endodontics at Nova Southeastern University. After being accepted as a Nova Southeastern resident, she applied for the fellowship award.

In her years as an educator, Dr. Marchesan gained a sense of fulfillment. While still in Brazil, in private practice, she missed the opportunity to conduct research and to see pre-doctoral students gain understanding of the root canal system; the fellowship is a good fit for Dr. Marchesan as it is allowing her to pursue her lifelong goals as an educator, researcher and mentor.

The three 2011 endodontic educator fellows have already proven they will serve the Foundation's name well in the years to follow.

## Winner's Circle

### Improving the Future of Chronic Pain



*Dr. Pavel Cherkas*

Persistent post-endodontic pain is one of the complex conditions not always dealt with properly by dentists; it is also the initial interest behind the AAE Foundation research grant project of Dr. Pavel Cherkas. With the proposal entitled, "Central Mechanisms Associated with Trigeminal Neuropathic Pain," this University of Toronto resident secured the highest scoring resident proposal in the Fall 2011 research grant cycle. The honor of the highest scoring resident and non-resident comes with a \$500 cash prize.

Currently, the animal study funded by the AAE is using the infraorbital nerve as a research model for trigeminal nerve injury. "The aims of this project are to test in genetically different mouse strains if trigeminal nerve injury produces chronic nociceptive behavior and induces central sensitization in nociceptive neuron and if genetic factors are involved," said Dr. Cherkas. The study is also being used to learn more about the effects of several pharmacological approaches to treat persistent pain.

Now in the middle of the electrophysiological experiments, Dr. Cherkas hopes that the results of this study will help identify important predisposing factors for the development of chronic post-endodontic pain and provide insight into the effective pharmacological

*continued on page 8*

## Leadership Donor Reception

At the 2012 Annual Session, the AAE Foundation Leadership Donor Reception will be held to honor Foundation contributors of \$10,000 or more. There are not enough opportunities for the Foundation to celebrate its great leaders, so this annual event has become an honored tradition to the Foundation Board of Trustees and staff. The reception will take place at the Annual Session in Boston from 6 to 7 p.m. Saturday, April 21 in the atrium, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, of the Marriott Copley Place.



### In Appreciation

The AAE Foundation gratefully acknowledges these partners from industry for leadership support to endodontic research and education:

**\$1,000,000**

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# Live and Silent Auctions



Join the AAE Foundation, supported by the AAE Alliance, at the annual Live and Silent Auctions to bid on vacation packages and top-notch endodontic equipment!

Don't miss out on a great opportunity to give back to the Foundation while also receiving a great deal on travel and instruments for your office!

## Silent Auction

Wednesday, April 18 through Friday, April 20  
Foundation Booth in the AAE Oasis

- Bid on vacation packages, instruments and other products valued up to \$5,000
- Bidding closes at 4:30 p.m. on Friday
- Winners will be announced at the Live Auction

## Live Auction—VIVA VACATION! *Presented by the AAE Alliance*

Friday, April 20, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.  
Salon E at the Marriott Copley Place



Telluride, Colorado



Cabo San Lucas, Mexico

- New format allows attendees to browse prize options—for work and play—before the live auctioneer opens bidding.
- Dreaming of a vacation? Take the opportunity to bid on properties donated by AAE members and friends. An oceanfront week in Cabo San Lucas, a week on the slopes in Whistler, B.C., a week at the 5-star Franz Klammer Resort in Telluride, Colo. or a 5-star experience at Blackberry Farms in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains in Tenn. Just a few of the many vacations available!
- Get a deal on large endodontic equipment provided by generous corporate contributors.
- All packages valued at \$5,000 or more

The AAE Alliance will support the Foundation by helping host the Live Auction. Come support the future of endodontics and walk away with something to show for it!

*All proceeds benefit the AAE Foundation*



# 2011 Research Grants

Winner's Circle, continued

## The Application of Cell Engineering



Dr. Philippe Gauthier

In order to investigate regenerating the periodontal ligament on the entire root surface of a tooth using a cell sheet technology, Dr. Philippe Gauthier submitted a research grant proposal during the Spring 2011 cycle. Dr. Gauthier, a resident at Boston University was the highest scoring resident, earning a \$500 award. He worked closely with his institution's research director to develop this project.

Dr. Gauthier hopes the results he achieves in an *in vivo* mouse model will aid in the development of a technique that could potentially be applicable to avulsed

teeth. He realizes the importance of dental stem cells and tissue regeneration in the fields of dentistry and endodontics. "We need to test the possibilities now if someday we want our specialty and our patients to benefit from advances in cell engineering," he said.

After completing the first assays and having more specimens transplanted to mice, Dr. Gauthier is ready to learn the results and possibly move on to a third round of incubation along with data analysis.

Dr. Gauthier is currently involved in the second year of a three-year program including a Master of Dental Science degree. He is also an assistant professor at Laval University, Quebec, Canada where he will return as a full time faculty member after receiving his certificate in endodontics. When he is not studying he spends most of his time with his wife and two young daughters. Any other free time is spent practicing judo, moose hunting or snowboarding.

Endodontic researchers have produced another outstanding slate of grants. During the 2011 spring and fall research grant periods, a total of \$142,074.36 was funded in competitive research grant awards. All of the recipients who received funding were residents. The AAE Foundation continues to support the specialty's research initiatives as one of its main priorities. In 2011, resident researchers truly outdid themselves.

### SPRING 2011 Grantees Total: \$70,862

Applicant	Funding	Institution	Project
Steven L. Richardson	\$1,530	University of North Carolina Chapel Hill	Access to Endodontic Care in North Carolina Public Health and Medicaid Settings
Andrea Shah	\$2,100	Tufts University	Outcomes in patients hospitalized for periapical abscess: a longitudinal trend analysis from 2000 to 2008
Sara D. Iampaglia	\$2,340	University of Illinois Chicago	Effect of different irrigating solutions on intraradicular dentin microstructure during endodontic therapy
Anousheh Persadmehr	\$7,017	University of Toronto	An <i>in vitro</i> evaluation on the ability of a biologically active nano-carrier based photodynamic therapy to stabilize dentin matrix metalloproteinases
Justin McAbee	\$8,166	Medical University of South Carolina	Role of MAP Kinase Phosphatase-1 in Periapical Infection-Driven Bone Loss
Trevor Blattner	\$14,000	University of Maryland	Systematic Response to Chronic Endodontic Pathogens as a Risk Factor for Atherosclerosis
Philippe Gauthier *	\$16,470	Boston University	De novo regeneration of periodontal ligament using stem cell sheet technique
Phuong N. Quang	\$19,239	University of Texas San Antonio	The effect of a photo-polymerizable hydrogel scaffold on the proliferation and phenotype of stem cells from the apical papilla (SCAP)

### FALL 2011 Grantees Total: \$71,212.36

Applicant	Funding	Institution	Project
Emi Shimizu	\$6,900.00	New York University	Eph/ephrins interaction in reparative dentinogenesis in calcium hydroxide direct pulp capping.
Randy Ball	\$9,518.36	University of Washington	Effects of Direct Pulp Capping Materials on Neural Markers in Rat Molar Pulp
David Martin	\$11,777.00	University of Texas San Antonio	Effect of Sodium Hypochlorite on Survival and Differentiation of SCAP in Cultured Organotype Human Roots
Pavel Cherkas *	\$18,517.00	University of Toronto	Central Mechanisms Associated with Trigeminal Neuropathic Pain.
Lisa Leone	\$24,500.00	The Ohio State University	A prospective study of emergency patients with facial swelling: a two part investigation

\* Indicates researchers who received \$500 award for highest scoring proposal.

## Uncle Sam Wants You!

Yes, it's that time again! Have you done everything you can to hang on to your hard-earned cash? A charitable gift can help defray taxes. Visit the Foundation's Estate Planning site to research strategies for saving money and supporting the AAE Foundation. You'll find information about wills, deferred gifts and a gift calculator to help you decide whether a charitable

remainder trust, or one of the other income producing options, is right for you. You can even take a short quiz to see if your current will measures up. The information on the site changes quarterly, so be sure to visit often.

Visit <http://www.plan.gs/Home.do?orgId=5649> to learn more about Planned Giving.

## Corporate Relations Manager to Coordinate Endodontic Approach to Industry

Industry is an important partner in supporting the AAE Foundation. Since the Campaign's inception more than \$5 million has been contributed from corporate donors. Over the years, both the Foundation and the Association's involvement with industry has grown more productive and increasingly complex.

Both organizations rely on corporate funding for a myriad of activities. The AAE's relationship with a company can include many different components, each managed by a variety of



Joseph Donohue

individuals. One corporation might exhibit at the Annual Session, provide sponsorship for a workshop, advertise in the *JOE* and be a Foundation donor. To ensure that these diverse initiatives proceed smoothly and to create strong lines of communication, the AAE recently hired a Corporate Relations Manager.

Mr. Joseph Donohue joined the organization in early August. Joe comes to the AAE from Oral Health America

(OHA) where he was the Associate Director of Individual and Corporate Development. OHA is a dental health advocacy group that offers programs, fosters coalitions and works to increase public awareness of the importance of oral health.

Mr. Donohue will be responsible for consolidating both the Association's and the Foundation's outreach to industry and will work with the AAE team to create a comprehensive menu that puts the specialty's philanthropic, sponsorship and programmatic offerings under one umbrella. Vendors will be able to easily identify the activities that most closely fit their needs.

Over the next year, Mr. Donohue will be focused on meeting the AAE's corporate partners and becoming familiar with their products and interests. He will be attending the largest dental meetings and will travel to visit a number of companies at their home offices. The goal is to take our corporate partnership to a new level of engagement that will maximize the opportunities for all.

Is there a company that you think the Association should know better? Feel free to contact Joe Donohue at [jdonohue@aae.org](mailto:jdonohue@aae.org) or 800/872-3636.

### *Improving the Future of Chronic Pain, continued from page 4*

treatment for these chronic pain conditions. The findings may also be used to design a correlated, future study in humans of the features of chronic pain and its potential management by similar pharmacological approaches, following a third molar extraction, root canal therapy or endodontic surgery.

As a resident, Dr. Cherkas already has more than 15 years of extensive experience with electrophysiological and neuroanatomical characterization of the trigeminal-related pain conditions in the peripheral and central nervous system

in different animal models. "Research in endodontics improves our understanding of the etiology, diagnosis and management of many clinical situations, which helps in preventing improper diagnosis resulting in inadequate or unnecessary dental treatment," he said. Dr. Cherkas is interested in working on research to bring endodontics in to the future.

Away from endodontics, Dr. Cherkas is interested in contemporary history and politics. He and his wife Ilona enjoy ballet and opera performances as well as motorcycle journeys.

### *DIY Leadership? Not When You Can Call an Expert, continued from page 1*

the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and the University of Missouri-Kansas City. The onsite program is supplemented by exercises and individual assignments. Experts cover everything a new educator needs to know, from planning courses to conducting lectures and constructing tests.

The cost of the Institute is about \$5,000. The Foundation provides registration, travel and lodging for all recipients of the Post Graduate Fellowship Award who wish to attend. Reimbursement for one-half the tuition is also available for any full-time endodontic educator.

Today's academic environment is increasingly complex. Students come from across the country and around the world. Their expectations are colored by rising tuition and the knowledge that they must earn enough to pay down unprecedented levels of debt. Teachers are called on to adapt to this diversity and to provide high-tech, biologically based training in less time and with fewer resources. "The evidence-based teaching model that ADEA promotes builds the skills educators need to navigate challenges and succeed in spite of the choppy water," says AAE President Dr. William T. Johnson.

Many other AAE members appreciate the experience they have gained through participation in ADEA. Dr. Gerald N. Glickman, AAE past president and ADEA's incoming president is quick to highlight the role the organization has played in his life. "ADEA has been a driving force since I was a graduate student," says Dr. Glickman. "I've never missed a meeting since 1984. The organization is all about networking, and that's how you learn."

The Foundation encourages every endodontic educator to sample what ADEA has to offer. There is funding available for one representative from each endodontic program to attend ADEA's Annual Meeting.

"Collaboration is a word that's often used to describe how Foundations and other non-profits can operate more efficiently," says Dr. Skidmore. "I believe our relationship with ADEA is a perfect example of that model at work. The specialty wants the best educational programs in dentistry, and we don't have to reinvent the wheel to make progress on that goal. We can call in experts who know what it takes to develop an academic leader and will help us to grow our own."