

## Foundation for Endodontics Report

### Dr. Margot T. Kusinski, Foundation President

The past year has been full of opportunities for engagement. Connecting with donors, volunteers, researchers, practitioners, residents, and industry partners, has afforded me the opportunity to see just how the Foundation serves our deserving specialty.

Your specialty Foundation, led by your skilled colleagues of the Board of Trustees, have moved the needle on year one of a new strategic plan. Following the development and approval of the plan in early 2022, committees and volunteers have been working to implement tactics and serve endodontics at large; these outcomes benefit each of you. The plans' goals focus on research, education, access to care, and engagement. I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our generous donors; *you* are the reason we can tactically execute this plan. The specialty of endodontics is thriving, and I am thrilled to share how we are putting your generosity to work!

Due to your continued support, the Foundation has provided funding and resources to help the specialty continually evolve. In 2022 the Foundation budgeted nearly \$1.1 million to strategically:

- Launch and grow the careers of endodontic investigators
- Work in tandem with the AAE to identify a core set of clinical outcomes
- Advance the highest quality of endodontic education with direct support to full-time educators and endodontic departments, and
- Provide more vulnerable patients in U.S. communities access to quality endodontics.

The Foundation is continually striving to support the next generation of endodontists and committed educators, by helping launch and develop their careers. Industry donor, Specialty1 Partners is in year two of a five-year pledge commitment of a half million dollars which is being applied toward two grant programs that do just this.

- The [Foundation for Endodontics & Specialty1 Partners Annual Meeting Resident Development Scholarship](#), and
- The [Foundation for Endodontics & Specialty1 Partners ADEA Leadership Institute Scholarship](#)

Graduating residents and full-time academicians please take advantage of these opportunities! Thank you again to Specialty1 Partners for your valued partnership and financial commitment to supporting the specialty.

The Foundation prioritizes programs that serve as a catalyst for scientific innovation. Several of our most storied programs, including bi-annual Competitive Research Grants and Resident Research Grants provide funding to ensure the growth and development of science to improve patient outcome.

The [Resident Research Grant](#) is a one-time \$500 award is available to every post-graduate resident to fund activities related to research and education. In 2023, Cornerstone Dental Specialties committed to generously support the program for all residents during the year. Cornerstone is committed to removing financial barriers for residents embarking on endodontic research. We are so grateful for this support! If you have questions about this opportunity, please reach out to Foundation staff to learn more or [apply online](#).

The Endodontic Educator Fellowship Award, one of our flagship programs, helps to ensure that endodontics, at every level, is being taught by skilled endodontists, ensuring the brightest future for the specialty. This is one of our highest priorities. In 2022, Dr. Frederico Canato Martinho, clinical associate professor at University of Maryland School of Dentistry, was named the Endodontic Educator Fellow. As

Director of Predoctoral Endodontics at Maryland, he is universally heralded for a positive, encouraging, mentoring approach to education, and appreciated and admired for his compassion and high standards. I am pleased to recognize Dr. Martinho at AAE23. We are thrilled to see what your career as an educator brings, and we believe you will help to continually educate future general dentists on how to navigate endodontics.

I am also happy to report our growth in providing access to endodontic care! Since the launch of our domestic access to care support program two years ago! AAE members have had the opportunity to seek funding to positively impact their community with free access to the highest level of specialty care to underserved patients. We are grateful to our industry supporter, U.S. Endo Partners, for the monetary commitment to sustain the program through 2025. Congratulations to the 2022 grantees!

Please consider what *you* can do for *your* community. Proposals detailing a well-designed project plan inclusive of how and where it will serve their community will be reviewed for funding following the June 30 deadline. If you have questions about this opportunity, please reach out to Foundation staff to learn more or apply online.

Although the pandemic put our international access to care program on hold, Foundation volunteers have returned Jamaica. A special thanks to all our past volunteer mentors and residents. Your hard work and service has led to remarkable outcomes. The Foundation is continually grateful to the Henry Schein Cares Foundation, that is committed to this humanitarian and philanthropic experience by providing financial and in-kind support. We are continually exploring other international programs with which to partner.

Philanthropic giving is a personal experience; there is no one-size fits all contribution. Personal motivations may compel you to honor a mentor or educator, pave the way for future specialists, or aid in the genesis of endodontic research. During the 2022 – 2023 campaign, Foundation supporters rallied together to create tributes to Dr. Scott M. McClanahan and the AAE Alliance.

The funds raised by each of these efforts will support two Full-time Educator Development Grant, to ensure professional development needs are being met. During his academic tenure and extensive career in endodontics, the colleagues and protégés of Dr. McClanahan were compelled to honor him in this way, as he accepts the 2023 I.B. Bender Award at this meeting.

The Foundation is deeply appreciative of the many treasured personal relationships formed along the way as the AAE Alliance brings its activities to a close in its final year. For over 50 years, the Alliance brought together spouses and families of endodontics. As the Alliance closes this chapter, they have united together to contribute and honor endodontics.

We are thrilled to honor both Dr. McClanahan and the AAE Alliance in this unique way.

Our donor base is made up of endodontic practitioners and industry partners. During the 2022 – 2023 campaign, the Foundation has graciously received first-time and repeat pledge contributions from a variety of our closest industry partners. Thank you to Komet USA for supporting the Foundation with a pledge for the first time. Welcome to the family! I would also like to thank our longtime corporate partners who have increased their commitment to the Foundation during the current campaign Avalon Biomed, Cornerstone Dental Specialties, Endodontic Practice Partners, Quintessence Publishing Co., Inc., Sonendo Inc., and Treloar & Heisel. Our gratitude runs deep; please know your contributions have a direct impact on the specialty's future growth and development.

Each one of you is an integral part of our endodontic community. You are not only the beneficiaries but the supporters. I would like to pose a challenge to each of you! No matter your history with the

Foundation, take the opportunity today to step up and serve our deserving community and assist us in ensuring a bright future for Endodontists to come. Together we can support the genesis of scientific research, honor the commitment educators make to the next generation, and provide much needed specialty care to underserved patients. Consider what endodontics has done for you and give from the heart! Please take the in person opportunity at AAE23 to visit with a Trustee or staff in our booth to make a contribution, or you can do so [online](#), quickly and securely.