Message from the USA Chair:

The USA Convocation in conjunction with the Annual ADI Board of Regents Meeting in Orlando on October 6-11th was another success. This was due to the hard work and efforts of the members of your USA board in conjunction with the central office. Sincere thanks to executive assistant Ms. Stephanie Wilhelm for her help in keeping the meeting running smoothly. Our dinner at Sea World was graciously underwritten by our own Past President Dr. Sue Bishop. Thank you Sue for all your generosity and support!

Our CE program with Dr. Brian Smith was extremely well received. As one attendee observed, the lecture was so interesting that you didn’t realize that it was already break time. Next year’s program promises to be just as captivating as ADI Fellow Dr. Jim Schneider will be our speaker. Further information will be forthcoming.

Dr. Larry Coffey was recognized with an Honorary Fellowship for his tremendous work with mental and physically challenged individuals. His foundation has provided funding to address an area of considerable need through Dentacheques and the Donated Dental Services program (DDS).

The Humanitarian Award was bestowed on USA Vice-Chair and Treasurer Dr. Dat Giap of the NW Regency. His continued work with the Union Gospel Mission is an example of the dedication that our members have.

The Award of Distinction was received by Dr. Sue Bishop. A well deserved recognition for someone so dedicated to organized dentistry. Congratulations to these great individuals from our section.

“The Informer” newsletter has been an important vehicle for us as an organization to disseminate information to our members. This edition of our newsletter marks the transition from retiring Editor Dr. Dick Tatro to Dr. George Zehak. Both individuals have shown a strong commitment to organized dentistry and have and will continue to help our organization to grow. The newsletter is a portal for us to communicate with the membership the activities ADI. In order for the USA section to remain as the “driving force” of our organization we need to communicate ideas. Thanks to Dick for his tremendous efforts our newsletter has grown and matured. Anyone that has ever attempted to write only one article realizes the difficulty involved let alone putting together an entire issue. Thank you Dick for all you have done.

To continue to look into more efficient avenues of communication, SE Regent Howard Gamble and Vice Regent Steve Akseizer have begun to lay the ground work for development of our website. Both have been working hard for the past year on this project.

NE Vice regent Dr. John DelCampo gave an update of his involvement with the Utah Navajo Indian tribe. The financial and time involved in maintaining this project has been supported by John for many years. A simple way to help out is for our members to contact their vendors and see if they are willing to donate items for this project. It could be as little as a case or two of toothbrushes. Interested individuals can contact John for more specific information and needs. His contact information can be obtained through the ADI central office.

Finally, Dr. Tom Brink of NE Regent is our new president. Knowing him personally, there is no doubt that he will continue to carry the torch proudly. Our organization will only benefit with his leadership but he needs your help. Give him your support and any ideas or suggestions will be welcomed by Tom.

All of the people mentioned here epitomize what our unique organization is about. There are numerous stories that we could give but they all have a common thread...the commitment to our mission objective. As an organization we are not necessarily an outspoken voice but we do provide a unique vehicle to share in education and humanitarian work. What have you done lately?  Robert T. Wong, DMD USA Chair
**Message from the President**

I enjoyed the article written by Dr. Fares Elias, President of the Academy of General Dentistry, in the last issue of “The Informer.” Dr. Elias highlighted two of the signature characteristics of ADI; that is the friendliness and accessibility of its members. I remember expressing this same thought following my induction into ADI. It was part of the reason I wanted to become involved with this organization. Dr. Elias also pointed out that the values and principals of ADI and the AGD parallel each other. I am proud of the fact that we are philanthropic, that we promote oral healthcare worldwide, and are dedicated to dental education.

My focus in this short article is membership recruitment. This subject is addressed in one way or another in every publication produced by the academy. Obviously, the lifeblood of any organization is a continual supply of new members. We are no different.

ADI, thanks to our out-going President Reg Hession and his committee, restructured Europe and the potential for significant expansion now exists. Further expansion is targeted in other areas of the world as we develop strategies through our planning committees. Every section seeks new members. However, let us not overlook the obvious. Right here at home in the USA is where a concerted renewal of energy directed toward the recruitment and induction of worthy new fellows would provide a real “shot in the arm” to the Academy. The USA leadership is well aware of this. It is easy to make the statement, but for a number of reasons is somewhat difficult to accomplish. The end result of a surge in membership would mean that we can better achieve the goals that ADI espouses. It is a challenge we need to meet. The general membership is the untapped source and the leadership must find a way to stimulate you the fellows of the ADI to nominate.

It is with humility, but also a sense of pride that I begin serving my term as your president. I look forward to helping with the work of the academy and to attending as many functions as I can. Dentistry has been good to me, therefore I welcome the opportunity to give a little back to the profession.

Fraternally, 

Tom Brink

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**Message from the Editor**

I would like to introduce myself to you. I am Dr. George Zehak, and I am your new editor. First of all, I want to thank Dr. Dick Tatro for his excellent job as your past editor for the last five years. He will be a tough act to follow. He is fantastic and has done a fantastic job as your editor. He is thorough and very passionate about his job. He has also mentored me well. He has sent me a wealth of information to try to make passing the baton as seamless as possible. I want to thank him very much from the bottom of my heart. I hope he knows I will keep drawing upon his wealth of information in this position. Secondly, it is with great honor that I take this job on. I want to do a good job for you! It is very important to me. As you know, “The Informer” is the USA’s means to keep members informed about what is happening in each regency of the largest ADI section. I know many members have contributed numerous articles and pictures. I thank you for that. ADI is effective because of your input, and it needs to continue. Always contact your Regent or Officers with any questions or concerns. I want ADI to not only continue to be effective, but to excel in every area. And please continue to send your articles to “The Informer” and email me at GRZENTERPRISES@comcast.com. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Fraternally yours, George Zehak
This year has been an opportunity for nominating 23 candidates for fellowship. Only three are receiving the award in Orlando. Feedback from those not convocating include costs, timing, value (both perceived and real), and too busy to get involved with another organization. Our board is attempting to address those concerns in Orlando.

I personally have worked on the Bylaws of ADI to get them updated, corrected, and officially changed from “Draft” status. Use of the title “F.A.D.I.” has been offered in an updated version in conjunction with Dr. Don Brown’s help. These were submitted to the USA Section Board of Regents and Executive Director on 3/23/2010 and again 10/1/2010. Hopefully we can pass these in Orlando.

My office hosted a dental student from a dental school in Monterrey, Mexico, for six weeks extern-like paid work experience during the summer. We had taken over 60 team members on our 34th annual Mexico border dental mission trip during the U.T. Houston and Baylor, Dallas dental schools’ spring break. It was highly successful in many ways in spite of the delay of our two engine private plane pilot friend (who was to deliver our equipment and supplies) being late both trips due to severe weather. Then the doctor in charge of the children’s home in Matamoros got his days confused and failed to open the dental clinic on our set up day as he was out of town. Just another day in the life of missions and missionaries—Ha!

My wife, son and I went to the FDI, Salvador, Brazil, meeting where I presented a scientific lecture on Resin Bonded Metal/Porcelain Bridges to the ADI attendees. We had a wonderful experience encouraging our colleagues and being encouraged by them as we spent the day together, ending in a delightful Convocation and Banquet. The only problem I saw was the absence of a piano—-Ha!

The committee I chair for enlarging our Student Awards has met by phone and each member is encouraged to report to me in person in Orlando of our successes to date. All three Texas dental schools are excited about our concept proposal and the appropriate contacts have been initiated. Formal proposals will be sent to them for beginning the Awards in the 2011 graduation cycle. Every board member is encouraged to respond to our request for identifying schools in their area that want to participate. Speak to me in Orlando for further details. This award is finding a niche yet unfilled in many schools.

In future focus, I want to use the Student Award to involve more students and members in ADI. I am planning an ADI local dinner/lecture for the dental students at Baylor this fall. It will center on service to others with my “Bridges” lecture and advance planning for one or two mission trips in 2011. We will make an outreach to ADI nominees who have yet to convocate. I will continue to promote ADI among our AGD and ADA colleagues. I must nominate many more qualified colleagues to share the joy of our Fellowship.

On a personal note, I received Mastership in AGD (Finally—Ha!) in July in New Orleans. My whole family attended for a wonderful gathering.

Best regards to all as we enter prospects for an improved US economy. Gratefully,

T. Bob Davis, DMD, MAGD, FICD, FACD, FADI
Regency updates & Convocation Update

At our convocation in Orlando we welcomed nine new fellows to the NC Regency. Thank you to all who submitted nominees. Now is the time to begin, or continue, sending in nominations for our convocation in Las Vegas in October.

I just finished my six years as NC Regent and five as Editor of “The Informer”. Thank you for all the support you have given me. I will now be a NC Vice Regent. I have found that by participating in an organization, I have received a 100+% return on investment.

Please give all the support you can to Dr. Zehak by submitting candidates names to the Central Office and letting him know who they are. Send him information for “The Informer” you think would be of interest to our members and articles about people or happenings of interest in our Regency.

If you are from Minnesota or South Dakota and would be willing to serve as a Vice Regent let him know.

Remember to reserve Sunday morning, February 27, 2011, for our Chicago Midwinter Breakfast. This is a great opportunity to enjoy fellowship with international and USA members and earn some CE as well. To quote Dr. Fares Elias, FADI, FAGD and president of AGD, after he attended several meetings at the CDS Midwinter, “The ADI is very much distinguished by its friendly and accessible members, the speaker session, and that sense of ease and belonging that perpetuates camaraderie.”

The Academy of Dentistry International (ADI) held its Annual Convocation in Orlando October 6-8, 2010 at the Renaissance Orlando Resort Hotel at Sea World. Several members pictured to the right had the privilege of becoming members of this distinguished organization at the Convocation held on the afternoon of October 7, 2010. That evening was a Gala Reception and Banquet. All of the inductees had a great time and were welcomed into the Academy family. The following inductees are listed alphabetically: Dr. Jessica Barr, Dr. Shirley Bethel, Dr. Ben Bratcher, Dr. John Brewster, Dr. Russell Chin, Dr. Jeffrey Dalin, Dr. Rick Hammond, Dr. Noreen Haseeb, Dr. Kirk Hess, Dr. John Houseman, Dr. Stephanie Houseman, Dr. Gregory Keiser, Dr. Gregori Kurtzman, Dr. Timothy McCabe, Dr. Curtis Mitchem, Dr. Cheryl Mora, Dr. M. Brady Morehead, Dr. Thomas Rogers, Dr. Harchand Singh, Dr. Wallace Strow, Dr. Terri Tiersky, Dr. Rosemary Villa, Dr. Melisande Wolff, and Dr. Carol Wooden.

George R. Zehak, ADI USA Editor
Activity in programs and events involving NW Regency shows continuing strength in the programs when organizations support each other's efforts.

Strong in NW Regency events is the Howard Memorial Program, which really had its beginning foundation supported by ADI in 2000-2001. Dr Terry Tanaka was the first speaker and the location was Portland, Oregon. Oregon AGD was the sponsoring dental group. Dr David Carsten was the ADI dentist who brought us all together. I wanted to have a program that would help the underserved for as long as possible. Dr Carsten responded to my verbal yearning and put in writing a plan that could be and has been followed now since 2001. His guidelines have been able to be adjusted for different participating groups. The experience that ADI and Dr Tanaka have is recognized and used by many doctors and organizations. Their programs thrive and many underserved persons worldwide continue to receive needed and appreciated care. The professional healthcare providers are enriched by "Giving back."

The funds from several years' programs have been donated to help ADI related charities and services such as Thousand Smiles. ADI has provided funds to help OREGON and WASHINGTON Howard Memorial Programs and related student programs in other states as well. The next WAGD Howard Memorial is scheduled for February 18, 2011 in Seattle. ADI members are invited!

A recent new Fellow in ADI is Dr Christine Moleski from Alaska. It is not surprising that she was the First Place Student Winner in Oregon's very first Howard Memorial Program in 2001. And Dr Tanaka was the speaker. Dr Carsten was one of her clinical instructors! It is a small world.

The UGM --Union Gospel Mission-- in Seattle has been very active. Dr Dat Giap has supported this program now for most of its history (14-15 years). Juanita Banks serves as the Director and has held the program together for the homeless and underserved patients who have been able to rebuild their lives. The funds from ADI and the Howard Memorial programs (which ADI helped start) have provided the support necessary for the programs to continue. For an extended period of time, the denture services have been discontinued because the money was gone. Now some funds are available and a few more patients can receive some denture care. SEATTLE UNION GOSPEL MISSION welcomes and appreciates any donation:

ADI members who have helped with our student and charity programs in the Northwest include Dr Linda Edgar who serves as national Secretary for AGD and has been invited to run for President Elect AGD. We thank her for her help with our volunteer programs in the State of Washington.

Dr. Giap has been recognized for his services to the Vietnamese organizations as well as others and is to receive an honor as well as a new office at the ADI Annual Session in Orlando. We thank him for his many hours of support for our programs. He has served as Treasurer for USA Section ADI for several years, as well as NW Regent.

Dr Dick Tatro has helped us keep ADI Fellows and supporters informed of the program in NW Regency by writing articles for THE INFORMER. Thank you, Dick. We have also included articles in our AGD /WAGD Newsletters which recognized the support ADI has given to the Howard Memorial Programs and the interest they have shown in student programs. Dr Sue Bishop, ADI President and Past President, has been a great supporter of our programs also and we want her to know that we did not thank her enough. It is because of her continuing support that so many students and patients have benefited greatly. Thank you Dr Bishop!!

Tri-College (ACD, ICD, PFA) in Washington has also recognized the Howard Memorial in Washington and had the students give case presentations at the fund raising annual session.

Future goals for NW Regency ADI include stronger recruitment of new Fellows. We know we must focus on all areas of our Academy. Membership will receive more attention if possible. We need our membership to stay strong in order to continue the valuable programs we have now that show value for members, students, the patients we serve, and our community.

Thank you Kathryn Poleson, DMD, FADI

NW Regent
Regency updates

Hi everyone. This is my favorite time of the year, when I get to reunite with special friends. My nominee, Tom Rodgers, graduated in the Convocation, and I have nominated about 10 people since the meeting. I just got home from Tennessee about a week ago, and leave for Denver to see mom who will be 96 in January.

I would like to take this opportunity to talk about my last mission trip to Nicaragua, which translates “land of volcanoes and lakes” is the largest and least populated of Central America. Nicaragua has less than six million people and is the second poorest country in the western hemisphere, after Haiti in the Caribbean, and the poorest on the continent with 70% of the people surviving on less than $2US per day.

Our dental group arrived into this environment to become involved in a mission project to better the oral health in five separate areas. The sponsors were Loma Linda University and Foundation for Worldwide Health (FWH). We had 59 dental students, dentists, nurses, and auxiliary personnel. The students’ attitudes really blossomed as they delivered relatively sophisticated dentistry for the beautiful children of Nicaragua. It was very inspiring to see these volunteers travel to Central America, incur expenses, and provide free care for the needy. I highly recommend for all to get involved in a mission.

Dr. Ron Fritz, South West Regent

As a result of my induction six years ago into ADI and 35-year career as a dental school faculty member, in 2005 I began a joint New Jersey Dental School-Indian Health Service Externship Program that has afforded rising senior dental students the opportunity to treat underserved Native Americans. Over this period, a total of 65 students in small groups and supervised by dental school faculty have delivered basic dental treatment to members of the Oglala Sioux in Pine Ridge, South Dakota; Chippewa in Belcourt, North Dakota; Hopi in Polacca, Arizona; and Navajo in Teec Nos Pas, Arizona. More than eighteen hundred procedures have been performed on nearly one thousand patients since the program’s inception.

My goals for the Externship Program were inspired by combining the ADI mission statement call to service with the untapped potential of our future dental health care providers. These externships have increased the students’ clinical skills and multicultural awareness, instilled a sense of community service throughout the school on a national level and exposed students to postgraduate opportunities in the Indian Health Service. Perhaps most importantly, they have delivered vital dental treatment to underserved populations, both treating existing disease as well as preventing future recurrence.

Feel free to contact me with any comments or questions.

Gary Vitaletti, DMD, MA, FADI
USA Section - Academy of Dentistry International

New Member Nomination Requirements

As a Fellow in the Academy of Dentistry International, we are encouraged to nominate colleagues that one feels embraces the philosophy of the Academy. These prospective members have distinguished themselves in their professional and personal endeavors. The qualifications for membership according to the Academy's bylaws are the following:

1. The nominee must have five years of active practice as a dentist or in related areas of dentistry: such as clinical practice, research, education, public service, literature or journalism, and service to the profession.
2. The nominee must be a graduate of a dental school recognized by the appropriate professional accrediting body.
3. The nominee must be active in the dental profession and highly esteemed for integrity and character.
4. The nominee must be approved by the Regent of the region in which the nominee resides and by the membership committee.

Once the nominee meets the above requirements, it is our duty to nominate this candidate for the good of the organization. Please write or type (preferably) the candidate's full name and address legibly and mail it to:

The Academy Of Dentistry International Membership
3813 Gordon Creek Drive
Hicksville, Ohio 43526

419-542-0101 (telephone for any inquiries)

ADI FOUNDATION
a message from your President

The ADI Foundation Board meeting was held on October 8, 2010 to evaluate grant proposals and award grant money. Three proposals were approved and awarded grant money totaling over ten thousand dollars.

1. Union Gospel Mission – Dr. Dat Giap
2. Caphaitien Dental Institute – Dr. Ihor Suszko
3. Free to Smile Foundation - Dr. Byron Henry

Dr. Irving McKenzie from Kingston, Jamaica gave a presentation regarding a new school of dentistry he is developing for that country. ADI would like to assist Dr. McKenzie and will be continuing to monitor this project.

The Foundation Board would like to thank our corporate board members for their invaluable service to the Foundation. Mrs. Mildred M. Goldstein, President of the Harry J. Bosworth Company, Ms. Paula G. Vogel of A-dec, Inc. and Ms. Vickie Waitsman of Dental EZ Group c/o JEP Management have worked with us to enhance our ability to aid people and groups in need of our services.

There are many organizations seeking our help with worldwide projects. I ask all of our Fellows of ADI to consider contributing to the Foundation either directly or through your estate planning. We would like to continue to help others that come to us with very worthwhile requests.

Sincerely,

Donald T. Brown, D.D.S., M.S.
MIDWINTER MEETING

THE ACADEMY OF DENTISTRY INTERNATIONAL
BREAKFAST MEETING

FEATURED SPEAKER: Dr. Brady Morehead
Private practitioner, International speaker

TOPIC: The topic is “Sleep Apnea- How Dentists Can Help”
AGD/CE credit is given.

This is an opportunity to hear some up to date practical information achieved from combining knowledge from scientific literature and clinical application of it in his practice. Enjoy good fellowship, breakfast and learning.

Bring a potential member... great winter break for Dentists, Spouses and guests.

CHICAGO DOWNTOWN HOTEL (TBA)
SUNDAY, February 27, 2011
7:00 a.m. Registration, 7:30 a.m. breakfast and program

Breakfast Fee: $50.00 by February 21: $70 at the door

Please return this form with all breakfast fees before February 21, 2011 to:
Dr. Stephen Lindell
6416 West Higgins Road
Chicago IL 60656 USA
Tel: 773-775-3164 - Fax: 773-775-2409

Please print each name as you wish it to appear on the badge:
Name (s): __________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________
Telephone: ____________________Email_______________________________
Number of tickets at $50 per person: _______________________________
Make check payable to ADI before February 21, 2011 (Total $) __________

Dr. Brady Morehead