The 94th Annual Scientific Session brought the Academy to an impressive and visually stunning part of the United States. The rugged, snow capped Teton mountains provided a wonderful backdrop to the beautiful and architecturally stunning Four Seasons Hotel, known for its excellence in service and hospitality. The Academy tradition of combining an outstanding scientific program with a comfortable venue was sustained by Vice-President HP Weber in concert with Secretary-Treasurer Sree Koka and his local arrangements committee. HP Weber put together a memorable scientific session that was complimented by social events that allowed academy fellows and guests to appreciate the history and landscape of this beautiful State of Wyoming.

The meeting officially started on the evening of Wednesday May 16th with the well attended annual “Welcome Reception and Louis Blatterfein Dinner”. Many fellows and guests flew out to Wyoming earlier in the week to visit Yellowstone National Park and explore the Teton Mountains. As a result there were many tour stories shared over the buffet dinner at the National Wildlife Museum. The exhibits at the museum introduced many of us, who were new to Jackson Hole, to works of art that depicted the wildlife present in this scenic State.

The scientific session was ushered in with the “Get Acquainted Breakfast”, another opportunity for fellows and guests to get got up on life as it treats all of us in different parts of the globe. The scientific session was called to order by Academy Vice-President and Scientific Program Chair, HP Weber who presented the gavel to President Steve Eckert. President Eckert gave a warm welcome to academy fellows and guests and installed Active Fellows Dr. Brian Kucey, Dr. Mike McCracken and Dr. Robert Wright as well as Associate Fellows Dr. Radi Al-Masri, Dr. Nadim Baba, Dr. Hiroshi Hirayama, Dr. Julie Holloway, Dr. Robert Taft

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Size Really Matters……Prosthodontic Rescue Squad is Called

The concept of “size matters” relates to many different things in the world of prosthodontics and beyond. It relates to the size of implants needed to support restorations, it relates to the size of major connectors of partial denture frames, it relates to size of interproximal connectors when we fabricate fixed partial prostheses and also relates to the size of denture bases and their potential retention. Size matters also makes a difference in other parts of life and not that long ago the concept came to be very important as it relates to members of the Academy. A group of us were touring Yellowstone National Park in advance of the recent annual meeting of the academy. This group included Dr. Carlo Ercoli, Dr. Antonio Bello, Dr. Francine Albert, Dr. Keith Ferro, Dr. David Chvartzsaid, and me. We stayed at the Yellowstone Lake Hotel where we met up with Larry and Gitta Green who were also touring the park. Little did we know that we were up for some interesting adventures while we took in the incredible vistas that this park has to offer. On one of our outings we visited the lower rim of the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone. What a beautiful view of the Yellowstone River and the cliffs that are reminiscent of the Grand Canyon. While there, we took many photographs of the sites as well as of each other. Being at the photo op point of this area we continued to take photos and noticed that a photographer (not with our group) had jumped over the rock fence and had perched himself and a tripod camera at the very edge of the cliff so he could take unobstructed photos of the river and the falls. Needless to say, we got a little nervous about this and wondered why anyone would do such a thing.

In the blink of an eye this fellow disappeared. He was no longer standing with his camera. He had slipped and was holding on backward to some rock outcroppings about 15 feet below...
where we were. The cliff face was made of loose rock and it looked like he was slipping more and more down the cliff. This is when the Prosthodontic Rescue Squad was called into action.

1. Gitta Green called the park service and 911 to report what was happening.
2. I started to tear apart the photographer’s camera backpack to use his straps as an aid to help him back up the cliff.
3. Not having any ropes available, Dr. Ercoli instructed us to remove our belts and they were all hooked together to make a long rescue rope. This leather based rope was lowered down to the photographer but was not deemed long enough. This is when he turned to me and said, “Get your belt off and give it to me!” I of course did as told and once it was added to the previously formed leather rope, the rope was lowered and it lay directly on his chest. The photographer grabbed the belts and was able to turn himself around so that he was now facing the cliff. He used the straps to help get him back up to safety and was clearly shaken by this experience. Was it not for the quick thinking Prosthodontic Rescue Squad visiting Yellowstone his options were dire. Our group was just the right size so that our combined girth made up a long enough belt that could be lowered down to this potential victim of disaster. With that being the case one must revisit the popular saying “size matters”. In this case size really does matter….. that is the size of our waistlines (mine especially)……. thank goodness for beer!

AP Foundation

Contributions and memorials should be made to the

Academy of Prosthodontics Foundation

and sent to:

Jim Chandler DDS
1640 Nicholasville Road
Lexington, KY 40503
Time has flown since our spectacular meeting in Jackson Hole. What an amazing program HP Weber and his committee put together for us. And what a wonderful place Jackson Hole was. Margaret and I just loved the camaraderie and fellowship of the meeting.

As we look ahead to Maui I know that Sree Koka and his committee have been burning the midnight oil putting the 2013 program together. The list of speakers Sree has shared with me is both impressive and exciting. It will be a meeting you don’t want to miss. Steve Campbell and his blue ribbon corporate sponsorship committee of Jonathan Ferencz, Tom McGarry and Roy Yanase are working extremely hard to make the Maui meeting a financial success; My thanks to them for their efforts on our behalf during these tight economic times. I also wish to thank Eben Yancey and his RES staff for their utmost professionalism in managing the affairs of the Academy. Nicole Bengtsson of RES assures me that our Maui venue and our social activities will be both enjoyable and memorable. Margaret and I look forward to seeing you all there. And by way of reminder, there will be no neckties permitted at the 2013 meeting in Paradise. That is my one and only presidential mandate to the fellowship.

Dave Brown and the Nomenclature Committee have been hard at work on the revision of the Glossary of Prosthodontic Terms and we look forward to the new edition coming soon. The members of Council have made progress in addressing the 5 initiatives of the new strategic plan and this continues into the future. A specific task that Council will address at the November interim meeting is the committee structure of the Academy. Are there committees that we need to create to further our strategic plan? Are there committees that could be combined to decrease duplication of effort? Or, are there committees that have served past their usefulness and have become inactive? These questions will lead our November discussions and we will present our recommendations to the fellowship in April.

As past president Steve Eckert said last year, these are great times for prosthodontics! I truly believe that we have grown into the greatest of all specialties and our future is so bright. We have seen unprecedented increases in the level of interest senior dental students are showing toward prosthodontics. This interest has resulted in a very surprising and pleasing increase in the applicant pool for prosthodontic residency programs. This increase in the pool of applicants has become a serious challenge for our program directors to manage and at times places the exceptional candidate at a distinct disadvantage in the selection process. It
Fellows in the News

AP Fellow and Academy President Dr. Tom Taylor, Head of the UConn School of Dental Medicine’s Prosthodontics Division has been selected to receive the Neag Medal of Honor this April at the UConn Health Center’s annual White Coat Gala. This Medal is awarded to outstanding individuals who have made leading contributions in the field of health care. Recipients of this prestigious award are selected based on their legacies in treatment, education, public outreach and philanthropy. The Neag Medal is truly a tribute to Tom’s remarkable contributions in these areas – of which I know you are aware.

The White Coat Gala will take place on Saturday, April 20th, 2013 at the CT Convention Center in downtown Hartford. It will be an elegant black tie, wine pairing dinner, featuring silent and live auctions, as well as live entertainment. Tickets are $250 per person, or $500 which includes an invitation to the VIP reception.

Congratulations Dr Taylor.
As I serve in the role of Secretary-Treasurer, I realize that I stand on the shoulders of Academy giants who have gone before me, who toiled tirelessly in this role to ensure that the machinery of the Academy ran invisibly and smoothly, while simultaneously contributing to the strategic deliverables at the Executive Council table. As Sree mentioned in the last Newsletter, “previous Secretary-Treasurers [had] told [him] that this position brings with it a need to know and understand the Academy like no other position.” Having served three years already on Executive Council and supported the S-T position in action, I can attest that this is true. Indeed, my strong feeling is that this position provides a level of knowledge of the Academy that every AP President should have. Hence, I shall be proposing to the Academy that, following my tenure in this position, it become a one-year position through which all AP Councilors pass before becoming the AP V-P, so as to ensure that they have all the tools necessary to succeed in the very complex position that is the Presidency of this Academy. And, with the implementation of RES as our full-spectrum professional management (with their established accounting, clerical, legal and meeting planning capacities) now complete, the old mantra of “the S-T is the business continuity of the Academy” is clearly no longer valid. But more on that at another time.

To irreverently misquote an overused Shakespearean passage, I come to praise Sree, not to bury him; he leaves very big shoes to fill, as Steve did before him. Indeed, in addition to undertaking my primary duty of overseeing the business of the Academy on behalf of our President, I intend to carry on whence Sree left off in our Spring 2012 Newsletter, asking the timely and necessary existential questions regarding our Academy. While, as he mentioned, there seems to be an unspoken taboo towards publicly discussing such things, we must seek the reality of these issues in our collective heart of hearts and informed by a clear understanding of our balance sheets, lest our beloved Academy go gentle into that good night whilst we stand watching in astonished dismay.

I echo Sree’s comments regarding the results of a cold hard look at that which our Academy actually produces. Firstly, there is the GPT, which is our international face to the Prosthodontic community, and yet depends on the sustained cyclical efforts of a stalwart few. To borrow from the words of Sir Winston Churchill as he spoke of the Battle of Britain, “never in the field of [organized Prosthodontics] has so much been owed by so many to so few.” And it consumes negligible Academy financial resources.

Next, of course, there is our

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Secretary-Treasurer Notes
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annual Scientific Meeting; for me, our 2012 Scientific Meeting was by far the finest Prosthodontic or interdisciplinary meeting I attended that year. However, our meetings require significant corporate underwriting, in an era when such lines of funding are significantly stressed. Thus, I think none amongst the Academy Fellows will dispute that Sir Winston’s comments above also clearly apply to past and present members of our Corporate Liaison Committee, as they expend significant amounts of their time, energy and hard-earned personal political capital on our behalf to ensure the funding of our meetings and, by extension, the well-being of our Academy.

These two lines of business are clearly and directly linked to the AP’s five strategic activities, which Fellows will recall are: ethical standard bearer of the specialty, advisory body to dental industry, mentor of emerging prosthodontic leaders, maintainer of the GPT, and presenter of a (the?!) premier meeting in the field of Prosthodontics. They are also in keeping with the fact that we are an international Academy, with clear global influence, albeit administratively and physically based in the continental United States (despite what an outside observer might discern from the geographic adventurism of our next two Annual Meetings).

Finally, there is the Outreach Program, regarding which I shall agree with Sree that, despite its commendable altruism, does not actually represent a strategic activity of our Academy. To wit, under the aegis of the

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Outreach Program, now graciously funded by and through the AP Foundation, our Academy of international leaders in Prosthodontics simply augments a primary mission of the US Public Health Service through the hands-on provision of removable prostheses to Native Americans in the continental US.

As Recording Secretary, I had the privilege of assisting Sree in managing the transition of the AP administration to an established health organization management company, namely RES, thus following the model of every other academy of which I am a member, less of course those like the ACP which have reached a size whereby they have their own permanent office and integral staff; but ACP, of course, is an organization with an exponentially greater scope and scale of activity than that to which the AP aspires. Indeed, in engaging RES, we are following the successful lead of the International College of Prosthodontists, of which many of us are also members. With this evolution, of course, comes an evolution in the Secretarial roles of the Academy. Indeed, as you’ll recall from our last Business Meeting, the Recording Secretary position has been retired. And, the Secretary Treasurer role has evolved to one of oversight of the RES staff as they undertake the administration of the Academy, while personally retaining responsibility for our key fiduciary duties, principally financial and legal, on behalf of our President. I know that the Admiral commanding the Royal Canadian Navy and his strategic staff would tell us that running a Navy with global reach doesn’t involve having one’s own hand on a wrench in the engine room of a frigate. The current iteration of the Secretary-Treasurer position will not involve undertaking the functions of clerk, bookkeeper, scribe or concierge, but will involve oversight of those hired to undertake those roles on behalf of our Academy. Given my current “day job” of running a national oral health care delivery system that functions in some capacity on six continents and their surrounding oceans, and my previous position (which in US military terminology would likely be described as Joint Deputy Surgeon General) which involved the day to day oversight of 6500 military and civilian personnel operating around the world, including theatres of combat, in an organization with a $425M annual operating budget (not including payroll and infrastructure), I hope to be up to the task.

In closing, just a reminder from our AP meeting organizer at RES, Nicole Bengtsson, regarding our 2013 meeting at the Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa, April 16-20, 2013:
- the AP Group Rate is US$205 per night plus tax
- please mention that you are a delegate to the Academy of Prosthodontics meeting to receive the group rate
- you are encouraged to book your hotel arrangements at your earliest convenience to ensure the group rate
- please contact Nicole at RES (nicole@res-inc.com) if you need any assistance or have any questions

Hotel information:
Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa
2605 Kaanapali Parkway
Maui, HI, 96761
United States
Phone: (808) 661-0031
Fax: (808) 661-0458
Jackson Hole in Review

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and Dr. Terry Walton with the annual installation ceremony. With heavy hearts, we remembered the passing of Dr. Dewey Bell and Dr. Doug Wendt.

Presiding Fellow, Dr. Kenneth Malament gave a warm welcome to keynote speaker Dr. Kenneth Kornman who discussed the role of inflammation in chronic diseases of aging as well as the role of periodontitis and periodontal therapy in systemic inflammation. This enlightening presentation provided clinicians with insight into the impact of inflammation on our systemic health. Dr. Leslie Laing presented her research on the use of green tea for the management of xerostomia and the antifungal effect of licorice root extracts. Academy Fellow Dr. Lawrence Brecht gave an excellent presentation as he is known to do, on the benefits of interdisciplinary virtual digital planning and prosthetic driven mandibular reconstruction and rehabilitation. He highlighted the importance of the role the prosthodontist plays in the care of “The Forgotten Patient”. After the break, Academy Fellow Dr. Carol Lefebvre took over presiding duties for the remainder of the session and participants were treated to Dr. Frauke Muller’s presentation on the management of the multi-morbid patient. The concept of “reasonable/feasible principles” was discussed as it relates to the “oldest old and frail geriatric patients”. Associate Fellow Dr. Robert Taft presented an excellent paper on the application of advanced digital technologies in forensic craniofacial reconstruction. Members of the audience were impressed by the state of the science in this rapidly evolving field. The morning session concluded with Dr. Susanne Scherrer presenting the state of affairs on zirconia restorations. The international perspective on a variety of prosthodontic topics provided the audience with an excellent start to the 94th Scientific Session. Academy Fellows spent the better part of the afternoon at the First Business meeting while invited guests enjoyed the beautiful surroundings.

Academy Past President, Dr. Stephen Campbell was the Presiding Fellow to start the day on Friday. Drs. Martha Somerman (Director of the NIDCR), Academy Past President Dr. Gary Goldstein and Academy Fellow Dr. Clark Stanford were available for a panel discussion after their stimulating presentations that discussed research topics funded by NIDCR,

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Drs Clarke Stanford, Martha Somerman, Gary Goldstein
the challenges associated with the types of research projects that are funded by NIDCR and the role of prosthodontists in the emerging areas of translational sciences. This format leant itself to a healthy debate on the predicament of dental clinical academics as they continue juggle the heavy demands of teaching, research and service. Presiding Fellow Dr. Stephen Riedy led the next session which featured Dr. Francois Roulet as the first presenter. His presentation focused on the appreciation of adhesion as a prerequisite for minimally invasive restorations. Academy Fellow Dr. Jack Gerrow as the Registrar of the National Examining Board of Canada enlightened the audience with the current challenges faced by North American Licensing bodies in assessing and measuring competence of dentists graduating from non-American or Canadian schools. Academy Fellow Dr. Lily Garcia discussed Associate Fellow Dr. Mijin Choi’s paper on the use of ultrasound imagery in dental implant site diagnosis, treatment planning and surgery. Associate Fellow Dr. Hiroshi Hirayama concluded the morning session with his presentation on digital prosthodontics as it impacts clinical practice today and in the future.

The social outing organized for this meeting was exceptional. Academy Fellows and guests were first treated to dinner at a restaurant in close proximity to the hotel, followed by guided private tours of the Grand Teton National Park. Groups of 6-10 set out in large comfortable
vehicles driven by knowledgeable guides who showed guests various sites in the park. This allowed us to come close to an incredible variety of wild life that resides in the area. We saw bison, moose, sheep, deer, beavers and different species of birds in their natural habitat. It was a tremendous opportunity to experience this spectacular landscape.

Presiding Fellow Dr. Carl Driscoll was in charge of the first session on Saturday. Dr. Nelson Silva presented a paper on the development of new ceramic concepts as well as future directions in ceramic and high performance polymers research. Dr. Don Curtis reminded participants of the challenges confronting teaching academics in identifying the misinformed from the uninformed student based on his research at UCSF. Academy Fellow Dr. Kent Knoernschild was his inimitable self with his presentation on dental implant outcome generalizations. He meticulously and critically appraised the literature to draw his practical conclusions as they relate to patient care. The first session on Saturday concluded with Academy fellow Dr. Jonathan Ferencz discussing the development of high strength ceramic systems that have been used for fixed partial dentures. This paper examined the clinical performance of these materials and introduced novel approaches to enhance their clinical success. The second half of the morning session started with Mr. Michael Girard discussing his experience with the dynamic changes occurring in the dental
technology industry and the impact this is having on traditional dental laboratories. This was followed by Past President Dr. Gary Rogoff discussing Dr. German Gallucci’s paper on the role of dental digital technologies in implant prosthodontics. Academy Fellow Dr. Harold Preiskel was asked to discuss Dr. Kumar Shah’s novel research on using implant restorations that are not cement or screw-retained. The morning concluded with Dr. Ana Diaz-Arnold’s discussion of the paper presented by Dr. Petra Guess on minimally invasive preparation designs and recommended ceramic thicknesses. The President’s Reception followed by the Installation Banquet concluded this day as Academy Fellows and guests enjoyed a memorable evening in celebration of Dr. Steven E. Eckert’s Presidency.

The final day of the 94th Annual Scientific Session was introduced by Presiding Fellow Dr. Thomas McGarry. Academy Fellow Dr. Brian Fitzpatrick discussed Dr. David Chvartszaid’s paper on the experience and opinions of dentists in Ontario, Canada with implant related complications. Dr. Cortino Sukotjo presentation followed and was discussed by Academy Fellow Dr. Robert Kelly. This paper focused on the mechanism of the corrosion process of different implant surfaces. Academy Fellow Dr. Lisa Lang discussed Dr. Samantha Siranli’s presentation on the clinical challenges associated with implant prosthodontics in the esthetic zone. Academy Fellow Dr. Sree Koka concluded the first session with a brilliant and pragmatic account on what

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clinicians need to be aware of with respect to the pathophysiology of bisphosphonate-induced osteonecrosis of the jaw. Past President Dr. Rhonda Jacob presided over the last session of this meeting. After a brief introduction to the 2013 meeting in Hawaii, Academy Fellow Dr. Ben Wu presented his innovative research on the development and use of an intraoral hearing device. A paper on the indications and applications of sonic handpiece technology in implant prosthodontics was presented next by Academy Fellow Dr. Carlo Ercoli. Academy Fellow Dr. Ichiro Nishimura’s paper on the evolution of biopsychosocial networks in humans was a fitting way to conclude the scientific session on Sunday. This meeting distinguished itself with the high calibre of presentations over the four days.

As Academy Fellows gathered for the second Business meeting, many guests were getting ready to embark on a vacation to explore the region or for their return home. All participants were left with feelings of anticipation looking forward to being together once again in April 2013 in Hawaii, for the Academy of Prosthodontics 95th Annual Scientific Session.
Jackson Hole in Review

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New Associate Fellows: Drs Radi Al-Masri, Nadim Baba, Hiroshi Hirayama, Julie Holloway, Robert Taft and Terry Walton
AP Fellow Dr. Kent Knoernschild has become the first prosthodontist to be elected Chair of the Commission on Dental Accreditation. The Chair represents the Commission to the ADA, as well as the dental health care community and the public at large. The Chair also presides at all meetings of the Board of Commissioners, which reviews accreditation recommendations, makes accreditation decisions, and sets policy for the Commission.

“The Commission has broad representation from all areas of dentistry — general dentistry, advanced specialty education, dental allied and dental laboratory groups,” said Dr. Knoernschild. “I’ve gained valuable perspective from collaboration with the commissioners over the last three years, and I’m honored to have been elected by them to serve.”

Congratulations to Dr. Knoernschild! Read more on GoToAPro.org.
AP Mission Statement

Mission:

To provide key knowledge and leadership in prosthodontics

Strategic Initiatives:

• The Academy of Prosthodontics will be recognized as the ethical standard bearer for the specialty (Be the moral compass of prosthodontics)
• Provide an advisory board to the prosthetic dental industry
• Be the mentors to emerging prosthodontics leaders
• Maintain and expand the Glossary of Prosthodontic Terms
• Present a premier prosthodontic meeting

Goals:

• The Academy of Prosthodontics will be recognized as the ethical standard bearer for the specialty (Be the moral compass of prosthodontics)
  o Dedication to ethics in research, documentation of outcomes and treatment of patients
  o Establish moral and ethical goals in the evolving prosthodontic practice
  o Communication of ethical concerns
  o Documentation of anticipated outcomes to assist in treatment planning based upon these outcomes
• Provide an advisory board to the prosthetic dental industry
  o Offer industry access to selected academy members in brainstorming sessions conducted during the annual session
• Be the mentors to emerging prosthodontics leaders
  o Be the organization in prosthodontics that develops through mentoring the next generation of leaders of the specialty
• Maintain and expand the Glossary of Prosthodontic Terms
  o Remain the organization that finalizes the ongoing editions of the GPT
• Present a premier prosthodontics meeting
  o Promote the art and science of prosthodontics to the profession and the public
  o Disseminate knowledge concerning prosthodontics throughout the profession
  o Encourage study and investigation of the various phases of prosthodontics and related subjects
Objectives and Timelines:

- Academy of Prosthodontics will be recognized as the ethical standard bearer for the specialty (Be the moral compass of prosthodontics)
  - Provide the Academy with the accepted definitions of terms that provide the basis for medical/dental ethics (GPT)
  - Identification to the prosthodontic community of ethical issues in research, clinical documentation and patient care (annual session)
  - Discuss issues of disclosure and conflict of interest specifically as this relates to the dental industry
    - Timeline: May 2012 will provide guidelines to speakers to include discussion of anticipated outcomes when clinical presentations are given
    - Timeline: June 2012 possible inclusion of definitions for terms autonomy, non-malfeasance and beneficence

- Provide an advisory board to the prosthetic dental industry
  - Offer industrial supporters access to selected academy members in brainstorming session(s) conducted during the annual meeting
    - Timeline: Conceptual introduction May 2012 and ongoing

- Be the mentors to emerging prosthodontics leaders
  - Maintain ongoing leadership development programs such as the Associate Fellow breakfast and the Associate and Life Fellow luncheon
    - Ongoing
  - Create opportunities for direct communication with current and past leaders of the Academy
    - Program initiated but not yet operational, anticipate timeline of Summer 2012

- Maintain and expand the Glossary of Prosthodontic Terms
  - Leadership in the creation and editing of current and future versions of the GPT
    - Next edition due Summer 2012

- Present a premier prosthodontics meeting
  - Provide a scientific session that meets or exceeds standards for prosthodontics meetings that will include issues related to ethics, evidence based dentistry and modern prosthodontics practices
    - May 2012 and ongoing
AP Annual Scientific Meeting - Sheraton Maui

- Mark the time off April 16-20, 2013
- Call your travel agent
- Plan your trip to come early,
- or stay a little longer
- Leave your neck tie at home
- Invite a guest to the meeting
- Pack your dancing shoes
- Take dancing lessons