Digital Dentistry Curriculum: Changing the Future of Education

By 2014, digital dentistry had progressed to a point that it was poised to change dentistry and it held the promise of completely transforming dental education and practice. A small group of Prosthodontists engaged with the American College of Prosthodontists Education Foundation (ACPEF) and American College of Prosthodontists (ACP) had a vision of changing dental education and practice through the thoughtful, prospective development and implementation of a digital dentistry curriculum that would accelerate the transformation of dental education and establish Prosthodontics in a leadership role. They secured unrestricted educational funding in support of realizing the outcomes.

From 2016 through 2018, the ACP/ACPEF developed a comprehensive digital dentistry curriculum for dental education. The curriculum supports dental schools’ integration of digital dentistry within their existing curriculum, while allowing for individual institutional flexibility. A large group of prosthodontic educators, representing dozens of institutions were engaged in the process. After two years of continuous effort, the curriculum was finalized in 2018 and is being shared with US dental schools. This includes a broad range of resources to support and accelerate the implementation process. Almost all schools in the US have signed on to participate.

The digital curriculum and resources were developed around competencies, well-defined learning objectives, and an assessment plan with measurable outcomes. Supplemental content from leading peer institutions was developed and is being shared to further support the curriculum implementation. The goal is to provide the necessary tools for schools and programs to institute a comprehensive digital dentistry curriculum.

The presentation shares the curriculum development details, the role of Prosthodontics, the curriculum content, resources, and implementation strategies, as well as the current outcomes. Sharing a wonderful story of OUR Prosthodontic Community, and the power of collective engagement focused on a common vision.

Learning Objectives

1. Understand the role the Prosthodontic Community has played in establishing a global digital dentistry educational curriculum and its implementation.
2. Understand the full range of the digital dentistry curriculum, the extensive resources developed in support of its implementation, and the broad implementation in US Schools.
3. Understand and apply this knowledge to play an active role in the implementation within their educational and practice communities.
Biography

Dr. Stephen Campbell is Professor of Restorative Dentistry at the University of Illinois at Chicago and served as Department Head from 1992 to 2018. Dr. Campbell is a Diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics and Past-President of the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP), American Board of Prosthodontics, Academy of Prosthodontics, American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics (AAFP), Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics, and the International Association of Dental Research Prosthodontics Section. In addition, Dr. Campbell has been very active in issues pertaining to diagnostic coding for practice and dental accreditation. Dr. Campbell served as Prosthodontic Commissioner to the Commission on Dental Accreditation from 2013 thru 2017.

Dr. Campbell has been recognized with the AAFP George H. Moulton Award, as well as the ACP Educator of the Year, Dan Gordon Lifetime Achievement, and Presidential Citation Awards. He has extensive clinical experience, having spent much of his time providing patient care. Dr. Campbell has been active in dental research throughout his career having been the principal investigator for several NIH grants dealing with ceramics and numerous large corporate unrestricted educational grants.