

## Archives

### Steven P. Geiermann, DDS

#### Awards

**Gustavo D. Cruz, DMD, MPH**, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the University of Puerto Rico, School of Dentistry on October 14, 2004, in recognition of his leadership in dental public health and ongoing collaboration with the University of Puerto Rico, School of Dentistry. He is the first researcher to receive this honor.

Dr. Cruz received his BS and DMD degrees from the University of Puerto Rico and his MPH from Columbia University. Subsequently, he was in private practice in Puerto Rico and New York City, a dental examiner for two national surveys funded by the National Institute of Dental Research (now the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research), clinical director and clinician in the New York City Department of Health, and an attending dentist at the Spellman Center of Saint Clare's Hospital and Medical Center in New York. Currently, Dr. Cruz is an assistant professor and director of public health in the Department of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, College of Dentistry, New York University.

Dr. Cruz' research interests include dental caries in children, oral cancer, health promotion, and the effects of cultural values on oral health among immigrant populations in the U.S. Over the past seven years, he has been the principal or co-principal investigator of 13 research projects, has published more than 16 articles in professional journals, and presented 26 abstracts at national and international conferences. He served as co-chair of the AAPHD Diversity Committee, was on the Board of Trustees of the Hispanic Dental Association (HDA), and was elected Treasurer of the HDA for 2005. He has served on the HIV Dental Standards of Care Committee of New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute, Advisory Board of the Cancer Awareness



(from left to right): Dr. Gustavo D. Cruz; Dr. Delia Camacho, Dean of Academic Affairs, University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus; and Dr. Yilda Rivera, Dean, School of Dentistry, University of Puerto Rico.

Network for Immigrant Populations of New York University School of Medicine, New York State Oral Health Plan Steering Committee, and the New York State Expert Panel to Develop Guidelines for Improving the Oral Health of Pregnant Women and Young Children. Dr. Cruz is a diplomate of the American Board of Dental Public Health.

#### Obituaries

**Polly Ayers, DDS, MPH**, died December 7, 2004, in Birmingham, Alabama. A native of Wichita, Kansas, Dr. Ayers received her AB from the University of Kansas in 1933, her DDS from Northwestern University in 1937, and her MPH from Harvard University in 1944.

A pioneer and inspiration to all who knew her, Dr. Ayers was the first woman to be board certified in dental public health (1954), president of AAPHD (1959), president of the American Board of Dental Public Health (circa 1965), and recipient of the AAPHD Distinguished Service Award (1982). A portion of the AAPHD Foundation is named in her honor.

Spanning five decades (1947-1981), Dr. Ayers was director of the Bureau of Dental Health, Jefferson

County Department of Health. Previously she was in private practice, treating children in Boston, MA, 1938-1939; supervisor at the Forsyth Training School for Dental Hygienists in Boston, 1939-1943; and dental consultant for the Alabama Department of Public Health, 1944-1945. Her first of many publications—"Green Stains"—appeared in the *Journal of the American Dental Association* in 1939. For more than 35 years, she held various faculty appointments in the Schools of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Alabama Medical Center.

Dr. Ayers left a legacy in the field of dentistry, which those who knew or worked with her will always cherish.

**Herbert M. Hazelkorn, DDS, PhD**, associate professor emeritus in the Health Policy and Administration Division of the School of Public Health, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), died on December 7, 2004, after a long battle with cancer. Dr. Hazelkorn was an outstanding advocate for oral health in the field of public health.

After completing his DDS at the UIC College of Dentistry in 1949, Dr. Hazelkorn earned his MS and PhD degrees at the UIC School of Public Health in 1983 and 1989, respectively, where he received the Alan W. Donaldson Memorial Award, presented annually to a graduating student selected for academic excellence, quality of leadership, and community service. Dr. Hazelkorn was a member of the Delta Omega Society, the national honorary public health fraternity established to recognize attainment in the field.

After joining the faculty of the Health Resources Management (later Health Policy and Administration) Division in 1984, Dr. Hazelkorn led the development and implementation of the program in dental public health, serving as the program's director. He



supported alumni activities as an active member and as vice president of the UIC School of Public Health Alumni Association.

Dr. Hazelkorn was a valued colleague to UIC School of Public Health faculty members, as well as a caring teacher and mentor to his students. He had an inquiring mind, a passion

to help the underserved, and was never afraid to ask the tough questions or do the right thing irrespective of the consequences. He was always a gentleman's gentleman.

Gifts in Dr. Hazelkorn's memory may be made to the UIC School of Public Health Public Health Dentistry Fund in care of: Susan Mennenga,

Assistant Dean for Development, UIC School of Public Health, 1603 West Taylor Street, Chicago, IL, 60612. This fund will continue Dr. Hazelkorn's support of oral health in the field of public health.

## Dentistry

The University of Kentucky College of Dentistry is seeking applications for a non-tenure, full-time Clinical Assistant Professor position in the Division of Dental Public Health, Department of Oral Health Science to help direct and work with the mobile dental program. This individual must possess a DMD/DDS degree from an institution accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation; qualify for a Kentucky Dental License; and preferably have completed an advanced training program in Pediatric or General Dentistry. Salary and rank will be commensurate with the candidate's qualifications and experience. The College of Dentistry is part of the Chandler Medical Center. A review of applications will begin ASAP and continue until this position is filled.

Send letter of inquire and CV to:

Dr. Gerald Ferretti, Chair of Search Committee  
University of Kentucky College of Dentistry  
333 Waller Avenue, Suite 101  
Lexington, KY 40504.

*The University of Kentucky is an EEO/AA employer. If offered this position, you will be required to pass a pre-employment drug screen in accordance with University of Kentucky Human Resources.*

Copyright of Journal of Public Health Dentistry is the property of American Association of Public Health Dentistry and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.