

1996 President's Award: Robert J. Collins, DMD, MPH

Presented by Joseph Doherty, DDS, MPH, Special Consultant to the President

In one of Dennis Leverett's last communications to me, he asked me to personally present the Presidential Award this year and I am very pleased to be able to do so on his behalf.

The President's Award was established to honor an individual who, in the eyes of the president, had assisted the association in a special way during the past year.

Dennis wrote that

... the association's ability to survive and thrive has seldom been shown in a better light than during the past year. Because of my illness I found it impossible to fulfill my duties and responsibilities as president. Those of you who have held that office in the past are well enough aware that it is formidable. In these days of heightened political activity and enhanced communication capabilities, the potential for the Executive Council and especially the office of the presidency to augment the stature of the AAPHD in organized dentistry is limited only by their enthusiasm, talent, and hard work. In today's context, of course, we are talking about these characteristics in the president-elect, Dr. Robert J. "Skip" Collins. Without Skip's willingness—in fact, enthusiasm—for accepting the responsibilities of the office of president



Dr. Robert Collins (left) accepted the AAPHD President's Award. Dr. Joseph Doherty (right) presented the award at the request of Dr. Dennis Leverett.

not for just one year, but for two, we would be hard-pressed to demonstrate an effective association at this point in time.

Dennis wanted to honor you today, Skip, as do we, by presenting you with this well-earned President's Award for 1996.

1996 Public Service Award: Assemblywoman Jackie Speier

Presented by Rhys Jones, DDS, MS, Immediate Past-president

The Public Service Award is presented to Jackie Speier, state assemblywoman from California. Unfortunately, Jackie's busy legislative schedule does not permit her to be here personally today. Dr. Robert Isman, dental program consultant with the

California Department of Health Services, will accept the award for Jackie and will present it to her at a future forum in California.

Jackie Speier was personally responsible for authoring the legislation and providing the leadership that led

to the October 1995 passage of the California statewide fluoridation bill, Assembly Bill 733. Individuals nationally and from California who worked on the fluoridation initiative all agreed that it would not have been successful without Jackie's leadership.