

## 1996 AAPHD ANNUAL MEETING

## AAPHD Policy Statement on the IOM's Report: Dental Education at the Crossroads: Challenges and Change

Approved by the Assembly of AAPHD Members September 26, 1996

The Institute of Medicine (IOM), part of the National Academy of Sciences, established the Committee on the Future of Dental Education "to identify measures to strengthen dental education in the United States and stabilize its position within the university." The specific charge to the committee was to examine the current status of dental education and oral health in the United States and consider future scientific, demographic, economic, organizational, and other developments that may affect oral health status and the system for educating dentists and other dental personnel; develop a statement of how, over the next 25 years, oral health and oral health services should be improved in the United States, and identify the short-term and long-term implications of this statement for dental education and public policy; describe strategies that will help dental education, research, and practice improve oral health by responding effectively to current problems and future developments in both science and society; and consider ways in which each dental school can better relate to the mission of its university and to the community at large.

Through site visits, personal interviews, mail and telephone surveys,

and oral and written testimony from the dental, medical, and lay communities, the committee collected "information and perspectives of dental education in the context of the broader systems of health professionals' education and health care delivery." Based on their findings, the committee issued a report, entitled "Dental Education at the Crossroads: Challenges and Change," in January 1995. This report included 22 recommendations covering dental education, research, and dental care delivery. Supporting materials for the recommendations were contained in the report and in background papers published in the *Journal of Dental Education*.

- Whereas, the American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD) seeks to improve the oral and general health of all Americans; and

- Whereas, the AAPHD believes that education, research, and patient care delivery are necessary to improve the oral and general health of all Americans; and

- Whereas, the Committee on the Future of Dental Education, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences, issued its report "Dental Education at the Crossroads: Challenges and Changes," containing 22 recommen-

dations to improve dental education, research, and patient care; and

- Whereas, the AAPHD has reviewed the IOM report and other documents and developed a response, identifying relevant and important recommendations to which it would respond; therefore,

**Be it resolved that the AAPHD:**

- Endorses the Institute of Medicine's report "Dental Education at the Crossroads: Challenges and Change"; and

- Supports implementation of those findings and recommendations targeted toward improving the health of the public and securing the future of dental education; and

- Calls upon other dental, health, education, and public health organizations to work cooperatively with the AAPHD in implementing these recommendations; and

- Calls upon federal, state, and local governments as well as appropriate private entities to maintain their commitment to oral and general health through continued and enhanced support of prevention and public health programs, including community outreach; dental research; dental education, including graduate programs in dental public health; and personal dental services.

## **THE AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION'S SURVEY CENTER HAS THE FACTS**

The ADA Survey Center is responsible for collecting, compiling, analyzing and disseminating a wide variety of information that concerns the dental profession. It has an extensive collection of dental survey reports ranging from manpower, dental practice, and economic trends to dental education, fee, and opinion surveys available for purchase. Several new dental practice surveys, which look at trends, solo and private practices, dental fees, manpower and distribution of dentists, and other demographic information are available. Report prices begin at \$10 for member dentists. For a complete list of Survey Center publications, call 312-440-2568, look at ADA ONLINE at <http://www.ada.org> or write to: American Dental Association, Survey Center, 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611-2678. Or fax a request for a Survey Center Publication List to 312-440-7461.

### **GERIATRIC DENTAL FELLOWSHIPS DALLAS/FORT WORTH, TEXAS**

The Geriatric Medical and Dental Fellowship program is a joint program between the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth (UNTHSC) and the Baylor College of Dentistry. UNTHSC, located in the cultural district of Fort Worth, includes the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and the Physician Assistant Program. The Baylor College of Dentistry, located in Dallas, recently joined the Texas A&M System.

In its fourth year, this collaborative effort offers two-year faculty-training fellowships in geriatric medicine and dentistry: (1) clinical rotations through hospital service, ambulatory clinics, long-term care facilities and home visits; (2) research opportunities incorporating the interests of fellows in specialty areas of geriatric medicine and dentistry; (3) administrative training in managed care, policy issues in long-term care facilities, and community service; (4) curriculum development and instructional strategies for a variety of audiences. Integrated didactics, formal course work, and clinical opportunities provide the foundation of the fellowship experience. Fellows have an opportunity to enroll in the MPH or DPH degree programs during the fellowship. Funded by the Bureau of Health Professions of the Department of Health and Human Services, stipends are competitive. Support includes tuition and fees, health insurance, and travel. Applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents with at least three years' postgraduate training or related work. Contact Dr. Karen Godwin, Fellowship Office, 817-735-0158. Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

### **BURLINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA**

Dentist position available with the Alamance County Health Department, Burlington, NC. Duties include acting as director for Dental Clinic; determining dental needs, treatment plans; providing restorative, surgical, and preventive care for children enrolled in the clinic; coordinating and supervising all treatments provided by other providers in the clinic; serving as consultant for public health dentistry in Alamance County; working closely with schools, area dentists, community agencies; responsible for operation and fiscal control of the Dental Program, including supervision of 3-5 staff members. Annual salary: \$48,912- \$62,184. Paid employee medical/life/dental/liability insurance; dependent insurance available at group rates; paid sick and annual leave; 11-12 paid holidays; state retirement plan; 401K (employee contribution only). Requirements: graduation from accredited school of dentistry with license to practice dentistry in NC. Send completed county application to Becky Perkins, Alamance County Health Department, 209 N. Graham-Hopedale Road, Burlington, NC 27217. Tel. 910-227-0101 for more information.