

Washington, with one secretary, and the necessary funds for travel support. Again my name was suggested and again I accepted the challenge. By September 1954, I moved with my family to the United States, spent one school year in Ann Arbor, and with my brand new MPH degree in hand, moved to Washington, DC, in July 1955.

I worked for PAHO until July 1963, and during those eight years, I traveled to all the countries in Latin America and to four countries in the English-speaking Caribbean. It was a wonderful experience. I began by visiting John Knutson at PHS and also Dr. Arnold at the NIDR. Gradually, I came to know a good number of the outstanding people in dental public health at the time. Don Galagan, Tom Hagan, Jack Pelton, John Fulton, John Green, Viron Diefenbach, and Al Russell, to name only a few.

Among the initiatives PAHO started in Latin America, I should mention the beginning of the first dental public health education program in Latin America, at the University of São Paulo, Brazil, the first Department of Social Dentistry in Latin America in Medellín, Columbia, the stimulus and support for the creation of a Latin American Association of Dental Schools (ALAFD), the organization of three regional seminars on dental education held in Bogotá, Columbia, Mexico City, and Petrópolis, Brazil. I organized only the first one, in which Bill

Mann gave a course on dental education and John Ingle served as a PAHO consultant. The seminar coincided with the Cuban missile crisis and we were very concerned with the confrontation which might occur as Russian ships were approaching Cuba. Fortunately, reason prevailed, and we returned safely home.

I think that my eight years with PAHO provided a good base to my public health career. During this period I was elected an honorary member of the AAPHD, an honor I always cherished. Also during this period, I had close contact with the ADA, and served as a member of its Council on International Relations.

By July of 1963, I moved with my family to Geneva to take the position of chief dental health officer in the World Health Organization (WHO), succeeding Bruce Rice from New Zealand. Again, my experience in Geneva was most interesting and rewarding, giving support to five regions of WHO. At that time, PAHO was the only region to have a dental health officer. While in Geneva, I had continuous contact with Gerry Leatherman, a strong leader of the FDI, and with Harold Hillenbrand, one the greatest international leaders in our profession. Both Gerry and Harold facilitated my days in Geneva, giving me strong support from organized dentistry. Actually, Harold raised funds in the United States for WHO to start a global dental

epidemiology program.

Finally, Dr. Chaves notes about his publications:

My first book was on dental public health, based on my experience, first in Brazil, then during the PAHO years, and in teaching the dental public health course in São Paulo, as part of my work with PAHO. The book was published in Spanish in 1962 by PAHO and widely distributed through Latin American with the title "Odonologia Sanitária." With the collaboration of several colleagues, a second edition came out in 1977 in Portuguese, entitled "Odontologia Social" (or "Social Dentistry"). It is still used, and I have been asked to work on another edition, which means restructuring the book, with coauthors of a new generation.

The two other books I wrote are called "Health and Systems" and "Health: Strategy for Change," and deal with the application of systems theory to the health field. At present I am working with what may be considered an evolution of systems theory and involves theoretical principles of complexity and chaos.

This brief review of Dr. Chaves' career demonstrates why he is such a deserving recipient. By almost any measure, Dr. Chaves is a successful and dedicated individual who has done much to improve the oral health and health of the public. It is an honor to present him with the 1999 International Special Merit Award for Community Dentistry.

1999 Distinguished Service Award: Alice Horowitz, PhD

Presented by B. Alex White, DDS, DrPH

The American Association of Public Health Dentistry's Distinguished Service Award is presented to an individual for excellent and distinguished service to public health dentistry. This award is the highest honor the association can bestow. One need only review the names of past recipients to appre-

ciate the level of commitment and distinguished service embodied in this award. It is indeed an honor and privilege to present the 1999 Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Alice Horowitz.

Journalist Gail Sheehy wrote: "The secret of a leader lies in the tests she has faced over the whole course of her

life and the habit of action she develops in meeting those tests." I'd like to share a little of Alice's journey with you today. I think you will agree that she is a remarkable person who has faced many tests and has developed exceptional habits to meet those challenges.



Alice Horowitz receiving the Distinguished Service Award from B. Alex White.

Alice spent her early dental career in Iowa. She received her dental hygiene and bachelor's degrees from the University of Iowa. After completing her clinical training, she became an assistant professor. She pursued a master of education degree while at Iowa and then took a position as education specialist with the Dental Care Education Unit in the Division of Dental Health in San Francisco. In the early 1970s, she moved to Maryland and continued her work in health education. In 1976 she became the coordinator of Health Education and Promotion Activities for the National Caries Program at the National Institute of Dental Research and later chief of the Health Promotion and Science Transfer Section. In 1989 Alice became an education specialist with the Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Branch of the Division of Epidemiology and Oral Disease Prevention. In 1992 she received her doctor of philosophy degree in health education from the University of Maryland. Her current position is as senior scientist in the Office of Science Policy and Analysis in the Office of the Director at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research.

Alice is a tireless worker. She has held elected offices in AAPHD and the American Public Health Association, including president of AAPHD and

chair of the Oral Health Section of APHA. She is a member of numerous professional organizations and has served on many committees and work groups. Her most favorite committee in AAPHD was the Annual Program Committee, which probably requires more work than any other committee. This is symbolic of her dedication and action orientation. She has been an author or coauthor on over 100 papers, book chapters, and monographs.

Of course, we are not the only group to recognize her many contributions. She has received the NIH Director's Award, the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors' Distinguished Service Award, and the H. Trendly Dean Award from the International Association for Dental Research, among others.

Many of you know that Alice works closely with colleagues in the United States and other countries. She has served as a consultant to the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization. Alice has given more than 150 invited lectures and continuing education courses in the United States, China, Japan, Thailand, and Korea. She has also mentored researchers from the United States, Great Britain, Korea, Thailand, Canada, and Japan.

I asked Alice why she chose dental public health as a career. She said that

before she completed dental hygiene training, she knew she was not cut out for private practice; she enjoyed academia, but public health was a real love. It is truly fortunate for us as AAPHD members and for the oral health and public health communities in general that Alice listened to her heart and embarked on a journey that has touched so many of us.

Through her work as an AAPHD officer, Alice has made significant contributions. For example, she was instrumental in persuading Dr. Gary Rozier to become editor of the *Journal of Public Health Dentistry*. Through his leadership, the journal has become one of the best dental public health journals available.

Perhaps one of her most important contributions, however, happened in the 1970s when Alice became the Susan B. Anthony of AAPHD. Prior to 1976, only dentists could be voting members. Nondentists could serve on committees and pay dues; they just could not vote. Ironically, it was less money to simply buy a subscription to get the *JPHD* than to be a nonvoting member. Alice reflects:

I wrote a letter to Dr. David Striffler, editor of the *Journal of Public Health Dentistry*. After talking with me, he published the letter. He was always up for a discussion. Dr. Striffler, of course, correctly, checked in with the then-president Dr. Bob Mecklenburg. Meck took it on and brought it to a vote at the annual meeting. It was likely one of the most hotly debated issues. Many did not



Alice Horowitz

want us to vote, period. But several people—Drs. Striffler, Mecklenburg, and Hersh Horowitz—gave rather persuasive reasons why we should. It was a close vote. In those days, voting members were issued a yellow card that, when they voted, they had to hold it in the air. At this particular vote, Dave Striffler was sitting just in front of me. I couldn't vote, of course. But, immediately after the vote, Dave turned around and handed me his yellow vote card! I still have it! I believe that this ac-

tion on the part of the members of the association was a very positive move. And we keep moving!

Sixteen years later, Alice became the third woman and first dental hygienist to serve as president of AAPHD.

I'd like to close this presentation with a quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson:

To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of

false friends; to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others; to leave the world a little better; whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is the meaning of success.

Alice, this has been a remarkable journey. On all these measures and many more, you are a success. Thank you for all that you have done. Congratulations on receiving the AAPHD Distinguished Service Award.

Remarks on Receiving the Distinguished Service Award

Alice Horowitz, PhD

Alex, thank you very much for your eloquent introductory remarks. I am overwhelmed and nearly speechless. I truly am honored to receive this award because it bestows an unparalleled recognition by my colleagues with whom I have worked for over 30 years.

I wish to thank the person who nominated me and the Awards Committee for selecting me for this prestigious award. And, I especially wish to thank each of you with whom I have worked over the years. Although I am the recipient of this award, no one in public

health works alone. The very nature of public health requires working with others in a variety of ways and locations; thus, this award belongs to many. Thank you for this honor; I am very proud to join the ranks of previous recipients.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN PhD PROGRAM IN ORAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

The Program in Dental Public Health at the University of Michigan offers financial aid for US citizens and permanent residents in the PhD program in epidemiological science. This aid, from an NIH training grant, provides both tuition and a stipend for three years. Graduates are prepared for research careers as principal investigators or collaborators. Subject areas covered include biostatistics, general and oral epidemiology, molecular epidemiology, computer data management, research design, critical analysis of the literature, and related topics. The wide range of resources available in the School of Public Health, Dental School, and elsewhere on campus mean that laboratory techniques for use in genetic or molecular epidemiology also can be studied. The research dissertation can be conducted over a wide range of subject areas. The program is accredited by the ADA as meeting the educational requirements for specialty certification by the American Board of Dental Public Health. Positions for dentists are available for September 2001 and September 2002. A master's degree is usually required prior to admission, although in some circumstances it can be done concurrently with the PhD. Application forms and further details on the course of study are available from the program director, Dr. Brian Burt, University of Michigan, School of Public Health, 109 Observatory Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2029. Tel: 734-764-5478. Fax: 734-764-3192. E-mail: bburt@umich.edu. Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact Dr. Burt prior to application.