2005 ASTDD Distinguished Service Award: Barbara Gooch, DMD, MPH

Presented by Dr. Mark Siegal, DDS, MPH

As the CDC lead liaison on the Best Practices project, Dr. Gooch significantly elevated the level of knowledge and quality on the committee, thereby greatly increasing the quality of the product. She drafted a number of key documents for the project and consulted on significant other jobs. In addition, Dr. Gooch has been a key member of the NOHC planning committee, always developing sessions that are very high quality, once again "raising the bar" and helping us to look very good. Dr. Gooch's leadership role in the CDC Expert Panel on Dental Sealant Programs (convened at the urging of ASTDD) and the evidence-based review of the use of dental sealants over caries that she is undertaking at the request of the ADA are critical to ASTDD. Dr. Gooch's intellect and commitment to quality give ASTDD the assurance that any recommendations that result will have strong scientific base and be highly defensible. Once again, ASTDD will benefit from a level of expertise rarely found in the ranks.

All of these accomplishments sometimes overshadow the earlier work that she did in infection control and infectious diseases. The products and publications that she achieved became the foundations of decisions by individual state dental programs and the dental profession.



Left to right: Mark Siegal, Barbara Gooch, Lewis Lampiris, Julie Tang

Remarks on Receiving the ASTDD Distinguished Service Award

Barbara F. Gooch, DMD, MPH

Providing useful information to those of you in the "front lines" of public health is one of the most rewarding aspects of my job. My contributions, however, are only possible through collaboration with many other colleagues, both current and former, at CDC, other federal agencies, professional organizations, and academic institutions. I thank ASTDD for this honor and want to especially acknowledge the efforts of Dr. Mark Siegal, whose wit and hard work have supported many of my professional activities through the years, and the wizards who provided the memorable photographic images.