

# The Wisdom Tooth

The Office of Education's Newsletter

## Students for Professionalism and Ethics Association

October 9, 2013, the Students for Professionalism and Ethics Association held an informational meeting featuring the speaker Dr. Gerri Ferris, a member of the American College of Dentists and UFCD alumnus. She presented on SPEA, the importance of ethics and professionalism in dentistry and a brief video from the ACD.

SPEA is a national, student driven association established to promote and support students' lifelong commitment to ethical behavior in dentistry. SPEA's objective is to act as a support system for students in strengthening their ethical values both personally and professionally by:

- Providing a resource for ethics education and development
- Fostering a non-punitive, open-forum environment for ethics communication
- Promoting awareness of ethics standards and related issues within dentistry
- Collaborating with the dental profession's leaders to effectively advocate for our members

SPEA future plans include guest speaker Mr. Charles Koval in November. Mr. Koval is a lawyer who has worked closely with Shands in the past. His seminar will focus on ethical relationship difficulties encountered by dental partners. Additionally, student ethics panels will be held two to three times per semester where students can discuss as a group ethical dilemmas.

## SLP's First Alumni Reunion

The Summer Learning Program will be hosting its first alumni event this November 9, during UF's homecoming game. The reunion will be a part of Psi Omega's tailgate, located at the University Auditorium/Carleton Auditorium area of campus and will start three hours prior to kick-off. All SLP alumni who attend will be given a button to wear recognizing them as SLP alumni.

SLP is a program for pre-dental students, which specifically aims to promote diversity in the dental health profession by providing minority, economically or educationally disadvantaged students the opportunity to learn more about the dental field and how to be more competitive in the dental school applications process. It is about 150 alumni strong and has been in place since 2002. The reunion gives the SLP alumni the opportunity to reunite with their SLP class and to meet and network with other years of SLP alumni. For more information regarding the reunion email [summerlearningprogram@dental.ufl.edu](mailto:summerlearningprogram@dental.ufl.edu).



*From Left to Right: Ramzy Lotfi, Recruitment; Jon Scott, Secretary; Karin Schey, Vice President; Dr. Gerri Ferris; Alexandra Best, President; Saad Mahmoud, Event Coordinator*

# Faculty Development Week:

## UFCD's Case-Base Learning

During 2013's Fall Break Week, nine faculty from UF's College of Dentistry participated in the college's second small group, case-based learning sessions. These sessions were again led by Dr. Lawrence Garetto and Ms. Margie Beiswanger from Indiana University. UFCD Faculty who attended were: Edna Perea, Sharon Cooper, Indraneel Bhattacharyya, Luisa Echeto, Scott Grieshaber, Mary Ellen Davey, Kevin McHugh, Tom Brown and Virginia Dodd. This faculty development opportunity was supported by the HRSA faculty development grant.

## Cultural Competencies

***"The trouble with the world is not that people know too little, but that they know many things that ain't so."*** Mark Twain

Dr. Virginia Dodd, Ph.D., M.P.H., led the faculty development workshop *Cultural Competency: An Overview of Skills, Knowledge and Values* on October 21, 2013, which was supported by the HRSA Faculty Development Grant. The increasing diversity of American society offers challenges and opportunities to healthcare professionals. Shifting US demographics necessitate cross-cultural knowledge and culturally competent health professionals. This workshop presented an introduction to cultural competency and related concepts. Discussions and activities focused on the relationship between cultural diversity, cultural differences and the benefits of increased cultural competence in the dental care setting.

Dr. Dodd's workshop can be viewed on Mediasite [here](#).

Take this short quiz to assess your cultural competence:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ are (is) a shared system of meanings, beliefs, values, and behaviors through which experience is interpreted and carried out.
  - a. Cultural norms
  - b. Culture
  - c. Ethnicity
  - d. Societal mores
2. Cultural diversity includes embracing the customs, beliefs, and practices of other cultures.
  - a. True
  - b. False
3. Stereotypes are a valuable "first guess" when trying to understand people from other groups or cultures.
  - a. True
  - b. False
4. When working in a clinical setting language gaps are easily bridged through non-verbal communication.
  - a. True
  - b. False
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is the ability to understand, communicate with, and effectively interact with people across cultures.
  - a. Cultural sensitivity
  - b. Cultural competence
  - c. Cultural awareness
  - d. Cultural knowledge

### Suggested Readings:

*It's the Little Things: Everyday interactions that Anger, Annoy, and Divide the Races*, by Lena Williams  
*White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son*, by Tim W. Se  
*Microaggressions in Everyday Life: Race, Gender and Sexual Orientation*, by Derald Wing Sue  
*Microaggressions and Marginality*, edited by Derald Wing Sue

# UFCD Launches CODA Self-Study

The University of Florida's College of Dentistry launched its self-study for the Commission on Dental Accreditation this summer. More information on the accreditation timeline can be found [here](#).

Major emphasis in the revised standards include comprehensive, patient-centered care, critical thinking, self-directed learning, a humanistic environment, scientific discovery and the integration of knowledge, evidence-based care, assessment throughout the curriculum, application of technology, faculty development, collaboration with other health professionals and diversity. These principles create an environmental framework intended to foster educational quality and innovation in ways that are unique to the mission, strengths and resources of each dental school.

## D3-3's Crestron Updated

D3-3's Crestron program has been optimized! Thanks to suggestions from Continuing Education and visiting faculty, we've rebuilt D3-3's Crestron touch panel program making it easier to use. Improvements include easier navigation to the source selection menu and the equipment will no longer auto-shutdown after four hours of use. If you have any questions about how it works, please contact Instructional Support at [Instructional\\_Support@dental.ufl.edu](mailto:Instructional_Support@dental.ufl.edu)

## Welcome, Robert Witt and Claudia Sanchez!

Robert Witt and Claudia Sanchez are the most recent staff additions to the Office of Education. Robert is an Electrical Engineering major and Claudia is a Veterinary Medicine major. Both work with Brandon Telg to support faculty in using video conferencing, classroom computers and AV, TurningPoint, Mediasite and instructional videos. You can email them for assistance at [Instructional\\_Support@dental.ufl.edu](mailto:Instructional_Support@dental.ufl.edu).



## Upcoming Dates:

Homecoming Holiday - November 8  
Veteran's Day Holiday - November 11  
Professionalism Day (4DN) - November 15  
Thanksgiving Holidays - November 27-29  
Curriculum Integrated (CIF) Boards Exam - December 7-8  
Classes / Clinics end - December 20  
Semester Break (1DN, 2DN) December 16-January 3  
Semester Break (3DN, 4DN) December 23-January 3  
Classes Begin: January 6

## The Wisdom Tooth, Issue 5, October 2013, Contributors:

Ms. Alexandra Best: *Students for Professionalism and Ethics Association*  
Ms. Alyssa Wang - *SLP's First Alumni Reunion*  
Mrs. Gail Childs - *Faculty Development Week: UFCD's Case-Base Learning / UFCD Launches CODA Self-Study*  
Dr. Virginia Dodd - *Faculty Development Week: Cultural Competencies*  
Mr. Brandon Telg - *D3-3's Crestron Updated / Welcome, Robert Witt and Claudia Sanchez!*