Dr. Steve Armstrong in Collaborative Project
With Dr. Julie Jessop, College of Engineering
Dr. Steve Armstrong, Operative Dentistry, and Dr. Julie Jessop, UI College of Engineering, are studying how the chemical composition changes in dental restorations, including fillings. By segmenting tooth samples and using a technique known as confocal microscopy, they can analyze how tooth dentin and the filling composite change as well as the adhesive interface in between. The HoloLab 5000R Modular Research Spectrometer enables the researchers to non-destructively detect what is below a sample’s surface, to determine the rate of curing for a polymer and how a hybrid polymer is structured and to monitor its chemical stability over time. This particular collaboration between the College of Dentistry and College of Engineering began with pilot funding through a University Interdisciplinary Biomedical Grant and has made additional projects and funding possible.

Carver Charitable Trust Awards
Drs. Kanellis and Drake $200,000 Grant
The Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust has awarded a $200,000 grant to co-investigators Dr. Michael Kanellis, head, Pediatric Dentistry, and Dr. David Drake, Endodontics and Dows, to study the effectiveness of a chlorhexidine gel in preventing tooth decay in preschool children. The study will involve applying a 1.0% chlorhexidine gel to the teeth of 3-, 4-, and 5-year-old children attending Head Start preschools in Davenport, Muscatine and surrounding communities. Members of the research team involved with this project include Eileen Hermiston, RDH, project coordinator; Dr. Cindy Marek, Dental Pharmacy and originator of the gel formulation; Dr. Rebecca Slayton, Pediatric Dentistry, examiner; Dr. John Warren, Pediatric Dentistry, examiner; Dr. Deborah Dawson, Preventive and Community, biostatistician; and Dr. Steve Levy, Preventive and Community, advisor.

A preliminary study using the gel with Head Start preschool children was completed earlier this year by Dr. David Olson, a third-year resident in the combined advanced training program in Pediatric Dentistry and Dental Public Health. Subject recruitment for the current study will begin in July 2002.

Dr. Gratton and Todd Fridrich Invited to Present CDE Course at University of Western Ontario
Mr. Todd Fridrich, instructional resource associate, and Dr. David Gratton, both Prosthodontics, were recently invited to the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, to present an all-day hands-on CDE course titled “Orientation to Straumann ITI Dental Implants.”

Dr. Gratton also visited the University of Western Ontario in February to present an all-day hands-on course “Management and Restoration of Endodontically Treated Teeth.” More recently, Dr. Gratton presented “Contemporary Issues in Prosthodontics” to the Southeast Iowa District Dental Society.

Recent Publications


4th Annual IDAPU Golf Tournament
All Adjunct Professors in the College of Dentistry Are Eligible
Full-Time Faculty Are Welcome As Guests to Help Defray Costs

WHERE: Quail Creek Golf Club, North Liberty
WHEN: Friday, May 24, 2002
TIME: 2:27 P.M. (9 Hole Scramble)
COST: $40.00 Per Person Includes Golf, Dinner and Entertainment

Make Check Payable to Dr. Larry Squire — IDAPU
Future of Dentistry Report Now Available Online
The 2001 Future of Dentistry Report is now available online. The evaluation was commissioned in 1999 and was developed by a 16-member oversight committee with the help of six panel. The committee explored trends in dentistry and sought to provide “a vision into the future” as well as recommendations.
To access the full text of the report, go to ADA.org and look in the Your Practice area of the Web site.

Dentist Survey Identifies Primary Causes of Dental Practice Stress
A 50-question survey, which was mailed to 14,000 American dentists and completed by Molar Enterprises, identifies several stressors in a dental practice. Dentists were asked to use a rating scale of 1 (little or no stress) to 4 (most stress) to rank their stressors.
The most stressful areas were running behind schedule and the constant time pressures.
Other stressors included:
> high expectations of self
> dissatisfied, ungrateful patients
> anxious patients
> need for things to be perfect
> desire not to fail
> desire to avoid conflict
> expectations of perfection
> staff relationships

The survey revealed that nearly half of the top stressors were related to patients or staff.
The complete survey results of Dentistry: The Stress Factor (Understanding and Coping with Distress) will be published sometime during 2002.
(source: Gary Stough, D.D.Sl, GDA Action, January 2002)

Word Play
A bicycle can’t stand on its own because it is two-tired.
A backwards poet writes inverse.
In democracy your vote counts. In a feudal society your count votes.
A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.
He often broke into song because he couldn’t find the key.
A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
Once you’ve seen one shopping center you’ve seen a mall.
Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead to know basis.
Santa’s helpers are subordinate clauses.
Acupuncture is a jab well done.
Marathon runners with bad footwear suffer the agony of defeat.