

The Academy's Research Committee: Promoting Excellence in the Advancement of Operative Dentistry

The Academy of Operative Dentistry promotes excellence in the advancement of operative dentistry through all of its activities. To contribute to realizing this goal, the Academy looks to its Research Committee to perform a number of key functions. These functions include identifying keynote speakers of international standing worthy of the great honor of being a Buonocore Lecturer, overseeing the arrangements for the Academy's research awards and selecting outstanding individuals in the field of operative dentistry for the annual award of the Hollenback Memorial Prize, the most prestigious award for innovation and academic achievement in the field of operative dentistry.

In common with the other committees of the Academy, the Research Committee functions with efficiency and great effectiveness, thanks to the commitment and freely-given time of its members. In the case of the Research Committee, successful fulfillment of its roles and responsibilities is highly dependent on the expert knowledge of international developments and cutting-edge research in operative dentistry and related fields. Without a finger being firmly on the pulse of global issues and developments in operative dentistry, the Research Committee would not best serve the Academy and, in turn, its illustrious membership.

With each change of chairman, the Academy's Research Committee has set itself new goals and challenges. In the last few years, this has led to the introduction of the George M Paffenbarger Research Award, supported by the American Dental Association Foundation. The Research Committee is indebted to individuals and organizations that have and continue



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to support the Committee's important work, including the Academy's Founder's Fund. Thanks to the generosity of the members of the Academy, the Founder's Fund is able to allocate resources to support the Ralph Phillips Research Award for students. In a similar vein, The LD Caulk Company continues to generously support the annual Buonocore Lecture—a highlight in the program of the Annual Meeting of the Academy. It is hoped that further philanthropic provisions and sponsorship will allow the Research Committee to continue to expand its activities and thereby promote and recognize excellence in the advancement of operative dentistry. Fueling research powers the engine that drives the innovation and knowledge acquisition necessary to realize new horizons.

In the spirit of the Academy, its Research Committee seeks to exceed the expectations of the members, while at one and the same time, remaining open to suggestions and constructive criticisms. Promoting research is an important function of any professional organization, in particular, a prestigious global organization such as the Academy of Operative Dentistry. It is hoped that, with the encouragement and support of the members of the Academy, let alone the Academy's Executive Council, that the Research Committee can

go from strength to strength. The members of the Research Committee, past and present, are very mindful that it is a great honor to be selected to help realize the mission of the Academy on behalf of the organization's membership. The new chair and existing members of the Committee look forward to continuing the record of achievement of those who went before.

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