

# American Society

for

# Dental Ethics

A Special Section of the  
American College of Dentists

## **Mission Statement**

The American Society for Dental Ethics exists to support ethics as an integral value for the dental health care professions. The members of the Society are dedicated to the ongoing study of ethical issues and education to promote professional responsibility and conduct, thereby enhancing oral health care for those we serve.

## **Core Values of ASDE**

- Leadership
- Community
- Education
- Collegiality
- Scholarship
- Service
- Professional integrity

## **Officers**

President: Phyllis Beemsterboer

President Elect: Al Rosenblum

Treasurer: Larry Jenson

Past President: Marilyn Lantz

Members at Large: Toni Roucka,  
William Leffler and Pam Zarkowski

ACD Liaison: Larry Garetto

Editors for Issues in Dental Ethics:

Jim Rule and Dave Ozar

Executive Director: Anika Ball

Check our website at

[www.societyfordentaethics.org](http://www.societyfordentaethics.org)

## **Our Section Status is Official!**

The ASDE Section of the American College of Dentists was chartered with an effective date of January 1, 2011. ASDE is now officially the 51st Section of the ACD.

For ceremonial purposes, ASDE will be presented the Section charter in Las Vegas on Monday, October 10, 2011, as part of the ACD Fellows Forum.



## **New Chair of Ethics in Dentistry**

Creighton University's president, the Rev. John P. Schlegel, S.J., has appointed Dr. Gary H. Westerman as the inaugural chair holder of the Dr. Philip Maschka Chair for Ethics in Dentistry. This is the first ever endowed chair in the world specifically dedicated to the advancement of the discipline of dental ethics.

Dr. Westerman is the Chair of the Department of Community and Preventive Dentistry and an ACD Fellow. His research involves dental behavioral science topics in collaboration with Creighton University's Counseling and Psychological Services and dental laser technology in the area of dental caries inhibition. Dr. Westerman can be reached at [garywesterman@creighton.edu](mailto:garywesterman@creighton.edu).

## **Successful Workshop Held at ADEA's Annual Session**

The ASDE sponsored workshop in March 2011 was titled **Classroom Assessment of Ethical Reasoning** presented by ASDE members Drs. Mickey Bebeau and Marilyn Lantz. The sold out workshop kept the crowd interested and engaged for the whole three hours. Great job, Mickey and Marilyn!

## **Kennedy Institute Bioethics Course Starting Soon**

Each year the Kennedy Institute offers an Intensive Bioethics Course (IBC); this year, the 2011 IBC will be the 37<sup>th</sup> course. The IBC is designed to address challenging topics in health care ethics. It provides the opportunity for participants from different disciplines to come together to explore the theoretical framework and practical issues of bioethics with a distinguished faculty. Lectures and panel discussions are paired with small group sessions, allowing in-depth exploration of issues and personal interactions. The Course begins on June 6 and runs until June 10, 2011. Information and registration materials may be found at <http://kennedyinstitute.georgetown.edu/programs/ibc.cfm>. Online registration is possible.

The Joseph P. and Rose F. Kennedy Institute of Ethics is one of the world's premier institutes for research in bioethics. Situated on the historic campus of Georgetown University, the Institute brings together leading scholars and the world's most extensive bioethics library.

The Kennedy Institute's Bioethics Research Library is home to an unparalleled collection of bioethics literature. Established in 1973, the Library contains books, journals, articles, reports, court decisions, audiovisuals, and other types of materials on a range of bioethics issues from professional ethics to end-of-life to genetics to environmental and public health issues.

The Library has a strong collection of materials on dental ethics. The collection may be accessed online at <http://bioethics.georgetown.edu>; full-text is made available when possible.

## **ASDE/ACD Business Meeting**

We held our annual business meeting on Sunday March 13, 2011 immediately after the ASDE Workshop. Please check the web site to review the minutes.



## **The Student Professionalism and Ethics Association: A New Professional Organization in Dentistry**

The professional aspect of dentistry will be substantially enhanced as a result of action by a small but dedicated group of students who met over the weekend of May 7-8, 2011 at the Herman Ostrow University of Southern California School of Dentistry. The ten students, with sponsorship from their own universities and local American College of Dentists sections came together to formally initiate the creation of a new national organization focused on ethics and professionalism development. This organization is the offspring of the Student Professionalism and Ethics Club (SPEC) originally founded at USC in 2007 by a truly visionary group of students and faculty. The formation of SPEC chapters has been encouraged and supported by the American Society for Dental Ethics, American College of Dentists and American Student Dental Association as a venue for students to come together to discuss ethics and professionalism issues that they face locally and that the profession faces more globally.

The new organization will be known as the Student Professionalism and Ethics Association (SPEA). The change of name is indicative of the goal to develop a national support structure that will enable local chapters at dental schools to become even more vibrantly active because of their

linkage through the national organization. The ten students from dental schools across the United States who formed the Steering Committee worked over the course of an intense weekend to formally establish the vision and core values they have for SPEA National, create an organizational structure and draft an initial strategic plan to establish chapters in every US Dental School. Their vision is *to promote and support a student's lifelong commitment to ethical and professional behavior in order to benefit the patients we serve.*

The schools represented by the ten students were the Dugoni University of the Pacific, Indiana University, Midwestern University (Glendale, AZ), USC, UCLA and Virginia Commonwealth. The Steering Committee is in the process of planning the first national SPEA meeting that will be held October 9-10 in conjunction with the 2011 ACD National Meeting in Las Vegas. ASDE and ACD representatives, Anika Ball, Lawrence Garetto and Alvin Rosenblum, were privileged to be included as observers/advisors to the steering committee for their inaugural meeting. Given what we experienced in our observation of these students in action, the future of the profession is truly bright!



### **New Book Available**

Joe Graskemper is the author of a new book Professional Responsibility in Dentistry: A Practical Guide to Law and Ethics from publisher Wiley Blackwell. It covers many aspects for the new and the not so new dentists in the field of dental law, ethics, professionalism, risk management, and practice management by applying true cases to make it interesting. The book is available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)  
Congratulations, Joe!

### **Volunteers Needed**

Jim Rule, Associate Editor would like to have some volunteers to help with manuscripts that have already been reviewed and accepted in the Issues in Dental Ethics section of the Journal of the American College of Dentists. These manuscripts require substantial changes but have good content and/or would be of value to our membership. They may require writing help, reorganization, condensation, grammar clarification, proper reference citations, or combinations of the above.

Anyone volunteering for this responsibility should expect that his or her services would be needed perhaps once or twice a year. The volunteer would receive the manuscript along with the anonymous comments of the three reviewers, and the letter to the author written by the Associate Editor. The volunteer would work directly with the author and should be prepared to offer specific suggestions, including rewriting as indicated, as well as communicating with the Associate Editor as needed.

This would be a wonderful way to help our upcoming authors, junior faculty and future leaders in ethics.

**Please consider volunteering!**

Respond to our Executive Director, Anika Ball at [aball@llu.edu](mailto:aball@llu.edu)

### **Meeting Announcement**

***Ethics across the Curriculum 13th International Conference*** will be held in St. Louis, Missouri November 3-5, 2011. **The title is - Professional Ethics: Responsible Practice in the Professions.**

The Society encourages submissions on all issues regarding ethics across the curriculum and selects a theme each year to encourage a focus for the conference. This year's theme concerns the recommendation

from *Ethics Teaching in Higher Education* (1980) that colleges and universities "ought to prepare future professionals to understand the types of moral issues they are likely to confront in their chosen vocations, introduce them to the moral ideals of the profession, and assist them in understanding the relationship between their professional work and that of the broader values and needs of the society." The goal of this year's conference is to promote continued dialogue about ethics education in higher education, especially in terms of preparing students to become responsible professionals. Sessions may address foundational issues, case studies, pedagogical demonstrations, assessment techniques, and related topics.

Submissions (papers or abstracts) should be formatted for blind review and sent by September 15, 2011 to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Society, **Donna Werner** <mailto:DWerner@stlcc.edu>



The 9th International Congress on Dental Law and Ethics will be October 2011 in Belgium. Topics for the sessions include; Health care insurance, Liability insurance, Patient rights, the legal aspects of dental expert investigation (civil and criminal law), and ethics.

See website for more info on this conference!

## 2011 Ozar-Hasagawa Winners!

Roberto Amato from Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry University of Western Ontario, Canada. Paper Entitled: Ethics Case Analysis: Writing off Co-payments  
Advisor: Dr. Barry Schwartz

Sapna Lohiya, from University of California, Los Angeles, USA  
Paper Entitled: Domestic Violence Dilemma in the Dental Clinic  
Advisor : Dr. Sanjay Mallya

The students who won received a check for \$500.00 and a one year membership in ASDE. Papers are posted on the ASDE website [www.societyfordentalethics.org](http://www.societyfordentalethics.org)