

Academy Connection

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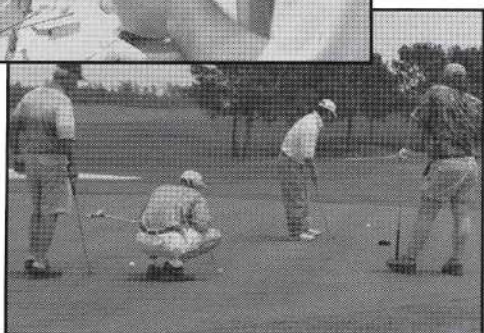
Referral Service Requirements Changed --- More Members Now Eligible

The Board of Directors has changed the requirements for participation in the AACD's patient referral service. General and Accredited members who wish to be listed on the AACD Web site and in the referral lists used for our 800 number must now have attended two of the four most recent AACD Annual Scientific Sessions. Members were previously required to have attended three of the last five sessions.

This change makes it easier for you to qualify for participation in the referral service, while still protecting AACD from liability, as the service will only include members who have demonstrated a commitment to education in cosmetic dentistry. It also brings the referral service requirements in-line with the requirements to maintain Accredited and Sustaining member status.

Members who attended AACD Orlando 2003, Hawaii 2002, Boston 2001, and San Francisco 2000 can qualify under the new guidelines. Everyone who attended AACD Orlando 2003 and will attend next year's conference in Vancouver will automatically become eligible for referral **after** the meeting. So be sure to sign up for Vancouver early! 𠄎

AACD Orlando 2003 An Incredible Success!



2003-2004 Election Results

*From the Annual Business Meeting
at our 19th Annual Scientific Session
in Orlando, Florida*

Congratulations to the newly elected members who will serve on the Board of Directors, Board of Governors, and Nominating Committee. We look forward to your leadership in the Academy over the next year. 𠄎

POSITION

Vice President

Nicholas Davis, DDS
Newport Beach, CA

Board of Directors

Jerry Bellen, DDS
San Francisco, CA
John Calamia, DMD
New York, NY
Ronald Gilligan, DDS
Frisco, CO
Mr. Gary Hult
St. Paul, MN
John Sullivan, DDS
Tulare, CA
Ned Windmiller, DDS
Stillwater, MN

Board of Governors

Bruce Crispin, DDS
Woodland Hills, CA
Jim Roethle, DDS
Kenner, LA

Nominating Committee

Fred Costello, DDS
Ormond Beach, FL
Paul Landman, DDS
Chicago, IL
Guy Lewis, DDS
The Woodlands, TX

Clinical Case Examinations 2003

A January Weekend in Madison for Credentialing

by Michael Sesemann, D.D.S.



Like a front sweeping out of Canada, the winds of change swept through Madison, Wisconsin this past January at the AACD Executive Offices. Three years ago, our Board of Governors put forth great effort to refine and evolve our Accreditation process. In 2003, we will complete the implementation of those sweeping changes. The days of an Accreditation candidate putting forth years of effort to culminate into one forty-five minute "make it or break it" presentation are over. In its place we have a structured educational process that allows dentists and lab technicians to pursue excellence in cosmetic dentistry!

As part of the process, the AACD Executive Office was home to 30 examiners and the Credentialing Department for four days during a frigid January weekend for Clinical Case Examinations. Clinical Case submissions are a part of the Accreditation credentialing process. There are five cases that need to be successfully submitted. An Accreditation candidate may submit one of each case required in any given calendar year for examination. One of my duties as Accreditation Chair was to have the proper number of examiners available to complete the task of examining each of the 189 cases

submitted this year. My estimate of 27 examiners was adequate, that is, if everyone would be willing to work 12 hours a day! Luckily for me, examiners are a particularly committed group of individuals, willing to do whatever is necessary for the sake of our Academy.

It was paramount for all of us to meet and train for the process. Through examiner training we discuss previous cases and critique our own examination eye. The objective is to calibrate our values so we examine in harmony with our educational materials (*A Guide to Accreditation Photography, A Guide to Accreditation Criteria, Accreditation Workshops*, and our Accreditation Essentials section in *The Journal of Cosmetic Dentistry*). We wish to eliminate the days where a Candidate was "in the dark" as to what is needed to pass a case.

We examined 102 cases on the first day. Of those, 49% PASSED! On the second day, the pass rate fell somewhat, making the two-day combined pass rate 40%. Both of these pass rates are UNPRECEDENTED! I must accentuate that this high pass rate was not because our examiners were guilty of "lowering the bar," but simply because we saw some great dentistry. I believe it speaks

to the fact that our educational materials teach candidates exactly what is expected of them to be successful in their pursuit of Accreditation. As for the difference between the first and second day, there simply was a difference in the dentistry. We examined on a "first sent in—first examined basis." We surmised that the cases sent in early were deemed ready by the candidate. Cases sent in just under the cut-off date were as good as they could be before needing to be submitted.

For those who were successful, I extend my congratulations. To those who were not, I urge you to use the process for self-examination and to continue the pursuit of this virtuous goal. It is a rare Accredited Member who has not felt the pain of receiving a letter that details their failure in the pursuit of Accreditation. Speaking from my own experience, failure was painful, yet it was the best thing that could have happened to me, though it took a year for me to realize it.

I fully expect the pass percentages to continue to grow as more candidates prepare better than ever before. I hope that you'll be part of that group. ☸

AACD Advanced Accreditation Workshop 2003

Date: 9/26/03 (This is the same weekend as the New Orleans Dental Conference).

Location: Hampton Inn Suites on Convention Center; New Orleans, LA.

Cost: \$300, Register by calling Susan Lauman at 504-831-1131, or e-mail susan@SmileDesignCenter.com, or send registration to:

Susan Lauman
111 Veterans Blvd, Suite 777
Metairie, LA 70005

