

**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY TMD AND OROFACIAL PAIN PROGRAMS**

**AUTOPP Newsletter**  
**March, 2006**

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**AUTOPP BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES AND PROGRAM SUMMARY  
BALTIMORE, MD MARCH**

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Arguably the most important part of the mission of the Association of University of TMD and Orofacial Pain Programs for over twenty-five years has been “to facilitate the development of curriculum guidelines at the pre- and postdoctoral level in TMD and orofacial pain.” It is difficult for an organization, which regularly gathers but once a year to have an impact in this regard. And yet in the realm of undergraduate dental education the organization and its membership have played important roles in many symposiums, programs, workshops, and interest groups through the years.

Of particular note have been the First (1990), Second (1992) and Third (2000) Educational Conferences to Develop the Curriculum in Temporomandibular Disorders and Orofacial Pain; the Symposium for Teacher’s of Orofacial Pain (Vancouver, 1999; the efforts of Drs. Glenn Clark, Ron Attanasio and others with ADEA; and the recent Guidelines for Curriculum of Undergraduate and Postgraduate Education in Orofacial Pain and Temporomandibular Disorders developed by our colleagues in Europe (2001, 2003). I realize there have been many others, which are not listed or I am unaware.

The undergraduate curriculum in the United States and Canada was affected greatly by the change to competency-based standards by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. In my opinion this development was necessary, but the timing of the process did not help our cause in promoting TMD and orofacial pain within the dental curriculum.

I urge each one of you to attend our meeting March 8, 2006 in Orlando. Drs. Chuck Greene and Gary Klasser will present a summary of data they have gathered through survey of the U.S. and Canadian dental schools regarding TMD and orofacial pain in the undergraduate curriculum. I believe their presentation will provide a better sense of how we are doing “where the rubber hits the road.” This is an opportunity for further discussion and consideration of next steps to take.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Respectfully, Gary C. Anderson  
President 2005-2006

### ***A Message from the Immediate Past-President***

As we look at the direction education has taken in TMD and Orofacial Pain, it is important to continue to analyze, discuss, and hopefully shape the future of pre-doctoral and postdoctoral education programs. We are fortunate this year to have Drs. Greene and Klasser discussing the results of their survey of pre-doctoral education in TMD and Orofacial Pain. It will allow us an opportunity to discuss the current issues nationally and work toward consensus, at least within our organization.

Postdoctoral educational programs should continue to pursue accreditation opportunities. Both Oral Medicine and Dental Anesthesia programs have made significant progress in this area, and their draft standards are now posted on the ADA website for comment from the communities of interest. It is especially pertinent that our membership review these standards, as both programs include training in chronic orofacial pain as part of their clinical requirements. (<http://www.ada.org/prof/ed/accred/announcements/index.asp>).

We have seen many changes since the inception of this organization over 15 years ago. We will continue to evolve as additional research provides answers to some questions, as well as additional questions to be asked. We need to continue to be forward thinking, and need to be flexible enough to consider revising our educational programs if they no longer meet the needs of their environments. In other words, this is an exciting time filled with opportunities!

Looking forward to seeing you in Orlando.  
Heidi Crow

### **SECRETARY'S MESSAGE**

Dear Colleagues I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to be your secretary. I believe that as a group of academicians we can make a statement in Dental Education and I am looking forward to working with you in this goal.

***AUTOPP ANNUAL MEETING***  
***At Palio Restaurant-Swan Hotel, Orlando Florida.***  
**Wednesday, March 8, 2006**

**Presentation by**

*Dr. C. Greene and G. Klasser*

*“Teaching TMD in Dental Schools - Results of a Survey”*

6:00 to 6:30 p.m.	Social Time
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.	Presentation
7:30 p.m.	Dinner, with Business Meeting to follow.

The cost of dinner will be \$50 per person plus gratuity and tax. Please send me an e-mail to confirm that you are coming.

Thank you very much,  
Yoly Gonzalez, Secretary 2005-2006  
ymg@buffalo.edu

### **TREASURER'S MESSAGE**

For the past 3-4 years it has been noted that ONLY about one third of our members are current on paying their yearly dues. We have approximately half of the members on our list who have NEVER paid their dues for all these years. Our agenda for this coming meeting will include this issue to discuss whether these individuals should be continued on our list or not. Our current balance is of \$4,175.17. Thanks to the good organization for the last 2 years' meetings, we did not encounter any additional spending so the balance has increased, and hopefully, will continue so if the dues will be paid this year.

If you will not be attending the annual meeting please submit your dues for **\$15.00** made out to **AUTOPP**. Mail dues directly to me at the following address:

**Octavia Plesh**

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Thank you,

Octavia Plesch, Secretary 2005-2006

**MEETING 2007:** AUTOPP's meeting in 2007 will most likely be scheduled in conjunction with the annual meeting of the AADR/IADR in March of 2007. At this time that meeting is scheduled to take place in New Orleans, LA. Specific details will be provided in the future.