



# Advision

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THE ILLINOIS ACADEMY OF GENERAL DENTISTRY

## Dr. Jones' Letter to the ADA Delegates

October 6, 2008

Like most of you, the leadership of the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) has read the e-mail blast which the American Dental Association (ADA) leadership sent to its delegates on October 1, regarding the AGD's position on the Community Dental Health Coordinator, (CDHC). Understand that this is not an ADA vs. AGD issue. This is a dentistry issue. Many non-AGD members, both specialists and general dentists, have voiced their concerns as well. These concerns are much more all-encompassing than both the AGD and the ADA. We are deliberating on the future of our profession and the dental health of millions of Americans.

The AGD has long been a strong supporter of the ADA agenda and initiatives, both on and off Capitol Hill. We continue to visibly support the ADA's numerous positions on Medicaid, student loan forgiveness, general practice residency programs, and other issues. However, we feel that the level of attention and financial support should be directed more on these initiatives and less on the development and pilot programs for the CDHC. This is based on the fact that, unlike the CDHC, these other initiatives have been proven to work. We would like to see greater effort and energy be utilized to allow these initiatives to become reality. With the exception of our Canadian colleagues, all of the members of the AGD Board of Trustees are dues paying members of the ADA. Many hold leadership positions in the ADA. So, as dedicated ADA members, we feel that the proper place to render our position on ADA activities would be "in house" in San Antonio. The AGD did this last year in San Francisco by joining with the ADA leadership in arguing for the proposed ADA Sedation Guidelines. And,

in this vein, we owe it to the ADA to voice our concerns, while keeping it "in the family," in San Antonio.

Bolstered with valid information, the AGD leadership will continue to share its talking points that address our concerns with the continued development of the CDHC. And, with the overwhelming support of our Board of Trustees, the AGD leadership will continue to stand behind this position, which has not wavered. We will further communicate these talking points to you in San Antonio, and will be more than happy to answer any questions, or address any concerns, that you may have.

Good, healthy, debate on important issues such as this is not uncommon at both the ADA and AGD House of Delegates sessions. To disagree is not being divisive. And voicing an opposing view should be accepted in the constructive spirit in which it was intended. In the end, we will all abide by the wisdom of the ADA House of Delegates. No matter what the outcome might be, we will continue to be proud ADA members.

Should you have any questions, please forward them to AGD at [advocacy@agd.org](mailto:advocacy@agd.org).

Sincerely,

Paula S. Jones, DDS, FAGD

President, Academy of General Dentistry  
Member, American Dental Association

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# 2008 Directory

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Our first meeting for the 2008-2009 CE season was “Solving the Jigsaw Puzzle of Esthetic Dentistry” with Dr. Anthony LaVacca. The seminar was very informative and entertaining, and I hope everyone learned a thing or two that they could take back to the office the next day and improve their practice. Our next CE course on November 7<sup>th</sup> is a hands-on course titled “Ultradent Presents Endodontics for a New Millennium.” The speaker is Richard Tuttle, DDS, and he will be speaking on all the different aspects of endodontics. The meeting is at the Hyatt Lodge in Oakbrook which is a great facility for participation courses. We hope to see many of you there.

*On a slightly different subject—*

My son is a junior in high school, so we are looking at colleges and universities and he will soon be deciding what school he will be attending and ultimately what career he will choose. My husband and I have had a number of opportunities to discuss career choices with his friends, and we often take that occasion to discuss a career in dentistry. We both love dentistry and every day we are grateful that we are able to help people in a very unique way. As a female dentist, I jump at opportunities to discuss a career in dentistry with young women. I do have concerns however about the future of our great profession. There are efforts within our own profession to solve the “access to care” problem by developing a new level of dental provider -- a “mid-

level provider.” A mid-level provider would be a lesser educated person who is not a dentist—but would provide care to patients. This concept has passed in several other states, and it could happen in Illinois. I think this concept will change the face of dentistry as we know it today. As I recommend dentistry as a career choice to my son’s friends, I wonder if it will be the same wonderful profession in the future that it is today.

The Academy of General Dentistry’s White Paper on Increasing Access to and Utilization of Oral Health Care Services is on the main page of the AGD website at [agd.org](http://agd.org). If you have not read this paper already, please do so. AGD has many good ideas that should be implemented to address the problems that face people who cannot find or afford dental care. Developing a two-tier system of dental care in which a “mid-level provider” who does not have a complete dental education, but provides dental care, is not a solution to this problem. I hope that I can continue to tell our future generations what a great career dentistry is! Read the white paper, and let your colleagues, and legislators know what you think.

If you would like to get involved in CAGD and attend the next Chicago Component Board meeting, please email me at [dr.cherymora@agd.org](mailto:dr.cherymora@agd.org) or call me at 847-367-7222.

Cheryl

# CAGD Report

**Dr. Cheryl Mora**



*“I do have concerns however about the future of our great profession...”*

## ***New Members***

**Christopher P. Banks, DMD  
Bolingbrook, IL**

**John L. Ferry, DDS  
Taylorville, IL**

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Shelbyville, IL**

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Glen Carbon, IL**

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Chicago, IL**

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Chicago, IL**

**Jennifer S. Schear, DMD  
Chicago, IL**

**Maureen Leake, DDS  
Orland Park, IL**

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## *IAGD in Action...*



Drs. Maryam Hafezi (CAGD Vice President) with speaker Dr. Anthony LaVacca



Dr. Sy Wachtenheim presenting the IAGD President's plaque to Dr. Tom Wachtel



l-r: Drs. Marsha Babka, Theresa Lao, Cheryl Mora, Susan Mayer, Randy Ashton, Ray Moy



l-r: Drs. Sy Wachtenheim, Bill Wax, Muzammil Saeed, Bob Kozelka, Sal Storniolo, Marta Speakman



l-r: Drs. Joe Hagenbruch, Mike Durbin and Maharukh Kravich being inducted as Fellows of the American College of Dentists



Drs. Bob Kozelka (IAGD Secretary) and Paula Jones (National AGD President) being inducted as Fellows of the International College of Dentists.

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## *Where We Have Been and Where We Are Going. Is the Golden Age of Dentistry Yet To Come?*

**By Dr. Mohamed Harunani  
and Mr. Dick Pilsner**

Recently, during dinner with a friend, the conversation turned to a subject that I thought should be shared with many of my other friends and colleagues. I asked this gentleman, who I believe to be a brilliant, candid and genuine human being, to write some of his thoughts down for me. Below you will find the words written by Mr. Dick Pilsner, the CEO of D & S Dental Labs, Waukegan, Wisconsin.

Mohamed.

I have been in the dental laboratory industry for over 45 years. In the infancy of my career I was processing vulcanite dentures; fabricating what they called “tin can crowns” from gold bands; using air-fired, not vacuum-fired, porcelain for porcelain to metal crowns; using only high gold content alloys and making my own wax sheets from a mixture of paraffin, bees wax and resin. Thank goodness things have changed over the past 45 plus years. But, with the advancement of CAD-CAM technology as applied to dentistry, we have seen vast changes in the laboratory and now the dental office.

Digital dental technology is changing the way our laboratory manufactures crowns, bridges, partial frameworks, orthodontic appliances and implants. In our laboratory at present we have several scanners and machines which mill metal and zirconia. We can mill zirconia, ceramic crowns, and implant components as well as Maryland bridges. We have two rapid proto-type printers that print wax/resin copings, bridge frameworks, full cast crowns, and partial denture frameworks. No more hand waxing. We also have 10 of our dentist clients using intra-oral scanners to digitally “wire” impressions to our laboratory for us to use in fabricating the products for them.

We are embracing the new digital age of dentistry and we are

continually asked by our peers – “Why? Why are we investing in the equipment?” First of all, we have found that the quality in fit and accuracy has improved. When we design the case on our computers we are able to see the finished product in 3-D before we start. Shortened production time is another asset. The time it takes to manufacture a crown, partial denture or any other appliance is greatly reduced by the use of digital technology. These digital machines are producing what our laboratory needs overnight. Therefore, the turn around time from the laboratory to the dental office can also be shortened and the decreased cost is another benefit that we can pass on to our dental clients.

Our laboratory industry predicts that only about 50-60% of the laboratories present in the U.S. today will still be in business in five years.. I remember that the 1960’s were called the “Golden Age of Dentistry”. I believe that the “Golden Age of Dentistry” is going to come about in the very near future. What is going on now in the laboratory and the dental office is the “tipping point” of the future for dentistry. Will our laboratory be prepared? In order to excel, we will have to be aware of and embrace the changes which are taking place. We will have to incorporate them into our procedures so that we can logically and economically manage the transition from what we do today to full digital production in the future.

There is always talk about change and it’s value. However there is something very valuable that will never be replaced and that is the relationship that a dentist has with her or his laboratory. It will always be about people and not about machines when it comes to relationships. We will use machines to accomplish our objectives, but the value and trust and relationship will always remain. Here too our laboratory must prepare and continually improve itself for our future.

# CAGD Seminar Report

by Dr. Muzammil Saeed



*“The dentist, on his/her part, should be ready to reappoint the patient to make the necessary changes.”*

*Solving the Jigsaw Puzzle of Esthetic Dentistry* was the topic of the latest seminar course sponsored by the CAGD. It was the kick-off of their new 4 Part CE series. The seminar was held on September 5 at the Maggiano’s Little Italy in Oakbrook. There were approximately 60 dentists present to hear Dr. Anthony LaVacca, DMD, present a lecture on current concepts in esthetic dentistry including the use of ceramic materials and how to present cases.

Dr. LaVacca began his lecture by challenging the audience to think of treating our patients not in terms of esthetics, which focuses on the adjacent teeth, but rather in terms of cosmetics, which includes the entire face. Dr. LaVacca wanted to us to think of the patient in a more complete view, which also factors in the patient’s hair and make-up, when planning treatment.

He stated that many of the esthetic cases require the same basic principles of esthetics and function used in denture design. He felt that if we would review and remember those basic principles, we will be guided to successful completion of these esthetic veneer and fixed prosthodontic cases.

He also stressed the importance of proper communications with your lab. Most labs can create restorations from a variety of different materials, much more than what has been available in the past. However, without proper communication, the technician can be limited. If there is a special prep design, for example, let your lab know. Dr. LaVacca mentioned that one of the most common problems encountered by the lab is not enough tooth reduction for a given restoration. In such instances, the lab should be instructed to feel free to call the doctor and discuss the matter. The dentist, on his/her part, should be ready to reappoint the patient to make the necessary changes.

These were just a few of the pearls of wisdom that Dr. LaVacca shared with the audience. There was a healthy dose of questions and answers throughout the program. The seminar concluded with some case presentations and a discussion of all-ceramic restorations.

Muzammil

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## UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

### AGD

**National-Annual Meetings**  
 2009 July 8-12 Baltimore, MD                      2010 July 5-11 New Orleans, LA

**IAGD** 2009 Feb. 25 **Prosthodontics-** Dr. Joe Massad Past Presidents' Celebration-  
 July 31 **National AGD Star Visit**

**CAGD** 2009 Mar. 13 **Cariology** – Dr. Steven Steinberg – LaTasca-Arlington Hgts.,IL  
 May 15 **Emergencies in the Office** – Dr. Robert Bosack – Maggiano's-Schaumburg, IL  
 Sept. 9 **Composites and Veneers-**Dr. Michael Morgan-Oakbrook Hill Resort (in conjunction with ISDS)  
 Nov. 6 **Esthetic Update for Tots and Teens; Laser Dentistry-**Dr. Fred Margolis-Maggiano's-Skokie, IL  
 2010 Mar. 12 **Upgradable Dentistry-**Dr. Richard Winter-Maggiano's-Oakbrook., IL.  
 May 14 **Implants-**Dr. Charles Girard-Maggiano's-Skokie, IL.

(For CAGD info contact Dr. Maryam Hafezi -630-836-8995, hmaryam@yahoo.com)

**CIAGD** 2009 Mar. 20,21 **Orthodontics/TMD-Update in Orthodontics & TMD-**  
 Dr. Steve Rohem (Lecture & Participation)-SIUSDM-Alton, IL  
 June 12, 13 **Practice Management** – Update in Dental Office Technology-Dr. Claudio Levato  
 (Lecture & Participation) SIUSDM-Alton, IL  
 Nov. 13, 14 **Oral Pathology** – Dr. John Olsen (Lecture & Participation) SIUSDM-Alton, IL  
 2010 June 11,12 **Oral Surgery**—Dr. Karl Koerner (Lecture & Participation) SIUSDM-Alton, IL

**NIAGD** 2009 Oct. 30 **TBA**

### Mastertrack

2009 Apr. 17-18 **Pedodontics-**Pediatric and Special Patient Care Dentistry-Dr. Fred Margolis-DAL Lab.-  
 Lincolnshire, IL  
 Oct. 16-17 Drs. Ara Nazarian & Rick Winter

Protocol reporting sessions start at 1:00 pm on Thursday preceding the listed courses.

[Contacts for all Mastertrack programming: Dr. S. Wachtenheim 847-858-1927, tzaner2@aol.com or Dr. G. Zehak 708-484-0235]

### ADA Annual Meetings

2009 Sept.30-Oct. 3 Honolulu, HI

**ISDS** 2009 Apr. 22-23 Capital Conference-Hilton Hotel-Springfield, IL  
 Sept. 11-13 Annual Session-Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort-Oak Brook, IL.

**CDS** 2009 Jan. 21 **Dental Pharmacology-**Dr. Harold Crossley  
 Apr. 29 **Senior Moments and Know Pain, Know Gain-** Anastasia Turchetta, RDH  
 Sept. 16 **Implants-**Dr. Rick Sullivan  
 Nov. 11 **Prosthodontics-**Dr. Stephen Chu

### Midwinter Meetings (All meetings at McCormick Place – Chicago, IL)

2009 Feb. 26-Mar. 1

### Regional Meetings (All meetings at Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace)

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# Make Time for Meetings

**See details about upcoming meetings inside!**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP (Please type or print)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ ADA No. (if available) \_\_\_\_\_  
Bus. Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Res. Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**DENTAL SCHOOL ATTENDED:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_  
Are you a general dentist? Yes No Do you limit your practice? Yes No  
If yes, what specialty? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you in private practice? Yes No  
If not, explain (Armed Services, Public Health, Education, Etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of a state dental association? Yes No  
If so, which association? \_\_\_\_\_

I promise to abide by the Constitution and By-laws as well as the Principles of Ethics of the Academy of General Dentistry.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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