

# THE TEXAS SECTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF DENTISTS

A REGULAR RECORD OF ICD ACTIVITIES IN TEXAS

WINTER  
2020



**Dr. José L. "Joey" Cazares and family  
President - ICD Texas Section**

2020 has come and gone and will forever be in the history books as one of the most life-changing years in recorded history. Now is the time to look forward into 2021 with a positive attitude.

As current president of the International College of Dentists – Texas Section (ICD-Texas), I will tell you that I am definitely biased in saying that Texas has an incredible group of ICD Fellows, the best the profession has to offer. These are dentists that have given and continue to give of themselves for the betterment of all locally, state-wide, and internationally.

Do you remember the day you were inducted as an ICD Fellow? During ICD Induction, that was the day you stood proud, your family equally as proud, with

family, friends and patients cheering their dentist as they were being honored by the International College of Dentists. Let's pay that feeling forward!

There are many great dentists doing great things, but often not recognized for their efforts. Many do not seek any limelight or recognition, but still continue to serve others in the way ICD promotes. If you know someone who is deserving of such an honor, let us know. We can start the process of helping them become a fellow of the ICD.

I believe the best way to cultivate a generation of ethical, professional members of our profession is to acknowledge their positive efforts. Fellowship in the ICD is awarded for "outstanding professional achievement, meritorious service and dedication to the continued progress of dentistry for the benefit of humankind." Start this year on a positive note by sharing the ICD experience – nominate those who deserve that FICD distinction.

Wishing everyone the best this coming year.

**INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF DENTISTS USA SECTION**

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# MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR BY DR. CLAUDE STEPHENS

**Roses are red, violets are blue.  
It's out with the old, and in with the new!**

The little poem above was one I had written on a cake for Dr. Bob Coggins at a party celebrating his retirement and my purchase of his practice many years ago. While some people might find that a bit crass, he certainly did not. He was a crusty old WWII veteran and a dear friend of mine and we shared a big laugh. Well, it is time to apply that rhyme again, only this time I am the one who is old!

For those who do not know the story, the 15th District had the sad misfortune of losing our newsletter editor (my predecessor) unexpectedly due to a heart attack. In his absence I have had the honor of serving in an extended temporary position, but it is now time for me to make way for my replacement.

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge Dr Rise' Martin for her incredible encouragement and direction in helping me when I first took on this responsibility. Rise' is a cheerleader for humanity. Her personal influence is similar to that of Dr. Moody Alexander who talked me into volunteering to serve the 15th District in the first place. Someone once described Moody as being "pathologically optimistic" and I think that description fits Rise' to a T. Thank you Risé for all you do for us.

Over the holidays I got in the habit of seeing packages delivered daily and I opened one assuming it was a late Christmas present. I could not have been more surprised to find an award in Journalism from the USA Section of the ICD. I do not know who put me up for this award, but I am humbled and honored. I have no formal training in Journalism. Heck, I'm not even great at typing! It just so happened that someone I respected asked me to step up and I was glad to do so.

It has been an honor to serve as your newsletter editor; I thank you all for the support you have shown me. I know you will do the same for my successor.



**Dr. Claude Stephens**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 1	President's Report	Page 5	Awards
Page 2	Message from the Editor	Page 6	New Texas Section Inductees
Page 3	Statement from ICD International President	Page 10	Great Expectations
Page 4	Treasurer's Report	Page 11	2021 Meeting Schedule
	Deputy Regent Report		

# STATEMENT FROM ICD INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

As International President, I express my sincere thanks for your enthusiastic and continued support for the College and the Centennial. Unfortunately, I have to deliver the very disappointing and sad news that the College Centennial and the Executive committees have made the tough decision to cancel the Centennial events and the International Council Meeting scheduled for this September in Nagoya, Japan. The ICD is also preparing for the likelihood that the 2021 International Council Meeting will need to be held virtually at a date to be decided.

The Centennial Committee has been in communications with leaders in health, government, public institutions and our leadership regarding the world pandemic crisis. There was hope that the situation would be more stable, or at least improved, by September 2021. Sadly, this has not happened, and it is getting worse and worse in many countries. As the International

President, I have appealed to all Fellows to participate in celebrating the honor of our 100-year history and the promise of future developments. However, I have to accept the analysis and reports attesting to the unimaginable impacts of COVID-19 and the poor outlook for the next several months. Only vaccinations will be a possible solution. However, it could take a very long time for vaccinations to reach everywhere in the world. I sincerely apologize if I may have misled or caused an unrealized optimistic outlook regarding the end of COVID-19.

Fortunately, the Nagoya event was only one element of the College Centennial celebrations. We have been celebrating and acknowledging the achievement of our 100-year milestone throughout the world since the fall of 2019, when we officially launched the Centennial Year of Celebrations at the FDI-ADA joint meeting in San Francisco, followed by many activities of our Fellows honoring the Centennial and waving the Centennial logo in every ICD Section, and on every continent. Some Fellows attended Centennial dinners and induction ceremonies locally, while others participated in Centennial fundraising projects, promotional activities and special events, all of which were accompanied by extensive media coverage. While many media outlets covered these initiatives over the last two years, the highlight was Pope Francis' image, at the Vatican, holding a special ICD publication with the Centennial logo prominently displayed, and broadcasted around the globe during a meeting with ICD representatives.

More information regarding the cancelation of the Centennial events planned for Nagoya will be forthcoming from the ICD World Headquarters. I again would like to thank you for your understanding of our difficult decision.

Please stay safe and well for the new year!

In Fellowship,

Dr. Akira Senda  
International President



**Dr. Akira Senda**

# TREASURER'S REPORT BY DR. AUDREY STANSBURY



**Dr. Audrey Stansbury**

January 1, 2020	Opening Balance	\$15,298.24
December 31, 2020	Checks Written	- \$5,500.00
December 31, 2020	Deposits Made	\$12,953.33
December 31, 20120	Ending Balance	\$22,751.57*

\*includes an outstanding check

For a full accounting of all transactions,  
please contact ICD Treasurer Audrey Stansbury

# DEPUTY REGENT REPORT BY DR. GUS GATES

Last year was a crazy time for all of us. When the American Dental Association meeting was canceled, the International College of Dentists adapted by having an all virtual convocation ceremony. Twenty-three candidates received their Fellowship. Our regent, Jay Adkins, presented the honors, including the name of the nominating Fellow and three important facts about each candidate. As Jay said, "it was a humbling experience to hear the accomplishments of these new Fellows."

The convocation ceremony is on the USA-ICD Facebook page. If you have not had a chance to watch it, I highly recommend you do.

The current list of Fellowship candidates for 2021 includes ten people who have deferred from last year and are qualified to attend this year's convocation. Six more are at various stages of applications. Jennifer at national and I are working to follow up on these candidates.

Last year Joey Cazares nominated nine candidates. What a superstar! He has set the bar really high for all of us to help recognize worthy candidates. If Joey can do nine, each of us can nominate at least one or two.

Now let's all brainstorm ways to identify potential new ICD candidates!



**Dr. Gus Gates**

# AWARDS

Congratulations to the members of District 15 of the USA-ICD who were recognized for distinguished service or were elected to prestigious positions within our International organization.

- Dr. Gus Gates was named the Distinguished Deputy Regent for USA-ICD. Dr. Gates thumbed his nose to Covid-19 and assembled a highly regarded class of inductees for 2019 and 2020.
- The Distinguished Humanitarian Award is presented to an ICD-USA Section Fellow who has demonstrated an extraordinary dedication and commitment to serving those in need. Dr. T Bob Davis was awarded this for 2020 for his outstanding history participating in humanitarian activities globally.
- Dr. Claude 'Rick' Stephens Jr. received the 2020 Journalism Award for "Outstanding ICD Online Publication."
- Student Leadership Awards were presented to Cameron Leigh Keyler from Texas A&M College of Dentistry, Gilbert Garcia from The University Dental Branch at Houston, and Taylor Cook U.T. Dental San Antonio.
- Our District also presented Student Humanitarian Awards to John William Ratliff from Texas A&M University School of Dentistry and Sarah Hays from The University of Texas Dental Branch. (2019 recipients).
- Also, Dr. Rise Martin is our incoming President for USA-ICD and Dr. Richard Smith is the incoming International President I.C.D.

We are proud of the leadership in the Texas Section of the International College.



Dr. Gus Gates with his Distinguished Deputy Regents Award for ICD-USA.

# Congratulations to the 2020 ICD Texas Section New Inductees

## **Dr. Murad Alrashdi**

Sponsored by Dr. Kevin Gureckis

- Dr. Alrashdi has been involved in volunteer dental efforts in Cameroon, Saudi Arabia, the Dominican Republic, Jordan, Jamaica, and California.
- He received the Peter Swiss Excellence Award from the International Association of Dental Students where he served as Secretary of the General Assembly and Executive Committee in Geneva, Switzerland.

## **Dr. Dean Niles Armstrong** of Amarillo, Texas

Sponsored by Dr. Jose Luis Cazares

- Dr. Armstrong is involved internationally with missions to Poland, Tanzania, Mexico, Honduras, and Israel and in his community with 4 Missions of Mercy and The Heal the City Mission.
- Dr. Armstrong's nominator referred to him as a spiritual leader when they served together on of the Board of Directors of the Texas Academy of General Dentists.

## **Dr. Steven Austin**

- Dr. Austin was a member of the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners from 2008-2017 and was the presiding Officer in 2016.
- He received the ICD Outstanding Achievement Award in 1985.

## **Dr. Murat Ayik** of Dallas, Texas

Sponsored by Dr. David Witherspoon

- Dr. Ayik is a U.S. Navy veteran and serves on committees for St. Judes Children Hospital and the participates in Best Buddies charity.
- He voluntarily serves as Assistant Clinical Professor of Endodontics at Texas A&M School of Dentistry and maintains a private practice.

## **Dr. Stephen Lee Bass** of Plano, Texas

Sponsored by Dr. David Okano

- Dr. Bass served on the Board of trustees for the American Academy of Periodontology from 2013-2019.
- He is a Past-President of the Southwest Society of Periodontists and of the Texas Society of Periodontists.

# NEW TEXAS SECTION INDUCTEES

## **Dr. Jeffrey Brian Geno** of Friendswood, Texas

Sponsored by Dr. James T. Bone

- Dr. Geno has held all state offices including President of the Texas Academy of General Dentists and received the Life Long Learning award.
- He works selflessly as Director of the TAGD Fellowtrack program at UT Health Houston School of Dentistry, a student mentoring program.

## **Dr. Jerry Joe Hopson** of Bonham, Texas

Sponsored by Dr. Claude Robert Stephens

- Dr. Hopson served on the Texas Dental Association Board of Directors.
- He is a past chair of the Council on Dental Education, and current chair of the Council on Dental Licensing, Standards, and Education for the Texas Dental Association.

## **Dr. Thomas E. Karr** of Amarillo, Texas

Sponsored by Dr Jay C. Adkins

- Dr. Karr is a Past-President of the Texas Academy of General Dentistry and a Jack T. Clark Foundation chairman.
- He was a nominee for TAGD Texas Dentist of the Year in 1996 and 2010.

## **Dr. Jeffery Paul Kosoris** of Waxahachie, Texas

Sponsored by Dr. Claude Robert Stephens

- Dr. Kosoris is the founder and director of Hope clinic (a mission serving the under-served right in his community) and he served as President for 5 years.
- He served twice as President of the Sixth District Dental Society.

## **Dr. E. Dale Martin** of Arlington, Texas

Sponsored by Dr. Charles Miller

- Dr. Martin has Juris Doctorate degree from SMU School of Law and is a board certified Pediatric Dentist where he has served as President of Ft. Worth District Dental Society.
- In the 1990's served the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as Assistant Regional Counsel serving the Albuquerque area Indian Health Services, and was the Social Security Administration Assistant Regional Counsel for Region 6.

## **Dr. Lawrence Wayne Morris** of San Antonio, Texas

- Dr. Morris is a currently a national officer in the American Equilibration Society and Clinical Associate Professor in Comprehensive Dentistry at UTHSC in San Antonio.
- During school at UTHSC, Dr. Morris received a prestigious fellowship by the NIH/ NIDR to complete a pilot study involving diabetes and temporomandibular joint dysfunction and presented his findings at the annual American Equilibration Society in Chicago.

# NEW TEXAS SECTION INDUCTEES

## **Dr. Sarah Morris** of Ft. Worth Texas

Sponsored by Dr. Partha Mukhergi

- Dr. Morris is known as a servant leader by her colleagues as demonstrated by her many community volunteer efforts as well as ongoing missions in Guatemala and Mexico.

She also serves as the Peer review chair of the Northwest division of the TDA.

## **Dr. Gargi Mukhergi** of Missouri City, Texas

Sponsored by Dr. Partha Mukhergi

- Dr. Mukhergi is an Associate Professor at UT Health Houston School of Dentistry and received the Dean's Excellence Award for Teaching and Innovation.
- She designed and co-invented the Airway Armour product now sold by Zirc, which provides airway safety during dental procedures. She received 2019 Edison Award, an international award for innovative patient devices.

## **Dr. Daniela Marie P. Punzalan** of San Antonio, Texas

Sponsored by Dr. Jennifer Jinkins Bone

- Dr. Punzalan serves on the board of the San Antonio chapter of the TAGD, where she develops sought after continuing education programs and prepares timely and accurate reports to the Board.
- Dr. Punzalan volunteers with Dentistry from the Heart, Smiles of Hope, and Veterans Donated Dental Services in conjunction with the Hispanic Dental Society.

## **Dr. Robert Ramirez** of Austin , Texas

Sponsored by Dr. David Alan Slaughter

- Dr. Ramirez has volunteered his services for two decades in Mexico, India, and his local community.
- His referring dentists adore his chairside manner, his passionate commitment to their Periodontal and personal well-being, and his commitment to community and his three daughters.

## **Dr. Grayson Sellers** of Los Fresnos, Texas

Sponsored by Dr. Jose Luis Cazares

- Dr. Sellers is a founder and Director of "Dentists Who Care" that has provided over 20 million dollars worth of donated dental care over the past 25 years.
- He supports disabled Marine veterans, a designation that includes his son. He and his wife have provided two homes and dental care to many deserving disabled veterans.



# NEW TEXAS SECTION INDUCTEES

## **Dr. James Steven Sollers** of Duncanville Texas

Sponsored by Dr. Claude Robert Stephens

- Dr. Sollers is the Past President of Duncanville Rotary Club and is a Paul Harris Fellow.
- He has served as President of the South Oak Cliff Study Club and was a Board member for years and Chairman of Southwest Dallas County Young Life.

## **Dr. Greg Stroud** of Lancaster, Texas

Sponsored by Dr. Claude Robert Stephens

- Dr. Stroud has shared his talents by volunteering with Orphan Outreach in Latvia.
- He is very involved in his church as Trustee, Deacon, and teacher, and he demonstrates his leadership skills leads by being on the Deacon Selection Committee and chair of the Personnel Committee.

## **Dr. Michael Sullivan** of Harlingen Texas

Sponsored by Dr. Jose Luis Cazares

- As a U.S.Army Reserves Dental Major, Dr. Sullivan is responsible for staff of 30 dentists and technicians. His past deployments include Iraq, Kuwait, Cuba, Honduras, and Gautemala.
- He is a leader in the Rio Grande Valley Academy of General Dentists and Director of the V.A. in Harlingen.

## **Dr. John T. Thompson** of Corpus Christi, Texas

Sponsored by Dr. James T. Bone

- Dr. Thompson served on the Texas Dental Association Board of Directors - Southwest Division.
- He is a three time President of the Corpus Christi – Five Points Rotary Club with community and international service.

## **Dr. Akshay Thusu** of San Antonio, Texas

Sponsored by Dr. James T. Bone

- Dr. Thusu is a 2019 graduate if the ADA Institute for Diversity in Leadership.
- He serves on the 2020-2022 Texas Dental Association Council on Membership, New Dentists and Students. He will serve as Chairman in 2022.

## **Dr. Jason Zimmerman** of Ft. Worth Texas

Sponsored by Dr. Jose Luis Cazares

- Dr. Zimmerman was a Governor Perry appointee to the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners.
- He is Co-Chair of the Texas Dental Association Committee on Public Health and Access to Care from 2011 - present.

# GREAT EXPECTATIONS

By Tommy Harrison, DDS, MBA; Clinical Associate Professor, UTSD Houston

The Great Expectations (GE) Mentoring Professionalism Program began at Baylor College of Dentistry (now Texas A&M College of Dentistry) in Dallas, Texas in the fall of 2008. The leadership of the Texas Section of the International College of Dentists at that time included Dr. Moody Alexander, Dr. John Chandler, Dr. Bill Birdwell, Dr. Paul Stubbs, Dr. Richard Smith and Dr. Mark Gannaway. The GE Program at The UTHealth School of Dentistry (UTSD) began in the fall of 2009 and has taken place every year since. Due to COVID-19, the Kickoff Event, which normally takes place in the fall semester, was postponed until the spring semester.

Our Kickoff Event took place on Thursday, February 4, 2021. In order to allow for proper social distancing, the administration at UTSD at Houston bent over backwards to allow five lecture halls on the fourth hall for a face to face meeting of Texas Section ICD Mentors, Faculty Mentors, Upper Class Student Mentors and the entire DS2 (sophomore) class of dental students. Dean John Valenza began the meeting by stating some of the history behind GE. The concepts underlying the program are contained in the precepts fostered by Dr. Arthur Dugoni during his many years as teacher and Dean of the University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry. Here, in a nut shell are his principles: Build people by inspiration. Build self-worth – by building on the positive. Create a sense of family. Respect everyone. Call students “doctor” from day one. Create an environment of Zero Tolerance for: arrogance, rudeness, and destructive behavior. Communicate at every level, and demonstrate often the qualities of a humanistic educational model.

The GE Program in Houston has four sponsoring groups and all were represented at the Kickoff Event. The UTHealth School of Dentistry at Houston PACE Program was represented by program Chair, Dr. Jerry Long. The UTSD Alumni Association was represented by the 2020-2021 President, Dr. David Gonzalez. The Greater Houston Dental Society was represented by the 2020-2021 President, Dr. Kathy O’Keefe Herrin. Dr. Tommy Harrison represented the Texas Section of the International College of Dentistry (ICD). Everyone enjoyed the box dinners and bottles of water and the turnout, in spite of the concerns of COVID-19, was excellent.

Below are listed the ICD and Faculty Mentors who were present at the event on February 4, 2021;

ICD Mentors; Craig Armstrong, Doug Bogan, Rita Cammarata, Shelley Canada, Lee Clitheroe, Ron Collins, Ingrid Duebbert, Kathy Gibson, Tommy Harrison, Duc Ho, Debra Stewart, and Karen Walters.

Faculty Mentors; Dianna Arriaga, Elham Abbassi, Dan Bentley, Ralph Cooley, Elizabeth Hamilton, Steve Laman, Marie LaTortue, Gary Pillers, Dinah Shokralla, and Karen Wuertz.

Once the introductions were completed, the individual group practices performed the traditional “ice breaker” exercise that has been done the past eleven years of the program. We observe the Indian Talking Stick tradition and Dr. Ron Collins explained the tradition to the group. Whoever holds the stick has the floor and everyone is encouraged to respect the tradition and empathetically listen to the participant’s story of “Why did you choose dentistry as a profession.” There will be a follow up meeting on March 31 at the dental school where Ethical Dilemmas will be discussed as a group.

# 2021 ICD USA SECTION ANNUAL MEETING

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ADA ANNUAL SESSION

**LAS VEGAS, NEVADA**  
**OCTOBER 9-12, 2021**

For more information, visit <http://www.usa-icd.org>

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# 2021 SOUTHWEST DENTAL CONFERENCE

**DALLAS, TEXAS**  
**AUGUST 20-21, 2021**

For more information, visit <http://swdentalconf.org/>

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# 2021 TDA ANNUAL MEETING

**SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**  
**MAY 7-8, 2021**

For more information, visit <https://tdameeting.com/>