

District XIII International College of Dentists

California News winter 2017



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Dr. Alan Budenz



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Dr. Donna Klauser



Dr. Navid Mapara



Donna B. Hurowitz, editor

The Balanced, Professional Life

The female dentist was only 55 but had been retired for five years. She was a graduate of my school, USC, so when we met on a vacation tour, we talked about our school and our careers.

Her plans after graduation had been to establish a private practice in wealthy Beverly Hills, where she would 'gouge' the patients with high fees half of her working week, and then provide free care in the low income area of Watts the other half of the week in another practice.

She spent 10 years or so at an HMO-type corporate clinic. It did not sound like they were very happy years. She never did set up the two disparate practices.

As a volunteer reviewer of applications to the UCSF School of Dentistry, I have noted similar intentions expressed by some of the applicants. Whenever I do, I am reminded of the short, unfulfilling career of the dentist I met on my vacation.

Is it really necessary to create such a divided practice life if a dentist wants to offer some probono services? I think not. There are so many opportunities to donate your services to the underserved populations both away and within your own private practice. Instead of taking and planning such extraordinary, cumbersome efforts to create a bisected professional life, wouldn't it have been preferable for this young woman and her husband to select one particular area where they would like to live, work, and just be happy?

I also feel that we can demean the population in the lower quartile of income strata by assuming they have no discretionary income at all. By definition, yes, lower income groups have....lower incomes. But this does not mean that they have *no* income. Patients in lower income areas may have limitations being able to afford some sophisticated and complex dental treatment, but many of them can and will opt for general quality care. Most people have *some* money. And every human being enjoys the pride of self-responsibility and appreciates the value of good health.

ADA statisticians have shown that dentists will go anywhere if they can make a living. Indeed, we have in our local society members who have had a fulfilling and productive practice in lower income areas. For-profit services and donated services are different parts of our lives. It can be counterproductive if we feel obligated to make extraordinary efforts to do pro-bono treatment. I would not feel good about over-charging one group of people, even if the profit would be given to another group of people. Personal and professional ethics should be applied to all patients at all income levels.

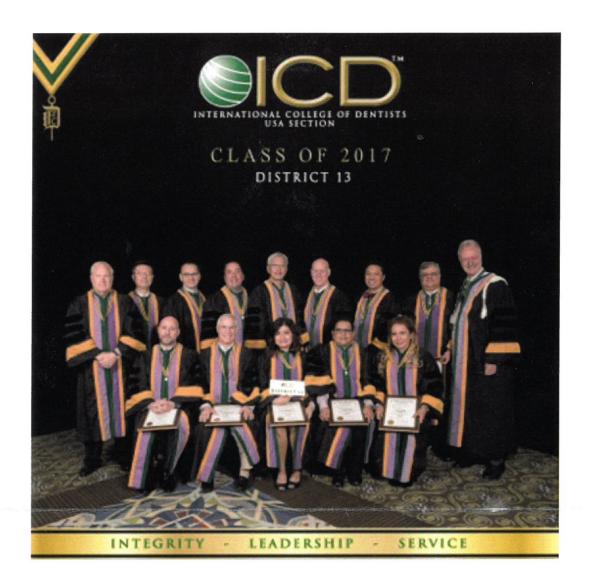
Student Leadership Award Recipients 2016:

- Iames Fedusenko, Loma Linda
- Kelly B. Nguyen, UCLA
- Nicole LaMantia, UCSF
- Sophie R. Couto, USC
- Adam M. Miller, UOP

Student Humanitarian Award Recipients 2016:

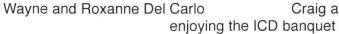
- Brian Lehigh, UCLA
- Danielle Cella Dallal, UCSF
- Yesenia M. Valencia, USC
- Weston R. Hollis, UOP

Remember to read our digital ICD Globe on the <u>icd.org</u> —it will reveal the banner promotion on the website home page



The ICD USA Section welcomed thirteen new fellows on October 19, 2017, at the CNN Center in Atlanta, Georgia. Our regent, Dr. Henrik Hansen, reports that the convocation was impressive. He asks all of us to keep an eye out for qualified dentists who are deserving of this high honor. Dr. Hansen thanks all of us for the honor of representing the California District XIII. Sponsors were: Drs. Hansen, Demichelis, Toy, Mashni, Ramus, and Navazesh.







Craig and Nancy Yarborough

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ICD/ACD Spring Breakfast Anaheim, CA May 18, 2018

Lindsey Robinson, DDS, keynote speaker