

NIDCR National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

ACTIVITIES

Celebrating NIDCR's 60th Anniversary

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

10:30 a.m. – noon NIDCR T32 Training Directors' Meeting
Location: Stemmons Ballroom, Section C

1 p.m. – 3 p.m. NIDCR Trainees' Poster Session
Location: L'Entrecote

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. NIDCR Director's Meeting with
Research Trainees and Junior Scientists
Location: Stemmons Ballroom, Section C

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

2 p.m. – 3 p.m. Enhancing Peer Review at NIH
Location: Emerald Room

NIDCR Director Lawrence Tabak has co-chaired a trans-NIH effort to examine the two-level NIH peer review system with the goal of optimizing its efficiency and effectiveness, and to ensure that the NIH will be able to continue to meet the needs of the research community and the public-at-large. The peer review study involves both external and internal working groups. Dr. Tabak will review the working groups' recommendations to the NIH Director and discuss potential actions.

3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Updating NIDCR's Strategic Plan
Location: Emerald Room

This session will give an opportunity for AADR attendees to provide input for the leadership of the NIDCR on the development of the Institute's next Strategic Plan (FY2009-2013). As the only Institute of the NIH devoted to dental, oral, and craniofacial research, the NIDCR has a distinguished record of supporting oral health research. Having a strategic plan that identifies the most promising opportunities for investment and that delineates the Institute's priorities is essential to achieving the NIDCR's mission of advancing oral health and well-being for all. The session will enable participants to suggest research priorities, offer input regarding directions for future research, and otherwise comment on how the NIDCR can most effectively achieve its mission. The input of AADR participants is vital to the development of a comprehensive strategic plan that reflects the wisdom and advice of the oral, dental, and craniofacial research communities.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

8 a.m. – noon Hands-on Workshop:
Essentials in Grant Writing
Location: Morocco

This seminar teaches new investigators how to write a grant application, a subject that is missing from the educational backgrounds of most junior faculty members. The program content is appropriate for senior graduate students, post-doctoral research fellows, and non-tenure-track faculty members who aspire to the tenure track and have never written a successful grant application. The seminar is a modification of the advanced seminar, "Write Winning Grants". The difference is that the pace here is slower. For example, more time is allowed for questions and discussions, and more basic material is included (e.g., organizational structures of the major Federal funding agencies, how priority scores are calculated, what facilities and administrative costs are, how to analyze a critique in anticipation of resubmission, etc.). As would be expected, greater emphasis is given on how one starts to build an academic career, including how to write a career development award.

Another difference is that the last hour is devoted to questions and answers. For example: What should a trainee be thinking about with respect to proposal writing while still in training? When and how should a mentor be approached by a senior graduate student/post-doctoral research fellow who wants to take a project with him/her? How does a student gradually become independent of a mentor? Why do so many assistant professors fail to merit promotion and tenure?

9:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. NIDCR 60th Anniversary
Symposium: Looking Toward the Future
Location: Grand Ballroom E

As the NIDCR celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2008, it is a pleasure to recognize that a growing cadre of new scientists and professionals is emerging and making an impact in the oral health research community. This Symposium highlights this development by selecting five emerging scientists from this group. The Symposium has no unifying theme, but highlights oral health research and scientific inquiry over a broad field, from the basic sciences through translational research to the social and behavioral sciences. Each of these talented individuals has been, or is currently being, supported by one or more of the NIDCR's training and career development mechanisms.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

8 a.m. – 10 a.m. NIDCR 60th Anniversary Symposium:
Dental Practice-based Research –
Practitioner-driven Evidence-based Dentistry
Location: Governors Lecture Hall

Practice-based research holds great potential for answering the questions that practitioners face daily in the routine care of their patients. This symposium will focus on the important aspects of the conduct of oral health research in a general dental practice. The Practitioners Engaged in Applied Research and Learning (PEARL), the Practice-based Research Collaborative in Evidence-based Dentistry (PRECEDENT), and the Dental Practice-Based Research Network (DPBRN) are NIDCR-funded dental Practice-Based Research Networks (PBRN) that conduct clinically relevant clinical research studies in practitioners' offices. The network directors and one dental practitioner-investigator from each Network will provide an overview of an active dental PBRN, using a network study to illustrate the tremendous potential and significant challenges involved in conducting networked research in general dental practices.

9:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. NIDCR Research Training & Career
Development Opportunities
Location: Obelisk Room

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

9 a.m. – 11 a.m. NIDCR 60th Anniversary Symposium:
Building on Our Strengths
Location: Grand Ballroom B

As the NIDCR celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2008, it is gratifying to acknowledge that many NIDCR-supported scientists have made highly significant and career-long contributions to the field of oral health research which have helped improve oral health conditions for Americans. The NIDCR proposes to celebrate the anniversary by highlighting four individuals who continue to make high-impact contributions to oral health research. The Symposium does not have a single unifying theme, but highlights four different and important fields of oral health research.