

BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES AND HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH Newsletter

Autnum 1996

Vol. 8 No. 1

P resident's Message

These are exciting times for the Behavioral Sciences and Health Services Research Group. In my first column I want to highlight new developments that are increasing the Group's visibility as well as its fundamental importance to oral health research.

With financial support from Donald Giddon, the Group has launched the Giddon Award for Distinguished Research in the Behavioral Sciences. Under the leadership of Peter Milgrom, a planning committee has assembled a panel of prominent investigators to review submissions for this award. Inside this Newsletter, you will find more details about the award, the process for nominating publications, and plans to announce the first award at the 1997 meeting in Orlando. I encourage you to think about recent publications in the behavioral sciences, and to nominate papers that have advanced the field in a meaningful way.

The Group is also in the process of launching its own World Wide Web site. I have created a BSHSR homepage on the mainframe computer at the University of Washington. You can reach the BSHSR homepage by using Netscape, Mosaic, or other Internet software; its URL address is <http://weber.u.washington.edu/~grem/bshsr>. At this time, the homepage is still under construction. In time you will be able to use the BSHSR homepage to find information about BSHSR and to link with IADR, NIDR, AHCPR, and other health-related sites. Comments about the BSHSR homepage are welcome and may be sent to me at: grem@u.washington.edu. Both the Giddon Award and the homepage will give BSHSR greater visibility within

IADR as well as in the greater health research community.

This is also an exciting time because the growing importance of oral health outcomes, both in research and patient care, will inevitably increase demand for the Group's expertise in a wide variety of oral health research. The increased interest in oral health outcomes is coming from many sources. For example, last year the Institute of

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Dr. Cohen Receives 1st Distinguished Scientist Award



Dr. Lois Cohen, Director, Division of Extramural Research, at the National Institute of Dental Research, received the first Distinguished Scientist Award during the opening ceremony at the IADR meeting in San

Francisco in March 1996. Dr. Cohen is pictured with Dr. Henrietta Logan, then BSHSR President. This annual award, sponsored by the John O. Butler Co., recognizes one senior researcher who has made an exemplary career contribution to the field of dental epidemiology, behavioral science, or health services research. Dr. Cohen was also honored at the Behavioral Sciences and Health Services Research Group business meeting and reception.

Congratulations Dr. Cohen!



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William J. Gies Award

The William J. Gies Award is made annually for the best paper published in the *Journal of Dental Research* during the previous year. The deadline for 1997 Gies Award Nominations is October 1, 1996. Papers published in the *JDR* during the period July 1995 through June 1996 will be reviewed for the 1997 award. Nominations should be sent to:

Dr. Floyd Dewhirst, Chair
AADR William J. Gies Award Committee
Forsyth Dental Center
140 The Fenway
Boston, MA 02115
email: FDewhirst@Forsyth.org

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Council Report

Elections:

BSHSR member Helen Gift (NIH, Bethesda) was elected AADR Publications Committee Member-at-large. Congratulations Helen!

New IADR Vice-President:

Mamoru Sakuda, Japan

New AADR Vice-President:

Paul Robertson, Seattle

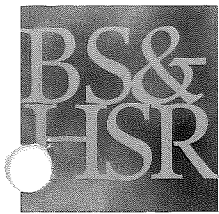
San Francisco IADR/AADR Program:

The program received 3,378 abstracts from 56 countries, including 1,142 orals, 2,117 posters, 40 poster-discussion, 22 symposia, and one hands-on workshop. This number was about 500 more than the last combined IADR/AADR meeting in

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Clarkson Resigns

Dr. John J. Clarkson, Executive Director, IADR/AADR, has announced his decision to accept the post of Professor/Consultant in Public Dental Health and Chair of the Department of Child Dental Health and Public Dental Health in Trinity College, Dublin. He will remain with the Associations until July 1, 1997, or until a replacement is in post. A search committee, chaired by Dr. John Greene, is accepting applications and nominations for a new Executive Director until October 18, 1996. Please contact the IADR Central Office for additional information.



Sponsored by Colgate-Palmolive Co.

Research in Prevention Award

Call for Applications

The International Association for Dental Research is inviting applications from post-doctoral students and young investigators for a sponsored award in research in prevention.

Eligibility

Post-doctoral students and young investigators (up to five years post graduation from dental, dental hygiene, or specialty training). Entrants must provide a verification letter of their status.

Applications

- 1) Applicants must submit an abstract for presentation at the 1997 IADR General Session in Orlando.
- 2) Applicants must also submit a separate and more detailed overview of their project (3-4 pages, double-spaced), including how the research will affect the prevention of the condition studied.
- 3) Applicants must submit a letter stating their interest in applying for the award.

Important note

Abstracts received without the letter and/or detailed overview will not be considered. All three items must be sent together to the address below. Proposals without a preventive component will be automatically rejected.

Research topic

Submissions must represent original research in the area of oral disease prevention (caries, gingivitis, periodontics, xerostomia, oral cancer, or any other oral disease or condition). In addition to research on various preventive agents, submissions will be considered that focus on preventive programs, demonstration projects, or community outreach programs, provided outcomes are measured and reported.

Award

Six (6) awards will be awarded in total – one person from each of the following areas: North America (Canada and the US), South America/Mexico, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia/New Zealand. The winner of each award will receive US \$2,000 for expenses to attend the IADR General Session.

Selection

The successful applicants must first have their abstract accepted by the appropriate IADR Group for presentation and then be selected by the Awards Committee. The Committee's decision will be made in October 1996, and winners will be notified immediately. The award winners will be formally announced at the IADR General Session in Orlando, in March 1997. If selected for the award, the paper must be presented at that meeting (no presenter substitutions allowed).

Sponsorship

The award is sponsored by a generous donation from the Colgate-Palmolive Co.

Application Deadlines:

Applications (original abstract, etc.) must be received (FAX and e-mail copies will not be accepted) by the IADR Central Office, to the attention of Gwynn Breckenridge, **no later than September 20, 1996**. Applications received after this date will NOT be eligible.

Oral Epidemiology Forum

Eighty people attended the third annual Oral Epidemiology Forum held at the University of California, San Francisco on March 12, 1996, before the IADR meeting. The two major purposes of this program were both geared toward welcoming new people to this discipline. The first purpose was to give students currently enrolled in NIH-funded oral epidemiology training programs an opportunity to meet their peers and colleagues. The second was to serve as a forum to exchange new research ideas and methods. The eight

papers presented were all works-in-progress. The forum was organized by Dr. Jane Weintraub and sponsored by Colgate Oral Pharmaceuticals and the UCSF School of Dentistry.

Members of the BSHSR and their dental student researchers are invited to apply for AADR Student Research Fellowships. Student research proposals are due January 15, 1997. All research related to basic and clinical health is invited. The stipend is \$2,100, and \$300 is given for research supplies. Proposals may be no longer than eight pages. Awardees will be announced at the opening AADR session in Orlando. More information can be obtained from Dr. Robert Quivey at (716) 275-0382 or Mrs. Patricia Reynolds at (703) 548-0066.



Giddon Award for Distinguished Research in the Behavioral Sciences

President's Message

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Medicine recommended a renewal of the dental profession by increasing emphasis on oral health outcomes, with the goal of reducing disparities in oral health and access across population groups. Earlier this summer, an AHCPR-NIDR-sponsored conference focused on defining and measuring oral health outcomes; the conference—Assessing Oral Health Outcomes—Measuring Health Status and Quality of Life—was organized by Dr. Gary Slade at the University of North Carolina. At a different health services research conference, a session on health outcomes assessment focused on physical and mental health but included the “oral component” as a third dimension of health. Managed care organizations also are developing evidenced-based utilization review programs to judge the appropriateness of dental and medical treatments (preventive, diagnostic, behavioral, reparative, and pharmaceutical), which is bound to increase the demand for knowledge about the costs and health outcomes of dental technologies. The Cochrane Group is working toward this end by assembling evidence on the costs and outcomes of alternative dental treatments. Internationally, WHO is sponsoring research to develop cross-cultural measures of health status.

All of this activity bodes well for BSHSR, for the members of our group have both the theoretical and methodological expertise to pose and answer research questions about oral health outcomes. The trend toward health outcomes research no doubt will continue through the remainder of this century. It is a golden opportunity for the members of BSHSR to play a leadership role in developing this knowledge base.

David Grembowski

The Executive Committee of the Behavioral Sciences and Health Services Research Group of IADR announces the initiation of the Giddon Award for Distinguished Research in the Behavioral Sciences. This prize, to be awarded for the first time at the IADR meeting in Orlando, Florida, in March 1997, recognizes a single research paper published (or accepted for publication) since January 1995 in the fields of social or cultural anthropology, education, psychology, psychiatry, sociology, or social work applied to dentistry. Both applied and basic research papers are eligible. The senior author will receive the prize, but all of the authors will be recognized.

The award committee will accept self-nominations or nominations by others until December 31, 1996. A nomination should include 10 complete copies of the published paper. Manuscripts accepted for publication but not yet published should be accompanied by a copy of the acceptance letter from the journal editor. The senior author must be willing to attend the award ceremony in Orlando and indicate so in a letter. Nominations should be addressed to:

Professor Peter Milgrom
Department of Dental Public
Health Sciences
Box 357475
University of Washington
Seattle, WA, USA 98195-7475

All nominations will be acknowledged in writing.

The Giddon Award for Distinguished Research in the Behavioral Sciences jury membership is:

Ronald M. Andersen, PhD, Professor of Health Services, UCLA.

William Ayer, DDS PhD, Professor of Dental Behavioral Sciences, Northwestern University.

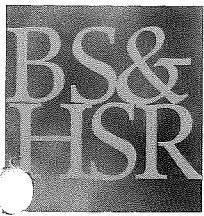
Gordon H. DeFries, PhD, Professor of Social Medicine, Epidemiology and Health Policy and Administration, Director, Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Editor Emeritus, *Health Services Research*.

Paula Diehr, PhD, Professor of Biostatistics and Health Services, University of Washington in Seattle.

Stephen Kegeles, PhD, Professor Emeritus of Behavioral Sciences and Community Health, University of Connecticut Health Center.

Stanley Rachman, PhD, Professor and Director of the Program in Clinical Psychology, University of British Columbia, and Editor, *Behaviour Research and Therapy*.

This award is made possible by a contribution from Donald B. Giddon, DMD, PhD. Dr. Giddon serves as Clinical Professor of Psychology at the University of Illinois College of Dentistry and also on the faculty at New York University, Brown University, and Harvard University. He has served as Dean of the School of Dentistry, New York University, and was an early and substantial contributor to the integration of the behavioral sciences into dental research and education. Dr. Giddon serves as an ex-officio non-voting member of the prize jury.



Preventive Dentistry is Given Higher Priority in Asia

Traditionally, knowledge of oral health and related issues in Asian countries has been relatively limited. A picture is gradually emerging of a dramatic oral health situation in preschool children and slowly deteriorating oral health in older groups under the influence of changes in lifestyle. The People's Republic of China has had a National Committee of Oral Health for many years, closely related to the Ministry of Public Health. In June 1996, an Association of Preventive Dentistry was established to take a further step in meeting the oral health preventive challenges. With representatives from all provinces, a two-day symposium discussed future steps in the fight against oral health declines. Despite many years without fluorides, I think a change of heart is taking place to a more open attitude towards fluorides, e.g., in toothpaste and milk.

In Seoul, the Asian Academy of Preventive Dentistry is holding its second meeting with considerable expert input from Drs. Alice and Herschel Horowitz. The academy comprises members predominantly from Japan and South Korea, and these countries' traditional reparative attitudes confer great importance on this organization's activities abroad. Several hundred participants attended the previous meeting in Fukuoka two years ago, so one can hope that changes can soon be identified.

Submitted by Eli Schwarz



Tomar at UCSF

Has Established Educational Research Group

The BSHSR group has got a little sibling. At the IADR San Francisco meeting, an Education Research Group was established. Presently, Marcia Boyd of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, is the convener. The executive group includes John Gwinnett, Nairn Wilson, Raman Bedi, Ron Hunt, Ivan Stangel, and Eli Schwarz as the link to the International Federation of Dental Education Associations. Marcia Boyd has described some of the areas to include: educational practice; teaching and learning dynamics; program evaluation; outcomes assessment; application of new technologies, methodologies, teaching, and research approaches; licensing and certification; quality assurance and continuing competence; as well as cross-professional interaction. Marcia Boyd can be reached on maboymd@unixg.ubc.ca.

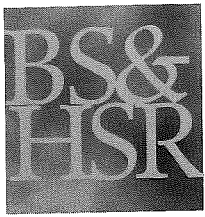
Submitted by Eli Schwarz

Scott L. Tomar, DMD, MPH, DrPH, has joined the faculty at the University of California, San Francisco, School of Dentistry, as part of the new initiative in oral epidemiology. He will be an assistant professor in the Department of Dental Public Health and Hygiene. Scott was most recently an epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office on Smoking and Health, and an officer in CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service. He received his dental degree from Temple University, MPH from Columbia University, and DrPH degree (oral epidemiology) from the University of Michigan.

Indexed Bibliography of Behavioral Interventions for Chronic Disease

An indexed bibliography of controlled trials, meta-analyses, and review articles for 18 chronic diseases and conditions has been compiled and is now available in both hard copy (\$20) and electronic (\$15) versions. The bibliography includes over 400 selected references indexed by illness, type of intervention (e.g. problem-solving, case management), and mode of delivery (e.g. telephone, mini-clinic, computer-based instruction). It will provide ready access to critical scientific studies relevant to self-management training and support for cancer, diabetes, asthma, headache,

back pain, arthritis, heart disease, frailty in old age, and other chronic conditions. Each citation is accompanied by its abstract. The bibliography is indexed to facilitate locating studies, specific interventions and delivery modalities. The bibliography was developed by the Center for Advancement of Health and the Center for Health Studies of Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound. Please contact the Center for the Advancement of Health at (202)387-2829 for more information.



Open letter from Ronald J. Billings, Director, Eastman Dental Center, Rochester, NY

July 8, 1996

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

For the 21 years Dr. Dennis Leverett worked at Eastman Dental Center, he reached out to our community, and he touched our lives. His sense of humor, kindness, and intelligence helped lead the Center through challenging times, and he served us with dignity and grace. Dennis always tried to help others, demonstrating his compassion for people from all walks of life. His heart and spirit shone through, and we knew that he wanted the best for us. The best for his friends, his family, and for our community...

Today I have sad news to report. Dennis has passed away after a long battle with cancer. He died on Sunday, July 7, 1996, at his home in La Cruces, New Mexico.

Many of you know that Dennis had been fighting cancer. It first appeared in 1989 when he was working at the Center. At one point the cancer was in remission, and we hoped that Dennis would enjoy many happy years of retirement. Unfortunately this didn't happen. In his final weeks, Dennis' spirits were good. He received a great deal of support from his family, friends, and colleagues throughout the world. It helped buoy him, and he said good-bye to many of those he had met and cared for over the years.

Less than two weeks ago, Clare Shaffer made a special trip to visit with Dennis. Clare had worked with Dennis when he chaired our community dentistry program, and they shared a close relationship. Clare's trip was more than simply a last good-bye. She went as an emissary, on behalf of the Oral Health Section of the American Public Health Association, to present Dennis with the *John W. Knutson Distinguished Service Award*.

The award, which is an engraved silver tray, is presented each year to honor an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to improving oral health in the United States. The recipient of this award must demonstrate sustained and distinguished accomplishments in the field of dental public health. During presentation of the award, several of Dennis' colleagues and friends joined in the ceremony by conference call. It was a special moment.

Dennis' career had many high points, and we are proud that he was part of the Center for so many years. In January 1996, our Board of Trustees granted Dennis the honorary title of Professor Emeritus. This achievement celebrates Dennis as an educator, mentor, and leader at Eastman Dental Center. At the time of his death, Dennis was President of the American Association of Public Health Dentistry, Professor Emeritus of Eastman Dental Center, and Professor of Dental Science of the University of Rochester. We will recognize his many achievements and distinguished career throughout the coming year.

Dennis' family appreciates the outpouring of love and affection demonstrated by many of you. Joyce, Dennis' wife of 30 years, has asked that, in lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be sent to: Mesilla Valley Hospice, Inc., 299 East Montana, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005. A Celebration of His Life Memorial Service was held at Eastman Dental Center on Saturday, July 27, 1996.

I worked with Dennis for many years, and this is a difficult time for me, as it is for many of you. Dennis was a wonderful man, and he will be greatly missed.

Sincerely, Ronald J. Billings, Director

AADR Council Report

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Seattle. The overall rejection rate was seven percent.

Journal:

Most of the AADR revenue comes from the *Journal of Dental Research*. The 1994 acceptance rate was 23 percent. In 1995, the number of issues was increased from 10 to 11, and the number of pages per issue increased. The *Journal* receives 34-35 submissions

each month; the 1995 acceptance rate was 31 percent. The table of contents and abstracts can now be viewed from the IADR homepage on the World Wide Web. Electronic versions of the *Journal* and financial arrangements are under development. Other journals on the Web require passwords for access, and some are pay-per-view!

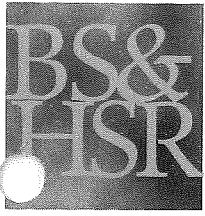
Membership:

As of January 30, 1996, there were 10,752 IADR members and 5,216

AADR members. Since about half of the members reside outside of the U.S., beginning in 2003 an IADR meeting will be held outside of North America every two years rather than every three years. Non-member registration fees will increase \$25. Encourage your colleagues to join the organization.

Strategic Plan:

The AADR strategic plan will be published in its newsletter. The leadership welcomes feedback on this plan.



Membership Reminders

■ Membership dues for the BSHSR Group are collected through the IADR Central Office. The Central Office will soon mail out dues notices. You may pay your dues for our group at the same time. Annual dues for the BSHSR Group are \$15. We need your support to continue the newsletter and membership directory and to sponsor social events at the annual meeting. Thanks in advance for renewing your membership.

■ A BSHSR member directory was published and distributed this past fall. Please check your listing for accuracy. If your information is correct, you don't have to do anything. If your information is incorrect and you have not already given the corrections to Steven Levy, please send the changes to him. His mailing and email addresses are listed with the other officers. If you have already given Steve your changes, please do not resend them. The changes will be reflected in the next membership directory. If you do not have a copy or if your name does not appear in the 1996 membership directory, please contact Steve.

■ To better serve the needs of our members, we ask each new member to complete a membership survey. Previously we have published the membership survey form in the newsletter. Since our dues are now collected by the Central Office, we will no longer publish the survey in the newsletter. When the BSHSR homepage is completed, a copy of the membership survey will appear there. In the meantime, if you are a new member, we ask that you contact Steve for a copy of the survey.

■ BSHSR officers meet twice each year during the annual meeting. If you have items you would like this group to discuss, please contact Dave Grembowski. And if you want to become more involved with the BSHSR Group's activities, please contact any of the offices for additional information.

■ Elections for two new BSHSR officers—one director and the symposium/lunch and learning coordinator—will be held in January and February 1997. Henrietta Logan, Immediate Past President, will coordinate the election process. Please watch for the nominations request early next year.

Position statements

The following position statements were approved by the AADR Board of Directors during the year.

Tobacco use

Tobacco use is the principal risk factor for oral cancer. It also increases the risk for periodontal disease and decreases the ability of oral tissues to heal. Other oral effects include halitosis (bad breath), decreased ability to taste, and increased staining of the teeth. Smokeless tobacco (spit tobacco) is not a safe alternative to smoking tobacco. Tobacco used in either form is harmful to health and should be discouraged. The AADR urges dental professionals to discourage initiation of tobacco use in any form among their patients and the public, and to facilitate and reinforce cessation among users.

Topical Fluoride

Topical fluorides are those that are applied to erupted teeth. They enhance the anti-caries effect of dietary fluorides. They are not a substitute for water fluoridation or other sources of dietary fluoride.

Daily use of fluoride-containing dentifrices that meet the acceptance standards of the American Dental Association is effective in reducing caries. Fluoride-containing dentifrices should be used in small amounts in pre-school-

aged children in order to reduce the risk of dental fluorosis through unintentional ingestion.

Professionally applied solutions and gels also reduce caries incidence. Application at six-month intervals is appropriate for patients at moderate risk. Application frequency may be decreased or increased according to risk status and degree of exposure to other sources of fluoride. Unintentional ingestion should be minimized.

The use of daily or weekly home fluoride mouthrinses and gels is recommended only for those at high caries risk. Because of their high fluoride concentration, these forms of topical fluoride are not recommended for pre-school-aged children.

Dental Amalgam Restorations

Dental amalgam has a well-documented history of safety and efficacy in dentistry. Its advantages include ease of handling, durability, and relatively low cost. Dental amalgam has numerous indications for use, especially for restorations in stress-bearing areas. Its main disadvantages are poor esthetics and the necessity to remove sound tooth structure to obtain retention. Its use in restorative procedures is still indicated.

Scientific evidence indicates that currently used restorative materials, including dental amalgam, cause no or very few significant side effects. Extremely small amounts of mercury may escape from an amalgam restoration during normal use, but this minute mercury exposure does not cause verifiable adverse effects on the general health of patients or dental health personnel. Local allergic or other inflammatory reactions are rare side effects of dental amalgam.

A position statement about TMD was approved pending legal counsel.

Submitted by Jane Weintraub, BSHSR Group Councilor

Upcoming meetings

September 25-27, 1996

American Association of Public Health Dentistry
Holiday Inn International Drive
Orlando, FL

Contact:
AAPHD National Office
10619 Jousting Lane
Richmond, VA 23235-3838

September 28 - October 1, 1996

American Dental Association
FDI World Dental Federation World Dental Congress
Orange County Convention Center
Orlando, FL

Contact:
American Dental Association
211 E. Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

October 3-5, 1996

National Association of Dental Plans (NADP)
The Westin Mission Hills Resort
Rancho Mirage, CA

Contact:
NADP
5001 LBJ Freeway, Suite 375
Dallas, TX 75244

October 18-20, 1996

Oral Health 200 Consortium
Scottsdale Conference Resort
Scottsdale, AZ

Contact:
Oral Health America
211 E. Chicago Avenue, Suite 820
Chicago, IL 60611

November 17-21, 1996

American Public Health Association
New York City, NY

Contact:
APHA
1015 15th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

November 17-21, 1996

Gerontological Society of America
Washington, DC

Contact:
Stephanie Gordon
Phone: 202.842.1275
Fax: 202.842.1150

November 25-26, 1996

Workshop on Cost-Effectiveness in Health and Medicine
NIH Natcher Center
Bethesda, MD

Contact:
Birch and Davis Associates, Inc.
8905 Fairview Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

March 15-19, 1997

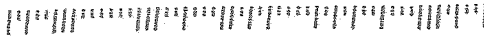
American Association of Dental Schools
Peabody Hotel,
Orlando Convention Center
Orlando, FL

Contact:
AADS
1625 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036-2212

March 19-23, 1997

International Association for Dental Research
Orange County Convention Center
Orlando, FL

Contact:
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