

HENRY SCHEIN SUPPORTS KING'S TRAINING PROGRAMMES



Healthcare product provider company Henry Schein, Inc, has donated \$548,000 to King's College London Dental Institute's Flexible Graduate Programme to fund training, scholarships and awards.

King's College London Dental Institute trains 20% of all dentists in the UK and with online learning, provides professional training to dentists from almost 60 countries worldwide with five flexible learning graduate programmes.

'With the support of Henry Schein, the Dental Institute will be able to greatly strengthen its promotion and excellence in its flexible Masters programmes. The worldwide impact of the Henry Schein initiative on the outcomes and benefits of King's flexible graduate studies in dentistry will be very substantial, with students and their patients being the beneficiaries of the generosity of Henry Schein,' said Professor Nairn Wilson, Dean and Head of Dental Institute.

ANGELA FLETCHER

It is with sadness that we report the death on Thursday 20 January of Angela Fletcher, well known by many students of UCH Dental School in her role within the prosthetics department.

BDA MAKES PROACTIVE START TO 2011

The British Dental Association (BDA) says that dental practices should not have to pay to register with the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

The BDA's submission to the CQC's consultation on fees emphasises the financial pressures confronting dental practice, the failure of the CQC regime to add any value and the considerable time practices must invest in becoming registered, and concludes that a fee for registration would be inappropriate. Furthermore, the response says, proposed registration fees could reduce dentists' ability to invest in their practices.

The BDA has calculated that small single-handed dental practices, often vital to the provision of dental care in rural and deprived areas, would contribute an average of 0.64% of their turnover to paying the proposed £1,500 fee – an inequitable consequence of the CQC's proposals.

In other news, a survey by the BDA has shown that patients failing to attend NHS dental appointments in England could be denying significant numbers of other people the chance to access care. The survey suggests that committed NHS dentists in England each lose

the equivalent of almost two weeks a year because patients fail to turn up for appointments.

'This problem needs to be tackled and the BDA believes that the Government should consider reintroducing a fee for patients who miss appointments to deter them from doing so,' said John Milne, Chair of the BDA's General Dental Practice Committee. The fee for missed appointments was abolished in 2006.

Finally, the BDA museum has been honoured with a prestigious Jodi Award for its involvement in a project focused on adults with learning disabilities. The museum received the *Digital Access for People with a Learning Disability* award 2010 as it was the principal setting for the digital documentary film, *No Fairies*.

The project saw a group of adults with learning disabilities visit the museum at the BDA's headquarters in London, where they used its unusual collection of dental equipment and artefacts as inspiration to create their own digital films. The final film incorporates a series of dental-themed animation films produced by each of the participants, and can be viewed at www.bda.org/museum/learning-and-access/films/.

HELP HAITI'S ORAL HEALTH

The American Dental Association (ADA) is appealing for support to raise \$350,000 to rebuild the 35 dental offices destroyed in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, by the earthquake in January 2010.

The ADA is asking international dental organisations, the dental industry and dental specialty organisations to become part of the initiative to rebuild the oral health infrastructure of a country in dire need. It is one year since the earthquake struck Haiti and the country is still in crisis, dealing with an outbreak of cholera and enduring a period of political strife.

It is estimated that \$10,000 will help rebuild each practice, so the ADA is ask-

ing the global dental industry to consider 'adopting a practice' or meeting the ADA halfway with a contribution of \$5,000 – although an individual donation of as little as \$3 would be appreciated.

Donations will be managed and distributed by Health Volunteers Overseas, a US non-profit organisation, with the ADA's assurance that donations will not go astray.

'We have an opportunity to positively influence oral health in Haiti for generations to come and I hope you will join us,' said Dr Raymond Gist, President of the ADA.

For more information visit the International Activities page at www.ada.org/international.