SEAP MESSENGER

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN ACADEMY OF PROSTHODONTICS

2026

2026-2027 SEAP Officers

Dr. Angela Gullard
President

Dr. William (Bill) Scruggs
President Elect

Dr. Thuong (Tony) Huynh
First Vice President

Dr. Day Gates, III
Second Vice President

Dr. Paul Scruggs
Secretary/Treasurer
Raleigh, North Carolina

PLEASE NOTE:
NEW SEAP EMAIL
seprosth@gmail.com
Please update your info to reflect this address.
Thank you.

SEAP Office:
30524 Birdhouse Drive
Wesley Chapel, Florida 33545
813-541-4056
seprosth@gmail.com
www.seaprosth.org

Marlinda Fulton
Executive Director

A Message from Your President

Greetings from Memphis, TN!



President

Save the date, April 15-17, 2027, for the 73rd Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Academy of Prosthodontics (SEAP) at iconic The Guest House in Memphis, Tennessee. Located in the heart of Elvis Presley's Graceland, this luxury hotel offers visitors a resort experience as part of the world's #1 Best Musical Attraction.

Each member is challenged with "bringing a friend" to the conference – whether this is the first attendance at a SEAP conference or a renewed commitment to join, your active role in member recruitment is instrumental to our wonderful organization!

We will kick off the meeting early with a fun golf outing on Thursday, April 15th, a relaxing way to meet new friends and reconnect before the main event. Details to follow in the meeting brochure.

Our distinguished speakers will present cutting-edge insights that bridge the gap between dental research and clinical application. On Friday, prominent dental researcher and educator, **Taiseer Sulaiman, DMD, PhD**, will explore, "*Pursuit of Excellence: Optimizing Direct and Indirect Restorative Outcomes… Material Selection and Clinical Application*." Dr. Sulaiman will lecture on:

- The first two phases of any restorative care are treatment planning and clinical execution. The third phase, material selection and clinical application, is often underestimated, resulting in failure to serve our patients. The abundance of restorative dentistry materials, such as dental ceramics, adhesives, composite resins, cements, and provisional material, coupled with the constant release of new materials by manufacturers, can be daunting. When clinicians comprehend the fundamental features and characteristics of each material as well as their precise application, the maximum potential of each material can be achieved, resulting in extraordinary patient care. This course will focus on clinical recommendations and material selection criteria to complement the pursuit of restorative dental excellence.

On Saturday, **Todd Schoenbaum, DDS, MS,** a globally recognized leader in the field of implant dentistry, will share his expertise on "*Implant Prosthodontics: Aesthetics, Complications, Innovations, and Rescue Treatment*." His presentation will present:

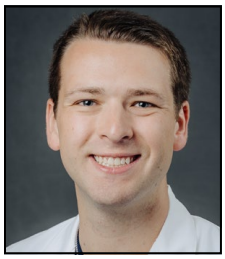
- The challenges and limitations unique to the treatment of partially edentulous implant patients. The focus will be on clinical techniques

(continued on page 7)

CONGRATULATIONS

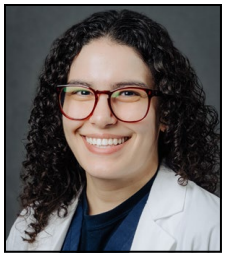
Meet the 2026 SEAP Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to Drs. Christine Marar and Braden Thayer on being selected as recipients of the SEAP Foundation Scholarship. We are pleased to welcome them to the SEAP community and look forward to meeting both of them at the 2027 SEAP Annual Meeting in Memphis, Tennessee.



Dr. Braden Thayer is a native of Knoxville, Tennessee and received his B.A. in Kinesiology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Despite initially pursuing a career in medicine, Dr. Thayer found a calling in dentistry after shadowing at Knoxville Smiles clinic and observing the patient connections, leadership opportunities, and the blend of science, art, and technology.

In 2025, he went on to graduate with distinction from the University of Louisville School of Dentistry. He is currently a second-year resident at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center pursuing his certificate in prosthodontics and Master of Dental Science degree. Outside of school, he enjoys music, football, and being a husband and father to two young boys. He plans to return to Knoxville Smiles for a career in private practice —incorporating teaching at local dental schools, leading study clubs, and joining organizations to become an impactful member of the community.



Dr. Christine Marar grew up in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Since she was a child, she dreamed of a career in dentistry. This journey, paired with her love for the Pittsburgh Steelers, led her to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 2021 with a B.S. in Biological Sciences and a certificate in Arabic Language and Linguistics. She continued to graduate from the University of Pittsburgh, School of Dental Medicine in 2025. She is currently pursuing a certificate in Advanced Prosthodontics and a Master of Dental Science degree from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

2026 SEAP Student Awards

Each year, the Southeastern Academy of Prosthodontics invites the Fixed Prosthodontics departments at every dental school within the SEAP region to evaluate their senior undergraduate dental students and identify the individual who has demonstrated exceptional skill, professionalism, and dedication in the discipline of Fixed Prosthodontics.

To recognize these outstanding students, SEAP presents a personalized plaque during each school's senior awards ceremony, honoring their achievement and commitment to excellence. Award recipients are also invited to attend the following year's SEAP Annual Meeting, where the SEAP Foundation generously provides a scholarship voucher covering continuing education (CE) courses and social events.

We extend our sincere appreciation to **Dr. Susan Orwick-Barnes** for her exemplary leadership in coordinating this program—communicating with participating colleges, overseeing plaque production, and ensuring timely delivery to each dental school. Her dedication continues to strengthen this meaningful initiative and support the next generation of prosthodontic professionals.

Congratulations to the 2026 SEAP Student Award Recipients

UAB School of Dentistry – **Rebecca Lim-Flores**
Univ. of Florida College of Dentistry – **Dylan Alexander Hayes**
Dental College of Georgia – M**ary-Caroline Stanford**
University of Kentucky College of Dentistry – **Samuel Callister**
University of Louisville School of Dentistry – **Breyton Booker**
LSU Dental School – **Brooke A. Haydel**
University of Maryland School of Dentistry – **Rewa Hazin**
University of Mississippi School of Dentistry – **Aubree Dillon**
UNC Adam's School of Dentistry – **Brenna Harrison**
South Carolina Dental School – **Skyelar Reid Robinette**
The Univ. of Tennessee Health Science Center – **Mackenzie Sawyer**
Meharry Medical College, School of Dentistry – **Abdelraham Sedik**
Virginia Commonwealth Univ. School of Dentistry – **Yaman Allahham**
West Virginia University School of Dentistry – **Collin Kerr**

THE SEAP FOUNDATION - WHAT IT IS, WHO IT HELPS...

Scholarship Recipients

- Each year, 2-3 scholarships of $5000 each awarded or if funds allowed, accept, and award all applications, on a first come, first served process.
- Who qualifies? 2nd and 3rd year Advanced Prosthodontics residents and qualified senior residents from a general residency program.
- Outreach? The Foundation sends a letter to the program director of universities in the SEAP "catch" area.
- Application deadline: June 15 of application year
- The scholarships are awarded prior to the beginning of the recipient's school term.
- Recipients are recognized (along with program directors)
- If awarded, recipient attends that year's annual meeting, the full registration fee is covered by the foundation.
- Recipient responsible for travel/lodging,
- Recipient agrees to be a member of SEAP for three years and attend at least three meetings in three years or within six years of receiving scholarship. By extending attendance to within six years, the recipient will also increase their required membership to SEAP to six years.
- Recipient pays 50% of registration fee three times during a six-year period (see above) after initial scholarship received.
- Recipient pays full registration fee for guest/spouse/other activities.
- Recipient pays active membership dues beginning the year after the scholarship. No dues or meeting fee the year they are awarded the scholarship.
- Foreign applicants will be reviewed on a case-by-case process.

Member Sponsored New Dentists

- Must join SEAP, pay dues/and all fees.
- Recent grad from dental school or residency program – within five years.
- Limited # of vouchers.
- Same rule as scholarship winners.
- 50% off registration fee for three times in the first three years of membership.
- Does not cover travel, lodging, guest/spouse fee, or any extra activities.

Senior Dental Student Award

- Invitation letter to the annual meeting will accompany the plaque.
- Foundation covers meeting registration, which includes all social activities (breakfasts, receptions, lunch, and dinner).
- Award recipient responsible for travel and lodging, guest/spouse fee, or any extra activities.

SEE DUES STATEMENT TO DONATE OR CLICK HERE

Tennessee Bound... Heading to Memphis for 2027!

Memphis offers an unforgettable blend of culture, history, and music. Known as the "Home of the Blues" and the "Birthplace of Rock 'n' Roll," the city invites visitors to immerse themselves in its legendary musical heritage, savor its world-famous barbecue, and explore its profound contributions to civil rights history.



Stroll down Beale Street, where live music fills the air and historic clubs showcase the soul of Memphis. Treat yourself to authentic Memphis-style barbecue, celebrated for its slow-cooked, smoky flavor and unmistakable Southern charm. A visit to the National Civil Rights Museum provides a powerful and moving experience, honoring Memphis as a cornerstone of civil rights education.

And of course, no trip would be complete without seeing Graceland—located just steps from our meeting venue, The Guest House at Graceland. It's the perfect opportunity to enjoy all the city has to offer while attending the SEAP Annual Meeting.

Save-the-Date and hotel details can be found on the page 7.

72nd SEAP Meeting Review

The 72nd Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Academy of Prosthodontics (SEAP) was held in the "Star City of the South" — Roanoke, Virginia at the Roanoke Hotel and Conference Center, a historic venue listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

This year's meeting carried special meaning. Dr. Gus Vlahos, who was scheduled to preside as SEAP President, sadly passed away in 2025. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to **Drs. Dana Chamberlain** and **Stephen Alouf** for their exceptional leadership in organizing the meeting, securing speakers, planning social events, and ensuring every detail was thoughtfully managed. We also thank **Dr. Bobby Connor** for coordinating the golf outing and **Karen Chamberlain** for her assistance with meeting amenities and other tasks.

The CE program featured two outstanding speakers:

- **Dr. Don Murry, II** presented an all-day Friday program, *Dental Implantology as a Catalyst for Patient Experience, Clinical Outcome, and Practice Profitability*.
- **Lee Culp, CDT**, delivered Saturday's lecture, *Your Complete Digital Guide to Diagnostic, Surgical, and Restorative Case Planning*.

Both speakers provided high-caliber, clinically relevant continuing education—yet the meeting experience extended far beyond the lecture hall.

Social Events & Activities

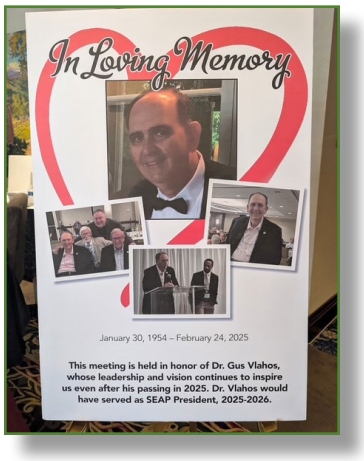


Early arrivals enjoyed a lovely Wednesday evening dinner at Six and Sky Rooftop Grille. On Thursday morning, golfers teed off at the Roanoke Country Club, followed by an evening reception at the hotel and a short walk to Billy's, where attendees shared a memorable night of laughter and exceptional food.

Spouses and guests gathered for breakfast on Friday morning before visiting the Taubman Museum of Art and exploring the Market District. That evening, members enjoyed a post-meeting happy hour and then ventured out for dinner on their own.

Farewell & Reflections

The meeting concluded on Saturday evening with SEAP's traditional farewell dinner, door prize drawings, and induction of new officers. A special moment was reserved to honor and remember Dr. Gus Vlahos, with recognition extended to his wife, Debbie Vlahos, and their children, Chris and Stephanie.



Congratulations to our new 2026-2027 SEAP Officers:

Dr. Angela Gullard, President
Dr. William Scruggs, President Elect
Dr. Thuong (Tony) Huynh, First Vice President
Dr Day Gates, III, Second Vice President
Dr. Paul Scruggs, Secretary-Treasurer

Membership Update

As of 8/30/2026:

88 dentists listed on membership roster
59 are active
29 are retired/life

WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER:
Dr. Zachary T. Swanner, Roanoke, VA

In Memoriam

Dr. Kenneth Carver
Kingsport, TN, passed away January 2024

2026 Annual Meeting – Another Year of Excellence!

Invite your Peers to Join SEAP – 72 years of Education, Leadership, and Lasting Friendships



































We Value and Thank Our 2026 Annual Meeting Vendors

TruAbutment - Speaker Sponsor
BioHorizons - Platinum
Nobel Biocare - Platinum
Oral Arts Dental Lab - Platinum
Ivoclar - Gold
Bonadent Dental Laboratories – Silver
Voxel Dental - Silver
3Shape - Bronze
Kettenbach Dental - Bronze

SEAP Looks to the Future – Growth Required!

We Need Your Help

The Southeastern Academy of Prosthodontics (SEAP) was founded in 1954 by a group of highly skilled and dedicated dentists committed to advancing their knowledge in prosthodontics and delivering the highest quality of care to their patients. Their passion for continued learning quickly attracted other clinicians throughout the Southeast who shared the same pursuit of excellence.

Today, that tradition remains strong. Through our annual scientific programs, the Foundation's resident scholarship initiative, and meaningful social opportunities, SEAP continues to demonstrate its unwavering commitment to the profession and to fostering a vibrant community of dental professionals.

As times change, SEAP is evolving as well. Publications will transition primarily to digital formats, and processes for remitting dues, registering for meetings, and communicating with members and vendors will become more streamlined and efficient.

With these improvements and a focus on the future, SEAP is eager to grow its membership—and you can help. Invite a colleague to join, forward this newsletter, share contact information with the SEAP office so we may reach out, promote the upcoming meeting, and highlight the friendships and professional connections you've made through SEAP. For convenience, prospective members may complete an application using the link provided: **JOIN SEAP!**

Membership is not limited to prosthodontists. The SEAP Bylaws welcome individuals "who devote an appreciable amount of time to the study and practice of Prosthodontics Dentistry."

Thank you for your continued support. The SEAP office is always available to assist, answer questions, and help our valued members stay connected and engaged.

A Message from Your Secretary/Treasurer



I had the privilege of joining SEAP in 1992, served as President in 2005, and have proudly held the role of Secretary/Treasurer since 2009. Over the years, I've watched both Prosthodontics and organized dentistry evolve in remarkable ways. It's fun to look back and remember that, in 1992, our presentations ran on slide carousels—and checking your office voicemail meant finding a bank of pay phones in the hotel lobby during meeting breaks. And as time marches on, SEAP will continue to evolve to serve our SEAP members.

Even with today's abundance of online CE options, organized dentistry and specialty groups like SEAP remain essential to professional growth. There is simply no substitute for face-to-face interaction with colleagues. These connections are not only educational but deeply supportive, and over time they become relationships you truly treasure. Many of us who are no longer practicing still look forward to reconnecting with old friends and welcoming new ones. Few organizations foster such lasting camaraderie.

I encourage you to maintain your membership, pay your membership dues, which have remained the same for over 10 years, and participate whenever you can. Invite friends and colleagues to join and experience what makes SEAP special. Your dues directly support daily operations and our annual meeting—every dollar truly makes a difference.

We are always excited to welcome new members, and your involvement helps SEAP continue to grow. Our meetings offer outstanding educational content, meaningful social events, and fun activities that I personally look forward to each year.

Thank you for being part of SEAP and for helping us continue the tradition of excellence and community that defines our organization. Oh…and don't forget to support the SEAP Foundation!

Sincerely,
Dr. Paul Scruggs
Secretary/Treasurer

RENEW/DONATE HERE!

President's Message (continued)

for restoration of implants in the aesthetic zone, complications in the restoration of implants with fixed options, and a case series of rescue treatment in compromised implant scenarios. Clinically relevant scientific information will be integrated into the discussion for decision making and techniques.

Complete information on both lectures and speakers will be included in the meeting brochure, look for yours soon!

On Thursday evening, enjoy a unique experience dining at the Presley Motors Automobile Museum, which displays Elvis Presley's impressive car collection. Located directly across from Graceland, this museum features a variety of vehicles owned or used by Elvis, including his iconic Pink Cadillac, a 1975 Dino Ferrari, and a 1973 Stutz Blackhawk. Guests will be treated to a reception and delicious buffet, along with plenty of time to unwind and catch up!

The guest/spouse activity on Friday will begin with a tour of the Graceland Mansion, Elvis Presley's Memphis, and Elvis' Planes. This one-of-a-kind experience can only be found in Memphis, Tennessee.

This year, our traditional Saturday evening reception and "farewell dinner" will be held on Friday night at meeting venue. During dinner, we will have the drawing for donated state baskets, awarding of golf prizes, and installation of the 2027-2028 new officers. The SEAP conference will conclude immediately following Dr. Schoenbaum's presentation. We hope you will continue your stay at The Guesthouse and enjoy Memphis' other dining options.

We look forward to welcoming you to Memphis – to reconnect with old friends, forge new relationships, and celebrate the future of prosthodontics together.

Warmest regards,
Dr. Angela (Angi) Gullard, President
President

SAVE THE DATE

73RD Annual Meeting • April 15-17, 2027

The Guest House at Graceland | $205.00+/night
Limited # of rooms at this rate. Room block expires **March 10, 2027**.
No Resort Fee. Self-Parking-$7.00, Valet-$22.00
Free Shuttle to the Airport
Make your reservation today by going to:
www.seaprosth.org, meetings tab, or calling: 800-238-2000
Mention SEAP room block.

Detailed information soon – look for your meeting brochure in your email and mail!



PLEASE NOTE SCHEDULE CHANGE!

Tentative Schedule:
Wednesday, April 14, 2027 – Early arrivals – dinner (self-pay) and for some – golf the next day!

Thursday, April 15, 2027
Morning: Golf at The Links at Galloway
Afternoon: SEAP Foundation and SEAP Executive Council Meetings
Evening: Reception onsite and walk to Presley Motors at Graceland for Dinner

Friday, April 16, 2027
Morning/Afternoon – Lecture 8 CEUs. Morning/Early Afternoon – Spouse/Guest Activity
NEW: Reception/Dinner at Hotel

Saturday, April 17, 2027
Morning – Lecture – 4 CEUs. Afternoon – Free to enjoy Memphis!

2027 ANNUAL MEETING

Southeastern Academy of Prosthodontics
30524 BIRDHOUSE DRIVE
WESLEY CHAPEL, FL 33545

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP...
2027 Dues Statement Inside!

PLEASE NOTE and Begin to Use Immediately
the NEW SEAP EMAIL Address:
seprosth@gmail.com
Please update your info to
reflect this address. Thank you.

Earn a Free Night in Memphis...

SEAP Members: Earn a chance for a free hotel night at the 2027 Annual Meeting!

Recruit a new SEAP member between now and the annual meeting and enter a drawing to win a free night at the 2027 Annual Meeting in Memphis. All new member applications must be received by April 10, 2027 to quality for the drawing. ***Let's grow our membership!***



- ✓ *Renew Membership*
- ✓ *Donate to the Foundation*
- ✓ *Reserve Your Hotel Room @ The Guest House Graceland*
- ✓ *Watch for the 2027 Annual Meeting Brochure*
- ✓ *Invite a Peer to Join!*

The Southeastern Academy of Prosthodontics

2027 Dues Statement

Save Paper - Click Here

PLEASE RESPOND BY DECEMBER 31, 2026

Complete this form and return even if no dues are due – this will assist in keeping SEAP records current. Please include an e-mail address.

Dues 2027: **$200.00** Active Member

Dues Paying Life Member: **$100.00** Half dues of active member, 10 years membership, 65 years old, still working, and with prior written request and approval of this category

Life Members Donation: Requested if possible, to cover printing and mailing and SEAP operational costs.
10 years membership, 65 years old, fully retired, and with prior written request and approval of this category

Initiation Fee: **$25.00** For new member applications only, in addition to dues.

Contribution to SEAP Educational Foundation
This is voluntary and appreciated. Circle or write in amount.

$25.00 $50.00 $75.00 $100.00 $125.00 $200.00 $_____

Grand Total $_____

Complete information below

Your Name: _____

Spouse Name (if applicable): _____

Office Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Office Address (include city, state, zip): _____

Home Address (include city, state, zip): _____

Fax Number: _____ Email: _____

Payment Information: CHECKS PREFERRED.

Please return this sheet to: SEAP, 30524 Birdhouse Drive, Wesley Chapel, FL 33545. Make checks payable to SEAP.

No changes on contact information? Go online at www.seaprosth.org for quick and easy renewal or **USE THIS LINK**

Using a credit card? Scan QR coce or complete info below.

Scan to pay

Name on card: _____

Card billing address (street number & zip only): _____ Signature _____

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date:_____ CVV: _____

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION WILL BE DESTROYED AFTER PAYMENT HAS BEEN PROCESSED.

PLEASE NOTE: NEW SEAP EMAIL
seprosth@gmail.com
Please update your info to reflect this email address. Thank you.