

AAIDNEWS



Meet Your
NEW 2025
AAID President

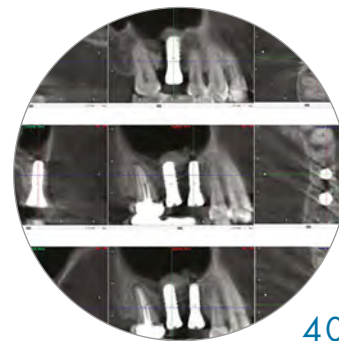
Dr. Matthew Young
DDS, FAAID, DABOI/ID

INSIDE

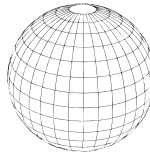
AAID's Jonathan Sprague: A Guiding Light in Dental Education

How to Recognize and Address Professional Burnout in Dentistry

AAID's Legal Efforts: Valuable for Members, the Profession, and the Public



contents



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Meet Your

NEW 2025 AAID President

Dr. Matthew Young, DDS, FAAID, DABOI/ID



One wouldn't think an interest in gardening would provide a foundation for a career in dentistry, but President-Elect Matt Young's experience caring for his family's rose bushes taught him a lot about creating a plan and following through.

"I didn't realize at the time, but gardening has carried through to implant dentistry and some of the full-mouth implant reconstructions we do today," he said.

"We do some of the same things. We do the planning, and we see what's needed in each area. We develop it. We select different types of implants and different types of protocols for each area. And in the end, we want something for the patient that is strong, that is functional, that looks great, and that's going to last well over time."

Cover Story

In other words, many of the traits Young developed while caring for his mom's roses helped him transition to dentistry.

"I've always liked to build and create. I love the art and science involved with dentistry. Always fascinated by the biological side. And I love creating, having the opportunity to do both at the same time is awesome," he said.

Growing up in Buffalo, N.Y., Young had several excellent dental schools to choose from when he solidified the beginning of his career path. He selected the University of Buffalo and stayed close to home. This turned out to be prescient. During his third year Young heard a lecture by Dr. Robert J. Buhite, who taught an implant course at the school.

"Buhite talked about how implants can change people's lives. Implants can change people from not wanting to go outside, not wanting to go out to lunch with their friends, being self-conscious, having dentures that moved around. And he talked about for the first time how life-changing dentistry could be," Young said.

For Young, this was his 'eureka!' moment. "This is what I want to do with my career. This is it," he said.

Transitioning out of dental school into private practice, Young benefited from working with excellent colleagues.

"We had amazing attendings at our practice. One of our attendings was Dr. Gary Kaplan, and he was a consultant with a practice in

South New Jersey with Dr. Jack Piermatti. It was an implant practice and general dentistry practice with a great study club. Primati was also a Fellow of the AAID and a Diplomate of the ABOI. And I was able to work and develop my skills in an environment where implant dentistry was being done at the highest level."

Young recalled his very first implant case and how well it went.

"My first case was a very nice upper right premolar, which is a really nice case to start with. It's in the area that's accessible, and you really want to start with cases like that. You're able to go through and plan the case out and develop the case as well," he said.



His second case was a two-implant overdenture for a patient who was missing all her teeth, and he was able to do the two implants on the lower to develop a two-implant locator overdenture.

He also worked with Dr. Sheldon Winkler, the director of prosthodontics at University of Temple. They developed the prosthesis and worked up the case together, achieving a nice result for the patient.

"I am very happy to have some good mentors along the way who helped me develop those," Young said.

MOVING WEST TO SAN FRANCISCO

As he got settled in his practice and began to travel to national conferences and network, Young became interested in San Francisco, eventually moving there to establish roots for his family. He and his wife raised their children in San Francisco, where Young also rekindled his boyhood love of baseball, coaching his son and traveling with him to competitive games against rival teams in the Bay area.

While there, he got involved with the San Francisco Dental Society, serving on their board and later as president in 2017.

"While I was at the SFDS, we were able to develop a lot of things in San Francisco and work with the community quite a bit, including kindergarten screenings in San Francisco and some positive work with Project Homeless Connect while working to support families that needed dental care," he said.

INVOLVEMENT WITH THE AAID

Young was also influenced by Bob Dunn, a past president of AAID.

And as far as organized dentistry, Young recalled going to an AAID conference in 2005 when he earned his Associate Fellowship. Bob Dunn was the president of AAID, and Young recalled his moving talk at the meeting about giving back to the community.



The Young Family: Joe, Matt, Sokie, Lily (standing) Daisy, Ron, and Linda (sitting).



We are held together with a strong central Office led by our Executive Director, Carolina Hernandez; CFO, Jamey Richardson; Director of Education and Credentialing, Jon Sprague; Director of Marketing and Communications, Matt Switzer; Director of Membership, Ashley Robbins; Director of Partnerships, Wendi Gordan; and their amazing support staff.

Cover Story

"He talked about the need for us as dentists, implant dentists, and pillars of the community to give back, to be involved, and to help others, to help with local governance, to help out with your family, the community. Not just going into the office and doing some work and going home. You really do have to be involved with the community. And that really, really hit home to me," Young said.

"I became an officer of the Western District in 2007. And there are different levels of leadership, and you start by being there, by participating, by helping, and you start to develop a passion for it as you go through," Young said.

As he looks to his AAID presidency, Young has several goals he would like the academy to pursue.

"One of the big goals is to solidify the bonafide credentials that we have. We have credentialing through the Associate Fellowship and Fellowship in the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, and the Diplomate in the American Board of Implantology," he said.

Young believes those board credentials are important because they are upheld in courts and emphasizes how important it is that the AAID remain a leader in that initiative.

"Our message is getting out there and more dentists want to be credentialed. They want to go through the process, they want to have that training and expertise," he stressed. Young points out that the AAID developed an online learning management system to allow dentists to take courses online.

He credited his predecessors with this LMS program and other initiatives that have made the AAID successful, and he pledged to continue this momentum.

"Bringing in the credentialing process, the educational component, and our camaraderie are the three things that I really want to bring forward next year for



Our current AAID Executive Committee is amazing and we have gone through so much together with Drs. Ed Kusek, Don Provenzale, Bill Anderson, Mario Silvestri, Shane Samy, and Danny Domingue.



We have strong leaders like Drs. John Minichetti, Bernie Dunson, David Hochberg, Shanker Iyer, Brian Jackson, Chris Petrush, Suheil Boutros, Larry Bush, Fran DuCoin, Seb Andreanna, Michael Potts, Duke Heller, and Bev Dunn. I encourage you to attend our 2025 Phoenix Annual Meeting and experience the power of the AAID, our leaders, and friends.

our Academy. And these are all things that have been started by leaders before me, and so I'm just grabbing the baton and taking it to the next level," he said.

Young lauded past AAID leaders for their enormous contributions.

"We have leaders like John Minichetti and Bernee Dunson, David Hochberg, Shanker Iyer, Brian Jackson, Larry Bush, Bob Dunn who I mentioned before, who really inspired a lot, who show you by example what a leader is," he said.