

The Abram and Sylvia Chasens Teaching and Research Fellowship

Two annual \$15,000 Fellowships for periodontal postgraduate students entering careers in education



Background

Excellent educators abound in the periodontal profession but their ranks are thinning as aspiring teachers, feeling the pressure of student loans or other obligations, go directly into practice. Fortunately, for some talented young dentists that forced choice will be a thing of the past. The Abram and Sylvia Chasens Teaching and Research Fellowship provides two annual \$15,000 fellowships to beginning periodontal educators to help them launch their careers.

Although he had a lengthy career in the private practice of Periodontology, Dr. Chasens taught for more than 30 years. "I enjoyed every moment that I practiced but I wouldn't trade it for the experience that I had as a teacher and doing my research," he reflects. "Teaching is very rewarding, and if you are doing teaching and research there are so many wonderful people with whom you work."

Dr. Chasens began his teaching career part-time at New York University, where he did his post-doctoral training, and in 1957 was offered the opportunity to start the department of periodontics and oral medicine at Fairleigh Dickinson University. In 1971 he entered teaching full-time. After his retirement in 1988, he continued to teach part-time at FDU and also held appointments at New York University and University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey–New Jersey Dental School.

As a spouse, Sylvia Chasens speaks highly of the path her husband chose in pursuing a career in periodontology. "I've learned a lot about dentistry and he is so enthusiastic about everything he does, I've become enthusiastic too."

Eligibility

Fellowship candidates must be in the third year of a non-military accredited periodontal post-doctoral training program in the United States. They must intend to pursue a career in full-time periodontal teaching and research in the United States. Immediate family members of the Foundation Board of Directors, officers, and selection committee members are not eligible to apply for the fellowship. The award is not to be used to replace support that would have normally been provided by the recipient's institution. The award should be considered a supplement to any salary, stipend or research support.

Application Deadline

The completed applications must be received by the AAP Foundation by April 15. The fellowship recipients will be announced by August 1.

Award

The fellowship recipients will receive the \$15,000 award in one payment in the fourth quarter of the year.

Application Instructions

Candidates may complete the application form online, save it and e-mail it to Sharon@perio.org. The materials listed below are required. The applicant may mail all materials, or may have the letters of reference and transcripts sent directly to the Foundation.

Materials Required

Letters of recommendation. Three letters of recommenda-

tion must be received which should address the applicant's character, integrity, academic and personal achievements, and aptitude for teaching and research. One letter should be from the applicant's periodontal program director, one should be from another periodontal professional, and the third may be a personal letter of reference. If the applicant reaches the level of finalist, members of the selection committee may call writers of recommendation letters and individuals mentioned by name in the applicant's personal statements and/or application letters.

Transcript of grades. Transcripts from dental school and postgraduate work are required.

Curriculum vitae.

Personal statement. A personal statement of approximately 750 words should address the following:

- Special qualities the applicant would bring to education
- Philosophy of education
- Research interests
- Extracurricular and community activities
- Financial need
- Career plans

APPLICATION FORM

Must be received by AAP Foundation by April 15

Mail or e-mail to:
Chasens Teaching & Research Fellowship
AAP Foundation
737 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60611
Sharon@perio.org

Questions? Please contact:
Sharon K. Mellor, CAE, Ph.D.
AAP Foundation Executive Director
1-800-282-4867, ext. 3256
Sharon@perio.org
www.perio.org/foundation

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Fax _____ E-mail address _____

Periodontal Program _____ Anticipated graduation date _____

Dental Program attended _____

Teaching position accepted (if any) _____

The American Academy of Periodontology Foundation

737 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60611-2690