

Background

Throughout its history, the American College of Dentists has undertaken numerous initiatives to improve oral health care and the profession. The College was founded “to elevate the standards of dentistry, to encourage graduate study, and to grant Fellowship to those who have done meritorious work.” The mission of the College is to advance excellence, ethics, professionalism, and leadership in dentistry.

Critical early efforts involved promoting research, raising the educational level of dentists, and working to establish state dental boards. Through the work of William J. Gies, the College’s emphasis on research prompted the formation of the International Association for Dental Research. The *Journal of Dental Research* was literally saved in the 1930s by College intervention. In the 1930s and 1940s, the College was an energetic advocate for dental journalism that was free of commercial influence, and the College was instrumental in helping found the American Association of Dental Editors. The College later led successful initiatives in continuing education, prevention, access to care, the role of specialties, and leadership development. The College continues to make a difference through meaningful projects and activities at local, national, and international levels. Much more could be done, however—finances being the primary limitation.



Gies Benefactor

The American College of Dentists Foundation (ACDF) was established in 1972 as a nonprofit, charitable 501(c)(3) organization supporting educational and programmatic efforts of the American College of Dentists and collaborating organizations. Funds are primarily derived from tax-deductible gifts of Fellows and other organizations.

Donors are acknowledged annually in the College newsletter. The Foundation is uniquely positioned to assist the College with its vital role.

Building the endowment of our Foundation is clearly one of the best ways to ensure the College accomplishes its mission, now and in the future. Your support allows the College to continue its record of making a difference!

Summary

- Dental professional standards and traditional ideals are being eroded; the College is a crucial force in addressing these threats—working to improve care and keep our profession a profession
- The endowment of the Foundation provides a stable source of long-term funding for College projects
- The endowment ensures the availability of financial resources needed to accomplish the College’s mission of advancing excellence, ethics, professionalism, and leadership in dentistry
- Your financial support of the endowment is needed to expand the College’s efforts and impact
- The endowment has four primary support programs, i.e., the Gies Fellow and Gies Benefactor programs, Circle giving levels, and symbolic Named Funds
- Gies Fellows contribute at least \$1,000 to the Foundation. Gies Benefactors contribute \$5,000 or more. There are five Circle giving levels, ranging from \$10,000 to \$250,000. Circle members are accorded special privileges.
- Sections (or others) can contribute \$5,000 or more to the Foundation to create a symbolic Named Fund in honor of a special person, couple, dignitary, or entity
- Contributions are tax deductible (U.S.)
- Planned gifts to your Foundation may have important financial advantages
- We need your help—please consider giving a gift to your Foundation and including a planned gift to the Foundation as part of your estate planning

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American College of Dentists Foundation

Foundation

for the

Future®

Building a *Foundation for the Future*[®]

What is the endowment and why is it needed?

Our endowment is the collection of restricted and designated funds in the American College of Dentists Foundation (ACDF). The endowment ensures that the College has the financial resources to accomplish its mission now and in the future.

How is the endowment used?

Proceeds from the endowment support important College projects, current and emerging. Some examples include:

- Dental Ethics—an online collection of ethics-related courses and resources, including a series of complimentary online ethics courses, www.dentalethics.org
- Interactive Dental Ethics Application (IDEA[®])—a comprehensive, interactive ethics resource (PDF)
- Practice Ethics Assessment and Development (PEAD)—an online program that allows dentists to self-assess the ethical climate of their practices
- “Gies Report” on Ethics in Dentistry—a comprehensive report on the state of ethics in dentistry
- Ethical Dilemma Videos—a series of eight videos developed in collaboration with Indiana University
- Dental Ethics Survey—an ethics resource for dental schools to supplement ethics educational programs
- *Ethics Handbook for Dentists* and Ethics Wallet Cards—provided complimentary to dental students in the U.S. and Canada
- Dental Leadership—a comprehensive online leadership resource, www.dentalleadership.org
- Dr. Cecelia L. Dows Scholarship Fund—a designated fund that supports scholarship consistent with the College’s mission

What is the Gies Fellow program?

Fellows who contribute \$1,000 to the Foundation over four years become Gies Fellows. Gies Fellows each receive a certificate and a special attachment to their pins. Gies Fellows can later upgrade to become Gies Benefactors for an additional \$4,000.

What is the Gies Benefactor program?

Similar to the Gies Fellow program, Fellows who contribute \$5,000 or more to the Foundation over four years become Gies Benefactors. Each Gies Benefactor receives a certificate, a 10K gold pin, and a special pin attachment.

What are the Circle levels?

Five Circle giving levels have been established to recognize the cumulative donations of our most ardent supporters: Bronze Circle, \$10,000; Silver Circle, \$25,000; Gold Circle, \$50,000; Platinum Circle, \$100,000; and President’s Circle, \$250,000 or more. Circle members are accorded special privileges, such as being invited to special receptions and the President’s Dinner.

What are Named Funds?

Sections, corporations, or individuals may establish a symbolic Named Fund in our Foundation for a contribution of \$5,000 or more. This is an excellent opportunity for a Section to honor an outstanding Fellow, couple, dignitary, or other entity.

What about planned gifts?

A planned gift to the ACDF will have an indelible positive impact and leave an important legacy. There are various ways to make a planned gift, including a charitable gift annuity, a charitable remainder trust, naming the Foundation as the beneficiary of retirement plan assets or a life insurance policy, or naming the Foundation in your will or trust. Depending on the type of gift there can be important financial advantages. (You will need to consult your financial/tax advisor relative to your situation.)

Your support is needed!

The mission of the College is more relevant now than ever. As a Fellow you are a leader of dentistry committed to improving the profession and oral health care. You realize the ideals of dentistry are worth upholding. Please help *make a difference* by building a *Foundation for the Future*[®]. Use the pledge card to the right or call the executive office for more information, 888-ACD-1920.

Thank You!

Yes! I want to make a pledge to the ACD Foundation, as follows:

Gies Fellow

- \$1,000 single payment
- \$250 now, \$250/year for next 3 years

Gies Benefactor

- \$5,000 single payment
- \$1,250 now, \$1,250/year for next 3 years

Other Gifts

\$ _____ (please specify amount)

- Contact me about planned giving options

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____



Check (U.S. funds only): make payable to ACD Foundation; \$50 charge for returned check)

Donations are tax-deductible under IRS Code Section 501(c)(3) EIN #23-7222977

Signature _____

Date _____

Expiration Date _____

Detach and mail to: ACD Foundation, 8391 Quince Orchard Boulevard, Gaithersburg, MD 20878-1614 or fax to: 301-977-3330