



**The New York Academy of Dentistry
Endowment Fund, Inc.
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REINVENTING DENTAL EDUCATION

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With the 21st century, the door to the information age opened and business is no longer what we knew it to be. Unprecedented advances in science and technology, shifts in disease demographics, the rapid aging in the developed economies, the mounting level of comorbidity in dental patients, combined with the chronic disease burden faced by modern societies and the ever increasing cost of health call for a fundamental redefinition of the framework that comprise the interplay of the health professions. Regarding dentistry, the cost of dental education raises concerns about the return on the investment for the traditional business model, the solo practitioner.

Although the dentist is the most desirable profession in 2015 according to U.S. News and World Report, it is prudent to examine the impact of the mentioned drivers that shape the health care system on dentistry. Implications on the breath and scope of dental education are imminent to ensure a viable future for our dental students. The pressure to control the costs of dental education, dental care and population health call for a bold reinvention of the dental curriculum in an environment of collaborative evidence-based practice.

Christian S. Stohler, DMD DrMedDent, started his tenure as dean of the Columbia University College of Dental Medicine and senior vice president of Columbia University Medical Center, on August 1, 2013. He received his DMD degree from the University of Bern, Switzerland, where he also earned the DrMedDent degree and obtained certificates in oral surgery and prosthodontics. From 2003-2013, he was the dean of the School of Dentistry, University of Maryland. Before joining the University of Maryland, he held several positions at the University of Michigan, including professor at the School of Dentistry, research scientist at the Center for Human Growth and Development, director of research at the School of Dentistry, and professor and chair of the Department of Biologic and Materials Sciences. While at Michigan, he was named the William R. Mann professor and held the Roy & Natalie Roberts endowed chair.

Dr. Stohler received awards and recognitions, including the Schweitzer Research Award, recognition awards from the NDA, Pierre Fauchard Academy, the Orthodontic Education and Research Foundation, the Distinguished Service Award from the University of Michigan, the Horace Wells Merit Award and an honorary PhD Degree from Nippon Dental University. He served on and chaired the Board of Scientific Councilors at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. He is a fellow of the American College of Dentists and the international College of Dentistry. Dr. Stohler contributed to the body of research, authoring more than 120 articles and book chapters, for the most part dealing with factors determining the individual vulnerability to pain, the central neural correlates of the response to placebo and the effect of pain on bodily functions.