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The Impact of Henry Schein's Partnership with the Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine

Remarks by Dean Mary Truhlar

Donors to the School of Dental Medicine help preserve the tradition of excellence in patient care, education, research and service to our community. The naming of the dental care center lobby reflects Henry Schein's longstanding commitment to the school's mission and the synergy of our partnership.

As one of the largest donors to the School, Henry Schein Cares, has provided over \$2 million in funds, equipment and supplies to support the school's programs. This partnership spans the globe from our Long Island base to our service learning experiences in Madagascar. It supports a diverse array of initiatives such as the annual Give Kids a Smile Day, the Henry Schein Cares Outreach Program, and advances in our educational and clinical curriculum with the use of digital technology.

Long Island Give Kids a Smile Day, the annual one-day event that is the centerpiece of a national campaign to provide dental care and promote the importance of oral health to children, is made possible on Long Island through the generous support of Henry Schein. Nearly 300 local children whose families might not otherwise have access to care came to the Stony Brook University Dental Clinic this past February. Last year Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine launched a second "Give Kids A Smile Day" Summer Event. In a 3-hour period over 200 children, were provided with free dental screenings, prophys, fluoride treatment, oral health education/home care and sealants to prepare them for the start of a new school year. Henry Schein provided beautiful backpacks filled with school supplies to each and every child. The response from the families was an overwhelming gratitude and we would like to thank Henry Schein for its ability to recognize and address the needs of our community.

The Henry Schein Cares Outreach Program at Stony Brook University has been instrumental in equipping our Dental Care Center and dental van with the most up-to-date equipment and supplies to enhance the quality and impact of oral health care services offered to our community. These gifts have made a profound difference to the more than 14,000 Long Island patients and their families that use our services annually.

In addition to these remarkable local efforts, the national and global reach of this Program has made an annual impact on the lives of approximately 300 patients in the Tennessee Appalachian region, 100 native American patients at the IHS Hospital, Pine Ridge, South Dakota, 500 patients in Buff Bay, Jamaica; 260 patients in Neltume, Chile and 500 patients throughout remote villages in Madagascar. The support, ranging from dental equipment and supplies to student scrubs, provides these service-learning teams consisting of educators, residents and students with the ability to decrease dental disparities in these underserved populations. In addition, there is an immeasurable impact on the approximately 50 student participants. They describe these missions as

“life changing” and “transformative” and they leave us assured that the future will be brighter because they understand the need for commitment to their communities. Thank you team Schein for being the foundation of so much opportunity.

We were fortunate to have Stanley Bergman deliver the keynote address at the 2013 Dental Medicine Convocation. In his keynote address, Mr. Bergman spoke about the importance of embracing new technologies in healthcare, looking for new and improved solutions to provide comprehensive care and inspiring the world about the importance of oral health. Mr. Bergman not only addressed our students, but put words into action by supporting our educational program in each of those areas. Our students are now able to use the Planscan CAD/CAM and E4D dental restoration systems as well as the latest technology in digital imaging. Thanks to Henry Schein our faculty now have the ability to teach the next generation of dental professionals on the most advanced state-of-the-art equipment.

Support from Henry Schein spans from patients to students to healthcare providers who seek to advance their knowledge through Dental and Professional Educational programs. Numerous programs benefit from sponsorship but most notable, would be the annual Discover Dental School Scholars Program and the Stony Brook Continuing Education course “Update Digital Technology.” Both these programs, with growing national and international reputations, highlight the best of what is happening at Stony Brook and underscore what can happen with great partnerships.

It is evident that the support we receive from Henry Schein is remarkable. On behalf of the students, faculty, staff and patients, thank you for your steadfast support.

Philanthropic partnerships are vital to the mission, vision, and core values of the school. This naming comes at a pivotal time for the University, as we get ready to announce the public phase of a University-wide Comprehensive Campaign. I am proud to declare Henry Schein as a lead donor and look forward to our continued partnership.