

Professional Resource Center

CAREER RESOURCES PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS, RESIDENTS AND ALUMNI



Jerry Long, DDS and Boyd W. Shepherd, DDS, JD, Co-Directors of Professional Resource Center

Newly graduated students face an array of challenges upon entering their professions, particularly with business matters in which they have limited or no experience. These may include negotiating employment contracts, securing financing for a new practice, or finding a first employment or practice opportunity.

DISTINCTIONS

- The Professional Resource Center (PRC) is a repository for career opportunities in education, research, the military, government and public health, as well as associate employment positions and private practice purchase opportunities.
- The PRC's guidance ranges from advice and discussion of career options to reviewing resumes and cover letters, conducting mock interviews and analyzing employment contracts.
- Business guidance covers writing a business plan, getting a bank loan, making payroll, hiring and firing employees, negotiating with vendors, and applying for loans or office leases.

PRC'S OBJECTIVES

- To establish, preserve, and continue alumni contacts and relationships through their use and support of the PRC's career resources.
- To be the top school-based career resources program for dental graduates and the profession nationwide.

How You Can Help

The PRC's success so far is due to the tremendous time commitment and dedication of Drs. Boyd Shepherd and Jerry Long. Several types of support can help expand the PRC's impact:

- **Lunch-and-Learn Sponsorships:**
The PRC regularly coordinates lunch on a per-class basis 3-4 times per semester, inviting guests to UTHealth School of Dentistry (UTSD) to speak to our students on a variety of business topics.
- **Financial Contributions:**
Gifts will support field trips, provide for business software for students, and fund student and faculty development in the education and teaching of ethics, professionalism, and practice management.
- **Volunteers:**
Experienced dental professionals are welcome to talk to us about the many and various ways to contribute to our efforts and help meet the goals of the PRC.



To help students, residents and alumni navigate the business and practical aspects of the dental profession, UTSD launched the Professional Resource Center in 2012. The PRC is under the leadership of two UTSD alumni with broad and diverse experience:

- Clinical Associate Professor Boyd W. Shepherd, DDS '88, JD, a 1992 graduate of South Texas College of Law, is a Texas-licensed dentist who has practiced law exclusively since 1994. Dr. Shepherd is well-versed in legal and ethical issues dentists often confront. He is available for employment contract analysis and career counseling.
- Adjunct Professor S. Jerry Long, DDS '66, practiced dentistry successfully in Houston for 46 years, and has been a recognized leader in organized dentistry at every level. Dr. Long began volunteering in the PRC upon his retirement from practice and now offers advice and career counseling on practice management to students, residents and alumni.

The PRC provides professional, business and ethical counseling for all UTSD students, residents and alumni at no charge for the first three years after graduation. The services of the PRC remain available to all alumni thereafter through annual registration and donation opportunities.



"Our PRC allows us to have one-on-one time with students and recent graduates at times that are critical to them as they move toward their professional goals. When they're at a point of needing guidance that will help with crucial business decisions, we're here to provide answers and help in a confidential and familiar setting."

– Boyd W. Shepherd, DDS, JD



"My goal for our students and recent grads is to help them 'level' the negotiating table after they identify that first practice opportunity."

"Mock interviews, effective resume and cover-letter writing, contract analysis, as well as coaching our graduates to ask meaningful questions about the prospective practices and their business models, are some of the tools Dr. Shepherd and I utilize in the PRC career counseling process."

– Jerry Long, DDS



CONTACT US

For more information about the PRC and how you can support its mission, please contact:

Beth K. Wilson

Director of Development

UTHealth School of Dentistry
7500 Cambridge St., Suite 6152
Houston, TX 77054

713-486-4380 phone | 713-486-4071 fax
Elizabeth.K.Wilson@uth.tmc.edu

Boyd W. Shepherd, DDS, JD

Co-Director, Professional Resource Center

Clinical Associate Professor
UTHealth School of Dentistry
7500 Cambridge, Suite 6310
Houston, TX 77054

Boyd.W.Shepherd@uth.tmc.edu

S. Jerry Long, DDS

Co-Director, Professional Resource Center

Adjunct Professor
UTHealth School of Dentistry
7500 Cambridge, Suite 6310
Houston, TX 77054

S.Jerry.Long@uth.tmc.edu

PRC Phone 713-486-4437

PRC@uth.tmc.edu

go.uth.edu/PRC



The University of Texas
Health Science Center at Houston

School of Dentistry

Mission

To advance human health by providing high-quality education, patient care, and research in oral health for Texas, the nation and the world.