William J. Gies was a Columbia University biochemistry professor interested in dental education, science, and clinical applications. In 1926, as part of a series of studies on U.S. professional education funded by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, Dr. Gies published a landmark report that established the importance of dentistry as a healing science and an essential component of higher education in the health professions. The Gies report, *Dental Education in the United States and Canada*, took five years to research and write. It consisted of 250 pages of text and more than 400 pages of appendices, including lengthy descriptions and evaluations of the existing dental schools, each of which Dr. Gies had visited. Since the Gies report, there have been many other reports on dental education in the context of health professions education. However, *Dental Education in the United States and Canada* remains to this day the most relevant survey of dental education and critical issues within the field.

The William J. Gies Foundation was established in 1950 by colleagues of Dr. Gies with seed funds raised by the American College of Dentists. It was a private foundation and the first U.S. foundation to support dental education and scholarship. In 2002, it joined with the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) to form the ADEAGies Foundation, a public foundation.

In 2007, as part of its strategic plan to raise awareness of the organization and its mission, the ADEAGies Foundation Board of Trustees launched the William J. Gies Awards for Vision, Innovation, and Achievement. Named for the dental education pioneer and Foundation namesake, the Gies Awards have become the preeminent recognition of contributions to and support of global oral health and education initiatives. In conjunction with ADEA and at the ADEA Annual Session & Exhibition each year, the ADEAGies Foundation honors deserving people and institutions that carry forward William J. Gies’s legacy of vision, innovation, and achievement. The Gies Awards draw attention to the essential role of dental education and educators in enhancing global oral health.

After seven successful years, the Gies Awards continue to benefit from a committed core group of academic institutions and corporations that sponsor this important awards program each year. The March 17, 2014, Gies Awards proved to be even more successful financially than the prior year. Nearly forty dental schools participated as Deans’ List Supporters, and sixteen members of the ADEA Corporate Council and one specialty organization were very generous 2014 sponsors or donors.

### 2014 Gies Award Winners

**American Academy of Periodontology Foundation**  
*Gies Award for Outstanding Achievement—Public or Private Partner*

**Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health**  
*Gies Award for Outstanding Innovation—Academic Dental Institution*

**Columbia University College of Dental Medicine, Community DentCare Program**  
*Gies Award for Outstanding Achievement—Academic Dental Institution*

**Dr. John Eisner, University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine**  
*Gies Award for Outstanding Innovation—Dental Educator*

**Dr. Raul I. Garcia, Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine**  
*Gies Award for Outstanding Vision—Dental Educator*

**The Hinman Dental Society of Atlanta**  
*Gies Award for Outstanding Vision—Public or Private Partner*

**Henry Schein, Inc.**  
*Gies Award for Outstanding Achievement—Public or Private Partner*

**Dr. Lisa A. Tedesco, Emory University James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies**  
*Gies Award for Outstanding Achievement—Dental Educator*
The ADEAGies Foundation is grateful to all of the academic dental institutions, corporations, specialty organizations, and individuals who invest in the mission and vision of the ADEAGies Foundation by virtue of their participation in the Gies Awards. A listing of sponsors appears in the box on this page. A special thank you goes to Johnson & Johnson Healthcare Products, Division of McNEIL-PPC, Inc. as the Gies Awards 2008-14 Premier Sponsor.

We invite your nomination of individuals and organizations exemplifying dedication to the highest standards of vision, innovation, and achievement in global oral health and dental education, research, and leadership for the 2015 William J. Gies Awards for Vision, Innovation, and Achievement. The presentation of these awards will be celebrated at the 2015 ADEA Annual Session & Exhibition in Boston, MA, March 7-10, 2015. The nomination criteria can be
Since 2004, when ADEA and the William J. Gies Foundation joined forces, we have awarded more than $1 million in fellowships, awards, and grants to 117 recipients. In its 2013 cycle, the Board of Trustees of the Foundation awarded grants totaling more than $145,060 to the following:

- American Dental Hygienists’ Association Institute for Oral Health. Funded at $15,000 in support of

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**REMEMBERING DR. WILLIAM J. GIES**

*In this interview, Bill Gies II shares some memories of his grandfather, Dr. William J. Gies, and the process of carrying on his legacy.*

_Tell us about your grandfather and his passion for dental education._

My grandfather, Dr. William John Gies, was, in my mind, a one of a kind person of his time. Highly motivated and trained as a biochemist by many of the giants of the biochemistry world of his era, he was quite adept at being in the “right place at the right time” to be noticed and admired by his seniors.

How and why he came upon and fell in love with the challenges of dentistry is unknown to me. Perhaps it was his early affiliation with Columbia University that exposed him to the challenges of dentistry. Perhaps he recognized that the challenges presented by dentistry at the turn of the century spelled opportunity for him—not to make money, but to contribute to the furtherance of a budding science ripe for dedicated focus by men of science.

_How would he feel about the Gies Award and his legacy?_

As to the Gies awards, I believe that he would be very interested and impressed, although he, no doubt, would be sorely tempted to become involved to alter or fine-tune sections where he envisioned a need. The annual awards selection process would interest him the most as the categories speak to his clarion calls for dental education and research; dental journals; improved dental treatments, techniques, and hardware; and enabling all to receive proper treatment. In other words, he would, no doubt, seek to assume a role in the awards process.

As far as his feelings towards his legacy, I believe that he would be deeply moved by being recognized in such a manner.

_Why is being involved in the Gies Awards and ADEA important to you?_

My grandfather’s contributions to science and dentistry came into proper focus thanks to my daughter, Marjorie Gies. While attending Columbia Medical School in the mid-1970s, she took it upon herself to seek out the dean of Columbia’s dental school, Dean Allan Formicola. Before I knew what transpired, we were all invited to lunch with the dean. Wow! What an honor!

From that time on, my personal involvement with my grandfather’s legacy increased. I was invited to give several speeches regarding my grandfather at Columbia. One was in conjunction with Dr. Frank J. Orland while he was writing his book on my grandfather. I was also invited by the AADR to speak at the Library of Congress regarding my grandfather the day it was announced that all issues of the _Journal of Dental Research_ were made available to all, worldwide, via the computer.

However, my real appreciation of my grandfather’s contributions to the world of dentistry blossomed with my involvement in the Gies Awards and as a trustee of the ADEAGies Foundation. I am grateful for being exposed to the world of dentistry and ADEA’s important contributions. It’s truly exciting, and my grandfather Gies has taken on a whole new dimension for me. Now, he’s not just a traditional “warm and fuzzy” grandfather; he’s morphed into a mighty scientific “slayer of dragons” and time-tested visionary!

*Reprinted from the 2014 Gies Awards program book.*
the “Transforming Dental Hygiene Education: Proud Past, Unlimited Future Symposium” held September 18-20, 2013, in Chicago, IL.

• **American Dental Education Association (ADEA)/ AAL Faculty of Color Tuition Scholarship Program.** Funded at $21,060 in support of ten scholarships each year for two years for ADEA/AAL Faculty of Color Tuition Scholarships for Professional Development.

• **University of Tennessee College of Dentistry.** Final funding of $10,000 for partial support of the Hinman Student Research Symposium for 2013.

• **Medical University of South Carolina James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine.** Funded at $25,000 for one year in support of a collaborative pilot study of the impact of the use of the EZcodes dental diagnostic terminology in treatment planning on critical thinking skills of dental students as measured by the Health Science Reasoning Test.

• **ADEAGies/AADR Academic Careers Fellowship Program (ADCFP) 2013.** Funded at $25,000 for continued support of the ADEAGies/AADR ADCFP Fellowship for the 2013-14 Fellowship Class.

• **ADEA/William J. Gies Education Fellowship.** Funded at $10,000, this fellowship provides funding for a senior dental educator to work with ADEA staff in the ADEA Policy Center and conduct research on a major policy issue facing dental education. The residency is for up to three months. Project areas have included a survey and recommendations regarding dental school faculty shortages; the scholarship of teaching; international dental education; clinical licensure reform; an ADEA Leadership Institute outcomes study; and the development of competencies for dental faculty.

• **Editorial Awards Program.** Funding was awarded to the American Association of Dental Editors (AADE) for $3,000 for cash awards and support of the awards program.

• **Periodontal and Oral Surgery Awards.** These awards are $500 for an outstanding periodontal educator, in conjunction with the American Academy of Periodontology, and $500 for an outstanding oral surgery educator, in conjunction with the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.

• **William J. Gies Student Research Scholarship.** The foundation continues to fund two multiyear grants, each totaling $35,000, to encourage and support dental student research at the predoctoral level.

For more information on the Foundation, including the 2008-14 Gies Award Hall of Awardees, please visit www.ADEAGiesFoundation.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard W. Valachovic, D.M.D., M.P.H.
President

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