

Vieira Lab Newsletter

Lab Meeting Schedule 403 Salk Hall

Vieira Lab meetings are held every other Tuesday from 12:30 to 1:30.

• September 1, 2009

Presenter: Alicia Day

Title: Candidate Gene Studies on Cleft Lip and Palate

• September 15, 2009

Presenter: TBA

Title: TBA

• September 29, 2009

Presenter: Maria Ferraro

Title: Oral Hygiene Habits Among Dental Students in Comparison to Other Careers

Upcoming Events

2nd Annual Steel City Dental Expo

Where: Peterson Events Center

When: October 22

SCIENCE 2009-Unplugged!

Where: Alumni Hall

When: October 15-16

AADR Annual Meeting 2010

Where: Washington, D.C.

When: March 3-6, 2010

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 2, 2009

Lab News

The 2009 Dental Hygiene Table Clinics Presentations were held on July 28th. The table clinics give hygiene students the opportunity to present a dental hygiene research topic of their choice to a panel of judges. Adam Perl worked with classmate Nicole Parmenter to present their table clinic, titled "Genetics: Tiny Matter, Huge Difference." As a veteran member of the Vieira Lab with his participation in the Dental Registry and DNA Repository, Adam was able to use his personal background in genetics research to aid in developing the project, which focused on how genetics research can be used in the dental hygiene field. Adam and Nicole first detailed how, as hygienists, they have a duty to stay informed in dental science, and how data collection can be used for risk factor assessment. The project then described the process involved in examining genetic markers and linking them to disease, in correlation with routine dental hygiene assessments. They describe a simple 3-step process to identify these risk factors: 1) collect a sample and extract DNA; 2) pair supplementary information with genetic information; and 3) analyze data to produce results. From these steps, DNA research can be used to advance knowledge in genetics, and dental professionals are able to use this knowledge to educate and care for the community. Adam and Nicole also

provided resources for fellow hygienists to get involved in the genetics research field of dentistry. But most importantly, their work highlighted the need for a formal education in genetics for the dental hygienist and the need to include genetic related applications in the core curriculum of all dental hygiene training programs.



Adam Perl and Nicole Parmenter with their project. Photo courtesy of Patricia Inks

DRDR Update				Recruitment Summary		
_			Subje	cts Recruited	1512	
			Subje	cts Declined	137	
Recruitment Location			Compliance Rate		91%	
Module 1	282	Emergency Care	62	UDHS	6	
Module 2	579	Oral Surgery	14	Orthodontics	88	
Module 3	132	Pediatric Dentistry	64	Other	62	
Module 4	73	Implant Center	14	AEGD	18	
Dental Hygiene	99	Prosthodontics	7	Perio	5	
Endo	7					

For newsletter questions, comments or suggestions please e-mail Melissa Carp at mgc4@pitt.edu