

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

An overview by Marc Smith

How it came about (see brochure)

What makes it different from other programs

- Most other programs are based on a didactic model.
- Some are a one-time event whereas this is ongoing
- Great Expectations utilizes *peer influence*. Initially this is student-to-student but as the program proceeds students will see faculty and professionals more and more as peers.

Features

- It engages students in an on-going ethical and professional dialog.
- It develops rewarding experiences and lifetime relationships for all: student, faculty, and professional.
- It is fun for students and professionals like.

Limitations

- Not all dental schools will want to participate.
- It will require careful and sensitive collaboration and cooperation between ICD, the school, organized dentistry, and other interested parties.
- We have no long term data regarding success and failure. This data should be collected and shared.
- Students are not required to participate.
- Outcomes are not guaranteed.

Down the road

Many will see additional benefits of instituting this program.

- Houston already sees it as a recruiting tool to retain young dentist's interest and membership in organized dentistry.
- There may be opportunities for older dentists to bring a new graduate into his or her practice.
- The schools may turn more to student mentors to help with applicant selection.
- This program can easily be adapted to existing programs: White Coat, Mentor Dinner, Ethics Seminar, Ethics Luncheon, etc.