

## Award Winners: Research Day 2006

Second-year dental student Erin Ealba won the Grand Prize at this year's annual *Research Day* program, a trip to the ADA's 147th Annual Session in Las Vegas October 16-19.

"Our research shows that enamelysin, MMP-20, may not only be important in enamel formation, but also important in the disappearance of the dental basement membrane," she said. "This would be important to know when determining how to treat patients with enamel and dentin abnormalities, such as amelogenesis imperfecta or dentinogenesis imperfecta."

### CATEGORIES

#### Clinical Applications

1st place – Paul Kloostra (D3):  
*Anxiety, Depression, Street, and Periodontal Treatment – Providers' Perspectives*  
Mentors: Drs. Robert Ebert and Marita Inglehart

2nd place – Carlos Smith (D3):  
*Socio-economically Disadvantaged Minority Middle School Students – Oral Health-Related Issues*  
Mentors: Drs. Todd Ester and Marita Inglehart

3rd place – Kelly Misch (MS Certificate):  
*Periodontal Diagnosis Using Cone Beam Computed Tomography*  
Mentor: Dr. David Sarment

#### Basic Sciences

Grand Prize – Erin Ealba (D2):  
*Enamelysin: Degradation of Collagens Belonging to the Dental Basement Membrane*  
Mentor: Dr. James Simmer

1st prize – Thien-Thao Thi Le (D2):  
*Role of the Dix Transcription Factors in Osteoblast Differentiation*  
Mentor: Dr. Renny Franceschi

2nd prize – Imani Lewis (D3):  
*Cooperative Interactions between Adenovirus Vectors Expressing BMP2 and 7 on Bone Regeneration*  
Mentor: Dr. Renny Franceschi

3rd prize – Adam Mileski (D2):  
*Expression Pattern of Ubiquitin Ligase E3 (UBE3B) in Mouse Ear, Eye, and Tooth*  
Mentor: Dr. T.W. Gong

#### Graduate & Post Doctorate

1st prize – Glenda Pettway (PhD Post Doc):  
*Temporal Dependence of PTH (1-34) for Anabolic Actions in an Osteoregeneration Model*  
Mentor: Dr. Laurie McCauley

2nd prize – Jinjui Liao (Phd Post Doc):  
*Extracellular Calcium as a Mediator of Prostate Cancer Skeletal Metastasis*  
Mentor: Dr. Laurie McCauley

3rd prize – Wei-Wen Hu (PhD Post Doc):  
*Localized Gene Therapy for Critical-Size Defects Compromised by Preoperative Radiotherapy*  
Mentor: Dr. Paul Krebsbach

#### Audience Choice

Richard Koh (D3):  
*Finishing Systems on the Final Surface Roughness of Composites*  
Mentor: Dr. Gisele Neiva

## Ealba New President of AADR Student Research Group



Second-year dental student Erin Ealba became president of the AADR's National Student Research Group in March.

In remarks to the group during the organization's annual meeting in Orlando, she emphasized the importance of research to her peers.

"Without continued collaboration between researchers and clinicians, our profession may be hindered," she said. "If clinicians and researchers do not work in conjunction with each other, we will not be providing the general public with the best care."

Saying that evidenced-based dentistry "is the future of dentistry," Ealba added, "the skills we learn about research while in dental school will help us to use and evaluate research in a way that will benefit our practices in the future."

She urged her peers to "stress the importance of research to our classmates and colleagues." ■