Bennett Napier, CAE
NADL / NBC / FDLT

Bennett Napier, CAE is a Certified Association Executive and serves as Executive Director for the National Association of Dental Laboratories and its affiliates, the National Board for Certification in Dental Laboratory Technology and the Foundation for Dental Laboratory Technology. He has worked with nonprofit associations in the dental field for over 21 years.

Prior to his work with associations, Mr. Napier served as a Congressional Assistant for a U. S. Congressman and as a Policy Analyst in Washington D.C.

Mr. Napier has Bachelor’s degrees in Political Science and Sociology, attended the Graduate School of Public Policy with a concentration in Science and Technology at the Georgia Institute of Technology and holds a Master’s of Science Degree in Applied Politics and Policy from Florida State University.
Eric Thorn
National Association of Dental Laboratories

Eric Thorn is In-house Counsel for the National Association of Dental Laboratories and works and presents on governmental relations, regulatory and business development matters nationwide.

Mr. Thorn formerly served as the General Counsel of the Florida House of Representatives and later spent over a decade in private practice representing numerous associations, private corporations and local governments.
Frank Acosta has been a dental technician since 1986. He has owned and operated 3 full service laboratories. At AA Dental Design, Inc., he has built a powerhouse focused on processing digital and conventionally impressed restorations by utilizing the CEREC Inlab to its fullest. Every restoration is processed with the CEREC InLab system which created his motto of All CEREC All The Time.

Mr. Acosta is a software Beta Tester and a certified advanced trainer for Sirona and Patterson Dental. He has founded and moderates www.cerecondemand.com, which is a CEREC educational site for all professionals in the dental field. He has also established the CEREC OnDEMAND Education Center in Murrieta, California, where he is a basic/intermediate/advanced trainer for the CEREC Inlab and the CEREC Chairside.
Daxton Grubb
R-Dent Dental Laboratory

Daxton Grubb graduated Cum Laude from Christian Brothers University in 1999, with a double major in business management and finance. He was an Area Manager at Enterprise Rent A Car until 2002, when he joined his family business, Randy Grubb Dental Lab. By 2006, the lab grew from 7 to 20 employees, and quadrupled sales of 2003. In 2013 the business had grown to over 40 employees and over $4 million in annual sales. Mr. Grubb is currently serving on the SCDL and JDT advisory boards.
Kurtis Helm, CDT owns and manages Helm Dental Laboratory in Wylie, Texas. The full-service laboratory employs 30 technicians and focuses on the latest technology in the fabrication of all fixed and removable prosthetics.

Mr. Helm attended Texas A&M University and received a degree in Bio Chemistry. After serving five years in the United States Air Force as a Dental Laboratory Technical Trainer, he moved back to Texas to open his lab in 1993.

Mr. Helm is a Certified Dental Technician in Ceramics and Removable Dentures, studying extensively at institutions such as LVI and Pankey.
Dennis Lanier has been a Certified Dental Technician for 45 years and is the General Manager for THE LAB 2000, Inc. in Columbus, Georgia.

After graduating from Career Academy School of Dental Technology, Mr. Lanier worked at J. Minor Sturgis Dental laboratory and then as a private technician for a dentist in Columbus, Georgia, before opening his own Laboratory until 1995.

Mr. Lanier serves as a board member of GDLA, and is both a site visitor, a member of the Review Committee and the Commissioner representing the Dental Laboratory Industry for The Commission on Dental Accreditation for the ADA.
Larry Rockert began his career in 1972 in the United States Air Force, where he was assigned to the dental laboratory technology program in Wichita, Texas. After his enlistment he worked for a large group dental practice in the suburbs of Chicago before opening Rockert Dental Studio, Inc. in 1981.

Mr. Rockert is active in his industry including with the Dental Laboratory Conference, American Dental Trade Association and the Illinois Dental Laboratory Association.
Chip Eichelberger’s interactive approach as a speaker goes beyond being motivational; it brings lasting and transformative change to businesses, groups and individuals. In an entertaining and original format, he will persuade his audience to face their challenges and then reach for a more compelling vision, stronger strategies and a healthier ‘Get Switched On’ mindset. He asks the hard questions that will guide the audience toward finding the answers that are right for them and then move them into action.

Chip Eichelberger is the cure for complacency. After five years with world-renowned business leader Tony Robbins as his international point man, he launched his own career in 1993. He has since been selected to “switch on” over 950 events for companies and associations such as Ford, Hyatt, Wells Fargo, Proctor & Gamble, Exxon, NADA and PMI.

Mr. Eichelberger is ranked a Top 5 Speaker by Speaking.com, and one of only 7% of the members of the National Speakers Association to earn the prestigious Certified Speaking Professional designation. Previously he was an award winning sales rep for Jantzen Sportswear, where he built the foundational skills of a sales and business professional.

Mr. Eichelberger is passionate about delivering a “sticky and interactive” experience that grabs the attention of the audience immediately and engages them to not just talk about change, but to be committed to it. They’re active, switched on participants setting goals and making decisions.
Now in his 28th year with Henry Schein, Inc., Rich Miranda has held the position of VP/Chief Administrative & Operations Officer for the Global Dental Business since September, 2012. From 2011-2012, he held the position of CFO – North America Business at the Company. From 2009-2011, he held the position of President, Diversified Healthcare Group. From 2008-2009, Mr. Miranda was the Vice President, North America Planning & Development. From 2003-2008, Mr. Miranda was the Senior Vice President of Dental Business Development. He is a member of the Company’s Global Dental Management Committee.

Mr. Miranda is the VP/Chief Administrative & Operations Officer for the Global Dental Business, which represents approximately $5 billion in sales. He is responsible for working with Dental leaders to drive strategic priorities, utilizing benchmarking and best practices and has direct oversight for NA Lab Business, NA Telesales Operations, Global Repair Business, and Export Market, which includes the emerging categories of Digital Impressions, Chairside Milling, Digital Lab Products and DDX (Lab Scripts). Mr. Miranda is also a member of the Global Prosthetic Solutions Committee.

Mr. Miranda holds a BS degree in Accounting from SUNY Oswego and obtained his MBA at the Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania.
Terry Fine has been influential in expanding AMG Creative’s online marketing initiatives for clients utilizing CMS-enabled Website development, automated marketing platforms including, pay-per-click, retargeting campaigns, search engine optimization and social media platforms since 2004. As President, his vision led AMG Creative to become one of the industry’s most visible and leading marketing firms.

In addition to his position at the helm of AMG, Mr. Fine frequently speaks at industry conferences such as Cal-Lab, Vision 21 and the Western States Conference as well as laboratory associations such as FDLA, and the Texas Dental Association. He is also a regular contributor to many of the major industry publications.

Terry Fine has more than twenty years of experience in the field of high-tech sales and marketing and previously served as Vice President of Sales for StarTek, a publicly traded, technology based business process outsourcing company. While at StarTek, he was instrumental in helping drive client acquisition, including complex supply chain deals with Fortune 500 companies such as Microsoft, Apple and Logitec.
Barbara Warner Wojdan, CDT, AAACD  
Knight Dental Group, CDL, DAMAS, ISO

Barbara Wojdan is President of Knight Dental Group and is one of the most highly regarded business women in dentistry and was recognized among the 2011 recipients of Dental Products Report “Top 25 Women of Dentistry.”

Mrs. Wojdan is a highly accomplished ceramist-artisan and is nationally recognized as a leader in functional-esthetic dentistry. With over 25 years of experience in multiple disciplines of comprehensive dentistry, she has achieved recognition as an accredited member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry and the Florida Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, where she was the 2007 and 2009 Annual Smile Gallery “People’s Choice Award” recipient.

Additionally she is a board member of the National Association of Dental Laboratories, where she has served on various committees including the business planning committee.

Mrs. Wojdjan along with Knight is one of the founding members of the Foundation for Dental Laboratory Technology, where she served as Chairperson for several years.

As President of Knight Dental Group, Mrs. Wojdan is responsible for the strategic planning and implementation of corporate manufacturing integration, daily operations of the HUB manufacturing center and client service aspects of a nationally known, DAMAS quality system certified dental laboratory.

As co-developer of KDG’s nationally acclaimed Comprehensive Aesthetic Center, her passion and focus remains in the continued implementation and direction of high-profile functional-esthetic dentistry and advanced laboratory-dentist communications. She is one of fewer than 40 technicians in the world to have achieved Accreditation from the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry and is continuously recognized for her annual contributions to the AACD “Give-Back-a-Smile” program.
Mark Jackson opened Precision Ceramics Dental Lab in Montclair, California, in 1981, and opened an export laboratory, The Hollywood Smile, in Odense, Denmark in 1991. He sold his ownership in Precision Ceramics in 2015.

Mr. Jackson holds a number of dental patents and has lectured internationally about dental implants, laboratory management and veterinary dentistry.

Mark Jackson’s laboratory has been featured on MTV and in the Wall Street Journal. He is a faculty member at NADL University and is consistently rated as one of the top speakers for that program, which has been in held every year since 2002.
Doug Tatum serves as Chairman for Newport Board Group, a national partnership of CEO’s and senior executives who advise emerging middle market companies and assist private equity firms to invest in and grow portfolio companies.

He is also an Entrepreneur in Residence at the Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship at Florida State University. Doug also serves as the Advisory Board Chairman for the Institute for Exceptional Growth Companies, a national research institute, funded by the NASDAQ Foundation and the University of Wisconsin - Extension. It studies the entrepreneurial economy and job creation.

Mr. Tatum is Immediate Past Chairman and serves on the board of directors of the Association for Corporate Growth (ACG), a global not-for-profit organization with 58 Chapters and 14,000 members in the US and internationally, representing middle market private capital investors, intermediaries and the middle market deal community.

Doug Tatum is the author of *No Man’s Land*, a leading text about growth companies that has been translated into many languages and has won four National Best Business book awards.

His insights about the economy and business have been cited in hundreds of media outlets including Inc. Magazine, The Financial Times, and The New York Times online.

As Chairman and CEO of Tatum LLC, Mr. Tatum built a highly respected national professional service firm, leading it from its entrepreneurial phase to growth to 30 offices. Tatum LLC was sold to Spherion (now SFN Group) in 2010.
KEYNOTE PRESENTATION:
Make Some Noise: Open the Throttle and Dominate Your Marketplace
Saturday ~ January 23, 2016 ♦ 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Ken Schmidt
Harley Davidson Motor Company

One of the most in-demand speakers and communications consultants in America, Ken Schmidt has lived a life that most can only dream about. He has toured the world on two wheels, met with presidents and royalty, partied with movie and music legends, and appeared numerous times on network news. As the former director of communications for Harley-Davidson Motor Company, he played an active role in one of the most celebrated turnarounds in corporate history – and got paid to ride motorcycles. He is widely known as one of the business world’s most outspoken and provocative thought leaders and has partnered with many of the world’s most successful brands. He shares stories and insights on the road to building a fanatically vocal customer base, creating a passionately loyal corporate culture, and developing leaders who inspire and motivate.

The longtime motorcycle enthusiast’s formal association with Harley-Davidson began in 1985. As a specialist in corporate positioning and media relations, Ken Schmidt was asked to work with the then-struggling Harley-Davidson to help restore the company’s image and create demand for its motorcycles. Within a few short years, Harley-Davidson became one of the most visible and frequently reported-on companies in the world, while sales of its motorcycles rocketed upward. Mr. Schmidt became director of Harley-Davidson’s corporate and financial communications and served as its primary spokesperson to the media and the financial communities. He appeared numerous times on network news programs and was frequently called upon by business media to share his insights on non-traditional communications, customer attraction, and brand-building.

Ken Schmidt is a frequent speaker to business groups and academic communities throughout the world. Few speakers generate more positive word-of-mouth and referrals. “I love to startle people by exposing them to proven ideas and concepts they’ve never imagined,” he said. Whether he’s talking about how to leverage basic needs to improve competitiveness, build an entirely new corporate culture, or reach out to new customers in completely untraditional ways, Schmidt never follows a predictable course. “Whether I’m talking about how perfectly average people can do extraordinary things or how to build an entirely new corporate culture, rekindle relationships with customers, or reach out to new ones in completely untraditional ways, I’m teaching people to throw conventional approaches out the window. I see opening hearts and minds as my life’s work.”

Today, Schmidt shares his expertise with many of America’s leading brands but happily states that he is “semi-retired,” which allows him to pursue his other passions. He calls working with the grandson of one of Harley-Davidson’s founders to create 100 Years of Harley-Davidson, the best-selling motor sports book of all time, one of the greatest highs in his life. After all he has accomplished his philosophy of life and business hasn’t changed: “Never do what’s expected, make yourself as noticeably different as possible, and have a lot more fun than you’re supposed to.”
Doug Tatum serves as Chairman for Newport Board Group, a national partnership of CEO's and senior executives who advise emerging middle market companies and assist private equity firms to invest in and grow portfolio companies.

He is also an Entrepreneur in Residence at the Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship at Florida State University. Doug also serves as the Advisory Board Chairman for the Institute for Exceptional Growth Companies, a national research institute, funded by the NASDAQ Foundation and the University of Wisconsin - Extension. It studies the entrepreneurial economy and job creation.

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As Chairman and CEO of Tatum LLC, Mr. Tatum built a highly respected national professional service firm, leading it from its entrepreneurial phase to growth to 30 offices. Tatum LLC was sold to Spherion (now SFN Group) in 2010.
Brent Sapp is a Product Innovator, Author, Entrepreneur Activist and Founder of the “Economy Heroes” movement. His experience spans multiple industries including Healthcare, Education, and Software.

Mr. Sapp has worked hands-on with the CEOs of over 500 mid-market companies to help them break through No Man’s Land. His company (benchmark-button.com) equips CEOs and leadership teams with the right strategic intelligence to make decisions that will prevent a growth stall. He continues to validate that the right strategy, made simple and measurable, can enable an emerging growth company to beat the odds and scale their business.