



## Dorothy A. Perry, PhD

**Department and Position:** Professor and Associate Dean for Education and Admissions at the UCSF School of Dentistry.



**Career Profile:** In her administrative position, Dr. Perry has overseen the implementation of an extensive faculty-initiated curriculum revision at the School. The revision includes the creation of coordinated, integrated courses to replace all courses in the predoctoral curriculum. These agreements among faculty created economies in curriculum time and a schedule for dental students that preserves two half-days per week for independent study options, including research opportunities. Dr. Perry led the successful accreditation efforts for the School of Dentistry in 2005, and participated in the WASC accreditation process for UCSF. She also oversees admissions, student services, and continuing dental education. Dr. Perry has worked extensively on faculty issues at UCSF and within the University of California system. Notably she served two terms as chair of the UCSF School of Dentistry Faculty Council, was involved in development of the International Dentist Program, and participated in philosophical development of the UCSF curriculum revision. She also served two terms as chair of the University of California Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools and was instrumental in both developing admissions policies for undergraduate applicants and working with the Educational Testing Service to recreate the SAT examination. Prior to taking a full time administrative appointment as Assistant Dean in 2002, Dr. Perry taught clinical dental hygiene and non-surgical periodontics, and served as chair of the Division of Dental Hygiene. She has published and lectured extensively on practice related topics for dental hygienists, and admissions policies for the University of California. She has published four textbooks and numerous peer-reviewed articles, and is the primary author of the textbook "Periodontology for the Dental Hygienist" now in its third edition.

Prior to coming to UCSF in 1989, Dr. Perry was Adjunct Assistant Professor at the UCLA School of Dentistry serving in the sections of periodontology and dental public health. She taught non-surgical periodontal therapy to dental students, created an interdisciplinary clinical course to provide initial patient care experience to dental students earlier in the curriculum, and focused on the preventive dentistry curriculum at the School. As a member of the section of dental public health she participated in research projects exploring experimental arrangements for dental hygienists to independently own and operate practices. This work led to advancements in practice laws that now permit dental hygienists to address underserved community dental needs in their own practices.

Dr. Perry has also been involved in state issues relating to dental practices. She received a Governor's appointment to the Committee on Dental Auxiliaries, a committee that works with the California Dental Board to license dental auxiliaries, and served for eight years, three as chair. The Committee was responsible for licensure and worked to rewrite regulations to permit both dental assistants and dental hygienists to broaden the scope of practice.

