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## **Dental Trade Alliance Foundation Honors Entrepreneurial Spirit of Dr. Edward B. Shils**

**ARLINGTON, VA: JULY 8, 2008** The Dental Trade Alliance Foundation, recognized for its leadership in funding initiatives improving access to oral health care and education, continues to strengthen its collaborative reach as a proud supporter of the 2008 Shils Award Recognition Dinner and Shils-Meskin Lecture Series. Hosted at the Union League of Philadelphia on June 17, the dinner, now in its sixth year, recognizes leadership, innovation and integrity in advancing the full spectrum of oral health advocacy, education, access to care and reach of the dental community.

Receiving the 2008 Shils Awards were Bret Wise, Chairman, CEO and President, DENTSPLY; Dr. Robert Klaus, President and CEO, Oral Health America; Rosemary Fetter, Executive Director, National Museum of Dentistry; and Dr. Cherilyn Sheets, the Children's Dental Center of Greater Los Angeles. Special Recognition Awards were presented to Dr. Adam Stabholz of the Hadassah School of Dental Medicine and Dr. Musa Bajali for building health diplomacy advocacy through the Bridges to Peace program; and Dr. Martin Tansy for unrivaled service as dean of Temple University.

Leading a lively and profoundly engaging evening, DTA member Steve Kess (Henry Schein), Chairman of the Shils Foundation, introduced the Foundation's Shils-Meskin Award in memory of the far-reaching leadership of Dr. Larry Meskin. Stanley Bergman, Chairman and CEO of Henry Schein, presented the first Shils-Meskin Award to Dr. D. Walter Cohen for his exemplary accomplishments in advancing the dental health field and championing health diplomacy across disparate political communities with the highly esteemed Bridges to Peace. Bergman in advancing the Shils-Meskin Award shared, "for his energy, his enthusiasm, his unwavering pursuit of excellence and his unbridled vision in advancing the global reach of the dental community with benevolence and resolute determination, Dr. D. Walter Cohen exemplifies the paradigm of character and camaraderie that Drs. Ed Shils and Larry Meskin personified."

The Dental Trade Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Our mission is to fund and leverage promising initiatives that improve access to, and increase capacity and productivity in, the oral healthcare system.

Kess and Bergman also recognized Shirley Shils and Estelle Meskin; their vital connection of time, talents and commitment contributing immeasurably to the work of their spouses, and the reach of the dental community. In addition to Bergman and Kess, DTA members Keith Drayer (Henry Schein); Tony Montemurro (Septodont); and Anthony Volpe, formerly with Colgate, serve on the Ed Shils Program Advisory Board.

For more information on the Dr. Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial Education Fund contact [Sharon.Hofmann@HenrySchein.com](mailto:Sharon.Hofmann@HenrySchein.com).

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