



## **Two Santa Fe Group Members Recognized for Efforts in Advancing Oral Health**

December 10, 2013 – The [SANTA FE GROUP](#) announces that both Dr. Wendy Mouradian and Dr. Raul Garcia are recent recipients of prestigious awards recognizing their efforts in advancing oral health of the public.

Dr. Wendy Mouradian, Santa Fe Group member and Associate Dean for Regional Affairs and RIDE, received a 2013 Shils Award from the Dr. Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial Education Fund for her work with the UW Regional Initiatives in Dental Education program. The award recognizes up to four recipients each year who have had significant positive impact on the dental community. Dr. Mouradian has overseen the RIDE program, which makes innovative use of learning technologies designed to address oral health workforce needs in Washington state's rural and underserved communities. The RIDE program is a partnership with Eastern Washington University, Washington State University and the UW School of Medicine's WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho) program.

Dr. Raul Garcia, Santa Fe Group Vice President and Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Professor, will be honored by the ADEA Gies Foundation at the William J. Gies Awards for Vision, Innovation and Achievement celebration to be held during the 2014 American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Annual Session & Exhibition in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Garcia is Professor and Chair of the Department of Health Policy & Health Services Research at GSDM and Co-Director of the Northeast Center for Research to Evaluate and Eliminate Dental Disparities (CREEDD). The Gies Awards, named after dental education pioneer William J. Gies, PhD, honor individuals and organizations exemplifying dedication to the highest standards of vision, innovation, and achievement in dental education, research, and leadership. Dr. Garcia's major research interests are in health services research and oral epidemiology. He is focused on understanding the causes and consequences of oral health disparities and developing interventions to eliminate them. Dr. Garcia is also dedicated to



identifying the relationship of oral conditions to systemic disease and health-related quality of life.

Dr. Linda Niessen, Santa Fe Group President, states, “Dr. Mouradian and Dr. Garcia’s efforts are well deserving of these two prestigious industry awards. On behalf of the Santa Fe Group, I congratulate and thank them for leading innovative oral health initiatives in their professional roles that also advance the Santa Fe Group’s mission to improve oral health and well-being of the public.”

### **About the Santa Fe Group**

The Santa Fe Group fosters policy and initiates actions to improve the health and well-being of the public. We accomplish this mission by analyzing and disseminating health program and policy information, by creating networks of concerned citizens from all walks of life, and developing advocacy programs to promote change for improved health. To learn more, visit [www.santafegroup.org](http://www.santafegroup.org)