At any given time, there are about 400 vacant faculty positions at the 62 dental schools in the United States. The ongoing challenge to recruit and retain top-quality faculty goes to the heart of dental education. An innovative solution is to create professorships and chairs as a way to supplement the academic pursuits of superior faculty.

The donor contributes the original fund, the endowment, which is matched with monies from the Louisiana Board of Regents. This total stays intact while the annual interest is used by the professor to pursue educational, research and public service interests.

The minimum contribution for a professorship is $60,000 which is then matched with $40,000 from the Louisiana Board of Regents to create a $100,000 endowment. The minimum contribution for a chair is $600,000, with a $400,000 match to create a $1 million endowment.

From a donor’s perspective, this can be a meaningful way to establish a legacy while advancing dental education. Below is a listing of those who hold these prestigious endowments.

**Professorships and Chairs**

Paul C. Armbruster, MS, DDS  
*Marshall I. Gottsegen Professorship in Orthodontics*

Richard Ballard, DDS  
*Guy A. Pavaloro Professorship in Orthodontics*

Toby J. Cheramie, DDS  
*Robert Eastman Professorship in Comprehensive Dentistry*

Paul L. Fidel, Jr., PhD  
*Carl Baldridge Chair in Oral and Craniofacial Surgery*

Van T. Himel, DDS  
*Raymond Luebke Professorship in Endodontics*

J Lee Hochstedler, DDS, FACP  
*Hank Helmer Directional Drilling Professorship in Prosthodontics*

John N. Kent, DDS  
*James R. Peltier Chair in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*

Arturo Jose Mendez, DDS, MSc  
*Brasseler USA Professorship in Prosthodontics*

Mairi C. Noverr, PhD  
*William and Sarah Pelon Professorship in Oral and Craniofacial Biology*

Alan Ripps, DMD, MEd, FACD  
*Ralph and Lily Dauterive Professorship in Operative Dentistry*

John R. Ritchie, DDS, MEd  
*Marie Copping Professorship in General Dentistry*

Xiaoming Xu, PhD  
*Jack Sheridan Professorship in Student Clinical Dental Research*