

1 **Salvador Gaytan:** Welcome to SmileTalk, an entertaining and informative dental talk  
2 show, featuring the latest news and developments in dentistry. I'm  
3 Salvador Gaytan, and I'm here with...  
4  
5 **Dr. John Chao:** Dr. John Chao, hi everybody.  
6  
7 **Salvador Gaytan:** From Alhambra Dental. Last show, we talked with three amazing  
8 students from the USC School of Dentistry by the name of Kyle  
9 Stanley, Matthew Caligiuri and Shawn Hofkes. They are joining us  
10 for a second follow-up show. How are you guys doing?  
11  
12 **Matthew Caligiuri:** Hey, we're doing great, thanks for having us back.  
13  
14 **Shawn Hofkes:** Thanks for having us.  
15  
16 **Salvador Gaytan:** Absolutely. We're going to talk a little bit about the USC School  
17 of Dentistry, and some interesting things that go on there. But first  
18 we decided -- we talked about their study, a great study published,  
19 but we want to have a little fun with you guys.  
20  
21 We're going to ask you a few questions that you can answer  
22 collectively. There are stumpers, but maybe you'll get them. Are  
23 you guys game for this?  
24  
25 **Matthew Caligiuri:** Ready.  
26  
27 **Kyle Stanley:** Bring it on.  
28  
29 **Salvador Gaytan:** Alright, alright, alright, here we go. The first toothbrush was made  
30 in what country?  
31  
32 **Kyle Stanley:** I know this, wait, oh, China.  
33  
34 **Salvador Gaytan:** China, that's fabulous.  
35  
36 **Dr. John Chao:** Alright [crosstalk] for you. Well, you guys are from USC, that's  
37 why.  
38  
39 **Salvador Gaytan:** That was Kyle answering.  
40  
41 **Matthew Caligiuri:** Hey, put your iPhone away.  
42  
43 **Salvador Gaytan:** They think they're smarty-pants, so I'm going to ask a follow-up  
44 question that wasn't planned here, about what year was that?  
45  
46 **Kyle Stanley:** I know this one too.

47  
48 **Salvador Gaytan:** Go ahead.  
49  
50 **Kyle Stanley:** 1400.  
51  
52 **Salvador Gaytan:** That's amazing folks.  
53  
54 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, alright, we didn't stump them after all.  
55  
56 **Salvador Gaytan:** We didn't stump -- we stumped two of them, but one of us got it.  
57  
58 **Matthew Caligiuri:** This is a collective effort, right?  
59  
60 **Kyle Stanley:** Yeah, I was answering for everybody.  
61  
62 **Salvador Gaytan:** It was a collective effort. Okay, well then, let's see. I'm going to  
63 ask you next question. Americans began brushing their teeth  
64 regularly after World War I, in about 1920, is that true or false?  
65  
66 **Shawn Hofkes:** Hey, either way it's still before the British, we're well ahead of  
67 them.  
68  
69 **Dr. John Chao:** Okay, that's a good enough answer.  
70  
71 **Salvador Gaytan:** So, take a guess, do you think that's true or false?  
72  
73 **Kyle Stanley:** Sure, true.  
74  
75 **Salvador Gaytan:** True, we got them Dr. John.  
76  
77 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, we got them.  
78  
79 **Salvador Gaytan:** What's the true answer on that Dr. John?  
80  
81 **Dr. John Chao:** World War II. It started much later than anybody would suspect.  
82  
83 **Salvador Gaytan:** Why was that, Dr. John? Tell them the story.  
84  
85 **Dr. John Chao:** Well, actually you know already, right?  
86  
87 **Salvador Gaytan:** Yeah, yeah.  
88  
89 **Dr. John Chao:** As a result of World War II, the GIs were taught to brush their  
90 teeth or required to brush their teeth, because dentistry was going  
91 to be very expensive. There just wasn't enough dentists around to  
92 fix thousands upon thousands of GIs with bad teeth. So, they were

93 required to brush their teeth. They were given toothbrushes and  
94 toothpaste, and it became a twice a day habit.  
95  
96 **Kyle Stanley:** The beginning of preventative dentistry.  
97  
98 **Salvador Gaytan:** That's right.  
99  
100 **Dr. John Chao:** Yes. So, that's a fringe benefit of World War II. As tragic as it  
101 was, there was some silver lining to that, and that's the start of  
102 American dentistry, as we see it today.  
103  
104 **Salvador Gaytan:** So, we stumped them there. I'm going to see if I can stump them  
105 again though, because you know the answer to this. How many  
106 teeth are there on average, in the average person?  
107  
108 **Kyle Stanley:** Are you talking about how many they should have?  
109  
110 **Salvador Gaytan:** Yeah, I guess go with that, how many should a normal person  
111 have? How many teeth?  
112  
113 **Kyle Stanley:** Shawn, you got this.  
114  
115 **Shawn Hofkes:** Less than 32?  
116  
117 **Kyle Stanley:** As an adult, exactly 32, is it in their lifetime?  
118  
119 **Shawn Hofkes:** Maybe minus four due to the wisdom teeth.  
120  
121 **Kyle Stanley:** I guess we -- I didn't say 52, but on average taking into account the  
122 teeth that have fallen out.  
123  
124 **Salvador Gaytan:** What's your answer folks, including wisdom teeth?  
125  
126 **Kyle Stanley:** 32, are we going with what they should have?  
127  
128 **Matthew Caligiuri:** I [crosstalk] what they should have.  
129  
130 **Salvador Gaytan:** Dr. John?  
131  
132 **Dr. John Chao:** It's 32.  
133  
134 **Salvador Gaytan:** 32, okay.  
135  
136 **Kyle Stanley:** Hey.  
137

138 **Dr. John Chao:** See, he gave you a very simple question, you made it much more  
139 complicated.  
140  
141 **Kyle Stanley:** Yeah, that's right.  
142  
143 **Salvador Gaytan:** See, they thought I was trying to stump them.  
144  
145 **Matthew Caligiuri:** We didn't analyze anything there.  
146  
147 **Kyle Stanley:** Oh boy.  
148  
149 **Dr. John Chao:** Okay, that was pretty simple. That was just a stumping [crosstalk].  
150  
151 **Kyle Stanley:** That's USC education folks.  
152  
153 **Salvador Gaytan:** I'm going to ask you one more. I think you know this one. What  
154 was the first toothbrush made of, for bristles?  
155  
156 **Kyle Stanley:** That would be wild boar hair,  
157  
158 **Salvador Gaytan:** Wow, isn't that right Dr. John?  
159  
160 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, this guy is terrific.  
161  
162 **Shawn Hofkes:** He has a PhD in toothbrushes.  
163  
164 **Matthew Caligiuri:** Hey, we listen to SmileTalk.  
165  
166 **Dr. John Chao:** Well, this shows that the USC method of education does work.  
167  
168 **Salvador Gaytan:** That is correct.  
169  
170 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, we'll ask them about that.  
171  
172 **Salvador Gaytan:** And again, for anyone tuning in, you're listening to SmileTalk  
173 with Dr. John, the friendly dentist from [AlhambraDental.com](http://AlhambraDental.com), and  
174 I'm here with three students from the USC School of Dentistry,  
175 Kyle Stanley, Matt Caligiuri and Shawn Hofkes.  
176  
177 They did an incredible study, that we talked about on the last show,  
178 regarding Fosamax, and it also was published in the journal of...?  
179  
180 **Matthew Caligiuri:** Journal of the American Dental Association.  
181

182 **Salvador Gaytan:** Absolutely, it's January 2009. So, Dr. John, I know you wanted to  
183 talk to these gentlemen more in depth about their experience at  
184 USC, and take it away.  
185  
186 **Dr. John Chao:** Okay. Just to put it into context, we are going to interview three  
187 student doctors from the USC, and then in the future we're going  
188 to do the same with students from UCLA, and then we're going to  
189 do it later on probably with students from Loma Linda.  
190  
191 UCLA and Loma Linda are highly respected dental schools, and  
192 they have a lot to offer. But we are going to talk about education at  
193 the school of dentistry at USC. Trojan men, okay, Kyle, would you  
194 tell us a little bit about yourself, how you decided to be a dentist,  
195 where you're from, and so on?  
196  
197 **Kyle Stanley:** Sure. So, I grew up in Orange County, my dad was a dentist, or he  
198 is a dentist still. I always wanted to do something medical, and  
199 then towards the end of college, I said, "Hey, maybe I'll try  
200 dentistry."  
201  
202 I went and observed some and it really caught my interest. Now,  
203 my brother is a dentist as well. So, it's my dad, my brother and  
204 myself in my family as dentists.  
205  
206 **Dr. John Chao:** Wow, interesting. Are you all going to be working together or...?  
207  
208 **Kyle Stanley:** My brother works in Arizona, and so probably not, but my dad and  
209 I will definitely be working together eventually.  
210  
211 **Dr. John Chao:** Fantastic, great. Okay, Matt.  
212  
213 **Matthew Caligiuri:** Yes.  
214  
215 **Dr. John Chao:** Where are you from, and how did you decide to be a dentist and  
216 why did you come to USC?  
217  
218 **Matthew Caligiuri:** Well, I was raised in Thousand Oaks, California.  
219  
220 **Dr. John Chao:** Nearby.  
221  
222 **Dr. John Chao:** A suburb of LA, yeah, local boy. I probably decided on dentistry  
223 when I was in college. I went to USC as an undergrad, loved it, I  
224 loved my experience, the location, the city, the people, and really  
225 sort of wanted to stay at USC.  
226

227 I got to volunteer in the dental school when I was there as an  
228 undergrad, and that really solidified my interest in the field. So,  
229 yeah, my first choice was definitely USC when I was applying. I  
230 loved the idea of their program, which I think we'll talk about a  
231 little later. So, that's how I ended up here.  
232  
233 **Dr. John Chao:** Well, great. Okay, and then Shawn.  
234  
235 **Shawn Hofkes:** I'm a cheese head from Wisconsin.  
236  
237 **Salvador Gaytan:** How did you get here?  
238  
239 **Dr. John Chao:** You mean you're one of those people that wear that cheese thing  
240 on your head?  
241  
242 **Shawn Hofkes:** Cheese thing, yeah, for the Packer games.  
243  
244 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, okay, Green Bay, alright.  
245  
246 **Salvador Gaytan:** But you root for the Lakers, right?  
247  
248 **Shawn Hofkes:** I have transitioned into a Laker fan, but I am not a fair-weather fan  
249 [crosstalk].  
250  
251 **Dr. John Chao:** So, you don't wear a cheese hat to the Laker games, right?  
252  
253 **Shawn Hofkes:** I definitely won't be sitting -- I won't sit next to Jack Nicholson.  
254 Yeah, but I'm a badger at heart. I decided to go to dental school,  
255 actually my junior year of undergrad at University of Wisconsin.  
256  
257 Main reason, it was a great blend of technology, of being an artist,  
258 and also the medicine. I think that's just -- it encompasses  
259 dentistry. I mean it requires all those skills in order to be  
260 successful.  
261  
262 And also, I like the idea that you can be your own boss, the  
263 autonomy behind it, all great advantages. I advise anybody,  
264 everybody to apply if they are interested in health.  
265  
266 **Dr. John Chao:** Okay. Well, let me talk a little bit, let's digress a little bit.  
267 Dentistry is one of the last bastions of independent practice, don't  
268 you think? Do you think there is some truth to that, if you look at  
269 the other professions?  
270  
271 **Kyle Stanley:** Yeah, especially in medical professions, definitely.  
272

273 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, okay. In medicine, doctors work under some kind of a  
274 system, right, HMO, PPO? So, they are pretty much controlled. I  
275 understand the vets are also more and more incorporated into  
276 larger corporations.  
277  
278 So, the three traditional doctors, three kinds of doctors according to  
279 medical dictionary is physicians, dentists and veterinarians. So,  
280 dentists maybe the last independent practitioners left in the health  
281 field.  
282  
283 We as doctors are able to decide what is in the best interest of the  
284 patient without interference from third parties. We can, if we want  
285 to, join different groups, different dental plans, right?  
286  
287 **Kyle Stanley:** Yes.  
288  
289 **Dr. John Chao:** But we can go out there and say, “No, I want to do it this way,  
290 because I can serve my patients the best. I will not join this plan, I  
291 would join that plan, I won’t join any plans at all.” Would you  
292 agree with that?  
293  
294 **Kyle Stanley:** I would. I think that that’s definitely an accurate assessment, even  
295 just from physicians that I’ve spoken with, they feel very much the  
296 same way.  
297  
298 I think that’s refreshing being a future dentist, that hopefully we  
299 will maintain that and fight for that autonomy, so that we can make  
300 the critical decisions for our patients, and provide the best care for  
301 them without somebody else telling us what that is.  
302  
303 **Salvador Gaytan:** For anyone tuning in, you’re listening to SmileTalk, here with Dr.  
304 John Chao, the friendly dentist from Alhambra Dental. You can  
305 reach Dr. John at [AlhambraDental.com](http://AlhambraDental.com) or 626-308-9104.  
306  
307 Right now, Dr. John is talking with three fascinating students from  
308 the USC School of Dentistry, talking about the school. I know you  
309 wanted to get into talk about the way that the School of Dentistry  
310 teaches these guys.  
311  
312 **Dr. John Chao:** Yes, I want to ask Shawn, and we’ll start with him. Why did you  
313 pick USC Dental School as the place for your dental education?  
314  
315 **Shawn Hofkes:** Well, like you said Dr. John, it really -- I mean after my four years  
316 there now, and even before I started, I knew going into it that it  
317 encourages and embraces creativity. It embraces open-mindedness.  
318

319 I really liked the idea that it was PBL, which stands for Problem  
320 Based Learning. That pedagogue is a group of eight students. Our  
321 class is a 144 students.

322  
323 A group of eight students, and they collectively address a case, it's  
324 guided, you have another doctor there guiding you through the  
325 case. It's divided up into different segments. Those segments are  
326 identifying facts, going through, getting in some ideas, and  
327 addressing those ideas with your own independent research.

328  
329 **Dr. John Chao:** Instead of the traditional teacher lecturing, giving you information,  
330 USC takes a different approach, which is put you in small groups,  
331 and give you cases or problems where you need to solve it as a  
332 group. So, you're not spoon-fed the information, but you are taught  
333 how to figure out the information as a group.

334  
335 **Kyle Stanley:** Exactly.

336  
337 **Shawn Hofkes:** That's right.

338  
339 **Dr. John Chao:** Is that correct? Now, what skills, Matt, do you think you learned  
340 from this particular program?

341  
342 **Matthew Caligiuri:** Well, you definitely learn how to do your own research or review  
343 of the research, the literature that's out there. You learn how to  
344 work with a group, to come up with an idea of what's the problem  
345 here, what are we trying to address, which really allows you to sort  
346 of get a great basis for building your knowledge bank, so to speak,  
347 something like a strong foundation to really start on as a group.

348  
349 Then, it allows you as an individual to go out, hone your skills at  
350 finding that information, and really validating whether that  
351 information out there is accurate, it's well done, it's worthy to sort  
352 of provide answers for a healthcare question, that really requires  
353 the utmost in very peer reviewed and highly regarded information.

354  
355 You're talking about treating a patient. It has to be information  
356 that's not only accurate and safe, but you also want the most  
357 current [crosstalk].

358  
359 **Dr. John Chao:** So, in short, you are required in this educational system to  
360 communicate.

361  
362 **Matthew Caligiuri:** Yeah, absolutely.

363  
364 **Dr. John Chao:** And communicate well...

365  
366 **Matthew Caligiuri:** It's a big part of it.  
367  
368 **Dr. John Chao:** Within your group. I've noticed that these three young men are  
369 extremely articulate.  
370  
371 **Salvador Gaytan:** Definitely.  
372  
373 **Dr. John Chao:** But this is -- I would like to think that you are not just a rare group  
374 of three people. Your colleagues in the class are somewhat like  
375 you. I have a feeling that you are probably pretty articulate to  
376 begin with. But do you think that this particular way of education  
377 enhances, requires you to have good communicative skills?  
378  
379 **Salvador Gaytan:** Now, before you answer, you were talking about -- you mentioned  
380 PBL, I'm sure that went past the audience. It's Problem Based  
381 Learning that we're talking about, right? How long has USC  
382 implemented this style of teaching?  
383  
384 **Kyle Stanley:** I know that 2001 was the first class that graduated with only PBL,  
385 and since then it's been fully PBL, and they've eventually started  
386 to give us resource sessions after our cases.  
387  
388 Because a lot of people said, we went through a case, and we  
389 learned some things, but we'd still kind of like to know -- we still  
390 had some further questions, and so now we have a resource session  
391 after each case letting us know.  
392  
393 **Dr. John Chao:** Okay, so let's make it simple, because you're used to this  
394 language. So, we want the general public to know that...  
395  
396 **Kyle Stanley:** Yeah, sometimes we forget.  
397  
398 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, you're talking to common folks, right? So, now, you have  
399 small groups that [inaudible] solve problems, so therefore you are  
400 forced to communicate. You need to communicate, and you learn  
401 to exist as a small group. Now, do you stick with the same group  
402 throughout four years or do you actually change a little bit?  
403  
404 **Shawn Hofkes:** No, you change, I mean it's on a rotation.  
405  
406 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, rotation, so you get to learn how to communicate with  
407 different people, okay, that's good. Then you develop the ability to  
408 solve problems through research, through communication with  
409 each other, through communication with your...  
410

411 **Kyle Stanley:** Classmates.  
412  
413 **Dr. John Chao:** Faculty also, and learn that particular set of skills. Now, in what  
414 way, Kyle, do you think this will help you, when you become a  
415 practicing dentist, these skills?  
416  
417 **Kyle Stanley:** Well, the whole goal of PBL is to allow us to...  
418  
419 **Dr. John Chao:** Again, PBL means Problem Based Learning.  
420  
421 **Kyle Stanley:** It's Problem Based Learning, sorry. It will allow us when we are in  
422 practice -- and let's say we have a patient with a certain disease or  
423 a certain problem, it will allow us to go and research that problem,  
424 find relevant and data that you can trust in order for us to think for  
425 ourselves, and to find out how to solve this problem and treat our  
426 patient properly.  
427  
428 **Dr. John Chao:** Okay, in what way is this different, let's say from a graduate from  
429 another dental school in the United States? I understand USC has  
430 this particular program, and it's the only major dental school that  
431 has it 100%, right?  
432  
433 **Kyle Stanley:** Right.  
434  
435 **Dr. John Chao:** So, would you talk about that?  
436  
437 **Kyle Stanley:** The question was how is it different?  
438  
439 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, how is it different from other dental schools to your  
440 knowledge?  
441  
442 **Kyle Stanley:** Well, from talking with my brother who recently graduated from  
443 NYU, basically it's like an undergraduate college where you would  
444 go to a lecture. There would be a professor that's lecturing, you  
445 would take notes, and then there would be a series of tests to test  
446 your knowledge.  
447  
448 With us, we have our small groups, and we don't really have the  
449 lecture type atmosphere. We do have a resource session, which is  
450 more of a -- it's a lecture in the sense that there is a faculty and a  
451 lot of students, but it's more interactive.  
452  
453 So, after we have our cases, then we have these resource sessions  
454 that just take our knowledge that we learned and really solidify  
455 them.  
456

457 **Dr. John Chao:** Okay, so can we draw a parallel between training at USC and a law  
458 school? Do you know anything about law schools?  
459

460 **Matthew Caligiuri:** I don't really to be honest.  
461

462 **Shawn Hofkes:** I need to know a good lawyer before I start practicing.  
463

464 **Matthew Caligiuri:** Except from my [crosstalk] in movies, it seems pretty stressful.  
465

466 **Dr. John Chao:** As I understand, legal education is case studies. It's based on case  
467 studies. They give you a case, and they let you read it, and they  
468 teach you how to extract the rule out of that case. So, in effect isn't  
469 that what you ladies and gentlemen do at USC?  
470

471 **Matthew Caligiuri:** Yeah, based on that description that you gave, I think that yeah, I  
472 can say that that seemed to draw a pretty good parallel in the way  
473 that you're not told that this is the information you're supposed to  
474 learn. You find out that that's the information you're supposed to  
475 learn and then you learn it.  
476

477 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, so do you think you'll actually own the solution there?  
478

479 **Matthew Caligiuri:** I think you do, to a degree absolutely. The group owns the  
480 solution, yeah.  
481

482 **Dr. John Chao:** The group -- and you learned it as a result of being part of that  
483 group.  
484

485 **Matthew Caligiuri:** Absolutely.  
486

487 **Dr. John Chao:** So, do you think that that enhances your ability to practice better,  
488 more effectively when you go into practice?  
489

490 **Matthew Caligiuri:** At least differently. I think it definitely gives you a bit of  
491 confidence, not in a cocky way, but a confidence that when you're  
492 presented with something that you aren't sure about, that you'll be  
493 able to handle the situation calmly and intelligently and effectively  
494 for the patient.  
495

496 **Dr. John Chao:** Great.  
497

498 **Salvador Gaytan:** For anyone just tuning in, you're listening to SmileTalk. I'm  
499 Salvador Gaytan here with Dr. John Chao, the friendly dentist from  
500 [AlhambraDental.com](http://AlhambraDental.com). Dr. John is interviewing three incredible  
501 students from the USC School of Dentistry, Kyle Stanley, Matt

502 Caligiuri and Shawn Hofkes. What other question did you have for  
503 these fine young men doctor?  
504  
505 **Dr. John Chao:** I'm just getting started, just getting warm here.  
506  
507 **Salvador Gaytan:** People are going to be in their chairs with these gentlemen over  
508 them fixing their teeth. Are you guys...  
509  
510 **Kyle Stanley:** There's a scary thought.  
511  
512 **Salvador Gaytan:** Are you guys nervous about that responsibility that you're going to  
513 have?  
514  
515 **Dr. John Chao:** Good question.  
516  
517 **Kyle Stanley:** Go ahead Shawn, you got it.  
518  
519 **Salvador Gaytan:** Shawn is shaking already, right. He's like "Whoa."  
520  
521 **Shawn Hofkes:** I mean I have my business cards in my car.  
522  
523 **Salvador Gaytan:** There go, he's preparing.  
524  
525 **Dr. John Chao:** Well, he is treating patients already for three years now.  
526  
527 **Shawn Hofkes:** Yeah, we are a clinic now, that's going pretty well. But I want to  
528 say, in terms of problem based learning, another nice, warm,  
529 friendly part about it is -- and I think Matt and Kyle can also vouch  
530 on this, is that everybody in our class, all 144 students are very  
531 open to each other, very friendly, we are all willing to reach out.  
532  
533 **Kyle Stanley:** We are not ranked, so we are not in competition with each other.  
534  
535 **Salvador Gaytan:** So, who is the smartest among the three of you?  
536  
537 [Crosstalk]  
538  
539 **Kyle Stanley:** We are all equally smart.  
540  
541 **Salvador Gaytan:** They said not ranked, I got to throw in a little zinger there.  
542  
543 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, well.  
544  
545 **Shawn Hofkes:** So, yeah, it's a very nice environment to learn in.  
546

547 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, because this system encourages you to go beyond yourself  
548 and to be part of a community of aspiring dentists.  
549

550 **Kyle Stanley:** You'll get more out of your learning when you do it with others.  
551

552 **Dr. John Chao:** Let me ask you a question. Do you envy your colleagues from  
553 other dentals schools? When they graduate, they're pretty cocky, "I  
554 know how to do this and this and this." Do you envy their  
555 confidence? Do you fear that maybe you're not as certain as to  
556 your abilities?  
557

558 **Kyle Stanley:** You're probably talking about the three cockiest people of our  
559 class?  
560

561 **Salvador Gaytan:** Very good, alright, I like it. Confidence, we like confidence, don't  
562 we?  
563

564 **Dr. John Chao:** You three are not the Three Stooges are you?  
565

566 **Kyle Stanley:** That's right.  
567

568 **Matthew Caligiuri:** We're pretty close.  
569

570 [Crosstalk]  
571

572 **Salvador Gaytan:** Now, Dr. John, we still have not validated they are actually USC  
573 students. Are these just three dudes from the street?  
574

575 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, well I saw them walking around North Hollywood, and  
576 [inaudible].  
577

578 **Kyle Stanley:** We're definitely out of the neighborhood.  
579

580 **Dr. John Chao:** No, okay, so the question is, do you think that they are actually --  
581 they feel more confident than you? Is that good or bad?  
582

583 **Matthew Caligiuri:** I don't want to speak to the cockiness of somebody else coming  
584 from another dental school. I've never personally seen that, so I  
585 wouldn't feel comfortable saying something like that.  
586

587 But I think that -- I'm sure that there is every bit of a reason for  
588 them to feel confident in their skills, because I'm sure that their  
589 skills are every bit as up to par on clinical competency as ours,  
590 hopefully are.  
591

592 **Dr. John Chao:** In what way would you be able to deal with problems when you  
593 come out?  
594

595 **Matthew Caligiuri:** I just feel that we'd probably have different approaches. I think  
596 that us, you guys chime in if you agree or disagree, but I think that  
597 we would be maybe more likely or more willing to go out on our  
598 own and search down this data and not stop until we get it, versus  
599 maybe asking a mentor for the answer to the question.  
600

601 I don't necessarily think that there is a good or bad absolute  
602 though. There are solutions, but it's something that [crosstalk].  
603

604 **Dr. John Chao:** You're demonstrating great communicative skill in being very  
605 tactful.  
606

607 **Salvador Gaytan:** Which is good.  
608

609 **Dr. John Chao:** Okay, good. It shows what you've learned in your years at USC.  
610 Now, Kyle, do you feel that -- well, let's be honest, what would  
611 you change, what would you like changed at the School of  
612 Dentistry at USC, if you had the chance to change it?  
613

614 **Kyle Stanley:** The price.  
615

616 **Dr. John Chao:** The price.  
617

618 **Salvador Gaytan:** The price, absolutely. It's pretty expensive, isn't it?  
619

620 **Dr. John Chao:** It's pretty costly, isn't it?  
621

622 **Kyle Stanley:** It's expensive. It's a price for...  
623

624 **Matthew Caligiuri:** But it's worth it.  
625

626 **Dr. John Chao:** You pay for what you get, and you'll be able to get great dividends  
627 out of your investment in USC. Now, in terms of the way it's  
628 taught, what would you like improved or changed? I want you to  
629 be honest, because even if it sounds negative, I am sure when I  
630 finish with it, you'll feel like it's positive. We got 10 seconds.  
631

632 **Kyle Stanley:** I think that most of the students would say that they don't know if  
633 they learned everything that they needed to on a certain case.  
634

635 **Dr. John Chao:** Okay, great. Gentlemen, that's exactly what PBL is all about,  
636 Problem Based Learning. We want you to feel that you have not  
637 learned everything.

638  
639 That is exactly the attitude that a great, successful dentist should  
640 have, and you guys have that, because your mind is open. I have  
641 been in dentistry many, many years, I feel every day there is more  
642 for me to learn.  
643  
644 I never feel that I've got it. I think if you feel that way, it's  
645 probably a false sense of security. So, the fact that you feel that  
646 way, a lot of your fellow students who feel that way, is really a  
647 great sign that the education at USC has taken route, and you have  
648 the open mind to solve problems when you come out.  
649  
650 It's a changing world, and you guys, in my mind, are very well  
651 prepared to face this exciting new world of dentistry when you  
652 graduate.  
653  
654 **Salvador Gaytan:** Well, Dr. John, we are coming to the conclusion of our show. I'm  
655 going to wrap it up here with one quick question for you  
656 gentlemen. Where do you see yourselves in five years? Kyle?  
657  
658 **Kyle Stanley:** I can definitely speak for myself, and maybe even Matt. We are  
659 planning on starting a practice possibly in downtown LA.  
660  
661 **Salvador Gaytan:** Fantastic, and Shawn, five years, where do you see yourself?  
662  
663 **Shawn Hofkes:** Tokyo.  
664  
665 **Matthew Caligiuri:** Yeah.  
666  
667 **Dr. John Chao:** Tokyo, why Tokyo? You want to practice there, do you speak  
668 Japanese?  
669  
670 **Shawn Hofkes:** I speak Korean.  
671  
672 **Dr. John Chao:** Really? How did that come about?  
673  
674 **Shawn Hofkes:** I just -- Rosetta Stone. Thank you, Rosetta Stone.  
675  
676 **Dr. John Chao:** Really? Now you tell us at the end of the program.  
677  
678 **Salvador Gaytan:** I know, it's not good, okay we got to wrap it up here. It's been a  
679 great show. You can logon to [AlhambraDental.com](http://AlhambraDental.com) for your  
680 questions with Dr. John. It's been a great show with these students.  
681  
682 **Dr. John Chao:** Thank you gentlemen.  
683

684 *Salvador Gaytan:* See you next week.

685

686 *Kyle Stanley:* Thanks a lot.

687

688 [END OF AUDIO]