

Winter 2018

PITT DENTAL MEDICINE



Serving Those with Special
Health Care Needs for

MORE THAN 50 YEARS



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PITT DENTAL MEDICINE

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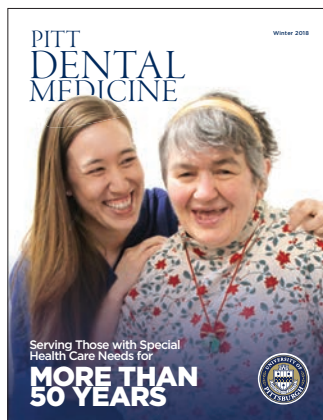
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ON THE COVER

Students and Patients at the Center for Patients with Special Needs form very close bonds. Shown on our cover is fourth-year student, Ms. Katherine Ni and long-time patient, Ms. Sandy Wills during Sandy's recent visit.



Dear friends,

It's hard for me to consider the School of Dental Medicine without feeling proud. For more than 120 years the school has been a pillar of dental education turning out dental practitioners, researchers, and teachers. Today, there are more than 7,000 alumni of the School of Dental Medicine around the world. The school is part of one of the finest and most distinguished public research universities in the country.

In recent years, the school has received numerous William J. Gies Awards for Outstanding Innovation in areas of research and service. Our researchers in the areas of craniofacial genetics and craniofacial regeneration, as well as in epidemiology have placed us in the top tier of all dental schools in the country. This year the Center for Patients with Special Needs will be recognized by receiving a William J. Gies Award at the annual American Dental Education Association (ADEA) meeting as being unique and innovative. This Center has become a model for several others around the country through not only providing care to those with disabilities but teaching and assuring the education and clinical training of our students in the care of these individuals. Our other Centers, such as the Multidisciplinary Implant Center, the Center for Craniofacial and Dental Genetics, and the Center for Craniofacial Regeneration, all have received national recognition in various ways. Our teachers are known around the country and around the world and the service we provide at all levels has continued to be excellent.

I recently have been reminded that for nearly five decades of the 12 that the school has existed, I have been affiliated with it in some way. First, as a student, then a resident, part-time and then full-time faculty, and finally as an administrator. I have seen the school continue to grow and function at an extraordinary level with peer

institutions of which anyone would be proud. We are in very fine company.

It takes consistent vigilance to retain and advance this position for the school. To continue to be successful and assure our position well into the future, we will need to create a new contemporary clinical facility. With the exception of our new research tower, we currently reside in clinics and facilities which are at least fifty years old. In this regard alone we are not retaining our position with our peer dental institutions and before long we can fall behind. Working with the University, initial steps have been taken to explore this. However, it will be an arduous and expensive path, which will require all of our 7,000 alumni working with the leadership of the school to secure such an ambitious undertaking. I am asking each of you to work with the administration to see this project come to fruition.

This will be my last Pitt Dental Medicine magazine as Dean. I am officially retired at the end of January 2018. It has been an honor and privilege to serve the school of which I've been a part for so long. Please know that it is in excellent hands as I depart with an administrative staff led by Interim Dean Bernard J. Costello, department chairs, faculty, staff, and students who are all extraordinary. I shall continue watching the progress of the school after I depart. I'm wishing you all the very best and a healthy 2018.

Sincerely,



Thomas W. Braun (DMD '73, PhD '77)

*Distinguished Service Professor and Dean,
University of Pittsburgh
School of Dental Medicine*

Serving Those with Special
Health Care Needs for

MORE THAN 50 YEARS

In the autumn of 2008, after more than 50 years providing multidisciplinary care for patients with special health care needs, the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Center for Patients with Special Needs (CPSN) was created as a Center of Excellence at the University of Pittsburgh. This year, we celebrate the tenth anniversary of the formal dedication of the Center, which provides diagnostic, preventive, restorative, and surgical services for patients with intellectual disabilities, neurological and behavioral disorders, and developmental disabilities.

Dental Anesthesiology resident, **Dr. Braxton Henderson (DMD '15)** counsels patient, **Ms. Emily Mennetti**, and her mother, **Ms. Stella James**, during a recent visit to the CPSN.



COVER STORY

This year, the School of Dental Medicine also is the recipient of the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Gies Foundation 2018 William J. Gies Award for Vision, Innovation and Achievement for establishing the Center. This honor, which recognizes outstanding innovation by an academic dental institution in support of dental education, illustrates once more why Pitt Dental Medicine is one of the nation's leading dental schools. It distinguishes the school as an institution at the forefront of providing care to patients with special health care needs as well as educating students, residents, faculty, staff and clinicians within the community to provide care to this patient population.

A Lifetime Tradition of Dental Care

The Center has been successfully caring for adults and children with physical, mental or emotional limitations for decades. Alumni who were students at the school during those decades long before the CPSN was designated, are very proud of the care they were trained to provide to this patient group—they have been carrying on this legacy independently for decades. The Center, led by Dr. Thomas W. Braun, Dean and Distinguished Service Professor, with current faculty members including Dr. Joseph Giovannitti, Chair of Dental Anesthesiology and Chief of Special Needs Anesthesia, Dr. Lynne Taiclet, Director of the CPSN, and Dr. Deborah Studen-Pavlovich, Pediatric Dental Residency Program Director and others, applies a multidisciplinary approach for all patients and relies on support from the clinical services provided by all School of Dental Medicine departments. Due to the CPSN's enduring success and a continually expanding wait list for patient appointments, in 2014, the school's clinical space was expanded to include an area devoted to treatment for children and adolescents. The new space features advanced equipment and full anesthesia capabilities, enabling the treatment of an increased number and complexity of patients, including those with special health care needs. Through decades of dedication and the expansion of services to include every department

throughout the school, the CPSN can treat a very wide variety of medically complex patients with disabilities.

Patients with special health care needs face a number of unique barriers to obtaining quality dental care. Patients may have physical and/or mental disabilities, which may arise from a birth defect, an injury or disease, a neurological or behavioral disorder, or intellectual or developmental disabilities. They may be unable to manage their own basic oral hygiene and can challenge caregivers who are not properly educated to provide regular oral care.

As a result, these individuals tend to be more prone to oral disease than the general population, yet they face more barriers than the general population to receiving the treatment they need. The most basic obstacle is that there is a limited number of skilled and trained clinicians able to treat this population in an equally limited number of dental practices in the community. Likewise, the few university and hospital-based clinics nationally that can treat them are significantly overburdened, causing lengthy delays in care. It is only by increasing the number of trained care providers within patients' communities that are able to work with special healthcare needs that we can increase access to care for this population.

This was one of the principle reasons Dr. Braun established the Center in 2008. "Teaching all graduates to be comfortable in treating patients with disabilities ultimately will reduce the burden on these patients and their families." He said. The second reason was that the school, itself, has the unique set of resources in its specialty faculty, including anesthesia, to provide the service along with education. The Dental Medicine program expanded its curriculum school-wide to ensure that graduates are well-trained, community-based dentists, ready and willing to accept and care for the population of patients with disabilities. Dr. Taiclet recognizes that "the increased need to care for those with special health care needs



“I am honored that the Center for Patients with Special Needs (CPSN) is being recognized by the ADEAGies Foundation and to have been nominated by Dr. Thomas Braun. We strive to ensure that all communities will be able to provide dental care for each of these unique patients. With the support of Dr. Braun, the faculty and staff of the CPSN, and the departments within the school, the CPSN has been able to grow, thrive and educate many years of students and residents.”

Dr. Lynne Taiclet, Director of the Center for Patients with Special Needs

Top: Anesthesiology residents, **Dr. Ashli Holland** and **Dr. Taylor Gordon** prepare to administer anesthesia to a young patient, **Ms. Melissa McNally**.

Bottom: Center for Patients with Special Needs faculty members include, from left to right, **Dr. Jacqueline Scott (DMD '12)**, **Dr. Lynne Taiclet (DMD '85)**, and **Dr. Jessica Zugi (DMD '12)**.

COVER STORY

has sparked a need for the growth of programs to educate all dental providers and increase the number of facilities where care may be provided.”

Building on a Nearly Century-Old Foundation

Historically, pediatric dentistry was the primary conduit to care for patients with special health care needs. Treatment for those with special needs had its genesis in the School of Dental Medicine Department of Pediatric Dentistry, which focused on making treatment available while students gained the necessary training and skills in special needs dentistry. Today, treatment for special needs patients is included within the clinical and didactic curriculum of every department of the school.

The special needs curriculum carries on a legacy of more than 60 years and looks to expand student experiences to include educational opportunities for clinicians in the community. Most of our graduates over the past six decades have treated this population and are extremely proud of their training they received many years ago. Recent graduates have successfully increased the number of special needs patients in their early careers because of the training they received in the CPSN. “Many of the students that have graduated over the past few years are providing care for special needs patients within their community-based practice. We want to continue to educate and encourage all of our alumni to devote a part of their practice to caring for this population. Additionally, some past students already have returned to the school as



Dental students, left to right, **Mr. Mat Rosinsky**, **Mr. Eric Wang**, and **Ms. Shruti Mukkamala**, during treatment for patient, **Mr. Patton Gilliland**, in the CPSN.



“The future is bright. I am optimistic that we can continue to improve our special needs treatment by increasing availability to anesthesia services.”

Dr. Joseph Giovannitti

Top: A group of First Professional Program students and Dr. Taiclet assist patient, **Mr. Roy Noble**, in maneuvering from his wheelchair to the dental chair for treatment with the use of a transfer board. Students from left to right are: **Ms. Piper Dizak**, (Class of 2019), **Mr. Geng Tian** (Class of 2018), and **Mr. Jonathan Derlath** (Class of 2019).

Bottom: Faculty and staff members in the CPSN include, from left to right, **Dr. Elaina Kureichyk (DMD '13)**, **Ms. Josie Yvorra**, **Ms. Elaine Ellenberger**, **Dr. Lynne Taiclet (DMD '85)**, and **Dr. David Veronesi (DMD '95)**.

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faculty members to train upcoming generations of practitioners.” Dr. Taiclet said, reflecting on the growth of special needs dentistry education within the school.

In 2006, the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association (ADA) mandated that all dental graduates must be competent in assessing the treatment needs of patients with special needs. Pitt Dental Medicine expanded the curriculum in advance of this to ensure that well-trained, community-based dentists are ready and willing to accept and care for the growing population of patients with disabilities.

During an appointment, patients in the CPSN can have care provided that is far beyond a typical dental treatment. With thoughtful, interprofessional coordination, patients can have complex medical procedures and tests performed, such as blood draws, ear examinations, gynecological examinations, and the removal of small, benign growths. The School of Dental Medicine coordinates with UPMC Presbyterian regarding any special needs case that require a hospital operating room or postoperative care. Additionally, caregivers, faculty, and students have an opportunity to provide patients with other services during sedation that can be very difficult to perform on this population. While it is necessary to anesthetize many patients, the CPSN is not relying exclusively on anesthesia. Instead, they often utilize behavior management and/or protective stabilization. “Working with patients who are awake (and not under anesthesia) is far more fun and educational for students. They really enjoy the interactions they can have this way with patients.” said Dr. Taiclet.

While the Center for Patients with Special Needs provides some care without anesthesia, special needs care is intimately tied to the services provided by the Department of Dental Anesthesiology. Dr. Joseph Giovannitti adds that special needs cases at the school are becoming more complex, and many of these patients rely heavily on services provided by the Department of Dental Anesthesiology, and the faculty and

residents from the Department of Maxillofacial Surgery. Along with increased complexity comes increased risk.

Faculty and students provide care for patients who have very complex medical conditions. In one of the most difficult cases in the Center’s history, dental care was provided to an 83-year-old female with extensive multiple-organ system impairments, a complex history of severe coronary artery disease, who had suffered two strokes, was facing the onset of dementia, and was rather uncooperative, among many other medical complications. Unable to find a dentist in the community, her dental care was successfully provided by the CPSN utilizing intravenous sedation and monitored anesthesia care. Undoubtedly, the most medically compromised patient the Center has had, there would have been no way to complete her dental treatment without the expertise afforded by the faculty and staff of the CPSN.

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TREATING SPECIAL NEEDS PATIENTS FOR NEARLY A CENTURY

The School of Dental Medicine is one of the primary dental providers in the tri-state area for patients with special needs. A formalized program to treat patients with special needs began in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry in 1965 under the direction of Dr. Arthur Nowak (DMD '61) but care for this underserved population at the School of Dental Medicine has been ongoing for almost a century. Through this program, pediatric dental residents were trained to provide care to special needs patients. At that time, the clinic partnered with Department of Dental Anesthesiology residents and Dr. Leonard Monheim, department chair, to provide comprehensive anesthesia care to patients with disabilities. During the 1960s, many special needs patients lived only to adolescence in institutions and not into adulthood within the community as they do today.

The clinical program evolved further in the 1970s. Still, pediatric dental and anesthesiology residents provided the care, but now the predoctoral pediatric dental curriculum added lectures regarding the treatment of special needs patients. The clinic was limited to only one half-day per week.

In the mid 1980s, Dr. Jay Reznik (DMD '72) was appointed Director of Special Needs Services in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry where he expanded the services offered. Patients were becoming deinstitutionalized and many special needs patients were living independently as well as in group homes. As their dental needs became more important to them, they came to the School of Dental Medicine to receive care. An elective program was started for predoctoral dental students that coincided with an increase in services from a one-half- to a full-day clinic.

Dr. John Geary (DMD '91) became the Director of the clinic where those with special needs were treated. Dr. Geary, a general dentist who had completed a one-year



fellowship in dental care for the developmentally disabled at Stony Brook, was well-equipped to serve these patients. He continued the student elective and under his tenure a mandatory weekly rotation for fourth-year predoctoral students was initiated.

In October, 2008, the Center for Patients with Special Needs opened as a University of Pittsburgh Center of Excellence, realizing the long-held vision of Dr. Thomas Braun, Dean of the School of Dental Medicine, to create a University Center of Excellence that provided dental care for the special needs population, and educational opportunities for students and dental professionals. He asked Dr. Erik Scheifele to serve as the Center's Director, who developed a special needs foundational lecture course for third-year students; expanded dental services; and hired new faculty. Dr. Lynne Taiclet subsequently became the clinic's next director. Medical advances allowed members of the special needs population to live longer, healthier lives, increasing the importance of dental care for them into adulthood and old age.

The Center has risen to new heights. In 2008, the dental school could only treat about 560 special needs patients annually whereas, the created Center has allowed

the school to accommodate several thousand patients, which includes more than 700 children and adolescents. The predoctoral clinical rotations have included third and fourth year dental students. The selective program continues. Oral and maxillofacial surgery residents rotate on a bimonthly basis to perform the more difficult surgical cases. Pediatric dental, anesthesiology, and nurse anesthetist residents as well as dental hygiene students all rotate through the Center to provide their expertise in providing optimal dental care. This multi-disciplinary approach has allowed the Center to treat so many more dental patients than it did at its inception.

The CPSN grew further in 2014 with the creation of two general anesthesia (GA) suites housed within the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. Comprehensive dental care for children and adolescent patients can now be completed in one-central area in state-of-the-art facilities. Young people who have been diagnosed with autism, moderate to severe psychological disorders such as depression, self-mutilation, borderline personality disorder, and bipolar disorder can receive the highest-quality dental care through these GA suites.

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Championing a New Future for Special Needs Dentistry

The School of Dental Medicine is carefully considering future goals and opportunities for the CPSN. Limited access to care for patients with special healthcare needs—across Pennsylvania and nationally—means that improving treatment availability remains at the heart of the mission of the Center, now and into the future. Offering educational and clinical presentations to healthcare providers and students in other Pitt schools and departments, to other universities, and to dentists and dental hygienists in private practice is paramount to reaching the goal of educating existing dental providers to better serve the special needs population.

As the complexity of patients' medical conditions increases, reaching out beyond the limits of the school building to work in concert with local, regional, and national health providers is and will be an important component to the growth of the CPSN. Expanding special needs education and

treatment beyond the school into the community was included as a long-range goal prior to the creation of the Center.

The School of Dental Medicine Department of Continuing Dental Education is an important component of the school and a vital part of the mission of CPSN, providing our alumni and practitioners in the community with the necessary knowledge and skills to ensure exceptional delivery of oral healthcare services to this population. Dental medicine faculty members and guest lecturers provide special needs dentistry courses at regional university dental schools comprising didactic and clinical training for attendees where treatments are performed on some of the host school's special needs patients. These presentations model a potential national training program in special needs dentistry.

Within the School of Dental Medicine, multidisciplinary treatment takes place through coordinated efforts between local and regional hospitals and the five other Pitt Schools of Health Sciences. To improve the benefits to our community, the school may consider adding new,



Fourth-year student, **Katherine Ni**, enjoys a smile with one of the Special Olympics Participants for whom she made a mouth guard.

or strengthening and expanding educational relationships among the health sciences schools to include special needs training programs. Additionally, creating new higher-level special needs educational opportunities for dentist from other universities or the community offers the following benefits: patients with more significant restorative needs can be treated within the Center; the consistency of care for patients would improve; support for faculty in the Center would improve; and they would be able to take special needs education back to their home community or university.

Outreach, either through visiting other universities or welcoming these faculty members into our dental school, can afford them the training and guidance needed to carry the mission of the CPSN into locations across the United States and abroad.

Other dental institutions have modeled their own special needs dental centers on the success of the Pitt CPSN. Administrators and faculty members from New York, Wisconsin, Ohio, and many other states, as well as representatives from dental schools in Europe and China, have toured the CPSN in order to collect ideas as they establish their own centers. Sharing our success in creating the Center from the ground up as a consultant to universities who seek to create their own clinics for patients with special healthcare needs.

While training, education, and treatment of this population remain the primary objectives of the CPSN, discovery can enlighten and contribute new dimensions into the future of how care is delivered to this population. Dr. Alexandre Vieira, professor at the School of Dental Medicine, is the director of the Dental Registry and DNA Repository (DRDR). In the DRDR, School of Dental Medicine patient DNA is conserved, organized and deidentified for international research use. Recently, Dr. Vieira received IRB approval to expand the DRDR to include patients in the CPSN on a case-by-case basis. Among the goals of this new endeavor are improving and expanding outcomes of research that now may

be performed on the special needs population, to study the microbiome specific to this population so as to develop new, customized treatments, and to consider variations among those individuals collectively known as patients with special healthcare needs.

Finally, future expansion plans will support improvements and increases in the number and complexity of patients able to be treated. Other modifications about the delivery of interdisciplinary services throughout all departments also will improve the treatment given to all special needs patients, regardless of where they receive care within the school.

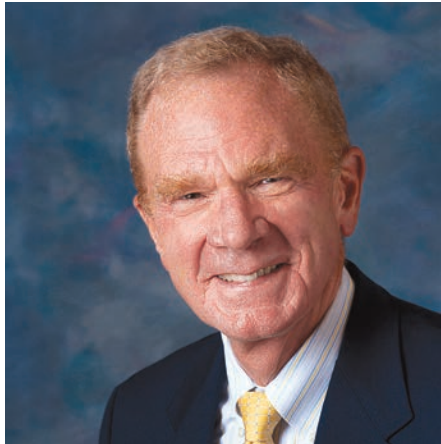
At a critical point in their long history, the CPSN has every opportunity to have continued, significant influence on the manner in which dental and other medical treatments are provided to those patients with special healthcare needs. Building on the work that already has been done here at the School of Dental Medicine will include many new and expansive measures, including training and education of new dental and other healthcare providers, expanding services to patients, increasing the space and equipment used to provide that care, and creating visionary solutions to some of the many concerns presented above.

To realize the future of this ongoing effort, we need your help. The CPSN, including the new dental pediatric clinic, was made possible through the continued vision and support of Dean Braun, as well as the support and dedication of alumni, faculty and members of our community including the FISA Foundation, Highmark Foundation, Massey Charitable Trust, the Eamon Foundation, The International College of Dentists and the University of Pittsburgh.

To help support this important cause and dental care for those with special healthcare needs at the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine, please contact **Mr. Paul Casey** at **412-383-7544** or **pbc8@pitt.edu**.

THE LEGACY OF RETIRING

DEAN THOMAS W. BRAUN



The School of Dental Medicine dean, **Dr. Thomas W. Braun (MD '73, MDS '73, PhD '77)**, has spent his entire education and career at the University of Pittsburgh. He has celebrated numerous milestones and notable achievements here. His affection for and dedication to the University and the School of Dental Medicine are not only evident in his years of service, but also palpable when he speaks. Many colleagues are quick to point out “his love and loyalty for Pitt.” It is no surprise, then, that his decision to retire at this time involved selfless reasons for the betterment of the program.

“Tom Braun has distinguished himself in every facet of his professional and personal life. He is an inspiring role model for his students, faculty, and colleagues, and his contributions will have a long enduring impact on the entire University community as well as the field of oral and maxillofacial surgery.”

Arthur S. Levine, MD,

Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences
John and Gertrude Petersen Dean of Medicine
Professor of Medicine and Molecular Genetics

“The school’s going through a new building project, which is going to be multiple years in length,” Dr. Braun recently said about his decision to step down effective January 31, 2018. Although he considered staying on until 2020, “I felt that it would be more advantageous that I move aside now and let someone come in who can see this through, rather than leaving the school in the middle of it.”

As part of his transition, Dr. Braun recently stepped away from surgical cases to make room for new talent. “I stopped operating in January, just because it was time. My last case was a major reconstructive surgical case, which was great, and I feel that I was perfectly capable of operating several

more years,” he said. “But I just felt it was time to move aside and let younger and better people do that.”

Dr. Braun’s retirement will coincide with his 70th birthday. At the urging of his loved ones, he now will enjoy more quality time with family, including his wife, Liz; their three daughters; and their three grandsons. He also plans to spend much more time sailing on the Chesapeake Bay in Virginia, a longtime hobby.

Of particular concern to his wife (and even a few colleagues), Dr. Braun also has made a rather unique retirement promise: “Those days when I used to operate pretty much five days a week, I got out of the habit of



eating lunch. So now I just don't," he laughed. "But that is one thing in retirement, I promised my wife I'm going to try to get back in the habit of eating lunch."

As Bernard J. Costello, DMD, MD, FACS, steps in as interim dean and a committee searches for a decanal successor, Dr. Braun's colleagues and friends are celebrating his impactful

and principled career, sharing the lessons they learned from him, and recognizing the many remarkable ways he affected the education of Pitt students and care of patients.

"Dr. Braun leads with integrity, fairness, and a clear commitment to the institution with the idea that the University has a tremendous amount to offer the public."

Dr. Bernard J. Costello, Senior Associate Dean

THE LEGACY OF RETIRING

DR. BRAUN AS A STUDENT

Looking back on his own career, Dr. Braun credits his successful career/path with a series of almost non-decisions, simply steps that followed his aptitudes and opportunities that presented themselves. In fact, when he was newly graduated from high school, he imagined himself joining the clergy. “But I did better in sciences than I did in philosophy, and so forth,” he said. “So in college, I decided I’d like to go to dental school. I was pretty sure I wanted to be a general dentist, but in dental school, again, my aptitude seemed to be more with surgical sciences. And so I just entered

the doors which opened, and they took me there.”

His curriculum vitae paints a significantly more rigorous academic path. In 1969, Dr. Braun earned a bachelor of science degree in biology from the University of Pittsburgh, followed by not one but three impressive degrees in the decade that followed: In 1973, he graduated summa cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine with a doctor of dental medicine (DMD). He was valedictorian and class president. The very same year, he received a master’s degree in pharmacology from the University. Then, he immediately

and successfully pursued a doctorate degree in anatomy—while completing his residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery at, then, Presbyterian University Hospital.

Successfully and simultaneously completing both extraordinarily rigorous programs of study cannot be overstated, according to longtime colleague Mark W. Ochs, DMD, MD. The two met when Dr. Ochs was a student. “He struck me as someone who was very curious about anatomy. Surgery itself is a very long track, but he was willing to go the extra distance to achieve that higher level of understanding,” said Dr. Ochs, now Associate Dean of Hospital Affairs and Chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

In his characteristically humble and low-key manner, Dr. Braun admits, “It was busy.”

“Having it to do over, I’m not sure I would have simultaneously pursued the PhD while I was in residency. That was a bit more than I bargained for!” he laughed. “But they’re interrelated, certainly. Anatomy provides direction for surgery. I was able to study various aspects of anatomy that had been experimental at the time. And the field of maxillofacial



At the opening reception for Salk Pavilion, Dr. Braun was joined by **Dr. Patricia Kroboth**, Dean of the School of Pharmacy; **Mr. Scott Bernotas**, Associate Vice Chancellor, Facilities Management; **Dr. Patrick Gallagher**, Chancellor; and **Dr. Arthur Levine**, Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences, and John and Gertrude Petersen Dean of the School of Medicine.

“Dr. Braun taught me a lot about professionalism. You don’t always have to agree, but you have to work together.” **Dr. Mark W. Ochs**, Associate Dean for Hospital Affairs

“A few years ago, a colleague of mine brought some eggs in for me from the chickens at his home. He left them by my office door, but I had already left for the day. My office is near Dr. Braun’s, and when Dr. Braun realized what had happened, he put the eggs in the refrigerator for me. He let me know by writing a limerick to that effect, and I don’t know when I have laughed harder.” **Dr. Jean O’Donnell**, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

surgery was growing at the time. Pursuing both together gave me an opportunity to study, participate in, and contribute to that growth.”

DR. BRAUN AS TEACHER, SURGEON, AND WIZARD OF OZ

Dr. Braun joined the University of Pittsburgh’s School of Dental Medicine faculty as a part-time anatomy instructor in 1977 and soon became an assistant professor. He later transitioned to teaching oral and maxillofacial surgery, rising through the ranks of assistant professor, associate professor, and professor with tenure. He looks back on that era

of his career with clear joy and enthusiasm, describing teaching and performing surgery as rewarding and fun.

“That’s the one thing that helped me keep my sanity,” he joked. “In fact, that’s when I find myself most relaxed, is in the operating room. I’ve been very fortunate. Through most of my professional career, I thoroughly enjoyed operating and teaching in the operating room, which is where I had continued teaching up until the time I stopped operating.”

Even though he stepped away from his surgical role in January,

the rewarding nature of that work endures. “30 years ago, I had a patient whose face had grown abnormally, and I had a suspicion of what it was and diagnosed it on radiographs. We discovered that he had a brain tumor. He was able to get the appropriate surgery—brain surgery to remove the tumor—and then I was able to do his reconstructive surgery. I ran into him a week ago at the museum, which was fascinating, and he remembered me,” Dr. Braun said. “And just yesterday, I ran into another woman for whom I did facial reconstructive surgery—that was, again, 20-plus years ago—and she still remembers and is very grateful. It’s very gratifying when you’re able to do something positive for someone...It’s hard not to feel proud of that.”

“His patients love him so much and never have a bad thing to say about him,” said Ms. Alice Gross, Receptionist and Patient Coordinator in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. “I remember a woman coming in crying. She was talking only out of the right side of her mouth because her left side was paralyzed. She could not



Dr. Thomas Braun is joined by **COL Priscilla Hamilton (DMD '83)** and **COL Shane Bagby (DMD '93)** at the 2017 Dean’s Scholarship Ball.

“Tom Braun is one of the kindest people I’ve ever met and clearly recognizes the value in focusing on the strengths, versus the weaknesses, of others. I think this skill enables him to be a master in identifying and grooming talent — a trait of a resourceful and transformative leader. He has taught me to expect that it’s ‘hard to do the right thing’ — and that simple difficulty, and/or internal unrest, should not deter one from doing what is right.” **Dr. Marnie Oakley**, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs

wait to see Dr. Braun. I was not in the room to hear his magical words, but she came out with a full smile on her face. From then on, I called him The Wizard of Oz that is behind the curtain of our department. Many of his patients were like her, and not one of them left disappointed.”

DR. BRAUN AS ADMINISTRATOR

In 1990, Dr. Braun was named chair of oral and maxillofacial surgery and embarked on a starkly contrasting and challenging time in his career. “I was given this challenge. The program was a multitude of entities. There was a surgery program at Presbyterian Hospital and another one at Montefiore Hospital. And there was a loose affiliation with the school. So, when I came, Dr. Tom Detre, who was at the time the Senior Vice Chancellor at the medical center, essentially charged me with making those things come together,” he said. “Of course, everyone had their own domain and no one wanted their domain to be taken. And yet, each one needed to yield if there was going to be a central organized structure. And so it required some hurt feelings, I think,

and some difficult decisions.”

The unification was necessary, according to Dr. Braun, because two competing programs on opposite sides of the street weakened both. It was essential to create a unified, strong, university-based, six-year MD/DMD program, with a strong emphasis on research and science and an excellent reputation.

“Making those come together really ruffled a lot of feathers, in a lot of areas. And at one point it ultimately became a major confrontation among a number of entities,” Dr. Braun recalled. “But we were able to combine Presbyterian Hospital, Montefiore Hospital, and the Eye and Ear Hospital into a unified program that was based here. I was able to recruit some extraordinary people who have been excellent and dedicated to the program. Under their direction, they made what I believe has become, one of the finest programs in one of the finest dental schools in the country.”

Indeed, the school is ranked in the top 10 dental schools for National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) funding. Researchers at Pitt

School of Dental Medicine work in conjunction with some of the most prestigious institutions in the nation, including the National Cancer Institute, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the National Science Foundation. Education website, StartClass, likewise ranks the school seventh.

DR. BRAUN AS DEAN

With the program united and growing stronger year after year, Dr. Braun assumed progressive decanal roles throughout the 1990s: associate dean for hospital affairs, senior associate dean, interim dean, and ultimately dean in 2000.

At the time of his appointment, Arthur S. Levine, MD, Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences, praised many of Dr. Braun’s leadership qualities, particularly his proven ability to overcome obstacles and bring change: “He is known throughout the national dental community as a superb clinician, teacher, administrator, and an outstanding leader in advancing research and practice in dental medicine...He has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to necessary change, the ability

to develop a consensus that would allow change to be undertaken effectively, and, most importantly, a true vision for the future of dental education, research and practice.”

During his tenure as dean, that vision led to the 2008 opening of the Center for Patients with Special Needs (CPSN) which provides multidisciplinary care, including anesthesia when needed, for patients with physical, developmental, neurological, and behavioral disabilities.

Ms. Elaine Ellenberger, office administrator in the CPSN, highlighted the need for the Center and its uniqueness: “Dr. Braun is a compassionate, knowledgeable, quiet, and steady leader. He recognized that there are people in the community in need of specialized dental care and was instrumental in opening the Center for Patients with Special Needs to serve them. Under Dr. Braun’s leadership, the School of Dental Medicine recognizes the need to have more trained providers in the community. The school is one of the few in the country that requires all third- and fourth-year students and all dental hygiene students to complete rotations in the center as a requirement of graduation.”

“The purpose of the Center is not only taking care of people with disabilities, which is essential, but to train our students so that when they leave here, they’re comfortable taking care of people with special needs—because not everyone needs to go to a major center like this. A lot of people can be cared for in a private office, but the dental practitioner needs to know that they can do it,” Dr. Braun explained of the uncommon model.

The program was the first clinic of its kind nationally and has become a blueprint for others like it across the country. Dr. Braun not only came up with the idea for the Center but fought to make sure it offered the best possible care, which meant no secondhand equipment. Characteristically, Dr. Braun felt that people who have the least deserve the best, not our hand-me-downs. That belief charted the course for the Center.



An image from the very popular ALS Ice bucket challenge video made by Dr. Braun and School of Dental Medicine associate deans.

“Dr. Braun has an innate way of making you want to do well for him and the school. He has always impressed me with his calm, reassuring demeanor. He takes the time to know his staff and make them feel valued and appreciated. His contributions will have a long, enduring, positive impact on the entire University of Pittsburgh community.”

Ms. Kristen M. Zeigler, Manager of IMS and Central Stores

“Dr. Braun never put his own personal agenda ahead of the school or University. His quiet leadership style allowed him to excel professionally, yet you would never know about it; he would never promote himself.” **Dr. Christine Wankiiri-Hale**, Associate Dean for Student Affairs

Not only did the school make major clinical strides under Dr. Braun, but it also transformed its research program. Robert J. Weyant, DMD, DrPH, Professor and Chair of the Department of Dental Public Health, said, “One of his most important accomplishments has been his oversight of the process of the transition of the school from a relatively research-weak school to one of the most prominent research schools in the United States,” he said. “He engenders trust and a sense that he will do what he says. His commitment to achieving excellence for the school is undeniable.”

During his tenure, Dr. Braun was instrumental in the establishment the following centers that share a research focus critical to the school’s success:

- **Center for Craniofacial and Dental Genetics**, which uses statistical and molecular genetic methods to map and identify genes, develop phenotypes, and investigate behavioral and epidemiological factors that influence gene expression as it relates to craniofacial development.
- **Center for Craniofacial Regeneration**, which uses ground-breaking

tissue regeneration and biomaterial advances made at the University to develop treatments for wounds and defects of the face and skull that restore function and appearance

- **Center for Oral Health Research in Appalachia**, which identifies factors that lead to oral health disparities in patients and families in Appalachia, a region with the largest burden of oral health problems per capita in the United States.

Dr. Costello also commended the dean’s focus on research: “The School of Dental Medicine has risen from a dental school that was highly relevant to our regional community to an entity that is respected nationally and internationally because of the quality of its programs and the eminence of its research. We have risen well into the top 10 NIDCR-funded institutions, and this is a direct result of Dr. Braun’s leadership to recruit and cultivate this activity.”

Marnie Oakley, DMD, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, agreed. “While a tremendously gifted and compassionate surgeon, Dr. Braun should be credited for leading our school to higher

levels of national recognition in research, for fostering a predoctoral program that promotes clinical competency in a comprehensive care structure, and for making recruitment of top-tier faculty a chief priority.”

In addition, Dr. Braun brought the school into the age of digital dentistry, bringing in software for virtual surgical planning, establishing a simulation clinic so dental students can perform mock surgery on mannequins and get feedback, and being an early adopter of cone beam technology, which allows 3D imaging and virtual planning.

DR. BRAUN AS A NATIONAL LEADER IN THE FIELD

In addition to his hospital- and University-level roles, Dr. Braun is an internationally recognized leader in his field. He has lectured and published widely, served as President of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, was president of both the Pennsylvania Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and the Great Lakes Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, and served as Chair of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Foundation. He was elected into the American College of Dentists

and the International College of Dentists, among many other honors for his dedication to the University, the discipline, his patients, and those with special needs.

When asked how he juggled so many additional responsibilities, Dr. Braun said lightly, “I was told when I was a resident, ‘If you

want a job to be done well, give it to a busy person.’ And that has worked for me. With any of the associations that I’ve been involved with, you think you’re giving something, but you’re actually getting much more in return. Being able to learn from your colleagues, your peers, your experiences, it’s very enriching in so many ways.”

“Dr. Braun is the most amazing, kind soul I have met at the University of Pittsburgh. He always made me comfortable and always talked to me as an equal. I am blessed to have worked with him and to call him my friend.”

Ms. Alice M. Gross, Receptionist and Patient Coordinator



Dr. Mark Nordenberg with **Ms. Liz Braun** and Dr. Braun at the 2015 Dean’s Scholarship Ball.

DR. BRAUN LOOKS TO THE FUTURE OF THE SCHOOL

So that the school can continue to build on the progress made under his leadership, Dr. Braun believes it is time to not only refurbish the school’s current home but also build a new clinical facility.

“Almost any of the notable schools that are our peers have new clinical facilities. We have been struggling just to keep ours in order. We really need to strongly reconsider an entire reorganization and new building. If this school is to remain as vibrant and as recognized as it is, I strongly believe that the new dean will need to be looking to creating an entirely new clinical facility.”

And he knows that such a project would be in very capable hands. Of all the extraordinary accomplishments throughout his exemplary career, Dr. Braun believes that his masterpiece is the group he is leaving at the helm. Through the years, he has consistently sought people with integrity and the ability to say no. He wants those around him to know how to “do the right thing, at the right time, for the right reasons.”

“The one thing I’m extremely proud of is creating the leadership team that’s here. They are extraordinary. I could walk out of here and get hit by a bus today, and the school will be just as good—possibly better—because those individuals are in place. They are who make the school what it is.” ●

Letter from the DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Hello and happy 2018!

The new year holds a lot of exciting and special events for the School of Dental Medicine Dental Alumni Association. The most notable of these is the retirement of our admirable dean, Dr. Thomas Braun. After many years of dedicated service to making our school a nationally recognized institution, Dr. Braun is stepping down. You'll learn more about his numerous accomplishments and contributions to Pitt Dental Medicine in the spotlight article on page 14. One of Dean Braun's most remarkable achievements, the opening of the Center for Patients with Special Needs, is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year. You'll find more about the CPSN on page 4, including the dedicated faculty and staff who have contributed to operating this incredible gem.

I want to take a moment to personally thank Dr. Braun for founding the School of Dental Medicine Dean's Scholarship Fund. He became the first person to formally welcome me to the Pitt Dental family when he called to inform me that I had been selected as a scholarship recipient. To this day, I am grateful for his foresight by starting this scholarship fund to help relieve some of the debt load facing current students and recent alumni.

I speak on behalf of the Pitt Dental Alumni Association when I say that our school is a much better place thanks to the efforts of Dr. Braun and we are forever grateful for his service. Thank you, Dr. Braun, and enjoy retirement—you've earned it!

Sincerely,

Lisa Babb (DMD'11)

President, Dental Alumni Association

To support the Thomas W. Braun Fund, please see page 30. To make a donation, please visit giveto.pitt.edu/dental, or call **Mr. Paul Casey** at **412-383-7544**.

Letter from the DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION VICE PRESIDENT

Hello all,

On behalf of dental hygiene alumni, I would like to congratulate Dean Thomas Braun on the momentous occasion of his retirement. He has been an exceptional leader and steward of the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine, and our dental hygiene program has benefited directly from his commitment to the goal of a broader education for all students. As mentioned elsewhere in this issue, it was Dr. Braun who insisted that dental hygiene students participate in the school's innovative Center for Special Needs, thus preparing them to deliver care to special needs patients in their own communities. He also supported our program's initiative to grant an associate's degree to our students. Dr. Braun has significantly raised the profile of the school from which we've graduated. Thank you, Dean Braun, for your interest in and support of our dental hygiene alumni association endeavors.

In other news, it is an exciting time to be a dental hygienist in Pennsylvania. In September, the Pennsylvania State Board of Dentistry voted to allow public health dental hygiene practitioners to work in a wider variety of settings. Once fully implemented, this measure will expand access to dental treatment for low-income and underserved populations. Public health dental hygiene practitioners currently are permitted to perform screening and prophylaxis in elementary schools, prisons, federally qualified health centers (FQHC) and personal care homes. The approved expansion will include daycare centers and pediatrician's offices among other additional locations. State regulations require public health dental hygiene practitioners to complete a minimum of 3,600 hours of practice as a licensed dental hygienist under the supervision of a dentist. Many of our alumni have obtained certification as public health dental hygiene practitioners, and this vote will allow them to provide care to a greater number of patients in need of dental care.

As always, I encourage your involvement in the Pitt Dental Hygiene Program and the activities of the alumni association.

Susan Ban (DH '80)

Vice President, Dental Hygiene,
Dental Alumni Association

WHITE COAT CEREMONY 2017

On August 28, 2017, 80 members of the incoming first professional class of 2021 and 25 members of the dental hygiene class of 2018 received their white coats during the 2017 White Coat Ceremony. This significant event welcomes incoming School of Dental Medicine students as they begin their professional career studies.



Dean Thomas Braun welcomed new students, families, faculty and staff to the event. He then welcomed **Dr. James Boyle**, president-elect of the Pennsylvania Dental Association (PDA). He shared his own personal experiences in dental school with new students and also introduced those in attendance to the benefits the PDA can offer them as practicing dental professionals. **Dr. Lisa Babb (DMD '11)**, president of the School of Dental Medicine Dental Alumni Association, talked about the significance and symbolism of the white coat for the class of 2021.



Dr. Joseph Petrone, Associate Dean for Residency Education and immediate past chair of the American College of Dentists (ACD), spoke to students about the prestigious organization.

Dr. Elizabeth Bilodeau, president of Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU), welcomed the Class of 2020 and introduced the requirements and benefits of being invited to be a member of this national dental honor society. Vibrant, ongoing research at the School of Dental Medicine was the topic of **Dr. Mary Marazita** welcome, on behalf of **Dr. Charles Sfeir**, Associate Dean for Research.

Dental Hygiene students were personally welcomed by Dental Hygiene Program Director **Ms. Angelina Ricelli**. Finally, **Dr. Christine Wankiiri-Hale**, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, invited each new student to receive his or her white coat. In addition to supporting the 2017 White Coat

Ceremony, alumni wrote short notes to inspire and energize incoming predoctoral and dental hygiene students that were found inside of their white coats.

A light afternoon reception followed for students, their families, faculty and staff in the new Salk Hall Pavilion.

Family members, friends, faculty, and alumni who were not able to attend in person watched a live streaming broadcast on our Web site. Please visit our web site for details and directions to view this exciting event, or view archived videos from past year's White Coat Ceremonies.

Please see page 28 for information about the 2018 White Coat Ceremony.



The White Coat Ceremony receives support in part from the **Harry K. Zohn (DMD '84)** and **Cecile A. Feldman, DMD White Coat Endowment Fund** as well as contributions from our alumni and friends.



Dr. BJ Costello and **Dr. Paul Moore (DMD '73, MDS '73, PhD '77)** and **Dr. Deborah Studen-Pavlovich (DMD '80)** (not pictured), presented CE courses during the First Pitt Dental Alumni weekend

Above: Golden Alumni celebrating Alumni Weekend during their campus-wide tour.

Pictured are **Dr. Bob Tissot (DDS '60)**, **Dr. Harold Lenchner (DDS '60)**, **Dr. Michael Rosella (DDS '57)**, **Ms. Kathleen Rosella**, **Ms. Joanne Bowser** and **Dr. Ellsworth Bowser (DDS '60)**. Not pictured are **Drs. Robert (DDS '60)**, **Shirley Smith** and **Dr. Jim Ferguson (DDS '60)**.

SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE ALUMNI WEEKEND

The School of Dental Medicine held its first ever Pitt Dental Medicine Alumni Weekend in September, 2017. The event was very successful thanks to the hard work and the strong leadership from our alumni.

The weekend's celebrations began with CE courses for both dentists and dental hygienists.

Dr. B.J. Costello, Dr. Deborah Studen-Pavlovich (DMD '80), and Dr. Paul Moore (DMD '73, MDS '73, PhD '77)

presented individual portions of Updates in Clinical Dentistry, a day-long, three-part, CE course in the University Club. Upstairs in a second meeting room, dental hygiene alumnae attended Dental Hygiene Enhancements, a CE course that presented new techniques in treatment as well as patient wellness education.

Immediately following the CE courses, luncheons were held for Golden Alumni and the Class of 1967 in the University Club, after which they enjoyed a tour of Pitt Campus and the School of Dental Medicine. Participants of the tour were able to see how much the school has changed since they attended, and what new technologies are part of the curriculum.

Individual class dinners Friday evening rounded out the first day of events.

Saturday kicked off with a tailgate party on the Great Lawn next to Heinz Field where Pitt faced Oklahoma State in an afternoon football game.

September 14 & 15, 2018 PITT DENTAL ALUMNI WEEKEND

Class Reunions and Pitt vs. Georgia Tech Football

Class of 1968 Fifty Year Reunion
letters with reunion weekend details
will be mailed in February.

**If you would like to organize your class reunion for a class year ending
in 3 or 8, contact Ms. Nancy Poe at 412-648-8910 or poen@pitt.edu.**



CLASS OF 1982



CLASS OF 1992



ALUMNI WEEKEND 2017



The Pitt Dental Medicine 50 year class was very excited to be part of the first Pitt Dental Alumni Weekend



Pitt Dental Alumni Weekend 2017 Tailgate



“PITT AND PITTSBURGH MEAN A LOT TO ME. I WAS MARRIED WITH A CHILD BY THE TIME I WAS IN MY SECOND YEAR AT PITT. PITTSBURGH IS A FAMILY-ORIENTED, SMALL TOWN — BIG CITY THAT PROVIDED ME WITH A FAMILY IN THE PEOPLE I MET AT THE SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE.”

Dr. M. Barry Moskowitz

(DMD '67)

has been organizing and planning alumni reunions since the day he completed his studies at Pitt Dental Medicine. Helping to keep his fellow graduates of the class of 1967 connected, he made it possible for them to meet every five years over the past 50 years. On faculty at Penn Dental Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania for more than 40 years, Dr. Moskowitz has always been enthusiastic about Pitt. He is a season football ticket holder and credits Pitt with helping to shape who he is, today, as well as helping him create his family—he met his wife here at Pitt. Thank you Dr. Moskowitz for helping to make this year's alumni weekend a great success.

GOLDEN ALUMNI AND THE CLASS OF 1967

Golden alumni and the class of 1967 (who celebrated their 50th anniversary) joined a bus tour of campus and interior tour of the School of Dental Medicine. Special emphasis was placed on the Simulation Clinic and the Sirona CEREC machine, a CAD/CAM process for milling crowns.



Women in Dentistry Forum

**Sunday, April 15, 2018
Noon-3p.m.**

**Girasole Restaurant
733 Copeland Street, Shadyside**

Dr. Lisa Babb (DMD '11), current Dental Alumni Association President, invites alumnae and female dental students to this forum to discuss unique professional challenges faced by women dental professionals and build a mentoring network for all Pitt Dental women. We will partner with Ms. Heidi Danko from PNC Healthcare Banking. Heidi is a certified business advocate of professional women. The generous support of PNC Healthcare Banking will also benefit the Pitt Dental Student Chapter of the American Association for Women Dentists (AAWD).

Registration is required at poen@pitt.edu.

Contributions support Pitt AAWD: \$10 for alumnae and \$5 for students. Please make your check payable to Pitt AAWD.

Questions? Contact **Nancy Poe** at **412-648-8910** or poen@pitt.edu.

2018 Summer Networking Event

You are invited to join us at this networking event where you just may find your next associate or connect with a future colleague.

**Friday, July 13, 2018
4-6p.m.**

University Club, Ballroom A

Pennsylvania Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) representatives are encouraged to attend.

This complimentary event is offered and hosted by the Pitt School of Dental Medicine Office of Alumni Affairs and Development.

Advanced registration is required. Please e-mail poen@pitt.edu with your contact information and area of interest, need an associate, looking for a position, FQHC, etc.

Contact **Nancy Poe** at **412-648-8910** or poen@pitt.edu if you have any questions.

Please plan to join us and help continue to make our Pitt Dental Family stronger!

White Coat Ceremony 2018

**Monday, August 27, 2018
3 p.m.**

Please see our website for the location.

If you were to look back to when you began your own education and career, what suggestions or life lessons would you tell yourself? We ask our alumni, parents, and friends to share the benefit of their experience as we welcome the Pitt Dental Medicine Class of 2022.

Your donation of \$50 supports the School of Dental Medicine White Coat Ceremony and gives a warm welcome to the newest members of our family.

You may send a message to be added to the new white coat of an incoming student. If you prefer to remain anonymous, we will tell the student that their coat is presented by a member of the Pitt Dental Medicine community who has made a generous donation in their honor.

We hope that you will consider sharing your heartfelt and inspiring story with one of our new students.

The White Coat Ceremony receives support in part from the Harry K. Zohn (DMD '84) and Cecile A. Feldman, DMD, White Coat Endowment Fund as well as contributions from our alumni and friends.

To make your donation, or for more information, please contact **Nancy Poe** at **412-648-8910** or poen@pitt.edu.

The American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association Returns to its Pittsburgh Roots

This year, **Dr. Bernard J. Costello** was elected President of the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association (ACPA). Dr. Costello begins his President Elect Term on January 1, 2018 and will assume the role of President on January 1, 2019. In addition to his leadership as President Elect of the ACPA, Dr. Costello will also assume the position of Interim Dean of the School of Dental Medicine. His term will begin February 1, 2018.

The origins of the ACPA lead back to 1943, when the organization began in the University of Pittsburgh's School of Dental Medicine. Known as the "City of Smoke," the Pittsburgh of the 1940's was a bustling nexus of the iron and steel industries. While these industries came to represent the grit and determination that characterize the city, one must look through the smoke to appreciate the academic innovation at that time. In 1943, Pittsburgh was one of the first and only cities in the country to highlight the importance of the interdisciplinary care necessary when treating cleft and craniofacial deformities. As a result, the city gained an increasingly multifaceted reputation, not only as a manufacturing giant, but also as a leader in the medical field. Today, Pittsburgh is one of the most respected places in the country for complex cleft and craniofacial reconstruction.

Although the organization was born and bred in the halls of the School of Dental Medicine, it has grown far beyond the Pittsburgh city limits. Today, the ACPA's offices are located in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. However, this interdisciplinary organization has garnered an international reputation as the leader in its commitment to seeking a diversity of thoughts and approaches to highly complex care for patients with facial differences, such as cleft and craniofacial anomalies.

With members who represent more than 30 disciplines in 60 countries around the globe, the ACPA has expanded its impact to reach thousands of individuals in need. The scope of the organization's reach is a true testament to the success of its vision to help individuals with oral and craniofacial conditions not just live, but thrive.

Due in part to the central role Pittsburgh played in the ACPA's start, the School of Dental Medicine and the ACPA have always shared a close bond. In 1960, the School received a \$2.5 million grant for a seven-year period to establish a Cleft Palate Center. Betram S. Krause, PhD, was the founder of the Cleft Palate Center and was its first director. The second director of the clinic, the late Dr. Betty J. McWilliams, was highly involved in the ACPA, serving in various functions, including President, during her lifetime. Her pioneering efforts, combined with the dedication of other ACPA presidents linked with the School of Dental Medicine, have strengthened the School's ties to the organization. For example, Dr. Mark Mooney, Chair of Oral Biology at the School of Dental Medicine, also served as president. This connection has positioned the School and

the city of Pittsburgh as forerunners of team care, innovative reconstructive techniques, and craniofacial research that stand to greatly improve the daily experience of each patient.

Now, as the ACPA celebrates 75 years, the leadership once again returns to its Pittsburgh roots as Dr. Costello steps into his role as President Elect in 2018. Upon the start of his term, Dr. Costello looks forward to guiding the future of the ACPA.



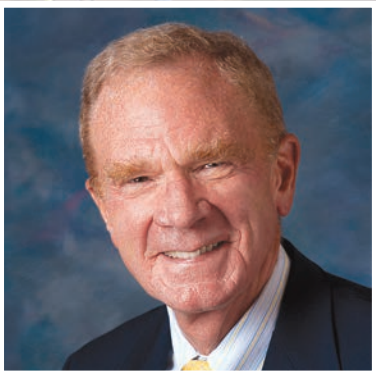
Of special importance to Dr. Costello is reinvigorating awareness of the need for team care in the United States. He explains, "There's a huge need for comprehensive, interdisciplinary care in the U.S., but it's not known to be a major issue here." Often, the need for

reconstructive surgeries focuses on children in other countries. While these cases are important, the heightened focus on communities overseas detracts from the fact that there are still countless families right in our backyard, struggling to receive the care they need. Despite the prevailing belief that health care coverage will assist with cleft palate surgeries, Dr. Costello maintains that even the best coverage often will not meet the needs of most patients facing staged repairs throughout their young adult lives.

The ACPA's Annual Meeting will be held in Pittsburgh from April 10-14, 2018, where attendees will honor the past, challenge the present and inspire the future. Setting the tone for the event is keynote speaker Dr. Rubin Pillay, Medical Futurist and Professor of Healthcare Innovation, University of Alabama at Birmingham. His work on the role of innovation and entrepreneurship in the transformation of health and healthcare speaks to the meeting's focus on the connection between past, present and future.

As the School of Dental Medicine prepares to welcome Dr. Costello as Interim Dean and as the ACPA prepares to welcome him as President, the future of team care for cleft and craniofacial challenges looks bright. Dr. Costello is as committed to medical advancement as he is to patient care, acknowledging the fact that they are inextricably intertwined. As technology continues to improve, patients will face fewer risks, experience faster healing time and enjoy superior results. Ultimately, as the ACPA becomes increasingly diverse, including individuals from an even wider array of disciplines and backgrounds, the number of patients benefitting from this organization's life-changing work will continue to rise.

For more information about the ACPA, please [visit acpa-cpf.org](http://acpa-cpf.org).



18TH ANNUAL DEAN'S SCHOLARSHIP BALL

Saturday, April 7, 2018

Senator John Heinz History Center
 1212 Smallman St.
 Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Please join us to celebrate Dr. Thomas W. Braun's years of leadership and service to the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine.

Invitations will be mailed in early 2018.

Tickets are \$250 for this black-tie event and seating is limited.

If you would like additional information or have questions, please contact **Nancy Poe** at **poen@pitt.edu**, or **412-648-8910**.

Donors of \$1,000, or more, to the Thomas W. Braun Fund will receive this lovely Pitt Dental Medicine Keepsake Box designed by Wendell August Forge.



If you wish to support the Thomas W. Braun Fund, please visit **giveto.pitt.edu/dental**, or call **Mr. Paul Casey** at **412-383-7544**.

University of Pittsburgh Dental Anesthesiology Legacy Lecture Series

October 6 and 7, 2017

The School of Dental Medicine Department of Dental Anesthesiology held the first Legacy Lecture Series on October 6 and 7, 2017 at the Duquesne Club in Pittsburgh, one of the world's premier city clubs. This meeting was designed to fill the void in quality dental anesthesia continuing education, and it was a rousing success. Fifty-eight attendees from across the country attended an opening reception on Friday, followed by the complete program on Saturday. An impressive lineup of speakers was featured. Keynote speaker was Dr. Morton B. Rosenberg, Emeritus Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in the Division of Anesthesia and Pain Control, and Emeritus Professor of Anesthesiology at Tufts University Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine. One of the most well-known names in dental anesthesiology, Dr. Rosenberg has had a long and distinguished career. It was an honor that he chose our meeting to announce that this would be his last formal lecture following his recent retirement.

Rounding out the session were Dr. Jennifer Wallen, a Pitt Dental Anesthesia alumna now with the University of Colorado School of Medicine and the Children's Hospital of Colorado; Dr. Lenny Naftalin from UCLA, immediate Past-President of the American Dental Board of Anesthesiology; and Dr. Jimmy Tom of USC and current President of the American Society of Dentist Anesthesiologists. Two senior Pitt Dental Anesthesiology residents, Dr. Brittney Cloninger and Dr. Braxton Henderson, presented interesting case histories.

With the extraordinary success of this meeting, plans to expand the content and accommodate a larger audience are underway for what will become a recurring event showcasing not only the varied talents within our specialty, but also those of our school, department, and city.



PHOTOS FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: **Amy L. Sarno**, Executive Director of the American Society of Dentist Anesthesiologists with **Dr. Joseph Giovannitti**; **Dr. Lenny Naftalin**, presenter, faculty at UCLA School of Dentistry, and president of the American Dental Board of Anesthesiology with **Dr. Joseph Giovannitti**; Left to right: **Dr. Braxton Henderson (DMD '15)**, **Dr. Benjamin Pritts (DMD '17)**, **Dr. Edward Heinrichs (DMD '72, Perio '83)**, **Dr. Morton Rosenberg**, **Dr. James Gravener (DMD '16)**, **Dr. Man Ching Ho (DMD '16)**, **Dr. Joseph Giovannitti** with **Mr. Ryan Sunseri**, of Mindray, a sponsor of the event.

FACULTY UPDATES



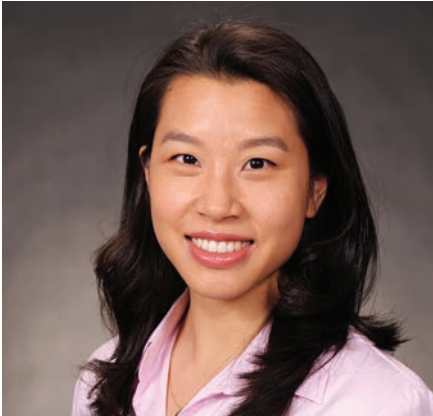
Adriana Modesto Vieira, DDS, MS, PhD, DMD, Professor and Chair in the School of Dental Medicine Department of Pediatric Dentistry, presented *Oral Health Disparities in the Hispanic Population* in the U.S. in October, 2017. The talk, in recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month was part of the University of Pittsburgh Health Sciences Diversity, Diversity in Practice Speaker Series. The presentation discussed unseen bias: how health care workers treat different ethnicities in different ways.



Dr. Satish Kumar, assistant professor in the School of Dental Medicine Department of Periodontics and Preventive Dentistry, is the 2017 recipient of the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) Award for Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring in Periodontics. This award is given at each institution to the periodontal educator who has demonstrated a commitment to excellence in providing education in the full scope of clinical periodontics and relays that enthusiasm to students. Dr. Kumar also was the recipient of the 2017 School of Dental Medicine Faculty Technology Adoption Award, which is given to a faculty member who has demonstrated the use of technology in teaching to improve learning outcomes.



Dr. Joanne Prasad, assistant professor and 2017 president of the Eastern Society of Teachers of Oral Pathology (ESTOP), organized the 2017 ESTOP Conference, which took place September 15-17, 2017, in Burlington, Vt.,. The forty-five attendees comprising faculty and residents were from the U.S., Canada, and the United Kingdom.



Dr. Jackie Burgette, assistant professor in the Department of Dental Public Health, was selected to be a part of the Harold Amos Faculty Development Program (AMFDP) from the Robert Wood Johnson Advisory Committee. The AMFDP is a 4-year career development award for researcher-clinicians and begins on January 1, 2018. AMFDP Scholars receive an annual stipend of up to \$75,000 each, complemented by a \$30,000 annual grant toward support of research activities. Dr. Burgette's proposed course of study will be the impact of mothers' social network on children's oral health outcomes within Pitt's longitudinal study on dental caries in children, part of the Center for Oral Health Research in Appalachia (COHRA).



Dr. John Burnheimer (DMD '81), assistant professor in the Department of Orthodontics, recently completed the inaugural Diversity and Inclusion Certificate Program (DICP) offered by the University of Pittsburgh Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Dr. Kathy Humphrey, Senior Vice Chancellor for Engagement, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, and Chief of Staff; and Pamela W. Connelly, Vice Chancellor of Diversity and Inclusion congratulated participants during the Annual Diversity Retreat held in June, 2017. The DICP is designed to reinforce the University's core values of diversity and inclusion through a series of workshops open to all faculty and staff. The workshops address both individual behaviors and University policies that can impact an environment of opportunity and success for all members of the University community.



Dr. Antonia Teurel, assistant professor at Pitt Dental Medicine, is participating in the UPMC Head & Neck Survivorship Clinic, a multi-disciplinary clinic with the goal of improving post-treatment care of head and neck cancer survivors. Each patient is seen by a team consisting of a head and neck surgeon, speech pathologist, dentist, audiologist, physical therapist, and nurse to assess the patient for cancer recurrence, and identify and manage the effects of cancer and its treatment. Dr. Teurel comprehensively reviews the patient's dental needs, raises awareness regarding the importance of dental care before, during, and after treatment, provides recommendations on managing the cancer treatment's side effects, and makes referrals as needed.

RECENT FACULTY RECOGNITION AT THE PITT HONORS CONVOCATION



Dr. Mark P. Mooney

International Association of Student Clinicians American Dental Association Burton C. Borgelt/SCDA Faculty Advisory Award

This award honors a faculty advisor who has distinguished themselves as a dental scientist and for mentoring dental students.



Dr. Marnie Oakley (DMD '92)

University of Pittsburgh Innovation Award

Recognizes activities that promote and foster innovation and entrepreneurship on campus and throughout the Pittsburgh region.



Dr. Joanne Prasad

University of Pittsburgh Office of the Provost

Award for Projects Enhance teaching at Pitt and foster new instructional approaches that represent advances over existing methods.



Dr. Mark W. Ochs (DMD '82)

American Dental Education Association (ADEA) William J. Gies Foundation Award

The preeminent recognition for individuals in the dental profession exemplifying the highest standard in oral health and dental education.



Dr. Seth Weinberg

University of Pittsburgh Faculty Award for Service in the University Senate

Recognizes service of an individual faculty member and the many roles taken on within the University Senate.



Dr. Bernard J. Costello

American Academy of Craniomaxillofacial Surgeons

President

The AACMFS is the premiere academic society of craniomaxillofacial surgeons in North America devoted to advancement of the knowledge, science, and art of craniomaxillofacial surgery.

Dr. Mark W. Ochs (DMD '82)

Distinguished Alumnus Advanced Education Programs Award



Running for 40 Years and Counting

Over the past 40 years, **Dr. John Burnheimer (DMD '81)** has participated in every one of Pittsburgh's Great Races. He is above, in the first row, third from the right, with a team of friends who, likewise, have attended every race. They are looking forward to next year.

Dr. Andrea L. Zanardelli Nave (DMD '99, Pedo '14) is a recipient of a 2017 Master Clinician Scholarship from the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD). The scholarship program was developed to provide educational opportunities for pediatric dentists who are transitioning from private practice to careers in academics. Participants are granted tuition to attend the Institute for Teaching and Learning (ITL), a program of the Academy of Academic Leadership. The ITL is a six-day, two-phase course, encompassing teaching skills and styles, test and course design, identifying student needs, case- and problem-based learning, and rubric development. The American Dental Association (ADA) awards up to 50 credit hours for attendance.





American Academy of Craniomaxillofacial Surgeons Meets in Pittsburgh

The 2017 American Academy of Craniomaxillofacial Surgeons (AACMFS) Annual Meeting was held in Pittsburgh, May 19-20, 2017, at the Fairmont Pittsburgh Hotel during the presidency of **B.J. Costello, DMD, MD**, who now is the Immediate Past President of the AACMFS. Dr. Costello welcomed guests to the event and introduced keynote speaker **Steven Docimo, MD**, former professor of urology and former director of Pediatric Urology at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, and former Chief Medical Officer at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC. Dr. Docimo spoke to attendees about important medical trends that may affect their subspecialty. A business meeting took place as well as scientific programs and receptions in the Duquesne Club and the Senator John Heinz History Center.



Dr. B.J. Costello, then President hands over the gavel to **Eric J. Dierks, MD, DMD**, then President-elect, during the 2017 AACMFS meeting.



FINDING CLUES TO DISEASE RISK COULD BE AS SIMPLE AS A DOCTOR LOOKING INSIDE A PATIENT'S MOUTH

This method is exactly what **Alexandre Vieira** is studying at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Dental Medicine. His studies suggest that gene mutations influencing how teeth are formed are also consistent with diseases people face later in life, such as kidney disease, asthma and cancer, among others.

"If we can figure out what people's risks look like with all this genetic dental information, we might be able to tell you to take up a less stressful job or change your diet to avoid these diseases," said Vieira, the dental school's director of clinical research and of student research. "You can, at some point, personalize the approach that goes from prevention all the way to treatment."

One example is that individuals with tooth agenesis — the congenital lack of one or more teeth — report more cancer in their families, particularly of the brain, breast and prostate. A 2004 study that Vieira cites found that members of a Finnish family with similar tooth agenesis formations also suffered from colon cancer, with that study's researchers finding a mutational gene called *AXIN2* in the family.

"Furthermore, some genes that were independently shown to be associated with cancer are also associated with tooth agenesis," Vieira said. "One important detail — the tooth agenesis cases included in this study are mostly mild and commonly found in the general population."

Vieira has multiple studies published suggesting this association, including one in 2014 and another in 2017 that suggested enamel-forming genes may play a part in the decay or crumbling of a tooth, a common chronic disease in children ages 5 to 17 years in the United States.

His studies also suggest that developmental dental anomalies share common genetic contributors to cleft lip and palate.

"We could use a definition of clefts that include the presence or not of dental anomalies to improve our chances to identify gene defects that may explain these conditions, which could improve risk predictions," Vieira said.

While dental formations can give clues to one's underlying genetics,

the only way to conclusively verify whether a person has mutations in these genes is by formal genetic testing, Vieira said. Some common variants could potentially be included in direct-to-consumer panels for DNA testing, often marketed as "verification of ancestry," some of which may provide a report of individual risks for disease as well.

Vieira is also collaborating with researchers at the University of Utah, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, University of Lausanne in Switzerland and Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania to identify how genetic mutations influence a protein pathway responsible for permanent tooth formation. The project recently received a five-year grant totaling \$1.7 million from the National Institutes of Health.

For the next step in his own research, Vieira wants to examine health patterns in individuals over time to see how diseases progress in relation to dental formations, since previous studies have focused mainly on younger people with tooth agenesis.

HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION FOR KIDS

The School of Dental Medicine Student Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry celebrated Halloween at the Boo Bash with the members of Our Clubhouse. Our Clubhouse is a community of support housed on Smallman Street in Pittsburgh that assists individuals and families affected by cancer. Nine students from Pitt Dental Medicine attended the event, where they helped children create Halloween crafts and decorate pumpkins.



MISSION OF MERCY PITTSBURGH PROVIDES DENTAL CARE FOR PITTSBURGH'S MOST VULNERABLE CITIZENS

Join us and take advantage of volunteer opportunities in 2018

Mission of Mercy Pittsburgh began in 2016 and grew out of conversations that occurred between **Daniel Pituch, DMD, MD**, founder of Face2Face Healing and a University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine alumni; **Richard M. Celko, DMD, MBA**, dental director, UPMC Health Plan, and also a University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine alumni; and **Michael Zamagias**, chairman and chief executive officer, TeleTracking Technologies, Inc., about the need to provide dental services to the underserved.

“Thank you all for everything you’ve done for us this weekend. Everyone was so friendly and helpful. It took a lot of amazing people to pull this all together.”

“The need for this care in our community is significant,” says Dr. Pituch. “The Mission of Mercy Pittsburgh dental clinic can be life-changing for patients, especially the homeless, the working poor, women in shelters, and children whose families do not have the means to see a dentist. By providing care, we can help these patients move on to a better chapter in their lives.”

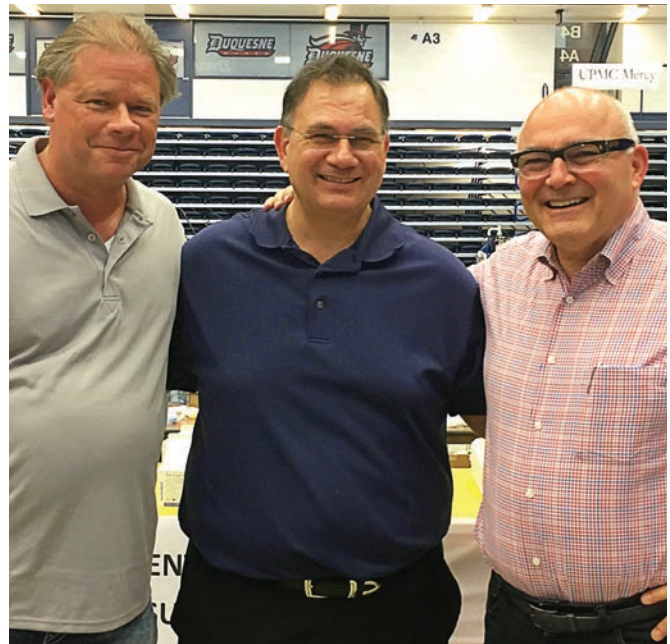
The 2017 event, held this past July, brought together dentists, hygienists, nurses and a wide range of other volunteers from across the community to provide vital, life-changing services to 885 patients who received more than 3,500 procedures valued at \$600,000 worth of dental services. It was clear from the comments made by many of the patients seen during the event that the care they received meant a great deal to them.

“Thank you so much to all the volunteers who gave so generously of our time and expertise to take care of us! What an excellent service you provided to those of us in need!”

“Plans for the 2018 event, currently scheduled for July 27-28, are underway. The goal is to reach even more people—and that means even more volunteers will be needed.

“Thank you for all of the friendly help and awesomeness my family was given today.”

I would have to say that participating in Mission of Mercy Pittsburgh is one of the most rewarding things I have done as a dentist. It is truly a blessing to be able to help people who need dental care,” says Dr. Celko. “I am fortunate to be able to participate and work with so many like-minded, dedicated people and become part of what I hope is a lasting humanitarian mission that is valued and appreciated for years to come.”



Dr. Richard Celko (DMD '89), Dr. Daniel Pituch (DMD '90) and Mr. Michael Zamagias at the 2017 MOM Pittsburgh.

To learn more about Mission of Mercy Pittsburgh 2018, and most importantly how to register as a volunteer, visit mompgh.org or follow Mission of Mercy Pittsburgh on Facebook at **Mission of Mercy Pittsburgh**.

Love Yourself

A group of Pitt Dental Medicine students, and Dr. Deborah Studen-Pavlovich, professor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, participated in the “Love Yourself Event” at Faison Elementary School in Homewood. This annual event for fourth- and fifth-grade girls is geared to build confidence and self-esteem. There were various stations presenting information about eating properly; the Carnegie Free Library was passing out books; and a beauty school was offering manicures. Dental students discussed oral health and healthy snacks and drink options. Pitt Dental Medicine students also participated in a second, similar event for fourth- and fifth-grade boys.

Students who participated are **Katelyn Hilands**, **Hadi Kamalpour-Ansari**, **Lupinetti Moorhead**, and **Travis Wagner** (Class of 2018), **Andrea Montoya** (Class of 2019) and **Katherine Ni** (Class of 2020).



Tau Sigma Makes Annual Gift to Support Veteran’s Home

Each year, Pitt Dental Medicine Tau Sigma military club collects donations to help homeless veterans in the care of Shepherd’s Heart Veteran’s Home. This year, the student group collected more than \$1,600 in support of homeless veterans. The club, begun here at the School of Dental Medicine to support students as the enter into military service, has grown to more than 38 chapters at dental schools across the United States.

“I have been a VA Chaplain for 21 years and my number one mission is to find homeless veterans, no matter the reason they are homeless, and help them get off the streets.” - Chaplain Mike Wurschmidt

Shepherd’s Heart Veteran’s Home (SHVH) is a transitional housing for homeless veterans located near downtown Pittsburgh. The program aims to service male veterans who are homeless and may have posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), substance abuse problems, mental illness, dual diagnosis, and those who are disabled.



Students in the Tau Sigma Military Club take a moment to deliver gift cards to **Rev. Mike Wurschmidt**, for homeless veterans in the care of Shepherd’s Heart Veteran’s Home.

Pitt Dental Medicine Admissions Open House



Friday, February 23, 2018
Friday, March 23, 2018
Friday, May 11, 2018
8:45 a.m. - Noon

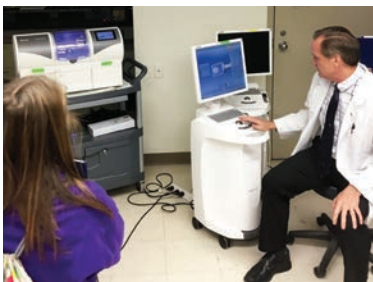
Each Open House begins with registration in the Learning Resource Center and includes an admissions presentation, current student panel with Q&A, and a tour of the School of Dental Medicine.

If you would like to register for an Open House, or have questions, please contact dentaladmissions@dental.pitt.edu.



Venango County, Pa., Vocational Technical School visits Pitt Dental Hygiene

Students in the Dental Assisting Program at The Venango County Technical School visited the School of Dental Medicine Dental Hygiene program on Friday, November 27, 2017. The event included many presentations and activities that began with a tour of the school and included an introduction to dental specialties, hands-on activities in radiology, dental hygiene instrumentation, oral health care aides and electronic health records. They were very complimentary to Ms. Angelina Riccelli, director of the program, for an experience at the school that was extremely successful.



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- Pitt Dental Hygiene Alumni
- Pitt Dental Young Alumni

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Ronald Antimario (DMD '69)

August 6, 2017

Dr. Dale Briner (DDS '63)

January 14, 2017

Dr. Alfred D'alessandro (DDS '57)

August 15, 2017

Dr. John Droter Sr. (DDS '57)

July 25, 2017

Dr. Dennis Duffield (DDS '61)

March 1, 2017

Dr. Howard McKnight Duffield (DDS '47)

January 24, 2018

Dr. David C. Edwards (DDS '60)

December 4, 2017

Dr. Richard Falenski (DDS '64)

September 12, 2017

Dr. Norbert Gannon (DDS '57)

August 10, 2017

Dr. Thomas J. Glasgow (DMD '71)

December 12, 2017

Dr. Seymour Herron (DDS '40)

October 31, 2017

Dr. Mary Dobosiewicz Horkowitz (DMD '52)

April 12, 2017

Dr. Kenneth Koontz (DMD '67)

November 4, 2017

Dr. Walter Kylander (DDS '52)

August 27, 2017

Dr. Harold Lehrian (DDS '65)

August 9, 2017

Dr. Harold Maidman (DDS '43)

October 1, 2017

Dr. John Nairn (DDS '57)

August 22, 2017

Dr. Charles Patton (DDS '58)

November 9, 2017

Dr. Ramon Peters (DDS '47)

July 6, 2017

Dr. Lawrence Peterson Jr. (DDS '51)

October 1, 2017

Dr. Leonard Piazza (DDS '59)

May 16, 2017

Dr. Jacque Price (DDS '52)

August 7, 2017

Dr. Frederick Ride (DDS '43)

October 4, 2017

Dr. John Roberts (DDS '59)

March 12, 2017

Dr. Martin Schechter (DDS '48)

September 22, 2016

Dr. George Schweinebraten Jr. (DDS '65)

August 8, 2017

Dr. John Scott (DMD '90, AEGD '91, Perio '93)

November 9, 2017

Dr. Joseph Seipp (Ortho '59)

November 6, 2017

Dr. John Shepherd (DDS '57)

September 23, 2017

Dr. Donald Straile (DDS '56)

October 31, 2017

EDITOR'S NOTE

We deeply regret and sincerely apologize for incorrectly identifying **Louis T. Mattioli (DDS '54)** as having passed away in the Summer 2017 edition of the alumni magazine, *Pitt Dental Medicine*. Our apologies to his family and friends for any distress or inconvenience caused by the mistake.

2017 DONORS OF DISTINCTION

The School of Dental Medicine gratefully acknowledges those generous donors who were added to the Donors of Distinction in 2017.

Dr. Nelson V. Berardinelli (DMD '80)
and **Mrs. Nelson V. Berardinelli**

Dr. Robert Rapp

Mrs. Constance Rapp



Each year, the names of alumni and friends whose lifetime giving to the School of Dental Medicine is \$10,000 or greater, are added to the Donors of Distinction wall display at Pitt Homecoming weekend. Donations to the school help in many ways. Your unselfish contributions to scholarships, facility advancement, or to the general fund, make a difference in what we are able to accomplish here at the school. **Your gifts truly are appreciated.**

To find out your giving history and how close you are to being added to this distinguished plaque, please contact **Paul Casey** at **412-383-7544** or **pbc8@pitt.edu**.

University Dental Health Services Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Biopsy Service

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For up-to-date details on any event listed, please visit dental.pitt.edu.

FEBRUARY

February 16, 2018

13th Annual Health Sciences Foundation Winter Academy

Friday, February 16
Ritz-Carlton, Naples
For more information, please contact **Paul Casey** at **412-383-7544**

MARCH

March 7, 2018

Dental Alumni Association (DAA) Executive Committee Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
457 Salk Hall
NOTE: Student Networking event moved to July 13, 2018

APRIL

April 7, 2018

Twenty-Fourth Annual Bowser Memorial Continuing Education Lecture Series; Forever Young: Taking Care of Number One

Barbara J. Steinberg, DDS
Auditoriums 5 & 6, Scaife Hall
To register go to dental.pitt.edu/ce

April 7, 2018

Eighteenth Annual Dean's Scholarship Ball

6:00 p.m.
Heinz History Center

April 15, 2018

Women in Dentistry Forum

A gathering for alumna and students to share lunch and discuss unique challenges faced by women dental professionals

Girasole Restaurant
733 Copeland St.
Shadyside
Noon – 3 p.m.

RSVP to Nancy Poe
3501 Terrace St. #440
Pgh, PA 15261

\$10 for alumnae and \$5 for students, checks should be made to Pitt AAWD

April 27, 2018

Alumni Reception at the PDA Pennsylvania's Dental Expo

4 – 6:30 p.m.
Hotel Hershey

MAY

May 18, 2018

Senior Luncheon and Senior Awards Ceremony

11:30 a.m.
University Club, Ballroom B

May 19, 2018

School of Dental Medicine Diploma Ceremony

1 p.m.
Heinz Hall

JULY

July 13, 2018

Alumni / Student Networking Event

4 – 6 p.m.
University Club, Ballroom A
This is a complimentary event but advanced registration is required.

Please email **Nancy Poe** at **poen@pitt.edu** with your contact information and interest – need an associate, looking for position, FQHC, etc.

AUGUST

August 11, 2018

SAVE THE DATE

Pitt Dental visits Scranton Dental Society in conjunction with the Pitt Alumni Association in Scranton

August 27, 2018

Pitt Dental General Assembly and White Coat Ceremony

SEPTEMBER

September 14-15, 2018

Pitt Dental Alumni Weekend
Class of 1968 Fifty Year Reunion

Class Reunions for years ending in 3 and 8

Georgia Tech Football and pregame tailgate