Dental professionals mentor students on the value of practicing in an underserved region.
In This Issue

Celebrate

13th Annual Dean’s Scholarship Ball celebrates alumni distinction

Research

Several notable speakers were on hand for the 13th Annual Research Symposium.

Special Needs

Opening the new Department of Pediatric Dentistry Patients with Special Needs suite

Message from the Dean

Exploring Dental Practices in Rural and Underserved Areas in Pennsylvania

Alumni Continuing Education Update

An Evening at the Ball

Alumni Association Messages

Alumni in Memoriam

Research Update

Faculty and Staff Update

Student Awards

2013 Diploma Ceremony

Special Olympics

Center for Patients with Special Needs and the Department of Pediatric Dentistry Special Needs anesthesia suite

Anti-Bullying Event

A Message for Alumni

It is a pleasure to provide you with this copy of Pitt Dental Medicine Magazine. In it you will see described a number of articles including an update on construction of our new research tower, completion of new student locker and lounge areas, and the Pediatric Dentistry Center for Patients with Special Needs. These physical attributes complement the activities of our faculty which have permitted us to be ranked as number seven among all dental schools in the most recently released findings of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. Our faculty continue to be recognized nationally and internationally for their teaching and service activities.

It is often easy to become enmeshed in the progress of the school and our graduates and not clearly recognize the important role of providing practicing dentists to Pennsylvania and the surrounding areas. The problem is multi-faceted and includes a number of demographic and financial considerations, including a declining population of young individuals in Pennsylvania and much of the northeast. While significantly underserved and often rural areas exist in Pennsylvania, other urban areas have an adequate or even a surplus of practicing dentist. With the “baby boomers” aging as well, it is expected that a significant number of retirements will be occurring over the next decade. Combined with that, there has been a decline in the number of dentists graduating. For example, in 1982 to 1983 there were 5,756 graduating dentists. According to the American Dental Association, over the next 20 years as the population increased by almost a third, the number of graduates of dental schools decreased falling to approximately 4,700 by the year 2007. Several dental schools closed in the 1980’s and early 1990’s, although that trend appears to be reversed with the opening of several new dental schools around the country. One aspect which is constantly a consideration for any dental school is that unlike medicine where medical students do most of their clinical training in hospitals or in practice experiences, most dental schools have university-run clinics. This results in an extraordinary expense and typically, the income is inadequate to offset the cost. Pennsylvania indeed has underserved areas and this magazine will attempt to address some of the concerns that are raised because of this. Our school is attempting to address this in our admissions process and opportunities that are provided to graduates, but this is a very complex problem and one rooted, as well, in the debt burden attained by students in their college and dental school years. The “baby boomers” aging is attempting to address this in our admissions process and opportunities that are provided to graduates, but this is a very complex problem and one rooted, as well, in the debt burden attained by students in their college and dental school years. The University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine looks forward to continuing its quest to be a clinical, research, and service center and maintain our upward trajectory but with a constant mind to the societal obligations which exist in the commonwealth and in underserved areas everywhere.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Braun, DMD ’73, PhD ’77
Professor and Dean
University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine
Exploring Dental Practices in Rural and Underserved Areas in Pennsylvania

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has established criteria for any region across the United States wishing to apply for classification as a health professional shortage area (HPSA). Dental HPSAs are underserved areas with regard to access to dental care. Dental HPSAs can be found in many areas of Pennsylvania. To establish a HPSA designation, a region (e.g., community, or county) must document that there is a deficiency of dental health-care providers available to serve the population. Dental professionals who live or practice in one of these areas within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania can be impacted by this designation, as it provides for potential eligibility for state and federal dental school loan forgiveness.

Many dental care providers and dental students living or working outside of one of these areas, may not be aware of the severity of the shortage of dentists in many regions of Pennsylvania. To provide you with an inside look at this problem several dentists, currently working in underserved areas in Western Pennsylvania, were interviewed for this article. Here, they share their personal perceptions of the dental provider shortage, some of the conditions that they believe influence the shortage and finally, offer some advice for what next steps they would like to see the dental community take with regard to how a shortage of dental professionals may impact the community as a whole.

Some of the dentists who are practicing in an underserved area believe the severity of the shortage is inversely proportional to population density and per capita income of the area. Some practicing dentists have had such successful practices, and such busy schedules that they have opened satellite offices. “People who don’t live in a rural area are not well informed about how understaffed the area is with dental and medical professionals. At my satellite dental office I was the only dentist when I opened that office. Within six months the office was open six days per week and we had to hire an associate,” said Dr. James Keith Ramsay (DMD ’77), who has an office in Boswell, Somerset County, partway between Ligonier, Johnstown, Somerset and Bedford, Pennsylvania.

Similarly, Dr. Dennis Charlton (DMD ’81) has had a very busy schedule, reflecting the lack of oral care providers in the region. Dr. Charlton said, “I’ve been in practice in rural Mercer County for 32 years since my graduation from the School of Dental Medicine. My entire career has been serving the public in this underserved area. I’ve never had a day that my schedule was less than full. Patients arrive for 25-30 miles each day to visit my office. The services I provide are wanted, needed and appreciated, and since I’m always busy there must be some level of need for more dental service. I’m not sure that we need more dentists in the rural areas right now but I fear that a true shortage will develop very soon as the aging population of dentist begin to retire. I’ve heard that the average age of a licensed dentist in Pennsylvania is about 57 years old. Over the next 8-10 years many of those dentists will reach retirement age and greatly reduce or eliminate their work hours. The dental workforce needs to make the shift to these rural areas to backfill the existing dentist population.”

Dr. Jon J. Johnston (DMD ’89) shares his point of view on the perceived shortage of care: “I’m not convinced the current shortage issue is caused by a lack of dentists. The problem I see is that dental care seems to be a low priority. Low incomes make the shortage more difficult to see since my graduation from the School of Dental Medicine. My entire career has been serving the public in this underserved area. I’ve never had a day that my schedule was less than full. Patients arrive for 25-30 miles each day to visit my office. The services I provide are wanted, needed and appreciated, and since I’m always busy there must be some level of need for more dental service. I’m not sure that we need more dentists in the rural areas right now but I fear that a true shortage will develop very soon as the aging population of dentist begin to retire. I’ve heard that the average age of a licensed dentist in Pennsylvania is about 57 years old. Over the next 8-10 years many of those dentists will reach retirement age and greatly reduce or eliminate their work hours. The dental workforce needs to make the shift to these rural areas to backfill the existing dentist population.”

Dr. Charlton offers an alternative way to fill the need for more practitioners in underserved areas and still allow them to maintain a lifestyle to which they are accustomed. “A connection to a rural, small town environment would be helpful in recruiting dental professionals to these areas but is not an absolute must. As I have explained to many dental students, you don’t have to live in the area, only work there. If you are willing to make a commute to work you can live where ever you wish. I commuted 45 minutes one way to my office and there was no traffic with which to contend. On the way to work I could sip a cup of coffee and prepare for the day. In the evening I could unwind from the day with a pleasant drive. When I arrived home the troubles of the office had already been taken care of in my mind.”

Dr. Charlton, who recognizes that many dentists move into underserved areas, said, “I was not connected to this community before I came here but I’m certainly fully engaged in my community now. Many dentists from Mercer County didn’t grow up here but there are some who did.”

Dr. Johnston offers a possible reason for a lack of interest in relocating to a rural underserved area along with a potential solution: “I think there is a perception among both established and new dentists that one can not generate enough income in many areas to satisfy the requisite financial obligations and that there maybe too many compromises in quality of life to make practicing in a "shortage" area attractive. I believe the latter to be of greater concern for new dentists because of the influence of a significant other who may have a social or cultural background that is not amenable to living in that environment. Certainly recruitment of professional candidates from rural or inner city areas would improve the likelihood of that person returning to practice but there is no guarantee without creating other incentives such as loan forgiveness or tuition reimbursement for example.”

Looking Outside of Dental Care for the Answers

More than a decade ago, a study looked at nursing care to underserved areas and generally concluded that within the nursing profession, experiences and connections to rural communities played an important role in whether a nursing professional choose to practice in a rural area. All of the dentists interviewed for this story agreed to varying degrees that experience with rural or inner city living would contribute to a dentist returning to practice in those areas. “Absolutely, I have observed that the majority of professionals entering rural or underserved areas have grown up in similar areas,” said Dr. Kevin Moore (DMD ’81), who is practicing dentistry in Clarion, Pa. Dr. Ramsay offered an alternative way to fill the need for more practitioners in underserved areas and still allow them to maintain a lifestyle to which they are accustomed. “A connection to a rural, small town environment would be helpful in recruiting dental professionals to these areas but is not an absolute must. As I have explained to many dental students, you don’t have to live in the area, only work there. If you are willing to make a commute to work you can live wherever you wish. I commuted 45 minutes one way to my office and there was no traffic with which to contend. On the way to work I could sip a cup of coffee and prepare for the day. In the evening I could unwind from the day with a pleasant drive. When I arrived home the troubles of the office had already been taken care of in my mind.”

Dr. Charlton offers more insight for dental students by stating: “I was recruited by a committee that was formed approximately a year before I graduated from dental school. The local business leaders formed the committee to attract a physician and a dentist to Sandy Lake. The committee was successful in getting both professions to the town of Sandy Lake in the early 80’s. I responded to the call that appeared in an article in a Mercer County newspaper.

Any recruitment must be centered on the education of student dentists. Small rural communities are a great place to live and raise a family. As a doctor in a small town, one gets to know and be known by a large part of the population. Being a dentist in my community is a respected position. I believe the respect and position in the community need to be communicated to students.”

Is There Really a Shortage?

Many residents in both urban and rural underserved areas don’t see access problems for dental care (they know where the dentist or clinic is and know how to make an appointment). Some rural residents, however, have cost-related concerns, perceived or real transportation problems, or have cultural / lifestyle issues (such as poor role models or a fear of dentists) that keep them from seeking preventive dental care. Instead,
they wait till an emergency happens. There is the possibility that a population in Pennsylvania is so isolated that there really is a hardship in traveling to receive dental care. Dr. Johnston adds, “without providing transportation for them, or establishing a mobile dental delivery system, there is no way to adequately address that population’s needs. Other parts of the country are more sparsely populated and the travel issue may be more significant when people require emergency care or are unwilling, or unable, to plan for care. In the end, I think that it is the patient’s responsibility to get to the provider just as they get to the grocery store.”

Dr. Moore doesn’t see a simple or immediate solution. “This becomes a complex, multi-faceted issue. Lower incomes become a hurdle for patients seeking care. (food vs. fillings). The shortage of dentists over time reinforces a culture where emergency, minimal or no care becomes the norm. People will only do what they want and have the ability to do. Education, improved access and affordability over time may swing the pendulum towards improved care,” he said.

“People in general don’t see the benefits of dental care if they have not had the proper education regarding its benefits; whether that education comes from home, school, health professionals or whatever. The people in rural areas who want dental care will get it; right now driving great distances to get it. You can make inroads into educating the people of a rural area through school program, prenatal programs etc., but just setting up more dentists in a rural area won’t help if a certain area through school program, prenatal programs etc., but just

Some alternative models for delivering dental care in underserved areas have been presented and discussed recently. Could it be that the current, or upcoming shortage of dental professionals, nationally, means it’s time to consider a model of providing care beyond the traditional fee-for-service model? Is there a solution already contained within the traditional patient care model that just needs better support? Here are potential solutions from some regional dentists.

Dr. Charlton believes that Pennsylvania has the best dental delivery model. “The use of RHDs (registered dental hygienists, EFHDAs (expanded function dental assistant), and CDAs (certified dental assistant) with the dentist as the team leader insures that our patients are receiving quality care by properly trained, supervised and educated professionals. Educating patients to help them realize that preventive dental care is essential to good oral health would make the biggest difference. Over the 32 years of practice, I’ve successfully reached many emergency patients with my message of regular cleaning and checkups,” he said. Dr. Ramsay offers another solution. “…One alternative model is outreach clinics in rural areas. The University may staff these with instructors to oversee dental students who would gain experience and exposure to the underserved area, while the underserved area would get dental care. It could be a government run clinic where new graduates, under a clinic director, can get some experience and loan forgiveness at the same time; sort of like a GPR program but in a rural area. The only reason rural areas are underserved is because the newer dentists don’t understand the economic model of running a rural practice.”

Dr. Johnston sees the current model, which is to flood the market with a variety of dental providers in order to create a competitive marketplace and drive down costs, fails to address two issues the cost of dental education and the creation of multiple tiers of care. Providers will still locate in those areas they feel they can achieve their desired standard of living, leaving the underserved to rely on potentially less trained and lower skilled practitioners with less supervision. He said, “The one thing that universally has worked to increase access for underserved populations has been to reimburse providers and encourage participation in governmentally funded programs.”

For the time being, if dentists are willing to modify their approach and potentially move into a group practice model, a model that utilizes more auxiliaries, they may not use a service themselves but they will make sure that their patients have the care that they need,” said Dr. Ramsey. It could be a government run clinic where new graduates, under a clinic director, can get some experience and loan forgiveness at the same time; sort of like a GPR program but in a rural area. The only reason rural areas are underserved is because the newer dentists don’t understand the economic model of running a rural practice.”

For the time being, if dentists are willing to modify their approach and potentially move into a group practice model, a model that utilizes more auxiliaries, they may not use a service themselves but they will make sure that their patients have the care that they need,” said Dr. Ramsey.

**The Nineteenth Annual T. F. Bowser Memorial Lecture Series was held this year on May 4. Dr. Howard S. Glazer presented What’s Hot and What’s Getting Hotter, A program about real dentistry for real people by a real dentist, a review of new and clinically appropriate dental products.**

Dr. Glazer is a leading clinican and educator who presents regularly throughout North and South America, Europe and Asia, on topics such as cosmetic dentistry, forensic dentistry and patient management. He is a past president of the Academy of General Dentistry and a former assistant clinical professor at the Albert Einstein college of Medicine in Bronx, New York.

The T. F. Bowser Memorial Lecture Series was established in 1995 by Dr. Ellsworth T. Bowser to honor his father, Dr. Theodore Bowser (DDS ’24). The series has featured notable speakers on a variety of topics and is the School of Dental Medicine Center for Continuing Education’s most well-respected and well-attended continuing education event. For a complete list of courses, including online and off-campus courses, please visit the School of Dental Medicine Web site at www.dental.pitt.edu/ce. For more information, or to register for a CE course, please contact Diane Fleshman at 412-648-8370.
13th Annual Dean’s Scholarship Ball

University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine 13th Annual Dean’s Scholarship Ball took place on Saturday, May 11, 2013 at Phipps Conservatory in Pittsburgh.

Distinguished Alumna Advanced Education Programs Award recipient Dr. Laura B. Jannetto DDS, MDS and Dean Braun

Distinguished Alumna Dental Hygiene Award recipient Ms. Judith E. Gallagher, DH, MEd with Dean Braun

Dr. Thomas Braun, Dean of the School of Dental Medicine, with Distinguished Alumna Dental Medicine Award recipient, Colonel Robert K. Manga, DMD

2013 Dean’s Scholarship recipients Mr. Kurt Washnock and Mr. Brian Belsterling with Dean Braun

2009-2013 Dean’s Scholarship recipients Dr. Lya Sharpley and Mr. R. J. Hixon, Ms. Kristi Colangelo, Mr. Anthony Colangelo and Ms. Alys Murdoch

The 225 Medallion depicts the progress of the university from cabin to cathedral. It also shows the names of three people who helped build better lives for the people of the region: William Pitt, for whom this city and University are named; Hugh Henry Brackenridge, the founder of the University; and finally, the name of recipient of the 225 Medallion.

School of Dental Medicine 225 Medallion recipients are: Dean Thomas Braun, ’73, Dr. Mark Ochs, ’83, Dr. Hal Wrigley, ’67, and Col. Priscilla Hamilton, ’82.

University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine thanks our 225 Medallion recipients for their leadership in dental medicine, for being role models for dental students and for supporting the University and the dental school.

Medallions have a long history in academia and are used to commemorate special times and honor special people. The University of Pittsburgh celebrated 225 years of building better lives in 2012. As part of that celebratory year, Chancellor Nordenberg commissioned the 225 Anniversary Medallion.

The Chancellor often says the University makes many of our most important contributions through the work of our alumni. The 225th Anniversary Medallion commemorates a special year by recognizing alumni who are making outstanding contributions to their professional fields and contributing to the progress of the University and the students. These are alumni who have created a legacy of building better lives during the past 25 years.

Distinguished Alumni Dental Hygiene Award recipient Ms. Judith E. Gallagher, DH, MEd with Dean Braun

Distinguished Alumnus Advanced Education Programs Award recipient Dr. Laura B. Jannetto DDS, MDS and Dean Braun

Distinguished Alumnus Dental Medicine Award recipient Colonel Robert K. Manga, DMD

Dr. Thomas Braun, Dean of the School of Dental Medicine, with Distinguished Alumna Dental Medicine Award recipient, Colonel Robert K. Manga, DMD

Dr. Thomas Braun, Dean of the School of Dental Medicine, with Distinguished Alumna Dental Medicine Award recipient, Colonel Robert K. Manga, DMD

Ms. Irene Damratoski and Dr. Danielle Damratoski

2013 Dean’s Scholarship recipients Mr. Kurt Washnock and Mr. Brian Belsterling with Dean Braun

2009-2013 Dean’s Scholarship recipients Dr. Lya Sharpley and Mr. R. J. Hixon, Ms. Kristi Colangelo, Mr. Anthony Colangelo and Ms. Alys Murdoch

The 225 Medallion depicts the progress of the university from cabin to cathedral. It also shows the names of three people who helped build better lives for the people of the region: William Pitt, for whom this city and University are named; Hugh Henry Brackenridge, the founder of the University; and finally, the name of recipient of the 225 Medallion.

School of Dental Medicine 225 Medallion recipients are: Dean Thomas Braun, ’73, Dr. Mark Ochs, ’83, Dr. Hal Wrigley, ’67, and Col. Priscilla Hamilton, ’82.

University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine thanks our 225 Medallion recipients for their leadership in dental medicine, for being role models for dental students and for supporting the University and the dental school.

Medallions have a long history in academia and are used to commemorate special times and honor special people. The University of Pittsburgh celebrated 225 years of building better lives in 2012. As part of that celebratory year, Chancellor Nordenberg commissioned the 225 Anniversary Medallion.

The Chancellor often says the University makes many of our most important contributions through the work of our alumni. The 225th Anniversary Medallion commemorates a special year by recognizing alumni who are making outstanding contributions to their professional fields and contributing to the progress of the University and the students. These are alumni who have created a legacy of building better lives during the past 25 years.

Distinguished Alumna Advanced Education Programs Award recipient Dr. Laura B. Jannetto DDS, MDS and Dean Braun

Distinguished Alumna Dental Hygiene Award recipient Ms. Judith E. Gallagher, DH, MEd with Dean Braun

Dr. Thomas Braun, Dean of the School of Dental Medicine, with Distinguished Alumna Dental Medicine Award recipient, Colonel Robert K. Manga, DMD

2013 Dean’s Scholarship recipients Mr. Kurt Washnock and Mr. Brian Belsterling with Dean Braun

2009-2013 Dean’s Scholarship recipients Dr. Lya Sharpley and Mr. R. J. Hixon, Ms. Kristi Colangelo, Mr. Anthony Colangelo and Ms. Alys Murdoch

The 225 Medallion depicts the progress of the university from cabin to cathedral. It also shows the names of three people who helped build better lives for the people of the region: William Pitt, for whom this city and University are named; Hugh Henry Brackenridge, the founder of the University; and finally, the name of recipient of the 225 Medallion.

School of Dental Medicine 225 Medallion recipients are: Dean Thomas Braun, ’73, Dr. Mark Ochs, ’83, Dr. Hal Wrigley, ’67, and Col. Priscilla Hamilton, ’82.

University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine thanks our 225 Medallion recipients for their leadership in dental medicine, for being role models for dental students and for supporting the University and the dental school.
Distinguished Alumnus Dental Medicine Award

Colonel Robert K. Manga DMD

Colonel Robert K. Manga is a highly accomplished dental professional who has served in the United States Army Dental Corps since he graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine in 1981. He is considered a prominent dental educator in the Army Dental Corps and his scholarship, personal accomplishments and unwavering dedication to duty have brought great distinction to the University of Pittsburgh and the School of Dental Medicine.

Notably, Dr. Manga was appointed the first dean of the Army Postgraduate Dental School. More recently, he was appointed as the Chief of Army Graduate Dental Education. He served as a member of the Dental Corps’ Executive Council and participated in the American Dental Association’s Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP) — providing oversight of continuing dental education (CDE) for the entire U.S. Army Dental Corps.

“Reflecting on my 35 year career as a member of the US Army Dental Corps, the School of Dental Medicine provided me with great foundation, with the keys to open many doors in the profession of dentistry and the US Army. It’s funny, by looking back to see how many people influenced me and most would have no idea of the role that they played in making me a better student of the profession. It’s people, like those that made the dental school what it is today, a place of learning and providing a great foundation and giving each graduate the keys to success.”

From 2005-2008 he was the director of the Advanced Education Program in General Dentistry at Fort Benning, Georgia. He seemingly countless achievements also include serving as a Dental Officer in Alabama, Alaska and Korea; serving as the officer in charge of Dental Clinic Number One at Fort Lewis, Washington; and serving as commander of the 68th Medical Company in Korea. Additionally he was the United States Army’s Exchange Officer to the Royal Army Dental Corps in the United Kingdom from 1997-1999 and served as a consultant in General Dentistry for the U.S. Army’s Surgeon General.

Dr. Manga is the recipient of the 2009 Texas Academy of General Dentistry’s Lifelong Learning and Service Award and in 2010 was inducted as a Fellow in the American College of Dentistry.

Distinguished Alumnus Advanced Education Programs Award

Louis B. Jannetto DDS, MD

Last year Dr. Louis B. Jannetto was recognized with the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Faculty Appreciation Award. This year we honor him with the Distinguished Alumnus Advanced Education Programs Award.

Dr. Jannetto is a lifelong educator in the School of Dental Medicine’s undergraduate program. He joined the faculty in 1984 as a clinical professor, bringing a wealth of experience to the dental school. He is the vice chair of the Department of Prosthodontics, a position he has held since 2009.

“I am honored and thankful to receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award for the Advanced Education Programs. I want to acknowledge my two employers during the last 35 years – the Veterans Administration and the School of Dental Medicine. I have been mentored by many at the VA and Pitt and continue this collaboration as a faculty member. I want to thank my wife of over 35 years and my family for their patience with me as I move in 35 years before returning to Pittsburgh in 1984. I am grateful to the students and residents who have provided me with the stimulation and best continuing education I could imagine."

Dr. Jannetto is a 1961 graduate of the School of Dental Medicine. He received both a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and Master of Dental Surgery degree from Pitt. Immediately after completing his DDS at Pitt, Dr. Jannetto joined the VA Medical Center in Bronx, New York. He held similar positions at VA Medical Centers in Lexington, Kentucky, Washington, D.C.; Cleveland, Ohio; the VA Central Office in Washington, D.C. and finally in Pittsburgh. Concurrently, Dr. Jannetto held faculty appointments at Columbia University College of Dental Medicine, University of Kentucky College of Dentistry, Georgetown University School of Dentistry, Howard University College of Dentistry, East-West Reserve University School of Dental Medicine and University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine.

Dr. Jannetto is very generous with his time and knowledge, often making prosthodontics literature available to graduate prosthodontics resident. He shares his energy and passion for dental medicine with students in the school’s undergraduate program, in the undergraduate modules and preclinical labs.

Distinguished Alumnus Dental Hygiene Award

Judith E. Gallagher, DH, MD

Mr. Judith E. Gallagher received her Dental Hygiene Certificate (RDH) from University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine in 1972. She acquired a BS in education from California State College and MEd from University of Pittsburgh. She joined Community College of Allegheny County Dental Hygiene Program as an assistant professor, where she taught until 2011.

Mr. Gallagher has published many examinations of dental treatment for elderly and homebound patients and comparisons of traditional and web-based classroom instruction methods. She successfully joined these two areas of study when she developed and implemented the first-ever online geriatrics course for the Dental Hygiene program.

As evidence of her further achievements she served as the School of Dental Medicine, Dental Hygiene Senior Clinic co-coordinator, collaborated with Dr. Pournam’s toothbrush study, presented “Radiography Review For Dental Assistants” continuing education courses and presented her publications at numerous ADEA, and AADS Annual Sessions. She also actively participated in organized dentistry and hold numerous positions in Western Pennsylvania Dental Hygienists’ Association.

During her years as an accomplished teacher, Mr. Gallagher showcased her clinical proficiency by working as a dental hygienist dedicated to high-quality patient treatment.

“I am honored to receive this recognition. As a graduate of the Dental Hygiene Program I never thought I would still be providing 40 years later. My education gave me the skills to work with patients while exhibiting dental comfort, and as a faculty member I was able to pass these skills on to students.”

As a native I feel fortunate to be able to still practice in this interesting phase of life, and have the pleasure of working with former co-workers and students.

Scholarship Recipient Mr. Brian Belsterling

Mr. Brian Belsterling, native of Pittsburgh, received his BS in biology and anthropology, Magna Cum Laude, from University of Pittsburgh.

Several early life experiences led Mr. Belsterling to an interest in how things are constructed. Participating in the Boy Scouts of America taught him how to be a mature, responsible leader, and volunteering as a church altar相反 improved his communication skills, confidence and public speaking ability which positively impact his career as a dentist.

...the one thing everyone should look for in a career is personal satisfaction, and it is in dentistry that I see myself being happy.

As a young man he volunteered his time as an assistant Scout Master for the Boy Scouts, in the work crew for Appalachian Outreach and as a soccer coach with youth teams with Pittsburgh. Scout in the Community. He has shadowed a general dentist to confirm his dedication to a career in dentistry; a career that fits his skills, personality, work ethic and leadership abilities.

Brian is very intelligent, tremendously hardworking, persistent, open-minded and he is blessed with exceptional people skill.”

—Gabriela Lukace, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh

Scholarship Recipient Mr. Kurt T. Washnock

A native of Southwestern Pennsylvania, Mr. Kurt T. Washnock spent a good deal of time during his childhood playing ice hockey and left high school early to play with a Junior A ice hockey league. He earned a scholarship to play NCAA Division I hockey at Mercyhurst College.

Mr. Washnock shares with Albert Einstein the belief that only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.

A serious ankle injury and family issues led to the difficult decision to forego his hockey career. Determined to succeed, he considered a number of new career paths, and after researching dentistry and shadowing his family dentist he was confident that dentistry was the right profession for him.

“Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.”

Still passionate about hockey, he’s considering a career in sports dentistry.

“Mr Washnock is one of those rare young people who has the character, intellect, fortitude and a genuine thirst for knowledge that are needed for success. We can all be inspired by his resilient manner in taking care of his loved ones and that this will be the way in which he handles his patients.”

—James Rains, DMD, MAGD, Laurobe Dental Arts, LLC
I am honored to be the new Dental Alumni Association president. I first want to extend my thanks to our past president, Dr. Maggie Gunther, for her unselfish and dedicated service to the University and School of Dental Medicine. During my term I want to share with you the value of being involved and engaged in the Dental Alumni Association. Remember, you are already a member—there are no dues to pay and no forms to fill out—and I invite you to connect with your fellow alums to make your experiences with the association more meaningful and rewarding.

On behalf of the alumni association, I extend my congratulations to the School of Dental Medicine graduating class of 2013. I hope all of you will give a warm welcome to these new members when you see them at some of the upcoming alumni events.

This year we honored three dental school alumni with Distinguished Alumni Awards at the 13th Annual Dean’s Scholarship Ball. These alumni have shown themselves to be pioneers, not only as dental professionals, but as mentors who encourage and inspire students at the dental school. Please be sure to read more about them on pages 8-11 in this magazine. On August 26 a new class of dental students will begin their educational journey at the dental school’s White Coat Ceremony. Our guest speaker this year is PDA President Dr. R. Donald Hoffman (DMD ’72, MEd ’82, PhD ’88). You are welcome to attend the ceremony and your financial support of this annual event is appreciated.

You will certainly want to mark your calendar for University Homecoming School of Dental Medicine events the weekend of September 26-28, 2013. We invite you to attend the Continuing Dental Education event on Friday and enjoy the dental school’s homecoming dinners and class reunions later that evening. Also being planned for this coming year is a first-year-student mentoring event. For up-to-date information on any of these events, please contact Ms. Nancy Poe, at 412-648-8910 or npoe@pitt.edu.

Building an organization that serves alumni, students and the surrounding community.

Supporting this alumni association is my way of building stronger bonds with my colleagues and showing my appreciation for, and giving back to, an institution that has given so much to me.

I hope to build on the proud tradition of the Dental Alumni Association and further cultivate a strong and loyal spirit to the School of Dental Medicine among alumni and current students. Your thoughts and opinions are valuable to the school and I invite you to communicate with me about what activities you would like to participate in or what clinical, research or other topics you would like to hear more about.

I am excited about serving as your Dental Alumni Association president for the next two years. Please do not hesitate to contact me at jao4@pitt.edu. I look forward to seeing you soon at an upcoming alumni event.

Sincerely

Dr. Jean O’Donnell (DMD ’90)
President, Dental Alumni Association
Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

Greetings dental hygiene alumni! I’ve just returned from the festive 100th anniversary celebration of the dental hygiene profession at the ADHA National Conference, in Boston. The event featured actor Geena Davis, who spoke on gender equality in the media, a motivational speech by activist Erin Brockovich, and included continuing education courses on myriad subjects. Dr. Esther Wilkins, dental hygiene icon and pioneer who received her certificate in 1949, garnered attention as an attendee at the conference. Also in attendance were three of our current School of Dental Medicine students. Two of these students, Sara Galko and Be-ut Li, presented their table clinic alongside students from across the country. The students who attended were particularly interested in the products on exhibit from vendors in the massive exhibit hall.

On the heels of the ADHA’s anniversary celebration comes another significant milestone: The University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Dental Hygiene program will mark its 50th anniversary May 2-3, 2014. I hope you will mark your calendar for that date and make plans to participate in a weekend of continuing education courses, tours of the dental hygiene and simulation clinics, and a celebration dinner on Saturday evening.

Once again, alumni are invited to attend “Evidence Based Research in Support of Hot Topics in Dentistry,” August 5th, 2013, from 9 a.m.–noon, to view the student table clinic presentations. There will be free CE credit for those attending this year’s event. Students enjoy interacting with practicing hygienists, and alumni get a glimpse of what’s going on in dental hygiene education at Pitt.

Light refreshments will be served.

Please e-mail me at sub26e@pitt.edu to reserve your spot.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Ms. Susan Ban (RDH ’80)
Vice President, Dental Hygiene

The University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Dental Hygiene program will mark its 50th anniversary May 2-3, 2014. I hope you will mark your calendar for that date and make plans to participate in a weekend of continuing education courses, tours of the dental hygiene and simulation clinics, and a celebration dinner on Saturday evening.

On the heels of the ADHA’s anniversary celebration comes another significant milestone: The University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Dental Hygiene program will mark its 50th anniversary May 2-3, 2014. I hope you will mark your calendar for that date and make plans to participate in a weekend of continuing education courses, tours of the dental hygiene and simulation clinics, and a celebration dinner on Saturday evening.

Once again, alumni are invited to attend “Evidence Based Research in Support of Hot Topics in Dentistry,” August 5th, 2013, from 9 a.m.–noon, to view the student table clinic presentations. There will be free CE credit for those attending this year’s event. Students enjoy interacting with practicing hygienists, and alumni get a glimpse of what’s going on in dental hygiene education at Pitt.

Light refreshments will be served.

Please e-mail me at sub26e@pitt.edu to reserve your spot.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Ms. Susan Ban (RDH ’80)
Vice President, Dental Hygiene
Severl notable speakers presided over the Thirteenth Annual Research Symposium at the School of Dental Medicine on Wednesday, May 15, 2013. Dean Thomas Braun and Dr. Mary Marazita, Associate Dean for Research, spoke proudly of the high-quality research taking place at the dental school. Dr. Alexandre Vieira, Director of Clinical Research and Director of Student Research, briefly spoke about the advancements being made by student researchers and then announced the recipients of this year’s student research awards. A detailed list of the award recipients follows.

The symposium’s keynote speaker was Dr. Martha J. Somerman, Director of National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Chief of the Laboratory of Oral Connective Tissue Biology at the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases. Dr. Somerman began her presentation by noting that for 2012/13 the School of Dental Medicine ranked sixth out of 62 accredited dental schools for NIDCR grants to U.S. dental institutions. She then presented a very detailed history of NIDCR and NIH, highlighting some of the exciting research areas it supports. Current and future research topics range from basic to translational to clinical and include the human microbiome project, HPV-related oropharyngeal cancer and public health challenges such as acute and chronic temporomandibular joint pain.

PITT DENTAL RESEARCH

This well attended symposium also provided an opportunity for several Pitt Dental researchers to share their recent work with attendees. Each presenter highlighted the clinical applications and value that their laboratory work will have for dental practitioners.

Dr. Trish Parsons presented the 3-D Facial Norms Project, which aims to create and expand a public database of 3-dimensional facial images and measurements of healthy humans. Currently, the image database includes some 1,000 subjects, permitting immediate access to a wide range of topics such as sexual dimorphism and changes throughout the lifespan. In addition to the data set’s ability to answer fundamental questions about the ranges of normal human variation, the project can act as a resource for control comparisons when investigating pathological conditions.

Dr. Hongjiao Ouyang discussed the applications of her research on osteoporosis and aging. Her lab has been studying how the accumulation of oxidative DNA damage may contribute to age-related deregulation of osteoblastic and osteoclastic cells. The final presentation was by Dr. Manika Govil and was an interesting communication about non-syndromic orofacial clefts. A heterogeneous trait, orofacial clefts have a variable prevalence across ethnicities and known environmental risk factors. Her research expands recent work on these environmental factors and risk-conferring genes and explores sub-clinical and extended phenotypes.

STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS

Ms. Serena Hsin, a first-year student, is the recipient of the ADA Cauk/Dentsply Student Clinician Program, which recognizes outstanding clinical or basic science research by first-, second- or third-year dental students.

Mr. Matthew Pham was chosen as the winner of the Travel Award which enables him to compete in the Hinman Student Research Symposium, held at the University of Tennessee.

Ms. Kim Pham, the second place winner; and Mr. Kyle Howell who was the winner of the third place award.

Each year ASDA Awards go to three dental students for outstanding clinical or basic science research. This year, first place was awarded to Mr. Kenneth Kim, second place to Mr. Jason Yong and third place went to Ms. Christine Chung.

The Gerald Orner Award is for a fourth-year student who is likely to succeed in postgraduate academic dentistry. This year the award went to Mr. Shahryar Khalqi.

Fourth-year student Ms. Kate Raffensperger is the recipient of the Quintessence Award for Research Achievement, which is given in recognition of individual research achievements.

It is a pleasure to announce the recipient of the 2013 University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Faculty Technology Adoption Award, made possible by support from Dell computers. This annual award recognizes outstanding and innovative use of instructional technology to improve the learning outcomes of our students.

The purpose of the award is to:
• recognize efforts by individual faculty to adopt technology in their teaching;
• make the adoption of instructional technology more visible; and
• contribute to discussions about what constitutes efficient and effective use of technology for teaching.

Richard Hansen, Account Executive with Dell computers, joined Dr. Heilo Spallek, Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs, to present this year’s award to Dr. Al Seyadain.

Dr. Seyadain was selected for his “demonstrated enthusiasm and initiatives toward integrating digital technologies into the practice of periodontics. He takes an active interest in promoting student knowledge by creating how-to videos for students on proper usage of clinical equipment.” In fact, Dr. Seyadain was nominated by a student. The 2012 award was received by Dr. Steve Wendell.
2013 Faculty and Staff Awards

2013 Faculty Recognition

Dr. Mary L. Marazita
The William J. Gies Award for Vision, Innovation and Achievement

Dr. Bert Milligan
American Dental Education Association’s Presidential Citation

Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville School of Dental Medicine Alumni Hall of Fame Inductee

Dr. Mark P. Monecy
2012 International Association of Dental Research Distinguished Research Scientist in Craniofacial Biology

Dr. Paul A. Moore
American Dental Society of Anesthesiology Heidbrink Award

Dr. Jean A. O’Donnell
National Academies of Practice Distinguished Scholar Award

Dr. Alexandre R. Vieira
Distinguished Scholar Award

2013 International Association of Dental Research Distinguished Medicinal Chemistry Scientist Award

Dr. Mark P. Mooney
Research Scientist in Craniofacial Biology

2012 International Association of Dental Research Distinguished Medicinal Chemistry Scientist Award

Dr. Louis Jannetto
Medicine Alumni Hall of Fame Inductee

Dr. Mary L. Marazita
American Dental Education Association’s Presidential Citation

National Academies of Practice Distinguished Scholar Award

Dr. W. H. Milligan III (PhD ’72)
Medicine Alumni Hall of Fame Inductee

Dr. William Chung, associate professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and Dr. Bryan N. Brown, assistant professor at McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine, presented their TMJ matrix research project to The Wallace H. Coulter Foundation for Translational Medicine in 2011. They did not receive the $100,000 award that year, but they were selected to receive a partial award to continue their work the following year.

This year, after the third presentation of their study, they were selected to receive the full $100,000 award. The money will be used to fund the next phase of their study which includes submission of an application for human trials.

Dr. William Chung

Dr. W. H. Milligan III

Faculty News

ASDA Steel City Dental Expo

Oct. 17, 2013

Wyndham Pittsburgh University Center

Presentation begins at 8 a.m.

Vendor fair from 1-4 p.m.

Join us for the 6th annual ASDA Steel City Dental Expo.

This year’s presenter is nationally recognized speaker Markus B. Blatz, DMD, PhD, Chair and Professor of Restorative Dentistry at Pitt Dental Medicine. The morning presentation by Dr. Blatz will be followed by a vendor fair in the afternoon. The vendor fair may be attended independently from the lecture.

Vendor space is limited — Alumni are invited to present at this event as vendors. Vendors may include in their presentations: job and associate positions for students, mentoring opportunities, a chance to showcase the unique traits that make Pennsylvania a great place to work and live, and much more.

If you would like more information about renting a space at the vendor fair, please contact Anthony Colangelo asc44@pitt.edu

Pitt Dental Medicine

www.dental.pitt.edu

Pitt Dental Medicine
STUDENTS

Senior Student Awards Presentation 2013

Awards for First Professional Program graduates were presented at a ceremony held in May, 2013.

Academy of Osseointegration Award

Tannon Newland

The senior student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in the field of implant dentistry

American Academy of Craniofacial Pain Award

Nicholas Lieb

The senior student who has demonstrated an interest in the area of occlusion and TMD

American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Award

Lya Sharpley

The senior student who has demonstrated the most clinical proficiency and greatest interest in esthetic dentistry

American Academy of Implant Dentistry Award

Scott Santoro

The senior student who has demonstrated the most interest academically and clinically in implant dentistry

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Award

Nicholas Riccio

The senior student who has demonstrated exemplary aptitude and achievement in oral and maxillofacial pathology

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Award

Brandon Humberger

The senior student who has demonstrated exemplary aptitude and achievement in oral and maxillofacial radiology

American Academy of Oral Medicine Award

Tessie Buraczewski

The senior student who has demonstrated proficiency in oral medicine

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Award

Courtney Uschon

The senior student who demonstrated the most promise in pediatric dentistry

American Academy of Periodontology Award

Mona Montavi

The senior who displays outstanding performance in periodontics

American Association of Endodontists Award

Bryan Hays

The senior student who has demonstrated above average skills in the area of endodontics

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Dental Implant Award

Steven Cudney

The student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement and performance related to the placement and restoration of dental implants

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Dental Student Award

Garima Sinha

The senior who has demonstrated outstanding achievement and performance in oral and maxillofacial surgery

American Association of Oral Biologists Award

Steven Cudney

The senior who has demonstrated achievement and potential in oral biology

American Association of Women Dentists

Eleanor J. Bushue Award

Alexandra Jensen

The senior dental student who has demonstrated academic excellence and outstanding leadership

American College of Dentists Award

Nicholas Lieb

The senior student whose academic record most exemplifies a combination of outstanding scholarly performance and demonstrated leadership

American Dental Society of Anesthesiology Horace Wells Senior Student Award

Brecana Weiland

The student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in the field of dental anesthesiology

American Student Dental Association Award of Excellence

Daniel Rolotti

The student who has demonstrated leadership in the American Student Dental Association

Amalgamated Dental Societies Students’ Executive Committee Award

Lathi Bowen Student Award

Brandon Humberger

The senior dental student who exemplifies most the professionalism and strong moral and ethical values of Dr. Lathi Bowen

Herman H. Langkamp Award

Alexandra Jensen

Elliott Brodie Award

Cody Pervachuk (Delta Sigma Delta)

Gabriel Proulx (Non-Fraternity)

The student representatives of dental fraternities who have demonstrated academic excellence and achievement

Delta Dental Student Leadership Award

Michael De Coro

Daniel Rolotti

The students who embody the traits of strong leaders and community members

Dentsply Merit Award in Removable Prosthetics

Kathy Mucha

The senior student who has shown accomplishments in removable denture prosthetics

W. Arthur George Prosthodontic Award

Kurt Eriksson and Bryan Hays

The two senior students who have shown outstanding accomplishments in removable denture prosthetics

International College of Dentists Award

Elena Kurcichyk

The graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership

International Congress of Oral Implantologists Award

Elena Kurcichyk

The senior student who displays the greatest interest and commitment to oral implantology

Northeastern Society of Periodontists/Award

Amy Perlow

The outstanding student who has excelled in the field of periodontics

Gerald Ornstein Award

Shahryar Kaliqi

The senior student for their proficiency and dedication to dental research

Pierre Fauchard Academy Certificate of Merit

Lya Sharpley

For outstanding leadership and dedication to the advancement of the profession

Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievement in Periodontics

Kyle Howell

The senior student in recognition of scholastic and/or clinical excellence in periodontics

Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievement in Restorative Dentistry

Matthew Wendahl

The senior student in recognition of scholastic and/or clinical excellence in restorative dentistry

Whip Mix Corporation Prosthodontic Award

Paul Peru

The senior student who has excelled in the study and clinical application of prosthodontics

Sigma Phi Alpha

Bryan Hays

Sigma Phi Alpha, the National Dental Hygiene Honor Society, elects graduates who rank highest in scholarship and character and who exhibit potential qualities for future growth. Membership is limited to the upper 10% of the graduating class.

S.T.A.R. Award (Student Total Achievement Recognition)

Emily Hansen

Presented to the student exhibiting dedication and enjoyment of the dental hygiene profession; compassion in patient care; and enthusiasm for community service.

Hoo-Frisky Golden Scaler Award

Karly Keller

Presented to the student who exhibits outstanding clinical dental hygiene performance

Dr. Clark J. Hollister Award for Dental Health Education

Bo-U T. Le

Awarded to an outstanding graduating student who has shown ability and achievement in Dental Health Education

Elliot (Steve) Brodie Award for Clinical Competence

Alicia Wicks and Tiffany Murphy

Presented to the student who demonstrates outstanding clinical skills and comprehensive treatment planning.

Sigma Phi Alpha

Alicia Wicks and Rachael Mangel

Sigma Phi Alpha, the National Dental Hygiene Honor Society, elects graduates who rank highest in scholarship and character and who exhibit potential qualities for future growth. Membership is limited to the upper 10% of the graduating class.

Outstanding Dental Hygiene Graduate Award

Western Pennsylvania Dental Hygiene Association

Alicia Wicks

Based on outstanding academic and clinical performance as well as professional demeanor.

Awards for Dental Hygiene graduates were presented during a luncheon in May, 2013.

www.dental.pitt.edu
University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Diploma Ceremony took place on May 18, 2013 at Heinz Hall for the Performing Arts in Pittsburgh.

Diploma Ceremony 2013

27 resident graduates

76 DMD graduates

29 dental hygiene graduates
Special Olympics

Started in 1968, Special Olympics has helped participants to benefit physically, mentally, socially and has improved the community at large through a better understanding of people with intellectual disabilities. This year, Special Olympics celebrates its 45th anniversary. Allegheny County took part in the annual event by hosting a Special Olympics at Baldwin High School on Saturday, May 11. For the past several years, University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine students, faculty and staff have volunteered to help the athletes and other attendees.

...this will have a lasting impact on me throughout my career. It has given me a different perspective on compassion and is beneficial to me in the clinical and classroom at the dental school. 

— quote from a student SCCOPE community service diary

Mr. Greg Sencak, president of the University of Pittsburgh student chapter of the American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry (AADMD), coordinated about forty dental students to help athletes during the events. An additional six dental students, working under dental faculty member Dr. Lynne Taiclet, performed by Pitt medical school colleagues, were part of an event called Health Meet. Health Meet is coordinated by Achieva, a Western Pennsylvania non-profit organization committed to providing care for people with intellectual disabilities. Dental care is the number one unmet healthcare need for people with disabilities. Coordinated efforts such as these help Achieva and School of Dental Medicine address and combat this problem.

In the autumn of 2008, after more than 50 years providing multidisciplinary care for patients with special needs, University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine formally dedicated the Center for Patients with Special Needs. This fall we celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Center and the grand opening of a new Center for Patients with Special Needs anesthesia facility in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. This illustrates once more why this school is one of the nation’s leading dental schools and has been at the forefront of providing care to patients with special needs as well as educating students, residents, faculty, staff and clinicians within the community.

Led by Dean Thomas Braun, many past and present faculty, students and staff have been successfully caring for this population for decades. Supported by services provided by the School of Dental Medicine’s Department of Anesthesiology, and applying a multidisciplinary approach for adult and pediatric patients, the Center is able to treat a wide variety of disabilities, including elderly and medically complex patients. Expanding the facility to include a pediatric-specific treatment area will alleviate the increased demand and growing volume of patients.

According to Dr. Deborah Studen-Pavlovich, chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, “Two years ago, due to the increased number of pediatric patients with autism and other neurobehavioral disorders, I believed that a designated area within the Department of Pediatric Dentistry would be optimum in providing care to special needs patients.” Dr. Studen-Pavlovich also believes “that special needs dentistry in general is growing, and growing rapidly because of all of the medical advances and technology that have provided these individuals with longer and more productive lives. Our current structure allows for a multi-disciplinary approach to caring for special needs patients.” Dr. Lynne Taiclet, Director of the Center for Patients with Special Needs, which focuses on adult care, agrees and adds that “… 6 to 10 new patients are calling every week. The need for care has sparked the need for the growth of programs to educate providers and the growth of facilities to enable care.” The focus at School of Dental Medicine has been on providing students with experience and skills in special needs dentistry. Dr. Taiclet coordinates the special needs curriculum for the school and hopes to expand the student experiences to include educational opportunities for clinicians in the community. “Many of the students that have graduated in the past few years are already providing care for special needs patients” Dr. Taiclet said, reflecting on the outreach of special needs dentistry.

The future of special needs dentistry offers many possibilities, and, as Dr. Studen-Pavlovich said, “working together has really made a difference in the last half century.”

AAP Academy Awards

Each year the American Academy of Periodontology recognizes the most promising dental students and dedicated educators. The Dental Student Award for Achievement in Periodontology is awarded to a senior who displays outstanding performance in periodontics. In 2013, the Academy granted 65 recipients this award.

The 2013 University of Pittsburgh Dental Student Award Recipient is Dr. Mona Monzavi.

The Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring in Periodontics Award is awarded to a periodontal educator demonstrating a commitment to excellence in providing education in clinical periodontics. In 2013, the Academy granted this award to 50 recipients.

The 2013 University of Pittsburgh Outstanding Educator Award Recipient is Dr. Andrejs Baumhammers, DDS.

Center for Patients with Special Needs

5th Anniversary

and Pediatric Suite

Dedication

The new pediatric area for patients with special needs was made possible through the continued vision and support of Dean Braun, with funding from the Highmark Foundation, FSA Foundation and funding from the University of Pittsburgh. To support special needs dental care at University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine, please contact Mr. Paul Casey at 412-383-7544.
Delta Sigma Delta Stands Up To Bullying

I
n May, 2013, the School of Dental Medicine chapter of the dental fraternity, Delta Sigma Delta, through their foundation Take The Pledge, and in cooperation with the Boys and Girls Club of Shadyside, held a very successful, first-ever event to foster understanding and decrease bullying among school-aged children. Called Take The Pledge: Stand Up To Bullying, the one-day event was pulled together quickly and on a shoestring budget.

Mr. Ryan Hirszowitz, Delta Sigma Delta president, developed the anti-bullying event to fulfill the fraternity’s community service needs. “If we are going to be dentists, and are privileged enough to have these careers, we need to start giving back to our communities” he said. The impact this event had on the children helped Mr. Hirszowitz understand the need for such intervention in today’s world. “I grew up playing baseball in the Boys and Girls Club league and it was a really positive influence. It is heartbreaking to witness suicides and other tragedies as a result of senseless bullying and I want to give them some good news about standing up to bullying” said Mr. Hirszowitz.

Children learned team building techniques while playing soccer, basketball and baseball, and a certified Obseus trainer taught the children and adults techniques to deflate bullying.

Many local companies supported this years event. According to Mr. Hirszowitz, teaching kids about team sports “teaches them the meaning of teamwork, sportsmanship and respect: respect for their coaches, teammates, opponents, parents and most importantly, themselves.”

If you would like to help make next year’s event more successful and make a positive statement against bullying through Delta Sigma Delta’s foundation, please contact Ms. Rose Mangold at 412-648-8437.

Research Tower Construction Continues

I’ts come a long way since it began more than two years ago, but the research tower expansion project behind Salk Hall is not quite finished.

The tower, which will provide roughly 81,000 square feet of additional space for the School of Dental Medicine and the School of Pharmacy, will be dedicated to research. On the first floor, adjacent to Salk Hall, will be a large atrium area with a coffee shop and meeting areas for students, faculty and staff.

Research is a major priority at the School of Dental Medicine, which currently is ranked seventh in NIDCR funding. Research taking place here helps to shape the school’s international reputation, impacts both curriculum and clinical practice and most importantly, it discovers new knowledge for future clinical implementation.

Construction at this scale is very ambitious. Your support of the research tower communicates your commitment to the positive impact of research at the School of Dental Medicine. To make a difference and help support this massive construction project, please contact Mr. Paul Casey at 412-383-7544.

Research Tower Construction Continues

University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine • September 27-28

Friday, September 27
Homecoming Continuing Education Course
The Medically Complex Patient, “Preoperative Assessment and Management”
Presented by Dr. Daniel E Becker, DDS, Associate Director of Medical Education, General Practice Dental Residency, Miami Valley Hospital, Dayton, Ohio
8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., Edward J. Forrester Continuing Education Center, Salk Hall, 6 credit hours

Patients having complex medical histories and receiving multiple medications are a formidable challenge.
A series of case studies will be presented to lead an analysis and discussion of patients presenting varied medical conditions. For additional information or to register, please visit the Continuing Education Web page, www.dental.pitt.edu/ce/index.php, or please contact Ms. Lori Burkette at lbb4@pitt.edu or Ms. Diane Fletcher at dfh@pitt.edu, or call 412-648-8370.

Friday, September 27
Homecoming and Reunion Dinner
Please join us for the Homecoming and Reunion dinner at the University Club at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.
Individual Class Reunions [see at right] will be held for years ending in 3 or 8. For additional details, please contact Ms. Nancy Poe at poen@pitt.edu or call 412-648-8910.

Saturday, September 28
Homecoming Football Game: Pitt vs. UVA, Time TBA
Single-game home tickets will go on sale to the general public on September 3, 2013. Call 1-800-643-PITT.
Hotel Information may be found at www.alumni.pitt.edu/homecoming/hotels.php

Homecoming Dinner RSVP
Please complete and return this form by September 6 to Ms. Nancy Poe; University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine; Salk Hall, Suite 440; 3501 Terrace Street; Pittsburgh PA 15261. Dinner is $45 per person. Please make check payable to: University of Pittsburgh.

Name ____________________________
Class Reunions
All Alums Welcome!
For more information about your class reunion, please contact your class representative
Golden Alumni (Class of 1962 and earlier) please contact Ms. Nancy Poe at 412-648-8910
Class of ’68 45th reunion
Dr. David Fall: 412-422-8285 or 2h4a@msn.com
Class of ’73 40th reunion
Dr. Thomas Braun: 412-648-1938 or twb3@pitt.edu
Class of ’78 35th reunion
Dr. John Charlotta: jjc44@pitt.edu
Class of ’83 30th reunion
Dr. Joe Ross: 724-654-2511 or jerossmmd@gmail.com
Class of ’88 25th reunion
Dr. Steve Gurtner: gurt236@gmail.com
Dr. Eric Kern: 724-443-2721
Class of ’93 20th reunion
Dr. Mark Shaw: shawsteiner@msn.com
Class of ’98 15th reunion
Dr. Sharon Freeland Harris: 804-794-5808 or dentool@aol.com
Class of ’03 10th reunion
Dr. Johanna Nogay: jnogaymd@yahoo.com
Class of ’88, Dental Hygiene 25th reunion
Ms. Shelley Bosanac: 412-486-4026 or shelleyrfd@msn.com

For additional information about Homecoming 2013, please contact Ms. Nancy Poe at 412-648-8910 or poen@pitt.edu.
Student Lounge Redesign

During the past few years, the School of Dental Medicine has embarked on an ambitious building campaign that includes the construction of the Dental Implant Center. The Center for Patients with Special Needs and the recently completed Center for patients with Special Needs Department of Pediatric Dentistry Anesthesia Suite. The largest building project in more than fourty years, the new Research Tower and Atrium, which includes a coffee shop and meeting area for students, faculty and staff, is also ongoing.

To create a more relaxing space for students to use between and after classes, the school is renovating the student lounge area and student locker rooms. The new, larger student lounge offers students a community space for relaxing and studying in comfortable space outside of the classroom. To keep students connected, there will be abundant charging centers for electronic devices such as iPhones and laptops. A new kitchen and dining area will be a great place for students to snack, share meals, or just relax.

The school is adding 375 new lockers for students on the second floor of Salk Hall. A smaller locker room will remain in the Salk Annex.

As this project comes close to completion, our goal is to have the lounge space completed and ready for your visit during Homecoming 2014. Naming opportunities for the lounge and locker areas still exist for you to provide your legacy to the School of Dental Medicine.

For more information about the locker and lounge renovations or naming opportunities, please contact Mr. Paul Casey at 412-383-7544.

White Coat Ceremony 2013

University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine White Coat Ceremony is an exciting part of the general assembly held at the beginning of each academic year. During this espoused tradition, students receive their first white coats, signifying the beginning of their careers in dental medicine and dental hygiene. Your donation of $50 not only supports the School of Dental Medicine White Coat Ceremony but gives a warm welcome to our newest class of predoctoral and dental hygiene students.

In addition to supporting the 2013 White Coat Ceremony, alumni are encouraged to write an incoming predoctoral or dental hygiene student a short note that can inspire and energize as they begin this intense study and personal growth period.

Family members, friends, faculty, and alumni are invited to attend this profound ceremony. If you are not able to attend in person you can watch a live streaming broadcast on our Web site. Please visit our Web site for details and directions to view this exciting event.

The 2013 White Coat Ceremony will take place on Monday, August 26 at 3 p.m. in Scuff Hall, Auditoriums 5 and 6.

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.

Photos, top: Mr. David Cole (Class of 2016), Mrs. Maureen Cole, Dr. Elizabeth Cole Curtis (DMD ‘10) and Mrs. Cassie Cole; bottom: Dr. Michael Korch (DMD ‘04) and Mr. Nicholas Lang (Class of 2016)

I Want To Be Part Of The Tradition

MY WHITE COAT CEREMONY GIFT

Name:
Address:
Phone Number:
E-mail:

Please make checks payable to University of Pittsburgh.

Please mail this completed form and your gift of support to:
Mr. Nancy Poe
University of Pittsburgh
School of Dental Medicine
Salk Hall, Suite 660
3501 Terrace Street
Pittsburgh PA 15261

For more information, please contact Mr. Nancy Poe at 412-648-2000 or poen@pitt.edu.

Donations received by August 9, 2013 will be acknowledged in the White Coat Ceremony Program.

Photos, top: Mr. David Cole (Class of 2016), Mrs. Maureen Cole, Dr. Elizabeth Cole Curtis (DMD ‘10) and Mrs. Cassie Cole; bottom: Dr. Michael Korch (DMD ‘04) and Mr. Nicholas Lang (Class of 2016)
2013

**General Assembly and White Coat Ceremony**
August 26 • 3 p.m.
Scaife Hall Rooms 5 & 6

**Dental Alumni Association Executive Committee Meeting**
September 18 • 5:30 p.m.
Salk Hall Room 457

**Dental Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting**
September 18 • 6 p.m.
Salk Hall Room 457

**Mentoring Session for First Year Students**
September 18 • 6:30 p.m.
Room 457

**Homecoming CE Course, Dr. Daniel E. Becker,**
September 27 • 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
www.dental.pitt.edu/ce

**SDM Homecoming & Reunion Dinner**
September 27 • 6:30 p.m.
University Club

**Homecoming Football Game vs. Virginia**
September 28 • time TBD
Ticket Office 1-800-643-PITT

**Deadline for submission of Distinguished Alumni nominations**  
November 1

**SDM Alumni reception at the ADA Annual Session**
November 2 • 5 – 7 p.m.
Hilton New Orleans Riverside

---

2014

**Dental Alumni Association Executive Committee Meeting**
March 5 • 5:30 p.m.
Salk Hall Room 457

**Dental Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting**
March 5 • 6 p.m.
Salk Hall Room 457

**PDA Annual Session**
April 25 - 26
Hershey, PA

**Dental Hygiene Program 50 Year Anniversary Celebration Weekend**
May 2 - 3

**14th Annual Dean’s Scholarship Ball**
May 10 • 6:30 p.m.
Phipps Conservatory

---

**50th Reunion Labor Day Weekend**
August 31-September 1, 2013
For detailed information, please contact Dr. Ed Braun (DDS ’63) at 724-443-0888 or at geegee99@comcast.net

For additional information, please contact Ms. Nancy Poe at 412-648-8910 or poen@pitt.edu.