

DSB WEEKLY



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March 3, 2008



Drs. Bill Synan and Richard Burton Recognized at ABOMS Dinner

Dr. Bill Synan, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, recently attended a dinner given by the American Board for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (ABOMS), which was held in Dallas, Texas. Dr. Synan was recognized for the best case submission for the Surgery I section of the oral certification exam.

Dr. Richard Burton, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, who also attended the dinner, was named the co-chair of the Surgery III section.

Both Drs. Synan and Burton are board examiners for the ABOMS, which is the certifying board for the specialty of oral and maxillofacial surgery in the U.S.



Dr. Dan Thunell Wins First Place at MSP Meeting



Several faculty members and residents attended the Midwest Society of Periodontology (MSP) meeting held in Chicago on February 23-24, 2008. The Department of Periodontology is pleased that Dr. Dan Thunell, third-year periodontics resident, received first place in the Graduate Student Research Forum held on Saturday morning. He was one of three finalists selected to compete in this prestigious competition. Dr.

Thunell's presentation was entitled, "A novel comprehensive assay demonstrates reduction in gingival crevicular fluid cytokines and chemokines following initial periodontal therapy." A unique feature of the technology used in this study was the ability to assess levels of 22 inflammatory mediators in gingival fluid, including a number of mediators not previously examined in periodontal tissues.

Dr. Thunell's research mentors include Drs. Georgia Johnson and Kim Brogden, Periodontics; Dr. Janet Guthmiller, formerly Periodontics; and Dr. Sophie Joly, Dows. Congratulations to Dan and his mentors!

Patients Needed for Upcoming Implant CE Course

We are looking for patients who are missing all their upper and/or lower teeth for an upcoming CE course in June 2008. Please contact Dr. Ali Fakhry at ali-fakhry@uiowa.edu for more details. Thank you.



**Local Research Day:
Tuesday, March 11, 2008
See Page 3 for Information
(Online Only)**

Local Research Day, March 11, 2008: An Interview With Dr. Jeff Murray, This Year's Keynote Speaker



Sometimes choosing a career is like taking a road trip: you may not know your eventual destination but you've decided in which direction you want to drive.

Dr. Jeff Murray's proverbial "road trip" began in childhood: his father was a chemist, and Jeff found his old textbooks interesting. Then his high school biology teacher's enthusiasm for genet-

ics and chromosomes sparked Jeff's interest in pursuing his own career as a biology teacher.

Jeff worked part-time in genetics research during his undergraduate years at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and full-time for two years after receiving his B.S. During this time, he began focusing his interest on a graduate degree in molecular biology -- at least until he met his future wife, Ann Marie McCarthy, "a highly intelligent and beautiful young woman." Ann, who was a nurse (she is now a professor in the UI College of Nursing), suggested that he consider a career in medicine. Jeff recalls, "[I] liked the thought of working with patients and pediatrics especially." He was accepted in the medical education program at Tufts University.

As a medical student, Jeff spent one summer working on a research project with Dr. Murray Feingold, a pediatrician geneticist. Encountering children with many types of birth defects, Jeff was particularly fascinated by the causes of clefts and their prevention and treatment. (He also received some good advice from Dr. Feingold: "Patient care should be your first priority.") **(continued on page 2)**



**For Graduate Residents –
Coming in March
Thesis Preparation
Workshops!**

**See Page 5 for details
(Online Only)**

**Monday, March 3
10 am to 2 pm, Oral B Classroom**

IASDA— BLOOD DRIVE

**SNDA—
MARROW DONOR
REGISTRATION DRIVE**

See Page 4 for Details (Online Only)



(continued from p. 1 Dr. Jeff Murray)

Dr. Murray received his M.D. in 1978. In 1984, following a pediatric residency and a postdoctoral fellowship, he joined the University of Iowa Department of Pediatrics in the College of Medicine. In collaboration with a postdoctoral fellow, a genetics statistician, and other faculty, he began using genetics to find cleft palate genes. Working in the cleft clinics, Dr. Murray says, "...allowed us patient contact and the chance to do some real research."

Nearly a quarter century later, Jeff Murray remembers Dr. Feingold's advice and notes, "Patients and families are still the center point of our investigations. We can't do anything without the help of the families."

Technology, however, has changed immensely. Researchers can now detect genetic and environmental effects using studies of DNA at very detailed levels and apply the techniques to thousands of cases. "When I began," Jeff recalls, "if I got data back on one gene variant on 10 people, that was a good day's work. Now my students can generate data on a million DNA variants on 10 people in one day." He adds that they have increased their power "by ten million-fold and the cost is still almost the same. I never thought I would be able to work at this level."

Dr. Murray finds it rewarding that his research will someday improve the lives of patients with birth defects. "It's enormous fun to work with bright, young dental, medical and graduate students who will take this work to a whole new level."

As for his career's "road trip" and final destination, Jeff Murray considers himself fortunate to be working at Iowa, especially "with scientists and clinicians like Mike Solursh, Brian Schutte, John Canady, John Keller, Andrew Lidral, Rebecca Slayton, Alex Vieira and others who have been involved in our craniofacial center work. In addition, the Colleges of both Dentistry and Medicine have been consistently supportive of our work...we feel our work is really valued."

What advice would Dr. Murray give to those dental students who may be considering a career in research? "Choose to work on those things you most enjoy reading and talking about and be willing to move from one topic to another as your enthusiasms change."

Learn more about Dr. Jeff Murray's research during his Local Research Day keynote address, "Genomic Approaches to Craniofacial Development" on Tuesday, March 11, 2008.

Monday
Sloppy Joe Sandwich & Chips \$3.75
Soup du Jour \$2.25 / \$3.25
Salad Bar, Deli, Pizza, Sushi & Paninis

Tuesday
Smoked Beef Brisket Sandwich & Chips \$4.95
Soup du Jour \$2.25 / \$3.25
Salad Bar, Deli, Pizza, Sushi & Paninis

Wednesday
BBQ Pork Sandwich & Chips \$3.95
Soup du Jour \$2.25 / \$3.25
Salad Bar, Deli, Pizza, Sushi & Paninis

Thursday
TACO BAR!!!
Grilled Chicken Sandwich & Chips \$4.25
Soup du Jour \$2.25 / \$3.25
Salad Bar, Deli, Pizza, Sushi & Paninis

Friday
BBQ Chicken Sandwich & Chips \$3.95
Soup du Jour \$2.25 / \$3.25
Salad Bar, Deli, Pizza, Sushi & Paninis



A copy of the Filling Station menu can be found at <http://www.dentistry.uiowa.edu>.

Filling Station Announcement

**The Filling Station
will close at 2:00 pm
during Spring Break
(March 17-21)**



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UPCOMING EVENTS

**Iowa Section of the American Association for
Dental Research (AADR)**

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

Local AADR Meeting

Oral Presentations, Posters & Table Clinics

MARCH 29 - APRIL 5

ADEA/AADR Annual Meetings

Dallas, Texas

**LIFE.
IT'S IN YOU.**

Dr. Katie Post, Class of 2003, shared the life that's in her. Dr. Post donated her peripheral blood stem cells in 2003 when she was identified as a match for an unrelated patient. Would she do it again? Absolutely! She also continues to share life as a regular blood donor.



**Monday, March 3rd
10 am to 2 pm
Oral B Classroom**

IASDA— BLOOD DRIVE

TO SIGN UP FOR THE DEGOWIN BLOOD DRIVE:

Go online at: <http://uihealthcare.com/bloodcenter>
If you have questions, contact Jill Shonka at (970) 219-5376
or by email: jill-shonka@uiowa.edu

**SNDA—MARROW DONOR
REGISTRATION DRIVE**

MARROW DONOR REGISTRATION DRIVE IS WALK-IN

For information about the marrow registration drive, contact
Raquia Denson at raquia-denson@uiowa.edu.

For more information about marrow or peripheral blood stem cell donation, a brochure or consent form prior to the day of the drive, contact Deb Hoyle at debra-hoyle@uiowa.edu.



For Graduate Residents – Coming in March Thesis Preparation Workshops!

Mindy Tuttle, UI Information Technology Services,
will give two thesis instructions:
Friday, March 7 (part 1) and **Friday, March 14 (part 2)**,
both from noon-1 pm, in the Oral B Classroom.

The instructions will include information about:

- How to attach the UI thesis template
- Automated creation of preliminary pages
- Automated creation of table of contents
- Automated creation of doctoral abstract
- Landscape pages with portrait page numbers
- UI thesis template style definitions
- Typing international characters in Microsoft Word
- Shortcut keys in Microsoft Word
- Common deposit comments from the Graduate College

Mindy will also be available to answer questions.

Pizza and pop will be provided.