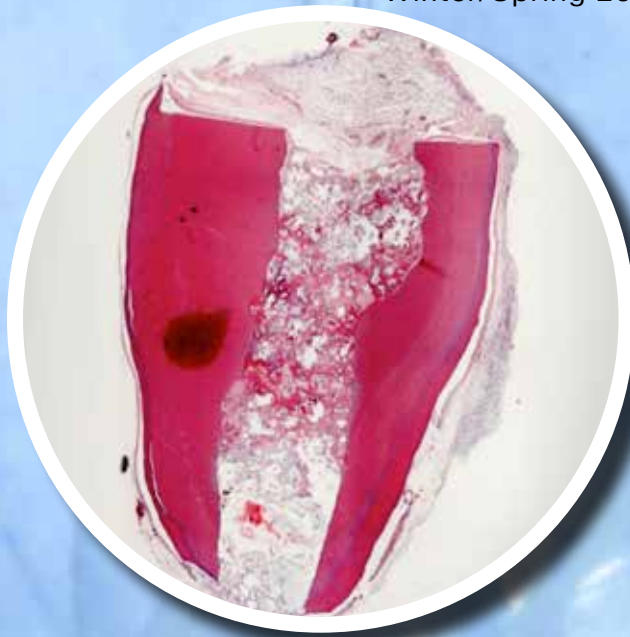


PITT



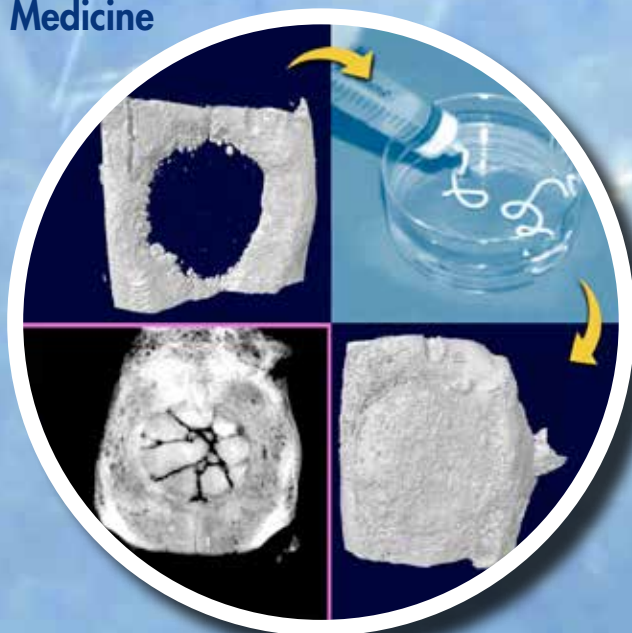
# DENTAL MEDICINE

Winter/Spring 2014 • Volume 12 • Number 1



## Bench to Bedside

Current research for clinical application in development at the School of Dental Medicine



## IN THIS ISSUE



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### RESEARCH

Research continues to move ahead with new clinical therapies and new lab space.



On the cover: Illustrating four bench to bedside technologies that are nearing distribution are, clockwise from top-left: a micrograph of healthy, regenerated pulp using lab-generated endodontic putty; test-subject canine mandible, before and after periodontal treatment using CCL22 chemokine particle injection showing improved bone and tooth surfaces; resorbable screws and plates before, and four weeks after in vivo implantation; and, 4-part image showing bone defect to be repaired, ReCaPP putty that will be injected into the defect, repaired defect showing improved healing and bone growth with little cracking, and defect filled with another bone putty showing severe cracking with limited healing and bone growth.

Read more in "Research Grows in Developing New Therapies" on page 4.



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### LEADERS

School of Dental Medicine alumni in leadership roles.



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### ROSS AWARD

Dr. Paul Moore received the 2013 Norton M. Ross Award for Clinical Leadership

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**Pitt Dental Medicine** is published semiannually by the Office of the Dean as a service to alumni, students, and friends. Its purpose is to facilitate communication among alumni, students, and friends of the School of Dental Medicine. This publication holds itself not responsible for opinions, theories, and criticisms therein contained.

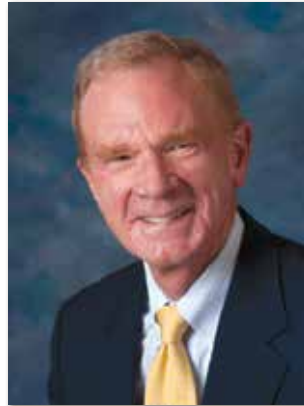
University of Pittsburgh is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

There are 65 dental schools in the United States today, all of which are quite unique. Some of these schools have as their primary mission the education and training of general practicing community dentists. Others have a stated mission to produce leaders. Our School of Dental Medicine recognizes the importance of each of these schools and how they attempt to fulfill their missions. As part of a major academic medical center and University which are ranked in the very top tier of research and the creation of practitioners and educators, the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine vigorously endeavors to deserve our part in that role. Accordingly, we educate and nurture general practicing dentists, specialists in a multitude of areas, and cutting edge researchers.

Currently, our school is ranked 7th by the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research in terms of research funding. This is indicative of our successes in research, but only explains part of the story of our achievement. We also have substantial funding from the United States Department of Defense and other entities. Our Center for Dental and Craniofacial Genetics is among the finest research centers of its kind in the country. Our clinical research is remarkably successful, as evidenced by the recent receipt of the Norton M. Ross Award by Professor Paul A. Moore. Our translational research is likely to expand under the guidance of Dr. B.J. Costello, the Director of Translational Research. This role will greatly assist in “bench to bedside”; delivering discoveries made in the laboratory to actual care for patients. The Center for Craniofacial Research, directed by Dr. Charles Sfeir, is leading this effort and will be able to expand its role as it occupies laboratories in our new research tower, located immediately beside the school. This project will also provide direct benefit to students, staff, and faculty as the connecting space to this building will provide a common atrium and coffee shop and lounge area. With these state-of-the-art, scientific laboratories our school will continue its ground-breaking research, such as the development of a bone-regenerating putty useful for a variety of maladies from periodontal defects to craniofacial injuries received in military combat. Our lead article describes this effort and its place in the new research tower.

But we do more than top quality research. You may recall that our last Pitt Dental Medicine magazine described how we are actively putting excellent general practitioners out into the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Our school is an institution that has a history of producing leaders which continues today. This issue also includes just a few of our graduates who are leaders, today, in a variety of areas. I hope you take time to read and appreciate the great things the people of the School of Dental Medicine have done, are doing, and are positioned to do well into the future. ■

## FROM THE DEAN



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas W. Braun". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

**Thomas W. Braun, DMD '73, PhD '77**

Professor and Dean

University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine



## RESEARCH GROWS IN DEVELOPING NEW THERAPIES

The new research tower, Salk Pavilion, adjacent to the School of Dental Medicine soon will be filled with state-of-the-art research; powerful research already being done at the School necessitated a larger, more effective space. The current, cramped space hasn't hindered big developments, however. The Center for Craniofacial Regeneration, one of four School of Dental Medicine Research Centers, will occupy much needed space in the new Research Tower (see page 27).

The Center for Craniofacial Regeneration is a cooperative research effort that includes brilliant minds from the University of Pittsburgh Schools of Dental Medicine, Engineering, Pharmacy, Medicine, and the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine. The Center concentrates on the development of specific clinical applications of therapies for craniofacial disorders and ensures that they find their way into practical, clinical environments. Dr. Charles Sfeir is the Interim Associate Dean for Research at the School of Dental Medicine, and Director of the Center for Craniofacial Regeneration. The University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine is ranked seventh among dental schools for National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research funding.

Treatments for four areas of craniofacial disease have been identified by the Center in the “bench-to-bedside” pipeline. Currently, some of these technologies are close to being released for distribution: a bone putty for trauma/cancer resection, a treatment for temporomandibular joint disease, an innovative approach to periodontal disease and a new treatment in endodontics.

### BONE PUTTY TO TREAT CANCER/TRAUMA RESECTION

When a patient requires a bone resection for the treatment of a trauma or bone cancer, traditional reconstruction options for that patient utilize plates and screws, bone grafts or immobilization to repair and stabilize the remaining bone. The development of bone putty and bioresorbable metals by the Center, both nearing commercial production, should change how reconstruction happens in the near future.

In similar fashion to past and currently available bone putties, Resorbable Calcium Phosphate Putty (ReCaPP) can fill the void left after a bone resection. But that is where the similarities end. Currently available bone putties have been shown to crack, decreasing the volumetric strength of the reconstruction. And existing bone substitutes do not encourage bone growth in the area, therefore, bone healing after surgery can be severely hampered. Load-bearing ReCaPP bone putty, however, proved structurally superior, and displayed no cracking in lab tests. Also, it encourages bone growth and rapid healing in the surgical site which leads to greater long term success rates for patients. Once the bone heals itself, the putty degrades into harmless, resorbable by-products.

Extraordinarily, ReCaPP also can be printed into 3-dimensional models using 3-D printing technology. In a practical application of customized medicine, the craniofacial defect may be imaged to obtain a digital 3-dimensional model. Using image acquisition devices such as a CT scanner, a corrective reconstruction may be designed and 3-dimensionally printed to create a custom fit prosthetic for the patient. Lab analysis reveals that 3-D printed scaffold inserts may be combined to span larger open spaces. Comparative analysis of scaffolds printed using ReCaPP with other forms of bone scaffold has revealed more complete healing as well as better bone growth. Another compelling reason for using the ReCaPP printed

scaffolds is that they allow more precise placement in the patient and possibly better integration. Patents for ReCaPP were awarded in December, 2012, the technology was licensed and a startup company was formed.

### CARRYING ON A PITTSBURGH TRADITION IN METAL CRAFTING

Used alone or in conjunction with bone putties, metal plates and screws are a common tool used to stabilize damaged or surgically altered bone. Magnesium is a relatively new biomaterial that has recently been gaining traction due to its mechanical strength. Metal devices made of magnesium can be resorbed by the body once the bone has regenerated and their job is done. This eliminates the need for a second surgery to retrieve the devices. In addition, magnesium ion release during the degradation of the alloys appears to stimulate bone healing and regeneration. Screws formed of resorbable metals have been developed by the Center for Craniofacial Regeneration. A recent collaborative agreement with a life science venture fund was established to evaluate potential clinical utility of the novel biomaterials being developed at the Engineering Research Center – Revolutionizing Metallic Biomaterials.

### TEMPOROMANDIBULAR JOINT DISEASE TREATMENT

Temporomandibular joint disorders (TMDs) affect between 10 and 36 million Americans. TMD involves the muscles that control and move the jaw, and the temporomandibular joint (TMJ), a hinge joint where the jaw and skull articulate. TMD is a vague diagnosis and causes are multifactorial. Many things, such as grinding teeth, joint dislocation, osteoarthritis or stress may contribute to the disorder. Many patients can be treated non-surgically to relieve pain. For those patients who require surgery to resolve an irreparably damaged TMJ, disc repositioning, repair or removal can provide pain relief and improve range

of motion, but may increase the rate of degeneration within the TMJ.

Currently, there is no universally accepted or effective treatment option to replace a TMJ disc that has been damaged or removed.

Researchers from the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine and surgeons from the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine have developed an extracellular matrix (ECM)-based component that can be implanted into the patient to replace the surgically removed meniscus. This not only replaces the meniscus, but induces the patient to generate new disc tissue. To-date, development has been made possible through grant funding of more than \$3 million from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the National Institutes of Health, the Coulter Foundation and the School of Dental Medicine.

The TMJ alternative may offer patients and clinicians advantages such as: an “off-the-shelf” solution; ease of implantation; a limit to further degenerative changes; it induces and provides a template for new, healthy tissue formation; possible prevention of the need for additional, invasive TMJ surgeries; and it provides a solution to a need that has so far remained unmet.

Preparations are being made to allow for the first human clinical trials within the next couple of years. As the first successful alternative treatment for disc removal, and with a potential worldwide market, the TMJ implant is a low risk alternative that may assist a large number of patients.

### UNORTHODOX PERIODONTAL DISEASE TREATMENT

Many adults in the U.S. currently have some form of periodontal disease, ranging from simple gingival

## Centers of Excellence at the School of Dental Medicine

### Center for Craniofacial and Dental Genetics

The major research focus of this Center is to identify genes that contribute to complex human phenotypes, primarily those involved in dental and craniofacial disorders, involving molecular and statistical genetic approaches, as well as investigations into phenotype delineation and behavioral and epidemiological factors.

### Center for Craniofacial Regeneration

The Center for Craniofacial Regeneration was established to develop tissue engineering-based treatments for wounds and defects of the face and skull that restore function as well as appearance. The tissues of the face and skull are many and complex. Accordingly, the center’s team represents many disciplines, and is rooted in the many achievements by University of Pittsburgh researchers in tissue regeneration and biomaterial development.

### Center for Dental Informatics

This Center conducts research on computer applications in dental practice, education, and research. The center is currently investigating how dental information can be represented better and more completely on computers, how dentists could talk to the computer to enter clinical information, and how a 3-D model of the patient could be integrated into electronic records.

### Center for Oral Health Research in Appalachia

Appalachia has the largest burden of oral health problems per capita in the United States with significant disparities in oral health outcomes resulting from differences in socioeconomic status occur. The goal of the center is to identify factors that lead to oral health disparities in children and families in Appalachia.

### Dental Registry and DNA Repository

The Dental Registry and DNA Repository is the first-known center of its kind to collect DNA samples paired with anonymous dental records for the purpose of assisting genetics research.

inflammation to the serious disease that results in major damage to the soft tissue and bone that support the teeth. In the worst cases, teeth are lost. Periodontal disease currently is treated by keeping oral bacteria in check with daily brushing and flossing, as well as regular professional deep cleaning with scaling and root planing, which remove tartar above and below the gum line. In some hard-to-treat cases, antibiotics are given. “These strategies of mechanical tartar removal and antimicrobial delivery aim to reduce the amount of oral bacteria on the tooth surface,” explained Dr. Charles Sfeir.

“Currently, we try to control the build-up of bacteria so it doesn’t trigger severe inflammation, which could eventually damage the bone and tissue that hold the teeth in place,” Dr. Sfeir said. “But that strategy doesn’t address the real cause of the problem, which is an overreaction of the immune system that causes a needlessly aggressive response to the presence of oral bacteria. There is a real need to design new approaches to treat periodontal disease.”

In health, a balance exists between bacteria and the immune system response to forestall infection without generating inflammation. But in many people a chronic overload of bacteria sets up the immune system to stay on alert, causing harm to the oral tissues while it attempts to eradicate germs. Current evidence shows these diseased tissues are deficient in a subset of immune cells called regulatory T-cells which signal attacking immune cells to stand down, stopping the inflammatory response. Researchers wanted to explore what happens when these regulatory T-cells are brought back to the gingiva. So they developed a system of polymer microspheres which slowly release a chemokine, or signaling protein, called CCL22 that attracts regulatory T-cells. The team found that even though the

quantity of bacteria was unchanged, the treatment led to improvements of standard measures of periodontal disease. This included decreased pocket depth and bleeding, reflecting a reduction in inflammation, and showed lower rates of bone loss.

Next steps include developing the immune modulation strategy for human trials. Funding from The Coulter Foundation was secured to achieve commercialization of the technology.

### ROOT CANAL TREATMENT

The American Association of Endodontists reports that between 1999 and 2006 endodontic procedures increased by 10%, with approximately 22.3 million procedures performed in the United States in 2006. Despite the significant number of endodontic procedures performed, advancements in treatment have been limited to new mechanical instruments to clean and shape the root canal system, as well as the development of root canal sealer cements to be used alongside guttapercha to obturate the root canal space. The obturation of the canal system with a physical barrier, however, has remained unchanged since modern endodontic techniques were developed at the turn of the twentieth century.

The development of clinical techniques that permit a biologic obturation of the root canal system with a new pulp like tissue has many advantages over current, historical therapies.

Regenerative endodontic therapy is among the appealing areas of craniofacial research, offering clinically effective therapies for revitalization of endodontically affected teeth. Strategies for regenerating or maintaining the dental pulp in lieu of disposal of the pulp, as is currently practiced, could transform clinical practice.

The team at the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine is developing

novel engineered putty for regenerative endodontics therapy. The results to date demonstrate that when the endodontic putty was placed in the lumen of a tooth root model, it elicited dental pulp cells to regenerate pulp like tissue, demonstrating the potential of the novel putty.

Many of the treatments for craniofacial disease that have been, and are being developed, by the School of Dental Medicine will be ready for distribution in the near future. It is anticipated that some of these new therapies will lead to a paradigm shift in treatment leading to improved health for the multitude of people affected by these conditions. ■



Image: Microcomputed tomography (micro CT) rendered 3D image from a mesial root of a human molar. The original root canal system (white) is visible within the transparent contour of the root. Shown in red is the instrumented area. Using contemporary technology it is not possible to mechanically debride the entire root canal system in a molar, especially the isthmus area between the mesial-buccal and mesial-lingual canals. The microCT technique used at School of Dental Medicine permits visualization of the particular areas of the root canal system that are not accessible to rotary or hand files. Resolution=5microns, scale bar=1mm.



SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE  
CONTINUING EDUCATION WINTER/SPRING 2014

**Systemic Health Considerations and Pain Management  
of the Fixed Prosthesis Patient**

Friday, February 14, 2014

Topics include: **Dr. Matthew Cooke** – Medical Management of the Prosthodontic Patient; **Dr. Edward McCarthy** – Fixed Prosthesis Treatment Planning to Avoid Failure; **Dr. Thomas Kunkel** – Digital Impressions and Prostheses Fabrication; **Dr. Pouran Famili** – Periodontal Considerations as Part of Implant Treatment

**Dental Photography: Using Your Digital Camera  
and Processing Images**

Hands-On/Limited Attendance

**Dr. Ali Seyedain** and **Dr. Heiko Spallek**

Saturday, February 15, 2014

**Office Based Pediatric Sedation - Anesthesia in the 21st  
Century: Pharmacological Approaches to Managing the  
Child Dental Patient**

**Dr. Matthew Cooke, Dr. Michael Cuddy,  
Dr. Joseph Giovannitti, Dr. Adriana Modesto-Vierra,  
Dr. Paul Moore, and Dr. Deborah Studen-Pavlovich**

Friday-Saturday, February 28 – March 1, 2014

**Occlusion and Temporomandibular Disorder – When,  
Where, and How**

**Dr. Joseph Passaro** and **Dr. James Wooddell**

Friday, March 21, 2014

**Digital Radiography, Including an Overview  
of Cone Beam CT and Software Tools**

Hands-On/Limited Attendance

**Dr. Anitha Potluri**

Saturday, March 29, 2014

**Dental Radiography: DANB Exam Prep Course**

Hands-On/Limited Attendance

**Ms. Gayle Ball** and **Ms. Victoria Green**

Saturday, April 5, 2014

**Updates in Direct Restorative Dentistry: Mastering  
Today's Materials for Your Practice**

**Dr. Lou Graham**

Friday, April 25, 2014

**Surgical Crown Elongation**

Hands-On/Limited Attendance

**Dr. Pouran Famili** and **Dr. Ali Seyedain**

Saturday, April 26, 2014

**Medical History Mythbusters: Yes, You Can Treat the  
Medically Complex Patient**

**Colonel (Dr.) Timothy Halligan**

Friday, May 2, 2014

Most continuing education courses meet in the Edward J. Forrest Continuing Education Center, 2148 Salk Hall, 3501 Terrace Street, Pittsburgh PA, 15261. Please visit the Web site for location details.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

T.F. BOWSER  
MEMORIAL LECTURE

**Street Drugs Exposed – What Your Patients  
and Your Kids are Not Telling You**

**Harold L. Crossley, DDS, MS, PhD**

Professor Emeritus at the University of Maryland Dental School, Dr. Crossley is recognized nationally and internationally as an expert on street drugs and chemical dependency, as well as the clinical pharmacology of dental drugs.

**Saturday, April 12, 2014  
8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

This graphic presentation will examine recreational drug use, from the streets to the office, to help identify and manage the substance abusing patient.

The dental medicine team is in the unique position of providing dental care to a patient population who may be regular users of or experimenting with mood altering drugs. What questions should be asked to avoid adverse interactions between medically appropriate drugs and street drugs? What are some of the oral manifestations of street drug abuse? Why is it important that the dental staff be knowledgeable about street drug use? What are some recognizable characteristics of adolescent substance abuse and what can be done about it?

4 credit hours

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](http://www.dental.pitt.edu/ce)

For more information, or to register for a CE course, please contact Diane Fleishman at **412-648-8370**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**G**reetings on behalf of the Dental Alumni Association. The Association held its board meeting this fall in September, where new members were introduced (see accompanying story). The board participated in a productive discussion about how we can best engage, welcome, and get to know more of our alums. That was all it took for our new vice-president, Dr. Matt Karski, who collaborated with fellow board member Dr. Lisa Babb to plan an alumni community service event for the spring that will bring us all outdoors with an opportunity to help the community as we work side-by-side (see accompanying story). A new “young alumni” group is also in the works.



With the focus on research in this issue, there are also opportunities for our alums across the country to become involved with practice-based research efforts and information through the National Dental Practice Based Research Network (PBRN). The National Dental PBRN is committed to “improving the nation’s oral health by improving the knowledge base for clinical decision-making and moving the latest evidence into routine care.” Pennsylvania is part of the Northeast Region PBRN, one of six regions in the country. You can find out more about these PBRN’s at [www.nationaldentalpbrn.org/](http://www.nationaldentalpbrn.org/).

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and wish you all the best in the new year on behalf of the association.

Sincerely,

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



like us on Facebook

- > **University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association**
- > **Pitt Dental Hygiene Alumni**
- > **Pitt Dental Young Alumni**



## VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**G**reetings dental hygiene alumni! Did you know that the very first class of University of Pittsburgh dental hygiene students graduated in 1964? In response to a growing population and anticipated need for dental auxiliaries, Dr. Edward J. Forrest, dean of the School of Dental Medicine at that time, founded the Dental Assisting/Dental Hygiene program, the initial two-phase program that preceded the Dental Hygiene Program, with assistance from the Kellogg Foundation. Twenty-four students enrolled that first year in the fall of 1962, in the Dental Assisting Phase. Twenty-three of them graduated from the program the following July and fourteen of those students continued on to the Hygiene Phase and graduated in 1964. Since then, more than eighteen hundred hygienists have graduated from the program, which has undergone many significant changes.

We invite you to celebrate our 50th anniversary with us on May 2–3, 2014. We have planned an exciting weekend filled with opportunities for you to reconnect with classmates and colleagues, earn continuing education credit, and visit the dental hygiene and simulation clinics. There will be a retrospective display that chronicles our past, and you will see how far we've come as you interact with our current students and tour our clinics. We cap off the weekend with an elegant dinner at the University Club.

Look for your invitation to arrive in the coming weeks. In the meantime, you may contact me at [sub26@pitt.edu](mailto:sub26@pitt.edu) for more information, or to share photographs of your class to be included in the display.

We hope you'll contact your former classmates and plan to join the celebration of this important milestone with us in an atmosphere of conviviality!

Sincerely,

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

See pages 24-25 to  
find out more about  
the 50th Anniversary  
Celebration of the  
Dental Hygiene  
Program

May 2–3, 2014

For additional information,  
please contact Ms. Katherine Horn  
at **412-648-8432** or via  
e-mail at [kdh@pitt.edu](mailto:kdh@pitt.edu)

# A L U M N I

## HOMECOMING 2013

The School of Dental Medicine Homecoming events began with a well-attended continuing education course presented by Dr. Daniel E. Becker and sponsored in part by the Theodore F. Bowser Education Fund. Mentoring sessions were offered for residents and first professional students. Dental Medicine Homecoming festivities also included reunion dinners for the classes of '68, '73, '78, '83, '88, '93, '98 and '03, in addition to our Golden Alumni who graduated before 1963. The evening ended with a rooftop viewing of the spectacular fireworks and laser display spotlighting the Cathedral of Learning.



**Class of '03 and guests**



**Golden Alumni and guests**



**Class of '78 and guests**



**'93**



**Alumni mentors, student leaders and guests**



**Class of '98 and guests**



**Class of '73 and guests**



**'88**



**Class of '68 and guests**

# HOMECOMING 2013

## DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARD & GRANT

The Dental Alumni Association (DAA) received a Gold Banner Award at the Banner Awards Luncheon sponsored by the Pitt Alumni Association (PAA). The award will benefit the school's diversity scholarship fund.

The Banner Program, established in 1998, recognizes Pitt schools, colleges and regional campuses for their annual service through activities that support the mission of the PAA, and highlights the synergistic relationship between the PAA and these alumni groups. Banner eligible alumni societies and regional campus alumni associations that complete specific qualifying activities during the fiscal year earn monetary awards to be added to their respective scholarship funds.

The PAA, through the annual School, College and Regional Campus Grant Program, also awarded the School of Dental Medicine a grant to support and expand our mentoring program. The grant made it possible for our student leaders to attend homecoming dinner and interact with Pitt Alumni Association Life Members who have served as mentors at the school. Past PAA support has been used to honor our veterans and DAA board members, and now we are proud to add to that list the recognition of our mentors.



## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Photo: The class of 1963 came together during the Labor Day 2013 weekend at the School of Dental Medicine. Pictured in front of the Simulation Lab during a tour of the School are, left to right: Dr. William E. Kinast, Dr. John R. Trippe, Dr. Robert A. Vitori, Dr. Jay R. Maust, Dr. Paul M. Jonas; Dr. H. Brown Elmes, Dr. James M. Isett; Dr. Joseph R. Stauff, Dr. Jack H. Whittaker, Dr. Burt C. Zwibel, and Dr. Arthur I. Steinberg

While many of the School of Dental Medicine's Annual Reunions took place during homecoming weekend, the class of 1963 celebrated their milestone 50th reunion during Labor Day 2013 weekend. The weekend's festivities, which included dinner and a tour of the School, were coordinated by Dr. Edward Braun and Dr. Jay Maust.



## EDIC SUPPORT

The School of Dental Medicine appreciates the continued support from Eastern Dentists Insurance Company (EDIC) as an important partner during homecoming weekend and throughout the year. Mr. Barry Regan, EDIC's Vice President of Risk Management presented the School of Dental Medicine with checks for an educational grant and a donation to the Dean's Scholarship Ball.

Photo: Mr. Barry Regan presenting check to Dr. Thomas Braun.

## Thank you to our Donors of Distinction

### 2013

**Dr. and Mrs. Scott A. Ulery**  
**George K. Haudenschild, DDS**

### 2012

**Harold C. Brest, DDS**  
**Leonard E. Mark, DDS**  
**Jeffrey R. Parsons, DMD**  
**Dr. and Mrs. Virgil St. Clair**  
**Karl W. Weiss, DMD**

The School of Dental Medicine gratefully acknowledges our Donors of Distinction. Each year the names of donors whose lifetime giving to the the School of Dental Medicine is \$10,000 or greater are added to the Donors of Distinction plaque during homecoming weekend.

Donations to the School of Dental Medicine help in a variety of ways. Whether your contributions are directed toward scholarships, facility updates or to the general fund, please know that you are making a difference here at the school.

**Thank you to the Donors of Distinction; your gifts truly are appreciated.**



To learn more about your giving history to the School of Dental Medicine and what contributions may be needed to have your name added to this display, please contact Paul Casey at **412-383-7544** or **pbc8@pitt.edu**.

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT A PITT DENTAL FAMILY

**Dr. Jane Wolanin-Karski is not only a proud mother and aunt to three recent School of Dental Medicine grads, she and her sister are trailblazers in Pittsburgh area dentistry.**

“My sister, Kathy, and I, along with the La Bate sisters, were the first sisters to graduate as dentists from Pitt.” Her sister Dr. Kathy Wolanin-Montgomery, a general practice dentist in solo practice, adds, “in the 1970’s, when Jane and I were students, it was still a man’s world. I’m proud that I was able to hold my own in an era when the notion of women in dentistry was met with skepticism.” Their father, Robert Wolanin, was a Pitt graduate, which figured into the sisters selecting the school for their education. “Attending Pitt also enabled my sister and me to keep our weekend jobs as organists in local churches” said Kathy. Both sisters are talented pianists and organists, and Jane was invited to play at the Vatican a few years ago.

Jane’s son, Dr. Matthew Karski, practices general dentistry in New Castle, Pa., the family’s home town, and his wife,



Dr. Melissa Karski, a Dean’s Scholar, currently is a second-year orthodontics resident at the school. Cousin, Dr. Jen Zavoral, received her education at the School of Dental Medicine, completed a residency in periodontics at the school, and now is a faculty member in periodontics, here.

This family chose to attend the School of Dental Medicine not only because of the long-standing family history at the school, but because of the excellent, evidenced-based dentistry foundation they would have upon graduation. “Most of the dentists I spoke with before applying to the school, graduated from Pitt and spoke highly of the education they received and the program really impressed me, compared to other dental schools.” said Melissa.

When reflecting on his choice to become a dentist, Matt says, “my biggest achievement is finding a career that I am passionate about. I honestly can say I enjoy every day when I am in the office.” His cousin, Dr. Zavoral, has been very successful in her career and adds that “being a mom is the most challenging yet most rewarding thing I have accomplished.” That’s a sentiment that Jane certainly agrees with, and unites her feelings with her alma mater, “I am so proud that my son, Matt, daughter-in-law, Melissa, and niece Jennifer have chosen dentistry as a career and are also Pitt graduates.” ■

### FOCUS ON DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION VICE PRESIDENT DR. MATTHEW KARSKI



**Dr. Matthew Karski** is both a Pitt undergrad and Pitt School of Dental Medicine alumnus. “I always wanted to go to Pitt Dental, and I figured choosing the same undergrad would best prepare me. It provided me with an opportunity for research and shadowing at Children’s Hospital Dental clinic. I chose Pitt Dental because of its reputation for preparing students clinically. My family has a history

at Pitt and I also wanted to continue on the tradition. It’s close to my friends and family who are a huge part of my life.”

“Right after graduation from School of Dental Medicine I chose a one-year general practice residency at St. Elizabeth in Youngstown, Ohio, to expand my training to include more oral surgery and endodontics. I feel most comfortable when I jump ‘chair to chair’ doing different procedures, but my favorite thing to do in dentistry is endodontics.”

“Being involved in the Dental Alumni Association (DAA) lets me regularly return to the school for meetings and alumni functions and to attend continuing education courses. It’s always a great feeling when I get to stop in the school and say hello to faculty, too.”

“I accepted the role as Vice President of the Dental Alumni Association because I am interested in seeing DAA members become more involved in community outreach. Dr. Lisa Babb, who is a board member, and I have pulled together a Community Garden event to bring other School of Dental Medicine alumni together outside of our careers.” (see page 13 for information about this event) “Through this garden event, and others like it, we can show our support for the community and give back in a way that is outside of the sphere of dental medicine; something in addition to a Continuing Dental Education course or cocktail hour. I also would like to see more recent alumni getting involved in the association. Their voices are important to how the DAA functions and their involvement will be needed to carry us into the future.” ■

**University of Pittsburgh  
School of Dental Medicine**

**Night at PNC Park**

**Pittsburgh Pirates vs. Cincinnati Reds**

**Join fellow Pitt Dental alumni,  
classmates and friends for a  
fun-filled night at the ballpark**

**Wednesday, June 18, 2014**

**7:05 p.m.**

**Tickets are \$31 and include a Pirates hat**

*Seats are located in the lower outfield box,  
sections 101-108 and 125-132, rows A-Q*

**The deadline to order your tickets  
is Friday, May 16, 2014**

*Ticket orders are filled in the order in which they are received  
and based on availability.*

*If you would like seating near someone placing another  
order, please mail in your forms together.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_

Evening phone \_\_\_\_\_

Payment type:  Visa  MC  AmEx  Discover  
 Check (please make checks payable to Pittsburgh Pirates)

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ CCV number \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail or fax completed form with payment to:

Pittsburgh Pirates  
Attn: Angela Criscella  
115 Federal Street  
Pittsburgh PA 15212  
Fax: 412-325-4410

Number of tickets	
X \$31 each	
+ processing fee	\$2
Total due	

If you have questions, would like more information, or to order,  
tickets, please contact Angela Criscella at **412-325-4798**, or  
by e-mail at **angela.criscella@pirates.com**.

ALUMNI EVENTS  
AND UPDATES



A morning of volunteer planting in Squirrel Hill  
with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

**Give back to your community and enjoy a spring-  
time, outdoor event planting the community garden at  
Beechwood Blvd. and Hazelwood Ave.**

**Planted each spring, the Western Pennsylvania  
Conservancy's community gardens are supported by  
corporate and organizational sponsors. The work of more  
than 13,000 volunteers makes it possible for communities  
in 20 counties to enjoy more than 130 gardens.**

The Conservancy provides plants, general planting instructions, tools,  
gloves, and safety vests for all volunteers. Wear sturdy shoes to  
protect your feet. No prior gardening experience is necessary and  
children are welcome with adult supervision. You will be planting  
and mulching annual flowers. Most gardens take about 4 hours to  
complete. Plantings are done rain or shine so dress for the weather.

Contact Dr. Matt Karski at **mkarskidmd@gmail.com**,  
or Dr. Lisa Babb at **lisababb@gmail.com** for more information  
on participating in this community effort.

**Donate a canned or non-perishable  
dry food item when you arrive  
at the Community Garden  
Planting Event. Food items will be  
donated to the Pittsburgh Food Bank.**



**Pitt Dental Young Alumni**

If you are a recent graduate of the School of Dental Medicine,  
be sure to join the new **Facebook** page to learn about events  
and opportunities to connect with other young alumni.

## SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE ALUMNI SERVING IN NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ROLES



**Many of our dental alumni hold leadership positions in organized dentistry, representing thousands of practicing dental professionals. During the 2013 American Dental Association (ADA) Annual Session in New Orleans, six School of Dental Medicine alumni, all of whom hold high-level leadership positions in organized dentistry, came together for a photo to show us what leadership in organized dentistry looks like.**

Beginning closest to home, the current Pennsylvania Dental Association president is Dr. R. Donald Hoffman, who is a 1972 graduate of the School of Dental Medicine. Dr. Hoffman has been active with the Pennsylvania Dental Association (PDA) and ADA for 42 years, taking on greater responsibility throughout that time. Some of his activities during his time as president have included encouraging the state to

improve access to dental services for all state residents. He also wants lawmakers to reinstate funding for the Donated Dental Services Program, which provides dentistry to people who are not eligible for public assistance.

Dr. Hoffman also started the Advanced Education in General Dentistry program at the School of Dental Medicine in 1989; and continues to participate in its success. He is a special assistant to the dean and is involved in student recruitment and admissions.

Several alumni are current trustees on the ADA Board of Trustees. The ADA Board formulates and reviews policies and programs and makes recommendations to the members of the ADA's governing body, the House of Delegates. Members of the ADA Board play a major role in the organization's objective of being America's leading advocate for oral health.

ADA Leadership Members, Left to right: John J. Liang, DMD '80; R. Donald Hoffman, DMD '72, PhD '88; Gary Jeffers, DMD '75; Andrew Kwasny, DMD '83, MDS '85; Terry Buckenheimer, DMD '80; and Stephen Radack, DMD '86

Dr. Andrew J. Kwasny, a 1983 graduate of the School of Dental Medicine now residing in Erie, Pennsylvania, is the trustee representing the 3rd District (Pa.), and has been a delegate to the ADA House since 2003. He also served as a member of the ADA Council on Government Affairs, and 2009-10 president of the Pennsylvania Dental Association. He has been recipient of the PDA's Presidential Citation four times since 2002. He will serve a four-year term as ADA Third District trustee.

Dr. Gary E. Jeffers, who graduated from the School of Dental Medicine in 1975 and lives in Northville, Michigan, is the trustee who represents the 9th District (Mich. and Wis.) He has served as curriculum consultant to the Commission on Dental Accreditation

and is a past member of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations' National Board Test Construction Committee. He serves on editorial boards at the *Journal of Dental Education* and the *Journal of Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology and Endodontics*.

Terry L. Buckenheimer, D.M.D., F.A.C.D., a general dentist based in Tampa, Florida, was installed recently as a trustee of the American Dental Association in 2012. Dr. Buckenheimer's installation took place in San Francisco at the ADA's 153rd Annual Session and World Marketplace Exhibition.

Dr. Buckenheimer, who is a 1980 graduate of the School of Dental Medicine and a Distinguished Alumnus, Dental Medicine at the school, will serve on the ADA Board of Trustees as the trustee from the 17th District, which represents Florida.

Dr. Buckenheimer is also currently president-elect of the Florida Dental Association and has served in the ADA House of Delegates as Chair of Florida's Delegation. He has served as president of the Hillsborough County Dental Association, West Coast District Dental Association and the Florida Dental Health Foundation.

Dr. John J. Liang, of Utica, New York, has been elected Vice-President of the New York State Dental Association (NYSDA). Dr. Liang, a 1980 graduate of the School of Dental Medicine, will serve as the association's president in 2014; he previously served as president of the Fifth District Dental Society in 2002. Dr. Liang has been a member of NYSDA for 27 years.

Dr. Stephen Radack III is the PDA's president elect. Dr. Radack is a general dentist in Erie, Pennsylvania, where he has practiced since graduating from the School of Dental Medicine in 1986. He participates in many dental organizations including the ADA, PDA, Ninth District Dental Society, Erie County Dental Association (ECDA) and the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD). He is a fellow in both the International College of Dentists (ICD) and the American College of Dentists (ACD).

Dr. Radack has served as a member of PDA's Concerned Colleague and Insurance Committees and the Council on Dental Practice, trustee from the Ninth District to the PDA Board of Trustees as well as treasurer and vice-president of the PDA. He also is a consultant examiner of the Northeast Regional Board of Dental Examinations (NERB) and

served on the ADA's Joint Commission on National Dental Exams (JCNDE) serving as its vice-chair and as chair of the Research and Development Committee. He currently serves on PDA's Governance Task Force, the JCNDE Committee for the Integrated National Board Exam and is member of the Pennsylvania Dental Association Insurance Services, Inc. (PDAIS) board as its treasurer. He has served as a delegate and alternate in both the ADA and PDA houses of delegates.

Many School of Dental Medicine alumni participate in leadership roles in organized dentistry. We would like to recognize those of our alumni who currently are involved in the Pennsylvania Dental Association: Frederick S. Johnson ('78), Cleona, Pa., trustee district 4; Thomas C. Petraitis ('81), DuBois, Pa, trustee district 8; Joseph E. Ross ('83), New Castle, Pa, trustee district 9; James A. H. Tauberg ('82), Pittsburgh, Pa., vice-president; Samuel E. Selcher ('75), Middletown, Pa., treasurer; Peter P. Korch, III ('91), Northern Cambria, Pa., speaker of the house. ■

## ICD and ACD Induct Alumni

The International College of Dentists, USA Section, inducted the following School of Dental Medicine alumni at the 2013 ADA Annual Session:

Dr. Tam H. Le, DMD '94  
Dr. Cataldo W. Leone, DMD '83  
Dr. Leonard J. Brenner, DMD '78  
Dr. Tamara S. Brady, DMD '92  
Dr. Frederick S. Johnson, DMD '78  
Dr. Robert Earl Williams, Jr., DMD '69

The ICD recognizes and promotes excellence in leadership with an emphasis on service, provides support to our Fellows and respect for our peers, addresses oral health needs and education throughout the world and fosters an atmosphere of collaboration with those who share our values.

The American College of Dentists is the oldest major honorary organization for dentists. Its members have exemplified excellence through outstanding leadership and exceptional contributions to dentistry and society.

During the 2013 ADA Annual Session, ACD inducted the following alumna:

Dr. Marybeth D. Shaffer, DMD '82

## LEGACY LAUREATE 2013

ARTHUR JOHN NOWAK, DMD  
SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE, 1961



**Dr. Arthur Nowak, a 1961 graduate of the School of Dental Medicine, was honored in late September as one of the University's 2013 Legacy Laureates.**

Dr. Nowak graduated from Washington and Jefferson College in 1957, received his DDS from the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine in 1961, and earned a master's degree and a certification in pediatric dentistry from Columbia University.

Looking back on a long and successful career, Dr. Nowak acknowledges that his wife, Mary Virginia "Ginger" Nowak, a former special education teacher, was his catalyst to becoming a great pediatric dentist. With her support Dr. Nowak designed a distinguished career in pediatric dentistry and dental education, and established himself as an authority in pediatric and special-needs dentistry. As a dental medicine educator, he shared his expertise with dental students worldwide. He ensured that service members and their families have access to expert dental care through decades of service as a dental officer in the United States Navy Dental Corps.

Dr. Nowak is Professor Emeritus of Pediatric Dentistry and Pediatrics at the University of Iowa. Prior to his arrival at University of Iowa, Dr. Nowak taught at the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine for three years and served as a Dental Officer in the US Navy Corps. In 2011,

Dr. Nowak retired from his position as Executive Director of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry after serving in that capacity for 9 years. He continues to serve as editor of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Handbook, and as an affiliate professor at the University of Washington. He also serves on the advisory panel for Proctor and Gamble Dental ResourceNet, a consultant for the National Training Institute for Childcare Health Consultants, and as a diplomat for the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, a position he has held since 1970.

An authority in the fields of dental pediatrics and special needs dentistry, Dr. Nowak has formerly served as president of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, board member of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry, president of the National Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped, Ad Hoc committee member of American Academy of Pediatrics, and a board member for the National Foundation of Ectodermal Dysplasia. He continues to speak and present at dental conferences. He is a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award and of the Manuel M. Album Award from the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. After Dr. Nowak retired from his position at the University of Iowa in 2005, a visiting professorship was named in his honor.

Dr. Nowak is celebrated for his commitment to the dental medicine field through membership—and leadership roles—in many professional organizations. Today, he continues to advance the discipline of pediatric and special-needs dentistry through editorial, consulting, and speaking engagements. ■



University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Legacy Laureate Dr. Arthur Nowak, center, joined by School of Dental Medicine dean, Dr. Thomas W. Braun and University of Pittsburgh Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg.



## FACULTY NEWS

### DR. DHIMA RECEIVES TYLMAN AWARD

**Dr. Matilda Dhima** has been awarded the 2013 First Place Stanley D. Tylman Award for her report titled "Practice-based clinical evaluation of ceramic single crowns after at least 5 years." Dr. Dhima was recognized at the Annual Meeting Luncheon.

*"I'm very proud of you. The Tylman Award is arguably our most prestigious award in Prosthodontics"*

- Robert Engelmeier, DMD



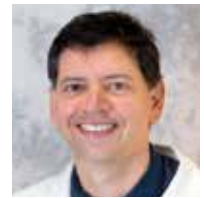
### DR. PAUL MOORE RECEIVES HEIDBRINK AWARD

**Dr. Paul Moore** is the recipient of the prestigious 2013 Heidbrink Award from American Dental Society of Anesthesiology. This is the highest honor that the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology (ADSA) bestows and was awarded to Dr. Moore in the same year he was the Ross Award recipient (*see page 18*).

For a complete list of Heidbrink Award recipients, please visit [www.adsahome.org/hawards.html](http://www.adsahome.org/hawards.html)

### FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

**Dr. Alexandre R. Vieira** has been selected as one of two recipients for the American Dental Education Association/Aspire Achieve Lead (ADEA/AAL) Faculty of Color Tuition Scholarship for Professional Development: ADEA/AAL Compass Program for Academic Advancement Career Development Module.



### HONORED FOR SENATE SERVICE

**Dr. John J. Baker**, who retired January 1, 2014, from his position as associate professor in the School of Dental Medicine Department of Oral Biology, received the 2013 award for service in the University of Pittsburgh Senate at this summer's senate council meeting.

Dr. Baker served as senate president 2006-09. He has been an elected member and chair of the senate budget policies committee and senate appointee to the board of trustees budget committee since 2009, and a senate representative to the University planning and budget committee since 2006. In addition, Dr. Baker was a member of the senate ad hoc working groups on evaluation of department chairs and on revising the University's research integrity policy.



### DR. ZAVORAL COMPLETES ITL PROGRAM

**Dr. Jennifer Zavoral**, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Periodontics, has demonstrated her commitment to dental education by recently completing the 2013 ADEA/AAL Institute for Teaching and Learning (ITL) program, an intensive faculty development program that prepares participants to become more effective teachers. Dr. Zavoral is a scholarship recipient from the American Academy of Periodontology Foundation.

### NET+ SERVICE PROJECT TEAM

The University of Pittsburgh, University of Michigan and University of North Carolina dental schools have been working with ICE Health Systems using Internet2 NET+ framework to develop a Net+ Service to benefit dental schools across the country.

The project team, shown above, met in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, for a weeklong working meeting in late November to demonstrate the ICE service for UNC staff, faculty, officers, review the ICE development progress and strengthen relationships among professional peers.

Dr. Heiko Spallek and Mr. Patrick Hetherington from the School of Dental Medicine attended the meeting and are shown in the front row.



## 2013 NORTON M. ROSS AWARD



PAUL ANDREW MOORE DMD, PhD, MPH

**Dr. Paul Moore is this year's recipient of the Norton M. Ross Award for Excellence in Clinical Research from the American Dental Association.** The Ross Award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions in clinical investigations that advance diagnosis, treatment and prevention of craniofacial, oral and dental diseases. Dr. Moore's long-ranging contributions to the dental profession have focused on the development of drug therapies for the safe administration of local anesthesia, control of postoperative dental pain, and the elimination of dental fear and anxiety. The Ross Award also recognizes his recent research in acetaminophen/ibuprofen multimodal therapy for dental extractions.

Dr. Moore is a professor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine. His academic career reflects a lifelong and continuous commitment to scholarly activity, and he is one of the most published professionals at the school. Dr. Moore has had appointments as the Director of Research and Director of Graduate Education. He established the Oral Health Sciences Institute at the school and remained as its director for seventeen years. Most recently, Dr. Moore was chair of the Department of Dental Anesthesiology from 2006-2013.

Dr. Moore has been active in clinical research, and has served as the principal investigator or co-investigator on over 40 clinical research projects sponsored by the National Institutes of Health and private industry. The impact of Dr. Moore's research contributions in advancing safety and efficacy of drug therapy in dentistry is well documented in the findings of his clinical research which are referenced consistently in dental reviews, chapters and books. Although Dr. Moore's research focus has been reducing pain and managing patient anxiety in dentistry, there are no areas of dental therapeutics where his research has not taken him. He, now, is actively developing educational strategies for preventing drug abuse and diversion of opioids in dentistry. Dr. Moore plays a pivotal role in the development of a noninjectable local anesthetic that is administered as a nasal mist; demonstrating the safety of phentolamine when administered to young children, and; the development of a potentially safer lidocaine formulation that uses minimal vasoconstrictor. He has performed numerous human clinical trials of oral NSAIDs and opioid analgesics. Other areas of expertise include the oral complications of Type 1 diabetes and the management of hyposalivation.

Dr. Moore received his dental degree and PhD in pharmacology from the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine. His early professional career included a private dental practice in Oakmont, Pa., a hospital residency in anesthesiology, a postdoctoral fellowship in chronic pain management at the University of North Carolina, and faculty appointments at Harvard School of Dental Medicine, University of Massachusetts Medical Center, and Forsyth Institute before returning to Pittsburgh. He is the author of more than 250 articles, books, chapters and abstracts in the subject area of clinical pharmacology/dental therapeutics.

Dr. Moore has been continuously honored and recognized for his expertise throughout his professional career including being the recipient of the Harold Loe National Scholars Award in 2000 and the Distinguished Scientist Award from the PTT Group of the International Association for Dental Research. This year he was also recognized with the Heidbrink Award, the highest honor of the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology. ■

# 14TH ANNUAL DEAN'S SCHOLARSHIP BALL

Please join us to support dental medicine scholarships, recognize distinguished alumni and enjoy an evening at Phipps Conservatory.

**Saturday, May 10, 2014**

**6 p.m.**

**Phipps Conservatory**

*Tickets are \$200 per person for this black tie event, and seating is limited.*



2009-2013 Dean's Scholarship recipients, from left to right:  
Mr. Richard Craven (class of 2015); Mr. John Full (class of 2016)  
Mr. Elijah Ed (class of 2014); Ms. Andrea Burns (class of 2014)  
Dr. Alexandra Jensen (class of 2013); Dr. Lya Sharpley (class of 2013)  
Mr. Kurt Washnock (class of 2017); Ms. Gail Kim(class of 2016)  
Mr. Brian Belsterling (class of 2017); Mr. Greg Sencak (class of 2015)

**2014 Honorees include:**

**Dr. A. Omar Abubaker (PhD '84, DMD '90)**  
**Distinguished Alumnus Advanced Education**

**CAPT David A. Bitonti, DMD, DC, USN (DMD '85)**  
**Distinguished Alumnus Dental Medicine**

**Dr. James Guggenheimer**  
**School of Dental Medicine Award of Appreciation**

**Dr. Karen O. Skaff (DH '68)**  
**Distinguished Alumna Dental Hygiene**

**We would like to thank our Premier Sponsors**

**UPMC  
EDIC  
PNC**

**United Concordia**

For more information, or to make your reservation, please contact Ms. Nancy Poe at [poen@pitt.edu](mailto:poen@pitt.edu) or **412-648-8910**.

## TAU SIGMA MILITARY CLUB HELPING HOMELESS VETERANS

Each year since coming to Pittsburgh Dr. Robert Engelmeier independently worked with veterans and veterans groups, such as the Veterans Administration, to collect donations for homeless Vietnam Veterans. A few years ago, another School of Dental Medicine faculty member, Dr. John Ference, joined efforts with Dr. Engelmeier and together they collected more than \$1,500 in donations for homeless vets.

### TAU SIGMA MILITARY DENTAL CLUB CARRIES ON THE TRADITION

Tau Sigma Military Dental Club is a fairly new student organization, begun in 2012 by faculty member and Vietnam War veteran, Dr. Engelmeier. The club is an outgrowth of his experience in the U. S. Air Force and carries on his individual volunteer work.

The club includes 28 military sponsored dental students and joins them together with a sense of pride for the commitment they have made to serve their country. The purpose of the club is to help students become familiar with aspects of their future military life through workshops and presentations. Dr. Engelmeier coordinates all of the events, such as inviting military recruitment specialists to present information to the club on benefits as well as dental medicine specific presentations that include an upcoming field trip to a military dental clinic.

This year was the first time that the club was involved in collecting for this cause. \$1,300 was raised and donated in the form of gift cards for homeless veterans to the Veterans Affairs program HealthCare for Homeless Veterans.



Dr. Robert Engelmeier, right, and Ms. Lauren Ervin, publicity officer for Tau Sigma, second from left, present 65 gift cards to Ms. Mary Frances Pilarski, VA Homeless Vet Representative, with club officers and members in December, 2013.

## School of Dental Medicine Recent Faculty Appointments and Promotions

### DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM



**Ms. Faith Mahan**  
Instructor



**Ms. Maryanne Frediani**  
Instructor



**Ms. Malika Stegamat**  
Clinical Instructor

### DEPARTMENT OF DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

**Ms. Rebecca Abromitis**  
secondary appointment as instructor

### DEPARTMENT OF ORTHODONTICS AND DENTOFACIAL ORTHOPEDICS



**Dr. John Burnheimer**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. John Buzzatto**  
Clinical Assistant Professor

**Dr. Matthew Gornick**  
Adjunct Instructor

### DEPARTMENT OF ORAL BIOLOGY



**Dr. Joshua Marvit**  
Assistant Professor



**Dr. Samer Zaky**  
Research Assistant Professor

**Dr. Fernanda Greppe**  
Visiting Scholar

**Dr. Hongjiao Ouyang**  
Visiting Scholar

## NEW FACULTY PROFILES

### DR. RONALD J. DEANGELIS

**Dr. Ronald J. DeAngelis (DMD '80) joined the School of Dental Medicine faculty in March, 2013 as assistant professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry.**

A native of New Castle, Pa., Dr. DeAngelis was most recently in private dental practice. He held a position with the Butler County Community College as an anatomy and physiology adjunct instructor and is pleased to continue his efforts in academia at the School of Dental Medicine.

He also has been very involved with the Pennsylvania Association of Retarded Citizens group and the First United Methodist Church, participating in each of these organizations as a board member. His commitment to Pennsylvania Association of Retarded Citizens was acknowledged upon his receipt of the organization's Outstanding Professional Statewide Service Award in 1997.



### REBECCA ABROMITIS

**Rebecca Abromitis is a reference librarian in the Health Sciences Library System (HSLs) and the library's liaison for the School of Dental Medicine.**

Recently, Ms. Abromitis received a secondary faculty appointment in the School of Dental Medicine. In her role as liaison, she is embedded in many of the school's activities including instructor within First Professional dental courses, expert searcher, research consultant, and information resource. She also compiles and distributes the Weekly Dental News for faculty and students.

After obtaining a master's degree in library science from the University of Pittsburgh, she joined HSLs at Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, and in 2009 moved across the street to Falk Library to become the Dental School liaison librarian. In the health sciences environment she "feels gratified to support the efforts of Pitt researchers, clinicians and students who are helping to make the world a healthier place."



Throughout her 29 years at Pitt, Ms. Abromitis has watched many old technologies fade out and be replaced by new technology. The most dramatic of these shifts was the change from labor-intensive methods required with using paper-based library resources to the use of online resources for conducting research. ■

The Health Science Library is located on the second floor of Scaife Hall on the University of Pittsburgh Health Sciences Campus in Oakland. Some library services and resources are available for public use.

### University Dental Health Services Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Biopsy Service

For more than 40 years the **Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Biopsy Service** has conducted consultation and tissue diagnostic services for the dental and medical communities of Western Pennsylvania.

Our Board-certified oral and maxillofacial pathologists provide a rapid, accurate diagnosis of your biopsy specimens.

**412-648-8629**

**[PittsburghOralPathology@dental.pitt.edu](mailto:PittsburghOralPathology@dental.pitt.edu)**

- Call or e-mail to request your free biopsy kits
- Your detailed pathology report will be sent by fax or mail
- The patient will be billed directly

We also provide:

Oral Medicine Services **412-648-9100**

Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology Services **412-648-8612**

We accept Medicare and many commercial insurance programs, including Highmark BlueCross/BlueShield and UPMC.



# STUDENTS

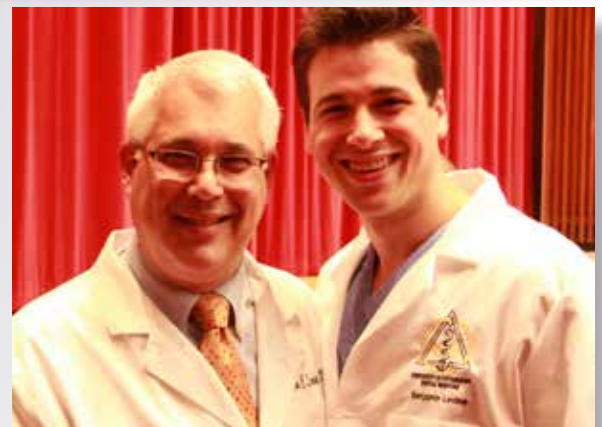
## WHITE COAT CEREMONY 2013



The incoming First Professional Class of 2017 and Dental Hygiene Class of 2015 received their white coats during the 2013 White Coat Ceremony in late August. This signature event is part of the annual General Assembly that kicks off the academic year each fall semester. Dr. Thomas Braun welcomed new students, families, faculty and staff to the event and additional greetings were added by Dr. R. Donald Hoffman, President, Pennsylvania Dental Association; Dr. Jean O'Donnell, President, Dental Alumni Association; Dr. Steven Levine, President, Beta Chapter, Omicron Kappa Upsilon; Ms Angelina Riccelli, Director, Dental Hygiene Program; and a Department of Research introduction and welcome from Dr. Charles Sfier and Dr. Alexandre Vieira.



The White Coat Ceremony receives support in part from the Dr. Harry Zohn and Dr. Cecile Feldman Endowment Fund as well as contributions from our alumni and friends. Dr. Harry K. Zohn (DMD '84) and his wife, Dr. Cecile A. Feldman (dean of Rutgers School of Dental Medicine) established the fund in 2009 to support the annual White Coat Ceremony.



Pictured are, clockwise from above left: Dr. Thomas Braun and Dr. Marnie Oakley give incoming dental student, Katelyn Petraglia, her white coat during the ceremony; Incoming classmates David Cole and Corey Black; The Dental Hygiene Class of 2015; Faculty member Dr. Steven Levine (DMD '83) and his son, Benjamin Levine, Class of 2017; The First Professional Class of 2017.



## STUDENTS PROMOTE ORAL CANCER AWARENESS WITH FREE SCREENINGS AND 5K WALK/RUN

On a beautiful Sunday in late October about 50-60 School of Dental Medicine students offered oral cancer screenings and they participated in a 5K walk/run to raise money for the Oral Cancer Foundation. An additional 15 volunteers helped out at the event held in Riverview Park in the city's North Side. The student effort raised \$4,500 to benefit the Oral Cancer Foundation's mission to improve awareness of oral cancer and support life-saving research.

**80-90% of patients survive oral cancer when it is detected early through a routine screening and appropriately treated.**

Pennsylvania's oral and pharyngeal cancer mortality rate is higher than the national average for both white and black males. Nationally, approximately 42,000 people will be diagnosed this year with cancers of the mouth, tongue and throat.

## ASDA STEEL CITY DENTAL EXPO

This past October, Pitt American Student Dental Association (ASDA) welcomed Dr. Markus Blatz to speak at the 6th Annual Steel City Dental Expo. Over 300 dental students enjoyed his presentation on the most recent technology in aesthetic dentistry. Following the morning presentation there was an afternoon vendor fair featuring 30 vendors. Also, new this year, Pennsylvania dentists were invited to present job opportunities to the students.

Please mark your calendar for the upcoming 7th Annual Steel City Dental Expo, which will take place this fall. Students, faculty, residents and alumni of the school are invited to hear a highly acclaimed speaker in the field of dental medicine and explore a vendor fair showcasing some of the most cutting edge innovations in the dental profession.

Please contact Mr. David Cole at [djc61@pitt.edu](mailto:djc61@pitt.edu) for information about the upcoming 7th Annual Steel City Dental Expo this coming fall.

## AN SNDA THANKSGIVING

Student National Dental Association (SNDA) held a Thanksgiving food drive on behalf of Mt. Ararat Baptist Church in East Liberty, which provides Thanksgiving dinners to families in need within the city of Pittsburgh. Through the generosity of the School of Dental Medicine, many families served by the church received hot holiday meals.

## TOYS FOR AFIT

The Student Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and the School of Dental Medicine Department of Pediatric Dentistry held a holiday toy drive to support the Alliance for Infants and Toddlers (AFIT). AFIT was established in 1988 by a federal grant to assist families of low birth weight infants.

## SQUIRREL HILL HEALTH CENTER

The Squirrel Hill Health Center (SHHC), begun in 2006, is a School of Dental Medicine Student Community Outreach Program and Education (SCOPE) site, where many senior students fulfill their community health clinical rotation. The Center's dental practice, added in December, 2010, is under the direction of Dr. Norman Feldstein and provides preventive, restorative, and emergency dental services to anyone in the community, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay. SHHC also provides integrated health services and support services such as care coordination, interpretation, lab, and access to affordable prescription medications, at their single site on Browns Hill Rd. Since 2010 the Center provides primary medical care to isolated patient populations with a mobile medical unit.

Thirteen dental students in the class of 2013 administered to approximately 160 patients last year at the Center. The majority of the work performed was restorative (60%) and preventive (30%) and students see five patients per day on average. Almost all of the patients are uninsured or are on government assistance programs.

Since September, 2013 more than 100 visits have been completed or are planned by our students at the Center.

*"I cannot overemphasize the value of the SCOPE program as a vital part of the dental curriculum at the school. It gave me real world experience that honed my skills in time management, communication, and set real-world expectations, but it also created an appreciation in me that made me want to help patients in physical, psychological and emotional distress. After learning so much more than I expected from the SCOPE program, I am ready to do real-world dentistry and continue my learning as a future dentist."*

— from a Dental Student journal entry

More information about the SCOPE program by contacting Dr. Richard Rubin at [rrubin@pitt.edu](mailto:rrubin@pitt.edu) or **412-648-2069**.

## COFFEE BENEFITS HONDURAN POPULATION

The Hispanic Student Dental Association held a coffee fundraiser to support their annual spring trip to Honduras. About ten dental students and two dentists performed dental treatments, including composite and amalgam restorations, extractions, prophylaxis, fluoride treatments and oral hygiene instructions on rural mountain populations in the country. ■

**Correction:** In the 2013 Summer/Fall issue of Pitt Dental Medicine magazine a Senior Student Award 2013 was inadvertently omitted. Dr. Charles Palin (DMD'13) received the American College of Prosthodontics Award in recognition for outstanding undergraduate achievement in the study of prosthodontics.

Please Join Us

## University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Dental Hygiene Program

May 2-3, 2014

### Friday, May 2

#### Dental Hygiene Program Anniversary Reception and Student-Led Tours of the School of Dental Medicine

5 - 7 p.m.

457 Salk Hall

Free, please R.S.V.P.



### Saturday, May 3

#### Dental Hygiene Program Continuing Education Course

8 a.m. - Noon, please see opposite page for more information.

Please enjoy lunch on your own at one of the many restaurants in the Oakland area

#### Dental Hygiene Program Table Clinic

Salk Hall Dental Hygiene Clinic

2 - 4 p.m.

2 credit hours, Pennsylvania Academy of Dental Hygiene Studies

Open only to CE course registrants

#### 50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

Join us for dinner and a fun reunion with your friends and classmates.

6:30 p.m. Cocktails

7:30 p.m. Dinner

University Club

\$50



The Dental Hygiene Program gratefully acknowledges supporters of the 50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner and Reception:

Procter & Gamble  
Colgate Pharmaceutical

Formal invitations will be mailed February, 2014.

For additional information, please contact Ms. Katherine Horn at **412-648-8432** or via e-mail at **kdh@pitt.edu**

1962

First class of 24 students is admitted to the Dental Assisting-Oral Hygiene Program. The first director is Dr. Helen Morgart. Annual tuition, books, and supplies is about \$500.

1963

Fourteen students from the original class continue to the oral hygiene phase of the program.

1964

First class graduates earning Certificates in Dental Hygiene.

1965

Dental Assisting-Oral Hygiene Program begins to admit two classes per year; in September and April.

1972

First male student admitted to the program.

1983

School of Dental Medicine implemented gloves and masks as infection control measures, two years before OSHA mandate.



# 50th Anniversary Weekend

## Dental Hygiene Program Continuing Education Course

Saturday, May 3, 2014

8 a.m. – Noon  
University Club

Enjoy a continental breakfast, then attend these CE courses:

**The Top 10 Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office**  
Matthew Cooke, DDS, MD, MPH

**Common Oral Lesions**  
Elizabeth Bilodeau, DMD, MD('09), MSEd

**Reinforcing the Periodontal and Total Health Connection**  
Jane Durocher-Jones, RDH ('77), MS

Each course offers 2 credit hours from  
the Pennsylvania Academy of Dental Hygiene Studies

\$60

*Cost to attend all events during the weekend,  
including the CE course and Dinner, is \$100*



1989

Dental assisting portion eliminated and the program, now consists of two years of dental hygiene only. Name changed to Dental Hygiene Program.

1996

Bachelor of science degree in dental hygiene is approved and offered for the first time through the College of General Studies.

2008

The School of Dental Medicine (and the Dental Hygiene Program) implements digital technology such as digital radiographs and electronic health record and becomes "paperless."

2010

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania approves the administration of local anesthesia by dental hygienists.

2011

The students in the graduating class of 2011 were the first students in Pennsylvania to obtain local anesthesia permits upon graduation.

2013

Dental Hygiene profession celebrates it's 100th Anniversary



## UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE IN MEMORIAM

- Dr. Gerald Adler (DDS '63) • July 7, 2013
- Dr. Alan I. Aronowitz (DMD '72) • January 7, 2014
- Dr. John A. Bamonte (DDS '48) • September 30, 2013
- Dr. William G. Berger (DDS '44) • October 2, 2013
- Dr. Charles V. Butler (DDS '54) • October 21, 2013
- Dr. Michael J. Carnicelli, Jr. (DDS '65) • July 13, 2013
- Dr. James W. Davison (DDS '63) • July 31, 2013
- Dr. Regis P. Englert (DDS '61) • July 25, 2013
- Dr. Gary F. Greer (DDS '62) • September 13, 2013
- Dr. Robert Hammer (DMD '55) • October 25, 2013
- Dr. Norman Jacobs (DMD '75) • October 16, 2013
- Ms. Nancy McCollum Wells (DA '65) • September 24, 2013
- Dr. Edmond F. Shedlosky (DDS '50) • November 26, 2013
- Dr. Russell Snow (DMD '72) • January 8, 2014
- Dr. Arthur J. Van Stewart (DDS '68) • August 20, 2013

## Distinguished Alumni Guidelines



The University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Distinguished Alumni Awards may be presented in each of the following categories: **Distinguished Alumnus-Dental Medicine**; **Distinguished Alumnus-Dental Hygiene**; and **Distinguished Alumnus-Advanced Education Program**, to individuals who have excelled in one or more of the following areas:

1. One whose contribution of time and effort to the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine has been exceptionally significant, beyond that which would normally have been expected.
2. One whose significant attainments and high professional standards have been of such character as to have materially aided and advanced the art and science of dentistry.
3. One whose public life and activities have been of such a nature as to reflect great credit upon the profession and the School of Dental Medicine.
4. One who has contributed to original research in the dental profession.

A one-page biographical sketch of each candidate must accompany the nomination. Please send complete information to  
DAA Awards Committee  
3501 Terrace Street, Suite 440  
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

**Deadline for nominations is November 1, 2014**

## Keystone Dental Student Endowment Fund



While every effort is being made to turnaround the growing shortage of dental practitioners in Pennsylvania, one dental alumnus, Dr. James Desetti (DDS '52), is addressing the issue through the establishment of the

Keystone Dental Student Endowed Fund. This fund will provide financial assistance to students who graduated from a Pennsylvania high school with the hope that those students will practice in the Commonwealth upon graduation from the School of Dental Medicine.

Dr. Desetti invites all School of Dental Medicine alumni to join him and build this fund through annual support.

If you are interested in learning more about this initiative or in other priorities of the school, please contact **Mr. Paul Casey** at **412-383-7544** or **pbc8@pitt.edu**.

## Tell Us About You

Please remember to **tell us about your recent educational pursuits, career advancements, presentations, honors and appointments**. Your news and updates will be shared in future issues of Pitt Dental Medicine as space allows. Your photos are welcome.

Please let us know if you have changed your address, phone number, or e-mail, so that we can be sure to update our files. You also may register online in the alumni section at **www.dental.pitt.edu**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Degree(s) and year(s) of graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Position(s) \_\_\_\_\_

News \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail completed form to: Ms. Nancy Poe, School of Dental Medicine, Office of Alumni Affairs & Development, 3501 Terrace Street, 440 Salk Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15261. or e-mail at **poen@pitt.edu**.

# UNIVERSITY RESEARCH TOWER AND ATRIUM



## Entrance

More than **1,500** faculty, students, residents and guests visit the school daily.

More than **7,000** alumni



**Salk Pavillion, the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine research tower and atrium** shared with the School of Pharmacy, currently is being built adjacent to Salk Hall. Dedicated almost entirely to ongoing research at the School of Dental Medicine, the new facility will be more than an expansion of the physical space.

The research tower and atrium enhance student life, increase our research capabilities and are a tribute to the University of Pittsburgh's 226 years of successful and continuing growth.

A new, expansive, main entrance for the School of Dental Medicine, featuring a large atrium, will open within the next year. Likewise, a new, much needed, patient entrance for the Center for Patients with Special Needs also is being built.

The atrium will feature a prominent donor display wall identifying the many individuals who support the School of Dental Medicine, a coffee shop, and an impressive 40-chair conference room. An enjoyable and welcoming atmosphere for faculty, staff, students and alumni to meet, study, relax and greet guests and visitors will be created within the atrium. This spacious setting also will be embellished by original art created by Pittsburgh artist and University of Pittsburgh Professor Emeritus Virgil Cantini. The new research tower will realize an additional 23,000 square feet in dedicated laboratory space for the school.



The **atrium** will feature a coffee shop, conference room and original art.



More than **44,000** patients visit the school annually.

**23,000 sq. ft.** dedicated research space



University of Pittsburgh  
 School of Dental Medicine  
 Salk Hall, Suite 440  
 3501 Terrace Street  
 Pittsburgh PA 15261-1933

Nonprofit  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Pittsburgh PA  
 Permit 511

2014

**20th Annual T. F. Bowser Memorial Lecture**

April 12 • 8:30 a.m.—1 p.m.  
 Lecture Rooms 5 and 6, Scaife Hall

**Dental Alumni Association Annual Business Meeting**

April 12 • 1 p.m.  
 Scaife Hall

**School of Dental Medicine Alumni Reception  
 at the PDA Annual Session**

April 25 • 4:30—6 p.m.  
 Hotel Hershey, Hershey, PA

**Dental Hygiene Program  
 50 Year Anniversary Celebration Weekend**

May 2—3  
 Salk Hall and University Club

**14th Annual Dean's Scholarship Ball**

May 10 • 6 p.m.  
 Phipps Conservatory

**Alumni Volunteer Day: Community Garden**

May 17 • 9 a.m.—12 p.m.  
 Beechwood Blvd.

**ASDA Charity Golf Outing**

May 17

For more information, please contact Angie Rentschler at [amr170@pitt.edu](mailto:amr170@pitt.edu)

**Diploma Ceremony**

May 18 • 1 p.m.  
 Heinz Hall

**All Together Better Health VII:  
 The 7th International Conference on  
 Interprofessional Practice and Education**

June 6—8  
 University of Pittsburgh Campus  
 Pittsburgh, PA

**School of Dental Medicine Night at PNC Park  
 Pittsburgh Pirates vs. Cincinnati Reds**

Tickets are \$31 and include a Pirates hat  
 June 18 • 7:05 p.m.  
 PNC Park

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH  
 SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

E v e n t s



Like us on Facebook

- > **University of Pittsburgh School of Dental  
 Medicine Alumni Association**
- > **Pitt Dental Hygiene Alumni**
- > **Pitt Dental Young Alumni**

For additional information, please contact Ms. Nancy Poe  
 at **412-648-8910** or [poen@pitt.edu](mailto:poen@pitt.edu).

