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  A glittering silver anniversary dinner

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On the cover: Dr. James Reed and student Roderick Youngdo Kim
Photo by Steve Steinberg

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One of the Dental Alumni Association’s primary goals is to help students while they are in dental school and then to continue offering assistance once they become alumni. In February, the Association sponsored the Beginning a Practice/Practice Opportunities Program for third- and fourth-year dental students. This event featured six alumni who told about getting started in dentistry and provided tips, do’s and don’ts, and answers to students’ questions. The evening also included presentations on practice opportunities available to the students. It was a great forum for students to get important questions answered.

Another way we assist students is the WSDA/Dental Alumni Association mentoring program, featured as this issue’s cover story. The program links students and mentor dentists, provides students with professional resources, and helps the students increase their awareness of the strengths and values of organized dentistry. I have had the privilege of being a mentor, an experience that has shown me how this program can have enormous influence on the next generation of dentists. Mentors serve as trusted sounding boards and a much-appreciated relief valve from the stresses that dental students face. Mentors serve as role models. They can invite students to visit their practices, where the student can learn clinical technique, operatory protocol and how to get the most out of patient interviews. And the program can build lasting relationships; some students even join their mentors in practice after graduation.

The Dental Alumni Association also supports students by providing scholarships, supporting summer fellowships, sponsoring the White Coat Ceremony and financially supporting student events and socials. One new event this fall is a pizza social for first-year students to help them better understand what the association provides to the students while in dental school.

After graduation, the Dental Alumni Association continues to help our alumni. Each year, we provide the Dean Ernest Jones Lecture. This year, Dr. John Kois spoke on “New Challenges in Treatment Planning: A Paradigm Shift.” Nearly nine hundred people attended, and I want to thank Dr. Kois for an outstanding lecture and also for donating his honorarium to the School of Dentistry.

Another treat offered this year was the great benefit lecture in June featuring Drs. Vince Kokich, David Mathews, and Frank Spear, who spoke on “Controversies in Interdisciplinary Dentistry: Is Your Team Making the Correct Decisions?” All proceeds from the lecture went back to the School of Dentistry to set up an endowment that will help our faculty be more effective instructors. It is wonderful to see our alumni giving back to the School.

The Dean’s Club Dinner is another highlight event of the year where our alumni can gather. The dinner also features presentation of the annual Distinguished Alumnus award, which went to Dr. James Steiner this year. What a deserving recipient!

All of our efforts depend on alumni paying their membership dues. I want to thank each of you who renewed your membership in 2009. Even with the tough economic times, we have had a banner year in membership dues paid, and that allows us to provide more to our dental students and our alumni. Thank you for your support!

Ed Dolan (’00)
UW Dental Alumni Association President
Dentistry mentors lead by example

After seven years as Dean, I still never cease to marvel at our students. They are from diverse backgrounds, but they share common traits of formidable intellect and talent.

They need every bit of it to handle the demands our School of Dentistry imposes – mastery of a staggering amount of information as we pack a didactic and clinical education into four years. Anatomy, histology, pathology, pharmacology – all this and more, plus the numerous skills they require to gain clinical proficiency.

Our students handle it all with remarkable poise, but it’s still a tremendous challenge.

That’s why I believe so strongly in the value of the Washington State Dental Association’s mentor program at the School. In the 15 years since the program’s inception, hundreds of students have benefited from the counsel and experience of their mentor dentists.

These dentists can provide practical insights into the profession, to be sure. But their greater value comes in reminding students of the larger picture, of the world that awaits them after graduation. Students need to know how they’re connected to their future profession and to their community, and nobody can do this better than a mentor dentist.

These mentors can answer real-world questions about how to run a practice or what to consider when buying one. How to work with staff. How to get the most from a patient interview. How to choose armamentarium effectively. And mentors also give students much-needed help with the complexities of making sound clinical judgments for patients in a professional and ethical manner.

At the same time, they also encourage students to attend study clubs and dental meetings, showing them the importance of lifelong learning – a value our School has always supported.

But perhaps the most important thing these mentors do is lead by example. They show students how dentists can and should give back to their profession and their community. They provide an essential model of professional behavior.

So I hope you’ll take a close look at this issue’s cover feature about the WSDA program (Page 24). To those of you who already mentor students, I offer my heartfelt thanks. To those who have yet to do so, I ask only this: Why wait any longer? Our students and profession welcome your involvement.

Martha J. Somerman, Dean
The Regional Initiatives in Dental Education (RIDE) program kicked off its orientation for a new cohort of eight students on Aug. 10 at the Eastern Washington University Riverpoint Campus, RIDE’s Spokane hub.

It marked the start of the second year for RIDE, which operates in conjunction with the UW School of Medicine’s regional WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, Idaho) program. RIDE students spend their first year at Riverpoint, where they study alongside medical and dental hygiene students. They spend second and third year at the School of Dentistry in Seattle, and a large portion of their fourth-year education will take place in community health settings in Eastern Washington.

Welcoming students at orientation were Dean Martha Somerman and Dr. Wendy Mouradian, RIDE Director and the School of Dentistry’s Associate Dean of Regional Affairs and Curriculum.

“We have a huge problem with access to care, and you’re going to be part of the solution,” Dean Somerman said. Dr. Mouradian added, “Part of the subtext here is to mix medicine and dentistry together.”

Students also heard from Dr. Pete Eveland, Associate Dean for Student Affairs at the UW School of Medicine; Dr. Art DiMarco, RIDE Director at Riverpoint; and Dr. Ken Roberts, Director of WWAMI at Riverpoint.

Also on hand was Dr. Sue Coldwell, UW Dentistry’s Associate Dean of Student Life and Admissions. She told students, “We need you to think not only about the mouth being part of the body, but also how dentistry is part of society and part of the health system.”

Others taking part in the orientation included Dr. Jim Sledge, RIDE Regional Clinical Director; Dr. Richard McCoy, Professor Emeritus of Restorative Dentistry; Dr. John Evans, Clinical Associate Professor of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery; Dr. Linda Higley, RIDE Counselor; Dr. Bea Gandara, Clinical Associate Professor of Oral Medicine, and Dr. David Pitts, RIDE Director of Educational Technology, among other staff from the School of Dentistry and EWU.

The orientation included a course schedule overview, a student panel discussion, and a discussion of professionalism and ethics by Drs. Evans and Mouradian.

Other activities held during orientation week included a library orientation, a team-building river-float event, an ICM (Introduction to Clinical Medicine and Dentistry) course orientation and the first meeting of the Anatomy and Embryology course.

“This program is working amazingly well,” said Dr. DiMarco, who said no major changes were contemplated in the wake of the first year’s experience. Class of 2012 students who were interviewed during the spring also voiced their satisfaction with the program.

Student Patty Martin said the distance-learning format has not been a hindrance, and at times can be an advantage. Students can go back for repeat viewings of recorded lectures, she noted, and during live remote lectures they can also obtain more clarification when needed from RIDE faculty at Riverpoint.

“I’m understanding the material well, I think — more so than if I were just getting it once,” she said. She also said that Spokane District Dental Society (SDDS) members had been very welcoming toward RIDE students, and that she’d enjoyed going to SDDS meetings.

Dr. Mouradian added, “We are really excited about welcoming the class of 2013 to Riverpoint and integrating the inaugural cohort to the Seattle campus.”

Dr. Art DiMarco (in suit), RIDE director at Riverpoint, chats with students in the program’s first cohort.
One of the UW’s most advanced classrooms is helping to blaze new trails in dental education.

Room T-733 in the Health Sciences Center is the technological linchpin of the Regional Initiatives in Dental Education program, linking students and instructors in Seattle to those at Spokane’s Riverpoint campus.

New tools like automated high-definition cameras, an integrated audio system and comprehensive recording mechanisms take the distance education experience for RIDE students far beyond a simple teleconference.

Dr. David Pitts, Associate Professor of Endodontics and Director of Educational Technology for RIDE, first approached UW TV engineers for assistance in connecting students on opposite sides of the state.

The engineers designed and managed the installation of distance learning technology in the classroom, including four cameras, two aimed at the instructor and two that focus on students and other participants. Automatic processes allow for seamless transitions between camera views.

Sixty microphones allow every student, or additional instructor, in the 120-seat room to be heard. The automated system picks up the speaker’s voice while a camera automatically focuses on the face.

“Nothing quite like this has been done before in the School of Dentistry,” Dr. Pitts said.

Two flat-panel television screens hang from the middle of the ceiling, allowing the instructor to view PowerPoint slides or other materials, as well as video of the Spokane classroom, without turning around to see the two screens behind them at the front of the room. Additional presentations are incorporated into the video output, allowing students in Spokane to continue viewing the video stream of their instructor speaking or another student posing a question, while PowerPoint slides are displayed simultaneously.

Like any complex system, the equipment requires maintenance, but automation eliminates the need for manual camera or audio control. At times, a technician is stationed in the control room to monitor the connection to the Spokane class, though these functions can also be performed by the instructor through touch-screen controls at the podium.

In addition to the interactive live experience, Mediasite, a video streaming and archiving system, also records the lectures, incorporating any PowerPoint or other presentations, which are then made available to students who are either unable to attend a class or who wish to review a class.

“It’s working beautifully,” Dr. Pitts said. “I had no idea it would be this capable.”

RIDE students are adapting quickly. “They are desirous of using technology,” said Dr. Wendy Mouradian, RIDE director and Associate Dean for Regional Affairs and Curriculum, who added that the streamed lectures are very popular among students. “This has been highly successful.”

The new high-tech classroom is not limited to use by the RIDE program; other students and instructors are also taking advantage of the equipment. “It seems like every week we think of another opportunity to utilize these distance learning resources,” Dr. Mouradian said.
For years, School of Dentistry leaders have dreamed of having a technology center that would introduce students to the newest developments. Now that the School’s Advanced Technology Center is nearing realization, it has received a major boost from Issaquah Dental Lab.

IDL has announced a $115,000 gift to the School, to be delivered over the next four years. The gift supports the purchase of a Cadent iTero digital impression system for the ATC. The iTero takes digital impressions for crowns and bridges, with the dentist using an intra-oral wand to scan the prepped tooth and surrounding dentition.

“The School of Dentistry is very pleased with the support of Issaquah Dental Laboratory and Cadent,” said Dr. Ricardo Schwedhelm, Associate Professor of Restorative Dentistry. He worked closely with Greg Harris, IDL’s head of business development, in helping to develop the gift.

“The iTero system will be an important part of the Advanced Technology Center’s mission to improve dental student training,” Dr. Schwedhelm said. “This is an excellent example of how we can work with the dental industry to integrate technological advances to the dental curriculum.”

“When we heard about the Advanced Technology Center being put together, that’s what really pushed us,” said IDL Vice President George Englund. “We are the technology leaders in this area, and we really need to be a part of that.”

The ATC, to be located near the School’s third-floor clinic, will be used by third-year and fourth-year students, a fourth-year honors course, CDE courses and study clubs. Start-up is planned for December.

Englund’s enthusiasm for the project was kindled when he attended his first Dean’s Club dinner for School of Dentistry donors this past spring.

“I loved what I saw – it just goes to the core, that we want to be a supporter of the school and the Dean’s vision,” says Englund, whose Seattle-area laboratory has distinguished itself by its use of cutting-edge technology.

IDL has installed 10 3M Lava CAD/CAM milling systems, making crown and bridge frameworks. “We’re currently the largest producer in world of Lava frameworks, and we do a lot of outsourcing work for hundreds of labs across the country,” Englund said.

Beyond the iTero purchase, IDL’s gift will support other activities at the Advanced Technology Center. In addition, IDL will also be a Gold-level sponsor of the Dean’s Club Dinner, and support various UW Dental Alumni Association and student events. IDL’s gift will earn it designation as a University of Washington Benefactor, and will also be recognized by IDL’s inclusion on the School’s Partners in Excellence donor wall.

On hand for the new iTero unit’s arrival at the School are (from left) Dr. Dan Chan, Greg Harris of IDL, Dean Somerman, Jeff Denney of Cadent iTero and Dr. Ricardo Schwedhelm.
School grapples with budget cuts

The School of Dentistry continues to assess the impact of a significant budget cut imposed by the University of Washington earlier this year.

The university’s action followed a 26 percent slash in state higher-education funding after the state’s deficit was expected to approach $9 billion this biennium. The cuts imposed on the UW were the largest ones made in all of higher education.

Although the Washington Legislature allowed universities to raise tuition to offset part of the cuts, the impact to the UW and School of Dentistry is sobering.

The far-reaching effects have included university-wide layoffs and cutbacks this spring.

The School is losing four full-time faculty positions, which directly affects clinical operations. In addition, 12 full-time staff positions are being lost, along with two teaching assistant positions.

The budget cuts affect funding for new initiatives, along with faculty development and innovation. The School also has lost much of its discretionary funding for travel and faculty development, which hampers professional networking, conference attendance and faculty recruitment. Some smaller departments have had their operating funds virtually wiped out, which will require creative organizational approaches.

The full impact of the budget cuts may not be known for several more months, administrators say, because the new fiscal year began only on July 1.

The cuts have come on the heels of the national recession, which delivered a double whammy: The slump in investment markets forced the UW to cut its endowment payout rates in half over the next five years — a loss of nearly $500,000 a year in funding to the School of Dentistry.

“There’s no question that this is one of the biggest challenges we’ve ever faced,” said Dean Martha Somerman. “However, we refuse to accept that we must lower our standards in any way.”

Dr. Somerman cited the School’s new model of patient-centered clinical comprehensive care. It is being developed under a task force headed by Dr. Dan Chan, Associate Dean for Clinical Services. The new and more streamlined system is expected to produce greater operating efficiencies as well as raise the standard of patient care.

In addition, she noted that departments such as Endodontics and Restorative Dentistry are working on new endowments to boost faculty development. She also applauded the efforts of Dr. Vince Kokich, Dr. David Mathews and Dr. Frank Spear, who raised more than $260,000 for another new endowment with their benefit lecture in Seattle in May. (See story on Page 15.)

“This was a great gesture by these three alumni, and it shows the tremendous way our graduates continue to support the School,” she said.

Dr. Somerman also noted that the School has continued to move ahead with ventures such as its Advanced Technology Center, thanks to the leadership of Dr. Ricardo Schwedhelm and Dr. Chan and the generous support of corporate donors. Other ventures include digital radiography and AxiUm patient-records software.

“As tough as this budget situation may be, we’re not just going to stand around and wring our hands,” she said. “We still have tremendous faculty, students and alumni, and we’ll make full use of our resources to keep the School in the top ranks where it belongs.”
Dr. Brent Nash ('58) and Dr. Douglas Verhoef ('73) received the Bruce R. Rothwell Distinguished Teacher Award at the conclusion of a School of Dentistry faculty retreat June 15. Established in 2001, the award honors faculty members who have made significant contributions to the teaching program. It commemorates Dr. Bruce R. Rothwell (Oral Med '77), a former chair of Restorative Dentistry and chief of service of dentistry-oral surgery at the UW Medical Center who died in 2000 at the age of 52. The award was established by his widow, Dr. Patricia Rothwell ('84), and friends and colleagues.

Dr. Nash, who retired last year, spent 50 years as an affiliate faculty member in Prosthodontics after earning his DDS at the UW. Known as an advocate for students and a trusted counselor, he was honored by the Class of 2008, which included his 1958 class portrait with its own class picture.

Dr. Verhoef is Director of Clinical Restorative Dentistry for third- and fourth-year dental students, and has received several “outstanding teacher” awards. He has been a reviewer for the editorial board of The Journal of Operative Dentistry since 2001. He is a Fellow in the American College of Prosthodontists, and a member of Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society.

The awards were presented by Dr. Patricia Rothwell and Dr. John Townsend (Pros '73) of Restorative Dentistry.
Dean’s Club holds Silver Anniversary Dinner

The Dean’s Club honored Dr. Bryan C. Edgar ('76) and Dr. Linda J. Edgar ('92) with its 2009 Honorary Lifetime Member Award at the club’s Silver Anniversary Dinner at McCaw Hall in Seattle on April 25.

The club also feted Dr. James C. Steiner (Endo ’66), who was named the 2009 Distinguished Alumnus by the Dental Alumni Board of Trustees.

Parker Haley, president of the Class of 2009, received the Jack E. Nichols Student Leadership Award, while fourth-year student Sarah Cassidy, president of the Student Council, received the Johnny N. Johnson Student Leadership Award.

A crowd of more than 200 people enjoyed live music before and after dinner, dancing, and a special performance by the UW Men’s Glee Club. Attendees also watched a new video supporting the Dean’s Club fund-raising mission.

ALUMNI NOMINATIONS SOUGHT The 2010 Dean’s Club dinner is planned for Saturday, May 1, from 6 to 10 p.m. at McCaw Hall. The UW Dental Alumni Association is now seeking nominations for its 2010 Distinguished Alumnus award, which will be presented at the dinner. If you would like to nominate someone, please contact Randy Newquist, Director of Alumni Relations, at randyn@u.washington.edu or 206-616-0716.
Dentistry faculty members lecture at PNDC

A team of School of Dentistry faculty members discussed clinical innovations at the School at the Pacific Northwest Dental Conference in Seattle on July 23. Presentations included:

- Dr. Tim DeRouen, Executive Associate Dean for Research & Academic Affairs, on clinical research findings in the Northwest PRECEDENT practice-based research program.
- Dr. Hai Zhang, Assistant Professor of Restorative Dentistry, on promising developments in biomimetic restorations.
- Dr. Greg King, Professor of Orthodontics, on improving access to dental care.
- Dr. Mats Kronstrom, Associate Professor of Restorative Dentistry, on treatment options with implant-supported prosthodontics.
- Dr. Ana Lucia Seminario, Acting Assistant Professor of Pediatric Dentistry, on the true morbidity of dental caries.
- Dr. Dan Chan, Associate Dean for Clinical Services, on updates in light curing systems.
- Dr. Linda LeResche, Professor of Oral Medicine, on gender and hormonal effects on facial pain.

In addition, recent graduate Colby Ecklund ('09), this year’s UW Howard Prize winner, gave a presentation titled “Severe Wear: A Different Way to Repair.”

Students learn options at Practice Opportunities dinner

The UW Dental Alumni Association drew 125 attendees to its Practice Opportunities dinner for third- and fourth-year students on Feb. 11 at the Center for Urban Horticulture on the UW campus. The biennial event helps dental students decide what path to choose after graduation.

Alumni speakers related stories of getting started in dentistry, along with their tips, and then mingled with students and answered questions. Their experiences included being an associate, learning how a situation was equitable, GPRs, military, buying a practice, going into a specialty, academics, and buying a practice.

The evening also included several practice opportunities. David Grow ('86) talked about needing an associate in his practice in Prosser, Wash. Leigh Sinni and Nate Moncrief represented Pacific Continental Bank. Natalie Gonzalez talked about the opportunities with the Washington State Department of Health, and Dr. Ken Kirsch represented Western Dental Services in California.

Dr. Mike Kern ('93), president-elect of the Dental Alumni Association, chaired the dinner. Drs. Carrie York ('91), Mark Drangsholt ('84), Amanda Tavoularis ('95), Jason Bourne ('01), Mike Johnson ('82) and Lou Kramp were the speakers.

Nadia Aboulhosn ('09), Kate Makienko ('10)
Dr. John C. Kois delivers 2009 Ernest Jones lecture

More than 800 people attended the 39th Dean Ernest M. Jones Memorial Lectureship at UW’s Meany Hall on March 27 as Dr. John C. Kois (Pros ’82) presented a program titled “New Challenges in Treatment Planning: A Paradigm Shift.”

“Formulating specific treatment needs based on an individual’s risk assessment has created new challenges for both the dentist and the patient,” Dr. Kois said in his introduction. “Until we have more objective data with better metrics, much of our clinical decision making will remain emotionally driven and empirical. This reliance, in turn, will make us more vulnerable to moral and ethical deliberations that are often confused with our inability to make a proper diagnosis.”

His lecture covered these major areas:

- A systematic approach for treatment planning every patient
- Focusing on the four most important diagnostic categories
- Developing critical risk parameters to minimize failures and maximize successful results
- Protocols to implement treatment planning strategies

Dr. Kois, who practices prosthodontics in Tacoma, Wash., is regarded as one of the Pacific Northwest’s premier continuing dental educators. He received his DMD from the University of Pennsylvania. He also holds an MSD and Certificate in Periodontal Prosthodontics from the UW School of Dentistry, where he is an affiliate professor in the Graduate Restorative Program.

More than 200 people at the lecture also attended a luncheon on campus, during which Dean Martha Somerman delivered an update on School of Dentistry accomplishments. The lectureship, which is one of the signature events of the year, is named for the School’s first dean.
Lecture boosts new teaching endowment

Three noted School of Dentistry alumni and dental educators raised more than $260,000 for the School with a benefit lecture in Seattle on June 12. Drs. Vince Kokich ('71, Ortho '74), Dave Mathews (Perio '74) and Frank Spear (Pros '79) made their final joint presentation at Benaroya Hall. The three have gained a worldwide reputation after lecturing on interdisciplinary dentistry for a quarter-century.

The funds raised from the lecture will establish the foundation of an endowment for a new part-time visiting faculty position that would help Dentistry faculty sharpen their teaching skills.

“We realized we never learned that in dental school,” Dr. Kokich said last fall while discussing plans for the endowment. “I never had the opportunity as a faculty member, if I wanted to improve my teaching skills, to be guided by people who do this for a living.”

In addition to the more than $166,000 pledged or contributed by attendees at the Benaroya event, the three lecturers made a dramatic pledge during their presentation: another $100,000 for the endowment. The three had already planned to donate the CDE fees from the all-day presentation.

Dean Martha Somerman applauded the trio’s generosity and hailed their contribution as a significant step in establishing a new standard of instruction at the School. In addition, the lecture featured a surprise visit by University of Washington President Mark Emmert, who thanked the lecturers and attendees for their commitment and support.

Beirne stepping down from OMS chair

Dr. O. Ross Beirne, chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery for the last 10 years, has announced that he will relinquish his position but will remain on faculty.

Dr. Beirne expressed a desire to devote more time to teaching, patient care and research, and noted that he had imposed a limit of 10 years as chair when he assumed the post.

“We are indeed fortunate to have people of Dr. Beirne’s caliber.”

Dr. Beirne will continue as chair until at least this November, when the School of Dentistry will have its seven-year review by the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

“I have been fortunate to work with dedicated and exceptional faculty, staff, residents, and students,” Dr. Beirne said. “I leave my position tremendously confident that the Department will continue to be recognized for innovation, far-reaching dissemination of knowledge, and high-quality service to the community and profession.”

Dr. Beirne is a diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and the National Dental Board of Anesthesiology. He is also a Fellow of the American College of Dentists and Councilor with the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Research Group of the American Association for Dental Research.

He received his DMD from the Harvard School of Dental Medicine in 1972, a PhD in biochemistry from the University of California, San Francisco in 1976, and his certificate in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery from Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in 1979.
To the applause and cheers of friends, family and other guests, members of the School of Dentistry’s Class of 2009 received their doctoral hoods at graduation ceremonies on June 6 at the University of Washington’s Meany Hall.

Fifty-five class members were invested with hoods. Another 32 postdoctoral training candidates were to receive their advanced degrees separately.

Keynote speaker Dr. J. Martin Anderson (’65), a longtime member of the Restorative Dentistry faculty, addressed the themes of personal responsibility and unstinting work. At the outset, he drew an appreciative laugh from the graduates when he noted that “many people will be happy to meet you in the months ahead — bankers, insurance agents, builders, interior designers, dental suppliers, car dealers” and others.

More seriously, though, Dr. Anderson drew on his personal history, recalling the rigorous standards set by his father and by the late Dr. Gerald Stibbs, a mentor and former head of the UW Operative Dentistry department.

Hard work and deliberate practice were the common denominators for success, Dr. Anderson said, adding: “Excellence is not an easy road. It is a road of diligence, hard work and personal responsibility.”

He concluded: “I know you will be excellent dentists and good stewards of your profession.”

At the start of the program, Dean Martha Somerman saluted the graduates, saying that they had taken major steps toward becoming “master clinicians.” She defined these as “dentists who appreciate research and discovery, who are committed to evidence-based treatments, who know that graduation is simply one milepost on the path of their continuing education.”

Class President Parker J.C. Haley also delivered brief remarks, looking back fondly on his time at the School of Dentistry.

“We learned from those [faculty members] who had the best bedside manner, and we looked over the shoulders of those who wielded their dental tools like artists,” the newly minted Dr. Haley said.

After the hooding ceremonies, a casual reception for students, faculty, staff, family and friends followed in the Meany Hall lobby.
Janet Romero of the Class of 2013 received the Washington Dental Service Foundation’s Burton H. Goodman Presidential Scholarship at the School of Dentistry’s annual Honors and Awards assembly on June 5 in Hogness Auditorium. The four-year award goes annually to an incoming student.

Other top awards went to graduating student Dan Bakko and Restorative faculty member Dr. J. Martin Anderson (‘65), who were honored by the Washington State Dental Association. Bakko, who affixed “Dr.” to his name at the next day’s Hooding Ceremony, received the WSDA’s Fourth Year Award for character, leadership and high scholastic achievement. Dr. Anderson received the WSDA Faculty Award for his contributions to the School and to the WSDA.

The UW Dental Alumni Association awarded scholarships to the following students: Jace Beattie, Heather Biles, Diana Cortes, Fesaha Gebrehiwot, Richard Hompesch, Adam Jensen, Elissa Johnson, Elizabeth Kim, Christopher Leyster, Kate Makienko, Patty Martin, Minh-An Nguyen, Aaron Shearman, Oleg Shvartsur, Joseph Stout, Igor Tikhonov, Daniel Tremblay, Robert White, Austin Wisecup and Seung Yu.

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Full-time faculty members who received class awards were Dr. Anderson, Dr. Douglas Verhoef, Dr. Dolfhine Oda and Dr. John Wataha. Recognized among affiliate faculty were Dr. Bill McHugh, Dr. Sang Bae, Dr. Scott John Neuhaus and Dr. Chris Lewis. Staff members receiving recognition were Carol Brown, Marlene Snyder, Bill Leow and Jeff Croom, with special recognition going to media specialist Matthew Salton.

School of Dentistry faculty, staff and students received an update on budget issues, accreditation and other matters during the School’s annual faculty retreat on June 15 at Foege Auditorium in the Genome Sciences building on the UW campus.

Dean Martha Somerman and Assistant Dean Jean Garber outlined the situation facing the school in the wake of major budget cuts, which will hamper the school’s ability to bring in new faculty and researchers and will also pose a test for a pared-down staff.

The retreat also featured a review by Dr. Tim DeRouen, Executive Associate Dean, of the School’s preparation for this year’s accreditation review. Dr. Dan Chan, Associate Dean for Clinical Services, outlined progress made to enhance the School’s comprehensive clinical care, with input from Dr. Ed Truelove, Oral Medicine chair, and Dr. Ricardo Schwedhelm of Restorative Dentistry. Dr. Wendy Mouradian, Associate Dean for Regional Affairs, reviewed the RIDE program, while Dr. John Evans of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery discussed steps to improve training in ethics and professionalism.
Clinical couture: White coats for Class of 2011

Fifty-one members of the Class of 2011 formally marked the start of their clinical training at the School of Dentistry’s fifth annual White Coat Ceremony in a packed Hogness Auditorium at the UW Health Sciences Center on Aug. 15.

Dr. John Wataha, Chair of Restorative Dentistry, delivered keynote remarks. “You are at a crossroads,” he told the students. “Use this transition as a time to learn.”

He went on to say: “You will make mistakes — it’s part and parcel of practicing dentistry. It’s not a failure; it’s a failure only if you fail to grow from it. … Learn to make a habit of excellence — it’s a discipline, a process, a passion. Many people will try to impose standards on you, but the real standards that matter come from inside.”

Dr. Wataha also urged students: “Respect the sacred trust between you — the clinician — and the patient.” He told students they would see unsettling things with patients, but added: “My advice is not to judge too quickly. … Keep your word to your patients if you want to keep their trust. … Be equitable with patients.”

He concluded, “Beware of temptations that will erode your integrity.”

Dean Martha Somerman opened the ceremony by welcoming students, their families and friends. “I want to offer my congratulations for all your achievements during your first two years at our School,” she said. “Now it’s time for you to build on that foundation, and take the next step toward becoming master clinicians — clinicians who seek out new challenges to improve the quality of care for your patients.”

Dr. Ed Dolan (’00), President of the UW Dental Alumni Association, which sponsors the ceremony, also congratulated the students. A reception followed the ceremony in the Health Sciences Center lobby.

OKU inducts 7 students, faculty member

Seven graduating School of Dentistry students were inducted into the Omicron Kappa Upsilon dental honorary society at its annual banquet on May 26. They were Angela L. Dunn, Adam D. Welmerink, Laura J. Bruya, Sara E. Cassidy, Colby A. Eckland, Karl E. Penaau and Daniel W. Bakko.

Dr. Andy Marashi of Restorative Dentistry was also inducted as a faculty member.

In addition, $1,000 scholarships were awarded to each of the top two students in first-, second- and third-year classes. Daniel G. Schruth and Daniel L. Bickel were the first-year recipients; Casey S. Gamache and Kyle S. Ettinger were the second-year recipients; and Craig L. Smith and Richard W. Hompesch III were the third-year recipients. Gamache also received the Dr. William S. Kramer Award, which includes a $500 scholarship.

All scholarship money is donated by community dentists and School of Dentistry faculty who are members of OKU.
Remembering
Dr. Sheldon Rovin, 76

Dr. Sheldon Rovin, who was Dean of the School of Dentistry from 1973 to 1977, died on July 11 from cancer at his home near Philadelphia. He was 76.

Dr. Rovin, who was an emeritus professor at the University of Pennsylvania, was former chairman of the department of dental-care systems at the Penn dental school. He was also director of the health-care executive management programs at the Wharton School of Business and director of Penn’s Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics.

Before becoming the Dentistry dean at the UW, he was professor and chair of the Department of Oral Pathology at the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry, where he was a founding faculty member. He was also professor of General Pathology at Kentucky’s medical school, and was a diplomate of the American Board of Oral Pathology. The Detroit native received his DDS and a master’s in pathology from the University of Michigan, where he met his future wife.

Dr. Rovin, whose career included cancer research, wrote more than 90 articles and book chapters and nine books. The health-care management programs he directed at Penn included one for hospital pharmacy executives and one for nurse executives, which he initiated.

After retiring nine years ago, he continued to consult and write, and published three books: Medicine and Business: Bridging the Gap and, with Russell Ackoff, Redesigning Society and Beating the System: Using Creativity to Outsmart Bureaucracies. He was also an accomplished woodworker, crafting all the furniture for his and his wife’s home early in their marriage.

Dr. Rovin is survived by his wife of 52 years, Nancy Gold Rovin; daughters Suzan and Lisa; a son, David; two sisters; and two grandsons. Private services were held.

Alumni director gives son a very special gift

Randy Newquist took a little extra time off this summer, but he wasn’t slacking. Far from it: The popular director of the UW Dental Alumni Association for the last 15 years donated a kidney to his 18-year-old son Jason.

“We knew at some time in his life, we’d get to the point where he’d need a transplant,” Randy said. Jason, who had been born with impaired kidneys, had still grown up leading an active life. He played on the tennis team at South Kitsap High School, where he graduated in June.

However, his kidneys began failing last year, and in November, he had one of them removed. By then he had less than 15 percent kidney function, and he had to undergo dialysis for 18 hours a week. “It made him dead tired, but we’re proud of him — he finished high school with honors,” said Randy.

Jason was also completing his Eagle Scout work this summer. For his Eagle project, he organized an effort by about 30 people to make fleece blankets for dialysis patients.

When Jason went on a transplant list, Randy was found to be a good match, but even so, it still took seven months for the operation to get the green light. He had to take all kinds of tests — heart, kidneys, donor compatibility. “It seemed like I was going to doctor appointments for months, doing these tests,” Randy said.

But his concern centered on his son. “His life was on hold,” Randy said. “He couldn’t plan for college, or work, or anything else until he had the operation.”

The five-hour operation on July 29, at Seattle’s Swedish Hospital, went off smoothly, and father and son were making an excellent recovery a month later. It was actually harder on Randy than Jason, because the donor’s body must make the adjustment to the loss of a kidney. Beforehand, Randy said, his wife, Valerie, was supportive — but still a little nervous.

There won’t be any physical restrictions on Randy after the surgery, although Jason must take anti-rejection drugs the rest of his life. However, he’ll finally be free to pursue his plans, although his doctors want him to stay in the Seattle area for the first year if he goes on to college. Jason loves to cook and wants to be a chef someday, Randy says, and has considered attending the Seattle Art Institute’s highly regarded culinary training program.

Randy and Valerie have three other children: Jillayne, a student at Brigham Young University; Daniel, also a student at BYU; and Devon, a student at Marcus Whitman Junior High School in Port Orchard.
Partners in Diversity dinner raises scholarship funds

The second annual Partners in Diversity dinner on May 15 raised nearly $30,000 for scholarships for underrepresented minority students at the School of Dentistry. The event at the Northwest African American Museum in Seattle also brought the scholarship fund’s endowment to a self-sustaining level.

School hosts national endo residents symposium

More than 200 people, including about 150 endodontics residents from around the U.S., gathered at the UW on Aug. 7-9 as the School of Dentistry hosted the Advanced Programs in Clinical Endodontics Symposium (APICES). Held annually at rotating locations around the country, APICES began in 2004 as a nonprofit activity for endodontics residents, allowing them to attend educational presentations and pursue networking opportunities.

Dr. Natasha Flake of the UW Department of Endodontics organized the conference at the UW with the help of department residents Matthew Brunson, Fergus Duddy, Dustin Gatten, Steven Kwan, Michael Marcello, David Mortenson, Amanda Ngan, Avina Paranjpe, Brandon Seto, Matthew Tomala, Anne Wiseman and Brandon Yamamura. She was also assisted by Dr. James Johnson, Endodontics Chair, who was a visible and active presence during the weekend. He and faculty member Dr. Patrick Taylor both serve on the certifying board of the American Association of Endodontists (AAE).

AAE President Gerald Glickman, who preceded Dr. Johnson as Endodontics Chair at the UW, addressed the symposium on Saturday. He outlined the AAE’s public awareness campaign, which emphasizes outreach to general dentists and the dynamics of patient referrals. Dr. Glickman, who now chairs the endodontics department at the Texas A&M University/Baylor College of Dentistry in Dallas, also discussed access to care and AAE’s plans to take a more proactive stance on the issue.

Dean Martha Somerman welcomed attendees at an opening-night reception and barbecue, saluting endodontics for the way in which it has embraced new technology. In addition to lectures, other activities during the weekend included vendor exhibits and a Saturday-night dinner and “casino” social event at the Space Needle.

“APICES is for the residents to be educated about the AAE,” said Dr. Johnson. “It’s a great opportunity.”
Since its founding in 1946, the UW School of Dentistry has benefited significantly from the generosity of individuals and organizations who have helped ensure that the School remains an institution of distinction. By supporting students, inspiring faculty, developing innovative programs, and improving the School’s facilities, these community leaders have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in the study and practice of dentistry, and in oral health research.

In grateful appreciation of this support, the School of Dentistry honors donors who have made or pledged contributions of $50,000 or more over the course of their lifetime as Partners in Excellence. Their names are inscribed on a wall near the D-3 clinic.

For the year 2009, the School also proudly acknowledges the following individuals, organizations, corporations, and foundations for their lifetime commitment to the pursuit of excellence in oral health. We could not sustain our proud tradition of excellence without them.

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  - Herbert Yellin
  - Steve and Sophia Yang
  - David and Janice Witzel
  - Henry Willis IV
  - Lynn and LuAnne Whimpey
  - Jennifer Williams
  - David and Janice Wittel
  - Steve and Sophia Yang
  - Herbert Yellin
  - Steve and Sophia Yang
  - David and Janice Witzel
  - Henry Willis IV
  - Lynn and LuAnne Whimpey
  - Jennifer Williams
  - David and Janice Wittel
  - Steve and Sophia Yang
  - Herbert Yellin
  - Steve and Sophia Yang
  - David and Janice Witzel

**$1,000 - $1,999**
- American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
- Dentsply International
- Eastside Pediatric Dental Group, LLC
- Kaiser Permanente
- Medical Group

**$1,000 - $1,999**
- American Association of Orthodontists Foundation
- Discus Holdings, Inc.
- Ivoclar Vivadent, Incorporated
- Nanoshade Dental Laboratory, Inc.
- Pacific Continental Bank
- Philips Oral Health Care, Inc.
- Seattle-King County Dental Society

**DEAN’S CLUB**
- $1,000 - $1,999

1101 Madison Corrective Jaw Surgery, PLLC
- Academy of R.V. Tucker Study Club
- The American College of Prosthodontists
- American Dental Association
- Bomet Si
- Burkhart Dental Supply Company
- Cadwell Industries, Inc.
- Elsperman Study Club
- H. Hartzell and Son, Inc.
- Hampson-Ferrier Goldfoil Study Club
- Lake Michigan Endodontics, PLC
- Nitrox, Inc.
- Proctor Company
- Spokane Oral and Maxillary Surgery
- Stryker Corporation
- Ultradent Products, Inc.
- United Concordia
- US Army Health Care Recruiting Team
- Williamette Dental Management Corporation
- Yakima Valley Farm Workers
Dr. Dolphine Oda's recognition as one of this year's recipients of the UW Distinguished Teaching Award surprised nobody at the School of Dentistry. A faculty member since 1985, Dr. Oda has been chosen outstanding teacher by the students no less than 14 times.

“In my experience, her record of teaching effectiveness is unparalleled,” wrote Dr. O. Ross Beirne, her department chair, in a letter supporting her nomination for the UW award.

Students’ evaluations of her oral pathology classes make it clear why she’s so highly regarded. “Dr. Oda is an amazing teacher, lecturer and mentor,” one student wrote. “There are no surprises on her exams. You have to work hard in this class, but the layout of her class and her expectations make you want to work hard. I absolutely love this class and Dr. Oda!”

Wrote another: “This is the best course I’ve taken at dental school.”

Dr. Oda’s aptitude for teaching follows from an abiding love of learning. “I always enjoy the questions I’m asked, especially the ones I don’t know,” she says. “That’s the challenge, when you have to go look the answers up.”

Dr. Oda grew up in the Iraqi city of Kirkuk, the site of the ancient capital of Assyria. Her family moved to Baghdad not long after her father died in a car accident in 1953, and she attended dental school there. Her mother finished raising the family’s six children with the help of a large extended family and plenty of loving friends and neighbors.

After dental school came a residency at the University of Manitoba, where she obtained her master’s degree in pathology. She also taught gross anatomy and enjoyed it immensely. “That’s how I found out I love to teach,” she says.

Then came stints as a postdoctoral fellow in cancer research at the University of California at San Francisco and at the Indiana University School of Dentistry, where she earned a certificate in oral pathology.

She then came to the UW, where she started as a professor of oral biology and then became professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery in 1997.

“Ever since dental school, I knew I would end up in academia,” she says. “I was always inquisitive, and I was not interested in private practice.”

One of her former UW students, Anacortes oral surgeon Pardeep Brar, says her connection with students goes well beyond what’s required.

“I think she really cares about her students, and she really loves what she’s doing. She does a lot of things on her own time that go above and beyond. She’ll review cases with students at any time,” he says.

Dr. Oda’s concern for people also extends well beyond the UW campus. She has donated all her continuing education speaker’s fees to Child Haven and other local organizations.

In 2006, she and her husband, George, started the Assyrian Children’s Fund in 2006 to help war-stricken Iraqi youngsters. “The war in Iraq left a lot of families with nothing,” she says. “There are a lot of families who have a decent meal maybe once a week.”

She and her husband, an ardent amateur historian and linguist who is working on an online Assyrian-English dictionary, have two children: a daughter who is a PhD student at Harvard, and a son who graduated from Seattle’s Garfield High School this year and plans to study medicine.

With the nest empty, Dr. Oda would like to travel to developing countries two to four weeks out of the year, teaching or doing clinical work. She also would enjoy more time for her hobbies — reading (science, religion, politics) and long walks around her Magnolia neighborhood.

But she has no plans to slacken her pace at the School of Dentistry, where she has donated extensively to an endowment fund.

“I promised myself, the day I feel bored, I’ll retire,” she says. “I like to stay excited about what I do.”
**Dr. David Pitts**  
*Endodontics*

‘Fab Four’ member is one of a kind

Dr. David Pitts of Endodontics still vividly recalls the years after his appointment as Associate Professor in 1984, when he also gained tenure.

That was when the “Fab Four” ruled the department: Dr. Eugene Natkin, Dr. Gerald Harrington, Dr. Robert Oswald and Dr. Pitts. “We worked very hard together and created a lot of teaching materials. I’m most fortunate to have worked with these guys,” Dr. Pitts says, adding Dr. Jim Steiner (a 1991 arrival) to the mix.

This fall, Dr. Pitts retires as Associate Professor and Director of the Predoctoral Endodontic Program, after serving as a full-time faculty member since 1977. Colleagues say it will be a huge loss.

“He has given so much to the department, the School, the University, the specialty of endodontics and the dental profession that it cannot be measured,” says Dr. James Johnson, Endodontics Chair. “Beyond all his talents as an educator and dedication as a faculty member, Dave Pitts the man has no equal. He is irreplaceable, and we will all miss him in the department.”

“Dave sees the big picture of dentistry — the vision of the master clinician, the lifelong learner and educator. He’s also been an outstanding advocate for students over the years,” says Dean Martha Somerman, citing Dr. Pitts’ innovative work on the Curriculum Committee. He also represents the School on the Council of Faculties of the American Dental Education Association, and serves on the Scientific Advisory Board of the Journal of Endodontics.

Dr. Pitts has always favored a positive approach, mixed with a healthy dash of humor. “I tried not to get too far away from my student years,” he says. “I tried to put myself in their shoes.”

At the same time, he’s a stickler for fundamentals. “The big challenge is to get students to read and review,” he says. “They’ve been trained to deal with sound bites and scanning quickly. That doesn’t work for the basics.”

Dr. Pitts says he wanted to teach ever since he was a fourth-year student teacher in dental anatomy. He recalls two role models: Dr. Drexel Boyd (pre-clinical operative and dental anatomy) and Dr. Charles Tomich (oral pathology). “These guys were top-drawer; they had great senses of humor,” he says. “I just liked their style.”

Over the years, Dr. Pitts also became one of the faculty’s premier technology buffs. He started simply enough in lectures, using overhead transparencies of tooth roots, layering them to show treatment sequencing. “In endo and pulp anatomy, you have to think in three dimensions, but all the information you get is in two dimensions — radiographs, textbooks,” he says.

These days, he has been working with the Regional Initiatives in Dental Education staff on a video podcast application for the Mediasite lecture-recording system. It runs on an iTouch and will let students quickly scan through lectures and replay key parts. “Audio podcasting isn’t enough for dentistry — you need the video,” he says.

RIDE will continue to benefit from Dr. Pitts’ talents, as he devotes two days a week to the program as Educational Technology Director.

“Dave has been key in helping us expand and update the D-1 Simulation Lab and the T-733 Distance Learning Classroom (see story on Page 8),” says Dr. Wendy Mouradian, Associate Dean for Regional Affairs. “We couldn’t have done RIDE without him. He pioneered our effort to communicate with students while out on clinical rotations, and made sure administrative meetings ran smoothly with Polycom.”

Dr. Pitts left his one-day-a-week private practice of 27 years in 2004. Now he’s looking forward to more time with his wife, Sandi, along with his interests: running, following Formula 1 and endurance auto racing, reading, photography and travel. He and Sandi hope to return to Provence in France. They also plan to build a home in Port Townsend on Puget Sound, and will do the landscaping themselves.

“I’ve put in some long hours,” he says. “It’s high time.”
Dr. Joana Cunha-Cruz Silva of Dental Public Health Sciences has received an appointment as Research Assistant Professor. She received a dental degree in 1999, a MPH degree in 2002 and a PhD in Public Health (Epidemiology) in 2006. Her main research interests include disparities in oral health, evidence-based dentistry, and etiology and treatment of oral diseases. Systematic review methodology and epidemiology are also part of her research interests.

Dr. Joseph Kelly of Pediatric Dentistry was appointed Dental Clinic Chief of Seattle Children’s Hartmann Clinic. His areas of focus include regional care for children with special needs, and streamlining processes, with a focus on incorporating ECOH as the future access point of oral health care for the majority of these children.

Dr. Jessica Lee has resigned as Program Director for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery as of July 1, in order to assume the position of Acting Chief of Service at Harborview Medical Center. In the interim, Dr. O. Ross Beirne will serve as Program Director, with Dr. Libby Kutcipal as Co-Director.

Dr. Jacqueline Pickrell has received an appointment as Acting Assistant Professor in Dental Public Health Sciences. She received her MS and PhD from the Department of Psychology at the UW. Her primary focus has been memory processes and specifically, memory distortion. Currently, she is principal investigator of a UW/DPHS subcontract from Firsthand Technology to develop and assess the effectiveness of a science exhibit that will include a virtual reality game as well as numerous interactive displays designed to teach oral health and motivate children to improve their own oral health behaviors.

Dr. Kavita Shor of Restorative Dentistry was named Assistant Professor on April 1. She received her BDS from Goa Dental College and Hospital in India and her MSD and certificate in Prosthodontics from the UW School of Dentistry in 2001. She was an Assistant Professor at Ohio State University from 2001-2003 and returned Seattle in 2003 to work in a private practice.

Dr. Philippe Hujoel and Dr. Gregory King received Distinguished Scientist Awards at the International Association for Dental Research meetings in Miami on April 1. Dr. Hujoel, of Dental Public Health Sciences, won the Behavioral, Epidemiologic and Health Services Research Award. Dr. King, of Ortho, won the 2009 Craniofacial Biology Research Award.

Dr. King and Dr. Anne-Marie Bollen, also of Ortho, have won $20,000 research awards from the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation to study issues related to access to care.

Dr. Sandra Bordin of Periodontics and former UW bioengineer Dr. Xingde Li received the 2009 IADR/GlaxoSmithKline Innovation in Oral Care Award for their research proposal “Optical Coherence Tomography for Non-invasive Diagnosis of Periodontal Disorders.” The two are developing a hand-held scanner that can be used for biopsies and monitoring treatment response in a broad range of oral conditions. The technology could also stimulate the development and analysis of molecular studies aimed at improving healing and regeneration of soft connective tissues.

Dr. I-Chung Wang of Periodontics has received the American Academy of Periodontology 2009 Dental Educator Award for Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring in Periodontics.

Dr. Dan Chan, Associate Dean of Clinical Services, received the University of the Philippines Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Award in Education and Health in Manila on June 20. Dr. Chan earned his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from the University of the Philippines in 1979.

Dr. Hai Zhang of Restorative has received the Ignition Award for his collaborative work with the School of Pharmacy faculty, plus an award from a Seattle-area dental laboratory to study the quality of work provided by sites outside the United States.

Patricia Doyle, an affiliate faculty member in Oral Medicine, has been recognized as a “Hygienist Hero” by the American Dental Hygienists Association for her volunteer efforts in promoting oral health in the community. One of 10 such winners this year, the registered dental hygienist elected to have a $500 award from the ADHA donated to the School of Dentistry’s Doris J. Stiefel Endowed Fund. The fund supports pre-doctoral or dental hygiene students who have an interest in education and clinical training in the oral health care of special patients.

Dr. Wendy Mouradian, Associate Dean for Regional Affairs, has been recognized for her contributions to the health and welfare of children by the American Academy of Pediatrics. The AAP’s Section on Pediatric Dentistry and Oral Health cited Dr. Mouradian for “[bringing] to the forefront the importance of the role of pediatricians in children’s oral health as well as the importance of dentistry improving access to dental care for all children in this country.”

Dr. Joel Berg, Chair of Pediatric Dentistry, was elected secretary-treasurer of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) at the organization’s 62nd annual session, held in May in Honolulu.

Dr. Edmond Truelove, Chair of Oral Medicine, has been elected to a three-year term in the 2009 Washington State Dental Association’s House of Delegates.

Dr. Andy Marashi of Restorative Dentistry was inducted by the Omicron Kappa Upsilon dental honorary society as a faculty member at its annual banquet on May 26.
Dental student’s life can be a daily roller-coaster ride.

I still need four more arches in clinic, but I know I can’t rush through this.

Oral Pathology is a great course, but how in the world can I memorize all this before my brain explodes?

I’m graduating this year, and I don’t have the foggiest idea of how to look for a practice.

The challenging workload at school and the intimidating demands of becoming a medical professional make it crucial for students to have an anchor—a trusted adviser who can offer reassurance and perspective.

Since 1994, students at the School of Dentistry have found precisely that anchor through the Washington State Dental Association’s mentor program. It was created by several WSDA members, most notably Dr. Steve Broughton (’97) and Dr. Dale Miller Jr. (’61), who saw a need to give students a better understanding of dental practice.

The program also gained the immediate support of the UW Dental Alumni Association, which co-sponsors an annual Mentor Reception at the UW in the fall.
The bigger picture

While clinical and treatment questions may come up, students turn to their mentors for other answers.

Dr. Don Wenker of Woodinville, Wash., says he told student Robert White (’10), “More than anything, come into the office, observe, and see how things run. I also told him that as he would sit in on a clinical situation, he’ll realize that there are a lot of different ways of skinning a cat.”

As much as anything, mentors serve as models of professional behavior.

“I can see the way he treats his patients. He’s very caring,” says Roderick Youngdo Kim (’11) of his mentor, Dr. James Reed of Bellevue, Wash. “He really explains to patients what he’ll be doing. He’s really good technically, too, and he’s thorough – he’ll go into the recovery room at least twice to check on a patient. … He doesn’t stress out – I think that’s important for students to learn.”

In addition, mentors give students valuable insights into the nuts and bolts of running a practice.

Says student Richard Baldwin (’11), who is mentored by Dr. Richard Voget (’72) of Seattle: “I didn’t know the first thing about the practical aspects of dentistry.

That’s where most students are paired with a WSDA mentor in their first year. Although graduate students are also welcome to seek mentors, the program is focused on pre-doctoral students, almost all of whom have mentors.

Students gain crucial professional resources, plus a clearer view of the values of organized dentistry. During shadowing visits to mentors’ offices, they learn more about wet-finger dentistry, operatory protocol, patient contact and how a practice is run. And aside from modeling professional behavior, mentors serve as sounding boards to help students relieve the stress imposed by a demanding curriculum.

“There are two primary elements in the program: The dentist shows the student the importance of being involved in organized dentistry, and the student learns more about the business side of a practice,” says Amanda Tran, Assistant Executive Director of Meeting and Component Services for the WSDA and coordinator of the program for the last several years. (She will hand it off this fall to Wendy Wilson, WSDA’s Exhibit Services Coordinator.) Mentors are also urged to invite students to study clubs and dental society meetings.

WSDA matches students with the appropriate dentists by the student’s field of choice – general dentistry or specialty practice. In their first year, students fill out a form, and then WSDA puts out a call to members to match up. Students may seek a mentor at the annual reception, but even if they already have one, they’re still welcome to attend.

Dentists are given general guidelines for the mentorship, but they conduct it mostly as they see fit. “Once we match them up, we hope for good chemistry,” says Tran. If the pairing doesn’t work, however, another mentor will be found.

Dr. Don Wenker has counseled Robert White to be flexible in the clinic.
He let me come to his office and look around. … He wanted to show me his interaction with patients, and I was able to observe his professional demeanor. His attitude has been, ‘I’ve been there too, and I know what you’re going through.’”

“The first thing is trying to figure out your own philosophy, so you know what you want to do and what you want to be represented as,” says Dr. Voget. “[Students] need to figure out whether they’re going to do high volume, or do they want a slower practice. Students get exposed to all aspects of dentistry, and they can figure out what they really like.

Students need that real-world information, because the crowded dental curriculum simply doesn’t have much room for it.

“They generally don’t understand the nuances of working with patients and staff,” says the WSDA’s Tran.

Maureen Craig (’11) says she’s learned how to interact with employees by watching mentors Dr. Irene Hunter (’84) and Dr. Suzanne Winans (’04), who share a practice in Tenino, Wash. “They’ve built up their office beautifully, and everyone there is happy,” says Craig. “Their employees are definitely treated like professionals.”

At the School of Dentistry, Craig says, “we get a lot of stuff about how to do a treatment plan, and so on. But how to act like a professional — you have to learn that from a professional.”

Richard Baldwin has taken cues from Dr. Richard Voget’s professional demeanor.

“Every time I go to [Dr. Wenker’s] office, I learn new ways of how to approach patients,” says White.

Practical tips

Kim says he’s also gleaned valuable lessons about patient interviews from Dr. Reed, an oral surgeon in whose footsteps he’d like to follow: “He goes in with a smile, remembers personal details, and makes sure he answers all of a patient’s questions.”

It’s helped to balance Kim’s experience this year in the School of Dentistry’s fast-paced Urgent Care clinic, where he’s pushed to be proficient. But he’s concerned that students can overlook an underlying cause of a patient’s problem if they rush things. Dr. Reed has shown him a way to deal with that concern by conducting a more effective interview.

Dr. Reed also plans to impart more clinical expertise as his student gains more knowledge and experience.

“Next year, we’ll talk about the difficulties of local anesthesia,” Dr. Reed says. “Some patients can pose problems with injecting their mandibular teeth, because mandibular anatomy can vary. My advice is: If you have trouble numbing the patient, look at the Panorex. And listen to patients — they’ll tell you what’s wrong.”

At the same time, Dr. Reed says he’ll still emphasize the big picture with his student. “There’s this confident humility that he should continue to foster. You need to have enough confidence to make incisions and open people up — but you also need to have the humility to know when not to do it.”

Mentors also spread the gospel of continuing education. Dr. James Ribary (’75), President-Elect of the WSDA, has passed that message to his student, Class of 2011 President Oleg Shvartsur.

“This is really critical,” Dr. Ribary says. “He understands that this is just the beginning of his education. … I’ve told Oleg that he can’t stop learning at graduation — he needs to go on with continuing dental education with people like John Kois or Frank Spear.” When budgets are tight, it can be hard to spend that money on CDE, Dr. Ribary acknowledges, “but it’s something you have to do.”

Mentors can be especially helpful in showing how
to run a practice. “There’s a lot of stuff we don’t learn at school regarding practice management or patient care,” says White.

“I have no idea what to look for in terms of purchasing a practice,” says Shvartsur, who has welcomed Dr. Ribary’s suggestions about specific questions to raise: production, overhead, collections.

“He has to be smart about how to spend his money,” Dr. Ribary says. “I’ve told him to watch his debt load.”

“I’m trying to figure out the business side of things,” says student Sheila Farahani (’10). She’s spent a lot of time talking to her mentor’s staff, asking about their software, insurance, division of duties and other office issues.

“She’s been my rock”

While most students connect with mentors through the WSDA program, some are fortunate enough to acquire one earlier, as did Farahani. As an undergraduate at the UW, she became a patient of Dr. Susan LaBounty (’89) in Bellevue, across Lake Washington from the university.

At that time, Farahani hoped to become a brain surgeon. While working toward her degree in biochemistry, she continued to see Dr. LaBounty. After graduation, she taught chemistry and biology for two and a half years at Bellevue High School, and didn’t especially enjoy it.

At Dr. LaBounty’s office for treatment one day, she asked, “What about dentistry?” With a patient’s permission, Dr. LaBounty let her watch a restoration, and she was hooked. Dentistry matched up perfectly with her goals: to be active in public health, have a stable income, and control her own work hours.

“She helped me get a view of where I was going,” Farahani says. “From A to Z, she’s been my rock.”

Dr. LaBounty, an affiliate faculty member at the School of Dentistry, also told her something that resonated with her: “I love dentistry because it is science mixed with arts and crafts.”

Even before acquiring a mentor, many students can call on a parent or relative for advice on dentistry. But not everyone is so lucky.

White says he envies students who can ask questions of a family member in dentistry that they wouldn’t necessarily ask of a teacher. “There’s a lot of things that go unasked because you don’t want to seem like you don’t know what you’re doing,” he says.

Adds Kim: “For somebody who doesn’t have any family members in dentistry, a mentor is very important.”

Yet another special value of the mentor-student relationship emerges when a woman mentors a woman. Given the historical male dominance of the profession, it can be especially helpful for a female student to have an adviser who has dealt with that issue.

“As a student, I don’t think I’d reach that comfort level with a male mentor as easily,” says Craig. “It’s been encouraging to see a woman in a position of power handling it so well.” Her mentors, Drs. Hunter and Winans, “are both family people and they told me, ‘See? You can have your family and your career.’”

That advice had special value for Craig, who was a pre-med student at Pacific Lutheran University. She wanted to raise a family someday, but also wanted to
be a dentist, she looked at me and asked, “Why would you want to do that?” It wasn’t meant to discourage her, Farahani says; Dr. LaBounty wanted her to examine her motivation closely. And she told Farahani, who also had plans to raise a family, “You can arrange your work schedule so you can pick up your children from school.”

Farahani says, “Her inspiration means I don’t have a moment of doubt as I go through school.”

**Rewards for mentors**

For the students, the rewards are clear. What’s in it for the mentors?

“We get so much back in terms of enthusiasm and seeing [students’] development,” says Dr. Reed.

“I just figure I have something to offer,” says Dr. Voget. “I can give something back to the profession.”

Dr. Wenker says he gets a boost from White’s shadowing visits — “It’s an infusion of new energy.”

Says Dr. Hunter: “To watch Maureen step into something and love it as much as I do – that’s rewarding. And it’s rewarding to see people fulfill their dreams and do well.”

As do several other mentors, Dr. Hunter relishes the idea that her student could eventually practice alongside her and Dr. Winans. “We really, really like her – we want her to come join our practice,” Dr. Hunter says.

But recruiting isn’t the point of mentoring, says Dr. Reed: “It’s not for what I can get in terms of someone coming to my practice, but what it can do for our profession.”

In the meantime, it’s hard to overestimate the lift the students can get from the relationship. “It’s good to see there’s light at the end of the tunnel,” says Shvartsur.

For White, a break in the school year means an eagerly awaited visit to Dr. Wenker’s office.

“Going there recharges my desire to finish dental school,” he says. “We’ll sit down and shoot the breeze, and I’ll remember, ‘This is why I’m doing this.’

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**2009 MENTOR RECEPTION**

This year’s WSADA/Dental Alumni Mentor Reception will be on Friday, Nov. 13, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the I Court Rotunda, I-131 in the UW Health Sciences Center, 1959 NE Pacific Ave., Seattle. For details, contact Randy Newquist at the School of Dentistry (randyn@u.washington.edu, 206-616-0716).
Cracks in teeth can pose a tough problem for dentists: What’s the best course of action? Do you treat them or just monitor them? What are the indicators that help identify teeth at risk for fracture? What signs point to cracks growing larger, or cracked teeth becoming symptomatic with temperature sensitivity or pain during biting?

Questions like these demand evidence-based answers – and those are precisely the answers dentists find through Northwest PRECEDENT.

Launched in 2005, the Practice-based Research Collaborative in Evidence-based Dentistry has conducted oral health research in practices throughout Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah and Washington.

Funding comes from grants by the National Institute for Dental and Craniofacial Research. The funding goes to the two schools that coordinate the research, the UW School of Dentistry and Oregon Health & Science University.

Dr. Timothy DeRouen, Executive Dean for Research and Academic Affairs at the School of Dentistry, heads the UW team as principal investigator. Dr. Joel Berg, Professor and Lloyd and Kay Chapman Chair for Oral Health of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, is co-investigator.

Northwest PRECEDENT ensures that its study topics reflect the concerns of practicing dentists. Topics are determined by network members through online polls, direct feedback at annual meetings and input by phone and e-mail, and all studies are ultimately approved by elected dentist members of the network’s Executive Committee. The studies are then developed by trained researchers at the UW and OHSU.

“Evidence-based dentistry is so very important,” says Dr. George McIntyre (’78) of Seattle, a participating PRECEDENT dentist. “Over the years I’ve practiced, I’ve seen many things come and go. Evidence-
based dentistry improves the results for patients in the long run.”

Dr. McIntyre also said that his participation in the network helps him get a better handle on other research. “I’m very interested in the process of how evidence is obtained,” he says, and his work with PRECEDENT gives him a firsthand look.

Dr. McIntyre practices with his wife, Dr. Pollene Speed (’80), Assistant Professor in Restorative Dentistry at the School of Dentistry and also a participating PRECEDENT member. She recently lectured students on how evidence-based dentistry is incorporated into clinical decision-making, and cites the benefit of incorporating research into teaching.

“I think [evidence-based dentistry] is how we’ll be doing things in the future,” she says.

Dr. Speed also points to her involvement with community dentistry, and says research in this area “is one of the exciting things for me. … I don’t think we really get a complete picture of the state of dental disease in the population without that component.”

Dr. Jane Gillette (’02) of Bozeman, Mont., seconds that view and applauds PRECEDENT for its commitment to pursuing community-based studies. She has participated in studies both in a community clinic and more recently in her private practice.

“The patients that are seen in community health clinics and the dentists who see them really have very different needs than in private practice,” she says.

For example: “When I was working in the community clinic, I noticed that all the private-practice dentists wanted to know all about cracked teeth. That was at the very bottom for me; in the clinic, I saw a lot of diseased teeth, and what I wanted to know was related to caries prevention and treatment. But when I moved into private practice, my interests changed. I was still very much interested in caries treatment, but the patient populations are so very different, and they have different research needs.”

Community clinics also pose a unique challenge for the dental researcher, Dr. Gillette says. “In the community clinic, you might have a high no-show rate, or a clinic that doesn’t have lots of scheduled appointments – there are a lot of walk-ins. So when you’re trying to number patients, you can’t identify the patient ahead of time; you don’t know who the patient will be. So you say we’ll take every fifth patient. In private practice, everyone’s scheduled, and the staff calls patients ahead of time and explains the study to them.” Even so, Dr. Gillette says, it’s not significantly harder to get community clinic patients to participate.

However, there is another challenge, she says: “In a community clinic setting, you have to work for an organization, and research has to be really clear to an executive director or board. Also, you have such a high volume of patients, [research] can be a hard sell for a board. They want the clinic to see as many patients as possible. But most community health clinics want to see their dentists happy and engaged and continuing their education.”

PRECEDENT has completed three studies:

- A case-control study of osteonecrosis of the jaw, in collaboration with two other practice-based re-
search networks: New York University's PEARL and the University of Alabama-Birmingham's DPBRN. It's being readied for publication

- A study of about 2,000 patients, 20 per practice with patients chosen at random, that assessed oral conditions and treatments. Information includes demographics, visit history, data on occlusion, existing health conditions, missing teeth and recent treatments. “It's not real exciting stuff, but it's useful, because the people who go to dentists are not the same as the general population,” Dr. DeRouen says. He points to one surprising finding: evidence of caries in 50 percent of patients seen in PRECEDENT practices in the last 12 months.

- A study of treatment preferences for dentin with heightened sensitivity.

As for those cracked teeth: The network is just now launching an observational study, with Dr. Tom Hilton, Professor of Operative Dentistry at OHSU, as principal investigator.

In the meantime, current studies include:

- Evaluating salivary markers in caries risk assessment: Data is collected on recent caries lesions, and on environmental factors including diet, hygiene and use of fluoride. Patients will also undergo six short salivary diagnostic tests, and are tracked in follow-up visits for two years to monitor any new caries lesions.

- Clinical comparison of mineral trioxide aggregate (MTA) and calcium hydroxide as direct pulp capping agents for permanent teeth

- Third-molar extraction: For whom is it recommended, who has it done, and what are the outcomes?

- Computer-assisted relaxation learning for treatment of needle-phobic patients in dental offices: In systematic desensitization, patients are trained to use relaxation techniques, while the feared object is gradually approached through a series of small steps, culminating in actual contact with the object or situation.

Some dentists may wonder whether patients might be put off by the notion of being research subjects. However, Dr. Michael Trantow (’80) of Spokane, Wash., a PRECEDENT executive committee member, reported otherwise, according to Dr. DeRouen: Patients actually thought more highly of their dentist when they learned of the practitioner’s research involvement.

Dr. Speed says there's also a highly positive effect in the office: “You can’t overestimate the impact on staff,” she says. “They know they’re contributing to the progress of science.”

For the immediate future, PRECEDENT has set its sights on expanding its network of participating dentists. One step has been to open membership to orthodontists and pediatric dentists. More than 50 orthodontists have joined, and most of them are participating in the first orthodontics study on clinical outcomes of the use of temporary anchorage devices, or mini-screws. Dr. DeRouen says the immediate goal in recruiting pediatric dentists is to open up existing studies of interest to these pediatric dentists, on topics such as caries risk and pulp-capping agents. However, he envisions pediatric-specific studies at some point down the road.

In addition, PRECEDENT offers an option for dentists who can’t commit to full participation but still wish to be involved. The “Friend of Northwest PRECEDENT” program entails answering brief online surveys about dental practice and patient care, plus taking part in retrospective studies of treatment outcomes and patient and practitioner behavior.

“Friends” receive newsletters, summaries of study results and other network updates. Sometime in the future, they may also have the chance to become full members of the network and conduct studies in their own practices.

How to join Northwest PRECEDENT
Sign up or get more information at the Web site: www.nwprecedent.net. Or contact Jennifer Maeser, Network Chair Manager at the UW School of Dentistry: 206-616-6160 or jdmaeser@u.washington.edu; or contact Cindy Gibb Barnes, Administrator at OHSU School of Dentistry: 503-418-1410 or barnessc@ohsu.edu.
Mark your calendar now for the social highlight of the School of Dentistry year! The annual Dean’s Club dinner is an evening of great food and live entertainment in a spectacular, soaring setting – McCaw Hall in Seattle Center.

Catch up with old friends and colleagues as we honor our 2010 Honorary Lifetime Member, salute our 2010 Distinguished Alumnus and mark the outstanding achievements of our UW School of Dentistry. It’s a great way to celebrate the Club, which provides critical support for the School — faculty, students, outreach, equipment, curriculum development and more. **Don't miss this fun-filled evening!**

For information, contact the UW School of Dentistry’s Office of Development, Alumni and CDE: 206-685-9350 or toll-free at 866-550-2977.
class notes

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
Stay connected with the rest of our alumni by sending in news about yourself and your practice. We welcome items about your family life, interesting trips, your professional development — anything of interest to other alums. (We love pictures, too; high-resolution JPEGs are preferred.) E-mail your items to Randy Newquist, Director of Alumni Relations, at randyn@u.washington.edu.

CLASS OF 1964
Fred Quarnstrom, Seattle: I just reactivated my Instrument Flight Instructor License, CFII, after letting it lapse 35 years ago. I practice two days a week and do insurance reviews one day a week. I am teaching about two days a month at various CE departments, study clubs and dental associations. I wrote a book, Open Wider: Your Wallet, Not Your Mouth — the Consumer’s Guide to Dentistry. So I am down to about 20 hours a week; it feels like retired.

CLASS OF 1967
Jim Smith, Sedro Woolley, Wash.: I sold my practice in South Everett in 2006. At that time I accepted a position as a DDS at Cascade Job Corp. There are about 325-350 disadvantaged students from all over the world — some with extreme dental needs! I love the challenge and work three days a week. I also volunteer at Pioneer North one day a month. This is an incarcerated lock-down court-appointed drug rehabilitation facility near Cascade Job Corp. Medical Team Northwest has a trailer there one day a month.

CLASS OF 1978
Cheryl Townsend, Bellevue, Wash.: In early June, I finished my MBA program at the UW Foster School of Business while still working my practice schedule. This Executive MBA program is designed for those in the work force to maintain their job positions while they finish their MBA degree. Graduation came 30 years post-dental school and 40 years post-high school, and I was the oldest student in my class of 45. It was quite a ride!

CLASS OF 1979
Robert W. Juhl, Anacortes, Wash.: After a near-death due to viral encephalitis in October/November 1999, I sold my private practice. As time went on I recovered very well (thanks to God, University of Washington Medical Center and my wife, Jacqueline) and am now back on track in the U.S. Air Force Reserve at McChord AFB (446th Aerospace Medicine Squadron), working full time in a civil service dentist position at NAS Whidbey, and teaching one day a week at the new dentist hygiene program at Bellingham Tech College. I hope everyone had a great summer.

CLASS OF 1982
Phil Madden, Anacortes, Wash.: 1982 grads — our 30th reunion is coming! Plan on it in July 2012, to coincide with the PNDC annual meeting.

CLASS OF 1984
Kerry S. Ishihara, Wahiawa, Hawaii. Class of 1984’s 25th reunion will be at the 2009 ADA meeting in Honolulu. Contact Kerry Ishihara at ishihara4@hawaiiantel.net if you think you can attend.

CLASS OF 1987
Kyoko Awamura, Bellevue, Wash.: Dr. Bryan Williams (pedo-ortho class of ’79) joined my practice last year. I feel so fortunate to have my mentor working with me. Dr. Greg Huang (ortho class of 1989), the chair of the Department of Orthodontics, also practices in my office on Tuesdays. Both of them are nationally and internationally known leaders of the profession. I also have a wonderfully understanding husband (Dr. Tom Morton, Oral Pathology class of ’75) who welcomed my recently widowed mother from Japan to live with us. My house is bilingual, bicultural and multigenerational. Sometimes I don’t know what language I am speaking. But all is well in Bellevue.

CLASS OF 1994
Teresa Castner, Tanzania, Africa: Retired from private practice of almost 10 years in Edmonds three years ago and have since been working independently on a dental project in Tanzania. I have been setting up a mobile dental clinic for the orphans at the Riff Valley Children’s Village (www.tanzanianchildrenfund.org), where I have been providing dental care for more than 65 children and staff. Over the last two years, I have recruited Drs. Linda Johnson (’92), Greg Guyman (’76, MS ’78), Whitney Frank (’08) and her husband, Conrad Frank, to travel to the Village and provide care to this unique organization. This year, the Franks and I were also able to provide oral health education to nearly 600 children at the Geytighi primary school located next door to the orphanage. For many, this was the first time that they had ever seen a toothbrush, as twigs are used as toothbrushes in most of rural Tanzania.

As a result of a shared love for Tanzania, my husband, Bill Pope, and I have gathered with our longtime friend, Allan We WAnt tO heAr FrOm yOu!

Stay connected with the rest of our alumni by sending in news about yourself and your practice. We welcome items about your family life, interesting trips, your professional development — anything of interest to other alums. (We love pictures, too; high-resolution JPEGs are preferred.) E-mail your items to Randy Newquist, Director of Alumni Relations, at randyn@u.washington.edu.
Mbaga of African Outdoor Expeditions (www.kiliman.com) in the development of a small, eco-friendly lodge in Karatu. The lodge, called the Oldeani Safari Lodge, has views of Oldeani Mountain and overlooks the rim of the Ngorogoro crater, home of the highest density of animals in Africa. They are planning to grow coffee, corn, bananas, avocados, beans and other vegetables, and the lodge will be mostly solar-powered. The lodge will be used to house medical and dental volunteers along with safari clients.

I recently partnered with International Smile Power and joined their board of directors. Smile Power is currently undergoing positive changes and will be blossoming into an even stronger and viable nonprofit that will continue the dream and philosophies of its original founders, Dr. Sherwin Shinn and Jerri Shinn, RN. If you are interested in learning more about volunteering while vacationing and earning CE credits, please contact www.smilepower.org. If you are unable to volunteer on a project because of work and family obligations, but still wish to contribute in some way, whether it is to volunteer locally, donate funds, or share your thoughts on how you believe Smile Power can make a difference both locally and internationally, please contact them at the Web site above. Namaste.

CLASS OF 2000
Chad Sheron, Vancouver, Wash.: Life is good in the ’Couv with Kim. Our daughter, Maddie, is 6 and our son, Carter, is 3. Great ages and lots of fun! I’m in practice with my dad and younger brother, and that is going great. Please stop by if anyone gets down our way.

CLASS OF 2001
Jason R. Bourne, Marysville, Wash.: I still have the ortho offices in Lake Stevens and Marysville. Danica and I now have three kids, two dogs, and not enough time! BTW – let’s start thinking about that 10-year reunion coming up in less than two years! Looking forward to it!

Kara Hobson, Vancouver, Wash.: I have been practicing orthodontics in Vancouver at Gentle Dental since May 2006. As a Portland-area native, I felt fortunate to give back to my community by creating beautiful smiles that last forever. After graduating from the dental school at the University of Washington in 2001, I moved to San Francisco to pursue an advanced education in General Dentistry at UCSF. I received an MS in Orthodontics at Oregon Health Sciences University in 2006. I am Board certified through the American Board of Orthodontists and am an active member of the American Dental Association, Washington State Dental Association, American Association of Orthodontists and the Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists. I enjoy traveling and the outdoors. I reside in both Portland and Hood River, Ore., and my out-of-the-office time is generally spent skiing, biking, golfing, or running. I recently ran the New York City Marathon.

CLASS OF 2002
Drew Herion and Tracy Herion, Portland, Ore.: Drew completed his orthodontic training at OHSU in December. I finished my training at OHSU in 2005. We are now both practicing orthodontics in the Portland area. It is wonderful for both of us to finally be finished with school! We enjoy Portland and plan to be here long-term. We are busy with work and raising our children (Madeleine, age 4, and William, age 1). Our e-mail contacts are tracyherion@comcast.net and drewherion@comcast.net.

David Keller, Vancouver, Wash.: The last seven years have flown by. I finished my residency in 2004 at Fort Bragg in North Carolina, then moved my family to Germany while I served in Iraq from 2004-2005. I returned home to Germany, where we spent three amazing years, and then we spent our last year in the Army in Virginia. We returned home to Vancouver in the spring of 2008 and we’re finally getting a little bit settled and so very glad to be home! I’m working for Gentle Dental in Vancouver and have enjoyed getting back involved with the Washington Academy of General Dentistry, where I again serve on the Board as the President-elect. I look forward to catching up with the faculty and my classmates and a much better football season this year!

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Ronald Hsu, Vancouver, Wash.: I hope this note finds all my friends happy and content. Misty and I have been busy losing sleep and enjoying our new baby. Ching-Lien d’Nellie Hsu, our fourth child, arrived on July 21 at 8:21 p.m., weighing 7 pounds 11 ounces, measuring 20.5 inches long. Mom and child are both doing well. Please let us know if your plans bring you to the Portland-Vancouver area. We would be happy to host you, dine you (sorry, no wine), and enjoy a good visit.

Melanie (Bian) Lee, Portland, Ore.: I moved to Portland after graduation and have been practicing for Kaiser Permanente in Vancouver, Wash., since 2005. I truly enjoy the practice and fellow dentists. My husband, Dae, and I welcomed a beautiful baby boy named Christian in March 2009. We are enjoying this time immensely and look forward to introducing him to old classmates and fellow alumni!

Vanessa Wicklund West, Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Roger and I recently moved from Kona to Southern California. We opened up our dental practice, West Family Dentistry, in Thousand Oaks this May. It’s been a challenging, yet rewarding and exciting, experience. Aloha!

Josh Cadwell, Richland, Wash.: My wife, Jenna, and I are proud to announce the opening of a new facility for Cadwell Dental on March 31, 2009. Fifty-eight hundred square feet, 13-to-25-foot ceilings, 20-foot waterfall, 20-foot-tall live indoor palm trees, and a host of other comforts and amenities make coming to work like a day at the beach. (Sort of.) We have endured the pains and tribulations of designing and decorating our own building to make it truly unique, and took charge of building the waterfall, hand-crafting the 9-foot-tall bamboo sconce lights, custom bamboo furniture, and many other arduous tasks to make it our own. With a background in Materials Science and Engineering, the “enginerd” in me is always looking for a good project. In this case, almost two years of continuous projects from land rezoning and development to building completion. This project took an incredible level of time and dedication to bring it to fruition, and I suppose the eternal optimist in me always says that it will take less time than it did. So much time, in fact, that Jenna and I decided to take a long-awaited Caribbean vacation in May to celebrate its completion. Much to his grandparents’ delight, our 2-year-old, Ashton, was able to spend the entire week in Minnesota with Mae Mae and Papa, while Mom and Dad relaxed on vacation. We pray that all else is well with the rest of the UW Dental alums and wish the best to all who’ve chosen this wonderful career for its endless blessings and opportunities.

■ 50th Reunion
Class of 1959
The Class of 1959 will have a 50th reunion celebration on Wednesday, Sept. 30. The day will begin at 10 a.m. with a tour of the School of Dentistry with Dean Martha Somerman. The reunion luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. at the Seattle Yacht Club. For more details, please contact Dr. Des Neff at (425) 776-3454.

■ 25th Reunion
Class of 1984
The Class of 1984 will have a 25th reunion in conjunction with the ADA Annual Session in Honolulu, Hawaii, which will be Sept. 30-Oct. 4. Contact Dr. Kerry Ishihara at ishihara4@hawaiiantel.net to get more details.
Editor’s note: An obituary of former School of Dentistry Dean Sheldon Rovin appears in the News section on page 19.

DR. DENNIS WILLIAM KELLY, CLASS OF 1954
Dr. Dennis W. Kelly, 81, of Clinton, Wash., passed away in Everett, Wash., on June 8, 2009.

Dr. Kelly was born in Spokane, Wash., on Aug. 5, 1927, and spent all of his childhood there. He attended Gonzaga Prep, Gonzaga University and graduated from the UW School of Dentistry in 1954. On June 21, 1952, he married Lorraine Klinner and they would go on to spend 57 years together.

After dental school, the Kellys moved back to Spokane, where he opened a South Hill dental practice that spanned 28 years. It was during this time that his interest in volunteer work began, providing free dental service during his time off to the children at the Morning Star Boy’s Ranch and the Good Shepherd Home for Girls. Dr. Kelly retired from private practice in 1984 and began 19 years of continuous volunteer dental work. In this capacity, the Kellys spent two years with the Papago Indians in Sells, Ariz., and then a year on the Acomita-Canoncito-Laguna Reservation in Acomita, N.M.

In 1987 they moved to Whidbey Island. Over the next 16 years, Dr. Kelly served as a Rotary International Volunteer Dentist in Guatemala, Honduras, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Jamaica, Kenya and Thailand. In Washington State, he volunteered at the Tulalip Indian Reservation in Marysville. He was an affiliate faculty member at the UW School of Dentistry and was voted “Best Liked Teacher” for two years. In 2005, he was voted the WSDA Citizen of the Year.

Dr. Kelly retired from private practice in 1998. He was past president of the Spokane District Dental Society and on several other boards. After dental school, he worked in private practice with Dr. Ed Nelson. With the help of Jerry Johnson and Burkhart Dental Supply, Dr. Riehl designed and built the first dental delivery unit allowing the patient to recline and the dentist to work seated. In 1967, he relocated his dental practice to Yakima. In 1993, he opened a second office in Walla Walla.

Dr. Kelly is survived by his wife, Lorraine; daughter Kathy Baker (Jeff), son Dennis Kelly (Debbie), daughter Susan Kelly, and daughter Keelan McNamee (Gregg); and eight grandchildren.

DR. ELVIN KRISTIAN SOLHAUG, CLASS OF 1960
Dr. Al Solhaug was born on May 10, 1933 in Seattle, where he was the son of two Norwegian immigrants. He passed away on May 26, 2009.

Dr. Solhaug graduated from Roosevelt High School and then the UW School of Dentistry in 1960. He opened his dental practice on University Way in Seattle, where he worked until his retirement in 1998.

Dr. Solhaug met and married Roberta, a spunky small-town girl from Omak, Wash., and they raised two children, Leslie and Steve. Roberta Solhaug passed away too early in life due to cancer in 1998. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Solhaug met and married Ingrid, a beautiful Swedish lady who was his partner in life thereafter. He was an avid golfer and a member at the Seattle Golf Club and Thunderbird Country Club in Palm Springs. He had a passion for skiing and for art collecting.

Dr. Solhaug was gifted with his hands and took a great deal of pride in his craftsmanship, which was evident in his dentistry and carpentry. Dr. Solhaug and his father, a boat builder, spent many weekends and evening hours building a 30-foot sailboat, the Sunniford, which his family would later enjoy.

Dr. Solhaug’s strong work ethic and steadfast determination were evident throughout his life. He was confident he was going to walk out of the nursing home, even though his muscles had atrophied due to a lifetime of severe arthritis. He will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him. His strong will and determination will always serve as a reminder that anything is indeed possible.

He is survived by his wife, Ingrid; children, Leslie Dunn, Steve Solhaug and Lisa Donato; six grandchildren; and three siblings, Dave, Mildred and Doris.

DR. RONALD RIEHL, CLASS OF 1966
Dr. Ronald Riehl passed away on Oct. 6, 2008 at Memorial Hospital, surrounded by his family. He waged a seven-year battle with prostate cancer, and ultimately succumbed to acute myeloid leukemia. He was 71.

Dr. Riehl was born at home on Oct. 14, 1936 as the fifth child of John and Beatrice (Cowart) Riehl. He was raised in Russian Town – a part of Walla Walla, Wash., and attended Walla Walla High School and graduated in 1953. A year later he joined the US Navy, serving two years as a navigator in an F3D jet in the Continental Air Defense command based in San Diego, Calif. He then attended Eastern Washington College, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in biology.

While attending the UW School of Dentistry, he met Helen Clark. They were married in 1963 and last year celebrated their 45th anniversary. Upon his graduation from the School of Dentistry in 1966, the couple relocated to Wapato, Wash., where Dr. Riehl practiced dentistry with Dr. Ed Nelson. With the help of Jerry Johnson and Burkhart Dental Supply, Dr. Riehl designed and built the first dental delivery unit allowing the patient to recline and the dentist to work seated. In 1967, he relocated his dental practice to Yakima. In 1993, his son, Dr. Doran Riehl, joined his practice, and they worked together until his retirement in 2006.

Consistent with his pioneering spirit, Dr. Riehl was an early proponent of preventing dental disease and served as campaign chairman for the first attempt to fluoridate the water in the Yakima Valley. Despite the failure of this campaign, he continued as a proponent and was passionately involved in the successful bid for water fluoridation in 2002. He served as president of the Yakima Valley Dental Society and on several other boards. Survivors include his wife, Helen Riehl (Clark); daughter Cindy (David) Hargreaves; son Doran (Mary) Riehl; granddaughters Carly Riehl, Haley Hargreaves, Katie Hargreaves, and Elena Riehl; sisters Doris (Chuck) Randall and Lucy (Roger) Duchemin; brother Leonard (Grace) Riehl; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his oldest brother, Joseph Doran Riehl, first wife, Alice (Bergevin) Riehl, and parents, John and Beatrice Riehl.
ARTHUR GERALD PONTI, DONOR AND FRIEND
Art Ponti passed away on March 31, 2009 after a short illness. Mr. Ponti was born on Feb. 25, 1929 in Walla Walla, Wash. He was one of nine children born to Carlo and Maria Ponti, who came from Angera and Lonate Pazzola, Italy.

Mr. Ponti was a 49-year resident of Bellevue, Wash., as well as a part-time resident of Sun Lakes, Ariz. He graduated from high school in Walla Walla and went on to graduate from Whitman College with a degree in business. He then saw service as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War, eventually rising to captain in the Air Force Reserve.

On June 14, 1958, he married his sweetheart, Joan, and they raised two wonderful sons. Upon his return from the Air Force, he joined the Boeing Company, Commercial Airplane purchasing organization, and during a 37-year career rose to be Vice President of Safety Health and Environmental Affairs for Boeing, where he retired in 1991.

Mr. Ponti is survived by his wife of almost 51 years, Joan; son Perry (Kimmie); niece Tammy McKinsey; and nephews Bob, Dick and Ken. Art was preceded in death by his son Dr. Tony Ponti, three sisters and five brothers.

JEAN KAREN REICHENBACH, DAUGHTER OF FORMER DEAN
Jean Karen Reichenbach, daughter of former School of Dentistry Dean Maurice Hickey and Doris (Harrison) Hickey, and a former editor of the UW alumni magazine, died on May 10 at the age of 72.

Ms. Reichenbach was born March 13, 1937 in New York, N.Y. She moved with her family to Seattle in 1957 after Dr. Hickey became dean of the School. In 1958, Ms. Reichenbach earned a degree in psychology from the UW, where she met her future husband of 49 years, who was a student at the UW School of Medicine. The two were married in 1960 and settled in Seattle, where they had two children.

Ms. Reichenbach earned a journalism degree from the UW in 1962. She worked as a reporter for the Everett Herald in the 1980s and later became associate editor of the UW's Columns magazine, from which she retired in 1993.

Her varied interests included reading, quilting, music, needlework, traveling and cultivating friendships. She received a diagnosis of ovarian cancer in 1992 and battled the disease through two recurrences. Free of cancer for the past 10 years, she strongly supported other cancer patients through affiliations with patient support groups and other activities.

Ms. Reichenbach is survived by her husband, Dr. Dennis Reichenbach of Seattle; son Stephen Reichenbach (Linda), of Bellevue, Wash.; daughter Laura Reichenbach (Greg Chen), of Dhaka, Bangladesh; grandchildren Kyle, Connor and Kara Reichenbach, and Natalie, Alexandra and Evelyn Chen; brother Dean Hickey (Dee), of Blaine, Wash.; and nephew Brent Hickey (Andrea), of Las Vegas, Nev.

A memorial service was held on May 22 at University Presbyterian Church in Seattle. Remembrances may be made to the Marsha Rivkin Center for Ovarian Cancer Research.

MATHILDA “MICKEY” SREEBNY, WIFE OF FORMER UW DENTISTRY CHAIR
Mathilda “Mickey” Sreebny, wife of Dr. Leo Sreebny, former chair of Oral Biology and Pathology at the School of Dentistry, passed away June 7 at the age of 84.

Mrs. Sreebny was born in Chicago in 1924. She grew up on Chicago’s South Side and went on to the University of Illinois in Urbana, where she received a degree in Public Administration. She was appointed to the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa Honorary Society and was awarded a “U of I” Athletic Award for her performance in Modern Dance.

From 1943-1945 she worked at the Manhattan Project, which developed the first atomic bomb, at the University of Chicago. In 1947-48, she taught English in the elementary school system on the island of Guam. In 1948 she enrolled at the University of Chicago to study social work under the noted economist, social worker and educator Edith Abbott. She received her MSW degree in 1950. From 1957 through the 1960s, she served as a chief social worker under Dr. John Hartmann at Children’s Orthopedic Hospital, Seattle. In 1975, she and her husband moved to Stony Brook, N.Y., where he became the Dean of the School of Dental Medicine at Stony Brook University.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Dr. Leo Sreebny; son Oren, who is UW Executive Director of Emerging Technologies, his wife, Michele, and son, Mose; son Dan, who works for the U.S. State Department, his wife, Darcy, and daughters Rachel and Laura.
FRIDAY, OCT. 9
CE0911: Inaugural Washington Dental Service Annual Practice Management CDE — Communication and Teamwork
Course Chair: Daniel C.N. Chan, DMD, MS, DDS
Instructors: Rhonda Savage, DDS; Sandra Phillips, MA; Tara Adolff, CPC, CHCC
Location: Museum of History and Industry, Seattle

FRIDAY, OCT. 16
CE0913: The Art of Dental Therapeutics: Drugs and Drug Interactions
Instructors: Mark Donaldson BSc(Pharm), RPh, PharmD, FASHP
Location: Washington State History Museum, Tacoma

SATURDAY, OCT. 17
CE0915L: Digital Dental Photography
Instructor: James R. Clark, Photographer
Location: University of Washington, Seattle

FRIDAY, OCT. 23
CE0917: Digital Fundamentals — Simplifying the Complexities of Today’s Digital Dental Technologies
Course Chair: Daniel C.N. Chan, DMD, MS, DDS
Instructors: Edward A. McLaren, DDS, MDC; Keith Philips, DMD, MSD; Ariel J. Raigrodski, DMD, MS; E. Ricardo Schwedhelm, DDS, MSD
Location: Museum of History and Industry, Seattle
Sponsors: 3M, Astra Tech, Vident and iTero
All proceeds from this course will be used to benefit the new UW School of Dentistry Advanced Technology Lab

FRIDAY, OCT. 30
CE0919: The Ultimate Perio Program: Putting It All Together for Maximum Productivity
Instructor: Timothy Donley, DDS, MSD
Location: Lake Washington Technical College, Kirkland

FRIDAY, NOV. 6
CE0921: Soft Tissue and Bone Diseases of the Mouth: Emphasis on Standard of Care
Instructor: Dolphine Oda, BDS, MS
Location: Shoreline Conference Center, Shoreline
This course is co-sponsored by Washington State Dental Hygienists’ Association

FRIDAY, NOV. 13
CE0922: Legal and Ethical Issues in Washington State Dentistry
Instructors: John C. Versnel III, JD and Philip Weinstein, PhD
Location: Hotel Deca, Seattle

FRIDAY, DEC. 4
CE0931: Avoid Liability: Know Your Patient’s Medications and Their Impact on Dental Treatment
Instructor: Harold L. Crossley, DDS, PhD
Location: Lake Washington Technical College, Kirkland

FRIDAY, DEC. 11
CE0933: Evidence-Based Dentistry
Instructor: Philippe Huojo, DDS, MS, MSD, PhD
Location: Lake Washington Technical College, Redmond

FRIDAY, JAN. 22
CE0941: Is Diet Good for Teeth, Good for Health?
Instructor: Philippe Huojo, DDS, MS, MSD, PhD
Location: Seattle, to be determined

FRIDAY, JAN. 29
CE0943: Oral Medicine Update
Course Chair: Ed Truelove, DDS, MSD
Instructors: UW Oral Medicine Faculty
Location: University area, to be determined

FRIDAY, FEB. 5
CE0951: Law/Lewis Lectureship in Pediatric Dentistry:
Discipline is Leadership, and the Leadership Theory Is Not Quite as Complicated as Einstein's Relativity Thing
Instructor: John Rosemond, MS
Location: Museum of History and Industry, Seattle

FRIDAY, FEB. 19
CE0953: The 13 Components of a Thriving Dental Practice
Instructor: Kirk Behrendt, Speaker & Coach
Location: Washington State History Museum, Tacoma

FRIDAY, FEB. 26
Restorative Update 2010
Instructor: Jeff J. Brucia, DDS
Location: Lynnwood Convention Center, Lynnwood
This course is co-sponsored by Seattle-King County and Snohomish County Dental Societies

FRIDAY, MARCH 12
CE0963: We’re All Getting Older: Achieving Success in Geriatric Dentistry
Instructor: Paul Glassman, DDS, MA, MBA
Location: Lake Washington Technical College, Kirkland

FRIDAY, APRIL 2
CE0971: Nuts & Bolts of Occlusion; Occlusion, Confusion...Diagnostic & Restorative Solutions
Instructor: Michael J. Melkers, DDS, FAGD
Location: South Campus Center, University of Washington

SATURDAY, APRIL 3
CE0971L: Nuts & Bolts of Occlusion; Fundamentals of Recording & Mounting
Instructor: Michael J. Melkers, DDS, FAGD
Location: D-1 Lab, UW School of Dentistry

FRIDAY, APRIL 9
CE0973: Soft Tissue and Bone Diseases of the Mouth
Instructor: Dolphine Oda, BDS, MS
Location: Lacey Community Center, Lacey, Washington (Olympia area)

FRIDAY, APRIL 16
CE0974: Enhancing the Esthetic and Longevity of Ceramic Bonded
Restorations in Light of Current Scientific Information and Clinical Observation
Instructor: Nasser Barghi, DDS, MA
Location: Seattle area, to be determined

SATURDAY, APRIL 17
CE0975: Clinical Considerations of Ceramic Veneers Using Current Scientific Information, Advanced Materials and Technology (hands-on course)
Instructor: Nasser Barghi, DDS, MA
Location: D-1 Lab, UW School of Dentistry

FRIDAY, APRIL 23
CE0976: Drugs, Bugs and Dental Products: What to Prescribe!
Instructor: Peter Jacobsen, DDS, PhD
Location: Everett Convention Center, Everett

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, MAY 7-8
CE0981: Surgical Implant Dentistry for the General Practitioner (hands-on course)
Instructor: Anastasios (Tassos) Irinakis, DDS, MSc, Dip.Perio, FRCD(C)
Location: Northgate Community Center, Seattle

SATURDAY, MAY 22
CE0983: Washington Dental Services Foundation Distinguished Professor in Dentistry Symposium: Developments in Oral Implant Reconstruction
Distinguished Professor: Philip Worthington, MD, BDS, FDSRCS
Instructors: Tomas Albrektsson, MD, PhD; David C. Hatcher, DDS, MSc, MRCD(C); Kenji Higuchi, DDS; Peter Moy, DMD; George A. Zarb, BChD, DDS, MS, MS, FRCD(C); Dennis Tarnow, DDS
Location: Seattle Sheraton, Seattle

**If you practice in Washington State,**
then your license renewal date is based on your birthday.
If you let us know your birthday month, we’ll send you a reminder about three months beforehand to make sure you have plenty of time to fulfill your credits.

**Spotlight on CDE**

**Digital Fundamentals – Simplifying the Complexities of Today’s Digital Dental Techniques**

One of the intriguing developments in restorative dentistry has been the use of zirconia and the rise of CAD/CAM technology in prosthetic fabrication.

Dentists who want to be fully up to speed in these areas will benefit from the Digital Fundamentals course to be offered on Oct. 23 (see CDE listings). Course topics include:

- The impact of zirconia and CAD/CAM technology on contemporary dental practice
- Zirconia: facts and fiction
- Digital impression technique: Is it time to replace the conventional material-based method?
- High-tech planning for esthetic implant restorations

Course attendees should be able to:

- Understand the properties of zirconia and how it translates to clinical usage
- Describe the techniques and technologies available for fabricating zirconia-based restorations and custom implant abutments, and how the advent of CAD/CAM technology supports their fabrication
- Discuss how to clinically attain more predictable esthetic and functional results with zirconia-based restorations
- Identify the different types of zirconia and different processing techniques
- Explain what causes porcelain chipping and how to prevent it
- Develop innovative uses for zirconia porcelains for conservative bonded porcelain restorations
- Formulate preparation guidelines
- Recognize framework design for esthetics and how to safely adjust zirconia
- Discuss cements and cementation of zirconia-based restorations
- Discuss the advantages of cone beam imaging for planning implant placement
- Explain biomechanical treatment planning concepts
- Communicate the above information through computer-generated surgical templates to idealize implant placement

The course offers seven hours of CDE credit. Tuition is $260 for dentists (10 percent off for current Dental Alumni Association members) and $165 for staff before Oct. 21; fees go up $10 after that date. All proceeds from the course will benefit the UW School of Dentistry’s new Advanced Technology Lab.
alumni calendar of events

**MONDAY, OCT. 19, 2009**
Dental Alumni Full Board Meeting
6:30-9 p.m.
Washington Athletic Club

**FRIDAY, NOV. 13, 2009**
WSDA/Dental Alumni Mentor Reception
6-8:30 p.m.
I Court Rotunda, I-131,
UW Health Sciences Center

**FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2010**
Ernest Jones Memorial Lecture
9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Meany Hall, UW Campus

**SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2010**
26th Annual Dean’s Club Dinner
6-10 p.m.
McCaw Hall, Seattle Center

To register for these or other UW Dental Alumni Association events, please call (206) 543-7297. Information is also available on the School of Dentistry Web site’s alumni page at www.dental.washington.edu/alumni/alumni.php.