IN BILL WE TRUST

For decades in the lab, William Loew has been our students’ go-to guy

A PAINFUL LOSS
Dr. Vincent Kokich’s death stuns School and dentistry

NEW OMS CHAIR
Dr. Thomas Dodson has ambitious plans

AUTISM CLINIC
Pedo’s Dr. Travis Nelson provides a vital service
Dean Joel Berg invites you and a guest to the University of Washington School of Dentistry Reception at the

AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL SESSION
IN NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Saturday, November 2, 2013
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel
Room – Grand Salon Section 9
Two Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA 70130

Complimentary beverages and hors d’oeuvres will be served.

Please RSVP to UW Dental Alumni by October 16th at 206-543-7297 or email randyn@uw.edu
NEWS

A great loss for dentistry
Dr. Vincent G. Kokich’s sudden death in August meant the loss of one of our best-known alumni — and one of the world’s foremost dental educators

Oral Surgery has a new leader
Dr. Thomas Dodson arrives from Harvard with ambitious plans for the department

A mentor par excellence
Dr. Chuck Bolender marks 50 years of conducting prosthodontics study clubs in Seattle and Yakima

Helping children with autism
Dr. Travis Nelson has created a unique clinic at The Center for Pediatric Dentistry

A journey of outreach for alums
Three School of Dentistry alumnae help build bridges to the Native American community

FEATURES

Profiles in Service
Dr. David Minahan has few peers in supporting and advocating for our School

Cover story: In Bill We Trust
Master technician Bill Loew is the go-to guy for students in the D-1 Simulation Lab

We acknowledge the gifts of the many people and organizations whose generosity sustains and strengthens our School

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Online: http://dental.washington.edu/alumni/magazine.html

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President’s Message

We’re making it easier to stay involved

After a year as president of our Dental Alumni Association, I want to tell you how much I have enjoyed hearing from you. There is nothing more important than maintaining and strengthening the avenues of communication among our alumni.

One important task that we have begun is updating our Alumni Association directory of email addresses. If you have not heard from us already, you may be contacted with a request for your current address. Please take a moment to respond; this will greatly help us keep you updated on all the exciting developments at our School of Dentistry.

As always, I hope that you are current on your alumni dues and will renew this fall. We want to make the process as easy as possible, so in November, you will be able to renew your dues or enroll in the Association online, through a link on our Alumni webpage. Of course, you can still pay by check if you wish, but we want to make this process as convenient as possible. Look for more information in our annual membership mailing in early November.

You may already know this, but it bears repeating. Our Association provides many important services and benefits, such as funding more than $40,000 in scholarships to our students each year and supporting memorable events such as the annual White Coat ceremony. Beyond that, we also help maintain those special connections that we forged during our time at the School of Dentistry. I can think of no better value for the modest investment that your annual dues represent.

I would like to add a word about our Mentor Program. For 20 years, our Dental Alumni Association and the Washington State Dental Association have done a fine job in pairing our students with professional dentists who lend much-needed advice and encouragement during those four demanding years of pre-doctoral training. In the past year, we have worked closely with WSDA to take even more steps to strengthen this valuable program for students and mentors alike.

We have many outstanding dentists serving as mentors, but we can make the program even more meaningful and effective with more volunteers. The program is stronger when we have volunteers representing all decades and so we welcome everyone’s involvement. I especially encourage younger alumni, from the Class of 2000 onward, to join, as this group is underrepresented among our volunteers. To learn more, please email Randy Newquist, our Director of Dental Alumni Services, at randyn@u.washington.edu, or contact Laura Rohlman at WSDA, laura@wsda.org or 206-973-5218. I also urge you to attend this year’s Mentor Reception, which takes place from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Nov. 20 at the Burke Museum on the UW campus.

Our students benefit greatly from your wisdom and expertise, so if you do not already mentor one, please consider joining this fine program.

Bryan Edgar (’76)
UW Dental Alumni Association President
Your Membership Dues Support

• $40,000 annually for Dental Student Scholarships
• Students participating in the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF)
• Sponsorship of White Coat Ceremony
• Mentor Program to match students with mentor dentists
• Student Events (vendor show, golf tournament, winter gala dance, talent show, spring barbecue, and student socials)
• Special projects such as the recent renovation of the student lounge
• Practice Opportunities Program and Listing
• Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Award
• Class Reunions

Join today by making one simple phone call!

Call UW Dental Alumni at 206.543.7297

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UW DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

With 1,200 members, the Association makes Dentistry the UW’s top school in active alumni participation and involvement. The Association, founded in 1950, connects alumni, encourages fellowship, supports students before and after graduation, and promotes continuing dental education. It promotes interest in the School of Dentistry and provides financial support.

SIGNATURE EVENTS

FALL  Football Brunch, Golf Tournament, ADA Reception, Mentor Reception

WINTER  Beginning A Practice / Practice Opportunities

SPRING  Ernest Jones Lecture, Spokane Reception, Dean’s Club Dinner (Distinguished Alumnus)

SUMMER  PNDC Exhibit, White Coat Ceremony

PUBLICATIONS

DENTAL ALUMNI NEWS – SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION
http://dental.washington.edu/alumni/magazine.html

UW SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY WEBSITE
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MEMBER BENEFITS:

• Receive Dental Alumni News
• Priority registration for Ernest Jones Memorial Lecture
• Invitations to alumni events and receptions
• Invitations to School of Dentistry events and celebrations
• 10% discount on UW/CDE lecture courses
• Satisfaction of knowing you are assisting the Dental School
Get ready for UWSOD 2.0

This spring, I told you about a new era beginning at our School of Dentistry. It’s an era of far-reaching change to reflect our mission of producing a true dentist of the future. And as I said, “No more duct tape” – no more piecemeal changes that fail to address fundamental issues. A reboot is needed if we want to continue our School’s tradition of excellence.

However, we know that our highest priority is to get it right. So this past academic year has been spent largely in a listening and analyzing mode. With our School’s task forces leading the way, we’ve assessed our current state of education and operations. Now, in the next few months, you can expect to see an emerging blueprint of how we’ll train that dentist of the future.

While some changes require extensive study, some have not. In our administrative operations, we quickly identified areas where we had a clear need and consensus for change. We appointed Bob Wanezek our new Director of Revenue Cycle/Patient Care. With an impressive résumé that includes Amazon and Microsoft, he’s brought a welcome burst of fiscal savvy and fresh thinking to our financial side.

We acted aggressively to fix a deficiency in our patient intake process. When I started as Dean in August 2012, it took as long as three weeks after the initial appointment for a patient to receive an assignment to a pre-doctoral student clinician. Thanks to new hiring and a realignment of our patient services staff and procedures, we’ve cut that time down to 24 to 48 hours.

Our Clinical Systems Task Force has been fleshing out our plans to adopt a third-year clerkship system that will give our students more intensive training in core competencies of general dentistry: Endodontics, Operative Dentistry, Oral Diagnosis and Treatment Planning, Oral Medicine, Oral Surgery, Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics, Periodontics, and Prosthodontics. That will lead our students into a fourth year that will emulate the private practice experience as closely as possible.

Our Curriculum Renovation Working Group is identifying and refining “threads” – subjects such as practice management that run through all four years of pre-doctoral education. We’re doing this with an eye toward the changes mandated by the ADA’s Committee on Dental Accreditation, including a greater emphasis on interprofessional education and professional ethics training. Furthermore, our didactic curriculum will be integrated with our clinical curriculum more closely than ever, starting in first year.

There’s absolutely nothing subpar about our existing curriculum. It’s outstanding. However, our restructuring will facilitate better measurement of a student’s growth and progress toward the competencies of general practice. Better metrics will help students and faculty members alike, and they’re essential to any meaningful improvement in the quality of our training.

Thanks to our Project Management Task Force, we now have a detailed, accurate map of how our School functions operationally and administratively. Now the task force has begun to map processes for school leadership committees and offices, and is also assisting the other task forces with analysis, planning and coordination of their activities.

It’s exciting to know that the students who enter this fall will benefit from all the big changes to come. At the same time, I’d like to cite our current students who have contributed to the work of our task forces. Even though many of them will have graduated before these changes take full effect, they’ve still pitched in with their best efforts and ideas to make this a better School of Dentistry for those who will follow them.

That tells you something about the character of our students and our School. For me, it’s a point of enormous pride, and I hope you share it fully.

Joel H. Berg, DDS, MS
Dean
Mentors make a tremendous impact on our students. They demonstrate professional behavior and ethics. They give students real-world knowledge of dental practice that the classroom — and even school clinic — can’t always provide. They are a powerful force in directing the future of the dental profession.

Do you want to help make a difference? Contact Randy Newquist at the School of Dentistry: randyn@u.washington.edu or 206-616-0716.

JOIN THE MENTOR PROGRAM.
IT’S FOR YOUR SCHOOL — AND YOUR PROFESSION.
Dr. Vincent Kokich’s death stuns dentistry

Dr. Vincent G. Kokich (’71, ’74 Ortho), one of the School of Dentistry’s most illustrious alumni and among the world’s preeminent dental educators, passed away on July 24 after collapsing at his home in Gig Harbor, Wash., from an apparent heart attack. He was 68.

Dr. Kokich, an affiliate professor of orthodontics at the School, was a leading advocate of interdisciplinary dentistry. He spread that message through a quarter-century of lectures, sometimes on his own but mostly in joint appearances with fellow faculty members Dr. Frank Spear and Dr. David Mathews. The three were prominent figures on the dental lecture circuit, making presentations to enthusiastic audiences worldwide.

Dr. Kokich also helped solidify the UW’s reputation as a premier center of orthodontics education and training, and at the time of his death was editor-in-chief of the American Journal of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics. He was a former president of the American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) and the American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry (AAED).

The ABO mourned the loss of “a past-president, a collaborator, a friend and a brother” on its website and added: “During his tenure on the ABO as a director and thereafter, Dr. Kokich’s constructive guidance, devoted effort and keen vision on behalf of the organization was integral in maintaining the ABO as the standard of quality in orthodontic care.”

The ABO also cited his leading role in developing the Objective Grading System (later renamed the Cast-Radiograph Evaluation), along with his part in developing the Discrepancy Index, intended to objectively document pretreatment case complexity. “These two instruments are integral components of the ABO’s current examination process,” the board said.

Dr. Kokich was one of the School’s most devoted supporters for nearly 30 years. In 1996, he and Dr. Peter Shapiro (’73 Ortho) established the Kokich/Shapiro Endowed Scholar Fund to bring distinguished visiting scholars in the field of orthodontics to the UW. Dr. Kokich was also a major contributor to the work of the UW Orthodontics Alumni Association and a leader in the Association’s recent successful campaign to renovate the Orthodontics clinic. He served on the School of Dentistry’s Dean’s Club Board and the UW Foundation Board, and he and his wife, Marilyn, were recognized as UW Benefactors and members of the Henry Suzzallo Society.

In 2009, Dr. Kokich and his two lecture partners dedicated one of their final joint appearances to raising money to establish the Kokich/Mathews/Spear Endowed Fund for Academic Leadership in Dentistry to elevate the School’s quality of teaching, and they added substantial personal pledges to the proceeds from the lecture. “The world has lost one of its finest people, and the orthodontic profession has lost one of its greatest talents,” said Dr. Greg Huang, Chair of the Department of Orthodontics. “We have all lost a friend and colleague – someone who inspired us to dream big, to strive for excellence in all our endeavors, and, through his life, led by example.”

Dr. Huang said that Dr. Kokich’s sudden death came as an even greater blow because he had been preparing to return to an active role with the Orthodontics faculty. Dr. Kokich had retired from his Tacoma practice about three years ago, but had begun the process of renewing his dental license to return to the clinic floor at the UW, Dr. Huang said.

With Dr. David Mathews (left) and Dr. Frank Spear (center), Dr. Kokich was one of the foremost advocates of interdisciplinary dentistry.
How many orthodontists did he touch with his teaching? I would guess tens of thousands. How many patients were better treated by those Kokich-influenced orthodontists? The number may be in the millions. The legacy of Dr. Vince Kokich will extend for many years to come,” said California orthodontist Dr. Farrell Hinkle in an online message.

“He was a clinician-scientist at the highest level,” said Dr. Shapiro, Professor Emeritus of Orthodontics and Dr. Kokich’s close friend and lecture partner in orthodontics for more than 20 years. “Vince was the hardest worker I ever met in my life. … He was a man of wonderful drive, determination and responsibility.”

“His profound knowledge, brilliant ideas and meticulous way of thinking really helped me open my eyes and way of thinking,” said School of Dentistry PhD candidate Dr. Wenjie Li, who initially trained as an orthodontist in China.

“This is a huge personal as well as a professional loss for those who knew him. Vince was not only a brilliant teacher, but a man of enormous warmth and kindness,” Dean Joel Berg said in a message to students, faculty and staff.

Dr. Shapiro recalled how Dr. Kokich would play Dalmation folk songs on his accordion at family gatherings, and that he was also a very capable pianist. On one evening during a lecture visit to Verona, Italy, the two dentists and their wives heard a combo playing in a bar. When the group took a break, Dr. Kokich asked if he could sit in. To Dr. Kokich’s delight, the musicians agreed. Dr. Shapiro remembered that as Dr. Kokich played, the wives laughed themselves silly.

“One reason he was a great teacher: He was a kind person, and he really could relate to people,” Dr. Shapiro said.

Dr. Kokich’s interest in interdisciplinary dentistry was sparked by his early professional association with Tacoma’s Dr. Ralph O’Connor, who in 1984 brought in Dr. Kokich and seven other dentists to form the Northwest Network for Dental Excellence. The group’s initial makeup reflected its team approach to treatment planning: Dr. O’Connor was a general dentist, and the team also included Dr. Kokich as the orthodontist, plus two oral surgeons, two endodontists, a periodontist, a pediatric dentist and a prosthodontist.

Dr. Kokich also preached the value of realistic treatment planning. “Perfection is a word that should never belong in dentistry,” he said in a 2009 feature article in the UW Dental Alumni News. “My emphasis is that if you have a patient that presents to you at 50 or 60 years of age, that has an existing malocclusion that’s worked for them, how can I make a judgment that that’s wrong when it’s worked for 50 or 60 years? I need to be realistic, to not change everything simply because it seems to be more ideal, when we can’t prove that.”

Dr. Kokich was an esteemed journal editor and active researcher. During his career, he published dozens of book chapters and articles in addition to delivering more than 900 presentations on interdisciplinary dentistry and on the relationship of orthodontics to esthetics, periodontics, implants and restorative dentistry.

In 2005, he was named Distinguished Alumnus by the UW Dental Alumni Association. Other honors included the Sicher Research Award from the American Association of Orthodontists, along with the AAED’s President’s Award for Teaching Excellence, the Paul Herren Award from the University of Bern in Switzerland and the ABO’s Albert Ketcham Award.

Survivors include Dr. Kokich’s wife of more than 40 years, Marilyn; his mother, Helen; son, Dr. Vincent O. Kokich (‘99 Ortho), a UW affiliate faculty member, and his wife, Michelle; three other children, Mary Boer (Alex), Obie Kokich (Lindsay) and Marija Kokich (Lance); and seven grandchildren.

“Vince Kokich was a giant in the field of dental education,” said Dean Berg. “He will be missed profoundly by all of us.”

Memorial information
Memorials to Dr. Kokich can be made to the Kokich-Shapiro Endowed Scholar Fund, UW Department of Orthodontics, 1959 NE Pacific St., Health Sciences Center D-569, Box 357446, Seattle, WA 98195-7446.

We have all lost a friend and colleague – someone who inspired us to dream big, to strive for excellence in all our endeavors, and, through his life, led by example.”

—Dr. Greg Huang, Chair, UW Department of Orthodontics
Dr. Thomas Dodson, formerly of the Harvard School of Dental Medicine, became the new permanent Chair of our Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery on Sept. 1.

Dr. Dodson will also be the School of Dentistry’s Associate Dean of Hospital Affairs, Dean Joel Berg said.

Dr. Dodson, who was Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Harvard, was also Attending Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon and Director of the Center for Applied Clinical Investigation in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital.

“I am thrilled that Dr. Dodson has accepted this exceptionally important position for the School of Dentistry,” Dean Berg said. “His experience and talent in the many skills needed for this role will give us the leadership required to create the premier Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

“Tom is a skilled clinician and clinical educator. He is a strong academician with experience in building a thriving clinical practice while maintaining a research focus. He has established a remarkable record of collaboration with colleagues in dentistry and medicine, and under his direction I anticipate a new and exciting era for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the School of Dentistry.”

Dr. Dale Bloomquist (’69) chaired the search committee for this position and had served as acting chair of the department since January 2010, when Dr. O. Ross Beirne stepped down as chair. “We are all greatly indebted to Dr. Bloomquist for his outstanding service to our School during a time of difficult budget challenges,” Dean Berg said.

Saying he was delighted to be joining the UW, Dr. Dodson added: “I am impressed by the caliber of the people I’ve met and the enthusiasm everyone has for delivering the highest quality in patient care and education.” He outlined an agenda that included:

• Re-establishing the MD/certificate Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery residency program at the UW.
• Expanding the clinical, research and educational opportunities at Harborview Medical Center, where the School of Dentistry operates a satellite oral surgery clinic.
• Developing the faculty practice into a self-sustaining enterprise.

“As the sole Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery academic program in the area, we need to be viewed as the OMS provider of choice for the most complex cases, as well as a resource for the broader community of oral surgeons.” — Dr. Thomas Dodson

— Dr. Thomas Dodson

implant placement. Other interests include evaluating risks and repair of nerve injury, management of giant cell tumors, and bisphosphonate-related osteonecrosis of the jaw.

His research ranges far outside dentistry, including studies of the efficacy of mandatory seatbelt laws, oral surgical management of HIV-positive patients, and identifying markers for domestic violence. For seven years, he was also on the medical team for the Boston Bruins of the National Hockey League.

He has won the Harvard dental school’s Distinguished Senior Faculty Award and has twice won the Daniel M. Laskin Award for most outstanding article published in the Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.
Dr. Bloomquist and Dr. Natkin honored in gala evening at HUB

Dr. Dale Bloomquist and Dr. Eugene Natkin received honors at the 29th annual Dean’s Club dinner on April 27 at the Husky Union Building (HUB).

Dr. Bloomquist received the 2013 Honorary Lifetime Member Award, the club’s highest honor, while the UW Dental Alumni Association bestowed the 2013 Distinguished Alumnus Award on Dr. Natkin. The biggest crowd in the dinner’s history, more than 280 people, turned out for the event’s return to the UW campus. Issaquah Dental Lab was the event’s gold sponsor.

Guests included leaders of the Seattle and Washington state dental community, alumni, faculty and members of the School of Dentistry Class of 2013. They heard remarks from Dean Joel Berg, who summarized the extensive changes being made at the School of Dentistry, as well as a performance by the UW Men’s Glee Club, including a rousing rendition of “Bow Down to Washington.”

Others receiving honors at the dinner were two members of the Class of 2013: Class President Philip Matson, who received the Jack E. Nichols Student Leadership Award, and Student Council Co-President Brian Christensen, who received the Johnny N. Johnson Student Leadership Award.

Dr. Doug Walsh, president of the Dean’s Club board of trustees, was master of ceremonies.

Dr. Bloomquist, Acting Chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS) since January 2010, was honored for a long record of devoted commitment to the School that encompasses teaching, financial support and fund-raising. A 1969 graduate of our School, he has earned recognition as a UW Benefactor, and was instrumental in launching a major fund-raising drive to create the first endowed chair in OMS, in honor of Dr. Philip Worthington. In an extraordinary gesture of support to the School during unprecedented fiscal challenges, he served as Acting Chair of OMS without compensation.

Dr. Natkin, Professor Emeritus of Endodontics at the UW, has been called the “teacher of teachers,” with many of his former graduate students going on to become deans, associate deans, department chairs and graduate program directors. Upon the creation of the UW Department of Endodontics in 1967, he became its first chair and held that post until 1980, then retired in 1995. Dr. Natkin earned his DDS from New York University in 1957, and in 1962 became the first graduate of the UW’s specialty program in endodontics.
Carolyn Englund, George Englund

Dean Joel Berg, Bill Neal, Dr. Mark Walker ('81)

Dr. Linda Edgar ('92), Dr. Bryan Edgar ('76)

Terre Harris, Dr. Mark Walker, Barbara Harris

Dr. Doug Walsh ('78), Dr. Jim McGraw ('69 Endo)

Carolyn Englund, George Englund

Frances Taylor, Dr. Rick Taylor ('88 Endo)
After a hitch as an Army prosthodontist, Dr. Chuck Bolender came to the UW Department of Prosthodontics to teach in 1959. But his desire to share the latest developments in the field extended beyond the classroom.

So when a friend suggested that he start a prosthodontics study club, not only did he start mentoring one in Seattle in September 1962, he did so in Yakima as well. In April 2013, he finally called it quits with the Yakima club after hitting nice round numbers: 50 years and 120,000 miles traveled. Yet as impressive as this achievement may be, it doesn’t convey the full impact of his work in prosthodontics, say those who know him well.

“His track record as an educator is unsurpassed, and his interest in dentistry and in his specialty of prosthodontics has never waned,” says Dr. Thomas Taylor, immediate past president of the Academy of Prosthodontics, who served under Dr. Bolender on the UW dental faculty from 1984 to 1989, the final stretch of Dr. Bolender’s 26-year tenure as Chair of the Department of Prosthodontics. “As a perpetual teacher he has also been a perpetual student, always excited about learning new information to improve the quality of life of his patients and those of his study club members and dental students.”

“He has always encouraged best practices, best techniques and excellence in dentistry,” says Dr. Carrie York (’91) of the Restorative Dentistry affiliate faculty and Seattle study club member for 18 years. “Working with him over the years inspires me to continue to always do my very best professionally.”

Dr. Bolender’s leadership in prosthodontics is footnoted by such professional recognition as the presidencies of the Academy of Prosthodontics and the Pacific Coast Society for Prosthodontics, and his selection in 1989 as the School of Dentistry’s first Washington Dental Service Distinguished Professor. After stepping down as chair, he continued to teach for another 11 years at the UW. In his academic career, he gave more than 200 major presentations worldwide.

The Bolender Prosthodontic Seminar he started in Seattle with eight dentists joined a cluster of other dental study clubs at the Seattle Medical Dental Building. The Yakima Prosthodontic Seminar came about with an
School mourns Dr. Ralph Yuodelis, leader in restorative dentistry

Dr. Ralph Yuodelis, a leading figure in restorative dentistry at our School and nationally, passed away on Aug. 18 at the age of 81. He had suffered a stroke in July.

Dr. Yuodelis, a resident of Bothell, Wash., and Canadian by birth, directed our graduate program in Fixed Prosthodontics and the combined Graduate Prosthodontics program for more than a quarter-century. A hallmark of his leadership was the close relationship he forged between the prosthodontics and periodontics programs at the UW, creating a synergy that benefited each.

After retiring in 2005, he served as Professor Emeritus of Restorative Dentistry and Adjunct Professor of Periodontics at the UW, where he received his MSD and Certificate in Fixed Prosthodontics in 1964 and a Certificate in Periodontics in 1965.

During his career, he was president of the American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics and was also a Fellow of the American College of Dentists and a Fellow of the International College of Dentists. In 2001, the American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics bestowed on him the George H. Moulton Achievement Award in 2001 for his distinguished lifetime contributions. He gave hundreds of graduate presentations around the world and co-authored two major dental textbooks, and was chosen as the UW School of Dentistry Distinguished Alumnus in 2002. The University of Alberta, where he earned his DDS, gave him its Dental Alumni Association’s Outstanding Achievement Award in 1998. Dr. Yuodelis was also a member of the American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry, the Academy of Osseointegration and the Pacific Coast Society for Prosthodontics.

With Drs. Saul Schluger, Roy Page and Robert Johnson of the UW, he co-authored the influential textbook Periodontal Diseases: Basic Phenomena, Clinical Management and Occlusal and Restorative Interrelationships. He was also co-author of Contemporary Periodontics and Restorative Dentistry with Drs. M. Ishii and E. Rosenberg.

“The legacy of this great teacher is one that has had an enduring impact on professional dentistry and thousands of clinicians internationally,” said Dean Joel Berg in a message to the School. “Ralph Yuodelis had a major part in helping our School achieve its reputation and standing, and we feel his loss keenly.”

The Yuodelis family has requested that memorial donations be made to the School of Dentistry student clinic so that all people may benefit from dental care. Donations should be directed to Christina Vanosdoll, Office of Advancement, UW School of Dentistry, P.O. Box 357137, Seattle, WA 98195-7137.
Dr. Cohenca does star turn at endodontics meetings

From all accounts, Dr. Nestor Cohenca of Endodontics put on a riveting presentation at this year’s annual meetings of the American Association of Endodontists (AAE) in Hawaii in April.

Dr. Cohenca gave a live-patient presentation to demonstrate the benefits of cone beam CT (CBCT), a diagnostic tool that he advocates for root canal retreatment and other dental applications. In front of a live audience of about 500 people, plus 4,000 or more watching on closed-circuit TV, he treated a patient who was still complaining of pain associated with a root canal performed on #30 more than five years before.

Periapical radiographs (PAs) had failed to reveal the source of the pain in the 33-year-old woman; in fact, they showed excellent healing of the bone. “Three PAs can give you 90 percent accuracy, but in some cases that’s not enough,” Dr. Cohenca said.

“It was a very brave move on his part,” said Dr. Jim Johnson, Chair of Endodontics, who was the session moderator for the presentation. “He could probably have found a less challenging case to demonstrate his point, but he chose this case.”

Dr. Cohenca started using CBCT in 2002, developing more indications for its use. “My rationale is that I have to understand the etiology of the disease to treat it,” he said. As he has noted, radiographs give the dentist only a two-dimensional view, so “you’re missing 33 percent of the information.” CBCT, on the other hand, can provide cross-sectional views in three planes with exquisite detail. The scanner used by our Endodontics department, for example, serves up views in 76-micron slices.

Still, few if any dentists had contemplated using CBCT in retreatments of root canals before this, according to Dr. Cohenca. But as he said, “When you have a root canal and the patient is still complaining of pain five years afterward, something’s wrong.” An exploratory procedure would be one feasible course of action, he said, but the dentist would still essentially be flying blind. In addition, it would sacrifice tooth structure.

If no cause of pain can be identified, patients such as this often wind up in Oral Medicine to see whether the problem might be neuropathy, Dr. Cohenca said. Even if neuropathy is diagnosed, however, the usual medications can have significant side effects, including dry mouth.

In this case, no neuropathy was involved. The CBCT scan revealed the culprit hiding behind the cortical bone in a severely curved distal lingual root: a 5mm x 5mm x 2.3mm lesion that had not been completely cleaned and filled by the previous treatment.

Before Dr. Cohenca made his presentation, other endodontists at the meetings were skeptical. They asked him, “You want to bypass a 90-degree curvature of the root in front of 5,000 people?” And he’d be doing it center stage, in the only live-patient presentation at the meetings.

“Most endodontists in the audience come to be educated,” Dr. Johnson said. “A few always think they can do a procedure better than the clinician, and a few may be there hoping to see a train wreck. I think all appreciated that this was a challenging case.”

It was a success, too, with Dr. Johnson calling the results “beautiful.”

Dr. Cohenca cited the lesson to be drawn from this presentation: “We don’t see everything, even with six PAs. Listen to your patient.”

He added: “You need to use all the diagnostic tools at your disposal to understand the reason for the failure and the source of pain. By doing so, you improve the outcome of the procedure while preserving tooth structure.”

UW students earn AAE honors

Drs. Jeffrey Bennett and Jesus Machado took first place in the Table Clinic competition at the AAE meetings, marking the 10th straight year that UW Department of Endodontics students have won awards in the AAE graduate student competition. Also from the UW, Drs. Joao Barbizam and Jason Latham took second place, while Drs. Harrison Nguyen and Jake Weissman earned 10th place. The competition is sponsored by Dentsply International for graduate students and residents of endodontics programs in the United States and Canada.

ONLINE EXTRAS

For a video of Dr. Cohenca’s presentation, click here.

For a powerpoint version, click here.

For a video of a trauma lecture, click here.
Dr. Rebecca L. Slayton, Chair of our Department of Pediatric Dentistry, has been named our School’s Law/Lewis Endowed Professor of Pediatric Dentistry.

Originally established as a lectureship in 1992, the professorship honors the memory of Dr. David Law and Dr. Thompson Lewis, two outstanding pediatric dental educators at the UW.

“It is an incredible honor to be the recipient of this professorship,” Dr. Slayton said. “It symbolizes the rich history of leadership and scholarly activity in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to continue this tradition.”

Dr. Slayton, who was Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at the University of Iowa before taking up her current post in March 2013, was at the UW from 2004 to 2008 as Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. She served as Chair of the School’s Faculty Council and on numerous committees, and was also Interim Clinical Director of the Department of Dental Medicine at Seattle Children’s hospital from 2007 to 2008. From 2002 to 2004, she was Chair of Pediatric Dentistry at Oregon Health & Science University.

Dr. Slayton holds a BA in biology from Earlham College and an MS in engineering, a DDS, a certificate in pediatric dentistry and a PhD in genetics from the University of Iowa. Her current appointments include consultant to the American Dental Association’s Commission on Dental Accreditation and ad hoc reviewer for several leading dental journals.

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“Dr. Slayton named Law/Lewis Professor

Dr. Rebecca L. Slayton

Dr. David Law (left) and Dr. Thompson Lewis, circa 1960

more worthy recipient of this honor than Rebecca Slayton,” said Dean Joel Berg. “She is an outstanding educator with superb clinical and research credentials, and I know that she will bring great distinction to the professorship.”

UW faculty, students and friends created the lectureship to honor decades of outstanding contributions to pediatric dentistry, clinical research and private practice by Drs. Lewis and Law. The goal was to enhance the profession of pediatric dentistry by setting up a forum for family dentists to hear about current clinical techniques, research and product developments. As Law/Lewis professor, Dr. Slayton will organize the annual program of presentations on pediatric oral health.

At the UW, Dr. Law served from 1948 to 1972 as the first chair of pediatric dentistry, then known as pedodontics. He oversaw all predoctoral and postdoctoral courses and, in the early 1950s, established a postgraduate training program in pediatric dentistry. Along with his significant research contributions, he co-authored *An Atlas of Pedodontics*, a textbook that was translated into several languages. He was also Chairman of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. Dr. Law passed away in 1986.

Dr. Lewis, whom Dr. Law recruited to the UW faculty, served as acting chair of Pedodontics in 1961-62, when Dr. Law was called to active duty in the Army, and in 1986-87. One of the department’s first graduate students, he earned his MSD in 1955 and remained as a full-time faculty member, eventually becoming a full professor in 1970. He served as dental director at Seattle Children’s hospital for more than 25 years, leading an expansion of services for children with disabilities and medically compromised children. A strong believer in treating the whole child, Dr. Lewis was a proponent of behavioral management in clinical dental practice. He died in 1998.

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The Center for Pediatric Dentistry reaches out to autism community

Dedicated to making a difference in children’s oral health, Dr. Travis Nelson created a unique tool a year ago to serve that goal: an autism clinic at The Center for Pediatric Dentistry.

“I read everything I could about designing an ideal dental experience for these kids,” says Dr. Nelson (’10 Pedo), Acting Assistant Professor of Pediatric Dentistry and head of The Center’s sedation clinic. “Treatment of children with autism requires a lot of flexibility, but we felt that there was an advantage in creating an organized approach to care. We put a protocol on paper and systematized it.”

An academic interest in autism and his desire to help children led Dr. Nelson to develop ways to make pediatric patients feel safe and comfortable enough to undergo oral exams and, in some cases, treatment.

To help prepare children for their first visit to The Center, Dr. Nelson worked with experts from the Autism Center at Seattle Children’s hospital to create a “social story” that depicts, with simple language and illustrations, a visit to the clinic. “It’s low-tech, but it’s dynamite,” says Dr. Nelson. His website photos with and without a procedure mask also help ease children’s fears, and his “gold standard” in the clinic is completing an exam with a mouth mirror.

“If you are an adult with autism and won’t allow a dental examination, the chances are unlikely that you will get needed dental care,” he says. “We are working to develop these abilities in childhood. Simply sitting in a dental chair for a mirror examination is a huge life skill.”

Growing up in Northern California, Dr. Nelson spent hours trailing his dad, a pediatric dentist whose practice was focused on Medicaid patients and children who could not get care elsewhere.

“I saw kids with lots of problems, and that had an impact on me,” says Dr. Nelson. During his UW pediatric residency, he often saw youngsters with special needs at Children’s, many of them with autism. He also traveled to Alaska and Peru and found funding for his interests through the UW’s Global Health Practicum program.

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is “primarily a communication disorder … one of the most challenging in pediatric dentistry,” he says. “Your primary tool in

On a preliminary visit, Dr. Travis Nelson will not perform any actual treatment. Instead, he focuses on making his young patient as comfortable with him as possible.
The School of Dentistry recognized scholarship recipients and distinguished student achievements in academics and research at our annual Honors and Awards ceremony on June 7.

The School added a new scholarship this year: The Sandra L. and Ivan G. Phillips Scholarship for General Dentistry, created by Sandy Phillips, our Director of Clinical Operations, and her husband, Ivan. The award, which went to Jaclyn Hakes, will support students interested in general dental practice.

Getting that child through a dental procedure is communication.”

Dr. Nelson looked to the families he met to understand more about ASD and how to help their children. “There’s such an amazing opportunity with these families and their children,” he says. “For example, I took up a video cam to document behavior in the clinic. When asked to consent, every parent said, ‘Yes, if it will help another child with autism.’

“In some ways, autism is a catch-all diagnosis. There are thousands of genes that code for neurologic functions. An alteration, (and) any one of them could cause the symptoms of autism.”

Symptoms vary widely. Some children shun sensory stimulation or oral contact; others crave particular sensations. Children can feel like they’re free-falling or exhibit combinations of behavioral mannerisms and fears. To work effectively, Dr. Nelson relies on the detailed responses from parents in a 10-page new-patient packet he created.

“The questions are designed to reveal who the child is, his strengths and challenges with previous dental visits,” he says. “What is the best reward for good behavior?”

One child gets to toss rocks in a lake. Others love shiny tokens. One lad receives an empty recyclable container each time he cooperates. “He likes the smell of them,” says Dr. Nelson, who keeps a stash of empty clothes detergent and dishwashing bottles for these visits. “His mom brings a duffel bag filled with containers. If he sits in the chair, he gets a container.”

The lead radiograph protective vest gives some children the sensation of pressure they crave. One child will open his mouth only when standing in the corner, and that’s fine with Dr. Nelson. For some children, none of these techniques are effective, and protective stabilization may be used after consulting with the parents.

The information packet also reveals what the parents want and helps Dr. Nelson determine the starting point for the first visit, which is strictly noninvasive. The examination room has no dental chair, just toys to play with in a quiet space with a door. Here Dr. Nelson or one of the pediatric dental residents talk things over with the parents and set a goal for the child.

“Parents will guide you,” says Dr. Nelson. “We just have to listen. Parents do a lot of the work. They practice at home with the kids. It’s not a lot of dentistry. It’s a lot of time and behavior.”

Families with children who have autism can see Dr. Nelson or a resident each Monday and Tuesday. Referrals are chiefly word-of-mouth via families and from the UW Autism Center and Seattle Children’s hospital, though parents can just call for an appointment. Dr. Nelson typically sees 15 patients in an afternoon and says the clinic can handle more.

The glue holding everything together is consistency, from the dental assistants on up.

“Kids with autism have been on the website, they’ve seen my picture,” says Dr. Nelson. “I check in with all the families each time, introduce myself and the resident. They’re seeing a consistent face.”

He acknowledges that this work can be frustrating: “Some children make a lot of progress and their parents are thrilled. That won’t happen for a lot of others.

“My goal is to be able to provide families with their best version of what a dental visit can be. We are trying to establish best practices for dental treatment of children with autism.”

Learn more
For more information about The Center for Pediatric Dentistry’s Autism Clinic and Dr. Travis Nelson, visit www.thecenterforpediatricdentistry.com or call 206-543-5800.
Kaitlin Poppe couldn’t have spent a more meaningful spring before her graduation.

Dr. Poppe, who received her DDS from the UW in June, spent the spring at the Yakima Valley Farm Workers Nob Hill clinic in Yakima in a clinical rotation for the Regional Initiatives in Dental Education (RIDE) program. RIDE students also fanned out to rotations at community clinics in Colville, Moses Lake, Spokane, Lake Spokane, Wenatchee, Othello and Okanogan.

“Every day I was treating someone who otherwise would not receive care. Every day I knew I was making a difference in someone’s life, and I don’t think there is anything more rewarding than that,” Dr. Poppe said.

Built with the help of Eastern Washington University’s dental hygiene program, RIDE was created to improve access to dental care in rural and underserved areas of the state, especially in Eastern Washington.

“I have always been aware of the need for community dentistry, but was not aware of the extent of the need,” Dr. Poppe said. “We had patients who drove from hundreds of miles away to be seen at our clinic because we are the only ones who will see them. I always thought access-to-care problems were due to geography, but now realize that it is much more than that.”

The clinics where the RIDE students worked generally see a high proportion of patients who live below the poverty line, are on Medicaid or have no insurance. A significant number are children.

“The RIDE program is one of the great ways to increase access for low-income and Medicaid-insured children and adults,” said Dr. Bruce Wilcox, the dental director at Columbia Valley Community Health in Wenatchee. “The rotations are certainly a win for the students, but also for us and our patients.”

“Patients’ response to the RIDE students has been overwhelmingly positive,” said Dr. Ryan Busk, dental director at the Family Health Centers Dental Clinic in Okanogan. “The most commonly heard expression is, ‘Yes, I would love to work with the student—everyone has to learn sometime.’ ”

This year marked the second group of students to graduate from the RIDE program. Students spend their first year at the Riverpoint campus in Spokane, a joint venture of Washington State University and Eastern Washington University. They study alongside medical and dental hygiene students, using the latest distance-learning technology.

“RIDE is a terrific example of collaboration among public universities to address community needs—in this case, for dental care,” said Dr. Wendy Mouradian, Associate Dean of Regional Affairs and RIDE. “RIDE has also partnered with the private dental community, especially the Spokane District Dental Society, as well as public health clinics. It has helped us learn more about interprofessional education, which is becoming a major element of medical and dental education. All the medical and dental students at Riverpoint gain a great deal from their mutual association, including a better understanding of the patient’s overall health outside their own discipline.”

RIDE students spend their second and third years with their other dental classmates at the UW in Seattle, and then spend the spring of their fourth year at one of several Eastern Washington community health centers. They also participate in an earlier summer clinical rotation.

“We believe that when our students spend extended periods of time in these communities, work with local providers and get to know the residents, they’re much more likely to want to settle there and practice,” Dr. Mouradian said.

That’s how Dr. Eric Nygard sees it after completing his rotation at the Lake Spokane Community Health Center. “This is a fascinating community, one that my wife and I have discussed moving back to,” he said. “The people in this community are very supportive of each other.”

After receiving his DDS, Dr. Nygard began a dental anesthesia residency at Loma Linda University in Southern California.

“After this residency, I plan to move to Eastern Washington to serve the communities there as a dentist and dental anesthesiologist, largely serving pediatric and special-needs populations,” he said. “My rotation has influenced my thinking about community dentistry, because I can see that some populations would otherwise not receive comprehensive dental care without access to community dental clinics.”
Supporting our students through the Steiner Fund

The James C. Steiner Fund for Student Services and Support was established in 2011 to honor the memory of our beloved former Associate Dean of Student Services. Dr. Steiner served the School for 21 years as a faculty member, Associate Dean and Acting Dean. He was a true educator, passionate about every aspect of dentistry, especially his chosen specialty of endodontics. He had so many special talents, but above all he had a great love and empathy for students.

“You could be having the worst day imaginable, and then there’s this guy who gives a sense that it’s all going to be OK,” said former faculty member Dr. Douglass Jackson at Dr. Steiner’s retirement reception in 2008.

The Steiner Fund is the School’s primary support fund for students, providing resources for a full range of student activities, events and noteworthy projects, individual scholarship and financial support and even support for capital needs, such as recent updates to the student lounge.

One recent beneficiary of the fund was Todd Billington (’15), whose study of “Career Explorations in Dentistry and Peer-led Oral Health Education Among Youth of the Makah Indian Tribe” was recognized in the Outstanding Achievement in Community Dentistry competition conducted by the American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD). The Steiner Fund provided supplementary travel support for Billington to attend the 2013 National Oral Health Conference in Huntsville, Ala., and present a poster highlighting his work with the Makah. Since then, he has been working on establishing a student chapter of AAPHD at the UW.

“With the support from donors to the Steiner Fund, Todd was able to spend the summer between his first and second year of dental school as an AmeriCorps member working at the Sophie Trettevick Indian Health Clinic on the Makah Reservation in Neah Bay,” said Dr. Sue Coldwell, Associate Dean of Student Life and Admissions, in a letter to donors.

“While at the clinic, Todd worked not only as a dental assistant but with the clinic staff and tribal youth directors to develop career exploration programs in dentistry for Makah youth. These ‘dental camps’ not only provide inspiration and motivation for middle-school kids from underserved communities to consider a future for themselves as dental professionals, but they also provide a unique teaching opportunity to discuss the importance of good oral health habits.”

She also said, “We greatly value the national recognition attendance at this meeting gives to Todd and to our school. The experience of attending the conference also gave Todd the opportunity to interact with prominent leaders from around the country who are also addressing dental public health issues. Jim [Steiner] fervently believed that ‘students should be active seekers rather than passive recipients of learning.’ He would be so proud of Todd and of all our other students, who are actively engaged in service learning throughout our region.”

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**HOW TO CONTRIBUTE**

To contribute to the James C. Steiner Fund, please visit our School’s home page (www.dental.washington.edu) and click on “Make a Gift” in the drop-down menu at the top. For more information, contact Christina Vanosdoll at harrc@uw.edu.
Chambers Bay is a slice of golf heaven

With rainy weather moving through Puget Sound, it looked as if our duffers would have to brace themselves for sloppy conditions. But the rain eased up just as play started on Sept. 6, and our UW dental alumni enjoyed another magnificent day on the beautiful Chambers Bay golf course near Tacoma.

As we did two years ago when the tournament also took place at Chambers Bay, we partnered with the Pierce County Dental Society for the event. With its sweeping views of Puget Sound and challenging layout, Chambers Bay – site of the 2015 U.S. Open – is an experience not to be missed.

This year’s winners were:

**Low Gross team**
**First:** Sam Hinz, Raymond Kao, Eric Kvinland ('04)
**Second:** Steve Wick, Keith Walker, Andrew Tosdevin, Steve Cartensen
**Third:** Thomas Hohl ('74), Tim Drumhiller ('77), Rick Schrader ('77), Robert Tracy ('77)

**Low Net Team Score**
**First:** Trevor Boyle, Sean Christensen ('03), Phillipe Pla, Alex Kang ('03)
**Second:** Scott Cahoon ('76), Christopher Cahoon, Aaron Cahoon, Scott Taylor
**Third:** Jerome Lee, Dennis Hahn, Tyler Hunnex, Phillip Jung

**Men’s Long Drive:** David Weller ('02)
**Women’s Long Drive:** Minou Karbakhsh ('00 Perio)
**Men’s Closest to Pin (tie):** Bob Andrew ('68), Mike Anderson
**Women’s Closest to Pin:** Mary Yang

Thanks to our sponsors for a thoroughly enjoyable event:
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Weller Orthodontics, David Weller, DDS, MS
Ziemek Laboratories
Ray Kao, Sam Hinz, Eric Kvinsland ('04)

Philip Pla, Trevor Boyle, Sean Christiansen ('03), Alex Kang ('03, Pros '07)

The Regal Financial team: Daniel Taylor (caddy), Rich Martinez, Trevor Delaney, Basant Singh, Adam Nguyen

Bill Potter, Curtis Wade (Perio '79), Anthony Gardiner ('11)

Dennis Miya ('71), Dave Petersen ('71), Lissa Johnson ('02), Josh Johnson ('02)

Joe Gossler, Jeff Camm, Andy Varano, Corbin Eylander ('78)
Class of 2013 dons its doctoral hoods

Members of the Class of 2013 received their DDS degrees at the School of Dentistry’s annual Investiture of Doctoral Hoods ceremony on June 8 at Meany Hall on the UW campus.

Dean Joel Berg led his first graduation exercises since assuming the deanship last August. The event also included the first graduates from the School’s new International DDS program, a two-year course of study for students who already hold a DDS from outside the United States. In addition, the ceremony included the second cohort of graduates from the School’s Regional Initiatives in Dental Education (RIDE) program.

Special guests included members of the Class of 1963, who were visiting the UW campus for their 50-year reunion. Dr. Edmond Truelove of the Department of Oral Medicine gave the keynote speech, in which he imparted 10 life lessons. Recalling his upbringing as a grocer’s son in Indiana who worked at his father’s store from an early age, he said, “I knew it was my job to serve – just as it is now your job to serve.”

He told the graduates: “You can succeed no matter your origins, but first you must know what success is – and you must not compare your success with [that of] others.” One lesson he passed on from his father was this: “Everyone deserves to be treated with respect and dignity.

Dr. Phil Matson, president of the Class of 2013, noted the many changes that had taken place during his class’s time at the UW, including changes in clinical personnel, the first RIDE and IDDS graduates, and the loss of state Medicaid dental coverage for most adult patients. Even with these challenges, he said, the class had retained an easygoing character, and its members were “prepared to enter the world and practice in a changing environment.”

Welcoming alumni and the graduates’ parents, families and friends...
to the ceremony, Dean Berg noted the far-reaching changes planned for the School’s curriculum and clinical systems. “It’s a world of new materials, new technology, new understanding of biology and genetics, new ways of delivering care, new financial challenges,” he said. “We can’t expect to remain a leader in dental education with an old model, no matter how well it’s worked for us.”

International DDS Program marks its first graduates

The School of Dentistry’s International DDS Program graduated its first cohort of five students in June alongside our School’s four-year DDS students. Of the four IDDS students who took the WREB examination, all passed.

Dr. Dan Chan, Associate Dean of Clinical Services and the program’s director, cited the high quality of the IDDS group and expressed his thanks to Dr. Avina Paranjpe, Assistant Director, Memory Block, Program Manager, and the IDDS Admissions Committee for their efforts. He also expressed his appreciation for the cooperation of other faculty and staff in helping the two-year program get off the ground.

In April 2013, the IDDS program started to request that all potential candidates submit their application through the Centralized Application for Advanced Placement for International Dentists system (CAAPID), which is managed by the American Dental Education Association. This was done to streamline the process after the applicant pool more than doubled in 2012-13.

One of the program’s missions is to recruit dentists to focus on access-to-care issues and cater to underserved populations. The IDDS Office will continue to monitor this aspect of the program as it progresses.

Class of ’15 receives clinical coats

Members of the Class of 2015, including the newest cohort of students in the International DDS Program, received their clinical coats on Aug. 17 in our School of Dentistry’s annual White Coat Ceremony.

The ceremony, one of the signature events sponsored by our Dental Alumni Association, formally recognizes the beginning of students’ careers as clinicians at the UW. As part of it, students recite and then sign a pledge to uphold high standards of professionalism and ethics.

Dr. John Wataha of Restorative Dentistry, chosen by the students as their keynote speaker, told students that they would learn very private things about patients and cautioned them not to judge too quickly. To illustrate, he recounted his experience in settling the affairs of his brother Jay, who died suddenly in 2006 at age 49.

Dr. Wataha said he was initially angry at Jay for what appeared to be irresponsible decisions, but when he learned more about the burdens his brother had faced, came to believe that Jay had done the best he could.

“Many of your patients will be the same,” he told the students. “I think it’s dangerous to believe you’re better than your patients. … Not much separates us from problems, and life can turn on a dime.”

He urged the students, “Use the special perspective you get to treat [patients] more effectively, rather than waste time judging them. You’ll be a better clinician and person if you listen to your patients and you learn from them.”

An accomplished pianist and composer, Dr. Wataha concluded by playing a recording of “Time Passes By,” a song he wrote.

Dean Joel Berg welcomed students and their families and friends to the ceremony and thanked the Alumni Association for its support.

“I can tell you that there’s absolutely nothing more joyful and satisfying than good patient care,” he told the students. “And I never get tired of saying this, either: Good patient care is the best education you’ll ever have.”

With an assist from Dr. Dolphine Oda, Kelly Anderson dons her clinical coat as Dr. Jack Ashlock looks on.
Ex-FDA official discusses regulatory challenges at Research Day

Dr. Larry Kessler, a former top official at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, discussed the formidable challenges in getting new dental technology through the regulatory process in a keynote address at our School of Dentistry’s annual Research Day on Sept. 20.

Dr. Kessler, who was Director of the Office of Surveillance and Biometrics at the FDA’s Center for Devices and Radiological Health until 2008, is Professor and Chair of the Department of Health Services in the UW School of Public Health. He described the FDA’s sprawling, cumbersome regulatory mechanisms and processes, which in one instance took seven years to begin fixing hazards in hospital bed rails after they were identified.

Among the improvements he called for were more consistent and sometimes higher standards for the marketplace, especially for medical devices, along with improved guidance documents and performance standards. He also called for improvements in assessing products and devices after they reach the market—what he termed “post-market programs with teeth.”

In discussing dental technology, Dr. Kessler cited temporomandibular joint (TMJ) implants, which came out in 1976 and were reclassified in 1993. However, it took another five years for the FDA to request pre-market approvals after the reclassification.

Underscoring the need for a stringent approval process is the difficulty in recalling products when a problem crops up. “Getting products off the market is one of the hardest things to do,” Dr. Kessler said. “You almost have to show bodies in the street.”

School of Dentistry faculty also presented talks during the morning session at the Health Sciences Center. They were:

- Dr. Johan Aps, Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatric Dentistry, who presented “Diagnostics in Dentistry: The Radiologist’s Toolbox.”
- Dr. Richard Presland, Associate Professor of Oral Health Sciences and Director of the Oral Biology Graduate Program, who presented “Using Saliva and Proteomics as Tools to Understand Chronic Graft-Vs.-Host Diseases.”
- Dr. Mark Drangsholt, Professor and Chair of the Department of Oral Medicine, who presented “Neurosensor Testing for Diagnosis of Orofacial Pain.”

In another one of the day’s highlights, 28 students gave research poster presentations in the Health Sciences lobby. Kevin Huang (‘16) received the 2013 American Dental Association Clinician Scholar Award for his project, titled “Ni(II) Alters Gingival Innate Immunity Under Bacterial Stimulation.” Huang, whose co-author was Sucheol Gil of Oral Health Sciences, was mentored by Dr. Sun Oh Chung of Oral Health Sciences. As winner of the ADA award, Huang will represent the School of Dentistry in the National Student Research Competition at the 2014 ADA meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

Other student finalists chosen by the Research Advisory Committee were Nicolette Bohn (‘16), Rochelle Burke (‘17), Sam Finkleman (‘16) and Dennis Wang (‘17). Finalists were judged in three categories: quality of science; organization and clarity of presentation; and apparent depth of understanding of the project/area.
As students at our School of Dentistry, Drs. Jessica Bremerman ('10), Danielle Stimson ('11) and Rolanda Ward ('11) appreciated the part played by the Society of American Indian Dentists (SAID) in providing mentorship and support during their dental education journey.

This spring, the three alumnae were thrilled when they heard that SAID would hold its annual meetings at the Tulalip reservation near Seattle – and they seized the opportunity for meaningful participation.

Working with Dr. Beatrice Gandara of our Oral Medicine faculty, they organized a full-day dental career exploration event at the meetings. The Toothtastic Dental Camp on June 1 drew middle- and high-school students from the Tulalip, Skagit, Muckleshoot and other local tribes to talk with Native American dentists and dental students from all around the country.

“When events like Toothtastic are available and young students have the opportunity to meet Native professionals who have succeeded, that gives them hope to pursue their dreams and lets them know that it is possible to move from the reservation to get an education,” Dr. Stimson said. She is a member of the Blackfeet Nation, while Dr. Bremerman is Yakama and Dr. Ward is Aleut.

Drs. Bremerman and Stimson work in Indian Health Service (IHS) clinics on the reservations where they grew up, while Dr. Ward is an Oral Medicine resident at the UW.

As an undergraduate, Dr. Bremerman said, she felt isolated, but SAID gave her friends to share in the experience of dental school. It also provided a connection to mentors such as SAID board member Dr. Nancy Reifel, who furnishes students with advice and networking opportunities. For Dr. Stimson, conversations with her SAID mentor helped her learn more about working for the IHS and building relationships in organized dentistry.

Dr. Ward said that SAID’s support of students matters greatly “because many people drop off along the way, and helping to keep a student on track can be quite crucial in the long run.”

Dr. Ward received an early boost from her participation in the Summer Medical and Dental Education program, an enrichment program at the UW funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and jointly directed by the Schools of Medicine and Dentistry.

The three alumnae worked to organize Toothtastic with Dr. Gandara, who is also director of our School’s Office of Educational Partnerships and Diversity (OEPD), and School of Dentistry staff members Annikka Frostad-Thomas and Lan Nguyen, who are members of the Americorps VISTA program. Highlights included guest speaker Dr. George Blue Spruce, the first American Indian dentist.

The alums drew on their experience as students, when they mentored attendees at several OEPD-organized “dental camps.” These camps, held several times a year, are designed to inspire students from backgrounds underrepresented in the dental profession to pursue oral health care careers, and include hands-on dental simulation activities such as waxing and impression-taking.

At the SAID meetings, Dr. Ward was also a conference speaker, sharing her expertise in burning mouth syndrome and other oral neuropathies.

Ten UW dental students, including incoming Native American students Sarah McDonald (Haida), Justin Van Riper (Cowlitz) and Emily Yepez (Taos), assisted with teaching hands-on activities. Other highlights of the meetings included presentations by UW faculty members Drs. Peter Milgrom, Rebecca Slayton and Johan Aps and Professor Emeritus Dr. Thomas Morton. At the banquet, Dean Joel Berg was honored for his contributions to Native American communities with a blanket ceremony, followed by a round dance (also known as a “friendship dance”) by all the attendees.

Dr. Gandara said she hopes to build upon June’s success by continuing to do outreach events for young students in the local Native communities.

Dr. Bremerman summed it up: “The kids that attended Toothtastic were great. ... I hope they all realized that with a little hard work and determination, they can achieve anything – including a career in dentistry.”

—Annikka Frostad-Thomas
Macy Foundation scholar joins forces with Pediatric Dentistry

Dr. Mayumi Willgerodt, an associate professor in the University of Washington School of Nursing, will collaborate with The Center for Pediatric Dentistry in her work as a 2013-14 Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation Faculty Scholar.

Dr. Willgerodt, the first faculty scholar selected from the UW, will focus on addressing pediatric oral health disparities and building team-based models of care by bridging gaps in interprofessional education and collaborative practice. She will work closely with pediatric dental residents, advanced practice nursing students and social work students to implement an interprofessional oral health curriculum, and will partner with The Center to create a team-based model of care for underserved children. Her project will also explore ways to expand these models of care across the country.

“The Center for Pediatric Dentistry will provide the perfect setting for Dr. Willgerodt’s project. Our residents and faculty look forward to the opportunity to participate in a team-based approach to care,” said Dr. Rebecca Slayton, Chair of our Department of Pediatric Dentistry and director of The Center for Pediatric Dentistry. “The diverse patient population we treat includes children with special health care needs, children from other countries and children who have difficulty accessing the health care system. This partnership will demonstrate interprofessional education at its best.”

Dr. Willgerodt, who teaches in the Department of Family and Child Nursing, has focused her research and scholarship on immigrant youth and families, school health promotion for children and, in recent years, interprofessional education (IPE) and collaborative practice.

Her emphasis on health disparities and advocating for underserved and vulnerable children, families and communities has remained constant throughout her professional life. She practices as a school nurse in Seattle and is active in interprofessional initiatives. She is a former UW IPE Teaching Scholar and leads a grant-funded IPE Assessment Team.

“This award will give me the opportunity to really focus on addressing several critical needs in education and practice: collaborative practice opportunities, pediatric oral health disparities, and the inclusion of school nurses as integral members of the health care team,” said Dr. Willgerodt. “It’s really all about addressing the ‘Triple Aim’ – better care, better health and controlling health care costs – among our most vulnerable population.”

The Macy Faculty Scholars program, the first of its kind, began in December 2010 and selects five scholars annually from around the United States. The program aims to accelerate needed reforms in health professions education to accommodate the dramatic changes occurring in medical practice and health care delivery. Scholars engage in an educational project and work closely with a mentor who is recognized for leadership. Dr. Brenda Zierler, Professor in Biobehavioral Nursing Health Systems, will be Dr. Willgerodt’s mentor during the next two years.

“Mayumi’s background in conducting research with underserved populations is perfectly aligned with her Macy Scholar’s project,” said Dr. Zierler. “As a pediatric nurse, Mayumi has outlined a project that, if successful, will make a difference in the lives of underserved children and the health professionals who practice collaboratively to address this chronic health illness in children. I am privileged to be a mentor working with Mayumi and collaborating with the UW School of Dentistry and The Center for Pediatric Dentistry on such an important project.”

Said George Thibault, president of the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation: “These promising educational innovators will join other Macy Faculty Scholars in driving much-needed innovation and reform in health professions education.”
Technician Rich Lee supports students in crisis

After Rich Lee lost his father at the age of 5, he never forgot how his mother found affordable dental care for her eight children at the UW. From the day he started as a dental lab technician at the UW in 2001, he earmarked 10 percent of his net salary to give back to our School of Dentistry.

“It was full circle for me,” he says. “I’m grateful I’m working here.”

This May, he stepped up his commitment by formally establishing an endowment to support the Emergency Survivor Fund he had helped launch earlier to aid students in crisis. The fund helps students deal with unexpected expenses after a family loss or personal emergency.

The endowment honors not only Brown and his son, Lee said, but two former faculty members who left indelible marks on the Department of Restorative Dentistry: Dr. Brian Toolson and Dr. Brent Nash. Prior to Lee’s arrival at the UW, Dr. Toolson was his Army Reserve commander. “They were accepting and patient during my early employment years at the UW,” he says. “They were good men!”

Lee says he was inspired by prominent UW supporter William Gates Sr., who has said that endowments can come in all sizes. For Lee, this endowment could not be a more fitting tribute to all its namesakes.

“It’s the endowment with heart,” he says.

Four attend Tucker Institute’s 2013 session at UW

The Tucker Institute welcomed four participants during its 2013 session at our School of Dentistry June 17-21. This year’s graduates were Drs. Scott Kanamori, Rolf Kreher, Aleksandr Vasenko and Katherine Nguyen.

Students prepared and seated at least four castings each as they assimilated the “Tucker Technique,” and they gained a new appreciation for the laboratory technician’s skills through waxing, investing and polishing a casting prior to final cementation. Dr. Richard D. Tucker’s laboratory technician, Gena Longstreth, gently guided the doctors back to skills long forgotten by some.

This year marked the first time the Institute had complete cassettes of instruments and hand pieces for the participants, courtesy of the Academy of R.V. Tucker Study Clubs Executive Council, so the dentists needed only to bring their loupes and enthusiasm for gold.

For the last two years, the Institute has offered reduced tuition and scholarships to facilitate participation, and it asks UW alumni to urge those with an interest in excellence in operative dentistry to attend the Institute.

With the 2014 Western Regional Examining Board now set for March 26-29, the Institute has scheduled its 2014 session at the UW for June 16-20. Tuition is $3,750 for the week, and registrants earn 48 hours of PACE certified participation credits in Operative Dentistry/Subject Code 250 for those working towards their Master’s in the Academy of General Dentistry. The study club supplies the patients, gold, laboratory technician, an assistant and now instruments and hand pieces.

Institute officials thanked Cara Thayer, RDA, for her assistance in organizing the 2013 Tucker Institute and Longstreth for her laboratory support. Thanks also went to Dr. Tucker, mentor and UW affiliate faculty member, for donating a week out of his practice to teach the Institute.

Better than most, Lee understands the importance of a helping hand at such times. In 1981, while in the Army, he was involved in a car accident that claimed the life of his 6-month-old son, Richard Alan Lee Jr. So, when he asked Carol Brown, our Director of Student Services, for ways in which he could help students, her suggestion for an emergency fund struck a deep chord.
OKU inducts members, awards scholarships

The UW chapter of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU) dental honorary society bestowed six scholarships and inducted new alumni and faculty members during its annual dinner on May 30 at the Husky Union Building.

Dr. Art DiMarco, director of the Regional Initiatives in Dental Education program in Spokane, was inducted as a faculty member, while Dr. Susan Herring, Professor and Acting Vice Chair of Oral Health Sciences, was inducted as honorary faculty member.

Scholarship awards went to Allison Millard and Shane Drew of the Class of 2014, Kathryn Parker and Cameron Lasley of the Class of 2015, and Anisoara Begun and Chelsea Momany of the Class of 2016. Parker also received the chapter’s William S. Kramer Award for Excellence, which recognizes a rising third-year dental student who has demonstrated scholarship, character, and the potential for advancement of dentistry and service to humanity.

Those presenting the awards included Dr. Hai Zhang, chapter president; Sandy Phillips, chapter vice president; Dr. Sue Coldwell, Associate Dean of Student Life and Admissions; and Dr. John Evans, Acting Vice Chair of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Dean Joel Berg also spoke briefly, expressing pride in the new alumni inductees, while Dr. Mats Kronstrom, chapter president-elect, delivered a brief history of OKU.

Boneheads are always welcome!

Dr. Susan Herring of Oral Health Sciences continues to request donations of human skulls for instructional use at our School of Dentistry.

Dr. Herring, who also teaches in Orthodontics, uses the skulls as one of several instructors in a School of Medicine pre-doctoral course on medical and dental anatomy. She also uses them in her School of Dentistry postgraduate course on head and neck anatomy.

Since our last issue, Dr. Patrick O’Donnell (’70) has donated a skull. We thank him and our other alumni who have responded to Dr. Herring’s request.

The School’s collection of skulls is aging, and skulls have grown prohibitively expensive in a time of tight budgets, Dr. Herring said. She noted that decades ago, dental students often bought skulls, and those would be prime candidates for donation if they’re no longer in use. She also said that the newly donated skulls are almost always in better condition than the rest of the collection.

The skulls must be actual human specimens – not plastic – and in reasonably good condition, with no major parts missing or broken, she said.

Skulls may be sent directly to Dr. Herring at the School of Dentistry’s Department of Orthodontics, 1959 N.E. Pacific St., Box 357446, Seattle, WA 98195. If a tax deduction is desired, donors should state their valuation of the skull in an email or in writing. (Dr. Herring’s email is herring@u.washington.edu.) The School can then provide an official acknowledgement of the donation.

Sandy Phillips and Dr. Hai Zhang flank scholarship winners (from left) Shane Drew, Allison Millard, Cameron Lasley, Kathryn Parker, Chelsea Momany and Anisoara Begun.

Sandy Phillips and Dr. Hai Zhang welcome Dr. Susan Herring, inducted as honorary OKU faculty member.


“I take pride in associating with the School of Dentistry,” says Dr. David Minahan (’75).

That’s no secret to the many faculty and staff who have come to know the newly installed president of the Washington State Dental Association as one of our School’s most outstanding supporters. As a tireless and enthusiastic advocate, an unstinting volunteer and a generous donor, he has had few peers during the decades since his graduation.

After receiving his DDS, Dr. Minahan continued his involvement with the School as a substitute class representative and then full representative with the Dental Alumni Association, a position that enabled him to network with school leaders, faculty and fellow dentists. He also served in leadership posts with the association, including the presidency, and joined the Dean’s Club board, which he chaired.

“He’s a tremendous ambassador for our School, and even among a group as dedicated as our alumni, he absolutely stands out.” — Dean Joel Berg

“His involvement and leadership in two capital campaigns for the School have been instrumental in strengthening our programs and facilities,” says Dr. Bryan Edgar (’76), who co-chaired the School’s last major fund-raising campaign.

“It would be hard to find a bigger booster of our dental school,” says his friend and former WSDA president, Dr. Doug Walsh (’78). “Dave is a terrific asset to the dental school and the dental community.”

Dr. Minahan’s support for the School has also gone well beyond fund-raising. In particular, he is a fixture in the WSDA mentor program, helping advise the next generation of dentists at the UW.

“During my dental school years, we did not have a mentor program and I did not have any family members in the profession to consult with,” he recalls. “We used our classmates as confidants, so when the mentor program was established, I felt that there was real potential value in the program.”

He also served as an adjunct faculty member in Prosthodontics early in his career, which he says further helped cement his relationship with the School.

He applauds the new direction being taken by Dean Joel Berg. “Like the majority of alumni and faculty I’ve spoken with, I’ve been impressed with the dynamic changes developing at the School of Dentistry,” he says. “Collaborations between faculty and staff in the formulations of a new teaching model and curriculum promises vast improvement in dental education. The clerkship program that places students into the communities of need throughout the state will allow for many more clinical experiences for students as well as reinforcing the safety net for the underserved.”

He’s excited about his year ahead as WSDA president. “It will be a culmination of many years of service in organized dentistry where I have had the opportunity to make many friendships and gain from the experiences of many past leaders,” he says. “Like service to the School of Dentistry, it is all about the relationships one forms with other colleagues that make the experience so rich.”

He lives in Kenmore at the northern end of Lake Washington with his wife of 42 years, Susan, who was his sweetheart as a UW undergraduate. They have two sons: Greg, who’s in the wine cellar business with Luxe Cellars, and Allan, who received his DDS from the UW in 2009 and joined his dad’s practice in Kenmore. Later, Allan bought a practice in nearby Lake Forest Park. But he still spends Friday afternoons in his dad’s office, and the two plan to expand their practice together.

“Interacting with Allan and the mentorship program participants have been energizing and keep me excited about the profession,” Dr. Minahan says.

The Minahans enjoy family time, including doting on their two grandchildren. They also enjoy golf, Husky sports and travel, especially to Maui, one of their favorite destinations.

“Year in and year out, Dave Minahan has been one of our best resources,” says Dean Berg. “He’s a tremendous ambassador for our School, and even among a group as dedicated as our alumni, he absolutely stands out. It’s always a great feeling to know that he’s in our corner.”
The UW dental student watched in horror as the first gold crown he’d ever attempted in the D-1 Simulation Lab suddenly sprang loose from its moorings, rocketed into the wall and bounced into the trash. Hours of work, all down the drain. “I thought I was sunk,” says the student.

Bill Loew knew better.

“Here, take a hand piece – I’ll show you,” Loew said as he helped the student buff out the crown. In a couple of minutes, it was as good as new.

As D-1’s head technician since 1984, Bill Loew has specialized in pulling not only castings but also students out of the fire. Says one: “Two things got me through second year: Bill Loew and Super Glue.”

In the Simulation Lab, Loew is a stage manager overseeing a production with thousands of moving parts: handpieces, amal-
gam, alginate, plastic teeth, dentiforms, grinders, mixers and more – and a cast of students under plenty of pressure.

Year after year, he has shepherded this production to its finish with deftness, joviality and sheer glowing competence. It has become an annual ritual at the springtime Honors and Awards ceremony: Loew marching up to the lectern to receive another Outstanding Staff Member award from students.

“The school could not possibly function without him,” says Dr. Mai-lan Phan (‘13). “He can solve any laboratory problem known to mankind.”

Faculty, especially Restorative Dentistry course directors, appreciate Loew every bit as much as students.

“I could not do my job without his support,” says Dr. Marty Anderson (‘65), who has worked with him for four decades. Loew procures supplies and fills laboratory needs for all of the School’s preclinical Restorative courses, and also supports and supervises the lecture rooms with technical assistance.

Even the slower days of summer, when only two or three courses meet in D-1, are a time to catch up rather than relax. Loew will meet with course directors, see what changes are coming for the fall quarter and determine what supplies are needed. For the Operative Dentistry course alone, he’ll order 6,500 plastic teeth and assemble them in little manila paper packets for each student, bearing the course number and date of class, with a mix of practice teeth and exam teeth. When the class flocks into D-1 in September, everything is in place.

Loew’s job requires not only preparation but improvisation as well. Hand pieces break down. Grinders, mixers and sinks clog. He makes repairs on the fly, and if he can’t fix a hand piece on the spot, the student gets a loaner. “I keep the system moving,” he says.

Faculty members marvel at his composure. “Often four or five students will jump on him needing help all at once, and he’s very patient answering each one,” says Dr. John Townsend (‘73 Pros) of Restorative. “I’ve never seen him get rattled.”

“He is absolutely wonderful – the person we go to with everything,” says student Halee Hyatt (‘15). “He taught us one by one how to stack porcelain. We see him as the expert in all things lab-related. He’s also willing to share a laugh. That’s a

“**The school could not possibly function without him.**”

—Dr. Mai-lan Phan (‘13)
nice thing to have in D-1, where things can get pretty stressed.”

“He’s a frustration-buster,” Dr. Anderson says.

Having started at the UW in 1967, Loew is also a living window into two-thirds of the School’s history. He still clearly recalls the time in the 1970s when classes numbered at least 110 dental students plus dental hygiene students. “It was really wild,” he says.

The dental hygiene program was eliminated and dental classes eventually shrank to about 55 students by the 1980s. However, the advent of the Regional Initiatives in Dental Education (RIDE) program in 2007, plus the international DDS program in 2010, boosted graduating class sizes to nearly 70 and required changes to D-1. As always, Loew took it in stride.

Beyond the numbers, Loew has seen a pronounced change in teaching styles. He came to the UW at a time when an instructor might look at a crown and then frown, crush it and say only, “Do it again.” That style has gone by the wayside, and Loew doesn’t miss it. “You don’t learn with fear,” he says.

And, of course, he has seen sweeping changes in technology, dental materials and equipment. When Loew started at the School, he worked in the old crown and bridge lab, which was basically a closet shoehorned between two larger labs. The bench machines and hand pieces were belt-driven – he remembers a student getting his long hair caught in a belt during the ‘70s – and the students used steel burs. When the D wing was added in 1972, it retained the old teaching lab layout: long rows of straight benches with students jammed together, leaving little space for instructors to lean in. As a member of the design committee for the modernized D-1 lab, which underwent a major renovation in the ‘90s, Loew had a key voice in improving the layout, which now features octagonal clusters.

Perhaps the biggest development in Lowe’s UW career came in 1984 when department chair Dr. David Bales (’57) assigned him to D-1, working with the students.

“It was just a perfect match,” says Dr. Townsend.

Watch Loew at work these days, and you’ll see an old pro at the top of his game, his movements quick and assured. He tells students not only how things are done, but why.

Painting a crown with an opaque base coat to prep for the application of porcelain, he explains: “You have to be careful when you brush near the margin. You can get particles that will harden when it fires, and you have to grind them off.”

In a dangerous environment, he’s especially mindful of his responsibility to keep students safe. “They can hurt themselves. They’ll poke their fingers, or burn themselves, or stick themselves with a bur,” he says.

“He’s run a very safe lab,” says Dr. Townsend. “I can’t think of any major injury in all that time.”

“When we’re casting, I’m really careful with them,” Loew says. “You can break a wrist or an arm or even set yourself on fire. You’re dealing with a furnace that’s 1,300 degrees.” Lathes and razor-sharp instruments are further invitations to an injury; he also teaches students to pull the protective rubber coating off blades with a hemostat, so as not to risk slicing their fingers open.

Ah, yes, those precious fingers. As he tells students: “Put your hands in front of your face. See those things? Those are worth millions.” That’s typical Loew – positive, encouraging.

Inevitably, he’s had a few bumps here and there. Not long after Loew started at the UW, a grad student who was working on a full-mouth restoration left the case on Loew’s desk with a note: “Sprue, invest and cast.” As Loew remembers, the posteriors were OK, with full crowns, but the anteriors hadn’t been cut back. However, he went ahead and invested and cast the whole restoration. What the heck – orders were orders, right?

Loew wasn’t there when the student picked up the case, but

“He is absolutely wonderful – the person we go to with everything.” —Halee Hyatt (’15)
found a rather dry note on his desk the next morning: “Please do not sprue, invest and cast my articulator, my instruments or my chair.”

In 1969, the school had boil-out machines with gas burners. One day the wax in a machine’s water tank ignited and started to spread. A student came running over to Loew, yelling, “The lab’s on fire!” Loew calmly closed the lid on the tank, cutting off the fire’s oxygen. Just another day at the office.

Back in those early years, the School of Dentistry had any number of larger-than-life personalities – Dr. Saul Schluger, Dr. Bill Ammons ('70 Perio), Dr. Gerald Stibbs. Loew prided himself on getting along with even the most demanding faculty members. “I respect all of them for their knowledge, for their clinical skills, and for their position,” he says.

He remembers some with special fondness, of course – people like Dr. Ian Hamilton, who headed Operative Dentistry, and Professor Jean Hodson ('52 Dental Hygiene), who taught dental anatomy. Loew will always have a special place in his heart for Dr. Ken Morrison ('52 Restorative), who as chair of Restorative Dentistry hired him, and he stood in awe of the late Dr. Ammons, onetime chair of Periodontics. “He treated everyone – faculty and staff – alike, and he could discuss almost anything under the sun with knowledge and insight,” Loew says. He also holds a special regard for the Restorative course directors with whom he’s shared close working ties for decades – Dr. Anderson, Dr. Townsend, Dr. Glen Johnson ('78), Dr. Richard McCoy ('61).

Loew could have retired by now, but that’s not on his radar – not while he continues to derive such enjoyment from his association with students. He prizes their intelligence, their energy and the chance to help mold those qualities to produce qualified clinicians. “They’re very bright people,” he says, “but some of them have never done anything mechanical. They’ve grown up in a world of computers and electronics.”

Outside work, he indulges his love for model railroading, an interest stirred in childhood when his dad worked for the Northern Pacific Railroad. He’s also a huge fan of vintage cars, starting with the 1930 Model A sedan he bought in high school. He still has a 1930 Packard straight 8 with a four-speed, and still drives his cream-colored 1958 Cadillac two-door Coupe de Ville, which has only 32,000 miles on the odometer. But those are outside interests; his passion still burns brightest inside the School of Dentistry.

“Bill is someone I still think of often and miss very much,” says Dr. Christina Feliz ('09). “Bill was always that one person that just made you realize things were going to be OK even at the lowest of times.”

Says Dr. John Wataha of Restorative: “It is hard to fully express the positive impact Bill has on our program. Personally, he brings a ‘can do’ attitude to work each day. I have never seen him grumpy, and I have never seen him say he can’t do something. He is organized and wholly committed to ensure the excellence of our program.”

Faculty member Dr. John Townsend (left) calls Loew’s assignment to the D-1 lab in 1984 “just a perfect match.”
Dr. Elizabeth Velan was named Graduate Program Director for Pediatric Dentistry, effective July 1. Dr. Velan, who served her dental residency and received her MS in Pediatric Dentistry from the UW, is chief of education and resident training at Seattle Children's hospital, where she focuses on medically complicated and craniofacial patients. She earned her DMD from Oregon Health & Science University.

Dr. John Sorensen of Restorative Dentistry was named to receive the 2013 President’s Award of the American College of Prosthodontists. The annual award recognizes outstanding contributions to the ACP or prosthodontics, as well as academic dentistry and the sciences or health professions. Dr. Sorensen, who chairs the School of Dentistry’s Clinical Systems Task Force, has been an active researcher in dental materials and a reviewer, editor and editorial board member for leading journals.

Dr. Dolphine Oda of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery has received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Oral Cancer Foundation for her work as director of the UW’s Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Service. Dr. Oda, who is Professor of Oral Pathology, was honored at the Washington Academy of General Dentistry’s Evening to Conquer Oral Cancer in Bellevue on Sept. 13.

Dr. Pollene Speed of Restorative Dentistry was honored by the Seattle Chapter of the National Council of Negro Women as one of 45 women who have made a significant impact on the Puget Sound community. Dr. Speed was recognized at the chapter’s 45th Celebration Luncheon on Oct. 5 in Renton, Wash.

Dr. Donald Chi of Oral Health Sciences has won the first Sunstar Americas Pediatric Prevention Award, given to promote research in the prevention of dental disease in children. Dr. Sun Oh Chung of Oral Health Sciences was Dr. Chi’s mentor for the $25,000 unrestricted educational grant.

Dr. Ricardo Schwedhelm of Restorative Dentistry was appointed Acting Chair of the department in late November 2012 to allow Dr. John Wataha, the permanent Chair, to take on temporary new duties as Chair of the School’s Project Management Task Force. Dr. Schwedhelm, who is Clinical Associate Professor of Restorative Dentistry, came to the department in 1994 as a clinical instructor. He holds a DDS from the Universidad Tecnologica de Mexico and, from Indiana University, an MSD, a Certificate of Fixed and Removable Partial Prosthodontics and a Certificate of Removable Prosthodontics.

Dr. Wendy Mouradian, Associate Dean for Regional Affairs and RIDE, received a 2013 Shils Award from the Dr. Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial Education Fund for her work with the School of Dentistry’s Regional Initiatives in Dental Education program. The award recognizes up to four recipients each year who have had significant positive impact on the dental community. Dr. Mouradian has overseen the RIDE program, which produced its second cohort of graduates this past June, since its inception.

Kimberly Hanson Huggins of Oral Medicine has assumed new duties as the Director of Special Patient Care, leading curriculum modifications, ongoing evaluation and tracking related to persons with special care/special needs. Huggins will serve as the School of Dentistry’s liaison with state agencies and associations in the area of patients with special care or special needs. She will also assume a major role in the School’s new interprofessional education (IPE) activities, and will continue with some of her existing responsibilities in the departments of Oral Medicine and Pediatric Dentistry.
FOR THE YEAR 2013, the School proudly acknowledges individuals, organizations, corporations and foundations for their cumulative commitment to the pursuit of excellence in oral health. We could not sustain our proud tradition of excellence without them.

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. We thank our donors for their outstanding commitment to our School!

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An investment in our School and the future of dentistry: It’s the right choice for everyone.
The Dr. Douglass L. Morell Dentistry Research Fund, a major endowment established for our School through a bequest, has played a key role in sustaining the School’s research efforts during a time of budget cuts. This fund supports faculty research pilot projects, usually to lay the foundation for a grant application to the National Institutes of Health or other sources. Here is a sampling of Morell Fund projects.

**Identification of the principal ligands by which *P. gingivalis* whole cells activate TLR2**

**PI: Dr. Richard Darveau**

Our aim is to identify the principal Porphyromonas gingivalis ligands that stimulate the host immune receptor TLR2. This bacterial-host interaction plays a key role in the progression of periodontitis, both by promoting tooth loss and promoting persistence of the bacterium. *P. gingivalis* ligands that activate TLR2, which results in substantial production of pro-inflammatory mediators, have been studied for many years. Several TLR2-activating bacterial components have been identified in *P. gingivalis*; however, our preliminary data demonstrate these TLR2 ligands do not account for the robust response triggered by intact bacteria. Our data with bacterial mutants lacking these ligands and biochemical analysis has revealed that none of these known bacterial components account for the robust TLR2 activity demonstrated by *P. gingivalis*. We propose to identify the principal *P. gingivalis* TLR2 ligands using biochemical techniques. Common features amongst the identified agonists will provide structure-function insights into binding and activation of TLR2, potentially shedding light into how subtle differences in agonist structure impact the potency of TLR2 activation. We will also assess the contribution made by each newly identified agonist by testing mutants lacking it, and assaying purified agonist, for TLR2 stimulation. This study will fill a critical gap in our understanding of how *P. gingivalis* activates TLR2.

**Development of a cognitive bias modification protocol for dental anxiety**

**PI: Dr. Lisa Heaton**

**Co-investigators: Dr. Jacqueline Pickrell, Dr. Susan Coldwell, Dr. Douglas Ramsay**

Avoidance of regular dental care due to anxiety causes many in the United States to seek dental treatment only when in pain, reinforcing fear and avoidance of dentistry and leading to a worsening of overall oral and general health. Prior research has shown that anxious individuals selectively attend to stimuli that are relevant to their fears instead of neutral stimuli, thereby reinforcing their fear. Cognitive Bias Modification (CBM) is designed to modify this attentional bias of anxious individuals so that they direct their attention away from emotionally negative/threatening stimuli, resulting in a meaningful reduction in anxiety. The two specific aims proposed in this application are the necessary first steps in the development of a CBM intervention to reduce dental anxiety. Specific Aim 1 will develop a bank of word pairs to be used in Aim 2, containing both dental-threat-related and non-dental control words, based on 66 dentally related, negatively valenced words produced in previous pilot work. Specific Aim 2 will use these word pairs to demonstrate an attentional bias in a sample of dentally anxious individuals compared to non-anxious controls. It is anticipated that dentally anxious individuals will have faster response times to dental threat-related words than to neutral words compared to controls, demonstrating an attentional bias in these anxious individuals. Results obtained from these aims will provide pilot data needed for an NIH proposal to develop a CBM treatment battery for dental anxiety.

**Characterization of salivary biomarkers for chronic graft-versus-host disease**

**PI: Dr. Richard Presland**

**Co-investigator: Dr. Mark Schubert**

Chronic graft-versus-host disease (cGVHD) is a long-term, often life-threatening inflammatory condition that affects 40-70% of patients who undergo allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (allo-HSCT). While there is a good understanding of cGVHD risk factors, there is an urgent need for disease-specific molecular diagnostic tools and a better understanding of disease pathobiology. In a previous study we utilized quantitative mass spectrometry to develop a detailed proteomic salivary profile of cGVHD patients. We identified 98 proteins that significantly changed in expression in cGVHD patients, relative to healthy, cGVHD(-) allo-HSCT patients. Preliminary studies confirmed that two proteins with potent anti-inflammatory activities, secretory leukocyte proteinase inhibitor (SLPI) and IL-1 receptor antagonist (IL-1ra), significantly changed in expression in cGVHD patients, relative to healthy, cGVHD(-) allo-HSCT patients. In this proposal we will validate the findings for these two potential biomarkers, and test two additional proteins as candidate cGVHD biomarkers. The specific aims of this proposal are to (1) examine the expression of two biomarkers, SLPI and IL-1ra, in cGVHD and healthy allo-HSCT transplant patients, at different times post-transplantation, and (2) assess the efficacy of two additional protein markers, cystatin B and cytokeratin 1, as potential cGVHD biomarkers. This research support would allow us to move these pilot studies toward a larger study aimed at validating a clinically useful cGVHD biomarker panel.

For details on any study at the School of Dentistry, contact Dr. Linda LeResche, Associate Dean of Research, at leresc@dentals.washington.edu, or Mary Beth Cunningham at mec@u.washington.edu, or the principal investigator.
CLASS OF 1955
Dr. Robert A. Hawkins, Missoula, Mont.: We’re both healthy and doing the things we have always done: traveling, skiing, hiking and socializing with some very wonderful friends. We love coming back to the university, Puget Sound and Vancouver Island to go sailing.

CLASS OF 1978
Dr. Douglas Walsh was elected Chair of the Northwest Dentists Insurance Company (NORDIC) Board this year.

CLASS OF 1979
Several members of the Class of ’79 participated in the 2013 Canfield Memorial Float in the British Virgin Islands in May. From left: Drs. Dennis Welch, Doug Leen, Jeff Parrish, Glenn Short and Jim Sledge.

CLASS OF 1988 (ENDODONTICS)
Dr. Rick Taylor was elected president of the American Board of Endodontics at the AAE annual session in Honolulu in April. The board administers the testing and awarding of diplomate status to specialists in the field.

CLASS OF 1999
Dr. Arne E. Gundersen, Olympia, Wash.: I work full-time as a dentist and provide financial and emotional support for my wife’s nonprofit, Washington Engage, which fights human trafficking. I do volunteer work with spiritual formation at our church and have three children, ages 16, 17 and 21.

CLASS OF 2005
Dr. Jinsoo Kim: After finishing Dental Anesthesiology residency in 2011 and working in Southern California for two years, my wife and I decided to move to Dallas, Texas to be closer to her family. Also, I recently passed my oral boards by the American Dental Board of Anesthesiology, and I am now a board-certified dental anesthesiologist.

CLASS OF 1962
The Class of 1962 is planning an outing in Tucson for Oct. 27-31, 2013. This isn’t a reunion. We had our reunion last year. This is just a fun get-together. We decided after last year that we were getting so old and these times are so precious that we should get together more often. We have 10 couples signed up. Jules T. Frere has a house in Tucson, so he is making the arrangements. He says October is a beautiful time in the desert. We have never been ones for having a dinner during the convention and calling that a reunion. We have never done less than three days. If anyone wants to come, contact me at aleonard51@comcast.net. – Dr. Al Leonard

CLASS OF 1973
On June 15, 2013, 37 classmates and 21 spouses of the Dental Class of 1973 held their 40th-year reunion at the Vista Café on Lower Campus. In 1969, when this class matriculated, it had 80 members. Eight are now deceased. The classmates and spouses in attendance enjoyed a tour of the...
As always, we are saddened to note the passing of classmates, colleagues and friends. To read a fuller accounting of their life stories, please go online to our School of Dentistry Alumni page at http://dental.washington.edu/alumni-friends/, and click on “In Memoriam” under “Alumni & Friends” on the right side.

DR. RICHARD EDWARD BACON
CLASS OF 1950
Dr. Richard “Dick” Edward Bacon of Ellensburg, Wash., a member of the first graduating class at the School of Dentistry, passed away on July 14, 2013. He was 93. As a Marine dive bomber pilot in the Pacific during World War II, he received multiple decorations and earned the rank of captain. After his discharge, he enrolled at the School of Dentistry and later practiced in Seattle, Ellensburg and Chelan, Wash., before retiring in 1982.

DR. CARROL E. REICHELT
CLASS OF 1956
Dr. Carol E. Reichelt of Everett, Wash., passed away on March 17, 2013. He was 81. Dr. Reichelt, a native of Everett, practiced there for 35 years after serving in the U.S. Air Force for two years.

DR. JAMES FRANKLIN QUIGLEY
CLASS OF 1958
Dr. James Franklin Quigley of Spokane, Wash., died on May 29, 2013. He was 79. Dr. Quigley practiced dentistry for 40 years. He was a member of Spokane Rotary #21, where he served as chair of the disabilities committee for many years, and was past president of the Spokane District Dental Society.

DR. RICHARD R. ROLLA
CLASS OF 1961
Dr. Richard Rudolph “Dick” Rolla of Bellevue, Wash., passed away on June 18, 2013. He was 82. Dr. Rolla, who was dentist at the Rainier School for the severely handicapped in Buckley, Wash., was a lecturer in Pedodontics at the UW in 1965. At the UW Child Development and Mental Retardation Center (now the UW Center on Human Development and Disability Records), he taught doctoral, post-doctoral and dental hygiene students how to work with children with special needs. He then became the dentist at Fircrest in Seattle, another facility with a population of children with special needs, a position he held until his retirement.

DR. LEON JACOB HENRICHSEN
CLASS OF 1965
Dr. Leon Jacob Henrichsen passed away on June 10, 2012, at his home in Salt Lake City. He was 75.

DR. R. TERRY GRUBB
CLASS OF 1967
Dr. R. Terry Grubb of Wenatchee, Wash., died in a motorcycle accident on June 20, 2013, in Oregon. He was 74. A practicing dentist for 46 years, he was active in organized dentistry, serving as president of the North Central Washington Dental Society and the Washington State Dental Association, second vice president of the American Dental Association, regent of the American College of Dentists, fellow in the International College of Dentists and the Pierre Fauchard Society and member of the Washington State Dental Quality Assurance Commission.

DR. LLOYD SMITH
CLASS OF 1970
Dr. Lloyd Smith of Tucson, Ariz., passed away from cancer on June 14, 2013. He was 67. He practiced dentistry for more than 40 years and was involved in several dental study groups.
**Sally Gee named Director of CDE**

Sally Gee, a veteran of more than nine years with the School of Dentistry’s Office of Continuing Dental Education (CDE), has been named Director of CDE. She replaces Teresa Douglas, who was appointed to the new position of Director of Central Purchasing at the School.

Gee, who spent a year as a staff member in the UW Department of Pediatric Dentistry before joining CDE as Assistant Director in 2003, came to the UW from ScenicSoft, Inc. She was administration, sales and education program and training coordinator at the Seattle-area printing and publishing software company.

The Seattle native earned her BA in history and French literature at the UW in 1994. Fluent in French, she is an active volunteer and traveler who spends most of her vacations abroad, often working on humanitarian projects.

“I’m excited about this new opportunity and to continue working with the local dental community,” Gee said.

During Douglas’ eight years as CDE director, the School solidified its standing as a hub of continuing dental education. In 2012-13, the most recent complete academic year, the office provided 55 courses with 2,432 registrants.

“Our CDE program will greatly benefit from Sally’s familiarity and experience, and I’m looking forward to its continued growth as we explore new ways to serve our dental community,” said Christina Vanosdoll, Assistant Dean for Advancement and External Affairs, who also oversees CDE. “I also want to thank Teresa for her excellent work, and am so pleased that our School will still enjoy the benefit of her talents and expertise.”

**FRIDAY, OCT. 11**

**CE1312: The Art of Dental Therapeutics – Modern Dental Pharmacology**
Peter Jacobsen, DDS, PhD
Alder Hall, University of Washington
7 credits

**FRIDAY, OCT. 25**

**CE1313: Untangling the Confusion of Today’s Restorative Materials**
Ed Swift, DMD, MS
The Mountaineers, Seattle
7 credits

**FRIDAY, NOV. 1**

**CE1321: To Biopsy or Not to Biopsy: Interactive Soft Tissue Oral Pathology for the Dental Practitioner**
Dolphine Oda, BDS, MS
Washington State History Museum, Tacoma
7 credits

**SATURDAY, NOV. 2**

**CE1324: Digital Dental Photography**
I-Chung (Johnny) Wang, DDS, PhD
Health Sciences Center, University of Washington
3.5 credits for lecture only
7 credits for lecture and hands-on

**FRIDAY, NOV. 15**

**CE1322: Clinical Grand Rounds in Oral Medicine**
Faculty of the UW School of Dentistry Department of Oral Medicine
South Campus Center and Health Sciences Center, University of Washington
7 credits

**FRIDAY, NOV. 22**

**CE1323: Dental Hygiene Update**
**Morning Topic:** Orofacial Myofunctional Therapy
Joy Moeller, BS, RDH
**Afternoon Topic:** Neck, Back & Beyond: Preventing Pain for Peak Productivity
Bethany Valachi, PT, MS, CEAS
This course is co-sponsored by the Washington State Dental Hygienists’ Association.
Shoreline Conference Center, Shoreline, Wash.
7 credits

**FRIDAY, JAN. 24, 2014**

**CE1340: Legal, Financial and Insurance Issues Facing the Dental Practice**
Tim Proctor, CPA; Ann Durham, JD; and Matt French, Insurance Expert
Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington
7 credits

**SATURDAY, JAN. 25, 2014**

**CE1341: Computers and the Dental Office**
**Morning Topic:** Technology Fundamentals
Marcus Bing, IT Expert
Health Sciences Center, University of Washington
3.5 credits for each topic – Participants choose morning, afternoon or both
FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND/OR SUNDAY, FEB. 7-9, 2014
CE1351: The Art and Science of Anxiolysis and Sedation in 2014 and Beyond – Nitrous Oxide and Oral Sedation
Fred Quarnstrom, DDS, FADSA, FAGD, FICD, FACD, CDC
David Donaldson, BDS, FDSRCS, MDS, FADSA, FADC, FFAOP, FICD
Mark Donaldson, BSP, PHARM D, FASHP, FACHE
Friday: Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington
Saturday and Sunday: Health Sciences Center, University of Washington
7, 14 or 21 credits

FRIDAY, FEB. 21, 2014
CE1352: Understanding and Being Successful With Older Adults in Your Practice
Janet Yellowitz, DMD, MPH
Best Western Hotel, Federal Way, Wash.
7 credits

FRIDAY, FEB. 28, 2014
Treatment Planning Guidelines for Esthetics, Tooth Wear and Occlusion
Terry Tanaka, DDS
This course is co-sponsored with Seattle-King and Snohomish County Dental Societies.
Lynnwood Convention Center, Lynnwood, Wash.
7 credits

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2014
CE1361: Open Wide! Clinical Pathologic Correlations for Today’s General Practice
Darren Cox, DDS, MBA and Jasjit K. Dillon, DDS, MD, BDS, FDSRCS
Health Sciences Center, University of Washington
7 credits

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2014
CE1362: Law/Lewis Lectureship in Pediatric Dentistry
Morning Topic: An Update in Restorative Care for Children
Kevin Donly, DDS, MS
Afternoon Topic: The Teeth Fall Out But The Body Remembers: Equipping Children for a Lifetime of Oral Health
Travis Nelson, DDS, MSD, MPH
The Mountaineers, Seattle
7 credits

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2014
Update in Periodontics
Faculty from the UW School of Dentistry Department of Periodontics
Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington
7 credits

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2014
CE1373: To Biopsy or Not to Biopsy: Interactive Soft Tissue Oral Pathology for the Dental Practitioner
Dolphine Oda, BDS, MS
Marcus Whitman Hotel, Walla Walla, Wash.
7 credits

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2014
CE1381L: Hands-on CAD/CAM Restorative Experience
Gary Severance, DDS
Health Sciences Center, University of Washington
7 credits

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2014
CE1383: Better Medicine, Better Dentistry: Clinically Useful Pharmacology to Make You a Better Provider Beginning Monday Morning!
Mark Donaldson, BSc (Pharm), RPh, PharmD, FASHP, FACHE
This course is co-sponsored with the University of British Columbia.
Fox Hall, Bellingham, Wash.
7 credits

SATURDAY AND SATURDAY, MAY 30-31, 2014
CE1382: Lasers for the Dental Hygienist
Janet Press, RDH
Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington
7 credits for Friday lecture only
10 credits for Friday lecture and Saturday hands-on

For registration information, visit www.uwcde.com or call 206-543-5448.

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alumni calendar of events

- **THURSDAY, OCT. 10, 2013**
  UW Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Reception
  AAOMS 2013 Annual Meeting
  5:30 - 7 p.m.
  The Peabody Orlando Room Discovery 43
  Orlando, Fla.

- **SATURDAY, NOV. 2, 2013**
  School of Dentistry ADA Reception
  5 - 7 p.m.
  Hilton New Orleans Riverside Room Grand Salon Section 9
  Two Poydras St., New Orleans

- **MONDAY, NOV. 18, 2013**
  UW Dental Alumni Full Board Meeting
  Washington Athletic Club
  1325 Sixth Ave., Seattle
  6:30 - 9 p.m.

- **WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20, 2013**
  WSDA/Dental Alumni Mentor Reception
  Burke Museum, UW Campus
  6 - 8:30 p.m.

- **TUESDAY, DEC. 10, 2013**
  Kitsap County Dental Society Meeting
  Dinner with the Dean
  6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
  Kitsap Golf and Country Club
  Bremerton, Wash.

For more details on these or other UW Dental Alumni Association events, please call 206-543-7297. Information is also available on the School of Dentistry website’s alumni page at http://dental.washington.edu/alumni-friends