

Inside



Dear Colleagues,

October 1 will mark two months since the 35W bridge collapsed into the Mississippi River, just a few blocks from Moos Tower. As with the other major catastrophes we experience in life, many of us will long remember where we were and how we reacted when it all happened.

Some of us in the school actually knew people who were on the bridge that evening. Yet, as the story unfolded in the news over the following week, we all learned the personal stories of the witnesses, heroes, helpers, survivors, and victims of the tragedy. Among them were one of our students and his wife, Nate and Christine Lund. They were recognized as "Persons of the Week" by *ABC World News* for what they did to help the victims that night. You can read their story in this issue of *Dentistry* – how they raced to the scene with whatever medical gear they had at hand, determined to make the most of their professional skills and talents and to do what had to be done.

Their story is an outstanding example of leadership during extreme circumstances. Thankfully, most of us are not faced with such dramatic opportunities to test our mettle. We are, however, often called upon to demonstrate leadership as concerned citizens and professionals. This issue of *Dentistry* focuses on some of our students and alumni who've chosen to contribute in ways that will impress you and make you feel proud to be involved with our school. For example, the cover photo features our contingent of dental students who traveled to Washington as part of the American Student Dental Association's Legislative Day. Along with involved students from across the country, these student leaders spent time with state representatives and their staffers to help shape public policy on behalf of our patients and profession.

Our students' day in Washington is part of a larger story, "Launching Leaders," which looks at both the outstanding ways some of our alumni have distinguished themselves through leadership, as well as the valuable academic and real-world experiences that equip them to assume those leadership roles. Some, like Senior Research Associate John Look, have used their talents to improve health care systems and provide primary care to underprivileged people around the world. A few alumni have been called to public service as state and national legislative representatives. Many contribute as faculty at other schools. Still others serve as leaders right here in our own backyard, in state dental organizations and in our alumni society. It's an amazing collection of people who have stories that should inspire us all.

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You'll also read about another remarkable alumnus, Dr. Gary Jernberg. A chemical engineer, dentist and periodontist, he has combined his talents to become an inventor of significant import in the area of slow release drugs to treat periodontal disease. His ingenuity has resulted in innovations that have benefited patients around the world. By his example, he shows what's possible if you set your sights high and don't limit your thinking to traditional boundaries.

Our article about Bryan Michalowicz, the 2007 Century Club Professor of the Year, offers another example of leadership. For four years, he led an interprofessional team of clinicians and basic/applied scientists, at different sites around the country. Funded by the National Institutes of Health, the study explored the potential benefits of periodontal treatment during pregnancy.

For lighter reading you'll see my conversation with Dr. Karin Quick, the secretary of our Council of Faculty. She asked me to reflect on the past three years and to look into the future. I found the interview fun to do and I hope it will stimulate more discussion.

I hope you enjoy every page of this issue of *Dentistry* magazine and feel as proud as I do about our school and our community. We have much to be grateful for, not the least of which was the low number of fatalities in the 35W bridge collapse and the way in which two competent and fast-thinking people met the challenge. We're proud of them. In the long-term we're equally proud of all our students, faculty and alumni who assume leadership roles beyond the dental practice and have a major impact on people's lives in the state and around the world.

Sincerely,

Saturi M. Hoyl.

PATRICK M. LLOYD, D.D.S., M.S.

Dear

Professor, Division of Prosthodontics

www.dentistry.umn.edu

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TO BY MARVIN T. JONES & ASSOCIATES





HOTO BY TIM RUMMELHOFF



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NewsBites

Spotlight on Research

The richness of the School of Dentistry's research agenda was on display in April as students and faculty explored current scientific initiatives at the third annual Research Day.

From tissue engineering to bone and tooth biology, saliva biomarkers, TMD and the school's NIH-funded interdisciplinary program to train new scientists, school researchers shared insights into studies of the human body and a future that promises new ways of treating and preventing conditions related to dentistry and beyond.

One highlight of the day-long event was the keynote address by David T.W. Wong, associate dean of research at UCLA School of Dentistry. Wong discussed developments in the science of saliva biomarkers and the potential to develop a new diagnostic test of saliva that would replace the more routine



Third-year dental student Robert Chalgren (R) discusses his research findings with classmate Chris Saylor. Chalgren's research on the bond strength of orthodontic brackets will be published in the online version of the *American* Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics later this year.

bodily fluid tests currently used to identify the presence of diseases such as cancer and diabetes.

The day also spotlighted the research of 16 students who participated in the school's Summer Research Fellowship

Discovering Dentistry

More than 500 forward-thinking college and high school students and their parents and friends filled the hallways and classrooms of Moos Tower on April 21 to preview and plan for dental careers at the School of Dentistry-sponsored *Discover* Dentistry career day.

Aspiring dental professionals from across the region learned that tomorrow's dental professionals will be on the cutting edge of technology and challenged by discoveries that increasingly position them at the forefront of interprofessional health care. From virtual reality-based learning and digital technology to new opportunities in the detection, diagnosis and treatment of disease, visitors explored the challenging and rewarding career opportunities in clinical and academic dentistry, and dental research.

The group toured the new Simulation Clinic and 15 different clinics, classrooms



and research labs. Student panelists provided glimpses into a "day-in-the-life" of a dental student and presented their research findings in areas related to biomaterials, HIV, head and neck cancer, neurology, craniofacial development, and bone biology. Faculty and staff were there, too, to talk about everything from admission requirements to an overview of general dentistry, dental specialties, and dental hygiene. Information was also available about admissions criteria and procedures, the Program for Advanced Standing Students, MinnCResT and financial aid.

Program. The following faculty presented their scientific initiatives:

- Improving Future Outcomes and Safety of Temporomandibular Joint Implants:
 The NIDCR's TIRR — SANDRA MYERS, D.M.D.
- Animal Models of TMJ Disorders
 DAVID BEREITER, PH.D.
- Educating the Scientists Who Will Explore the Frontiers of Craniofacial Dental and Oral Health Research
- MARK HERZBERG, M.S., D.D.S., PH.D.
- Building Bone and Framing Vessels for Tissue Engineering
- MANSUR AHMAD, B.D.S., PH.D.
- Using Saliva to Diagnose the Malignant Transformation of Oral Leukoplakia
- FRANK ONDREY, M.D., PH.D., F.A.C.S., SPEAKING FOR NELSON RHODUS, D.M.D., M.P.H.
- Understanding Remineralization Therapy
 DARANEE VERSLUIS-TANTBIROJN, D.D.S., M.S., PH.D.
- Bisphosphonate-associated Osteonecrosis of the Jaw — RAJ GOPALAKRISHNAN, B.D.S., PH.D.

Well Worth the Wait

After two years of planning, nine months of construction and a capital campaign that's raised nearly two-thirds of the cost of the facility, the School of Dentistry launched Phase I

of its new \$9.5 million Simulation Clinic.

Equipped with the latest in teaching technology and designed for students raised in the digital age, the contemporary learning environment resembles the dental clinics students will encounter as clinicians. Each of the 100 workstations is equipped with authentic operatory equipment and patient simulators. These mannequins have lifelike movement in the upper torso and head, and a natural oral cavity with lips and cheeks, flexible jaws, and a full complement of realistic teeth. From day one, first- and secondyear students will become accustomed to the complicated realities of patient care



without having a real patient present. Plus, there'll be no more pushing in close or leaning over someone's shoulder to see; personal flat screen monitors give every student a "front row seat" for instructor demonstrations.

The unmatched educational benefits of patient simulation equipment allow students to learn faster and better, and ease their transition from learning in a lab to real patient care experiences.

Phase II of the Simulation Clinic will launch in October with the addition of 20 advanced patient simulators, equipped with virtual reality-based technology.

Union Gospel Mission Honors School of Dentistry for Reaching Out and Touching Lives

The Union Gospel Mission of St. Paul honored the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry for 37 years of volunteer service and for "making a difference" in the lives of thousands of patients who have received free dental care in the mission dental clinic.

Dean Patrick Lloyd accepted the 2006 "Friend of the Mission Award" on behalf of almost four decades of dental students who have volunteered at the clinic. More than 500 guests from the Twin Cities' corporate, private, public and mission communities attended the April 16th awards banquet.

In accepting the award, Lloyd noted with pride that many of the student dentists who treated patients at the mission clinic during dental school have continued that volunteer commitment throughout their professional careers.

The dental school's involvement with the St. Paul mission began in 1970. That year, more than 40 dental, dental hygiene and dental assisting students volunteered at the clinic, providing general dental care, emergency treatment, and dental hygiene services.

In 1980, the mission moved to a new location in East St. Paul. Its dental clinic, renovated in 2001, is now a state-of-the-art-facility.

Recently, the School of Dentistry enhanced its commitment to the mission clinic by appointing supervising community dentists to adjunct faculty positions.

Second-year dental student Ross Anderson helps coordinate the student staffing assignments for Wednesday evening clinics. St. Paul periodontist and Adjunct Assistant Professor Roger Ettel, himself a mission clinic volunteer during his dental school days, serves as liaison with the school's Director of Outreach Paul Schulz.

The Union Gospel Mission also hired a full-time person to help expand and coordinate outreach efforts.

In 2006, nearly 2,300 patients received services at the dental clinic. Among the volunteers providing services and assistance were more than 215 dental students.

They were there to observe, assist or to treat patients, depending upon their level of clinical education. But all were there as professionals-in-training, concerned with community and committed to caring.

Launching Leaders

Valuable academic and real-world experiences equip students and alumni to further their profession and improve the world.

BY TERRI PETERSON SMITH

ohn Quincy Adams once said, "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." For many, the ability to influence, motivate, and enable others to contribute to a common goal is a primary focus of their career. For others, it is a responsibility that comes along with the territory.

Dental professionals commonly assume leadership positions beyond their practices. Whether they're working in the community, in professional, government, religious or humanitarian organizations, dentists are respected for their role as health care professionals, known for their commitment to service, attention to detail, critical thinking skills, and long-term involvement with residents of their communities. The School of Dentistry has a tradition of fostering these leaders who make the most of their talents in both academic and professional life.

Faculty member John Look ('63) is one such alumnus who leads by his own example. Recently recognized by University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks for his exceptional humanitarian service, Look is a citizen of the world. In addition to his position as senior research associate in the Division of TMD and Orofacial Pain, Department of Diagnostic and Biological Sciences, Look has worked for years with international organizations that provide health care in Third World countries.

Since 1998, he has served as the unpaid director of Global Health Services, a medical relief and development division of Global Outreach Mission, which is involved in 10 countries worldwide and is dedicated to providing dental and medical services to some of the world's poorest people.

Motivated by spiritual values, Look has trained hundreds of international health care providers. Because he has a doctorate in a medical science, the Ministry of Health of the People's Republic of Congo authorized him to provide health care services in areas beyond dentistry, including ophthalmology, leprosy, tuberculosis, and other tropical diseases. From the late 1990s to 2001 he set up clinical programs for the detection

"Seventy percent of leadership development comes through experience out in the world."

- MEL MITCHELL

and treatment of trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness) and leprosy in the People's Republic of Congo. The World Health Organization funded the trypanosomiasis program and the American Leprosy Mission funded the leprosy program. From 2001-2004, he developed services to provide rural medical and dental services in Honduras, Belize and Bolivia.

In 2004 and 2005, Look was involved in a \$1 million Global Health Services project to remodel a hospital campus (12 acres, 28 buildings) in the Republic of Congo. During 2006, more than 9,000 people were treated and more than 350 major surgeries were performed there and a large HIV/AIDS hospice was also built on this campus.

In 2005, Look helped create a rural dental service in Costa Rica, and in 2006, made two trips to India to initiate a community development project in 10 villages in eastern India where the tsunami hit. This year, Look and his team are working on plans for a centralized health care facility for the area. At age 70, his future projects include development of a hospital in Sierra Leone, and a minimum of two rural medical and dental projects in Myanmar.

At home, Look mentors and advises graduate students and postdoctoral students. He strives to help students find direction and to focus on what they want to do. "Training at the School of Dentistry goes beyond what you'll use in a dental practice. I tell students to seize the moment and get everything they can from dental school to use later. I encourage them to use their skills to be everything they can be and to volunteer and do outreach. When you go other places in the world and see the need, you get inspired. If you go, you won't come back the same."

A Petri Dish for Leadership

Of course, not everyone can go to the far corners of the earth to volunteer, but the School of Dentistry has a broad understanding of the role of the health practitioner in the community and provides essential learning experiences to develop students' potential and launch leaders who are ready, willing and able to do the job. Dean Patrick Lloyd says the subject of leadership is receiving more emphasis throughout the entire University. "It's a crucial component in our drive to become third nationally in research funding."



Yet, what is this quality – leadership – that is so prized from school board meetings to the halls of Congress? According to Joyce Bono, Marvin D. Dunnette Professor in Industrial and Organizational Psychology and director of the University of Minnesota Leadership Lab, "I think the goals of leadership can differ, whether to improve life for all citizens of the nation, state or the world, to improve the quality of care provided to patients, or to improve the bottom line. The skills aren't different, she says. "There is just a different 'vision' in these examples. What remains the same is the process of influencing people."

Mel Mitchell, the University of Minnesota's director of organizational effectiveness in the Office of Human Resources is working to increase leadership skills at all levels of the University. He says, "Leaders must rally the troops, motivate people and influence groups of people to work together to achieve common goals.

"You can teach these skills," says Mitchell, "but seventy percent of leadership development comes through experience out in the world. Only about 10 percent happens in the classroom. So, we need to teach people how to extract leadership lessons from everyday work. It needs to be intentional. Jobs, committees, and volunteer positions are a Petri dish for leadership experience."

Leadership Lessons from Student Life

In addition to having sound academic credentials, applicants to dental school must provide evidence of leadership experience and community involvement. But the School of Dentistry also gives its students plenty of opportunities to learn leadership lessons as part of their everyday dental education experience.

For example, the school recently expanded the number of weeks students are required to spend in community-based outreach experiences. According to Lloyd, "Beginning in 2007, fourth-year dental students are spending six to eight weeks in outreach clinics providing services for patients in underserved populations." The school currently has outreach programs in two inner-city clinics, a touring mobile dental unit and a Twin Cities nursing home, at the Hibbing Community Θ

College, and in Howard, S.D. A new hospital-based outreach clinic will open in December at Rice Memorial Hospital in Willmar. "Community-based service-learning experiences provide opportunities for students to enhance their clinical skills," says Lloyd. "At the same time, the experiences foster a better understanding of a health care professional's obligation to address the needs of society and access to care issues, as well as the chance to experience the larger role dentists play in rural communities."

He says, "Minnesota was the first state in the country to organize a student district dental society as part of its state professional association, so students participate fully in the activities of the Minnesota Dental Association (MDA)." Third-year dental student Naomi Schwegler Lane, for example, is a member of the association's Rural Dental Workforce Solutions Committee that deals with insuring rural communities have access to a well-educated dental professional workforce. "A student also sits as a



A School of Dentistry contingent visited Minnesota Representative Betty McCollum on ASDA National Lobby Day. (*L to R*): Betty McCollum; Professor Jim Swift, director of the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and American Dental Education Association president; students Andrew Madson, Mark Phillips, Abby Pershke, and Ryan Ritchie.

The school also encourages student involvement in governance - within the school, the profession, and in state and federal government. Lloyd says students take their positions as class officers very seriously and, with that, their responsibility to make sure the school is meeting the needs of their fellow students. The school also fosters involvement in organized dentistry as preparation for what Lloyd sees as their responsibility to lead the profession after graduation. "There's a firmly held philosophy in the School of Dentistry and other schools within the University's Academic Health Center that the future of health care depends on the leadership of the providers instead of people outside the professions. If you don't get involved in the governance of dentistry, someone else will. You'll be the victim of your own disinterest."

member of the MDA Board of Trustees and student representatives are voting members at the MDA House of Delegates. So, they see the structure of the organization, learn how it works, and what responsibilities they'll have after graduation."

Students are also active in the American Student Dental Association (ASDA), the national student-run organization that represents the interests of dental students. A number of School of Dentistry students have held national leadership positions and, for the second year in a row, Minnesota received the *Ideal ASDA Chapter Award* in 2007.

Fourth-year dental student Andrew Madson has served for the past two years as the University of Minnesota's legislative liaison to ASDA. Says Madson, "As legislative liaison, I chaired the ASDA Legislative Grassroots Network Committee. The committee exposes students to the different political aspects of our profession through a variety of activities including state and national lobby days, voter registration drives, American Dental Political Action Committee drives, and monthly meetings. All of these activities are held in order to raise awareness of how new and existing legislation affects our profession.

"One of our largest events," he says, "is ASDA's National Lobby Day. For this event, the School of Dentistry sponsors eight students to travel to Washington D.C. and lobby for 'dental friendly' legislation with other dental students from around the country." In 2007, two Minnesota students, Ryan Ritchie ('07) and Abby Pershke ('07), were national ASDA leaders, so ten students from Minnesota attended the event. "Each year we arrange meetings with both Minnesota senators and with as many Minnesota representatives as we can. Because the U of M School of Dentistry trains many dentists from states throughout the upper Midwest and Northwest, we have also met with legislators from the Dakotas as well as Alaska and Montana," says Madson.

This year, students lobbied for tobacco control legislation that would authorize the FDA to regulate the manufacturing, marketing, labeling, distribution and sale of tobacco products, including spit and chewing tobacco. They advocated

"Throughout the country dentists are in roles of leadership. They're on library boards, city councils, county commissions, and planning boards. Their jobs are just as important as mine."

— REPRESENTATIVE JOHN LINDER

for reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) that would establish a general guarantee for dental coverage, support ongoing outreach efforts to enroll all eligible children in the program, and enact mechanisms to ensure reliable data reporting on dental care within SCHIP. They also lobbied for student loan interest deduction legis-

lation including making scholarships from the National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program and The Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program tax-free.

Recent graduate, Abby Pershke ('07) was also involved in ASDA politics. She, too, chaired the legislative grassroots efforts and coordinated "meet and greets" with congressional representatives. She also organized student lobbying in St. Paul and Washington, D.C. and letter writing campaigns that focused on issues facing students, the dental school and the University, for example medical assistance issues and state funding for the school's new Simulation Clinic. "I love politics," she says. "Political decisions affect me and the profession, so it's necessary to get involved. The sooner you do, the easier it is. It's not intimidating to lobby."

She says she'll resume her work in dental politics, but for now is consumed with her new position at the Fond du Lac Dental Clinic in Cloquet, which primarily serves members of the Fond du Lac Band of Chippewa. "I'm getting a huge variety of experience here," she says. She credits her internships during dental school for her interest in community dentistry and working with underserved populations, and was particularly inspired when working with another alum, Associate Clinical Specialist Paul Schulz ('86), who directs the dental school's outreach programs.

Swimming with the Big Fish

Ideally, students continue in leadership roles after graduation. Many say such activities offer them a sense of connection, perspective, and a view of the broader world.

For example, after getting their feet wet as student leaders, Tasha Strait ('96), Jim Nickman ('97) and Woody Kwon ('02), have all gone on to be active in professional leadership roles as members of the board of directors for the School of Dentistry Alumni Society (SODAS).

"I've always liked being involved and having a hand in things rather than learning about what happened after the fact," says Strait, who owns her own practice. After graduation she was on the MDA New Dentist Committee and served a four-year term at the national level on the American Dental Association's committee dealing with similar issues.

She's just completed her second term on the SODAS board, where she chaired the membership committee, and currently serves on the executive committee of the Minneapolis District Dental Society.

Pediatric dentist Jim Nickman also entered the world of leadership during dental school. He was ASDA vice president, served last year as SODAS president, and is now president-elect of the Minneapolis District Dental Society. He also chairs the Council of Dental Benefits of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. "What I get out of it is a sense of perspective," Nickman says. "You learn how other people think and that can help build consensus."

Kwon, who practices in Minneapolis, was the MDA trustee from the Student District Dental Society. He remained active in leadership roles after graduation,

"When you get there and see the need, you get inspired.

If you go, you won't come back the same."

— JOHN LOOK

as a member of the MDA New Dentist Committee, and he now chairs the dental school alumni society's Committee for Student Relations. "I'm like a bridge from the student life to the real world," he says. He mentors first-year students and tries to be an example to them by demonstrating the benefits of leadership. Kwon says that moving into leadership roles after graduation is a natural progression. "Being involved helps us shape the future," he says. "In private practice, it's easy to live in your own world. You get pretty cooped up, so you need to make an effort to get out and hang out with the big fish."

Some of those "big fish" include Paul Krebsbach ('87) and Fred Eichmiller ('81). After serving three years as a senior staff fellow at the National Institutes of Health, Krebsbach is now a professor of dentistry and biomedical engineering and chairman of the Department of Biologic and Materials Sciences at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. Eichmiller served as director of the American Dental Association Foundation's Paffenbarger

Research Center in Gaithersburg, Md. for 12 years prior to joining Delta Dental of Wisconsin as vice president and science officer in 2006.

Alumnus Bruce Pihlstrom ('67), has also taken leadership in the field of dental research to impressive heights. Most recently, until his retirement in August, 2007, he was the acting director of the Center for Clinical Research at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) at the National Institutes of Health. Under his leadership, the NIDCR expanded its clinical research portfolio and launched a \$70 million initiative in which private practitioners can participate in research. A 31-year veteran of the School of Dentistry faculty, he received the Century Club Professor of the Year Award and was named to the Erwin M. Schaffer Endowed Chair for Periodontal Research. In 2002, he received the William J. Gies Periodontology Award from the American Academy of Periodontology for contributions to periodontal literature and the advancement of dental education.

He says that getting involved brings exciting new opportunities. "It's broadening to one's lifestyle. Dentistry is a rewarding profession but there are other aspects to life." A former Boy Scout leader and board member of Grace Lutheran Church, located near the School of Dentistry, he says, "It doesn't matter what the project is. It should be whatever is your passion. If it's not something you're interested in, you won't do a good job."

He sees value in all positions of leadership because "it affords one the chance to see other good leaders in action, to learn by example." As a student he was inspired by retired School of Dentistry professors James Jensen ('46) and Anna Hampel ('56) because they introduced him to the excitement of research. "Good leaders lead by example," he says. "They show the way. The most important thing a leader can do is to attract good people to the project and help them do the best job they can do – and not take the credit for it."

Leaders in Public Service

For several alumni, early experiences not only enhanced their leadership skills, but also whetted their appetites for more. For example, orthodontist Θ

John Warford ('71) practices in Bismarck, N.D. two or three days a week with his son John Jr. ('01). He held a variety of leadership positions within organized dentistry, including that of chair of the American Dental Political Action Committee. Now, he is the mayor of Bismarck. He says that leaders must have an intense passion for what they're doing, but confine their involvement to creating vision rather than micromanaging.

jobs are just as important as mine."

His classmate, Steve Litton ('67), took a different path. Instead of moving into politics, he divided his time for several years between his orthodontic practice in Golden Valley and the medical school faculty where he taught basic science to medical and dental students. He gave up teaching in the mid-80s to get more involved in volunteer activities. "If I just worked every day I would need more

John Look *(second from right)* meeting with friends in Enyelle, Likouala Province, Republic of the Congo. Look was in Enyelle in the late 1990s to 2001 to establish clinical programs for the detection and treatment of trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness).

"I have 750 city employees. As a leader, I have to set the tone, vision, and the entrepreneurial spirit and leave the details to others. I don't manage the potholes."

The lure of public service was even stronger for Representative John Linder ('67) of Georgia's 7th Congressional District. Always a political "buff," Linder was an avid reader of the Congressional Record, even in dental school. After graduation, he joined the Air Force and later settled in Georgia, where he practiced dentistry and entered into other full-time business endeavors. Linder was elected to the Georgia Legislature in 1974 and to Congress in 1992. He currently serves on the House Ways and Means Committee, but, he says, it's not necessary to go to Washington to make a contribution. "Throughout the country dentists are in roles of leadership," he says. "They're on library boards, city councils, county commissions, and planning boards. Their

variety," he explains. "I wanted to do something in dentistry but not just with patients." Among other things, he served six years as treasurer for the state dental association.

Litton now uses his leadership skills on behalf of the University of Minnesota and its School of Dentistry. He singlehandedly organized the Orthodontic Residents Endowment Fund, which has grown to more than \$300,000 and provides ongoing funds for residents to attend meetings to further their education. Litton is a particularly strong supporter of SODAS and he attends every school function without fail. His most recent effort on behalf of the school is his membership in the Capital Campaign Cabinet working to raise funds for the renovation of the school's pre-clinical teaching laboratories. The goal is \$9.5 million and Litton is helping to reach that target. For his many efforts, the University of

Minnesota Alumni Association named him National Volunteer of the Year for 2005-06, its highest award bestowed upon University graduates.

Get in the Game

John Warford maintains that it's no wonder dentists make such impressive contributions because they possess leadership skills in abundance. "A leader needs organizational skills, persistence, the ability to delegate – all skills that dentists have." And, he says, because of their abilities and talents, "dentists have a huge responsibility to give back to the community we live in."

The School of Dentistry recognizes its role in launching students who will become leaders in all arenas and seeks to prepare them through both academic training and real world experience. Alumni play a role in their education, too, by mentoring and inspiring future leaders. Says Litton, "Leaders need to

"Leaders need to continue to find new leaders. They must look for people to replace themselves. As a young dentist, I always thought there was someone else to do it. There isn't. Now, people need to do something for tomorrow."

— STEVE LITTON

continue to find new leaders. They must look for people to replace themselves. As a young dentist, I always thought there was someone else to do it. There isn't. Now, people need to do something for tomorrow."

Those who get involved agree that the rewards are big, no matter what size the project. Litton says he values the people he has met and the friendships he has made along the way. "You can't put a price on that. It's my payment for volunteering."

John Look has some extra advice for anyone on the verge of trying a new position of leadership: "Take a leap. You'll build your wings on the way down." •



A Conversation with Dean Lloyd

Dr. Karin Quick, Secretary of the School of Dentistry Council of Faculty, talks with Dean Patrick Lloyd about his first three years as dean and what he sees on the horizon.

Dr. Quick: We all know that a dean has a lot to do and think about. What would you say were the greatest challenges of your first three years as dean?

Dean Lloyd: I guess I'd say that one of the greatest challenges was getting a sense of the traditional values of the community and the school, and establishing a level of trust and confidence among the constituents that either have graduated from here or are professionally connected to the school.

Dr. Quick: There are many areas undergoing tremendous transformations at the dental school. Can you discuss a few?

Dean Lloyd: We're investing in technology and in upgrading facilities. Our students grew up in the "digital age," and we've had great opportunities to capitalize on innovations that help us teach in a way that's consistent with how they're accustomed to learning. New educational technology in the Simulation Clinic is one example. We also expanded the Center for Contemporary Dentistry which is equipped with everything from state of the art infection control to digital radiography. It's a special clinic in which students are exposed to new technologies, to give them a taste of what they might find in dental practice after graduation. And we hired dedicated faculty members who are enthused about and comfortable using this new technology.

We've also made a lot of facilities improvements. We've been in Moos Tower since 1974 and needed to update facilities, from the clinics, to the places we teach students, to the labs as well as the research areas. These physical improvements are

transforming the way our students learn, our faculty teach, and the way we care for patients. And, they will help us attract the best patients, students, staff and faculty.

Dr. Quick: What about going forward?
What are some of the school's priorities
over the next three to five years?

Dean Lloyd: It's important, and will become increasingly more so, for us to enhance our contributions to the University's Academic Health Center (AHC). The AHC is committed to educating the next generation of health care professionals, reducing health disparities, and using technology to transition how we teach, conduct research and provide service to individuals and communities. Today, that means providing interprofessional education opportunities - with colleagues in medicine, pharmacy, nursing and public health - and discovering and applying new knowledge through research collaborations that will improve the quality of life for Minnesotans. So, there are plans to engage our students in interprofessional courses focusing on five areas – leadership and teambuilding, quality improvement and patient safety, informatics, health policy, and care systems. We envision dedicating a specific time for medical, dental, pharmacy, and other students to meet in small groups or large groups or online to talk about each others' contributions to patient care. If we are going to care for patients more efficiently and cost effectively we need to appreciate what each of us brings to the table and how we can work together. I think that will be an exciting experience for everyone in the AHC. ⊖

Dr. Quick: What do you worry about?

Dean Lloyd: I don't know if I worry, but I'd say that I'm chronically aware of things like the need to make sure our facilities are the highest quality so we can attract the best students. I'm also cognizant of student indebtedness. About 75 percent of our graduates last year owe \$150,000 in schoolrelated debt and I know that concerns about indebtedness can affect their career decisions. Will they go on for additional education? Where and how will they choose to practice? I'm also aware of the need to make sure our graduates have the right mix of experiences so they can leave here with a wide choice of career options. We want them to feel comfortable if they walk into a highly sophisticated, technically orientated practice. Some of our investments in the Center for Contemporary Dentistry and the Simulation Clinic were made with this goal in mind.



Setting the standard. The School of Dentistry's first strategic planning initiative in nearly a decade included multiple opportunities for more than 300 staff, students, faculty, and friends of the school to help plan, meet for progress reports, and provide feedback.

Dr. Quick: During the strategic planning process, you posed a vision for the school. You said "The School of Dentistry will set the standard." Are we doing that?

Dean Lloyd: We're working on it. We talked about knowing we were "there" when we became a destination of choice for faculty, staff, students and patients, and when people supported our initiatives. Well, 3M awarded us \$1 million to support our pre-clinical labs. We had 999 applications for 96 positions in this year's first year dental class. We've hired 22

faculty members in the last three years. We've recruited talented new staff members across the school who support our Web site, alumni and development initiatives, and our clinical, didactic and research programs. So, we're seeing that people want to be a part of the school and contribute to its success.

Dr. Quick: There is a nationwide shortage of dental faculty. What is your philosophy on faculty hiring?

Dean Lloyd: We always want to search the world when hiring new faculty. Everyone needs to know that we're looking for the best fit and the best match. That says a couple of things: First, it says the school is interested in bringing in new ideas and having expertise at the highest level. We learn from every candidate we bring here to interview. I also believe they go back to their institutions and practices and say

"you know I just came back from Minnesota and they have this and they do that...the people get along and they work real hard." So, in that way, we spread the word about the good things we do here. Secondly, when we search nationally for new faculty and discover the best people here in our own backyard, it validates their appointments in the eyes of the professional community because they've been compared to all the

people out there who have demonstrated qualities and abilities we're looking for in candidates.

Dr. Quick: So what can alumni and community members do to help the school deal with the shortage of dental faculty?

Dean Lloyd: A couple things: They can help us make the School of Dentistry a destination of choice for faculty. They can read our publications – magazines, newsletters, correspondence – and be informed advocates on our behalf. They

can also stay involved with the school and find a way to contribute, maybe financially, or as an advocate with legislators or communities to encourage support for our initiatives. They can also consider teaching part-time in our campus or outreach clinics. Some people wonder "What could I offer as a faculty member?" Sure, teaching students about how to do a DO on tooth #20 is important, but we also need to educate students about patient relationships, about how to talk with patients, and about how to be a good advisor or good professional counselor. So we encourage people who feel they have the time, interest and personality to consider committing to be here a certain number of half days per week to help provide continuity of care and share their rich years of experience with students.

Dr. Quick: What else can alumni and community members do to help the school?

Dean Lloyd: In addition to being informed advocates about what's going on at the school, we want people to know that we're working hard to be a state resource. We also encourage people to contribute financially. If we're to distinguish ourselves from other schools, be able to afford the extras, maintain a margin of excellence beyond the norm, and have the boldness and audacity to do things other schools only dream about, it's going to have to be supported by philanthropy from grateful alumni, friends of the school, or corporate supporters. We need that extra edge. There's never been a better time for alums to have an impact, leave a legacy, help us to protect the integrity of their diplomas and train the next generation of dental professionals. We train tomorrow's associates. So, it's important to make sure "your" next associate or colleague has the best educational experience. Alumni can help us create that optimum experience.

Dr. Quick: In a previous publication there was an article titled "It isn't your Grandfather's Admissions Process Anymore." Grandpa's pre-clinic bench is also different. What are some of the changes?

Dean Lloyd: The biggest change in our new pre-clinical lab is the exploitation of technology and the standardization of education and evaluation. We have a facility where all students can simultane-

ously view the same presentation up close on personal flat screen monitors. This minimizes confusion that sometimes occurs when four or five different faculty demonstrate the same procedure. The new technology also offers opportunities for objective evaluation. When I was a student, evaluation was somewhat subjective - "that's too wide, that's too short, that's too narrow." Now, computerbased evaluation helps reduce some of the subjectivity. Consistent and objective evaluation allows students to better understand their strengths and weaknesses and creates a better dynamic between faculty and students. Finally, the new technology actually records electronically what students have done in a session, which allows them to review their own work at a later time or faculty to review a student's last hour and a half or so as a process and not as one single episodic event.

Dr. Quick: What are some of the areas of current research at the school?

Dean Lloyd: We're maintaining a focus on four areas in which we have a strong reputation and we're investing in recruiting faculty, enhancing facilities, and acquiring the sophisticated technology and equipment needed to ensure these strengths. First, we're strong in neuroscience and have a well-supported group of faculty who are looking at the basic mechanisms of how pain is transmitted and how pain signals can be interrupted. Another area of strength is our virology research program. We have a group of well funded virologists who study how viruses from around the world infect cells and replicate. We're also known for our work in dental biomechanics, especially in the areas of tooth wear and tooth loading. And, for the past several years, we've been building a team of bone researchers. They're studying how bone responds to force and the impact of certain kinds of medical treatment, like bisphosphonates, on bone health.

Our school is also recognized throughout the profession for the work our faculty is doing in clinical research. Some are known for their discoveries on how to identify and manage orofacial pain. Others are uncovering connections between periodontitis and other health conditions such as cardiovascular disease,

diabetes, and complications during pregnancy. And to better understand the true results of our clinical treatments, we've got faculty who are measuring the impact of what we do on a patient's quality of life.

Dr. Quick: Are we educating the right number of dentists and hygienists?

Dean Lloyd: We believe our class sizes are optimum for the regions we are responsible for, but we also think we have our work cut out for us when it comes to workforce distribution. We need to do a better job of finding ways to expose our graduates to careers and communities to practice where there is a well documented need. That to me is more of a challenge.

benefit the school and our students, staff, and faculty, the real challenge is identifying those we should take advantage of now and knowing which ones can be considered at a future time.

Related to the rewards of the job is the keen sense of satisfaction resulting from



Dean Patrick Lloyd with alumni and friends of the School of Dentistry in Sun City, Ariz., February 2005.

Dr. Quick: How do you manage to be everywhere and do as much as you do?

Dean Lloyd: I made a commitment early on to develop an appreciation for the needs of the entire state and all the communities the school serves. Also, there'd been a higher than usual turnover in the administration of the school during the previous ten years, and people needed some degree of assurance that we were working on stability in the way the school would operate. I needed to let people know that there was interest, passion and dedication for the job, for moving the school forward, and a willingness to do what had to be done in order to help make some things happen.

Dr. Quick: Is the job what you expected? **Dean Lloyd:** It's more than I could've ever expected. In fact, it's the most rewarding thing I've ever done. It's also the most opportunity-rich job I've had. There's often more than can be squeezed into a

24-hour day. Each week is packed with an abundance of new opportunities, and because most have such great potential to the new programs and projects we've launched. Some of them influence the lives of people in and around the Twin Cities, while others have the potential to affect other schools and people across the country and around the world. This, too, was something I had not expected.

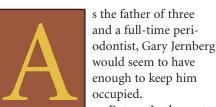
Dr. Quick: What keeps you so passionate and enthusiastic about the profession and about the school?

Dean Lloyd: I attribute this to strong beliefs that were instilled in me by some really gifted people I've worked with over the last 30 years. They taught me that whatever you do, you've got to have passion for it and you've got to be excited about it. This way you'll always have the energy and drive to work hard and stay committed. They also exposed me to some other good principles to live by, like you've got to believe in what you're doing and that you have an obligation to demonstrate those beliefs through your actions. I really believe these approaches get people involved and help build the momentum needed to achieve great things for the benefit of many. O

Inventing Gary Jernberg

The Mankato periodontist mixes dentistry with a successful career as an inventor.

BY RICHARD BRODERICK



But no. In the past 20 years, Jernberg, who took an undergraduate degree in chemical engineering from the University before enrolling in the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry, has filed patents or co-patents on ten inventions, most of them related to dentistry or health care. He's signed licensing agreements on six. Meanwhile, his first invention, a time-release antibiotic for treating periodontal infections called Arestin®, had sales last year of almost \$70 million.

"The ideas pop into my head faster than I can write them down," he confesses, "but when I have a chance, I work on them. For example, I'd take my daughter when she was a child to figure skating lessons at Augsburg College arena. Sometimes she'd want me to stay and watch, sometimes not. If she didn't, I'd go to a coffee shop and if I had time I'd work on things."

"I think I'm a very persistent individual," he says with a grin. "Maybe another word for that is 'stubborn.' I just don't like to give up."

Humble Beginnings

To understand where Gary Jernberg has gone in his life, you first have to understand where he came from.

He grew up as the oldest of two boys – his brother, Dale, is a computer systems analyst with US Bank – in a working class family on Saint Paul's east side and attended Johnson High School, where he



Gary Jernberg

PHOTO BY TIM RUMMELHOF

excelled in academics and athletics. Herb Brooks, he likes to tell people, was his PeeWee hockey coach.

Jernberg's father, a forklift operator for GE, was a high school graduate, but his mother did not get the chance to pursue her education even that far. She was only six months old when she and her siblings were orphaned by the Spanish Flu. In fifth grade her foster parents told her it was time to drop out of school and come work in the fields. At 15, she left her foster home and came to the Twin Cities to live with her sister and work as a maid.

During the time Jernberg was growing up, she was a food services employee in the cafeteria of Johnson High.

"Going to school and getting a good education was very very important to them," he says. "Both my parents were very bright, but just didn't have the opportunities I've been able to enjoy."

"Gary comes from very humble beginnings," observes James Jordan, who's been a friend of Jernberg's since high school. "His dad was a quiet guy who basically worked his head off all his life. His mother was a sweetheart, a real mom's mom.

They were the kind of people who instilled in him and his brother honesty and ambition and the confidence that they would do whatever they could to support their sons within their modest means."

Off to Work

If his parents' aspirations and his own intellectual gifts were not enough to impel Jernberg into higher education, his early work experiences reinforced the idea. He started working at age 13, cleaning pans in a local bakery — "sweaty, nasty stuff," he recalls. Later, he went to work at the Whirlpool plant in Saint Paul, where the heat on the factory floor sometimes topped 110 degrees in the summertime.

His high school record earned him a full, four-year scholarship to the University of Minnesota from the Hull Foundation, where he is now a trustee. He sits on the committee that awards the same scholarships today to needy but high-achieving students from Johnson and another Saint Paul school. He went on to earn an undergraduate degree in chemical engineering while continuing to work at the Whirlpool plant and earning a little money playing and singing in a rock band called The Chambermen. "Our biggest date was in front of 4,000 people at Midwinter Festival at what was then St. Thomas College [now the University of St. Thomas]," he recalls. "Playing only brought in a little money, but it was fun; it counterbalanced the schoolwork."

At the end of his first four years at the University, Jernberg was interested in pursuing a graduate degree in biochemical engineering, but "felt compelled to get out and start working." He took a job at General Mills where his background in chemical engineering got him involved in a project to develop a new way to isolate soy protein. His next job took him to what is now Ecolab. There he worked on a project to create a phosphate-free detergent that entailed a process of embedding chemicals in micro-particles. It was a technique he would soon modify as the basis of his first invention

In the meantime, he began seeing his future wife, Mary Jeanne. "I got interested in the whole field of medicine and dentistry because of her," he says. When they began dating, she was working in a lab in the University's Department of Pharmacology. On visits there, he became intrigued by some of her work. "The whole thing tweaked my imagination," he says. Ultimately, he decided to enter dental school. He graduated in 1978 and, two years later, earned a certificate in periodontology, an emerging field in which he saw lots of opportunity.

After looking around and discovering that Mankato had no periodontist, "I figured I had it all to myself," he recalls. "I'll be able make a go of it." In 1980 he opened up the dental offices his practice occupies to this day, networking with area dentists so successfully that he had two weeks worth of patients lined up for appointments before he ever opened his doors. Today, he and Paul Foster (M.S. '93), another periodontist who practices with Jernberg, work with about 175 referring dentists.

"I don't have any grandchildren yet, but when I do I'd like to think I left things a little better for them."

— GARY JERNBERG

Dentistry and Invention

Jernberg was 33 when he came up with his first patent idea. As a periodontist, he knew that the biggest challenge to successful treatment was to remove the bacterial biofilm that develops at the site of an infection. The conventional treatment was to remove bacteria physically from above and below the gumline. But what if it were possible to deliver a targeted time-release dose of antibiotic directly to the site of the infection? Might that not improve treatment outcome? Jernberg's investigation led to Arestin®, which was brought to market in 2001 by OraPharma, Inc., promptly becoming the market leader. Arestin® was so successful in the marketplace that Johnson & Johnson later purchased OraPharma, Inc.

Other patents soon followed. One is a way for releasing medications through heart stents, another for synthetic arterial grafts. Others are for tissue engineering and drug delivery systems.

Recently Jernberg has collaborated on his inventions. One of his latest projects

is for a range of dental products with antibacterial properties. Biosignal, an Australian biomedical company, has formed a joint venture to share intellectual property, development and marketing rights with Jernberg and Richard Simonsen ('71), dean of Midwestern University College of Dental Medicine in Glendale, Ariz. The company predicts sales of several hundred million dollars when the products are finally brought to market.

"He brought the idea up at one point when we were having dinner a couple of years ago," says Simonsen. "He knew I had a background in dental materials and lots of contacts in the field from having worked with 3M for 10 years. But he's the brains behind it all. I'm just the materials consultant. He kindly thought I could help out with my background.

"But that's Gary. He's the prototypical Minnesota Nice Guy, always willing to help out and share with others."

In addition to his own ideas, Jernberg has also shown himself more than happy to help develop someone else's concept. James Block ('78) is an oral surgeon who met Jernberg when the latter had a satellite clinic in the Minnetonka building that houses Block's practice. For the past 18 months he and Jernberg have been working on an antimicrobial delivery system that will prevent certain oral infections. The two hope to begin clinical trials within the next six months.

"I had the original idea, but he helped refine it," Block explains. "We would never have been able to file this patent without his knowledge of chemical engineering and dentistry."

For Jernberg, mixing dentistry and invention is, like his rock band career, a way of counterbalancing the different dimensions of his life. His work as a periodontist brings him, he says, "immediate gratification" – successful treatments, happy patients – while inventing calls upon his training as an engineer and a willingness to be patient and persistent.

"The common thread of interest in all my projects is social relevance," he says, pointing to his latest undertaking, the development of novel catalysts to reduce effluents from paper mills and power plants. "I don't have any grandchildren yet, but when I do I'd like to think I left things a little better for them." •

That Night on the Bridge

Fourth-year dental student Nate Lund and his wife, Christine, were among the first on the scene to help when the I-35W bridge collapsed.



Nate and Christine Lund

PHOTO BY TIM RUMMELHOF

BY TERRI PETERSON SMITH

ourth-year dental student Nate Lund and his wife, Christine, have only been married about two months. Yet, they've already found out how well they work together under extreme stress. Nate and Christine, who is a nurse, were among the first people on the scene when the bridge over I-35W collapsed in Minneapolis on August first. Their story was so unique that ABC World News named them "Persons of the Week" two days later.

It was just before 6:00 p.m. and the Lunds were sitting down to dinner in their Roseville home when Nate's brother, Chris, called. A first-year dental student who lives in an apartment overlooking the bridge, Chris saw the bridge crash. His first thought was to call his brother.

"At first, I thought he was talking about a sinkhole," says Lund. But his

brother kept repeating the unthinkable – that the entire bridge had collapsed with cars on it. So he and Christine threw stethoscopes, medical supplies and a lot of rubber gloves into their car and made it to the bridge in about ten minutes.

They arrived even before most of the ambulances and emergency medical personnel. The police asked for identification to be sure they actually had medical training and weren't just "gawkers." Says Lund, "I asked them, 'Who would claim to be a fourth-year dental student if they really weren't?"

The police sent them to the southeast corner of the bridge where they met up with some University of Minnesota medical students who had also come to help. Then, a sheriff's boat took them to the far side of the bridge where firefighters were pulling people out of cars.

Lund was shocked by the devastation. "It was worse than I expected," he says.

"More of the bridge was collapsed than I had thought. But the extent of injuries was less than I expected. I thought there would be more cars on the bridge and more people with gaping wounds. Mostly there were back and internal injuries from the drop, and people with broken bones." The group helped "triage" people with injuries. They checked for chest injuries and internal bleeding, and helped strap people onto backboards (or, when those ran out, plywood boards) and loaded them onto pickup trucks to be taken to Hennepin County Medical Center, all before ambulances arrived. They also provided prayer and comfort. "There wasn't anything else that could be done for them there and they were rapidly becoming dehydrated in the dryness and dust."

Lund says he felt well qualified for the job for several reasons. "After having taken gross anatomy side-by-side with medical students, I knew the location of organs and what could be ruptured." He adds, "Med students usually take the course pass/fail, while dental students take it for a grade, so it was very competitive. I'm also an Eagle Scout and taught wilderness first-aid to other scouts."

Lund is a second lieutenant in the Army, too, attending school as part of the Army's Health Professional Scholarship Program. Along with his faith, these experiences have made him feel that rushing to the aid of victims in such a disaster is simply part of being a good citizen. "You don't really think about it," he explains. "You're running on adrenaline. It's not a question of whether or not to do it."

That's why he downplays his two or three minutes of fame on ABC. "It's a good human interest story when dental or medical students get involved, but the firefighters did the amazing stuff. They're the real heroes." •

SchoolNews

Bryan Michalowicz Receives Century Club Professor of the Year Award

BY LINDA S. RAAB

Bryan Michalowicz, the Erwin Schaffer Chair in Periodontal Research and associate professor in the Department of Developmental and Surgical Sciences, is this year's recipient of the Century Club Professor of the Year Award. The award was announced at the Dean's *Celebrating Dentistry* reception during the Minnesota Dental Association's Star of the North meeting. The award is the school's highest honor and is conferred upon one faculty member each year in recognition of outstanding contributions in education, research, and service.

A native of Dearborn Heights, Mich., Michalowicz comes from a family of Ford Motor Company engineers; a Michalowicz family member has been employed at Ford continuously since 1916. Despite his family's penchant for engineering, Michalowicz was undecided about his own career path until a high school friend suggested that they both try dentistry. While his friend went on to study computer science, Michalowicz earned B.S. and D.D.S. degrees in a combined six-year program at Case Western Reserve University. After graduation, he worked for two years as a general dentist in a group practice in Cleveland, Ohio, where he befriended a periodontist whose approach to patient care led Michalowicz to consider specializing in periodontics.

Michalowicz earned his M.S. degree in periodontology at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry in 1988, and was awarded the Balint Orban Award for outstanding graduate student research by the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) for his work examining periodontal disease in twins. He had no plans to stay in academia and intended to return to Michigan and enter private practice. However, while waiting in Minnesota for the opportunity to take the Michigan specialty licensing board, his thesis advisor, Bruce Pihlstrom, pieced together some funding that allowed him to continue his research and to teach at the School of Dentistry. In 1991, he was offered a tenure-track position as an assistant professor and has remained at the school ever since.

Beyond his research on genetic contributions to periodontal disease, Michalowicz has been involved in numerous clinical studies and directs the dental school's Minnesota Oral Health Clinical Research Center. Michalowicz's current research interests include the oral-general health link. He led the interprofessional team that conducted a four-year multi-center clinical trial funded by the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) that explored the potential benefits of periodontal treatment during pregnancy. The study gained national attention when the results were published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in 2006. According to Pihlstrom, the recently retired acting director of the Center for Clinical Research at the NIDCR,



Brvan Michalowicz

PHOTO BY TIM RUMMELHO

"This was the first study to clearly document the safety of providing routine dental care during pregnancy and it is the first large-scale randomized clinical trial on dental treatment that has been published in the 195-year history of the *New England Journal of Medicine*."

Michalowicz is a diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and has twice received the AAP Clinical Research Award for the outstanding paper with direct relevance to clinical practice. Michalowicz has served the School of Dentistry on numerous committees, including the Strategic Planning Steering Committee. He is involved in the University's Career Advancement Program for Clinical Research Scholars, a National Institutes of Health-funded program that mentors and trains multidisciplinary scholars interested in clinical research careers.

In presenting the Professor of the Year Award to Michalowicz, Dean Patrick Lloyd said, "The University of Minnesota School of Dentistry is truly fortunate to have him on our faculty and I am fortunate to call him not only a colleague but a friend." Erwin Schaffer, who received the Distinguished Dental Alumnus Award the same evening, says that "Bryan has my utmost respect for the quality of his research, his skill as a teacher, and his abundance of motivation." Larry Wolff, interim chair of the Department of Developmental and Surgical Sciences, describes Michalowicz as "an example of how scholarly activity can be interesting, intellectually stimulating, and at the same time fun to pursue."

AlumniNews



A Letter from the President

Greetings from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry Alumni Society.

Each new year brings new opportunities to connect alumni, students, and friends. Your alumni society is involved, often behind the scenes, in numerous activities to enhance the experience for alumni and for dental and dental hygiene students. This past spring, I was honored to represent the School of Dentistry Alumni Society at several important events. I attended the Senior Recognition Banquet and the 2007 Commencement ceremonies. Welcome to our newest colleagues from the Class of 2007! The school has done a great job in preparing you to practice and I am sure you will represent our profession well. I also attended the first of two White Coat Ceremonies to be held in 2007 to welcome the classes of 2009 and 2011 to the clinical phases of their educational program. It was a lot of fun to represent our members at these events.

I continue to be excited with the changes Dean Lloyd is bringing to the School of Dentistry. The signs of his hard work are now visible in the new pre-clinical Simulation Clinic and the Rice Memorial Hospital Clinic scheduled to open in December. The school also recently passed its accreditation review with flying colors and the alumni society could not be more proud of that. With all of the challenges in dental education, I am confident that the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry will remain a beacon of dental education for years to come.

Through your active participation and financial support of programs such as the annual Cap and Gown Graduation Fund and the School of Dentistry Golf Classic, we are able to provide scholarships and other support to the future members of our profession. The alumni society also helps to support the Clinical Grand Rounds programs held at the School of Dentistry the first Thursday of each month during the academic year. Each presentation features cases selected from a different discipline of dentistry. It's a great opportunity to enjoy a meal, network with colleagues, faculty and students and to continue our dental education while obtaining continuing education credits at a reasonable cost.

I look forward to a great year as the president; it is truly an honor for me to represent the School of Dentistry Alumni Society. I ask that you consider supporting the dental school as it moves into the 21st century by joining our alumni society. Of all the benefits that accompany alumni society membership, the best by far is the opportunity to give back. Alumni and dental professionals provide a unique insight into the dental community and the school's educational mission, which allows us to maintain an unprecedented level of excellence. New graduates always receive a complimentary one-year membership to the alumni society, granting access to all the benefits membership has to offer.

If you are a current alumni society member, thank you for your participation and I ask you to consider upgrading your membership to a Life Membership. Life Membership helps the alumni society in so many ways. It perpetuates your gift of membership year after year and reduces the alumni society's costs of having to solicit your membership each time it is up for renewal. If you are not currently a member, I would ask you to consider joining. What better gift to your profession than to help those who follow in your footsteps.

We are the group that is there for you, the alumni of the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. If you have any questions about alumni programs and events, society membership or board responsibilities, please contact Annie Pennola, director of alumni relations for the School of Dentistry, at 612-625-6164 or penno008@umn.edu.

We have some exciting things planned for the coming year. JOIN US!

LOREN TAPLE, D.D.S. '89
President, School of Dentistry Alumni Society

Class Notes

Please submit brief notices about milestone events and activities to: U of M Continuing Dental Education & Alumni Relations (attn: Annie Pennola), 515 Delaware St. S.E., 15-136 Moos Tower, Minneapolis, MN 55455 or penno008@umn.edu.

Dentistry is published two times a year. Deadlines for submission are: Spring issue: January 1; Fall issue: July 1. Please note: Dentistry cannot publish birth and marriage announcements.

1952

Theodore Sevrin Thompson (D.D.S.), Austin, passed away May 3 at age 84. Dr. Thompson attended North Dakota Agricultural College School of Pharmacy from 1940 until 1943 and served in the U.S. Infantry from 1943-46. He then graduated from dental school in 1952 and practiced general dentistry in Austin until 1985. He was a member of the American Dental Association and the Minnesota Dental Association (MDA), chaired the MDA Committee on Organization and Structure and the Resolutions Committee, and was a delegate to the MDA House of Delegates. He was past president of the Southeastern District Dental Society and the Austin Dental Society. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry Alumni Society and the Century Club, and a member of the MDA Committee on Science and Annual Session. He was a member of St. Olaf Lutheran Church, the Mower County Cancer Society, the board of directors of the United Way, and a past president of the YMCA and the Lions of Austin. He was a fellow in the International College of Dentists, as well as a member of the American Legion, Sons of Norway, Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, and the Delta Sigma Delta Dental Fraternity. His favorite hobbies were woodworking, fishing, boating, reading, gardening and all sports.

1956

Robert Isaacson (D.D.S.), Edina, was awarded the title of faculty emeritus of the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry by President Robert Bruininks. A four-time graduate of the University of Minnesota, Dr. Isaacson has a 45-year history as a full-time dental academic, with professorial appointments at three schools of dentistry and more than 50 years of scholarly contributions to the profession. Described as a visionary long before the phrase was popularized, he was instrumental in shaping the research enterprises of the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. From 1963-73 he was the principal force behind the school's NIH-funded training program for dentists to earn a Ph.D. in preparation for entry into dental education. He is the former chair of orthodontics under whose tenure 87 students completed their graduate education, including 58 who earned a master of science degree and six who earned a Ph.D. in basic science. In 1977, he was recruited by the University of California at San Francisco to serve as chair of the Department of Growth and Development. In 1987, he assumed a position as professor and chair of orthodontics at the Medical College of Virginia and retired from academia there in 2001. He is editor of The Angle Orthodontist (since 2000) and is credited for introducing electronic peer review to the journal's publication process. In his retirement, Isaacson is active within the professional community as both a lecturer to the postgraduate students in the U-M School of Dentistry's Division of Orthodontics and as a participant at all School of Dentistrysponsored alumni functions.



John O. Look (center)

1963

John 0. Look (D.D.S.), Anoka, was one of 12 recipients of the University of Minnesota's 2007 Award for Outstanding Service. (See story, page 4.)

1966

George Winn (D.D.S.), New Prague, received the 2007 President's Award from the Minnesota Dental Association. The award was presented at the 2007 House of Delegates Meeting in Duluth, September 7-8.



Walter Parsons

1967

Walter Parsons (D.D.S.), North Oaks, shot a hole-in-one at the 13th Annual School of Dentistry Alumni Society Golf Classic held on July 27 at the Majestic Oaks Golf Course. **Steve Litton** (D.D.S.), Golden Valley, was appointed by University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks to a three-year term on the All-University Honors Committee, starting July 1, 2007.

1975

William F. Lindig (D.H.), Woodbury, passed away unexpectedly on August 8 from surgical complications.

1976, 1982

Mary L. Dierling (D.H., D.D.S.), St. Paul, earned a master of arts degree in gerontology from Bethel University's two-year evening program in May 2006 and a teaching certificate through Bethel's weekend Post-Secondary Teaching Certificate program in May 2007. She plans to use the knowledge gained to write articles for publication and teach other health-care professionals who seek information in the field of gerontology, and will continue to treat aging patients in her private practice.

1978

David Resch (D.D.S.), St. Paul, was installed as president of the St. Paul District Dental Society.



Larry Wolff

Larry Wolff (D.D.S., M.S.), Edina, received the American Academy of Periodontology 2007 Educator Award. The award is given to the periodontal educator at each dental school who has demonstrated a commitment to

excellence in providing education in the full scope of clinical periodontics, and who relays that enthusiasm to students.



Jo Ann Omlie

1980

Jo Ann (Joey) Omlie (D.D.S.), Eden Prairie, has accepted the position of the School of Dentistry representative to the University of Minnesota Alumni Association National Board.

1983

Bradley D. Ness (D.D.S.), Waseca, passed away at his home in July at age 50.

1988

Bryan Michalowicz (M.S.), St. Paul, accepted the 2006 Century Club Professor of the Year Award from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. The award was presented at the Dean's reception, held at the St. Paul Hotel in conjunction with the Minnesota Dental Association's Star of the North Meeting. (*See story, page 15.*)

Class Notes (continued)

1991

Walter Bowles (M.S.), Apple Valley, received a \$690,000 grant from the American Association of Endodontists (AAE), the largest research grant ever awarded by the AAE, to conduct a retrospective study of 10,000 patients to determine the factors that influence successful endodontic and dental implant treatments. Bowles is currently an associate professor in the Division of Endodontics at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry.

1992

Susan Camp (D.D.S.), Lakeland Shores, passed away on May 28 after a long battle with breast cancer. She was 62 years old. Dr. Camp graduated from the University of Iowa, raised two children, and then returned to school to earn her doctor of dental surgery degree, a certificate in endodontics, and a Ph.D. in oral biology from the University of Minnesota. As research fellow in the NIDCR Dentist Scientist Award Program from 1992-2001, she was a cancer biologist in the U-M School of Dentistry who investigated tumor suppression and the role of the immune system in cancer cells. Camp was also an avid gardener, a violinist through college and later a student of classical piano, and a black belt in Shotokan karate. She traveled extensively, living for one year in Korea, and was both a supporter and an active staff member for seven seasons at the Tel Rehov archeological excavations in the Jordan Valley of Israel with teams from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She was also, until recently, a board member of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra.

1998

Ma'An Sabino (D.D.S.), Roseville, was selected as one of six individuals nationwide to receive a Faculty Educator Development Award from the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Foundation). The



Ma'An Sabino

award of \$100,000 over three years is in recognition of her dedication to developing leadership and excellence in oral and maxillofacial surgery education and training. She will be officially recognized during the 89th

Annual Meeting Opening Awards Ceremony in October in Hawaii. Sabino recently joined the faculty at the School of Dentistry in the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery after earning her Ph.D. in oral biology.

Remembering Our Faculty

We share these updates on the passing of former faculty members. Obituaries of faculty who are alumni of the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry are included in Class Notes.

Larry Meskin, Denver, Colo. and Santa Fe, N.M., passed away unexpectedly on June 26. He was 71 years old.

Dr. Meskin graduated from the University of Detroit School of Dentistry in 1961 and then moved to Minnesota where he earned three additional degrees: a master of science in oral pathology (1963), a master of public health(1964) and a doctor of epidemiology (1966).

In 1965, Dean Erwin Schaffer charged Meskin with developing a program in preventive and public health dentistry, a program that in 1969 was officially designated the Division of Health Ecology. Meskin was instrumental in shaping that division into one of the earliest and most productive programs in community dental health, extending the reach of dentistry beyond the operatory to the broader community and integrating knowledge and research methods from the social, behavioral and educational sciences into dental education and research. He left Minnesota in 1981 to assume leadership of the University of Colorado School of Dentistry from 1981-87. Later, he served as vice-president for academic affairs and research at Colorado, dean of Colorado's continuing dental education program, and was also a professor in the medical school's Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics.

Meskin's record of national and international accomplishments beyond the academic arena is equally extensive. He was a consultant to countless governmental agencies here and abroad, was an active advisor to the World Health Organization, and was editor of numerous journals and special publications. He authored dozens of books and articles, trained thousands of students, established numerous training programs, and mentored hundreds of scholars. One of his most notable contributions was his time as editor of the *Journal of the American Dental Association* (1990-2001). Upon his retirement from



Larry Meskin

that position, ADA Publisher Laura A. Kosden credited him with recreating JADA as "a publication that speaks directly to the needs of the dental clinician, offering practical information that dentists can use to improve patient care."

When asked about him, most contemporaries are likely to cite his eleven years as editor of the Journal of the American Dental Association as Meskin's major contribution to the profession. Certainly the leadership, insight, critical judgment, and integrity that he brought to the position mark him as one of the most respected of that journal's editors. His willingness to take a position and to speak out, privately, professionally, and publicly made him one of the most influential. But, when the grand history of dentistry and health care in America is written, Meskin's greatest legacy will be found in the twenty years of research, scholarship, program development, mentoring, and teaching which he methodically constructed at Minnesota and which served as the foundation for the remainder of his career. The Minnesota years gave form to his vision, shaped his sensibility, and, perhaps most importantly, provided a nurturing environment for his creative genius.

A provision of the award is that she remain a full-time faculty member for at least six years.

2007

Ryan Ritchie (D.D.S.), Detroit Lakes, was selected to serve as an alternate delegate

to the 2007 American Dental Association's House of Delegates for the ADA meeting in San Francisco. Elected District 8 Delegate of the Year by the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) in 2007, Dr. Ritchie will represent the ASDA at the ADA annual meeting.

13th Annual School of Dentistry Alumni Society Golf Classic

Duffers and scratch golfers teed-off for a day of friendly rivalry at the 13th Annual Dental Golf Classic, held July 27, 2007 at the Majestic Oaks Golf Course. One hundred fifteen golfers, including alumni, students and friends of the School of

Dentistry, enjoyed a beautiful summer day and fun golf event. A special thanks to all of the golfers and corporate sponsors for making this a successful day. Proceeds support numerous Alumni Society projects, including scholarships.

Special congratulations to the following contest winners:

Men's Long Drive:Erik KohorstWomen's Long Drive:Mary OwenClosest to the Pin:Mike HomLongest Putt:Will SamsonHole-in-One:Walter Parsons



Top Three Teams:

[eam 1: Tim Emmer S William Herr E

eam 2: Mike Kurkowski Walter Parsons

> 3: Jim Hom Michael Hom

Scott Lingle Bob Proebstle

Dave Resch Richard Wiberg

Tom Inglis Jessica Knorr

The Finishing Touch: Alumni Sponsor Caps and Gowns for Grads

With an outpouring of generosity, alumni and friends made contributions to underwrite the cost of caps and gowns for 2007 classes of dental and dental hygiene graduates. The effort, led by Loren Taple ('89), this year's Cap and Gown Committee chair, has been a tradition for the Society's Board of Directors since 1997.

A list of 2007 donors to the Cap and Gown campaign is provided below, and we send a sincere "thank you" to all contributors for their help in welcoming the graduating dentistry and dental hygiene classes to the profession.

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All Your Smile Needs Dental Center Dr. Troy A. Alton & Dr. Marmar Miar Dr. Jeanne M. Anderson Dr. Jon D. Anderson Dr. Paul D. Anderson Arnold Orthodonics PA Dr. Bashar Bakdash Dr. Dellin R. Bakkum Dr. A. Richard Ballin Dr. Jerry E. Barnes Drs. Joseph S. & Sarah M. Basile Ms. Marie A. Baudek Dr. Steven I. Baune

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Tronsgard

Dr. Thomas J. Zehren

Events Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2007

September 21 White Coat Ceremony

3:30 p.m. Radisson University Hotel University of Minnesota East Bank Campus Minneapolis, Minn.

For information: (612) 625-8947

September 28 U of MN Alumni Reception ADA Meeting

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. San Francisco Marriott Yerba Buena Room San Francisco, CA

For information: (612) 625-6164 www.dentistry.umn.edu/ alumni.html

OCTOBER 2007

October 11 School of Dentistry Alumni Society (SODAS) Board Meeting

October 24 Minnesota Student Dental Society Vendor Placement Fair

Radisson University Hotel University of Minnesota Minneapolis Campus Minneapolis, Minn.

For information: Call Dawn (612) 767-8400 (800) 950-3368

JANUARY 2008

January 18 MDA Mentor Mingler

Radisson University Hotel University of Minnesota Minneapolis Campus Minneapolis, Minn.

For information: Call Dawn (612) 767-8400 (800) 950-3368

January 31 School of Dentistry Alumni Society (SODAS) Board Meeting

MARCH 2008

March 15 18th Annual Daniel E. Waite Lecture

U-M Continuing Education and Conference Center University of Minnesota St. Paul Campus St. Paul, Minn.

Additional information to be announced.

For information: (612) 624-9959

APRIL 2008

April 10 School of Dentistry Alumni Society (SODAS) Board Meeting

4:00 p.m. St. Paul Hotel St. Paul, Minn.

Dean's Reception

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. St. Paul Hotel St. Paul, Minn.

April 11-12 Star of the North Meeting

April 10 Pre-session seminars

Touchstone Energy Place St. Paul, Minn.

For information: (612) 767-8400 (800) 950-3368

MAY 2008

May 15 Senior Recognition Banquet

5:00 p.m. Awards Ceremony 6:30 p.m. Banquet Radisson University Hotel University of Minnesota Minneapolis Campus Minneapolis, Minn.

For information: (612) 625-8947

Specialty Receptions

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

October 8-13, 2007, Hawaii Alumni Reception, October 11, 2007, from 7-9 p.m. at the Hilton Hawaiian Village.

American Academy of Periodontology

October 27-31, 2007, Washington, D.C. Alumni Reception, Monday, October 29, from 6-8 p.m. in the Cabin John Room at the Grand Hyatt.

American Association of Endodontists Annual Session

April 25-28, 2008, Philadelphia Convention Center, Philadelphia, Penn. Alumni Reception date to be determined. Contact: Dr. Scott McClanahan

American Association of Orthodontists

May 16-20 Denver, Colo. Alumni Reception Saturday, May 17th. Contact: Dr. Steve Litton

American Academy Pediatric Dentistry Annual Session

May 22-26, 2008, Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, D.C. Alumni Reception date to be determined. *Contact: Annie Pennola, 612-625-6164*

May 15-18 South Dakota Dental Association Annual Session

Sheraton Inn Sioux Falls, S.D.

For information: info@sddental.org

University of Minnesota Alumni Reception

Date to be determined. For information: (612) 625-6164 www.dentistry.umn.edu/ alumni.html

May 16 School of Dentistry Graduation

2:00 p.m. Northrop Auditorium University of Minnesota East Bank Campus Minneapolis, Minn.

For more information:

Except where noted, you can obtain further information on the events listed by contacting:

Julia Cross

(612) 625-7678 cros0183@umn.edu

To stay informed about events at the University of Minnesota, see the Twin Cities Campus Event Calendar at www.events.tc.umn.edu

CDE Courses

10% Discount Now Available

School of Dentistry Alumni Society members are eligible for discounted continuing education. Members may receive a 10% discount for "lecture only" courses offered through the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. (This discount applies to School of Dentistry Alumni Society members only and not their employees).

SEPTEMBER 2007

Restorative Expanded Functions: An 80-Hour Training Program

September 28-30, 2007 October 19-21, 2007 November 16-18, 2007 November 30-December 2, 2007

OCTOBER 2007

TMD and Orofacial Pain **Miniresidency**

October 1-3, 2007

Clinical Grand Rounds: Oral Pathology

October 4, 2007

University Gold Orthodontic Study Club

October 5, 2007 November 2, 2007 December 7, 2007 February 1, 2008 March 7, 2008 April 4, 2008

Dental-Medical Management of an Aging Population

October 5, 2007

Nitrous Oxide Sedation: A Lecture and Hands-On **Program**

October 5-6, 2007

Occlusion & Function-Postgraduate Program in **Esthetic Dentistry: Level III**

October 10-13, 2007

13th Annual Practice Management Symposium: Creating a Cutting Edge Practice

October 12, 2007

Infection Control in Dentistry: An Update & Review

October 13, 2007

Recordkeeping Workshop for the Dental Team

October 18, 2007

1st Annual Robert J. Feigal Symposium: New Horizons in Children's Dental Care October 20, 2007

Everyday Endodontics in 2007

October 26, 2007

Office Oral Surgery: **A Clinically Guided Participation Course** October 29-30, 2007

NOVEMBER 2007

Clinical Grand Rounds: Geriatric Dentistry

November 1, 2007

Dental Product Update

November 2, 2007

Winter Dental Assistants' Seminar

November 3, 2007

Postgraduate Program in Esthetic Dentistry: Level I-Lecture/Laboratory Series

November 9-11, 2007 January 11-13, 2008 February 8-10, 2008 April 4-6, 2008

Postgraduate Program in Esthetic Dentistry: Level II-**Patient Series**

November 9-11, 2007 January 11-13, 2008 February 8-10, 2008 April 4-6, 2008

Conscious Sedation Course for Dental Assistants

November 12, 2007

DECEMBER 2007

Clinical Grand Rounds: Endodontics

December 6, 2007

JANUARY 2008

Clinical Grand Rounds: Pediatric Dentistry

January 3, 2008

Esthetic and **Restorative Dentistry** January 18, 2008

What's New in Dentistry

Enhancing Restorative Skills: A Hand-On Program

January 26, 2008

January 25, 2008

Study Abroad: Playa del Carmen, Mexico

January 26-February 2, 2008

Dental Implants & Esthetic Dentistry

January 31-February 3, 2008 & April 18-20, 2008

FEBRUARY 2008

Clinical Grand Rounds: Removable Prosthodontics & Implants

February 7, 2008

13th Annual Ski & Learn: Steamboat, Colorado

February 14-16, 2008

Winter Dental Hygiene Seminar: Women's Health February 29, 2008

Soft Tissue Laser Training for Orthodontists

February 29, 2008

MARCH 2008

Improving Your Radiographic Techniques: A Hands-On **Program**

March 1, 2008

Clinical Grand Rounds: Periodontics March 6, 2008

Treating the Untreatable: The True Scope of **Endodontics** March 7, 2008

Removal of Bond Material with Rotary Instrumentation: A Hands-On Program

March 13, 2008

Periodontal Disease & Oral Cancer: Early Detection & Control March 14, 2008

Orthodontic and **Periodontal Esthetics** March 26-29, 2008

Dental Research Updates from the U of M: 4th Annual Dean's Day March 28, 2008

For more information and to register for classes. contact:

Continuing Dental Education

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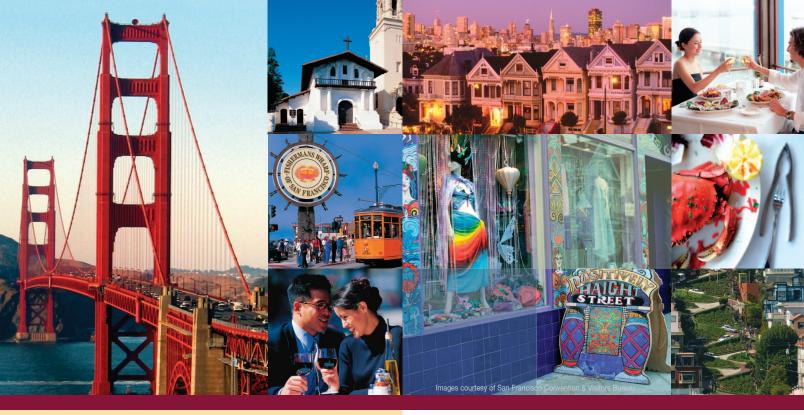
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(612) 624-8159

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\$10 discount for on-line registrations. Please access our secure Web site at www.dentalce.umn.edu.



Join us for the
University of Minnesota
School of Dentistry Reception
for Alumni and Friends at the
148th Annual Session of the
American Dental Association

For more information, visit our website at www.dentistry.umn.edu

Join Dean Patrick Lloyd, and faculty and staff, alumni and friends from around the country for cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and exciting updates on the innovations taking place at the School of Dentistry.

Friday, September 28, 2007 — 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. San Francisco Marriott, Yerba Buena 1 San Francisco, CA



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