

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

# Dentistry

FOR ALUMNI OF THE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

SPRING 2014

## Most Famous Alumnus

Alfred Owre, D.D.S., M.D.

Dean

University of Minnesota

College of Dentistry

1905-1927

Inside

Profile of Alfred Owre ■ Interview with Dean Assael ■ Team Dentist ■ Give Kids a Smile Day



# from the Dean

## Dear Colleagues,

A great dental school recapitulates all the best aspects of community and family life. Ours is a community of students, staff, faculty and patients. Our faculty are committed to passing on what they know, their skills, and their humanistic framework to a new generation. The leaders among the students, faculty, and staff provide thoughtful guidance and are role models for future oral health professionals. The staff provides an environment of support and caring. Our patients are the grateful recipients of world class knowledge and expertise. And most importantly, our students grow and learn in a culture that they will again recapitulate for their patients, staff and, perhaps, students for a future generation yet to come.

Our University of Minnesota community exists for a purpose. Our students will bring what we show them in our community out to the world beyond. Each of our graduates, staff members and faculty learn from and grow with those who have preceded us and those who show us the way today. That is why this issue of *Dentistry* is so appealing to all of us who are privileged to be a part of the community of scholars and clinicians that is the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry.

In this issue we highlight so many of the things that make us a vibrant learning community. Our student leaders have been recognized by our University for their outreach to disadvantaged people in our city in the Phillips Street Clinic, as well as for their participation in organized dentistry. Our

women students, for the first time a majority of one of our classes, now have an organization, the Women's Dental Association, where their needs and collegiality can be advanced. In this issue, we demonstrate our value to our neighbors by increasing our involvement in oral health care through our new outreach site in St. Paul. We show our regional leadership in research by hosting the Midwest Regional Dental Student Research Conference. Our alumni Patricia Lenton and Vernon Steffens are honored for a lifetime of giving to others, in research and in community service. And we recognize the many hundreds of people who have supported our learning community through their donations to the School of Dentistry in the past year

So how did we reach this inestimable position as the premier public dental school in the nation? Reading about Dean Alfred Owre will provide much insight into our culture of knowing and of doing. No other leader has influenced what the School of Dentistry is today more than Dean Owre. He promulgated the scientific nature of dentistry, helped build dentistry as a team profession, and was prescient in understanding what it takes to be healthy and to live a meaningful life. After I read Richard Broderick's article *His Time Has Come*, I stepped out of Moos Tower and saw a group of our students smiling and laughing. They were headed over to the student athletic center to work out. "It's exam week," one of them said, "but I always think better after I exercise." "So do I," I replied. Dean Owre would be proud of his legacy knowing he is emulated and remembered today.

LEON A. ASSAEL, D.M.D.  
Dean

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SPRING 2014

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PHOTO BY STEVE WOIT

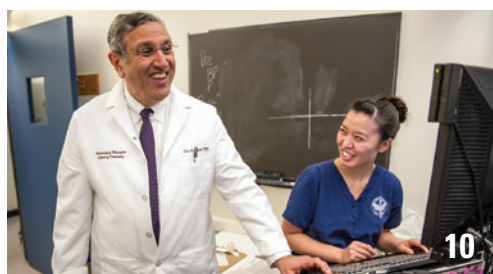


PHOTO BY STEVE WOIT



PHOTO BY STEVE WOIT

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**On the Cover:** Alfred Owre, D.D.S., M.D. (Courtesy of University of Minnesota Archives)

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

School of Dentistry

Driven to Discover<sup>SM</sup>

The University's mission, carried out on multiple campuses and throughout the state, is threefold: research and discovery, teaching and learning, and outreach and public service.

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# News Bites

## Leading by Example

### University of Minnesota President Kaler Recognizes Student Leaders

Three School of Dentistry students were among the 47 University students who received the 2014 *President's Student Leadership and Service Award* from President Eric Kaler on March 30.

Dental students **Farnaz Kar**, **Kirby Johnson**, and **Stephanie Zastrow** received the award in recognition of their outstanding leadership and service to the University and the surrounding community. The award is presented to approximately one-half of one percent of the student body. Both Farnaz Kar and Kirby Johnson graduated in May; Stephanie Zastrow will be a fourth-year dental student during the 2014-15 academic year.



Farnaz Kar

As a first-year dental student, she committed herself to bringing the organization into being. She created an infrastructure for the group that would guarantee its continuation after her graduation, established an inclusive leadership and member structure representative of the student body, trained group leaders, developed leadership-transition plans, and assisted in establishing a tradition of educational initiatives that are open to the entire School of Dentistry community. The group participated in dental and interprofessional development conferences, and sponsored *Lunch and Learn* programs through which she helped to introduce such important topics as living with AIDS (a patient's perspective), substance abuse, and post-traumatic stress disorder and Project Strive.



Kirby Johnson

Kirby Johnson was recognized for his leadership and service in support of students and for championing the dental school's partnership with the Phillips Neighborhood Clinic, which led to the creation of a zero-credit volunteer course for dental students who provide dental screenings, oral health education and referrals to community resources for clinic patients. He worked with the dental school and the clinic board to organize the experience, which enhances patient care and adds an interprofessional component to the education students of all health professions receive while serving at the clinic.

Additionally, he is a past-president of the Minnesota chapter of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA); during his tenure, Minnesota won ASDA's *Ideal Chapter Award* and Johnson received the *District 8 Delegate of the Year Award*. He also ably represented dental students as a member of the Minnesota Dental Association's Board of Trustees.



Stephanie Zastrow

Stephanie Zastrow, was recognized for her service as president of the Minnesota chapter of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA). She helped revise the constitution and bylaws and create a strategic plan for the chapter; raise funds for a new website, which she manages; create a new

## New School of Dentistry Outreach Site Enhances Access to Affordable Dental Care for St. Paul Community

It's a move that's sure to put smiles on the faces of thousands of patients in St. Paul's eastside community.

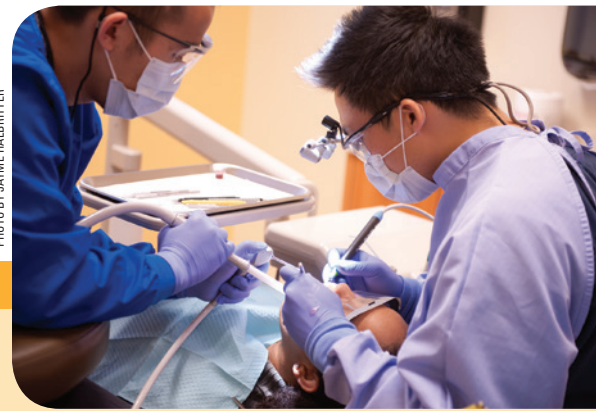
In January 2014, the School of Dentistry expanded its community outreach sites to include a rotation at the East Side Family Clinic in St. Paul. Senior dental students now provide comprehensive dental care for children and adults at the clinic, operated by West Side Community Health Services (WSCHS). The strategic partnership between the school and WSCHS makes possible affordable and accessible dental care for some 11,000 area residents, with all services provided under the supervision of dental school faculty member Michael Mrosak, D.D.S.

The new dental clinic features 20 state-of-the-art dental operatories; dental services for children and adults, with a focus on pediatric preventive and restorative dental care; English, Spanish and

Hmong-speaking staff and interpreters; an on-site pharmacy, convenient scheduling and handicap accessibility; assistance with many types of insurance for patients of all ages; and a sliding fee scale option.

The newly constructed East Side Family Clinic opened in May 2013 and initially provided only medical and pharmacy services, although the facility included significant dental space. "The goal for the new facility has always been to significantly increase dental services for area residents," says WSCHS Dental Director and School of Dentistry alumnus Brad McDonnell, D.D.S. ('78). "This goal has been realized now that students and faculty from the School of Dentistry have joined the East Side Family Clinic dental staff in providing affordable and accessible dental care to community members."

According to Paul Schulz, D.D.S., M.P.H., director of the dental school's Outreach Division, that makes for a



Fourth-year dental student Ivan Martino (right) with Cher Xiong, dental assistant, East Side Family Clinic.

win-win partnership. "The School of Dentistry has a strong commitment to community outreach. Not only does our partnership with WSCHS help address the unmet dental needs of East Side residents, it also makes possible a unique service-learning experience for students that enhances their clinical and cultural competence, and helps them to develop a broad understanding of the professional and social responsibilities they will have after graduation."

School of Dentistry students currently spend six to 11 weeks treating patients under faculty supervision at one or more of 15 off-campus clinics located in underserved communities throughout the state and region. In 2013, there were 37,676 patient-visits to outreach sites staffed by School of Dentistry students and faculty, a number that will grow with the addition of the WSCHS rotation.

position that provides chapter members with information about licensure and ethical issues associated with board exams; chaired the International Outreach Program Committee, which addressed oral health needs across the globe; and organized a Summer Leadership Retreat at the Minnesota Dental Association (MDA) for all chapter members to brainstorm for the year and network with MDA leaders. Zastrow also received the national 2013 *Ryan Turner Memorial Scholarship*, awarded by ASDA to one dental student nationally who exemplifies Ryan Turner's passion and commitment to organized dentistry.

## Hosting Student Researchers

The School of Dentistry hosted student researchers from Midwest dental schools on April 12 who convened in Minneapolis for the 2014 Midwest Regional Dental Student Research Conference.

Dental students and faculty from the University of Minnesota, the University of Iowa, the University of Illinois-Chicago, the University of Missouri-Kansas City, the University of Colorado, and Marquette University presented posters and shared research findings.

The regional meeting provides students from participating schools the chance to



meet and learn from each other and to discuss their research during the course of the day-long event.



# His Time Has Come

*Alfred Owre, D.D.S., M.D., is the School of Dentistry's most famous alumnus, so well-known in his time that it was claimed "there is no part of Minnesota in which there are not people who know him personally." Only 34 when he became dean of the School of Dentistry, he served in that position for two highly productive decades before embarking on an ill-starred tenure as dean of the dental school at Columbia University. Now, more than 75 years after his death, his once controversial vision for dentistry finds increasing acceptance.*

BY RICHARD BRODERICK



Alfred Owre's life could have served as a plot idea for playwright and fellow Norwegian Henrik Ibsen.

Like the protagonist in *An Enemy of the People*, Owre was a community leader, a man of moral courage and uncompromising convictions, and an unconventional visionary who ended up martyred on behalf of his, then, controversial ideas and principles. Even the circumstances of his birth and childhood seem lifted from the narrative of a hero destined to achieve fame while simultaneously creating enemies who would eventually thwart his most exalted ambitions.

He was born December 16, 1870, in Hammerfest, Norway, the second child of Lars and Laura Owre, naturalized citizens of the United States who'd recently returned to their native country for a Christmas visit that ultimately turned into a 14-year stay.

Lars Owre—like his son—was a man of great learning, conversant in a number of languages and skilled enough in accounting, the arts, and public relations to hold a number of prominent positions in Norway before emigrating to the United States. That move was prompted by his dissatisfaction with the Norwegian state church. In the U.S., he joined the Quakers, an organization whose dedication to


pacifism, egalitarianism, and social consciousness would leave its mark on the thinking of son Alfred over a broad range of issues, including dentistry and dental education.

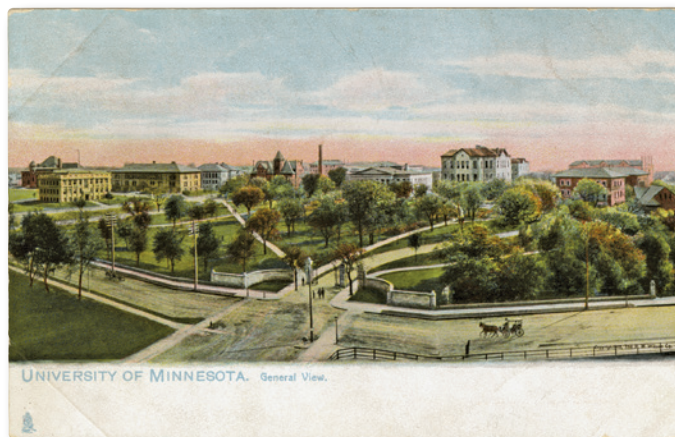
In Norway, Alfred Owre, despite a sickly constitution, excelled in school. During those years,

he turned his attention to hobbies that foreshadowed later developments. At six, he began collecting stamps; he would go on to collect objects d'art, amassing, among other things, one of the most important and comprehensive collections of cloisonné. Prior to getting married in his 40s, his South Minneapolis home was a frequent gathering place for students, writers, and fellow faculty members drawn by the magnetic combination of Owre, the intellectual, bon vivant and art collector.

While still a boy in Norway, Owre also became an avid hiker, his frequent outings into the pastoral countryside a forerunner of expeditions he would undertake as an adult. Over the course of his life, walking stick in hand, Owre racked up more than

150,000 miles across the United States, Europe and parts of Asia, including an epic mid-winter 850-mile trek from Minneapolis to Chicago and back. His interest in health and physical culture found expression in dietary habits as well; habits that, even now, are considered by some to be unconventional—two meals a day, providing no more than 2,000 calories and consisting largely of fruits, grains and vegetables. Not coincidentally, Owre was an early champion of the relationship between a healthy diet and oral health.

In 1884, the Owre family left Norway and settled in Minneapolis where Lars Owre secured the position of Poormaster in the city's economic welfare office; in time, his son would work part-time in the agency, 



University of Minnesota campus (1905) as seen from University Avenue (about 15th Avenue SE) looking towards Eddy Hall.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ARCHIVES

too. During high school, Alfred also held a number of other after-school jobs to earn money to attend college. One of his positions was in the services of a physician who was both a family friend and a fellow Quaker. With his financial support, Owre was able to enroll in the College of Dentistry at the University of Minnesota.

The year was 1891. Owre originally intended to become a surgeon but his experience working with the poor had opened his eyes to the dire need for affordable dental care. In 1895, a year after graduating—and while already on faculty at the dental college—he took a medical degree from another college then opened

a Ph.D. degree. Himself a dental materials researcher, Owre also promoted university-level dental research programs.

He also used his position as a bully pulpit to advance concepts he believed essential to the education of dentists and the practice of dentistry. The most important of these was his conviction that dentistry must be science-based and taught in a University.

A vocal opponent of the short-term commercial dentistry programs that flourished at the turn of the century—programs where a student could earn a degree in dentistry in as little as 18 months—Owre believed that dental education should be

Lastly, reflecting his concern for larger social issues, especially the plight of the poor, Owre believed that dental training should be part of a well-rounded education. He felt it essential that dentists be versed in literature, the arts, history and current events as a way of helping them develop the kind of social consciousness that would lead practitioners to devote their work to the good of society as a whole.

As dean of Minnesota's College of Dentistry, Owre was able to employ numerous forums to publicize his positions, from speeches, articles and letters-to-the-editor in professional journals



**LEFT:** Alfred Owre (*right*) prepares to lead a group of students and faculty on a walking trip, circa 1912. **CENTER:** Alfred Owre in the Student Army Training Corps for officers, summer of 1918 at age 47, the age limit having been waived for him. Although opposed to the war, Owre helped to get legislation passed to enable dental students to complete training and enter the war as dentists. Two thirds of the graduating dental class of 1917 entered the army and nearly every faculty man was either in the active or reserve forces. The entire 1918 class of 90 students enlisted in the Medical Reserves Corps. **RIGHT:** The Medical Sciences Building, renamed Owre Hall in 1950. LEFT AND RIGHT PHOTOS TAKEN FROM ALFRED OWRE, DENTISTRY'S MILITANT EDUCATOR, 1937. CENTER PHOTO COURTESY OF J.R. OWRE.

a private practice in prosthetic dentistry, which he'd continue to operate until he was named dean.

His rise at the dental school was rapid, even meteoric. In 1902, he was made a full professor. Three years later, at the tender age of 34 he was named dean, a position he would hold for more than 20 years.

### The Four Central Concepts

During his tenure, Owre oversaw the rise of the dental college into one of the top institutions in the country. Faculty grew in number and quality. Student enrollment rose. Entrance requirements were strengthened and the education program was lengthened. Graduate courses were added—students could earn an M.S. or

taught and practiced as a branch of medicine, rather than as a separate discipline. In advancing the idea before the Minnesota State Dental Association in 1923, he envisioned a time when a joint curriculum might be developed.

Taking his cue from medical practice, Owre also called for a team approach to care, with the dentist as leader and 'specialist physician' who delegated to 'technicians' the more routine procedures. He believed this approach "might in the end benefit the smaller communities... which report insufficient service." During his time as dean, the college began educating dental hygienists, only the second University-based education program in the country.

to his role as president of the Dental Faculties Association of American Universities (which he helped found in 1908), and his work as a member of the Carnegie Foundation commission on dental education, formed in 1921.

In many ways, the Carnegie Foundation report was a turning point for American dentistry—and for Owre himself for reasons that would only become apparent in the years following the report's release in 1926.

As a member of the commission, Owre worked hard, and successfully, to have the report call for expanding the educational requirement for a dentistry degree to five years of post-secondary schooling—two years of pre-dental study plus three years



of dentistry—the same as was required at the time for a medical degree.

Inaugurating this rigorous requirement had been a goal he'd championed for more than 15 years prior to the Carnegie report. The Commission was not supportive, however, of Owre's vision of dentistry as a specialty of medicine or for utilizing dental 'technicians.'

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**“There is no part of the state in which there are not still people who knew him personally.”**

— AUGUST C. KREY, MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOOK REVIEW: *ALFRED OWRE, DENTISTRY'S MILITANT EDUCATOR* BY NETTA W. WILSON. (MINNEAPOLIS, THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS, 1937).

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His impact on the commission was assisted by the alliance—and friendship—he forged with the chair of the commission. A non-dentist, William Gies was head of the Department of Biological Chemistry at Columbia University where he would play a leading role in convincing Owre to leave Minnesota and, in 1927, become head of the School of Dentistry at Columbia University, with fateful consequences for Owre.

In the decade following the end of World War I, Owre's outspoken views on dentistry raised some hackles. But in that period of prosperity and optimism, his ideas did not trigger the kind of bitter controversy they would cause once the full depths of the Great Depression set in.

It was during his time at Columbia that tolerance for his views—and his persistence in advancing them—began to erode at an ever-increasing rate. There, he had a bitter falling out with his former ally, William Gies—one of the prime forces behind the establishment of Columbia's new School of Dentistry—over Owre's insistence that dentists be educated in medical schools and work with auxiliaries. Gies was particularly incensed by a footnote Owre co-authored in a 1932 report on the cost of medical care in the United States, which seemed to indicate a growing support among dentists for the 'team' approach to care. Responding to the report in the *Journal of Dental Research*, Gies accused Owre and the other authors



#### IMPORTANT LARGE WIRELESS CLOISONNE PANEL OF MOUNT FUJI

*Meiji Period, attributed to Ando Jubei*

The magnificent rectangular panel rendered in tones of pale cloud gray, black and white showing Mt. Fuji rising through the mists of cloud banks, the signature three peaks of the acclaimed landmark a brilliant silhouette against the pearl gray sky and the soft billowing clouds surrounding it, the panel set into a Western style rosewood frame. *Dimensions 17-7/8 x 33-1/2 inches (45.5 x 85 cm) \$40,000-60,000*

#### PROVENANCE:

The collection of Dr. Alfred Owre of Minneapolis, former Dean of the College of Dentistry, The University of Minnesota, later Dean of the School of Dental and Oral Surgery, Columbia University, New York, by descent to the family.

#### NOTE:

Dr. Owre, a noted collector of Japanese cloisonné enamels, traveled extensively in Europe and Japan in the 1880's and 90's, amassing a collection of over 1130 pieces of Japanese and Chinese metalwork. Most of his collection was sold in New York in 1917 at the American Art Association, Managers, in a sale conducted by Mr. Thomas A. Kirby.

Photo and description of cloisonné screen belonging to Dr. Alfred Owre from auction catalog, May 13, 2003. Photo courtesy of British auction house Bonhams, one of the oldest and largest auctioneers of fine art and antiques, with a 'particular strength' in Asian art. The panel was purchased for \$30,000.

of the footnote of “misrepresenting the conditions in the practice of dentistry” in the U.S. and Canada.

Meanwhile, as the Depression deepened, and unemployment soared to 25 percent by the beginning of 1933, dentists trying to keep their practices afloat became increasingly upset by Owre's calls for 'affordable' dental care.

For them, a particular bone of contention was his adamant support for Columbia's teaching and service dental clinic. Today such clinics are not uncommon—the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry operates campus clinics and students treat patients in underserved communities around the state and region, as well. But, as the Depression worsened, the Columbia clinic took on an ever-growing load of formerly middle-class patients who not long before would have sought treatment at a private dental practice.

On March 1, 1933, after a highly critical faculty report on his performance, Owre was granted a leave of absence for four months, followed by a yearlong sabbatical. He hoped—assumed—that he would return to Columbia; but it was not to be. During a three-month tour of several European nations to study their dental education and delivery systems, Owre's praise for dental education and practice in the Soviet Union served to harden opposition to him at Columbia. His health failing, he accepted the inevitable and officially resigned from Columbia in April 1934, effective June 30 of that year.

Meanwhile, a disease that even to this day eludes a definitive diagnosis advanced swiftly throughout his body. On January 2, 1935, the once-robust health enthusiast and tireless hiker died at a New York City hospital.

He had just turned 64. ☹

## The Legacy

Today, many of Alfred Owre's 'idealistic' dreams for the advancement of his profession have been realized. Dental schools are University-based, dental education and clinical decisions are evidence-based, and a college degree is required for admission.

Dental hygienists, of course, are an established member of the dental team and are still educated at Owre's alma mater. Minnesota's dental school also has a robust research program and clinical education programs in six ADA-recognized specialties, plus a general practice residency and advanced education programs in TMD and orofacial pain, oral biology, and oral health for older adults. Community outreach is a graduation requirement.

Owre's vision for interprofessional education (IPE) also has arrived. "In fact," says one of Owre's successors at the

communicating and collaborating with other members of the health care team to facilitate the provision of health care. "This is just another area in which Alfred Owre was ahead of his time in pushing dentistry not just toward higher standards of education, but also toward an understanding of oral health as an integral part of overall health and wellness," says Assael.

According to Assael, faculty members from the University's Medical School now direct courses for dental students in gross anatomy, biochemistry and systems physiology, and collaborate with dental school faculty in teaching neuroscience. College of Pharmacy faculty members also now teach dental pharmacology. Two other courses focus on interprofessional collaboration as a primary objective.

One of the dental school faculty members involved in IPE is Paul Jardine. Himself not a dentist, Jardine teaches dental students in his own discipline—microbiology, with an emphasis on virus

academic dean of the dental school, and former director of the University's IPE center, which is housed in the University's Academic Health Center. "Everybody [in dental education] knows that if you want graduates to participate in ICC, they need

**"Alfred Owre inspired several generations of dentists to carry on his ideals and change the face of the profession. Today, his influence can be seen everywhere."**

— LEON ASSAEL, DEAN, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

to know about each other and how to work with other professions, and the seedbed for that is interprofessional education."

Today, many factors are at work advancing this understanding—not just in dentistry, but throughout health care education.

One was the impact of the Institute of Medicine report citing ICC as a means for reducing health care mistakes. Buchanan believes part of the shift also reflects the appearance of millennial students who, she says, tend to embrace collaboration and consensus.

Perhaps the biggest driver for change is broadly cultural, with rising patient expectations about professional communication and growing evidence that ICC teamwork generates better outcomes—expectations and information that were not current in Owre's day.

"He was not politically astute, but his thinking certainly was," Buchanan says. "The timing was simply wrong for his ideas."

And therein lie both the greatness and the tragedy of Alfred Owre. As with most prophets, his was almost a lone voice. And yet, today, in part because of the thinking and lobbying he carried out in the first third of the 20th century, the vision he proclaimed has become an accepted part of the landscape.

"Alfred Owre inspired several generations of dentists to carry on his ideals and change the face of the profession," says Dean Assael.

"Today, his influence can be seen everywhere." ☉



The Kingston Daily Freeman, Tuesday Evening January 2, 1912, Kingston, New York.

University, Dean of the School of Dentistry Leon Assael, "U.S. dental schools are now required to provide evidence of interaction with other components of the higher education, health care education, and/or health care delivery systems in order to be accredited." Accreditation standards also require that students be competent in

### The Walking Dentist.

By Telegraph to The Freeman.  
Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 2.—  
Having walked 4,125 miles in 1911, Alfred Owre, dean of the dental department of the University of Minnesota, started his pedometer on the way for the record of 1912 yesterday by taking a stroll of 19 miles. Two hundred miles of the distance recorded in 1911 were walked aboard a steamer during a trip abroad. His best record for one day was forty-five miles.

structure and assembly. "Although he had some contemporaries in medicine who were on the same page, Alfred Owre was a progressive in several senses of the word, and not just in his profession,"

observes Jardine. He places Owre in a very small category of health care visionaries in the early 20th century whose views have been vindicated by time.

"The real goal of IPE, though, is interprofessional collaborative care (ICC)" says Judith Buchanan, a professor of prosthodontics, former interim dean and

# Open Wide and Say “Mom”

BY RICHARD BRODERICK



asked how she landed the position of attending dentist for the Minnesota Vikings, Jean Merry, D.D.S., ('84), laughs light-heartedly.

“My dad challenged me to become the Vikings’ dentist,” she says. “I sent the team a letter, told them my office was nearby (Merry Dental Care is located in Eden Prairie, not far from the team’s training facility) and would like to talk to them.”

Her timing was fortuitous. The year was 1987 and the Vikings were looking for a dentist. Shortly after she mailed the letter, team officials paid a visit at her office. “It was all very casual back then. Now things like this tend to be handled in a much more formal way with NFL guidelines laying out what has to be done.”

At the time, Merry, who’d been class president her senior year of dental school, was a member of the School of Dentistry faculty, where she worked until 1992 conducting research and teaching oral diagnosis and emergency dentistry, among other subjects.

She agreed to conduct dental exams and make mouthguards for Vikings players prior to the team’s first mini-camp in June, then attend to players’ dental needs, as requested, during the rest of training and throughout the season. Today, she carries out that task with the assistance of her associate, Kelsey Sharpe, D.D.S. (Creighton University).

Over the course of the year, they see a number of players for a variety of dental needs. While the team has its own field dentist, she makes herself available to players round-the-clock.

“If somebody needs to see me at 6 o’clock in the morning on a game-day Sunday and I get the call, I’ll be there,” she says.

So what do friends, associates and patients think about her dental relationship with one of Minnesota’s most cherished icons?

“People are more impressed than they ought to be,” she says drily.

At the same time, she acknowledges that the association has brought special recognition.

Sometimes, publicity has been showered upon her in unlikely ways, as when a member of the team encountered her in a busy restaurant, picked her up in his arms, and carried her around the establishment. In general, however, players display their appreciation in subtler ways.

“A number of them treat me like a mom,” she says. “They’ll come to my office and chat and tell me what’s happening in their lives.

“That’s what’s really special to me.” ☺

Jean Merry, D.D.S. ►



(Above) Dr. Jean Merry’s team jersey, proudly displayed in her office.





# A Conversation with the Dean

**Dentistry Magazine: The last time we interviewed you, we had just begun to know each other and we explored your background and your accomplishments. Now, after two years as our dean, we hope to learn more about how you see our school progressing and what views you hold on education in our oral health professions and on our future.**

**Dentistry Magazine: How is our school doing after 125 years and after just two years of your tenure?**

**Dean Assael:** We are in the midst of enormous changes in our University and in oral health care education that, taken together, are very positive. The University of Minnesota is now the third largest not-for-profit university in the United States. The building boom on and off our campus should demonstrate to even the casual observer that ours is a University moving forward like none other. Amazing new facilities abound that support research, athletics, clinical care, physics/nanotechnology/robotics, and of course, classrooms.

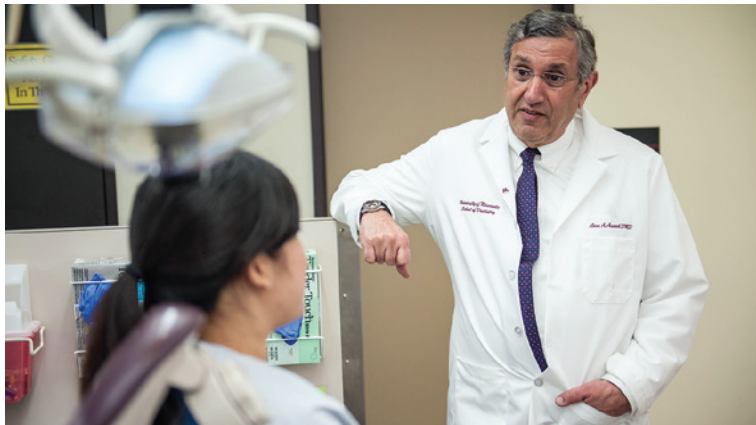
The University of Minnesota Health Clinics and Surgery Center that will open in January 2015 on the University campus will cast its shadow on the revered Pioneer Hall, and the old Stadium Village and Dinkytown neighborhoods will have thousands of residents in new apartment buildings now under construction. At least at this writing, though, my favorite breakfast place, Al's, will survive...and we all await the grand reopening of Sally's, a favorite restaurant and gathering place for our students.

In our dental school, more learning is occurring in sophisticated virtual environments, small groups, and in simulated clinical encounters. Students are learning and providing clinical care in teams. Inter-professional education and collaborative practice is a watchword for health education in our times. This has guided us to develop plans for a new dental clinic within the University of Minnesota Health Clinics and Surgery Center. We've asked to be located as close as possible to our natural colleagues in primary care medicine, oncology and transplant medi-

cine, and otolaryngology. In this setting, we will be able to accommodate the necessary oral health care needs for a disparate group of patients who require medically necessary dental care. These include, for example, those awaiting bone marrow transplant, patients with sleep disorders, and oral cancer patients after ablative surgery who require oral rehabilitation.

**DM: You stated that 'taken together' the changes at the school were positive. What are the challenges that you continue to find vexing?**

**DA:** What comes to mind first are the financial challenges facing our University and our school. The University used to get more than 40% of the cost of education from the state and that has continued to drop to less than 17% of the total budget. Adjusted for inflation, the cost of dental school to our students has more than doubled in two decades. Our school budget this year, and last, remains very lean, which has limited our ability to hire faculty even when vacancies arise.



Talking with students and faculty in classrooms and clinics.

PHOTOS BY STEVE WOIT

As I see it, this challenges us to do even better for the sake of our students and our learning community. I do not want to put any of these increased costs on the backs of our students. We have held our tuition increase to the lowest since the 1990s with just 3% and 2.5% increases. However, as we attempt to stay competitive on faculty and staff compensation, we must also deal with flat state support and challenging clinical reimbursement rates for our patient population. We have been successful by increasing our research support and our clinical care programs, and through the generosity of donors. We are beginning to market our clinical services so that our students, residents and faculty will have a greater number of clinical encounters with all the benefits that derive from that increased activity. Thanks to benefactors, we can offer more scholarships to needy students. Donors have also helped us build and renovate educational and clinical facilities. I particularly appreciate the more than 70 alumni, families, and dental practices who give annually and are

members of the *Dean's Circle*. My appreciation also extends to those whose estate planning includes the School of Dentistry; they will ensure that our descendants continue to gain the benefits of our great school and the advances in oral health that it generates.

**DM: Years ago we had to justify why the University of Minnesota needs a dental school. What are we doing today to ensure our continued relevance?**

**DA:** Here at the University of Minnesota we demonstrate every day that dentistry is a learned profession deserving of its role as part of a great American university. Ours is an intellectual discipline and an area of inquiry with a knowledge repository equal to other professions, a research agenda that will positively impact on humanity...in short, a life's pursuit worthy of an educated person. Only by that measure do we belong in the University, a place that exists for two purposes, learning and discovery. The problem with that relationship for dentistry in the recent

past (witness the closing of dental schools in great universities such as Northwestern, Georgetown, and Washington University) is that many in the public and the profession see us for what we do, and not for what we know. Skills and crafts are disciplines that are taught by technical schools. Only when a skill must be supported by ever evolving and growing knowledge, such as in the practice of surgery, or civil engineering, does it deserve intellectual pursuit of interest to a university. Our relevance is that, in 2014, dentistry has really emerged more strongly than ever, as a profession that requires an evolving mixture of knowledge and skills that continuously adapt to that evolving knowledge.

That is the miracle of dental progress in this decade, which resulted from research carried out in dental laboratories including those at the University of Minnesota. Some examples today are that caries risk assessment can be used to individualize decisions over caries ablative and restorative decisions. ☺

Better restorative materials that have the biologic and mechanical qualities to be safe and effective continue to be developed. Advances in understanding craniofacial development have influenced the orthodontic procedures that treat skeletofacial deformities during growth. A greater understanding of tooth biology has developed care pathways for coaches to provide first aid after dental alveolar trauma. Understanding how saliva protects against HIV infection has guided a greater understanding of possible means of reducing overall infectivity of HIV.

array of things such as caring for the underserved, bird hunting, making a positive difference in their communities, Gopher women's hockey, gender and race, and, most consistently, the futures they might have in our great oral health professions. Their morale is high and they are uniformly very happy over their decision to join us in dentistry. These are an amazing group of future clinicians and leaders who really deserve our respect. We should have real confidence that the public will be in good hands, thanks to our school's future alumni.

the events we have walked to in recent months. Downtown Minneapolis is really an urban treasure, and it has America's premier land grant university in its midst, the University of Minnesota, where lectures and arts are replete. Being a sports fan, we have the greatest access to professional and collegiate sports in the nation. And as Linda put it, all the people are, "holy cow nice!" and seem genuinely happy to have us here.

**DM: Seeing our students, faculty and researchers every day must give you insights into where we are headed. How do you see the future of dental education and dental practice in Minnesota and beyond?**

**DA:** One of the great things about being your dean is that I get to plan for the future of oral health through the creation of a new generation of educated professionals and the development of science that will be the underpinnings of our endeavors. Our strategy is to develop educational programs and a research agenda with the desired outcome, improved oral health, in mind. The goal of our programs is to improve all people's lives through gaining the benefits of good oral health.

To do this, we must change our educational programs to accommodate a future where the demands for oral health care services will be ever greater. Improving our ability to care for the very young, the increasing number of elderly and those with substantial medical co-morbidities will be the hallmark of the future of dental practice. Only an interprofessional team of oral health professionals working in concert with the other health professions can achieve this goal. Using technology to improve care and efficiency through digital dentistry, the electronic health record and advances in imaging and robotics, among others, will require a new type of oral health professional, one who likes to work in teams, is manually adept but also comfortable in the computer workspace. These changes will also require a new generation of teachers and scientists, with new skills and a new way of looking at things.

Recruiting and retaining this new generation of thought leaders, clinician scientists, and teachers is the greatest challenge and the most gratifying opportunity our future in dental education will bring. ☺



2013 state lobby day: (L to R) Megan Ellingson-Pint, Dean Assael, Nate Burbach, Stephanie Zastrow, and Kirby Johnson.



2013 Senior Banquet.

It is this type of intellectual progress with a school like ours, that, like our University, is *Driven to Discover*, which justifies our presence, as well as our invaluable contribution to the greatness of our University.

**DM: One of the most gratifying aspects of your job must be our students. What have you learned about them and how will they carry on the great traditions of our school?**

**DA:** They are different from dental students of the past in so many ways. They are much more diverse, not just in the groups from which they derive, but also in their views and their life experiences. I meet with them individually and in groups and I am fond of just talking on the clinic floor or over coffee, and learning more from our students. In these settings I have learned that they are former school teachers, cheerleaders, business owners, world class athletes, war veterans, farmers, scientists, and survivors of genocide. They are truly passionate about an eclectic

**DM: After two years in the Twin Cities we are hoping that you are enjoying your new home and being a Minnesotan. What have you learned about us and what habits have you picked up?**

**DA:** I clearly haven't learned enough since I still can't figure out what a hot dish is and I have no idea who those guys "Ole and Sven" are. However, ice fishing with the Northwestern District Dental Society on Lake of the Woods is an experience not to be forgotten. Photos of my first May snowstorm went out proudly to my family in Florida and Oregon on Facebook with the tag "Polar vortex and daffodils." But beyond the folklore of our home state, my wife Linda and I have reconnected with her Minnesota roots, from Danish Society events to the rutabaga festival in Askov with her large array of cousins. Living downtown, the theatre is really remarkable, better, I think, than Manhattan because of its accessibility and lack of pretense. *Nice Fish, Othello, Six Hundred Sundays*, and *Phantom...* are just some of



## Give Kids a Smile Day

It was one of the coldest days of the year, yet it brought the warmest smiles of the season. There were, in fact, lots of smiles on the faces of the 189 children who, with their parents, braved sub-zero weather and crowded School of Dentistry reception rooms and clinics to receive free dental care at the school's 10th annual *Give Kids a Smile Day* on Saturday, February 8. On-hand to treat patients at the student-coordinated event were 385 student, staff, faculty and community volunteers.

Patients received radiographs, an examination and treatment plan, plus emergency and restorative care, prioritized to address the most critical needs first. Routine and specialty dental services included fillings, endodontic procedures, cleanings, extractions, fluoride treatments, crowns and the placement of dental sealants.

A special congratulations to dental student co-chairs Sara Gaalaas, Stephen Grimsby and Kirsten William-Kennedy, and to all who volunteered their time to treat patients and help organize and run the event. ☺



PHOTOS BY STEVE WOIT

# 2013 Community Report

The charts below represent the unaudited revenue sources and expenses of the School of Dentistry for fiscal year 2013.

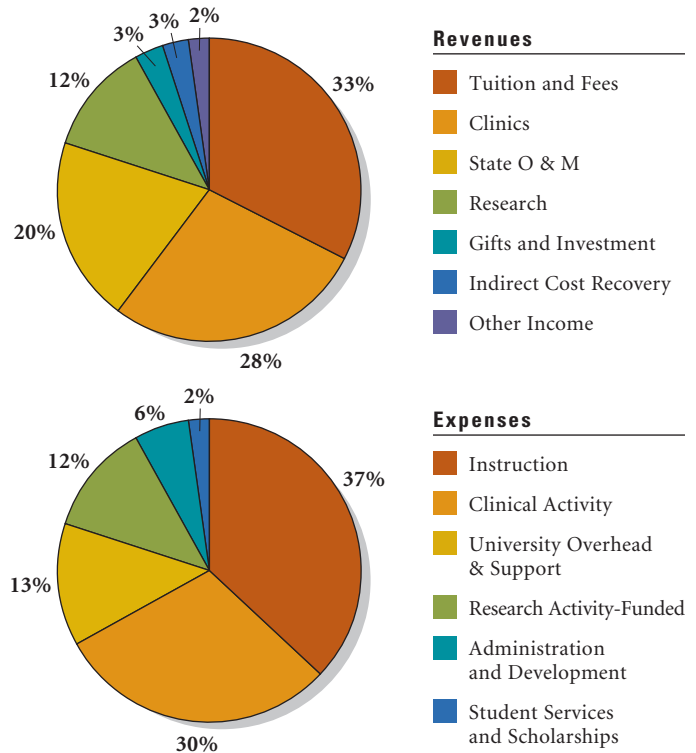
## REVENUES & EXPENSES

### Revenues (in thousands)

Tuition and Fees	\$	23,800
Clinics	\$	20,200
State Operations & Maintenance (O & M)	\$	14,200
Research	\$	8,500
Gifts and Investment	\$	1,900
Indirect Cost Recovery	\$	1,800
Other Income	\$	1,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>71,600</b>

### Expenses (in thousands)

Instruction	\$	26,500
Clinical Activity	\$	21,800
University Overhead & Support	\$	9,600
Research Activity-Funded	\$	8,500
Administration and Development	\$	4,200
Student Services and Scholarships	\$	1,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>71,700</b>



### Revenues Notes

**Financial results** for the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013 reflected a challenging environment. Expenses exceeded revenues by \$1.1 million for the fiscal year. Overall fund balances for the School of Dentistry declined to the lowest levels in a number of years as a result of the loss.

**Total revenues** for the School of Dentistry increased \$3.7 million for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013, from \$68.1 million to \$71.8 million. Increases resulted from higher tuition and fees and higher clinical revenue. The school also received the proceeds (\$1.2 million) of an internal loan to support the replacement of handpieces in our Moos Tower clinics. State funding through the central University was flat for the fiscal year.

**Clinical and Affiliation revenues** maintained essentially the same level as in FY2012 at \$20.2 million. Clinical activities reflect continued pressures on public program reimbursement levels as well as the effect of the overall economic decline and the access challenges to our clinics presented by the light rail construction project. Pre-doctoral clinic revenues increased, offset by declines in certain specialty clinics.

**State Operating and Maintenance (O & M)** funding received by the School of Dentistry, was held constant by the central University. Continuing state funding as a percentage of overall revenue continues to decline. In absolute dollars, funding remained at \$14.2 million (which includes a \$2.0 million allocation to replace MERC funding eliminated by the state legislature). Tuition and fees continued to widen their gap over state funding support. This trend was in evidence across the entire University. Student debt levels are an increasing concern. Although our institution has seen no decline in applicants, national applicant levels to dental schools declined by approximately two percent.

**Research revenues** decreased due to increased federal budget reductions in this area and the competitive climate for basic research. Research revenue decreased from \$8.9 million to \$8.5 million. Despite the reduction, the University of Minnesota continues to be a top ten dental school for research.

**Indirect Cost Recovery revenues** that are connected to direct research revenues decreased from \$2.1 million to \$1.8 million.

**Tuition and Fee revenue** increased \$2.2 million from \$21.6 million in FY2012 to \$23.8 million in FY2013. The University of Minnesota School of Dentistry has

historically targeted the mid range of publicly supported Midwestern dental schools when determining tuition rates, and is generally much less expensive for residents than private institutions.

**Other income** increased by \$1.1 million, from \$0.1 million to \$1.2 million due to an internal loan.

**Gifts and Investment Returns included in operational results** increased by \$0.6 million, from \$1.3 million to \$1.9 million due partly to improved equity market returns. These amounts do not include gifts to the School of Dentistry that are managed by the University of Minnesota Foundation that are still invested with the Foundation.

### Expenses Notes

**Total expenses** for the School of Dentistry increased \$6.4 million for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013, from \$66.5 million to \$72.9 million, primarily due to increases in compensation and staffing (\$2.2 million), equipment purchases and facility repairs (\$1.9 million) and accreditation related expenses (\$0.7 million).

**Instructional expenses** increased \$3.5 million, from \$23.0 million to \$26.5 million, primarily related to contractual fringe benefit increases, contractual compensation increases and additional faculty.

**Clinical expenses** increased by \$2.7 million, from \$19.1 million to \$21.8 million.

**Research expenses** decreased by \$0.4 million, from \$8.9 million to \$8.5 million, due to a decline in research revenue.

**Central Allocations** increased \$0.2 million from \$9.4 million to \$9.6 million. This category includes the School of Dentistry's pro-rata portion of such University wide expenses as facilities management, libraries, central administration, technology and research administration and compliance.

**Administration and Development** expenses increased \$0.4 million, from \$3.8 million to \$4.2 million, primarily related to accreditation expenses.

**Scholarships and Student Services** were constant at \$1.1 million.

Jeff Ogden  
Chief Administrative Officer



## 2013-14 FACULTY/STUDENT STATISTICS

## 2013-14 FIRST-YEAR DENTAL CLASS PROFILE

### Paid Faculty Appointments\*

	Full Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Total
Tenure/Tenure Track	23	38	4	65
Research Track	0	0	4	4
Clinical Track	1	9	28	38
Adjunct	28	32	84	144
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>251</b>

\*As of October, 2013.

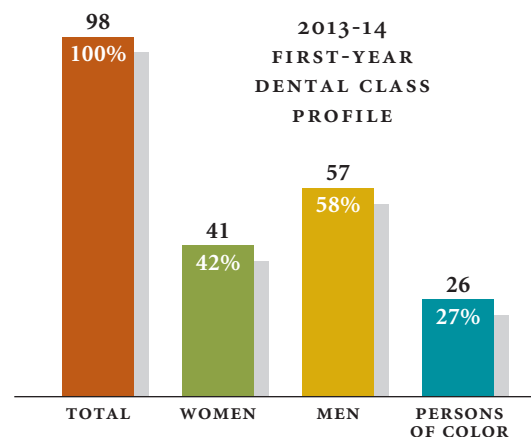
### Students | Fall Semester Enrollment 2013

Dental Hygiene, B.S.	46
Dental Hygiene, Master Degree	13
Dental Therapy	24
D.D.S.	413
Advanced Education & Graduate Programs	87
<b>Total</b>	<b>583</b>

### 2013 Graduates

Dental Hygiene-Baccalaureate Program	21
Master of Dental Hygiene	1
Doctor of Dental Surgery	107
Professional & Graduate Degrees Awarded	31
Dental Therapy	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>169</b>

Total Number of Applicants 1,198\*  
Class Size 98



### Average GPAs

Overall GPA	3.63
BCP (Bio, Chem, Physics) GPA	3.55
Science GPA	3.57

### Average DATs

Academic Average	20.30
Perceptual Ability	20.51
Total Science	20.06
Reading	21.20

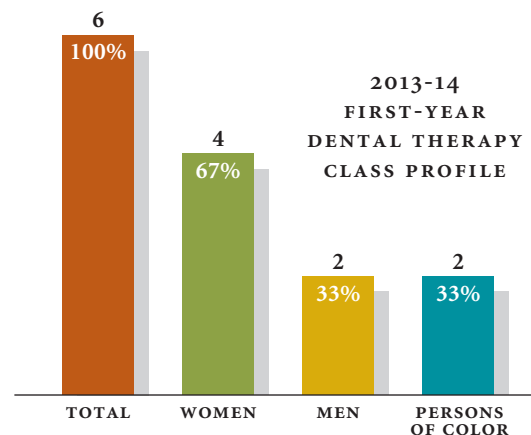
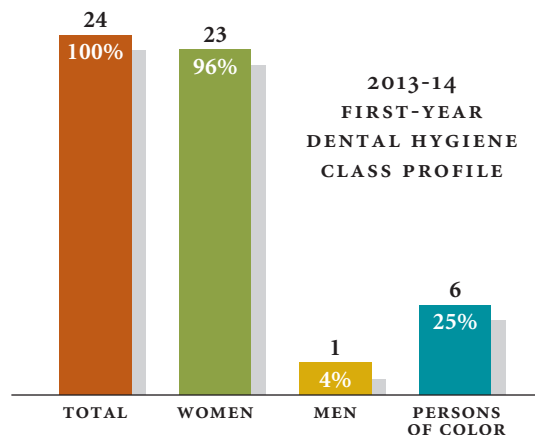
\*These figures represent AADSAS calculations.

## 2013-14 FIRST-YEAR DENTAL HYGIENE CLASS PROFILE

## 2013-14 FIRST-YEAR DENTAL THERAPY CLASS PROFILE

Total Number of Applicants 49  
Class Size 24

Total Number of Applicants 10  
Class Size 6\*



### Average GPAs

Overall GPA	3.31
Science GPA	3.15
Prerequisite GPA	3.37

### Average GPAs

Overall GPA	3.21
Prerequisite GPA	3.33

## Harold K. Tu Named Director, Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery



Harold K. Tu

Harold K. Tu, M.D., D.M.D., has been named director of the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, effective August 1, 2014. In assuming this role, he is also the inaugural appointee to the *Dr. James Q. Swift Professorship in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*, an endowed position named in honor of James Swift, D.D.S., who has directed the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery since 1989. Longtime colleagues, the two will continue to work together, with Swift remaining on faculty as a professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery and continuing to be an integral part of the future success of the division.

With today's academic programs increasingly challenged to find the right balance between education, service and research, Tu brings with him a unique blend of skills and experiences that will position the division for continued growth and excellence.

A graduate of the University of Oregon Dental School, Tu received his medical degree from the University of Nebraska Medical School and completed his oral and maxillofacial surgery

(OMS) residency and his general surgery internship at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He joined the University of Nebraska faculty in 1982, serving in a number of positions, including that of director of the OMS Residency Program, the OMS Externship Program, and the Oral Facial Implant Clinic, as well as the chair of the Quality Assurance Committee for the University Hospital. In 1991, while on sabbatical, he pursued a fellowship in Facial Cosmetic Surgery at MedCenter One in Bismarck, N.D. and became the first oral and maxillofacial surgeon in Nebraska to be credentialed in facial cosmetic surgery.

In 1996, Tu made a professional decision to leave academics to start a private practice, all the while maintaining an active role in residency education with the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He later returned to the medical center part-time at the request of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and was promoted to adjunct professor in the Department of Surgery in 2011. Currently in full-time private practice, he's also served as Section Chief of Oral Surgery at the Nebraska Methodist Hospital and as a board member of Metro Omaha Medical Society. In 2006, he received the *Milagro Award* from One World Health for providing indigent care in the Omaha community.

## Driven to Discover

The breadth of the productive basic, clinical, social science and translational research taking place at the School of Dentistry was on display at the 10th annual *Dental Research Updates from the U of M* on February 28, 2014.

The program showcased faculty research on topics as diverse as HIV combination therapies and their oral availability, estrogen and TMJ pain, multi-mode adhesives to one-visit veneers, how patients perceive the impact of oral diseases, and improving health outcomes by addressing oral health literacy.

Highlights of the day included a keynote address by James Melvin, D.D.S., Ph.D., clinical director and chief of the Secretary Mechanisms and Dysfunction Section at the National Institute for Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) in Bethesda, Md. Melvin discussed current clinical research studies at the NIDCR Division of Intramural Research, including investigations into monogenic immune defects and human oral immunity, oral

manifestations of chronic graft-versus-host disease, the clobetasol oral rinse clinical trial, salivary proteomics and salivary gland function in health and disease, and gene therapy for radiation-induced xerostomia.

Twenty-six students from the dental school's Summer Research Fellowship Program and Graduate Program in Oral Biology also gave poster presentations on their research.

Congratulations to the following School of Dentistry faculty who are *2013 Paper of the Year Award* recipients:

### Clinical Science

**Bryan Michalowicz** (with co-authors S.P. Engebretson, L.G. Hyman, E.R. Schoenfeld, M.S. Gelato, W. Hou, E.R. Seaquist, M.S. Reddy, C.E. Lewis, T.W. Oates, D. Tripathy, J.A. Katancik, P.R. Orlander, D.W. Paquette, N.Q. Hanson, and M.Y. Tsai) for their paper titled "The Effect of Nonsurgical Periodontal Therapy on Hemoglobin A1c Levels in Persons with Type 2

Diabetes and Chronic Periodontitis: A Randomized Clinical Trial." Published in *JAMA*. 2013 Dec 18; 310(23):2523-32.

### Basic Science

**Sven-Ulrik Gorr** and **Conrado Aparicio** (with co-authors K.V. Holmberg, M. Abdolhosseini, X. Chen, and Y. Li) for their paper titled "Bio-inspired Antimicrobial Peptide Coating for Dental Implants." Published in *Acta Biomaterialia* (2013) 9(9): 8224-31.

### Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health

**Christine Blue** and **Sheila Riggs** (with co-authors P. Benjamin, G.H. Gilbert, D.E. Funkhouser, D.B. Rindal, D. Worley, and D.J. Pihlstrom) for their paper "Utilization of Nondentist Providers and Attitudes Toward New Provider Models: Findings from the National Dental Practice-Based Research Network." Published in *J Public Health Dentistry*, 2013 Summer; 73(3):237-44.

# People



Tino Nguyen, second from right.

## Dental student competes in Global Health Case Competition.

**Tino Nguyen** and his team of interprofessional colleagues from throughout the University took first place at the inaugural year of the University of Minnesota Global Health Case Competition in February 2014, and went on to represent the University at the International Emory Global Health Case Competition in March, where they were named 4th place finish (out of a field of 24 teams).

The international competition brought together student teams from universities around the world to collaboratively tackle global health challenges. This year, teams were given four days in which to develop (and present to an expert panel of judges) their recommendations for reforming the World Health Organization.



## Bringing home the gold.

Our Minnesota Chapter of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) brought home top honors from the 2014 ASDA Annual Session held February 26 to March 1 in Anaheim, Calif. The chapter won the *Gold Crown Award for Best in Organized Dentistry* and Stephanie Zastrow won *Delegate of the Year* for ASDA's 8th district (representing dental schools in Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska and Missouri).



Heather Conrad

Hospitals and Advanced Education Programs.

**Elected: Heather Conrad** (Restorative Sci-Prosthodontics) to a four-year term on the administrative board of the American Dental Education Association's Council of



Kyle Holmberg

The awards were presented on March 16 at the 2014 ADEA Annual Session & Exhibition in San Antonio, Tex.

**Selected: Kyle Holmberg** (D4) as one of two recipients of the 2014 *ADEA/Crest Oral-B Laboratories Scholarship* for Predoctoral Students Pursuing Academic Careers.



Kathleen Thieu

in Bethesda, Md., where she will be paired with a mentor conducting research in her area of interest. As an undergraduate student and as a participant in the Summer Research Fellowship Program, Thieu worked in the lab of Massimo Costalonga (Developmental/Surgical Sci-Periodontology) who conducts research in the areas of immunology and periodontal disease.

**Selected: Kathleen Thieu** (D1) as one of the 2014 *NIDCR Summer Dental Student Award* recipients and will spend the summer at the National Institutes of Health

# Updates

**School initiates a new strategic planning process.** The School of Dentistry will launch a strategic planning initiative under the direction of a steering committee that will solicit broad input from stakeholders. Dean Assael has asked that planning be completed by December 2014, and charged the committee to: 1) Develop new vision, purpose and goals statements; 2) Develop the strategic direction of a new curriculum model; 3) Develop a clinical services/clinical education plan; 4) Provide strategic direction in research; and 5) Integrate the strategic plan of the School of Dentistry with the strategic plan, goals and objectives of the University.

**Successful accreditation visit.** In dental education, accreditation is the process of evaluation intended to monitor, strengthen and sustain the quality and integrity of an academic program, making it and the profession worthy of public confidence. The process includes an external evaluation conducted by the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) on a seven-year cycle.

Earlier last year, the School of Dentistry residency programs in oral and maxillofacial surgery and oral facial pain were fully accredited and, in 2012, we received full accreditation of our general practice residency.

In October 2013, CODA site-visitors completed a comprehensive review of the predoctoral dental and dental hygiene programs, and advanced education programs in endodontics, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics and prosthodontics. In preparation, the school conducted a self-study of every course, lab, policy, benchmark, syllabus, publication and nook-and-cranny of the school facilities. While CODA scrutiny was intense, the self-study was an even more rigorous investment in ongoing self-improvement, with a special focus on curriculum, clinical competencies, institutional effectiveness, faculty and staff, student services, and the humanistic culture and learning environment. In its final report to the University, CODA advised that the School of Dentistry has been accredited without reporting requirements, documenting that ours is a curriculum and outcomes of education that meet the standards of excellence in every one of the myriad aspects of educating dental professionals today.



## A Letter from the President

### *Building Better Relationships*

As I look around, I see spring blossoming on campus with exciting new opportunities ahead for our recent graduates. They will take with them memories of their time at the dental school, of times together on lab benches, in color groups and of course, Goldy. Education today looks very different than it did even a few years ago. The level of technology in education is amazing. Every cubicle has a computer, and digital radiography has been implemented in the clinics. Graduates are truly prepared to be competent practitioners in this techno savvy world. And, upon graduation, students have a true sense of caring for community. They have spent time at one of the school's 15 outreach sites, treating patients with access to care challenges. The health and vitality of our dental profession depends on the growth made possible by our newest alumni members. They are the future! Congratulations to all of our graduates!

I walked through campus last week and saw trains moving along the rails in front of Moos Tower! Change is in the air. The vibrant and electric atmosphere was remarkable. It was exhilarating to be on campus. So much was different from my time as a student, yet it felt like coming home. My relationship with the University has always been important to me. I could not be where I am today without the University and the School of Dentistry. I believe this to be true for all of those who graduate from this great institution.

Relationships are important to the School of Dentistry Alumni Society as well! There are many new collegial opportunities springing up from our strategic plan implemented this past year. The Alumni Society has moved forward to provide engagement opportunities and to communicate clearly with you, our alumni. Look for many opportunities in the future!

If you were one of the many attendees at the Minnesota Dental Association *Star of the North Meeting* this spring, I hope you stopped by the University of Minnesota booth and visited with members of the Alumni Society Board. Please continue to let us know what you have been doing since graduation by submitting a class note to [denalum@umn.edu](mailto:denalum@umn.edu). In conjunction with the *Star of the North Meeting*, the Dean's Reception recognized our 2013 Distinguished Dental and Dental Hygiene Alumni. We honor their achievements in excellence and leadership.

Through your membership, the alumni association supports students, faculty and alumni throughout the year. You provide student scholarships, recognize graduates at senior banquets, and support Clinical Grand Rounds so that students can attend at no cost and alumni at a huge discount. It is your support of the *Cap and Gown Graduation Fund* that provides caps and gowns for all graduates.

Relationships change over time. Highly valued relationships require intentional and deliberate attention in order to flourish and grow. As students we are consumers. As graduates we spread our wings in new flight to share our learning in care of community. As alumni we honor the institution that gave us so much and needs our support in return. It has been an honor to serve as your School of Dentistry Alumni Society President. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Johnson".

**KIM JOHNSON, G.D.H., M.D.H. '79**  
*President, School of Dentistry Alumni Society*  
[www.dentistry.umn.edu/alumni](http://www.dentistry.umn.edu/alumni)

### Time for a Class Reunion?

The Alumni Office can help. Contact Emily Best (612-625-6811 or [emilyj@umn.edu](mailto:emilyj@umn.edu)) to request current mailing labels for your classmates, promote your reunion via email, and receive Gopher spirit items and prizes for your event.



CONNECT WITH US  
ON LINKEDIN AND FACEBOOK.

# Award-Winning Alumni

## Patricia Lenton: 2013 Distinguished Dental Hygiene Alumna



Patricia Lenton

As a dental hygiene practitioner, educator, and academic researcher, Patricia Lenton leads by example and commits herself to excellence in all that she does.

Lenton earned her graduate dental hygiene, bachelor of science, and master's degrees from the University of Minnesota. She began her career in dental hygiene in 1978 and continued this work while completing her degree in dental hygiene education (1981). She joined the School of Dentistry in 1982 as a clinical instructor. In 1983, Lenton was recruited to establish a new dental assisting program in Minneapolis; following its accreditation, she returned to dental hygiene practice before rejoining the dental school in 1989. Since then, she's been a study examiner, project coordinator, and a principal or co-principal investigator for more than 50 research studies. The training methods she

developed for her thesis project have been used to train 50+ examiners nationwide. She has taught numerous courses and served on a variety of committees, including the dental school's Diversity Committee and the University Faculty Senate. Recently, Lenton was named director of the dental school's Oral Health Clinical Research Clinic.

In addition to examiner training methods, Lenton's research includes breath-odor assessment and treatment, oral health literacy, periodontal disease, and systemic health. She's served as secretary of the International Society of Breath Odor Research (ISBOR) and as president of the Oral Health Research Group in the International Association of Dental Research (IADR). She is also a member of the Society of Clinical Research Professionals and the American Dental Hygienists' Association. Locally, she's active in the Minnesota Dental Hygienists' Association and served on the St. Paul District Dental Society Midwinter Meeting planning committee. In 2009, the district awarded her its *Outstanding Dental Hygienist Service Award*. In 2013, she received the *Oral Health Research Award* sponsored by Colgate-Palmolive. Lenton is frequently invited to speak to a variety of audiences, which includes dental professionals, nutrition and diabetes educators, and for diabetes support groups.

## Vernon Steffens: 2013 Distinguished Dental Alumnus



Vernon Steffens

Dedicated to the principles of integrity, faithfulness and conscientious work, Vernon R. Steffens ('62) is a man of many talents.

His service and leadership in the advancement of oral health span three decades and he is widely admired for his optimism, generosity, and the energy he invests for the good of those with whom he comes in contact.

Steffens taught prosthetic dentistry at the School of Dentistry (1962-65) and practiced dentistry in North Minneapolis for 30 years. A long-time member of 3M's Dental Advisory Board, he was instrumental in the development and advancement of quality dental products and, in 2006, received the *3M Healthcare Entrepreneur Award*. He is also past-chief of the Dental Section at the Golden Valley Health Center, and

a former member (1976-88) and chair (1984-87) of the Delta Dental of Minnesota Board of Trustees.

His 50-year membership in organized dentistry includes service to the Minneapolis District Dental Society on its peer review, membership and continuing education committees, and to the Minnesota Dental Association as a member of its Scientific Session Committee and as a delegate to the association's House of Delegates. He also lectured broadly on the proper use of nitrous oxide sedation, resin bonded restorations, and the latest teachings in dentistry.

His commitment also includes helping to finance and build four dental clinics in Cochabamba, Bolivia, which he's continued to support for 45 years. During his practice years, he volunteered at Sharing and Caring Hands and was a regular visitor to area schools to promote oral health. It also was his 30-year tradition to provide free dental care to those in need on Christmas Eve day, as well as to forgive the outstanding debts for some of his patients who had encountered financial difficulties. Upon retirement, he donated his professional building to a community non-profit agency which continues to benefit from his generosity.

# Class Notes

Please submit brief notices about milestone events and activities to: U of M School of Dentistry, Alumni Relations (attn: Emily Best), 515 Delaware St. S.E., 15-136 Moos Tower, Minneapolis, MN 55455 or [emilyj@umn.edu](mailto:emilyj@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.

## 1938

**Albert Brekke** (D.D.S.), New Hope, Minn., died on December 20, 2013. He was 98 years old. Brekke graduated from South High School, attended dental school, and served his country as an officer in the Navy during World War II. Returning to Minneapolis, he established his dental practice, and later expanded the practice to include an office in Buffalo, Minn.

## 1951

**Lee Hermann** (D.D.S.), Excelsior, Minn., died at age 89 on January 23, 2014. Stationed with the U.S. Army in Europe during WWII, he returned to Minnesota to attend dental school. He was an associate professor for 33 years at the School of Dentistry and in private practice with his father in the west metro area of Minneapolis-St. Paul.

**Donald Storslee** (D.D.S.), Mabton, Wash., died on November 6, 2013. He was 93 years old. He served in the United States Army from 1941-45. Storslee received his bachelor's degree from Moorhead State University, then attended dental school, and served at McChord Air Force as a captain-dentist (1952-55). In 1982, he retired from pediatric dental practice in Sunnyside, Wash., after 31 years of dental practice.

## 1954

**Merlyn B. Johnson** (D.D.S.), Billings, Mont., died on April 5, 2014. He enlisted in the Army in July 1945, just as WWII was winding down, returned home to graduate from dental school and then opened his one-chair dental clinic in Ashby, Minn. He then returned to the Army and became an oral surgeon. He excelled at facial reconstruction and loved his work, but it required long hours and frequent transfers to military bases. Honorably discharged in 1960, he was commissioned to the United States Public Health Service Officer Corps in 1964 after obtaining his master's degree in public health administration from the University of Michigan. During his tenure, he achieved the rank of captain in the officer corps and

served as the area dental director for the Indian Health Service in Albuquerque, NM, and Billings, Mont. His dedication to providing quality service to his patients made him one of the most prestigious and respected members of the Public Health Service and he was awarded the PHS Meritorious Service Medal in 1975. He retired at age 55 in 1982.

## 1957

**Gregory W. Stende** (D.D.S.), Shoreview, Minn., died April 22, 2014, at age 80. He was an avid scuba diver and instructor, with a passion for underwater photography. He spent 26 years in the Navy Reserve Dental Corps, retiring as captain, and practiced general dentistry in the Falcon Heights/Roseville area since 1957. He retired in 2007 and joined the School of Dentistry faculty as an adjunct instructor. Well liked by students and staff, he taught in the school's periodontics clinic until the day before his death.

## 1958

**John F. Erickson** (D.D.S.) Palm Desert, Calif., died on April 17, 2014, at age 79. Born in Hallock, Minn., he graduated from high school in 1952 where he was all-state in golf, hockey and band as a trumpet player. At the University of North Dakota, he played left-wing for the Fighting Sioux hockey team before transferring to the University of Minnesota. He financed his dental school education by working for the University's medical school research labs and, on weekends, playing trumpet in a jazz band. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa and was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity, then practiced dentistry for more than 45 years in Richfield, Minn. He was also an adjunct professor in the School of Dentistry's prosthodontics clinic for more than 50 years and, in 1979, was appointed full professor. Outside of dentistry, he was an avid tennis player, skier and fisherman. He retired and spent the last 15 years in Palm Desert, Calif.

## 1959



The Class of 1959 at the Annual Dental Hygiene Alumni Luncheon held April 25, 2014 at 317 on Rice Park in conjunction with the *Star of the North Meeting*. Special guest speaker was Karen Kaler. (Pictured L to R): Joan Hoover, Sandra Robinson, Janet Kinneberg, Kathy Britz, Lorna Godfrey.

## 1960

**Hold the date.** The D.D.S. class of 1960 will hold a reunion on June 20-21, 2014, at the Hilton Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport Mall of America Hotel. Friday evening: Reunion dinner; Saturday: "Apres Party" at the home of Clark LaChappelle. RSVP to LaChappelle at 239-597-7751 (FL) or 952-435-6500.

**James Alevizos** (D.D.S.), Minneapolis, Minn., died on October 6, 2013 at age 82. Alevizos first opened his dental practice in Wheaton, Minn., then moved to Minneapolis where he practiced dentistry and, for 10 years, continued to travel to Wheaton to care for patients.

## 1962

**Kenneth Torbert** (D.D.S.), Regina, SK Canada, died February 1, 2014 at age 79. After dental school, Torbert enlisted in the U.S. Army, working as a dentist at Valley Forge and as a teletype operator in Korea. He moved with his family to serve for five years as a missionary in Bareilly, U.P. India, where he trained local dentists. Upon returning to the U.S., he earned his master's degree in public health from the University of Minnesota, then moved to Manitoba, Canada, where he set up a training program for dental assistants at the University College of the North. He was a director of the Manitoba Children's Dental Program, an instructor at Wascana Institute in Regina for dental assistants, and a dentist/instructor for 10 years at the First Nation's University of Canada's National School of Dental Therapy. His very favorite work was as mentor and consultant to dental therapists in the Yukon, Northwest Territories, the Arctic and, most recently, Northern Saskatchewan First Nation Health Centres.

## 1964

**Carl Casperson** (D.D.S.) of Bloomington, Minn., died on March 30, 2014. He practiced orthodontics in Bloomington and Apple Valley for more than 35 years. He was also an adjunct professor in the School of Dentistry's Division of Orthodontics for five years.

## 1971

**Richard Hesby** (D.D.S.), Estero, Fla., died on January 1, 2014, at age 76. Born in Volga, S.D., he attended Northwestern University Dental School. Following graduation in 1961, Hesby served in the U.S. Navy Dental Corps for 23 years, which included tours with the VAW-11, a U.S. Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron. In 1971, he completed his specialty training in prosthodontics at the University of Minnesota. His final tour in the Navy was as professor and chair of the Prosthodontic Department and as program director of the Prosthodontics Residency Training Program at the Naval Postgraduate

Dental School in Bethesda, Md. After retiring from the Navy in 1984 as a captain, he continued his passion for teaching as chair of the Department of Fixed Prosthodontics at Northwestern University Dental School. In 1990, he became chair and professor of prosthodontics and biomaterials at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, where he continued to teach and practice dentistry until his retirement in 2004. He also served as a board examiner and consultant for the Northeast Regional Board of Dental Examiners.

## 1972

**Michael Hamann** (D.D.S.), Perham, Minn., received the Minnesota Dental Association's 2013 *Outstanding Service Award*. The award was presented on April 25 at the association's 2014 annual *Star of the North Meeting* in



Michael Hamann

St. Paul, Minn. Active in both his community and profession, Hamann has been a 23-year member of the Perham school board and has also served on the city planning commission. He's been the West Central District Dental Society's representative on the MDA Constitution, Bylaws and Ethics Committee for the past three years, and a delegate at the association's House of Delegates meeting for the past five years. For 25 years, he served as a coach at Perham High School, mentoring and encouraging countless students, and later young professionals, in achieving their life goals. At least two of those students went on to earn D.D.S. degrees, including his own daughter who practices with him. He's also donated his time and talent to help children in Otter Tail County receive dental care during the annual *Give Kids a Smile* event.

**Steven Poeschl** (D.D.S.), Alden, Minn., retired from practice in November 2013. He served the community of Alden for 41 years and also had a practice in Minnesota Lake for 39 years.

## 1976

**Michael Zakula** (D.D.S.), Hibbing, Minn., was named the Minnesota Dental Association *Guest of Honor* and recognized for his four decades of service to organized dentistry on April 25 at the association's 2014 *Star of the North Meeting* in St. Paul. Zakula, a Hibbing orthodontist, has served as president of the Minnesota Dental Association and the Northeastern District Dental Society; chair of the MDA Dental Education Committee; delegate to the American Dental Association House of Delegates; executive board member of the Minnesota Association of Orthodontics;



Michael Zakula

chair of the Minnesota Chapter of the American College of Dentists; and chair of the Hibbing Community College Dental Assisting Advisory Board. Additionally, he has been an orthodontic consultant for the Crippled Children's Cleft Palate Clinic in Duluth

## 1977

**Herb Schulte** (D.D.S.), Edina, Minn., was recognized as the Minneapolis District Dental Society *Guest of Honor* on April 10 at the Minneapolis Marriott Southwest Hotel in Minnetonka, Minn. The award is the dental society's highest honor.

**Thomas Seidelmann** (D.D.S.), Duluth, Minn., received the Northeastern District Dental Society's *Guest of Honor Award* for his longstanding service as a leader within the profession, as well as his community outreach and assistance to those in distress.

## 1978

**Mark Malmberg** (D.D.S.), Sioux Falls, S.D., relinquished Command of the 114th Medical Group in Sioux Falls and retired from the South Dakota Air National Guard in September 2013. He enlisted as an ensign in the United States Navy Reserve while in dental school in 1977. After graduating, he was commissioned as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, and served at the Naval Regional Dental Center at the Naval Training Center in Orlando, Fla. He set up a private practice in Oakes, N.D. in 1981 while remaining in the inactive Navy Reserve. In 1996, he joined the South Dakota Air National Guard as the Base Dental Surgeon, and assumed Command of the 114th Medical Group in 2008. Malmberg's retirement culminates 30 years of service to his country.

**R. David Resch** (D.D.S.), St. Paul, Minn., received the Minnesota Dental Association's 2013 *President's Award*. The award was presented on April 25 at the association's 2014 *Star of the North Meeting* in St. Paul, Minn. Resch has been involved at all



R. David Resch

levels of organized dentistry. He also has lectured on Infection Control and OSHA regulations, both regionally and at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry, and, as a member of the MDA

Environment and Safety Committee, helped draft OSHA regulations. Resch has also been a member of the MDA Scientific Session Committee, helping to put together several successful *Star of the North* meetings. He currently serves as co-chair on both the Environment and Safety and the Scientific Session Committees.

## 1979

**Stephen Humbert** (D.D.S.), Hastings, Minn., received a Congressional Certificate of Special Recognition from U.S. Congressman John Kline in February 2014 for his work with the organization *Common Hope* in Guatemala. Humbert began leading "Vision Teams" to Guatemala in 2003, providing a variety of activities and services such as visiting families and building homes. Since 2008, he has led 14 dental teams to Antigua, Guatemala to care for patients in the surrounding communities.

## 1981

**Judith Gundersen** (D.D.S.), Minneapolis, Minn., was promoted to Director of Dental Policy at the Minnesota Department of Human Services and continues her work as the clinical director for the Direct Care and Treatment (previously State Operated Services) Dental Clinics. Gundersen received her M.P.H. from the University of Minnesota in 2013.

## 1982

**Michael Kurkowski** (D.D.S.), Saint Paul, Minn., received the Saint Paul District Dental Society (SPDDS) *Outstanding Service Award* for 2014 for service to the organization on



Michael Kurkowski

a multiple committees, including participation as a member and chair of the Peer Review Committee (for six years), as a member of the Executive Council, and as SPDDS president in 1995. Kurkowski also belonged to the Saint Paul Speaker's Bureau for more than ten years, and has been active in the Minnesota Dental Association, including service as an alternate delegate to the American Dental Association (2006-11.)

**Mary Krempasky Smith** (D.D.S.), Spokane, Wash., is the recipient of the Western Hockey League (WHL) *Distinguished Service Award* for the 2013-14 season. As team dentist of the Spokane Chiefs since 1985, Smith is the longest serving member of the team. The award is presented annually to an individual who has made an extraordinary contribution over an extended period of time at the club or league level.

## 1983

**Steven Sperling** (D.D.S.) of Rochester, Minn., has been appointed by Governor Mark Dayton to the Minnesota Board of Dentistry.

## 1984

**Grant Hartup** (D.D.S.), San Antonio, Tex., received the Academy of General Dentistry's *Dr. Thaddeus V. Weclaw Award* during the AGD 2013 Annual Meeting & Exhibits, held June 2013 in Nashville, Tenn. Hartup accepted his commission in the U.S. Air Force in 1985. He completed a two-year advanced education in general dentistry (AEGD) residency at Keesler Air Force Base (1990-2) and became a diplomate of the Federal Services Board of General Dentistry and the American Board of General Dentistry in 1994. He also completed an assignment as the AEGD flight commander and AEGD program director at Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, where he oversaw the Air Force's largest dental residency program. He served as the military consultant to the Air Force surgeon general for general dentistry, providing subject matter expertise, as well as career and professional guidance, to hundreds of general dentists in the Air Force. He presently serves as the director of Air Force Dental Operations, overseeing the delivery of dental care to 330,000 Air Force personnel at 79 facilities around the world.

## 1991

**Elizabeth Rydell** (D.D.S.), Falcon Heights, Minn., was named dental director for Midwest Dental Support Center in January 2014. Rydell will provide assistance with doctor mentoring, quality assurance, and product and technology evaluation. She will also see patients part-time in Midwest Dental's Eagan, Minn. office.

## 1998

**Jeanni R. Foss** (D.D.S.), Baxter, Minn., received the Minnesota Dental Association's (MDA) 2013 *Humanitarian Service Award* in recognition of her longstanding commitment to the profession and her community.



Jeanni R. Foss

The award was presented April 25 at the association's *Star of the North Meeting*. As both a student and a young practitioner, Foss was active in organized dentistry, serving on both American Student Dental Association and MDA committees, all

the while working at the Union Gospel Mission and volunteering her time to help a young boy with cerebral palsy. After graduation, she moved to Ohio where she served on the Ohio Dental Association's Finance Committee, was a delegate, and provided



## 20th Annual Golf Classic Friday, July 25, 2014

*Please mark your calendars to join us for the School of Dentistry Alumni Society Golf Classic!*

Show your maroon and gold spirit on Friday, July 25, 2014 at a truly fun event at the Majestic Oaks Golf Club. Enjoy the best of Minnesota summer with some friendly competition, prizes, and a barbecue lunch. From singles to foursomes, beginner to pro, all are welcome! Visit us online at [www.dentistry.umn.edu/alumni/](http://www.dentistry.umn.edu/alumni/), or call (612) 625-6811 for more information.

dental care for residents in more than 500 nursing homes. Returning to Minnesota, she became active in the MDA's *Give Kids a Smile Day* and *Minnesota Mission of Mercy* programs, and was a member of the association's Community Service and Children's Healthcare Committees. Today, she is an MDA Trustee representing the West Central District Dental Society. In 2009, Foss founded *Brighter Days Foundation*, a 501C3 organization whose mission is "to help seriously and chronically ill children, ages 0-18, and their families, living within the Brainerd Lakes Area of Minnesota by surprising them with meaningful gifts and/or opportunities to brighten their day." To-date, 40 children and their families have received gifts that included such things as a motorcross bike; horse riding lessons; toys; trips for families; a puppy (for a boy going through chemo whose own dog died); spa visits and dinners; and college scholarships.

## 2001



**Classmates of Shawna Ikola** (D.D.S.), formerly of Deer River, Wisc., donated a tooth brushing station in her memory at the University of Minnesota Pediatric Dental Clinic, Made Possible by Delta Dental of Minnesota. The memorial effort was led by her classmates Suzette Olson and Elizabeth Phillips, with gifts made by 50 classmates.

## 2006

**Amber Cziok** (D.D.S.), Litchfield, Minn., received the Minnesota Dental Association's 2013 *New Dentist Leadership Award*. The

award was presented on April 25 at the association's 2014 annual *Star of the North Meeting* in St. Paul, Minn. Active in organized



Amber Cziok

dentistry since her dental student days, she served on the MDA's Scientific Session Committee, where she advocated for greater student activities and involvement at the annual meeting. After graduation, she continued her involvement with both the MDA and the American Dental Association (ADA), serving as an alternate delegate to the ADA House of Delegates and as a delegate for the West Central District Dental Society to the MDA House of Delegates. She currently serves on the MDA New Dentist and Membership Committees. She also serves on the Rice Regional Dental Clinic Board of Directors and is active with Early Childhood Family Education in Litchfield.

## 2009

**Bonnie Moeller** (D.D.S.) and **Jason Murray** (D.D.S.) are the new owners of Northwoods Dental in Park Rapids, Minn.

## 2013

**Alex Lund** (D.D.S.), Hibbing, Minn., was the 2013 recipient of the *Martha Mordini Rukavina Loan Forgiveness Program Award*. He and his wife **Heidi Telste** ('13) practice in Hibbing with Dental Health Service of Northern Minnesota.

## 2014

**Lydia Diekmann** (D.T.), Slayton, Minn., joined **Gary Plotz** (D.D.S. '06) at Shetek Dental Care in December 2013.



# EventsCalendar

## JULY 2014

**July 24**  
**School of Dentistry Senior Banquet**  
(for dental hygiene students, by invitation only)

5:00 p.m.  
TCF Bank Stadium  
Minneapolis Campus

For information:  
(612) 625-8947

**July 25**  
**20th Annual School of Dentistry Alumni Society Golf Classic**  
8:00 a.m. Shotgun Start  
Majestic Oaks Golf Club  
701 Bunker Lake Blvd.  
Ham Lake, Minn.

For information and registration:  
[www.dentistry.umn.edu/alumni](http://www.dentistry.umn.edu/alumni)

## AUGUST 2014

**August 6-7**  
**New Student Orientation**

## SEPTEMBER 2014

**September 8-13**  
**American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons**  
Honolulu, HI

*School of Dentistry Reception:*  
September 11  
4:30 to 6:00 p.m.  
Hawaii Convention Center  
Hilton Hawaiian Village

*Annual session information:*  
(800) 822-6637  
*For alumni reception information:* (612) 625-6811

**September 18-20**  
**North Dakota Dental Association Annual Session**  
Bismarck, N.D.

*School of Dentistry Reception:*  
(to be announced)

*For annual session information:*  
(701) 223-8870  
*For alumni reception information:* (612) 625-6811

**September 19**  
**White Coat Ceremony**  
2:00 p.m.  
Northrop Auditorium  
University of Minnesota  
East Bank Campus  
Minneapolis Minn.

For information:  
(612) 625-8947

## OCTOBER 2014

**October 9-14**  
**American Dental Association Annual Meeting**  
San Antonio, Tex.

*School of Dentistry Reception:*  
October 10, 2014  
5:30 to 7:00 p.m.  
Hilton Palacio Del Rio  
San Antonio, Tex.

**October 12-18**  
**Homecoming Week**

*Parade:* October 17  
*Homecoming Game:*  
October 18  
Minnesota Gophers vs. Purdue

**October 19-22**  
**American Academy of Periodontology**  
San Francisco, Calif.

*School of Dentistry Reception:*  
(To be announced)

**October 24**  
**School of Dentistry Gala Celebrating 125 Years of Excellence**  
5:30 p.m.  
McNamara Alumni Center  
University of Minnesota  
East Bank Campus  
Minneapolis Minn.

## DECEMBER 2014

**Date to be announced**  
**Dental Therapy Senior Banquet**

## FEBRUARY 2015

**February 7**  
**Give Kids a Smile Day**  
University of Minnesota  
School of Dentistry  
Minneapolis, Minn.



**HOME COMING 2014**  
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS  
**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**OCTOBER 12-18**  
[MinnesotaAlumni.org/homecoming](http://MinnesotaAlumni.org/homecoming)

## For more information

Except where noted, you can obtain further information on the events listed and/or request disability accommodations by contacting:

**Emily Best**  
*Alumni Relations*  
(612) 625-6811  
[emilyj@umn.edu](mailto:emilyj@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](http://www.events.tc.umn.edu)

# CDE Courses

## Discount Available

*School of Dentistry Alumni Society members are eligible for discounted continuing education. Members may receive a 10 percent 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.)*

## JULY 2014

**6th Annual Oral Pathology Institute for Educators**  
July 9-11, 2014

**Practical Updates in Pediatric Dentistry Duluth, Minnesota**  
July 19-20, 2014

## AUGUST 2014

**49th Annual Dental Assistants' Seminar**  
August 8-9, 2014

**14th Annual Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Review**  
August 16-17, 2014

## SEPTEMBER 2014

**Fall Dental Hygiene Seminar**  
September 5, 2014

**Intra-Oral Appliance Therapy for TM Disorders: A Hands-On Program**  
September 12, 2014

**Mastering Digital Full-Mouth & Panoramic Radiographic Technique: A Hands-on Program**  
September 13, 2014

**Esthetic Removable Partial Dentures—Postgraduate Program in Contemporary & Esthetic Dentistry: Level III**  
September 18-20, 2014

**8th Annual Robert J. Feigal Symposium: Advances in Pediatric Restorative Dentistry**  
September 19, 2014

**TMD and Orofacial Pain Miniresidency**  
September 22-24, 2014

**Destination Croatia: Study in Dubrovnik**  
September 24-October 1, 2014

**Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Inhalation Sedation: A Training Program**  
September 26-27, 2014

## OCTOBER 2014

**Clinical Grand Rounds for the Dental Team: Orthodontics**  
October 2, 2014

**20th Annual Practice Management Symposium: The Top 10 Management Tools for a Successful Dental Practice**  
October 3, 2014

**Emerging Infectious Diseases, Infection Control & OSHA: An Update for the Dental Team**  
October 4, 2014

**Extraction Site & Ridge Preservation: A Hands-On Workshop for the General Dentist**  
October 4, 2014

**Providing Quality Affordable Dentures: A Patient Participation Program**  
October 11-12 and October 25, 2014

**Adhesive & Esthetic Dentistry: A 2014 Update**  
October 17, 2014

**Occlusion & Function—Postgraduate Program in Contemporary & Esthetic Dentistry: Level III**  
October 17-19, 2014

**Miniresidency in Nursing Home and Long-term Care for the Dental Team**  
October 22-25, 2014

**Fall Recordkeeping Workshop for the Dental Team**  
October 23, 2014

**Hot Topics in Oral Medicine**  
October 24, 2014

**Office Oral Surgery: A Guided Experience for the General Dentist**  
October 27-28, 2014

## NOVEMBER 2014

**Current Strategies for Successful Endodontics: A Lecture & Hands-on Workshop**  
November 1, 2014

**Clinical Grand Rounds for the Dental Team: TMD and Orofacial Pain**  
November 6, 2014

**Differential Diagnosis of Oral Lesions: An Interactive Lecture Program**  
November 7, 2014

**Winter Dental Assistants' Seminar**  
November 8, 2014

**Postgraduate Program in Contemporary & Esthetic Dentistry: Level I—Lecture/Laboratory Series (Weekend One)**  
November 14-16, 2014

**Postgraduate Program in Contemporary & Esthetic Dentistry: Level II—The Patient Series (Weekend One)**  
November 14-16, 2014

**Fall Core Competency Day for the Dental Team:**  
November 21, 2014

## DECEMBER 2014

**Clinical Grand Rounds for the Dental Team: Pediatric Dentistry**  
December 4, 2014

## For more information

For more information, to register for classes and/or to request disability accommodations, contact:

### Continuing Dental Education

6-406 Moos HS Tower  
515 Delaware Street SE  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, MN 55455

**Phone:**  
(612) 625-1418  
or (800) 685-1418

**Fax:**  
(612) 624-8159

**Website:**  
[www.dentalce.umn.edu](http://www.dentalce.umn.edu)

# 2013 Donors

## Dear Friends,

To each individual and organization listed below as a financial supporter in calendar year 2013—**thank you**. Combined, your generous charitable gifts totaled more than \$2.5 million, which included gifts designated for each part of our mission—education, research, and outreach.

Your gifts, this year, helped to fund sophisticated dental materials research and scholarships for students facing an increasing tuition burden as the portion of our budget provided by the state continues to decline. Donor support also has helped to fund our Outreach Program, which provides important service-learning experiences for students who treat patients in underserved areas of our state, both rural and metropolitan.

Our *Dean's Circle* membership grew in 2013. More of you than ever before—77 benefactors—joined this group of supporters who contribute \$1,000 annually to the *Dentistry Fund for Achievement*. This fund is a source of support for special opportunities and initiatives to help us achieve our mission.

We're also pleased to share the news of a successful campaign that, so far, has raised \$1.6 million to endow a professorship in honor of Dr. James Q. Swift in the Division of Oral

and Maxillofacial Surgery. His leadership, research and dedicated teaching has resulted in an internationally recognized program for more than two decades.

In December, we received renewed support for the Rice Regional Dental Clinic in Willmar from The Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation, which also provided new grant funds to support our efforts to serve more children at the Native American Community Clinic's Dental Clinic.

Finally, I am especially grateful for those whose estate planning includes the School of Dentistry. These gifts help ensure that generations of future students will continue to gain the benefits of our great school and the advances in oral health that it generates.

To all of you, donors in 2013 and in the future, **Thank You**.

Sincerely,



LEON A. ASSAEL, D.M.D.

Dean

*Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*

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"As good citizens, we believe it's our duty to give back to our community, whether it is through financial donations or through our time." The generous contributions of Dr. John (D.D.S. '61) and Mrs. Nadia Doroschak to their community are numerous and include their steadfast support of the *Dean's Circle*. They urge, "This is one of the best investments you can make into the future of dentistry."



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