A New Career Takes Flight

The distance between dentistry and aviation isn’t as far as it seems.
Dear Colleagues,

For the last several weeks we’ve all pulled together to make this another rich issue of Dentistry magazine. It presents an array of our accomplishments, both in the school and in the larger community. I know you’ll find something on each page that will strengthen your connection to the school and encourage you to learn more about the many things we’re doing.

There are three feature stories in this issue. You may have already jumped to the cover story, “A New Career Takes Flight.” It’s about something you don’t often see in most dental magazines—people who fly F-16 fighter jets. The subject of the article, third-year dental student Clark Hunstad, is yet another example of the quality and wide range of skills and experiences that today’s students bring with them to the school.

We’re also reporting on the “grand success” of our Clinical Grand Rounds series—how it meets a need, and the ways in which both dental professionals and their patients benefit. The third article is an interview with our new associate dean of research, Dr. Sven-Ulrik Gorr. He offers his impressions of our research programs and how he intends to use his background and interests to help advance our efforts. Sweden-born and with the first name Sven, he’s a natural fit for our school and community.

On page two, you’ll find an article about Arnie Hill, who received the U of M Alumni Association’s top award for outstanding service. The award is well deserved because our school has benefited tremendously from his loyalty and commitment. Next time you see him, do me a favor and thank him for what he’s done and congratulate him on his achievement. We all appreciate his work and if you take a tour of our Simulation Clinic, you’ll see one way we have directly benefited from it.

Next, you’ll find reports on the new General Practice Residency Program opening this summer, what’s happening with the midlevel dental provider initiative and a bit about the caring students who organized another successful Give Kids a Smile Day. On page 12, we share our annual Community Report, which contains data on how we’re doing financially along with statistics on our graduates and new students joining us in the fall. We’re also pleased to report on our newly hired faculty, program successes, new appointments for faculty and staff, and awards and honors earned by students and faculty. Please spend some extra time here. I think you’ll be proud of the accomplishments of your school.

In the Alumni News section, the president of our alumni society, Dr. Elizabeth Rydell encourages alumni to keep up the group’s tradition of enthusiasm and support for our school. She’ll get you thinking about how you can “get on board with the group.” Be sure to look at who’s who among this year’s award-winning alumni. They’re quite remarkable people with amazing careers that humble me every time I read what’s made them so special. And, for those who are celebrating milestone years since graduation, there’s a list of upcoming reunions—dates, times, location and contact information.

Don’t forget to take a look at our Events Calendar and Continuing Education offerings for the upcoming months. These pages are packed with a ton of information, so read carefully, it’d be a shame to miss one of these just because you looked through them in a hurry.

Closing out the issue is a note of gratitude from me to all those who made contributions this past year, followed by six pages of names. Without their support we couldn’t have done some of the remarkable things written about in this magazine. We look forward to your continued support for the school and its programs.

I hope you’ll enjoy reading every page of the magazine and will feel as excited as I am about what’s new and what’s planned for the school. I encourage you to share what you’ve learned and pass this magazine along to others so they, too, can be informed about what the school is doing for health, the dental profession and for dental patients around the entire state.

And, don’t forget about the Dean’s Recognition Reception during the star of the North meeting on Friday, April 24th. See you then!

Sincerely,

Patrick M. Lloyd
Dean
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PHOTO BY JESSE EKEREN

Dentistry is published two times a year for the alumni and friends of the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. We welcome suggestions and letters. Please send them to Dentistry magazine, School of Dentistry, University of Minnesota, 15-136A Moos Tower, 515 Delaware Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455 or to kante008@umn.edu. For more information about the School of Dentistry and its programs, refer to the Web site at www.dentistry.umn.edu.

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Dental School Alum Receives Top Honors from University of Minnesota Alumni Association

Arnold J. Hill Recognized for Outstanding Service to University

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association honored Rochester dentist Arnold J. Hill at a celebratory event held at the McNamara Alumni Center on October 29, 2008.

Hill received the University of Minnesota Alumni Service Award in recognition of outstanding volunteer service to the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry.

Hill, who holds a bachelor’s degree and two graduate degrees from the University of Minnesota and the School of Dentistry, was recognized for his leadership of the School of Dentistry’s campaign to raise $11.1 million from alumni, friends, staff and faculty to build a virtual reality-based teaching facility for students.

The new Simulation Clinic uses life-like patient mannequins, cameras and computers to create a technologically advanced environment in which first-and second-year dental students learn the eye-hand coordination and manual dexterity skills they’ll need to treat patients.

The School of Dentistry’s Simulation Clinic was featured in the University of Minnesota’s 2007 Driven to DiscoverSM television advertisement.

Says Hill, “Philanthropy means ‘love of mankind.’ For our family, it also means giving back and it’s been a way of life for us: Sharing our personal resources—time, energy, skills, dollars—to empower others to build better lives.”

Five groups and two individuals received Alumni Association awards in recognition of outstanding service and programming during the past year.

Eleven alumni received the University of Minnesota Alumni Service Award, which honors long-time service and a legacy of volunteerism.

“Most of the University’s 400,000 living graduates care about their alma mater,” said Margaret Sughrue Carlson, chief executive officer of the Alumni Association. “But there are unique individuals who move beyond caring and devote an incredible amount of time and talent as alumni volunteers. Each year we honor them for making significant contributions to the strength and future success of our University.”

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association is a 59,000-member organization that has advocated for the University’s important work for more than a century. By joining the Alumni Association, alumni become ambassadors for the University.
New GPR Program Serves Patients with Special Needs

Patients who have underlying medical or cognitive conditions that add complexity to the management of their oral health can now receive their care from dental residents enrolled in the new hospital-based General Practice Residency Program located at University of Minnesota Medical Center-Fairview (UMMC-F).

The new University of Minnesota Physicians Riverside Dental Clinic serves patients with physical or mental illnesses and disabilities, and dental phobias or anxiety. Emergency dental services are also available 24-7 at UMMC-F. Five dental residents staff the clinic, which opened in April under the direction of Brian Singletary, clinical associate professor in the Department of Primary Dental Care.

Singletary received his doctor of dental medicine degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine and completed his general practice residency at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Most recently on appointment at Yale-New Haven Hospital in New Haven, Conn., where he was chief of dental services, Singletary arrived in Minnesota in September to oversee the construction of the eight-chair dental clinic.

The new hospital-based Riverside Dental Clinic is located in the Riverside Professional Building on the west bank campus of the University of Minnesota Medical Center.

The clinic is the first partnership between University of Minnesota Physicians, UMMC-F, and the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry.

For patient appointments, call (612) 659-8689.

A Smile is a Gift to Be Shared

Sometimes it all just comes down to a simple “thank you” and a smile. Such were the gifts bestowed on the 263 School of Dentistry volunteers who came together in February to share their professional talents with 107 children in need of dental care. The student-coordinated event was the dental school’s fifth annual Give Kids a Smile Day.

Regents Approve Dental Therapist Education Programs

In February, the University of Minnesota Board of Regents approved two programs to educate a new oral health professional called a dental therapist.

Created in response to legislation passed in 2008 authorizing licensure of a new midlevel provider, the University’s programs—a 40-month Bachelor of Science in Dental Therapy program and a 28-month Master in Dental Therapy—will launch in fall, 2009. Both programs will educate dental therapists to perform basic preventive services, drill and restore teeth for children and adults, and remove primary (baby) teeth. All surgical and restorative services will be supervised on-site by a Minnesota licensed dentist. The master’s program will include a leadership and education emphasis to prepare graduates for leadership and teaching careers to advance the profession.

“The legislature authorized the creation of a new provider to perform procedures until now performed only by a licensed dentist,” says Patrick Lloyd, dean of the School of Dentistry. “Dentistry procedures are best taught in an accredited dental school.” Under the University program, dental therapy students will learn from the same faculty, in the same facilities and with a subset of the same curriculum used to teach dental students. Says Lloyd, “Patients will receive a single standard of care, regardless of who provides their treatment. It’s an education patients can trust and the profession can support.”

Although the 2008 legislature authorized licensure of a midlevel provider in an attempt to ease access-to-care challenges for patients in underserved areas of the state, decisions about the scope of practice, level of supervision and education of this new provider were deferred until the 2009 session. At press time, these discussions continue and a bill advancing the U-M model is under consideration.

A second bill being considered would create a midlevel provider called an oral health professional (OHP). That bill proposes a more expansive scope of practice, with supervision requirements to be determined by a “collaborative agreement” between each dentist and OHP. Education would take place at the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system.

The dental school’s model has the support of the Minnesota Dental Association and the Minnesota Dental Assistants Association. It is also consistent with the principles endorsed by the Minnesota Board of Dentistry.

Says Lloyd, “Educating dental therapists in an accredited dental school ensures a solid didactic and clinical preparation, collaboration between dental professionals, a single standard of care for patients, and a smooth transition from education into professional employment after graduation. These new members of the dental team will graduate ready for employment in dental offices throughout the state, which will enhance the ability of the existing network of providers to see more public program patients.”

Student recruitment began in March.

*Pending legislative approval of the University model, the inaugural classes, with a total of 10 students between the two programs, will begin fall semester, 2009.
Making the Rounds

Now in its fifth year, the dental school’s Clinical Grand Rounds series of continuing education courses helps enhance diagnosis and treatment planning skills.

Anthony DiAngelis, an adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry and chief of dentistry at Hennepin County Medical Center (HCMC), periodically teaches Grand Rounds sessions like this one about the clinical management of traumatic dental injury. His example of the teenage basketball player is just one case study shared as part of his lecture.

Questions fly: How comprehensively should a dentist document trauma cases? How long should the traumatized tooth remain splinted? If this were a pediatric patient, what could be the effect on the permanent teeth? What’s the best way to involve the patient and/or family in choosing treatment options and what are the chances of success for each? By attending the discipline-based seminar series, practitioners reap the benefit of instructors’ years of intensive clinical experience in their areas of specialization and expertise. For DiAngelis, traumatic dental injuries are commonplace. “At a trauma center like HCMC we see these cases daily,” says DiAngelis.

Experience is the key ingredient that allows dental professionals to move beyond the competencies achieved in dental school to proficient problem solving using evidence-based dentistry and their own sound judgment. “There are often guidelines for how to approach certain types of cases,” says DiAngelis, “But guidelines are guidelines, not the Ten Commandments.” So, instead of splinting the ball player’s tooth for the recommended two weeks, DiAngelis kept it splinted for six weeks. “We have to use our judgment and clinical experience to best serve patients.”

DiAngelis says that because traumatic injuries can change a patient’s appearance, there are psychological and emotional components of the injury to consider. So diagnosis and treatment planning are especially challenging. “And with little kids, with injury to baby teeth, we know the full extent of an injury may not show up until later when the permanent teeth erupt.”

Documentation is also extremely important. Not only can cases of traumatic injury result in litigation, but proper documentation of treatment is always required to accurately monitor progress and outcomes, and coordinate care with other specialists. So the class covers what is essential for trauma notes.

According to Continuing Dental Education Director Lynda Young, associate professor in Primary Dental Care, “Grand Rounds sessions feature complicated discipline-based case presentations that often include a variety of treatment plan options. Our goal is to expand thinking for new approaches to providing care.”

But, while the concepts are often complex, Clinical Grand Rounds follows a simple, user-friendly format. The sessions take place every first Thursday of the month and start with a light dinner. There are usually between 100 and 150 attendees, with an additional 20 to 30 tuned in to the Webcast which takes place live in
rochester, Willmar, Hibbing and Sioux Falls, with the ability to ask questions live via e-mail. Open to all members of the dental team, each session features cases selected from a different discipline in dentistry including endodontics, geriatric dentistry, prosthodontics and implants, pediatric dentistry, periodontics, orthodontics, and more. School of Dentistry staff members may attend at no charge. The school offers both a fall and winter series of Grand Rounds, with four classes per series.

Says St. Paul dentist Shrirang Mahajan, “I think Clinical Grand Rounds is one of the great continuing dental education programs at the University. I have been going to Rounds for the past two years and try to attend each of them. Because they meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. I don’t have to make any schedule changes to attend.” Mahajan says that the format provides time for an excellent review of the topic, with a lot of detail, as well as the opportunity to interact with fellow practitioners.

Grounded in Need

The School of Dentistry developed Clinical Grand Rounds in 2005 in response to a request from the Minnesota Board of Dentistry to develop a continuing education program to fulfill the board’s new requirements for core competency coursework in diagnosis and treatment planning.

Susan Gross (’82), a School of Dentistry adjunct faculty member who practices general dentistry in St. Louis Park, served on the Board of Dentistry when the new rules were written. She explains, “The process was years in the making. The rules were debated and adopted by the Board of Dentistry, approved by the chief judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings and accepted by the governor, and became effective on September 20, 2004. The six core competency areas identified are record keeping, infection control, ethics, patient communication, management of medical emergencies, and diagnosis and treatment planning.

Gross says that in requiring continuing education in these specific areas, the Board broadened the concept of continuing education to more comprehensively include professional development. “These competencies are the foundations of knowledge needed to be current with changes in practice, science and technology,” she says. “The adopted rules were intended to give practitioners the opportunity to assess and enhance their professional strengths in diagnosis and treatment planning, and to gain additional knowledge in areas needed.”

Grand Rounds capitalizes on the expertise of University dental faculty and continuing dental education for practicing dental professionals is one way it meets that mission.

The School of Dentistry Alumni Society cosponsors the Grand Rounds programs, which allows students to attend free of charge. “I enjoy attending,” says first-year dental student Rebecca Doolittle. “Clinical Grand Rounds presents bite-sized nuggets of information. It’s interesting, clinically-based, and not too much at one time. As D-1 students, we focus on the core science. It’s nice to see how it’s applied in the real world.”

Listening to the richness and complexity of cases presented and learning alongside practicing dentists, who regularly pepper presenters with questions, provides insights for dental students into how they’ll continue to learn from School of Dentistry faculty and other experts, even after graduation.

“An added advantage for students,” she says, “is that there’s food involved.”

The Latest Tech Plus Old-Fashioned Communication

Gross says, “Dentists learn a lot in dental school about diagnosis and treatment planning, but that’s the ‘scaffolding.’ They must constantly build on that foundation by applying what they have learned. But in the real world, dentists treat all kinds of patients, and the school reaches out to communities of practicing professionals and provides a solid resource for lifelong learning,” says Gross.

Clinical Grand Rounds is also an integral part of the school’s outreach mission. As a land grant institution, the school has a responsibility to support the needs of the state, and providing
of patients, from children to the frail elderly, and these patients have a variety of treatment needs. Given the unique nature of each case, and the diversity and complexity of cases that can present in the dental office, it’s reasonable to say that not every dentist will see a lot of some types

“General dentists have the toughest job because they’re trying to do so many things well. But that’s also one of the beauties of the profession. It makes it interesting; it’s not boring.”
— GARY COOK

of cases.” Fractured teeth, she says, are an example. Every dentist sees these cases, but they’re few and far between. She says that “staying in the loop” is one of the hardest things in the profession. DiAngelis adds, “As a general dentist, you’re asked to be an expert in a lot of areas and constantly keep up with new procedures and techniques to benefit patients. There’s new information coming out every day in various specialties, there’s no limit.”

That’s why Grand Rounds sessions incorporate updates on the newest technology for use in diagnosis and treatment planning. For example, sessions have covered the use of CEREC (CAD/CAM) technology, the use of temporary anchoring devices in orthodontics, the latest findings on bisphosphonates (osteoporosis drugs that can cause bone deterioration), and the new diagnosis and treatment planning guidelines for temporomandibular dysfunction (TMD). Gary Cook, a general dentist for 10 years who is now a prosthodontist and associate clinical specialist in Restorative Sciences, offers prosthodontics as an example. “Implants are a hot research technology in our field. There are always new methods and materials. Prosthodontic cases also involve other dental specialties such as periodontics, endodontics, and oral surgery, all tied together. It’s tough to know it all. It takes years and years for dentists to become well-rounded.”

Moreover, he says, “Prosthodontic cases are rarely perfect textbook cases. Sometimes there is no precedent. Grand Rounds provides a way to apply the principles to advanced clinical cases and go beyond the textbook.” That’s why, for the Grand Rounds session Cook recently taught, he teamed up with Terry Orr (’88), a prosthodontist who practices in Minneapolis. Says Cook, “In that course, we talked about what did and didn’t work out in each of the cases, which I think brought a more personal side to the course, with which the average practitioner can identify.”

Cook and Orr also discussed one of the most challenging aspects of the profession: patient communication and education. “Diagnosis and treatment planning isn’t just about what’s happening in a patient’s mouth,” says Cook. “It’s also about communication and patient education. In Clinical Grand Rounds we talk about how to explain a case to the patient. Too often, they have an unrealistic idea about what can be done and about how completely their mouths can be restored.

“Lost teeth can pose a very difficult situation. The dentist needs to attend to the bone and physiological attributes for the possibility of implants and educate patients so they don’t have unrealistic expectations about appearance and function. For example, we’re still dealing with expectations created by those commercials about denture adhesives that show people eating corn on the cob. In reality, losing teeth can be like learning to accept a disability. We have to be translators to explain cases to patients. And the great practitioners are the ones who do that very well.”

“General dentists have the toughest job,” he says, “because they’re trying to do so many things well. But that’s also one of the beauties of the profession. It makes it interesting; it’s not boring.” DiAngelis adds, “Dentistry requires life-long learning. That’s the challenge and the beauty of it.”

Grand Rounds Topics for Fall Sessions

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Attendees absorb case studies and discussion.

PHOTO BY SCOTT STREIBLE
Talking Research

An interview with Sven-Ulrik Gorr, the School of Dentistry’s new associate dean for research.

Sven-Ulrik Gorr, Ph.D., brings a unique set of experiences and talents to his position as associate dean for research. Previously a research professor at the University of Louisville School of Dentistry, he served there most recently as the director of the Laboratory for Mucosal Cell Biology and special assistant to the associate dean for research and enterprises. An NIH-funded investigator with research interests in Sjögren’s syndrome, cell biology and biochemistry, and innate immunity and antibacterial peptides, he is also a former NIH/NIDCR program director and a current reviewer for NIH. Along the way, he’s published more than 50 papers and book chapters on a variety of topics related to his research.

Dentistry Magazine sat down to talk with Gorr to learn more about him, about his views on dental research, and his ideas for the future.

Dentistry Magazine: Tell us about yourself.
Sven-Ulrik Gorr: I am a biochemist/cell biologist by training who’s spent the last 20 years doing oral health research. It was scientific curiosity that led me in 1985 to a post-doctoral training position that happened to be in a dental school. I initially started working at the University of Louisville, doing research on salivary glands to compare their function to that of endocrine glands. Over the years this has become the main focus of my research.
While at Louisville, I had a chance to develop projects that were also of more immediate interest to our dental student summer researchers and I’m a strong supporter of providing research opportunities for students as part of their dental education. In 2004, I was recruited to be a program director at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, the dental arm of the National Institutes of Health, where I reviewed grants and oversaw a portfolio of 40 investigators. I saw this as a great opportunity to gain a broader insight into different areas of oral health research and contribute to the shaping of future funding opportunities. The chance to manage a multifaceted research program—to make sure that the program moved forward and to identify the best science—was very rewarding. It was a unique experience and an important part of the foundation for my interest in this position at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. A particularly gratifying aspect of the NIH experience was to work with the many applicants whose grants were not funded and advise about how to improve their projects for subsequent grant submissions. Eventually, the commute between Bethesda and Louisville became too much. So, I returned to the University of Louisville to assume a dual position—half time as a researcher and half time working with faculty, helping them with grants issues, getting them through the NIH system, etc. That’s what I was doing before I came here. This position as associate dean for research gives me the best of both worlds. And I still like to don a lab coat and get to the lab, too. Nothing compares to the thrill of testing an idea and seeing a new result for the first time.

**DM: Why Minnesota?**

**SG:** Well, this is a great University. Its size and traditions make it an exciting place to do research. And, the School of Dentistry has a good reputation. I also knew several people from Minnesota from my time at the NIDCR and thought my research would be a good collaborative fit here. This is one of the strengths of the academic health center and a Big Ten University.

**DM: Why do dental research in an academic setting and what are the consequences for our failure to do so?**

**SG:** There are many reasons. We have an obligation to be at the forefront of the discipline, contributing to the knowledge, solving clinical problems that affect our patients and moving the profession forward. Like those who came before us, our research will be used in the textbooks from which the next generation of dental professionals will be taught. I also believe that one of the roles of a top 10 public research university is to create and disseminate new knowledge and we have a responsibility to contribute to that research mission. It’s important, too, that our students are taught by faculty who are, themselves, primary sources of information. Finally, there’s a responsibility to help inspire and prepare the next generation of dental researchers. If we fail in all of this, we lose the
foundation for advanced teaching, clinical innovation and product development.

**DM: What does a dental research dean do?**

**SG:** I like to think that my job is to find and open doors for researchers. Our faculty and scientists are experts in their fields and I hope to identify opportunities for new collaborations and funding opportunities, and pave the way for new projects to take shape by removing obstacles to getting the job done. The greatest perk of this job is that you spend your day working with really bright and creative people from many different disciplines; that is very stimulating and exciting.

**DM: What do you see as the challenges for dental research programs?**

**SG:** The lack of funding these last few years has been difficult. To some extent, we need to rethink how we do research. Observational studies and data gathering are no longer funded; we need to look at biological mechanisms and solve clinical problems. We must identify clinical goals and practical applications for our research that can guide the necessary basic research. It’s not enough to be “curious” and explore. The trend is also towards more collaborative research that includes a variety of experts. Our colleagues in the AHC and across the University can be a valuable resource for new collaborative projects.

There are challenges, too, in recruiting young researchers. We need to hire quality scientists who study important problems and publish in good journals—then the funding will follow. From my time at the NIDCR, I have a working knowledge of the NIH and its priorities that I think can be very helpful in guiding young researchers to their first independent grant.

**DM: What are you working on in your own research?**

**SG:** A recent project has been to use salivary proteins to develop new potential antibiotics. The thought is that our own defense proteins would be effective fighters of oral and systemic infections without being toxic to our own cells. We have now identified peptides that we can “tune” to perform different antibacterial functions. I am particularly excited about the dual application of this project—on the one hand I think this work has practical potential, as we have seen protective effects in both animal and plant models. On the other hand, this work can teach us some really interesting biology related to our own defenses.

**DM: What are NIDCR’s funding priorities? And how do School of Dentistry research strengths align?**

**SG:** The NIDCR strategic plan outlines four major goals: to strengthen basic research, clinical research, research training and health disparities research. The School of Dentistry is uniquely positioned to take advantage of many of the funding priorities contained in these goals. And we retain a strong infrastructure and faculty who are able to combine strengths to move into the new research areas. As an example, the development of the dental therapist program, which is unique in the country, will provide new opportunities in health disparities research. Our student research program, directed by assistant dean for research Joel Rudney, and the MInnResT training program, directed by Mark Herzberg, are already positioned to address the strategic goal of strengthening the pipeline of dental and oral health researchers. We are also following the strategic planning at NIDCR closely to position our researchers to take advantage of emerging funding opportunities, for example in diagnostic technologies. The stimulus bill has been instrumental in jump starting this process.

**DM: What are some of the clinical implications for this research?**

**SG:** The goal of all biomedical research is ultimately to understand, diagnose and cure disease. The research in the School of Dentistry ranges from clinical trials that can directly impact clinical decisions and treatment to basic research in areas you and I may not have heard about. As an example of the former, Bryan Michalowicz directed a clinical trial that addressed a long standing question to determine if periodontal therapy could reduce the incidence of preterm birth.

In addition to clarifying that maternal periodontal treatment does not affect the incidence of preterm birth and low birth weight, these studies revealed that essential dental treatment is safe for pregnant women—these are real life applications that can be used in clinical decision making. At the other end of the spectrum, a research team that includes Dwight Anderson, Shelley Grimes and Paul Jardine, studies the very basic mechanisms of DNA packaging in virus particles. These detailed studies yield amazing insight into fundamental biological mechanisms. Such insight may form the foundation for future work in areas as diverse as anti-viral therapy and the use of viral particles for gene delivery in gene therapy. We must continue to support and nurture both the clinical and translational research that can have an immediate impact on oral and systemic health, while maintaining a strong presence in basic research that gives us the necessary tools to make subsequent clinical advances.

**DM: Where do you see the School of Dentistry research program in five years?**

**SG:** I think this is an exciting time to be in dental research, but we have some tough challenges ahead and we cannot do business as usual. In the coming years, we will use existing resources in innovative ways and build new collaborations that will allow us to grow our research initiatives in new directions. I hope that in five years we will see an added emphasis on solving clinical problems through basic and applied research in areas such as materials science, infection and biofilms, pain control and TMD, health disparities and the development of new research areas, such as salivary diagnostics, that cut across disciplines to create new opportunities for collaboration inside and outside the School of Dentistry. University of Minnesota School of Dentistry researchers are already moving in these directions—we have active research initiatives in some of these areas. For example, we have neuroscientists studying mechanisms of pain, bone biologists investigating how bone absorbs or resorbs, and one of our faculty members is a mechanical engineer, studying the interplay between tissue and material properties that affect the development of new biomaterials, things like shape and anatomy, and loading, and more. The outstanding research community at the School of Dentistry will make this possible.
A New Career Takes Flight

The distance between dentistry and aviation isn’t as far as it seems.

When third-year dental student Clark Hunstad was a cadet at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, being a dentist was the farthest thing from his mind. He was a parachute instructor and jumpmaster on the Academy’s “Wings of Blue” parachute demonstration team and made over 620 free fall jumps. He graduated from USAFA with a bachelor of science degree in 1990 and his sights were set on flying jets.

He went to pilot training school and flew F-16s for the Air Force. (The F-16 “Fighting Falcon” is a compact, multi-role fighter aircraft.) During his active duty Air Force career, he received a master’s degree in Aeronautical Science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. He was also an F-16 instructor pilot and a flight commander in an operational fighter squadron. Currently, he has over 2400 flight hours in the F-16.

During his tour of duty, he was stationed in Oklahoma, Utah, Arizona, Texas, and finally, South Korea. There, he became friends with a fellow fighter pilot, Nate Graber, who like Hunstad, hails from South Dakota. “His father is a dentist and he suggested I look him up when I went back,” says Hunstad. At the time, that just seemed like a passing conversation.

By 2000, Hunstad’s active-duty Air Force commitment was up, and he was ready to move on to a mostly civilian life.

“A New Destination

This was the perfect time to contemplate his next career move and that process moved forward every time he visited his new dentist, Denny Graber. Hunstad had indeed looked up the Sioux Falls dentist and father of his flying buddy in South Korea. “I noticed that he had pictures of jets on the wall,” says Hunstad. He and Graber, as it turned out, had a lot in common.

Graber had flown F-100s and F-4s, which he calls “hot rod jets,” in the South Dakota Air National Guard. Eventually, talk turned from jets to dentistry. Graber remembers, “I knew Clark was thinking about his next career. Each time he visited the dental office, I could see the wheels turning.” Says Hunstad, “I remember those talks and thinking that dentistry sounds like a neat thing and wondering how Denny made the transition into the profession.”

Graber shared his enthusiasm for both flying and dentistry. “Clark had gone to the Academy, so I knew he could handle dental school,” says Graber. “The Academy is challenging. For example, they give you more to do than you have time for and
they make you prioritize.” His encouragement proved to be the tipping point for Hunstad’s new career choice.

Hunstad is like an increasing number of students at the School of Dentistry; they arrive with a variety of life experiences, including, often, other careers. In addition to having sound academic credentials, applicants to dental school often provide evidence of leadership, which Hunstad had in spades. But, since it had been over five years since he had taken science classes, Hunstad went back to school in the evenings for the required prerequisite classes. Three years later, he applied to dental school. In the meantime, his wife’s enthusiasm further fueled his interest in dentistry. They started thinking about one day working in a practice together. He was accepted to dental school shortly before she finished her dental hygiene program. Then, the whole family moved to the Twin Cities.

Now a lieutenant colonel in the South Dakota Air National Guard, Hunstad still flies whenever he has a break from school. So, while many students hit the beach, he spends his spring breaks at places such as Langley Air Force Base, Virginia. “I love flying,” he says, “so it’s fun to be able to keep up those skills while serving in the Air Guard.”

“There’s the same need for spatial orientation and visualizing in three dimensions.”
— Denny Graber

Not So Different
Hunstad and Graber see some interesting correlations between their current and former careers. Says Hunstad, “Both professions require tremendous study and mental preparation, and both operate in extreme environments. When flying single seat fighters you’re responsible and accountable for the operations you have performed. Similarly, the dentist is directly responsible for patient care. The teamwork, leadership, and communication skills taught in military flying translate well into the dental office setting. And, like flying, dentistry is really fun. Each profession has its own lingo, too. We speak both languages.”

Gaber adds, “There’s the same need for spatial orientation and visualizing in three dimensions. Both fields are precise and predictable. They require concentration, coordination and the ability to see the big picture.”

It’s obvious that, like his mentor, Clark Hunstad will never lose his love of flying. Yet, now his second career seems just as exciting. After graduation, the Hunstad family will return to South Dakota where the couple plans to establish a practice together, probably in a rural area where there’s a greater need for dentists. According to Graber, adding dentists to underserved areas has been a high priority for the South Dakota Dental Association. And speaking of Clark, he says, “You just can’t help but like this guy. Dentistry needs more people like him.”

PHOTO BY DREW POPHAM
The charts below represent the unaudited revenue sources and expenses of the School of Dentistry for fiscal year 2008.

## Revenues & Expenses

### Revenues (in millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinics</td>
<td>$16,618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Operations &amp; Maintenance (O &amp; M)</td>
<td>$14,630</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$14,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and ICR</td>
<td>$8,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>$5,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dean’s Strategic Investment Pool</td>
<td>$2,269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gifts and Investment</td>
<td>$1,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$63,856</strong></td>
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</table>

### Expenses (in millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Activity</td>
<td>$17,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Allocations</td>
<td>$9,413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Activity</td>
<td>$8,932</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration and Development</td>
<td>$5,270</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Services and Scholarships</td>
<td>$1,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$63,999</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Revenues Notes

Financial results for the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008 reflected overall economic conditions in several key areas. Overall expenses exceeded revenues by $2.2 million for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008.

Total revenues for the School of Dentistry declined $1.8 million for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, from $65.7 million to $63.9 million. Declines in research and state funding were partially offset by increases in clinical funding and increased tuition and fees. This combination is consistent with trends at many dental schools nationwide.

Clinical revenues increased by $1.2 million, from $15.4 million to $16.6 million. This increase was primarily a result of increased patient volume.

State Operations and Maintenance funding received by the School of Dentistry (O&M), continuing a trend of the past few years, declined in FY 2008 from FY 2007 by $5 million, from $15.1 million to $14.6 million. A more significant decline in this funding area is expected in future years.

Research revenues, indicative of the difficult research environment nationwide, declined significantly from $13.5 million to $8.5 million, a decline of $5.0 million. Tuition and Fee revenue increased $1.5 million from $12.9 million in FY 2007 to $14.4 million in FY 2008. The University of Minnesota School of Dentistry has historically targeted the mid range of publicly supported Midwestern dental schools when determining tuition rates.

Other Income increased by $0.6 million, from $4.8 million to $5.4 million. Dean’s Strategic Investment Pool declined $3.3 million, from $2.6 million to $2.3 million. A significant portion of this funding is from federal educational funding sources and is subject to federal budgetary constraints.

Gifts and Investment Returns increased from $1.4 million to $2.0 million for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008. Significant declines in endowments and foundation funds have occurred since fiscal year end, the result of declining market conditions.

### Expenses Notes

Total expenses for the School of Dentistry declined $1.0 million for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, from $65.0 million to $64.0 million.

Instruction expenses increased $1.3 million, from $20.0 million to $21.3 million due to a combination of increased number of faculty as well as compensation increases for existing faculty and staff.

Clinical Activity expenses increased $5.5 million, from $17.5 million to $18.0 million in response to increased patient volume, but was less than the corresponding clinical revenue increase.

Research Activity expenses declined $3.8 million, from $12.7 million to $8.9 million. This change was less than the $5.0 million decline in research revenue as financial support was provided to retain long term staff and maintain lab operations during the year while new grant requests were under consideration by granting agencies.

Central Allocations increased $3.3 million from $9.1 million to $9.4 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 $5.5 million, from $4.8 million to $5.3 million, primarily related to efforts to implement the new University wide financial system as well as a new clinical information system. Both these information system efforts will continue in fiscal 2009.

Student Services and Scholarships support increased $.1 million, from $1.0 million to $1.1 million.

Jeff Ogden
Chief Administrative Officer
2008-2009 Faculty/Student Statistics

Paid Faculty Appointments*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Full Professor</th>
<th>Associate Professor</th>
<th>Assistant Professor</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tenure/Tenure Track</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Track</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Track</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjunct</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>65</strong></td>
<td><strong>75</strong></td>
<td><strong>133</strong></td>
<td><strong>273</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As of 4/1/09.

Students

Fall Semester Enrollment 2008

- Dental Hygiene: 47
- DDS: 402
- Advanced Education & Graduate Programs: 83
- **Total**: 532

2007-2008 Graduates

- Dental Hygiene-Baccalaureate Program*: 40
- Dental Hygiene-Degree Completion Program: 3
- Certificates: 14
- Professional & Graduate Degrees Awarded: 120
- **Total**: 177

*Two classes, May and September graduations.

2008-2009 First-Year Class Profiles

Profile of the 2008-09 First-Year Dental Class

Total Number of Applicants: 1,073*

- Class Size: 98

Profile of the 2008-09 First-Year Dental Hygiene Class

Total Number of Applicants: 82

- Class Size: 24

Average GPAs

- Overall GPA: 3.61
- BCP (Bio, Chem, Physics): 3.57
- Science GPA: 3.57

Average DATs

- Academic Average: 19.25
- Perceptual Ability: 20.12
- Total Science: 19.28

*These figures represent AADSAS calculations.
Leader in Health Improvement Initiatives Joins School of Dentistry Faculty

Sheila M. Riggs to Lead Primary Dental Care Department

Sheila Riggs, D.D.S., D.M.Sc., is well known among leaders of state and national community health initiatives. After high visibility professional positions in such organizations as Blue Cross and Blue Shield, the Wellmark Foundation, and Delta Dental of Minnesota, she has a solid reputation as a proven leader with fresh perspectives. With a dedication to health improvement for all segments of society and a track record of translating innovation into community action, she brings to academic dentistry the best of her public and private sector experience.

In February, Riggs was named to chair the School of Dentistry’s Department of Primary Care. In this new role, she will lead a department in which the educational experience is truly greater than the sum of its parts. The department’s divisions and programs deal with the fundamentals of professional responsibility: understanding community needs, providing comprehensive care in a dental team setting, community outreach, and oral health care for older adults.

“Dr. Riggs is a trained epidemiologist and researcher, grounded in the application of evidence-based research to the delivery of oral health care services,” says Patrick Lloyd, dean of the School of Dentistry. “She brings with her exceptional academic credentials, community and private sector experience and perspectives, extensive knowledge about a variety of dental public health issues, and a national reputation as a leader in community health improvement initiatives.”

Riggs received her doctor of dental surgery degree at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry and has both a master’s degree and a doctorate of medical sciences in epidemiology from Harvard University. She currently holds unpaid academic appointments at both institutions.

Most recently the CEO, president, and director of Delta Dental of Minnesota (2005-08), Riggs also has held executive leadership positions within Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa and the Wellmark Foundation (1995-2005). In 2003, she was appointed by the governor of Iowa to lead the statewide Healthy Iowans 2010 program. She was the founding director of the Free Dental Clinic in Ames, Iowa, and has been a member of numerous state, regional and national health care policy task forces. She is a member of the board of directors of the Greater Twin Cities United Way, the YWCA of Minneapolis, and the Minnesota Women’s Economic Roundtable.

“Dr. Riggs joins our faculty at a significant time as we continue to integrate our dental and dental hygiene programs, prepare to launch new educational programs, and expand our community outreach initiatives to assist the state in addressing access challenges for Minnesota communities,” Lloyd says.

“This is an outstanding opportunity for our School of Dentistry to hire a recognized leader in primary dental care issues, as well as health improvement,” says Frank Cerra, senior vice president for health sciences at the University.
White Coat Ceremony: The dental class of 2012 and the dental hygiene class of 2010 were welcomed to the School of Dentistry at a White Coat Ceremony held September 19. A traditional rite of passage in many health profession programs, the ceremony recognized 121 students who were all given white coats.

In the clinic setting, professional attire evokes the trust and respect of patients. The white coat ceremony impresses upon future practitioners the significance of that trusting relationship and celebrates their commitment to the goals of professionalism, ethical practice, scientific and technical expertise, and compassionate service to others.

During the ceremony, students affirmed their commitment to uphold the ideals of their chosen professions. Dental hygiene students recited the American Dental Hygienists Association Code of Ethics. Dental students recited the Minnesota Oath for New Dentists and signed the Class of 2012 Code of Ethics, written by class representatives.

The keynote speaker was William Stein, D.D.S., executive editor of Northwest Dentistry. A reception for the 500 students and their guests followed the program.

Program for Children with Velocardiofacial Syndrome:
The Cleft Palate Clinic is partnering with University and Fairview Children’s Hospital experts to form one of the first specialized teams in the country to care for children with Velocardiofacial syndrome or DiGeorge syndrome.

Velocardiofacial syndrome is the most common syndrome associated with a cleft palate, with an estimated 1 in 2,000-4,000 children born with the syndrome. It is also the most common chromosomal condition, next to Down syndrome, and is associated with more than 180 signs and symptoms, such as cardiac defects, cleft palate, immune system defects, psychosis, and dental abnormalities. There is no cure for Velocardiofacial syndrome.

Pediatric specialists in cardiology, genetics, rheumatology/immunology, psychiatry, plastic surgery, speech-language pathology, audiology, nursing and dentistry are part of the integrated team that provides children and families with access to specialized care in a single day appointment. This team approach also provides opportunities for translational research, with linkage between phenotypes and genotypes, as well as development of evidence-based practice guidelines.

School of Dentistry scientists co-author Nature article describing breakthrough in the fields of virus assembly and biological nanomotors: The research by University of California-Berkley researchers, conducted in collaboration with School of Dentistry scientists Paul Jardine and Shelley Grimes (R) and Dwight Anderson, appeared in the January 22, 2009 issue of Nature.

The article reports on the never-before-witnessed individual mechanical steps of a molecular machine as it packages virus DNA into a protein shell. The findings—seen at a resolution approaching the level of the atom—provides new insights into the workings of a broad class of molecular machines that perform a variety of crucial functions within every living cell.

High Impact Partnerships: The Hibbing Community College Dental Clinic and the Rice Regional Dental Clinic in Willmar celebrated milestone anniversaries. These high impact partnerships are providing unique clinical experiences for students and enhanced access to dental services for public program patients.

Hibbing Community College (HCC) Dental Clinic: Now in its eighth year of operation, the HCC clinic is the dental school’s first permanent off-site dental clinic. Created in partnership with the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, the clinic has 4,627 active patients of record; approximately 72 percent are public program patients and 20 percent are uninsured. Dental students staff the clinic 46 weeks per year. During spring semester, School of Dentistry students work with students from the HCC dental assisting program.

The dental school currently sends 40 dental students to Hibbing each year, usually working in four-week rotations. To date, 422 dental, 81 dental hygiene, 3 dental residents and 26 foreign exchange students have completed rotations in Hibbing. The Hibbing Community College Dental Clinic operates under the direction of area dentist and School of Dentistry alum Jerry Pedersen (’77), associate clinical specialist in the Department of Primary Dental Care.

Rice Regional Dental Clinic (Willmar): Created in affiliation with Rice Memorial Hospital and a host of community partners, the 10-chair hospital-based clinic serves patients from throughout the 12-county area. After one year, the clinic has 2,182 patients of records (5,433 patient-visits). Eighty-five percent of patient-visits are public program or uninsured patients. Approximately 37 percent of active patients are 19 years or younger. Hospital-owned and -operated, the clinic is staffed by four dental students (on four-week rotations) and two dental hygiene students (on two-week rotations). The clinic operates under the direction of Robert Erickson (’74), adjunct assistant professor, Department of Primary Dental Care.
People

Appointed: Gary Anderson (TMD & Orofacial Pain) as director of the Cleft Palate and Craniofacial Program, effective April 27, 2009. Anderson was also named director of evidence-based dentistry.

Appointed: Emily Johnston as development officer for the School of Dentistry. Johnston’s experience includes nine years of development, alumni relations, legislative affairs, and conference and exhibits management. Most recently director of annual giving and alumni relations at Normandale Community College, she also worked for six years at the University of Minnesota, in University Relations and at the College of Biological Sciences, and for two years at the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians.

Appointed: Dan Shaw (Pediatric Dentistry) as clinical associate professor. He will also represent the School of Dentistry as a spokesperson about issues related to pediatric dentistry.

Awarded: Mohammad S. Islam (Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology) his oral and maxillofacial radiology board certification. Islam is one of two board certified oral and maxillofacial radiologists in Minnesota, both of whom are School of Dentistry faculty members.

Elected: Michael Rohrer (Oral Pathology) to a four-year term as North American councillor for the International Association of Oral Pathologists. As councillor, he will represent North American oral pathologists in the dealings of the international organization, whose mission is to improve the quality and safety of healthcare worldwide through the advancement of patient care, education and research in oral and maxillofacial pathology.

Elected: Heather Horton (second-year dental student) to a leadership position in the American Association for Dental Research (AADR) National Student Research Group, effective April 1.

Honored: Karlind Moller (Cleft Palate Clinic) as an “Alumni of Notable Achievement” by the College of Liberal Arts. In announcing the award, the college acknowledged Moller’s leadership in various professional organizations, his passionate advocacy on behalf of persons with craniofacial disorders, and his research and teaching with the University of Minnesota Cleft Palate Program in the School of Dentistry.

Selected: Brenda Armstrong (student in the Master of Dental Hygiene Program) to receive the 2009 ADEA/Crest Oral-B Scholarship for Dental Hygiene Students Pursuing Academic Careers. She was recognized at the 86th ADEA Annual Session in Phoenix, Ariz. in March.

James Q. Swift, director of the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, received the Distinguished Service Award from the American Dental Education Association (ADEA). Awarded only occasionally, the honor recognizes significant contributions to education, research and to the American Dental Education Association. ADEA is the professional organization representing academic dentistry.

Calling him a “true pioneer with a gift for bringing together diverse groups and interests,” ADEA President Ronald J. Hunt wrote that “many believe Jim’s most significant contribution to ADEA, and to dental education, was his work in promoting the presence of the advanced dental education community in our work.”

Swift’s past involvement with ADEA dates back to his second year of dental school, and has included positions as ADEA vice president for students, and vice president for hospitals and advanced education programs.

He also served as ADEA president in 2007, and was a catalyst for bridging the differences between allied, pre-dental and postdoctoral dental education, and for fostering awareness of dental education as a united community. He’s been instrumental in ADEA’s advocacy work, testifying before both houses of Congress about advances in oral health sciences and describing the ways to support and extend oral health of the public through research and education.

Swift accepted the award on March 15 at the ADEA Annual Session and Exhibition in Phoenix, Ariz.

“I was elated,” says Swift. “I was completely surprised when I learned of this award. This was a team effort. The real heroes are those in the trenches, doing the day-to-day tasks in assuring excellence in dental education. My colleagues at the School of Dentistry who carried the ball for me when I was away are tremendous. I am still walking on air. It was the greatest professional achievement that I could have ever hoped for.”
Dear fellow alumni,

Did you purchase Girl Scout cookies this spring? For many of us, cookies are a spring tradition. Who doesn’t love a box of Thin Mints? We all have traditions like buying Girl Scout cookies. We have family, religious, and even school traditions. They are those things we do on a regular basis, as a time honored practice, passed down year after year or from generation to generation. We participate in them and they give us a sense of connection. We look forward to these traditions and they keep us grounded in who we are and where we’ve been.

You are receiving this issue of Dentistry Magazine because you are part of a 118-year tradition of quality dental education in Minnesota. Dental school has changed a lot over the years, but one inspiring tradition we all remember is much the same as it’s always been: Senior dental and dental hygiene students are preparing for graduation and their traditional walk across the stage at Northrop. It’s an exciting time for these students and their families. And it’s a busy time for the School of Dentistry Alumni Society (SODAS). Each spring, SODAS raises money to pay for the cap and gown expenses and provide scholarships and awards for graduating seniors. These dollars also help underwrite the cost of the Senior Banquet and sponsor the senior yearbook. I encourage you to consider contributing to the Cap and Gown Fund, now in its 12th year. Be a part of what has become our great spring tradition.

Another tradition of spring is the Star of the North Meeting. SODAS will have a booth on the exhibit floor again this year. Stop by, say hello, and find out what is happening at the School of Dentistry. There are many exciting things going on!

After a long, cold Minnesota winter, many of us look forward to a SODAS summer tradition—the annual Golf Classic. Join us on Friday, July 10th for a fun and relaxing day of golf with colleagues, students and friends. The dollars we raise support the programs that SODAS offers throughout the year.

It has been my sincere pleasure to serve as the SODAS president this year and give back to the school. The University of Minnesota School of Dentistry has a strong tradition of providing an outstanding dental education. Stay connected with the School of Dentistry—it is a tradition worth passing down.

Sincerely,

ELIZABETH RYDELL, D.D.S. ’91
President, School of Dentistry Alumni Society
Award-Winning Alumni

Carol Dahlke

2008 Distinguished Dental Hygiene Alumna

Carol Dahlke is a tireless advocate and ambassador for people with special needs and for the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry.

For over two decades, she has been involved with Special Olympics Minnesota and now serves as a clinical director and a coach for the organization. She established and directs the Special Smiles program in Minnesota, a dental screening program at Special Olympics events. Special Olympics is one of the best ways to connect with people with disabilities who are one of the most overlooked groups when it comes to dental care. Dahlke has inspired dental students and practicing dentists to volunteer with Special Smiles. In recognition of her commitment and passion for the cause, Dahlke was selected to travel to Japan and China with the Special Smiles program, the only dental hygienist invited to the World Games.

Dahlke also shares her knowledge, experience and commitment to helping children with special needs. She is a dedicated adjunct clinical instructor, teaching three days a week at the School of Dentistry, and works in private practice in Fridley. She also lectures about working with special needs patients through the school’s continuing dental education programs.

Dahlke graduated from the G.D.H. program in 1984, finished her bachelor’s degree in 2007, and is currently a student in the masters in dental hygiene program, with a focus on management. She serves as secretary/treasurer of the School of Dentistry Alumni Society, chairs the committee running the Golf Classic, and participates in all Alumni Society activities. In appreciation of her continued commitment to the dental health of special needs patients, she received the Outstanding Service Award from Special Olympics Minnesota and the Award of Distinction from the Sunstar Butler RDH Magazine.

Robert J. Isaacson

2008 Distinguished Dental Alumnus

Robert Isaacson is a four-time graduate of the University of Minnesota, with professorial appointments at three schools of dentistry and more than 50 years of scholarly contributions to the profession.

Described as a visionary long before the phrase was popularized, he was instrumental in shaping the research enterprises of the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. From 1963-73, he spearheaded the school’s NIH-funded training program for dentists to earn a Ph.D. in preparation for entry into dental education. He is the former chair of orthodontics under whose tenure 87 students completed their graduate education, including 58 who earned a master’s of science degree and six who earned a Ph.D. in basic science.

In 1977, he was recruited to be a department chair at the University of California-San Francisco and, a decade later, chaired the Department of Orthodontics at the Medical College of Virginia (1987-2001). In 2007, he was named professor emeritus of the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. He is editor of The Angle Orthodontist (since 2000), and is credited for introducing electronic peer review of the journal’s publication process.

Isaacson received his D.D.S. degree in 1956, a master’s of science degree in orthodontics in 1961, and a Ph.D. in anatomy in 1962. Retired in 2001, Isaacson is active as both a lecturer to post-graduate orthodontic students and as a participant at all School of Dentistry-sponsored alumni functions.
### Sister Rosalie Warpeha

**2008 Distinguished Dental Alumna**

Rosalie Warpeha lived her life fully, in faith and in service. Raised in a dental family, she was a dentist, researcher and Marist missionary sister whose name was associated with dental public health in the Caribbean for more than two decades. Warpeha is the first female graduate to receive this award and the only recipient to be posthumously awarded. She died in 2006 at age 64.

Warpeha received her D.D.S. degree in 1972. While in dental school, she participated in a 1971 dental mission in Jamaica on the ship Project HOPE. Later assigned by the Marist sisters to serve in Jamaica, where she was known as “Doctor Sister,” she eventually became the country’s chief dental officer and was internationally recognized for initiating a dramatically effective salt fluoridation program to reduce rampant dental caries. The technique, already proven effective in France and Switzerland, was a cost effective alternative to a massive well water fluoridation program and resulted in an 87.8 percent reduction in decay in six-year-olds, a 94 percent reduction in 12-year-olds, and a 69 percent reduction in 15-year-olds.

Warpeha was also an active participant in the American Dental Association’s Health Volunteers Overseas-Dentistry Overseas (HVO-DO) program, serving in Guyana, Jamaica, Turks and Caicos, and Vietnam, and was a member and chair of the HVO-DO Steering Committee. She also helped advocate for and create a special ADA membership category for dentists who serve full-time for a charitable organization and do not receive an income or salary. Also on her lengthy list of accomplishments is an honorary fellowship in the Academy of Dentistry International and an award recognizing her contributions to dentistry in the Caribbean.
**Class Notes**

*Please submit brief notices about milestone events and activities to: U of M School of Dentistry, Alumni Relations (attn: Annie Pennola Pearson), 515 Delaware St. S.E., 15-136 Moos Tower, Minneapolis, MN 55455 or penn008@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.*

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**1937**  
**Edward C. Englund** (D.D.S.), Prentice, Wis., passed away on July 25, 2008 at the age of 94.

**1938**  
**Sydney Gelmon** (D.D.S.), Vancouver, Canada, passed away on January 8. He served in World War II as part of the Dental Corps of the Canadian Armed Forces, then practiced in Saskatoon. A pioneer of dental techniques for children with special needs, including reconstructive dentistry for children born with cleft palate, he was a founding member of the American Association for Dentistry for the Handicapped in the late 1950's. In 1967, Gelmon joined the first faculty of the College of Dentistry at the University of Saskatchewan, where he taught basics of dentistry to medical and nursing students. Involved in a number of professional, community and cultural organizations, he is the recipient of honorary fellowships in the Royal College of Dentists of Canada and in the International College of Dentists, the “B’nai B’rith Is Proud of You Award” from the Saskatoon B’nai B’rith, and the Paul Harris Award from Rotary.

**1946**  
**William B. Nienaber** (D.D.S), Minneapolis, passed away on January 16. He was a dental student in the years immediately following the bombing of Pearl Harbor and part of a class of students recruited through special military programs to enroll dental and medical students. As a senior dental student, he served as an assistant dental resident intern in the University Hospital, where he treated children hospitalized for chronic illnesses, usually on 24-hour call. He served as a captain in the Army Air Corps at the end of World War II, and later in various volunteer positions, including that of president of the Minnesota Dental Association (1970). He taught at the School of Dentistry, was appointed to the American Dental Association Council on Dental Education, and elected to the International College of Dentistry. In 1983, he received the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry’s prestigious Distinguished Dental Alumni Award.

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**Remembering Our Faculty**  
We share the news about the deaths of our former faculty members. Obituaries of faculty who are alumni of the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry are included in Class Notes.

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**Professor of Operative Dentistry 1979-1999**

**Dr. Chester (Jack) Schultz, Jr.** passed away October 20, 2008 and the School of Dentistry lost a good friend. Schultz was, for decades of students, a beloved mentor and instructor, and for those who had the privilege of knowing and working with him, a respected colleague, a kind and generous friend, and a committed supporter of our school. Schultz was a professor of operative dentistry from 1979 to 1999. He served in the Navy Dental Corps from 1955 to 1979, which included a tour in Vietnam. He was among those who survived the fire aboard the U.S.S. Forestall in 1967, an event which resulted in his early promotion to captain. He was also the executive editor for the Minnesota Dental Association’s member publication *Northwest Dentistry* from 1992 to 1993 which included a chair position of the publications committee. Retired in May 2006, he and his wife, Shirley, established the Dr. and Mrs. Chester Schultz Endowed Scholarship Fund to support dental and dental hygiene student education at the University of Minnesota.

**1950**  
**William R. Bray** (D.D.S.), Grand Rapids, passed away on December 20, 2008.

**1951**  
**Esther Lyons Falk** (D.D.S.), Minneapolis, passed away October 10, 2008. One of Minnesota’s early female dental pioneers, she practiced pediatric dentistry for over 30 years and her example helped to open the field of dentistry to other women.

**1952**  
**Elmer Thiesse** (D.D.S.), Howard Lake, passed away September 12, 2008. He served in the U.S. Navy Seabees during World War II and later graduated from the University of Minnesota with degrees in both civil engineering and dentistry. Thiesse set up practices in Howard Lake and Buffalo, and was mayor of Howard Lake from 1969 to 1978. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi, Omicron Kappa Upsilon, Chi Epsilon and Tau Beta Pi, and served as the chair of his dental class.

**1955**  
**Chester Schultz, Jr.**

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**1959**  
**Steven Ager** (D.D.S.), Stillwater, passed away January 13. A volunteer dentist at the Union Gospel Mission, Ager will be remembered as a kind and loyal friend. He was a respected general dentist in St. Paul for 35 years.

**1971**  
**Richard J. Simonsen** (D.D.S.), Scottsdale, Ariz., was inducted into the International College of Dentists (ICD) at the October 17, 2008 ICD meeting in San Antonio.
1973
Gary C. Cornelison (D.D.S.), Cloquet, passed away March 17 at age 62. He was a member of the Minnesota Air National Guard in Duluth and practiced general dentistry for 35 years in his Duluth Lakeside office. He served as president of the Duluth Chapter of the Academy of General Dentistry and secretary for the Duluth Dental Forum, and was a member of the executive council of the NE District Dental Society. He was also active in a number of community activities. He was past president of the Duluth Amateur Hockey Association and a long-time youth hockey coach. He was active in the Lakehead and Wissota Auto Racing Association and raced in either the hobby stock or super stock divisions for the last 22 years. He was active in his church, and loved to hunt, fish, ski, canoe, snowmobile and spend time at his cabin.

1974
Matt M. Anzelc (D.D.S.), Hibbing, was selected Minnesota Dental Association’s Guest of Honor for the 2009 Star of the North Meeting in St. Paul, April 24-25, 2009.

1976
Gerald E. Hanson (O.M.S.), Las Vegas, Nev., passed away on January 23. An accomplished singer and student of history, aviation and religion, Hanson found his passion in dentistry and was determined to share his talents with others. He was president of the Clark County Dental Society (1982-83), the Nevada State Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (1983-85), the Nevada Dental Association (1987), and the Western Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (1995-96). He was also secretary-treasurer of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (1988-91), and served his adopted home state on the Nevada State Board of Health (1990-95) and as Chief of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Sunrise Hospital (1984-94) and Sunrise Mountain View Hospital (1995-2001). His final service was as a board member of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Foundation where, as chair (2005-07), he created and spearheaded an annual giving campaign that brought in funding research for the specialty.

1977
Leigh C. Anderson (D.D.S.), Oakland, Calif., was appointed associate editor for the Archives of Oral Biology. Anderson is currently professor in the Department of Anatomical Sciences at University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry, and engaged in NIH-funded research in the area of salivary physiology. He also earned a Ph.D. in oral biology from the University of Minnesota in 1979.

1978
Paul Joel Maes (D.D.S.), Helena, Mont., was inducted into the International College of Dentists at the October 17, 2008 ICD meeting in San Antonio.

1979
Robert A. Neill III (D.D.S.), Butte, Mont., was inducted into the International College of Dentists at the October 17, 2008 ICD meeting in San Antonio.

1985
Stephen R. McDonnell (D.D.S.), St. Paul, will receive the Minnesota Dental Association’s Outstanding Service Award at the association’s 2009 Star of the North Meeting in St. Paul, April 24-25, 2009.

1987
Todd A. Mathison (D.D.S.), Hermantown, passed away on Dec. 7, 2008. Mathison practiced orthodontics in Virginia and at the Smile Centers in Deerwood, Savage, Big Lake, Brooklyn Park and Saint Paul. After graduating from the School of Dentistry, he earned his masters in orthodontics from Northwestern University. Mathison was a member of Northland Country Club and Rotary, a coach for mini mite hockey, and a board member and coach for the Duluth Vaxjo (Sweden) Soccer Exchange.

1989
Loren J. Taple (D.D.S.), Eagan, was inducted into the International College of Dentists (ICD) at the October 17, 2008 ICD meeting in San Antonio.

1992
Marty J. Espe (D.D.S.), Duluth, will receive the Minnesota Dental Association’s Humanitarian Service Award at the association’s 2009 Star of the North Meeting in St. Paul, April 24-25, 2009.

2004
Brian F. McDonald (D.D.S.), Hermantown, will receive the Minnesota Dental Association’s New Dentist Leadership Award at the association’s 2009 Star of the North Meeting in St. Paul, April 24-25, 2009.

Graduation 2009:
School of Dentistry Alumni Society Cap & Gown Graduation Fund

The School of Dentistry Alumni Society (SODAS) is continuing its annual fund drive for the 2009 Cap & Gown Graduation Fund! This fund supports graduating dental and dental hygiene students by underwriting the rental of caps and gowns, offering student awards, sponsoring the senior class yearbook, and participating in the Senior Recognition Banquet. Our estimated commitment to the dental and dental hygiene classes of 2009 is $16,000 so your participation is crucial to our success.

The School of Dentistry Alumni Society invites you to be a part of this special project by sponsoring one or more dental or dental hygiene students at $45 (per student). This contribution is tax-deductible and will help to eliminate one financial worry for students as they wrap up their education and focus on final exams, board examination preparation and job searches.

To make your donations, call (612) 625-6164 or visit us online at www.dentistry.umn.edu/alumni/home.html. Contributors will be recognized in Dentistry Magazine and at the Senior Recognition Banquet for students, and your generosity will always be a part of the memories of the Class of 2009’s years at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. Thank you.
A P R I L  2 0 0 9

April 23
School of Dentistry Alumni Society Board Meeting

April 24
Annual Dean’s Reception
5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Saint Paul Hotel
St. Paul, Minn.

For information:
(612) 626-4184

April 24-25
MDA Star of the North Meeting
St. Paul RiverCentre
St. Paul, Minn.

April 23
Pre-session Seminars

For information:
(612) 767-8400

M A Y  2 0 0 9

May 1
University of Minnesota Alumni Association Annual Celebration

Reception and Dinner: 5:30 p.m.
University Recreation Center

Program: 8:00 p.m.
Northrop Auditorium
Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony
featuring the University Symphony Orchestra, combined choirs, and a performance by Dean Billmeyer, organ

For information:
www.alumni.umn.edu

May 14-16
South Dakota Dental Association Annual Session
Sioux Falls Sheraton Inn
and Convention Center
Sioux Falls, S.D.

Alumni Reception
May 15, 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Annual Session information:
(605) 224-9133
Alumni Reception information:
(612) 625-6164

May 13
School of Dentistry Senior Recognition Banquet
(for DDS students, by invitation only)

Awards Ceremony: 5:00 p.m.
Banquet: 6:00 p.m.
Program: 7:00 p.m.
Nicollet Island Pavilion
40 Power Street
Minneapolis, Minn.

For information:
(612) 625-8947

May 15
School of Dentistry Graduation
10:00 a.m.
Northrop Auditorium
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis Campus
Minneapolis, Minn.

Speaker: Howard Bailit, D.M.D., Ph.D.

May 20-22
Montana Dental Association Annual Meeting
Best Western Heritage Inn
Great Falls, Mont.

Annual Session information:
(406) 443-2061

J U L Y  2 0 0 9

July 10
15th 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:
(612) 625-6164

May 13
School of Dentistry Senior Recognition Banquet
(for DDS students, by invitation only)

Awards Ceremony: 5:00 p.m.
Banquet: 6:00 p.m.
Program: 7:00 p.m.
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8:00 a.m. shotgun start
Majestic Oaks Golf Club
701 Bunker Lake Blvd.
Ham Lake, Minn.

For information and registration:
(612) 625-6164

September 17
All School Retreat
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Radisson University Hotel
Minneapolis, Minn.

September 17-19
North Dakota Dental Association Annual Session
Ramada Plaza & Suites
Fargo, N.D.

Alumni Reception: TBD

Annual Session information:
(701) 223-8870

S E P T E M B E R  2 0 0 9

September 17
All School Retreat
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Radisson University Hotel
Minneapolis, Minn.

September 17-19
North Dakota Dental Association Annual Session
Ramada Plaza & Suites
Fargo, N.D.

Alumni Reception: TBD

Annual Session information:
(701) 223-8870

For more information:

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

Julia Cross
(612) 625-7678
cros0183@umn.edu

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

15th Annual Golf Classic
Friday, July 10, 2009

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 10, 2009 at a truly fun event at the Majestic Oaks Golf Club. Enjoy some friendly competition, prizes, and a cookout. Stop by the School of Dentistry Alumni Society booth at the Star of the North Meeting or call (612) 625-6164 for more information. It’s not too early to get your foursome together!
## CDE Courses

### MAY 2009
- **Miniresidency in Pediatric Dentistry**
  May 1-3, 2009
- **Proper Body Mechanics for the Dental Hygienist: A Participation Program**
  May 8, 2009
- **Core Competency Day for the Dental Team**
  May 15, 2009
- **Local Anesthesia: A Hands-On Training Program**
  May 18-20, 2009

### JUNE 2009
- **Dental Hygiene Refresher: A Hands-On Program**
  June 1-5, 2009
- **Practical Periodontics: A Hands-On Nonsurgical Program**
  June 10-12, 2009

### JULY 2009
- **Practical Oral Surgery—Duluth, Minnesota**
  July 18-19, 2009

### AUGUST 2009
- **44th Annual Dental Assistants’ Seminar**
  August 14-15, 2009
- **9th Annual Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Review**
  August 22-23, 2009

### SEPTEMBER 2009
- **Clinical Grand Rounds: Geriatric Dentistry**
  September 10, 2009
- **Fall Dental Hygiene Seminar**
  September 11, 2009
- **Unlocking the Diagnostic Box—Postgraduate Program in Esthetic Dentistry: Level III**
  September 11-14, 2009
- **Biomimetic Restorative Dentistry**
  September 18, 2009
- **Advanced Periodontal Instrumentation: Simulation with Ultrasonic & Hand Instruments**
  September 19, 2009
- **TMD and Orofacial Pain Miniresidency**
  September 21-23, 2009
- **3rd Annual Robert J. Feigel Symposium: Strategies for Improving Children’s Access to Dental Care**
  September 25, 2009
- **Restorative Expanded Functions: An 80-Hour Training Program**
  September 25-27, 2009 (Weekend One)

### OCTOBER 2009
- **Clinical Grand Rounds: Prosthodontics & Implants**
  October 1, 2009
- **Restorative Expanded Functions: An 80-Hour Training Program**
  October 16-18, 2009 (Weekend Two)
- **Recordkeeping Workshop for the Dental Team**
  October 22, 2009
- **Oral Cancer Symposium: Clinical and Scientific Advances 2009**
  October 23, 2009
- **The Endo-Restorative Continuum: A Lecture & Hands-On Program**
  October 24, 2009
- **Office Oral Surgery: A Clinically Guided Participation Course**
  October 26-27, 2009
- **Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Inhalation Sedation: A Training Program**
  October 30-31, 2009

### NOVEMBER 2009
- **Clinical Grand Rounds: Pediatric Prosthodontics**
  November 5, 2009
- **Miniresidency in Nursing Home and Long-Term Care for the Dental Team**
  October 7-10, 2009
- **University Gold Orthodontic Study Club (Session One)**
  October 9, 2009
- **15th Annual Practice Management Symposium: Office Management for a Happier More Profitable Practice**
  October 9, 2009
- **Annual OSHA Training & Infection Prevention: Keeping It Real**
  October 10, 2009
- **Management of the Behaviorally Challenging Patient: A Lecture and Workshop**
  October 16, 2009
- **Restorative Expanded Functions: An 80-Hour Training Program**
  November 20-22, 2009 (Weekend Three)

### DECEMBER 2009
- **Clinical Grand Rounds: Pediatric Prosthodontics**
  November 5, 2009
- **Practical Pharmacology**
  November 6, 2009
- **Winter Dental Assistants’ Seminar**
  November 7, 2009
- **University Gold Orthodontic Study Club (Session Two)**
  November 13, 2009
- **Postgraduate Program in Esthetic Dentistry: Level I—Lecture/Laboratory Series**
  November 13-15, 2009 (Weekend One)
- **Postgraduate Program in Esthetic Dentistry: Level II—Patient Series**
  November 13-15, 2009 (Weekend One)
- **Restorative Expanded Functions: An 80-Hour Training Program**
  November 20-22, 2009 (Weekend Three)

### For more information and to register for classes, contact:
**Continuing Dental Education**
6-406 Moos HS Tower
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Minneapolis, MN 55455
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(612) 625-1418 or (800) 685-1418
**Fax:**
(612) 624-8159
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$10 discount for on-line registrations. Please access our secure Web site at [www.dentalce.umn.edu](http://www.dentalce.umn.edu).
Dear Friends,

During the course of the year, I sign letters to each of the more than one thousand contributors to personally thank them for their support of the School of Dentistry. It is gratifying for me to see their names, again, in this list of donors for the 2008 calendar year, and to publicly thank every one of them for their generous support.

Our donors have chosen to be philanthropic—to share their own financial means to benefit someone else, to make an impact, to help make positive change. All of us at the School of Dentistry are grateful to those whose gifts have helped us achieve our mission.

Gentleman faculty, alumni and friends also made significant commitments to endow funds that perpetuate their support for a variety of special purposes that benefit our students, faculty and patients. Many also designated their annual fund gifts to benefit a specific purpose. To those who designated your gift for the Dentistry Dean's Fund for Achievement, I extend a special thanks for providing a source of funds that I can invest in unanticipated opportunities to support student, faculty and alumni activities.

During 2009, we will prepare for campaigns to support special initiatives. Please consider these initiatives that matter to you and make an investment in strengthening our school for the future.

Thank you for your generous support in 2008. I hope you will renew your support in 2009 and that many more new names will appear with yours in the list of donors in next year's report.

Sincerely,

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

We strive for accuracy when preparing these lists and apologize for any errors that may appear. We invite you to notify the Development Office at (612) 625-1657 to make any corrections.

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Since her first appointment as an instructor in 1972, Maria Pintado, B.S. ’72, M.P.H. ’86 has been dedicated to improving methods and techniques of instruction for dental assisting, dental hygiene, and dental students. She has been a faculty member of the Minnesota Dental Research Center for Biomaterials and Biomechanics for nearly three decades. Grateful for all of the kindness and help offered to her as a student and faculty member, and in appreciation for her career in dentistry, she established an endowed fund to provide an annual scholarship to a dental student based on financial need and an interest in public health or community dentistry.
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Dr. Dennis Theis (D.D.S. '71, M.S. '89) and his wife, Dr. Ann Fromoll-Theis (D.D.S. '76), have made a future estate commitment to establish an endowed fund that will support research and education activities in the division of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology. They made the gift in appreciation of their dental educations and in recognition of Dennis’s academic advisor, Dr. Ramesh Kubla, and Ann’s academic advisor, Dr. Heddie Sedano. Their generous commitment has been recognized by enrollment in the Heritage Society of the University of Minnesota Presidents Club.

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DENTISTRY SPRING 2009

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Alice Yamane established an endowed fund in honor of her late husband, Dr. George Yamane, an alumnus, educator, researcher, and a mentor for many students. The fund will support student research activities in the Division of Oral Medicine, which Dr. Yamane chaired during most of the 1960s. Mrs. Yamane is pleased to be able to continue Dr. Yamane's legacy as an influential contributor to the mission of the School of Dentistry and the dental profession.
I’m a member.
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When you’re a member of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, you’re an ambassador for all the important work the University does. I’m an ambassador because the School of Dentistry graduates dental professionals who provide the highest quality of care and service to the people of Minnesota and the world.

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You are cordially invited to the

Dean’s Recognition Reception

Celebrating Dentistry with Patrick M. Lloyd, Dean of the School of Dentistry

When & Where

Friday, April 24, 2009
5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
The Saint Paul Hotel • 350 Market Street, St. Paul

Appetizers & a cash bar will be available.
Disability accommodations will be provided upon request.

Honoring the Winners of

Distinguished Dental Alumnus Award
Sister Rosalie Warpeha and Robert J. Isaacson

Distinguished Dental Hygiene Alumna Awards
Carol Dahlke

42nd Annual Century Club Professor of the Year Award
To be announced

For More Information or to RSVP:
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