Discovering the Future of Dental Medicine
Discovering the Future of Dental Medicine
A school for the next 50 years

Dean Goldberg meets with Chris Panichi (L) and Mike Carter (R) of Stantec Architects on the design of the new building.

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CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

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Periodic major campaigns are important to securing and defining the future of institutions such as Case Western Reserve University. If alumni, students, friends and the public want institutions of higher learning to be relevant and centers of excellence, they should have a collective responsibility to help provide the support to allow the institutions to do those things.

The same is true for our School of Dental Medicine. We have undertaken a major campaign to upgrade the facilities at the school and we need your support. These changes are not being done to address neglect. Far from it. It is precisely because of our success, as a highly focused, educationally innovative and fiscally responsible institution that we must invest in the future and our continued pursuit of excellence. This campaign is designed to bring the School of Dental Medicine into the 21st century and to be cutting edge for the next 50 years. A proposed new building, some details of which you will see in the pages of the magazine, is going to be built on a foundation of extraordinary success. But it will also be the vessel that will house future success, in the areas of:

- Research—we endeavor to continue to build a world-class research enterprise
- Vision—we are actively building a vision for the dental education and practice model for the future
- Growth—we continue to grow our faculty and staff, both in terms of numbers and quality

Adding to our physical space is essential to maintaining this trajectory of growth. But it is not simply a matter of making the building bigger. It is a matter of having a building that accurately represents our identity as a school with a strong commitment to education, patient care, community service and research.

We are not waiting for a new building to continue our relentless pursuit of excellence. This month, the Broadbent Institute for Craniofacial Care and Research will open. It is the first of its kind in a dental school, allowing us to serve underprivileged and special-needs patients; The Oral Surgery program at MetroHealth Hospital has been merged to form one Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery housed at our school, growing the department to an unprecedented number of residents. Our Community Dentistry Department is offering a post-doctoral master’s degree in public health. The campaign to build a state-of-the-art dental school will be the physical manifestation of those and future, worthy endeavors.

Perhaps the most important aspect of any campaign—aside from a vision that brings us to greatness—is the feedback from constituents. We welcome your continued feedback as we go through the process of expanding the school. Please let me know your thoughts. Together we can build a school for the ages—and the future.

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Lose the fat and improve the gums, CWRU dental researchers find

By Susan Griffith

Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine researchers found the human body is better at fighting gum disease when fat cells, which trigger inflammation, disappear.
Findings from a pilot study of 31 obese people with gum disease indicate that half of the group, with an average body mass index (BMI) of 39, had gastric bypass surgery and had fat cells from the abdomen removed. That half fared better than a control group of obese people with a BMI of 35 who also were treated for gum disease, but did not have the gastric bypass surgery or fat removed.

What intrigued the researchers is that the majority of those who underwent surgery had a drop in their glucose levels after the procedure, a result that bodes well for overweight people predisposed to diabetes and insulin-related problems.

All study participants underwent nonsurgical periodontal treatments of scaling/root planing and oral hygiene instructions for home care. While both groups showed improvement, the surgery group did even better on the measures for periodontal attachment, bleeding, probing depths and plaque levels.

Inflammation that continues to brew in the body can have harmful effects over time, and inflammation from gum disease can erode bone and cause tooth loss. It can also cause breaks in the gums where harmful oral bacteria can enter the blood stream. Such bacteria have been linked to preterm birth, fetal death, heart disease, diabetes and arthritis, said Nabil F. Bissada, D.D.S., M.S.D., chair of the department of periodontics at Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine.

Dr. Bissada is the lead author of the study, “Response to periodontal therapy in subjects who had weight loss following bariatric surgery and obese counterparts: a pilot study,” published in the Journal of Periodontology.

This study raises two hypotheses about why the surgery group improved.

The first theory is that excessive fat cells (adipocytes) secrete more cytokines (such as TNFα and IL-6) which make insulin more resistant to doing its function. As a result more hyperglycemia occurs. Losing weight, therefore, makes insulin less resistant and improves the diabetic status. This in turn helps in the response to periodontal treatment.

The other theory relates to the presence of the leptin hormone that regulates appetite. Leptin plays a role in regulating metabolism and has been linked to inflammation by increasing the production of cytokines and the –C-reactive protein, which is also linked to inflammation. Dr. Bissada said leptin production was reduced after bariatric surgery and may be one explanation for the better outcomes in the periodontal treatment.

The researchers say their next step will be to conduct a longitudinal study to support their preliminary findings.

Contributing to the study were Dima Lakkis, Sena Narendran and Leena Palomo, ’00, ’04, Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine; Alan Saber and Leena Khaitan, University Hospitals/Case Medical Center; and Mohammad Al-Zahrani, King Abdulaziz University.
The following awards were presented to undergraduate students:

- First honors—SCADA Award (American Dental Association’s Student Clinicians undergraduate award) for Table Clinic Presentation: Nicole Apollon-Chirouze, who won an all-expense-paid trip to San Francisco for the American Dental Association convention in October, where the winners compete in a national competition.

- First podium award—Gunther M. Hans Award for Presentations from Platform: Velizar Petrov

- Second award—Omicron Kappa Upsilon national honorary dental fraternity: Robert Appel, who won a certificate and $500

- Second honors—Basic, Clinical or Community Science Presentation award: first place: N ate Buckner and Brian Cope; second place: Michael Davis

- Vibeke K. Nygaard Award: Emma A. Schmidt

Two graduate students also were recognized:

- Dr. Nabil Bissada Graduate Student Award—first award: Ryan L. Reese; second award—Ahmed Alzahran

This year’s efforts were financially supported by 27 dental vendors.

The School of Dental Medicine held its 32nd annual Professional’s Day March 28, a day dedicated to student achievement in dentistry. Throughout the day, undergraduate dental students present their research projects to the faculty and their peers and then compete for a variety of awards. Graduate students also present their research on Professional’s Day.

**Students and their creative fund raising**

The Class of 2012 set a $2,500 fund raising goal to assist them with funding their Senior Awards Dinner. “The idea was from classes in the past who have done clothing sales, but this year we decided to add more designs than just plain logos. I asked for ideas from our class on what to have printed on the t-shirts, and we voted on our favorite designs,” said Brittany Andress. One of the favorites was the “It’s Been So Lovely” t-shirt, which was a fitting representation of how the class felt their time has been here at CWRU. It is also a phrase that one of their beloved professors, Dr. Roma Jasinevicius ’76 says at the end of each class.

All the shirt designs sold out and the class ended up raising $3,000. The extra money allowed them to have a photographer at the Senior Awards Dinner in April.

“The fundraiser was well received – everyone loved the variety in the clothing that we offered this year, and our ‘It’s Been So Lovely’ shirt was a huge success!” stated Brittany.
Craniofacial Center opens its doors to care for special-needs patients

ALUMNI PARTNER WITH THE SCHOOL TO MAKE THE CENTER A REALITY

There are many underserved and special-needs patients, particularly children, in the Cleveland area who suffer from moderate to severe craniofacial issues. Mindful of this, and as a centerpiece of the school’s mission to serve the community, the long-awaited craniofacial imaging center opened at the School of Dental Medicine in mid-June. Two other key components of providing world-class care in this realm are a new fellowship in craniofacial care and an investment in new technology, specifically the purchase of a CBCT machine from Carestream, our corporate partner.

The realization of these innovations and the reality of bringing the center to fruition are the result of years of work and planning. They are also the result of the foresight and generosity of a number of alumni. Here we feature three who each have played a major role.

Gift memorializes two mentors

Dr. Beattie, who was in private practice in Florida for many years and is now retired, explains that his gift included a cash donation and legacy gift of $100,000. Dr. Beattie’s contribution to the building and upgrade of the craniofacial center data repository “has given me the satisfaction of being a part of the memorializing of my mentors, Drs. B. Holly Broadbent, Sr., ’19, and Jr., ’52. I gave the eulogy for the junior Dr. Broadbent,” he explains. “This gift helps me to preserve my mentors’ memory.”

Dr. Beattie hopes that his gift will also help the School of Dental Medicine to continue “functioning as a fountainhead of knowledge,” he says. “I want the CWRU School of Dental Medicine to become the magnet for research, an enterprise that was started by the Drs. Broadbent, and which will continue with the improvements in the orthodontics imaging center.

“This trajectory has continued under the leadership of Dr. [Mark] Hans, ’79, ’81,” he continues. “Dr. Hans has framed it and has created a world-class record-storage facility.” Finally, says Dr. Beattie, “The repository will remain exactly where it belongs. It was visionary for the CWRU dental school to create it, and to continue in this role. Most of all,” he says, “my gift stems from the fact that at the school of dental medicine, the right things are being done by the right people.”

Dentistry—a ‘dream life’

Dr. Hylan contributed more than $35,000 in equipment, which included three treatment delivery systems and other equipment from his company, Clevedent. He says that he decided to contribute now “because this is just something I wanted to do. I am thankful for having had the opportunity to become a dentist. And this is my way of thanking the people at CWRU for the opportunity.” He adds, “My life has been very good and I am thankful every day. I have had the opportunity to live a dream life because of dentistry. By contributing, you’re helping other people … and if I could help somebody to live a life of their dreams, then that would be very exciting.”

It wasn’t all roses, however, says Dr. Hylan. “Ironically, what resonates with me about my experience at CWRU is how crazy the grading system was when I was in school (by the way, I understand they have changed the grading system). I couldn’t wait to get out. I hated school. I wanted to quit. However, once I got into private practice, I realized what a great education I received there.

Jack Beattie, D.D.S., M.S., ’63

Bradley W. Hylan, D.D.S., ’79
"I feel that our education was better than many other dental schools," says Dr. Hylan. "The faculty at CWRU taught me how to think about problems and clinical situations. I had professors who explained to me that what I was learning would be out of date or changed in 5 to 10 years. Therefore, I needed to be able to analyze a problem or situation and figure out a solution. This was, to a degree, how I came up with our treatment delivery system and workstations."

Dr. Hylan explains that as far as friends’ and colleagues’ response to his gift to the school, "they are very impressed, though I don’t really care about that. But ... they are impressed. And my wife Susan (Tabakin, WRC ’77) ... She loves to tell people about our donation."

"When I was in dental school one of the best professors was Ronald Occhionero, D.D.S., ’61 (now associate dean for administration). Yet I doubt that many of my classmates appreciated his genius. Dr. Occhionero taught us about systems in a dental office and how to run an office. Even today, I am not sure that the students truly realize what they have at CWRU."

"The school has a great teaching system," he adds. "Having a system can make the difference between having a good life and a dream life. It is subtle... but it is also huge. By donating our treatment delivery systems, I am hoping to make a difference in how doctors are able to practice. What we donated is not just equipment ... it’s an entire system that allows the doctor to practice efficiently and effortlessly."

**Technology standardizes outcomes**

According to Dr. Shellard, chief marketing officer & director of business development for Carestream Dental in Atlanta, the CBCT machine is intended to “provide graduate students with the ability to experience an improved level of technological and diagnostic excellence.” He notes that being able to work and learn in a 3-D environment can revolutionize teaching and ultimately, clinical practice.

“The added dimension of the Carestream CBCT tool will help residents and fellows do a better job in their clinics,” he says. "If they can see procedures more clearly, it is hoped that this will improve their technique and standardize outcomes. The third dimension in this environment adds so much to patient care as well," says Dr. Shellard. What this really means is that improved outcomes yield care that is more predictable. "Using the 3-D technology, there is less guesswork for the clinician," says Dr. Shellard. "For example, in a 2-D scenario, you can’t know the full clinical situation until you actually get into the case. This technology can mitigate that type of risk. This improves care, and gives patients reassurance and improves their confidence in the competence of the clinician."

This competence is born of great teaching, something Dr. Shellard feels he received in abundance at CWRU. "When I was looking at dental schools, I was accepted at a number of places," he explains. "However, CWRU had one of the best environments, it was very collegial. I had a very positive experience when I came here to study. First, I had a superior clinical learning experience. You are exposed to so much at this school. I felt very confident going into private practice when I graduated."

"In addition," he says, "when I spoke with colleagues who had gone to other schools, many of them did not have such a positive experience. This is why I want to give back to the school, to continue that experience for others. And I would like to add that the fact that Dean Goldberg, Dr. Hans, and the school are working so hard to bring this technology to the students speaks to the school and the dedication of the staff and faculty."
Discovering the Future of Dental Medicine
Concept turning into reality as expansion of dental school takes shape

Building a school for the ages—and for the future

BY MARGARET MULLIGAN

The Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine has retained the services of Stantec Architects as the lead firm to design the school’s expansion project. According to Dean Jerold Goldberg, D.D.S., ’70, “Stantec impressed the school’s architectural review committee—which comprises faculty, dental students, alumni, staff, and university administrators—with their innovative design proposals, attention to detail, and responsiveness to the practical and esthetic considerations of the project.”
The firm has a great deal of experience with academic and laboratory buildings, including projects for CWRU. The firm recently completed the Robbins Hall Laboratory renovation in 2009 and the Leutner Hall renovation and addition in 2010. Both projects were successful, coming in on time and on budget. The firm has also worked with other universities’ lab and academic spaces, including those at Harvard University School of Dental Medicine (research and education building), University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine (15,000-square-foot renovation), Dartmouth Medical School, the University of Michigan, the University of California-Davis, Binghamton University, and the University of Columbia. The project will be managed out of the firm’s Beachwood, Ohio, office.

**Productive relationship**

For their part, the architectural firm found working with the CWRU representatives to be a unique experience. “We’ve forged a very productive working relationship with the dental school,” says Michael Carter, AIA, LEED AP, project manager. “Using a process that we call the ‘Discovery Workshop,’ we have done many laboratory and school builds. But none of them were quite like what we discovered at CWRU. The process went to the next level, thanks to the interactions we had with the labs’ principal investigators [PIs], the Dean, and other key players. These discussions brought a great deal of insight into our creative process.

**Can a building have a personality?**

It can, if the right team is doing the design. When asked to summarize the project in a few words, the team from Stantec/Burt Hill offered these adjectives:

- Intense
- Sensitive
- Flexible
- A “kind” presence

This is a concept drawing. Please provide your ideas and feedback to us before the design is finalized at dentalalumni@case.edu.
“The entire CWRU group has been very open with us from the beginning,” he continues. “This has tempered how we design the space. For example, the team was transparent about their needs, and the issues that face the school from a design standpoint. At the same time, we feel that as a team, we worked with the people from CWRU to create a structure that will be an iconic presence on the CWRU campus. In addition, it will be a flexible, yet sensitive, intense, and almost a kind presence.”

On that last point, Project Architect Christopher Panichi, AIA, explains that while the proposed building will have a dynamic, iconic presence and will be much more visible from Cornell Road, it will be a structure that will work with the surrounding buildings and green space. “While we needed to create a building that will be visible and functional, particularly for the labs,” says Panichi, “we wanted to remain sensitive to the surroundings and to create green space on the ‘fifth façade,’ that is, the roof.”

The design
Dean Goldberg adds that the expansion, currently proposed as a two-story, 36,000-square-foot addition to the school, will address two major objectives: First, provide a dynamic and vital space to enhance the student, faculty, and clinical experiences. “It will represent a visible presence for the school, one that we can be proud of and will anchor the school as a prominent feature on the university’s Health Sciences Campus,” he explains. The second objective is to provide a flexible space “that can adapt to the school’s growing research enterprise. Our research in the biological sciences and public health arenas has grown at such a rate that the present infrastructure is insufficient to house our research initiatives. We are literally out of space,” adds the Dean. With an eye on the future, Dean Goldberg adds that “while one floor will be dedicated to research, the first floor will be used as a swing space as we prepare to renovate the D.M.D. and specialty clinics as a ‘phase two’ project.”

In addition, the design is intended to “enhance research, excite the current PIs, and attract top talent top-flight PIs,” says Panichi. “It’s intrinsically an interesting building. And even with all the detail we’ll provide in our design specs, there are some mysteries, if you will, going forward. For example, right now, we don’t know what the future use will be for the first floor. Therefore, the design must remain flexible. The second floor is labs, but even there, the space and design must remain flexible, to accommodate future needs for the next 30 to 50 years.”

The future
Carter points out that while there is no plan to create a bridge between the dental school and other buildings now, this feature is anticipated. So the design, again, will be forward-thinking and flexible enough to accommodate this in the future. Any design, present or future, will enhance the connectivity of the people using the space, he adds. “The design challenges we encountered in this project were opportunities for us to fit together the pieces of an exciting puzzle,” says Carter. “We are confident that the school’s constituencies will find the new school design to be one that is as iconic and forward-thinking as the people who make up the school itself.”

Dean Goldberg amplifies this point, noting that even a state-of-the-art lab is only going to be viable if it is used by world-class research teams. “We have those individuals now at the school; this upgrade will be a space that is worthy of their talents,” he says. “And going forward, the improved space—along with the research leaders we already have here at the school of dental medicine—will serve to attract the best and brightest researchers, faculty, and students.”
Case Western Reserve University not only supports more than 2,600 full-time faculty who conduct research, but also about 6,000 graduate and professional school students. Hundreds of associates on university staff are actively involved in inquiry and discovery, crossing disciplines from energy and origins to biomedicine and sustainability, to name a few.

The announcement of the fundraising campaign for the new building is also driven by the School of Dental Medicine’s five-year strategic plan. A primary goal is the continued growth of the size and influence of our research program.

A growing body of research demonstrates the link between oral health and whole body well-being. Noteworthy clinical and research advancements have positioned the School of Dental Medicine as an epicenter of knowledge about the relationship between oral health and infectious diseases, AIDS, preterm birth, heart disease and stroke, health disparities, health delivery systems, and more. These discoveries have helped advance frontiers of knowledge related to the prevention and treatment of diseases that extend well beyond the traditional boundaries of dental medicine.

As a result of its forward-looking, holistic, systems-based approach to dentistry as an integral component of overall health, the School of Dental Medicine is increasingly engaging in interdisciplinary projects with the research faculty of the School of Medicine and beyond.

The School of Dental Medicine has nurtured a research enterprise that continues to grow, even in spite of today’s highly competitive landscape for National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding. Building on considerable success, the school seeks to further develop its research program in focused areas that represent the best alignment of program resources, as well as opportunities for interdisciplinary collaborations within Case Western Reserve and the research community at large.

The research program is pursuing national prominence in focal areas such as:

- Microbiology, immunology, and infectious diseases;
- Access to dental healthcare services and disparities research;
- Emerging areas such as biomaterials and craniofacial imaging.

One of the School of Dental Medicine’s research goals is to further move toward evidence-based research. The combination of increased field work and longitudinal research—following a study population across time—will help to advance dentistry from being a reactive specialty toward a proactive discipline, one that better understands environmental, behavioral, and genetic causes of oral diseases, which will in turn allow for proactive, preventive oral health measures for individuals and communities.
Dual program and fellowship in dentistry, public health, now available at CWRU
The Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine is quickly becoming a center for dental public health training thanks to new academic programs spearheaded by Dr. Sena Narendran. The school is now offering a dual-degree program in dental medicine and public health (DMD/MPH), a residency program, and a fellowship. These programs will be implemented within the next few months.

Each of the first two programs is funded for five years by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), to the combined amount of nearly $2.6 million. The residency program will be the only HRSA-funded program of its type in the United States for the next few years. Further, it will be one of only two dental public health training programs in the Midwest.

There is an immediate need for public health dentists. There were 4,438 Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas (DHPSA) in the United States as of February 2012. Nearly 48 million people live in the DHPSAs. The number of Americans without dental insurance is more than 130 million and about 17 million low-income children visit the dentist less often than once a year. Among children aged two years of age and older only 45 percent had a dental visit during a 12-month period. Of the 60 DHPSAs in the State of Ohio, 10 of them are located in Cuyahoga County. It is anticipated that most of the CWRU-trained dental public health professionals will choose to work in the local or national underserved areas.

The advanced education/residency program in dental public health at CWRU has three tracks to meet different candidate’s needs:

- one year full-time,
- two year part-time, and
- two year full-time

The first two tracks are for dentists with an accredited master’s degree in public health (MPH); the last track is for dentists without an MPH or equivalent degree. Students in this track will primarily be working towards the accredited MPH program at the CWRU School of Medicine during the first year of the residency program and will be primarily engaged in the dental public health residency activities at the School of Dental Medicine during the second year. Those successfully completing the advanced education/residency program will be educationally qualified to take the examination of the American Board for Dental Public Health (ABDPH).

The length of the DMD/MPH dual degree curriculum is five years, one of which is dedicated to MPH courses. The MPH dedicated year can be taken before beginning the DMD program, between the first and second DMD years, or between the second and third DMD years. Other options will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The objectives of the 12-month dental public health fellowship program are to provide didactic instruction in dental public health including research methods, opportunities to participate in oral health promotion activities in underserved areas, and extramural experiences at public health agencies.

The HRSA funding will provide eligible dental public health residents and DMD-MPH students financial support for tuition, stipend, and student health insurance during their public health training years. Trainees will also receive travel funding to attend a national meeting and to extramural clinics for their public health practicum.

For additional information about any of the dental public health training programs, please contact the director, Dr. Sena Narendran (216.368.1311/sxn100@case.edu) or the program assistant, Ms. Wendy Beins (216.368.6737/ wxb103@case.edu).
Generosity of friends, alumni, grow the School of Dental Medicine

We are so grateful to our Alumni; your generosity continues to help all departments in the School of Dental Medicine to offer innovative and exciting educational experiences. Alumni funds supported the purchase of new high-end computers for manipulating CBCT images and research, as well as the new 1,500-square-foot Broadbent Institute for Craniofacial Care and Research. This, along with the Case Imaging Center, represents an investment of more than $500K to support craniofacial care—thanks to the Orthodontic Alumni Endowment funds and the SODM.

We also have a new, accredited Craniofacial, Surgical and Special Needs Orthodontic fellowship. Dr. Manish Valiathan, Craniofacial Fellowship Director, says the first fellow should be named later this year. Pioneering efforts by Drs. Dale Baur and Faisal Quereshy merged the former Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Residency at Metro Hospital with the UH and VA hospital programs at CWRU SODM, creating a new training program. It allows residents to have the broadest range of clinical experience in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in the USA. Dr. Fady Faddoul, AEGD Program Director and Vice Chair of the Department of Comprehensive Care, expanded his department’s international impact with a new agreement with RAMBAM University in Haifa, Israel.

We are also pleased to announce a new graduate program in Dental Public Health, under the direction of Dr. Sena Narendran. With more than 65 residents and fellows enrolled in 12 graduate education experiences, we are proud of the role graduate dental education plays in the future of the SODM.

Residency program has strength in numbers and quality

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RESIDENTS WHO GRADUATED THIS JUNE FROM THE PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY PROGRAM

Kari Cunningham, D.M.D., ’10, plans on practicing in Cleveland. Kari says, “I have learned that patience, wanting to educate patients and their families about oral health and hygiene and great chairside manner are key elements in a successful pediatric dental career. Having parents trust me, respect me and work with me as I aim to help their child achieve oral health and wellness is a wonderful feeling. I am happy to have been able to serve the community in which I was raised.” Kari will be fulfilling her commitment to the National Health Service Corps in a community health clinic in Cleveland, OH.

Tracy Davies, D.M.D., will be practicing in Michigan.

Jack Gerstenmaier III, D.M.D., ’10, will be joining the practice of his father, John Gerstenmaier, Jr., D.D.S., ’75, in Akron, Ohio.

Rebecca Goldberg, D.M.D., will be moving to Colorado to open her practice.

Amberlee Taylor, D.M.D., ’08, says she plans to associate while working to open her own practice in 2013.

We would also like to acknowledge Mashahiro Heima, D.M.D., who has served as a part-time faculty member and resident. His plans now, he says, are to “go back to the regular faculty job, doing research, teaching, and so on. But I’d also like to work with unique children, such as children who are afraid of the dentist, children who live in socioeconomically disadvantaged families or children who are culturally different [from the mainstream].”

We wish them all well in their future endeavors.
ORTHODONTIC

‘Skull-diggery’ at Manot Cave continues to yield insights on craniofacial development, human evolution

Last year, Case Western Reserve University dental students and researchers traveled to Israel to make a house call on their oldest patient yet—ancestors who lived between 300,000 and 20,000 BP (before present). They were particularly interested in the skull, considered one of the most complete fossils of an early human skull. The cave, in Manot, Israel, in the western Galilee area, was opened in 2008 after being sealed for 20,000 years. The dig has been going on for more than a year.

The ongoing excavations are likely to reveal even more evidence about human evolution. This is important, say the researchers, as the dates identified in the cave bracket the times when modern humans and Neanderthals occupied Israel. "It has been said that 'Israel is the 'bus stop' of human evolution," notes Bruce Latimer, Ph.D., recently appointed as professor of orthodontics at the school of dental medicine. "This is because in order to leave Africa, early humans had to go through Israel," he adds. "This cave has huge potential." Dr. Latimer is a lead researcher on the project, as is Mark Hans, D.D.S., M.S.D., '79, '81, chairman of the department of orthopedics. Dr. Latimer has also collaborated with Israel Hershkovitz from the University of Tel Aviv’s anatomy department.

ENDODONTICS

Faculty members recognized by peers, published in journals

Anita Aminoshariae, D.D.S., M.S., '99, assistant professor, and director of predoctoral endodontics, was recently named as district director for the American Association of Endodontics (district IV). She has also been appointed as a representative for the endodontic section of the American Dental Education Association. In outlining her motivation to serve in these capacities, she explains, "I have heard from many dental organization members who have had concerns that organized dental groups don’t ‘represent’ them. They may also feel that an organization ‘doesn’t do anything for me,’ or ‘all they do is take my money.’"

“If we don’t work together within organized dentistry, we will have no collective voice or power to make the changes our patients need and want,” says Dr. Aminoshariae. “So while you may get upset that a television advertisement incorrectly sends information to patients that dental x-rays cause cancer, or that others may try to voice their opinions on how an endodontist should run his or her practice, if we don’t join our professional organizations, then we may as well take our gloves off and let others dictate the future of our profession – and our own individual practices.

Dr. Aminoshariae is a member of the ADA, AAE, the Ohio Dental Association (ODA), Ohio Association of Endodontists, the Greater Cleveland Dental Society (GCDS), and the Cochrane Oral Health Group. She has also served as ambassador, AAE Foundation (2009-2010). She has served as Editor, GCDS Bulletin (2009-2012); Secretary/Treasurer, GCDS (2012-2013); Alternate Delegate, ODA; Director, District IV, AAE; member, National Board Endodontics Test Construction Committee for Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations; Chair, ADEA Endodontic Section; member, Scientific Advisory Board, Journal of Endodontics and the Journal of the American Dental Association.


Dr. Montagnese also was a featured speaker at the 2012 Annual Meeting for the American Association of Endodontists in Boston, MA. His topic was “How to incorporate intravenous moderate sedation into your endodontic practice." The session was designed to present a nuts-and-bolts approach to incorporating intravenous moderate sedation in endodontic practice. Dr. Montagnese discussed the advantages for providing this service and reviewed state dental board requirements, training, equipment and supplies. He also described how this service is managed in his private practice and in the graduate endodontic clinic at Case Western Reserve University’s School of Dental Medicine. The session offered continuing education credits, and had these objectives, whereby participants would:

- Compile a list of supplies, monitors and drugs necessary to provide intravenous moderate sedation.
- Determine how to schedule and implement moderate sedation cases in the office.
- Locate state dental board requirements for providing intravenous moderate sedation.
The Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) program is a one-year experience with a major emphasis in clinical general dentistry designed to provide the resident with training beyond that received in the pre-doctoral curriculum. Formal courses, seminars and literature review, as well as one week of “on call” per month, enhance the resident’s ability to handle dental and medical emergencies encountered in every day practice.

The AEGD program provides the resident the opportunity to deliver the highest quality of comprehensive dental care to the broadest range of the population with a knowledge, comfort, and ease in treating the high risk patient and under-served segment of the population including: HIV/AIDS, medically compromised, physically handicapped, and geriatric populations with considerable experience in implantology and full mouth rehabilitation.

The AEGD program enables the resident to become proficient in diagnosis and treatment planning for the more challenging and complex cases to identify and treat many medical and/or dental emergencies encountered in every day dental practice. The AEGD program introduces the resident to the basic concepts of hospital dentistry and help them interact with their medical colleagues and other health care providers to integrate medical and dental care.

A planned gift to the CWRU School of Dental Medicine makes a lasting statement for the next generation of dentists. It can also provide immediate benefits for you and your family.

To start a confidential conversation about making provisions in your estate plan for the school, contact 855.368.GIFT (4438) or giftplan@cwru.edu

An investment in your school and the future of dental medicine – IT’S THE RIGHT CHOICE.
Congratulations on your retirement Hanka Brown

Retiring from work often means a brand new phase and style of life. It usually is a time of new ventures, more leisure, and either a greater variety of activities or a quieter routine with increased reflection. We congratulate Hanka Brown on her retirement after 21 years of service to Case Western Reserve University and the School of Dental Medicine. On June 28th, the student council hosted a retirement party for Hanka to celebrate this next phase of her life. Hanka says she still awakens at 6:00 a.m. but can now roll over and go back to sleep. Although she will miss the interaction with the students, she now has the opportunity to be more involved in the lives of her grandchildren and spend more time with retired husband, Jim. With a happy look on her face, Hanka states, “Having a job you enjoy is great, but it’s now time to be home with the hubby.”

The American Dental Education Association has tapped the talents of a CWRU faculty member, Michael A. Landers, ’76, associate professor in the department of oral diagnosis and radiology. He was named vice-president for sections of the ADEA.

The American Association for Dental Research (AADR) awarded the 2012 William B. Clark Fellowship in Clinical Research to Leena B. Palomo, ’00, ’04, assistant professor in the department of periodontics. The award was presented at the AADR annual meeting in Tampa, Florida, in March. Dr. Palomo’s research interests center on the effect of bisphosphonates on the periodontium in post-menopausal women. This award will allow Dr. Palomo to further her work and experience in using multiplex ELISA testing for serum inflammatory cytokines and checkerboard DNA-to-DNA hybridization techniques.

She will also collect subgingival biofilm and crevicular fluid samples from a population of otherwise healthy postmenopausal women diagnosed with periodontitis who are using bisphosphonate therapy for the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis. She will also collect samples from demographically matched postmenopausal women who do not use such therapy. Microbial species and cytokine response between the two groups will be compared.

The fellowship award was established in memory of William B. Clark and is supported by P&G Professional Oral Health, Crest Oral-B. The award recognizes investigators carrying out clinical research in periodontology.
Faculty & Staff Service Milestones

Your service anniversary at the CWRU School of Dental Medicine is a celebration of service excellence and an occasion to honor your dedication. We offer congratulations on reaching this special milestone and thank you for your dedication to the excellence that makes the dental school great. Years of service as of December 2011.

Roma Jasinevicius – Comprehensive Care – 35 years
Michael Landers – Oral Diagnosis – 35 years
Mark Hans – Orthodontics – 30 years
Roger Williams – Comprehensive Care – 30 years
Carolyn Reid – Community Dentistry – 25 years
James Spence – Dean’s Office – 25 years
Leslie Gartner – Comprehensive Care – 20 years
Suchitra Nelson – Community Dentistry – 20 years
Hussein Assaf – Comprehensive Care – 15 years
James Lalumandier – Community Dentistry – 15 years
André Mickel – Endodontics – 15 years
Danny Sawyer – Oral Diagnosis – 15 years
Manish Valiathan – Orthodontics – 15 years
Irene Costaras-Vasilakis – Comprehensive Care – 10 years
Edward D’Alessandro – Comprehensive Care – 10 years
Kimberly Drake – Comprehensive Care – 10 years
Catherine English – Oral Diagnosis – 10 years
Zhimin Feng – Biological Sciences – 10 years
Sara Fields – Development & Alumni Relations – 10 years
John Smolik – Dean’s Office – 10 years
Sabrina Wagner – Comprehensive Care – 10 years
Kristin Williams – Community Dentistry – 10 years
Sara Ekkens – Oral Surgery – 5 years
Carol Hays – Comprehensive Care – 5 years
Zinaida Kaleinikova – Comprehensive Care – 5 years
Kimberly Mabrey – Endodontics – 5 years
Leena Palomo – Periodontics – 5 years
Ca’Saundra Paramore – Comprehensive Care – 5 years
Theresa Pitts – Comprehensive Care – 5 years
Ge Jin – Biological Sciences – 5 years
Richard Jurevic – Biological Sciences – 5 years
Elizabeth Weiss – Comprehensive Care – 5 years
Wesley Williams – Biological Sciences – 5 years

THE GREATER CLEVELAND DENTAL SOCIETY • CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
2012 CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE LISTINGS

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO WWW.GCDS.ORG OR CALL (440) 717-1891.

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**2012 Course Fees**

ADA/GCDS Members/Case Faculty Individual Courses $250
Non-ADA Members Individual Courses $350

**SPECIAL PRICES:**

Staff – $75
Students/ Retired – $25
Joseph T. Mellion, D.D.S., M.S.D. ‘78
“I AM PROUD OF MY SCHOOL”

If you are a regular reader of the alumni magazine (and we trust that you are) you might remember the story of the Mellions—many of them sailed through dental school at a “mellion” miles per hour (The Art of Dentistry, Winter 2008, p 6). Even though his education went by quickly, Joseph T. Mellion, D.D.S., M.S.D. ‘78, is still dedicated to the school. Why? His continued interest and commitment to CWRU can be summed up in one word: family. “So many of us attended school here,” he says. Indeed they have. Family members who have attended CWRU include “my late brother Frank Mellion ’83, my niece, Theresa Mellion ’13, my two sons, Zach Mellion ’04 who has been in practice with me for six years; and Alex Mellion ’11 who is currently in his residency program and will join us in 18 months. And I can’t forget my wife, Dianne Mellion, NUR ’78, who earned her master’s degree from the Frances Payne Bolton school of nursing.”

Dr. Mellion has been contributing to the school of dental medicine since he graduated. “I remain committed to the dental school,” he says. “I think that it is important to give back.” Dr. Mellion not only contributes to the school when asked by the Dean (and even when he is not asked), he serves in various capacities for dental organizations and committees, including:
- the Ohio Dental Association (ODA)
- past president of the Akron Dental Society
- past president of the ODA

But that wasn’t the only incentive for Dr. Mellion to give. “When I did my post-doctoral residency, it hit home—I really appreciated how great my dental education was at CWRU,” he says. “When I worked alongside my colleagues in my post-doc residency, I couldn’t help but notice that the education I received at CWRU was superior to that of my colleagues. I appreciated then that the difficult curriculum I was exposed to here was serving me well. It continues to serve me well. That’s why I stay involved; I am proud of my school.”

What advice does Dr. Mellion give to his fellow classmates? “I say to my classmates and colleagues, ‘You need to give back. You wouldn’t be where you are today if you were not accepted at the CWRU dental school. You worked hard for that degree; are you willing to give that degree back? Of course not. But now you need to give the next generation that chance.’”

And he says, “I portray that to my children as well. They may find that the school is tough now, but once you’re in practice, you’ll find that your instructors are now valued colleagues. Also, the Dean has earned the esteem of many alumni and dental professionals around the country. He has done a remarkable job in raising the profile and the prominence of the dental school. That is something I feel is worthy of my support as an alumnus.”

EMAIL: drjtm9@gmail.com
Phil Aftoora and Kathy Kolesar-Aftoora made a generous $10,000 gift to the Annual Fund this Spring. Phil has served on the dental school staff for 38 years and is currently the Director of Student Services. In this position and his previous role in the admissions department, Phil has had a hand in guiding thousands of students as they embark on their studies at CWRU and then onto their careers. Phil and Kathy made the donation in honor of several dentists who have helped them or had an impact on their lives over the years. They wish to thank:

James E. Cuglewski, D.D.S. ‘78
Fady F. Faddoul, D.D.S., M.S.D. ‘88, ’93
Dianne M. McDonald, D.D.S. ‘77
Gil S. Peleg, D.D.S., M.D. ‘89
Craig J. Tyler, D.D.S., M.S.D. ’90, ’92

In addition, Phil and Kathy wanted to use their donation to challenge young alums, to give a little back to the school and issued the “Aftoora Challenge.” The Aftooras made their gift on the condition that it would be matched by alumni from the graduating classes of 1998–2011.

To date, alumni have donated an additional $15,000 towards the “Aftoora Challenge,” which has raised more than $25,000 to support the Annual Fund! A huge thank you to Phil and Kathy and to all of you who rose to the challenge!

If you’d like to contribute to the Aftoora Challenge, make your gift online at https://giving.case.edu. Choose your amount, select the “Dental School Annual Fund” as your designation, and type “Aftoora Match” in the special instructions box or mail a check to CWRU School of Dental Medicine, 10900 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44106-4905.
Celebration of Philanthropy
Your generosity is important to us

CWRU School of Dental Medicine values the generosity of our donors. Thanks to the support of our donors we are able to ensure that the school continues to be a world leader. Each year, we hold an event to which we invite supporters to thank them, to inform them of how their gifts have made a difference and to showcase both current and future developments at the school. This year’s donor event was held in June and special appreciation was given to those who have made special donations to the campaign.

1 Kate ’15 and Matt Cartwright
2 Vicky Haddad, Lenny Weiss ’63, Elais Haddad ’15, Glenda Weisblatt, Marty Weisblatt, Manny Freeman ’61
3 Edith Miller and Meredith Garber ’15
Family, friends, faculty and staff packed into the Church of the Covenant on May 20th for the graduation ceremony for the Class of 2012. David Owsiany, JD - Executive Director, Ohio Dental Association, was the graduation speaker. Everyone watched with pride and excitement as the students were presented with their diplomas.
Congratulations to the 66 students (65 May/1 August) - 24 females and 42 males. Thirteen are Ohio residents.

The graduates’ upcoming plans:

- AEGD 10
- GPR 10
- Military* 13
- Endodontics 2
- Oral Surgery 1
- Orthodontics 3
- Pediatric Dentistry 1
- Private Practice/Associate 26

* Some graduates are enrolled in military postdoctoral programs

Class of 2012

Chigozie Achuko
Brittney Andress
Ramon Balane
Theresa Beham
Brett Bezak
Nathan Buckner
Leah Blitz
Daniel Breha
Evelyn Chan
Krupal Chhotu
William Chin
Ben Cope
Adam Cottrill
Allegra Daniher
Bethany Doroghazi
Joanna El-Maasri
Kevin Faist
Kate Finney
Mike Gillins
Lyle Herman
Yunsung Hong
Ellen Huh
Robert Huh
Chaim Jakob
Gabriel Joel
Ryan Jones
Rayna Karoll
Benjamin Koh
Charles Kirby
Edgar Lam
Craig Lauwerier
Justin Long
Tuan Ly

Brittany Malover
Joe Mirci
Nathan Minter
Kenneth Murry
Phuong Nguyen
Matthew Oboikovitz
Anthony Olivieri
Meghan Oswald
Katelyn Palmateer
Tony Petrone
Anthony Raggi
Brian Redditt
James Rehm
Constantine Reppas
Joshua Rockwood
Anna Ross
Jennifer Sanders
Matthew Senn
Matthew Sherban
Daman Simantiris
Joshua Stutzman
Wendy Tran
Kirsten Valeri
Kevin Ward
Brian Wenk
Renee West
Jason Widner
Danae Willenberg
Molie Xu
Nada Yacoub
Daniel Yates
Lily Zhang
Danni Zuo
Marie Vitullo ‘15 is the recipient of the Dr. David and Sandra Bruck Scholarship. She says that getting this award “took a huge weight off of my shoulders.” Marie looked at a number of schools and CWRU was at the top of her list. However, cost was a concern. The scholarship “took that question out of my mind. Once that was settled, I knew that CWRU was where I wanted to be, and where I wanted to learn dentistry.”

Marie has always enjoyed studying science, and she covered a lot of bases in her undergraduate studies. She attended SUNY (State University of New York) at Geneseo, for two years, where she studied biology. She finished up her undergraduate work at the Rochester Institute of Technology, where she studied biomedical science. “I initially wanted to be a veterinarian since I love animals and have ridden horses for 13 years,” she says. “I was pre-vet in high school, so I was pretty serious about that career choice. I shadowed some equine vets, and decided that I really did not want to do that for a living. Then I talked to my own dentist, and he invited me to spend a day with him.

“My hometown dentist had a background in art,” says Marie. “He knew that I also had an interest and background in art. He showed me how he merged art and science in his practice, and how he helped people. That was it for me. I wanted to be a dentist.”

Marie says that she is currently thinking of general dentistry, “I want to practice for a few years, then perhaps go back to school and then to into a specialized area of dentistry,” she says. In the meantime, she spends 6 days per week riding her horse. “I am so glad I was able to bring my horse to Cleveland,” she says. “The scholarship made that possible too, it’s a great stress reliever.” Marie has owned the horse since it was 3 years old. She has also been competing in jumping events for a number of years.

Why CWRU? “When I came to visit here, I could see that the school was way ahead of the curve, better than any other school I looked at,” she says. “One thing that really impressed me was how soon you get into clinicals, you really get an innovative, hands-on experience right away.” You might say that at CWRU, Marie is jumping into dental practice.
The goal of the Case Western Reserve University Summer Medical and Dental Education Program (SMDEP) is to identify, recruit, and assist in preparing as many highly talented, committed, and hard-working minority and economically disadvantaged students as possible for careers in dentistry and medicine. We hope to imbue our students with the confidence and skills necessary to allow them to return to school better prepared to perform well in more rigorous basic science and math classes.

We will accomplish our goal by providing participants with many of the basic ingredients necessary to be successful as dental and medical students and later as professionals, including:

- an introduction to the fundamentals of biological and physical sciences
- a love (or renewed love) of reading
- strategies for learning and acquiring information and knowledge
- an acquaintance with the ins and outs of applying to dental and medical school

Our goal is not only to assist participants in getting admitted to dental and medical schools, but also to assist them in acquiring the skills, habits, and work ethic necessary to do well later in life. Students will receive limited clinical exposure. Kristin Williams ’89 and Kari Cunningham ’10, ’12 provide educational and recreational activities for the pre-dental students. Other alumni and faculty that assist with the pre-dental students are: Drs. Dale Baur ’80, Catherine Demko, Gerald Ferretti, Lisa Lang, Tania Markarian ’97, André Mickel ’91, ’94, Madge Potts-Williams ’81, and Sena Narendran.

Summer Medical and Dental Education Program
The students were picked up by charter coach at CWRU and, with Drs. Tom Kelly ’89 and Stuart Katz ’69 as guides, toured the practices of Drs. Rebecca Davis ’02, Miguel DeFina, Merle Frankel ’61, Marc Fried, Roger Hess, Jay Resnick, Katharine Rockman ’79, Jason Streem, Richard Streem ’66, Evan Tetelman, and Jeffrey Young, before enjoying refreshments and a question-and-answer session with the participating dentists and members of the Greater Cleveland Dental Society at Champps Americana Restaurant. The event exposed students to five different practices and practice models, each located in a single building in Lyndhurst, Ohio.

Kristin Donaldson ’13 stated, “It allowed me to see various practice set ups and see how various practitioners run their practice. Dr. Fried has a very unique set up and it was pretty neat how he has his patients sign the panels on the ceiling and also how he rewards kids for their behaviors. I definitely recommend this program to other students because it offers them a chance to see different offices and see how different people operate their business.”

We were told by Jennifer Sanders ’12, “It gave me the opportunity to see different office designs and discuss different treatment philosophies giving me ideas for what I do and don’t want to do in my own practice. The time at Champps restaurant was enjoyable. It was nice to be able to talk to some more dentists who weren’t on the tour and sit down and ask more questions of those who were.”

When asked what she enjoyed about the Street of Dreams tour, Kate Cartwright ’13 told us, “Networking, feedback on office development, and seeing a variety of private practice options/formats. Drs. Tetelman and Resnick lecture in our classes, so it was interesting to see their office. I also liked seeing (orthodontist) Dr. Fried’s office and discussing that business, which runs much differently than that of a general dentist. I am very glad I attended.”

The Ohio Dental Association (ODA) sponsored the Street of Dreams bus tour with the CWRU dental students on April 25, 2012. The event included 22 students, ODA staff, CWRU staff, 12 member dentists and concluded with an informal gathering at Champps Americana Restaurant in Lyndhurst. The informal feedback during the program was unanimously positive.
Eric Edward Ellis, ‘06, says that he was attracted to Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine for a number of reasons. However, the number one attraction was this: “I knew that I wanted to practice pediatric dentistry,” he says. “And when I saw the first-year sealant program here, well, that is what really put CWRU at the top of my list. Getting into the clinic early and working with children made the difference in my decision.”

As for what he learned at CWRU, Dr. Ellis says, “My four years at CWRU taught me that the pain of discipline is temporary, but the pain of compromise is permanent,” he explains. “All the hard work done at those buildings on Cornell Road make my work life a lot less stressful today.” The education gained here has allowed Dr. Ellis to have an enjoyable and innovative practice.

“I have the best job in the world,” he says. “While there are no tricks up my sleeve, it is imperative that my pediatric patients understand that their parents, my dental team, and I are working together to take care of them. Children are amazing; if you show them some respect and compassion, most will give you a chance.”

ADVICE TO CURRENT STUDENTS

The instructors at CWRU are among the finest in our scholastic field today,” he says. “They are there to help you become the best you can be. Many of my classmates are quickly becoming the leaders in our industry. Upon completion of your training at the School of Dental Medicine, you will be among the most prepared new doctors in the country.”

Also, says Dr. Ellis, “work hard, but enjoy all that northern Ohio has to offer while you are there. The four years will pass by very quickly.” He turns philosophical when he adds, “I believe it was John E. Southard who said, ‘The only people with whom you should try to get even are those who have helped you.’ So to all of my classmates and instructors at Case, thanks for the great memories.”

Dr. Ellis practices in Phoenix, Arizona. He says he spends his time “with my beautiful wife and children, as well as spending my time fighting tooth decay.”

EMAIL: ellise@pacden.com
Benjamin Cope, ’12, is the 2012 winner of the American Dental Education Association’s ADEA/Johnson & Johnson Healthcare Products Preventive Dentistry Scholarships. He is one of 12 students to receive the award, which will provide $2,500 toward the financing of his education.

The award was made at the ADEA meeting in March. Ben received the award in recognition of his community service, at home and internationally. In his case, Ben, along with fellow students and with faculty from the School of Dental Medicine, was recently in Peru for a medical/dental clinic that he organized with fellow student Nathan Buckner, ’12.

“This project was a first attempt at humanitarian dental outreach in Lamay, Peru,” says Ben. “In preparation, Nathan and I traveled to Peru in 2010 to prepare all the logistics: the legal paperwork, accommodations, dental materials, etc.

“In August 2011, we made an inaugural trip, where we actually did dental work,” he adds. “We set up a dental clinic in an existing health clinic in Lamay, Peru. There is a full-time dentist in the facility. She treats our target population, but she is very under-staffed and under-supplied. We announced our intentions in a town meeting and sent out a radio advertisement on the government radio channel that broadcasts to the outlying indigenous communities.”
The team saw hundreds of patients while they were in Peru. In four days, they saw more than 300 patients. "Every person who came to our clinic was examined by one of the faculty members, then was given oral hygiene instructions by one of the students, and a toothbrush and a tube of toothpaste," says Ben. "Most also got dental cleanings, and many got fillings and/or extractions. Each patient had careful charting done. While this charting was not extensive, we did record names, ages, work needed and work accomplished."

The school of dental medicine donated a mobile operatory unit, as did another student, who ultimately returned it to the United States. In addition to Ben and Nathan, 12 other students were at the clinic. Four faculty members also worked at the clinic: T. Roma Jasinevicius, '76, associate professor of comprehensive care, Lisa A. Lang, associate professor and chair, comprehensive care, Daniel Degesys, '73, and Jerry Kolosionek, '91. According to Ben, “While Dr. [James] L’alumandier associate professor and chair, community dentistry] didn’t make the trip, he was instrumental in finding a portable dental operatory unit for us and in finding the location.”

**Lessons learned**

According to Ben, “The amount of work it took to organize a trip like this surprised Nathan and me. It was so much more than just planning for a vacation; it was planning for the safety and well-being of 20 people in a foreign country who needed about 17 suitcases of equipment and a plan to efficiently deliver effective dental work to hundreds of people in a short period of time.

“Lamay is so remote. If we had forgotten anything, such as etch or mylar strips or air/water tips, we would have been done for,” he adds. “Everything had to be planned in advance. I was amazed at the staggering amount of work that goes on behind the scenes of a humanitarian trip.

“This may sound cliche,” he says, “But it was all worth it when we started actually doing the work for our patients. Some were in tears after unsightly decay on front teeth was removed. Some were in tears because of a difficult tooth we had to extract, but grateful nevertheless for the service we provided.”

**His future practice**

“Going through this experience has helped me be more open-minded about dentistry and will probably influence me for the rest of my career,” says Ben. “There is so much need for effective dentistry in the world, and although we can’t do it all for everyone, we can make a difference for many people within our circle of influence.

“While it’s true that we were able to help some very needy people, you don’t have to fly to Peru to give service,” he says. "I will be happy to be involved with humanitarian works in my own community."

“The mayor was enthusiastic about our project,” says Ben. “He made sure we were very welcome in town. He even treated us to the local delicacy: barbecued guinea pig.”
Nathan Buckner, ’12, of Hunter, Utah, recently sat in the Case Western Reserve University dental clinic, turning pages of a photo book from a mission that he took to Lamay, Peru with Case Western Reserve University students and faculty. He’s nostalgic as he closed this chapter on his life after graduating on Sunday, May 20, and will start a career as an Army dentist.

Establishing the mission is a legacy he leaves dental students who want to use their skills to care for people who lack access to dental services—some in remote regions of this world.

His next step in life is to move his wife, Kellie, and their four small children (ages 7, 5, 3 and 1) to Fort Sill in Lawton, OK, where he reported for duty in the U.S. Army on July 2 to fulfill a four-year obligation to repay his dental school tuition.

Besides caring for the dental needs of Army personnel, he will also learn how to survive bad weather in “tornado alley”—a type of storm he has not experienced living in Utah or Ohio.

Buckner will begin the profession he has wanted since his eighth-grade gifted and talented classes where he had to shadow a professional for one hour a week for almost three months.

Sad that his original choice—his pediatrician—was not available, his mother drove a “disappointed” Buckner to the family dentist, Todd Bowman.
Congratulations to the 2012 Distinguished Alumnus of the Year: Leonard Weiss, D.D.S. ’63

He will receive the award during Alumni Weekend on Friday, September 28, 2012 at the Welcome Back Reception and Dance Party at the Wyndham Cleveland at Playhouse Square (1260 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland). The reception begins at 5 p.m. See our website for more information: http://dental.case.edu/alumni/2012weekend.

“That’s where a light bulb went on,” Buckner said. “I always liked arts and crafts as a Cub Scout and wanted to work with people. I saw how my dentist was an artist in sculpting and recreating teeth.”

Beside his artistic talents with his dental patients, the dental faculty appreciated Buckner’s fluency in Spanish.

As part of his first- and second-year dental education at Case Western Reserve University, Buckner participated in the Healthy Smiles sealant program. This collaboration with the Cleveland schools gives children access to dental services and lessons on good oral health while giving eager dental students a chance to begin seeing patients.

It came to the attention of Healthy Smiles Director and Chair of the Department of Community Dentistry James Lalumandier that Buckner was communicating in Spanish with some school children during dental exams and sealants.

Lalumandier asked Buckner if he would like work on the El Salvador dental mission. He jumped at the opportunity to use the Spanish he’d learned during two years as a Mormon missionary in El Salvador between his first and second years at Utah State University, where he earned his bachelor degree in engineering.

Returning to school in 2010, and ready to plan the El Salvador trip, he learned that the university’s School of Medicine wanted the dental school to collaborate on their Peru mission. The medical students noticed people from Lamay needed dental care.

Buckner didn’t hesitate to dig in and start planning the mission with his classmate Ben Cope, ’12. The two dental students traveled to Lamay, getting permissions and scouting lodging for the August 2011 mission.

The trip was a success. Buckner and Cope also had many second-year dental students who wanted to go, but did not have enough experience to treat patients. Those students will have their chance to participate later this year.

Buckner said the experience made him realize how good we have things in the United States.

“We take so much for granted, including the quality of our healthcare. Even relatively good dentistry in Peru may be of questionable quality compared to the American standard of care,” Buckner said.

This trip solidified Buckner’s understanding of the crucial role modern dentistry plays in our society.

“By continuously striving to improve myself as a dentist, I will have the skills necessary to provide excellent care for my patients. Most patients may not realize how good they have it, but I’ve seen what a lack of adequate dental care does to individuals and an entire community. I am motivated to aid my community by providing the best care I can offer,” he said.

Buckner won’t forget Lamay and hopes to stay connected in years to come.

These days, Buckner is saying goodbye to his patients he has treated in the past years at the dental school clinics in Cleveland. As he hands over patients, he also transfers duties as one of the founders of the Peru mission.

Buckner looks to the future and gaining some advanced education in dental medicine in the Army where he eventually hopes to specialize in endodontics.

Leaving the university, he has mixed feelings of sadness and happiness with his accomplishments, but anticipates entering the Army where he will reach his goal and fulfill his long-held dream of being a practicing dentist.
Greetings fellow alumni,

By the time you read this, several significant alumni events will have occurred:

- **The New Dentist Committee.** Spearheaded by the board Vice President Kari Cunningham, D.M.D., ’10, ’12, this committee held a very successful “New Dentist” event this past winter. These kinds of events allow more recent graduates to stay socially involved at a time in their careers when they may not be able to support the school with large financial contributions.

- **Alumnus of the Year.** One of the most important functions of your Alumni Board is to review yearly nominations for this award. We seek to choose the alumna or alumnus who best epitomizes the outstanding qualities that represent our school and our fellow graduates. The distinguished alumnus will be honored during Alumni Weekend, which will be held September 27-30. We are pleased to announce the winner for 2012, Leonard Weiss, D.D.S., ’63. Lenny has been successfully involved in many aspects of dentistry during his career. His work has positively affected the profession and the public.

Lenny was chairman of the general practice residency at MetroHealth Medical Center for 20 years, serving as chief of the entire medical staff for a number of those years. He has served on the examining board of the North East Regional Board for the Ohio State Dental Board for many years, and is a past president of this Alumni Board. Please plan on attending Alumni Weekend this year to honor Lenny on Friday, September 28th.

- **Class of 2012.** On May 20, Dean Goldberg awarded the D.M.D. degree to 65 new colleagues. This was a dynamic and diverse class, with more than one-third finding associate positions in private practice. More than half will either continue in general practice or specialty residencies, while several took military positions. They were welcomed, as part of the ceremony, to a “lifetime membership” in the Alumni Association, and were presented with several opportunities to stay involved with the school.

- **Board members’ service recognition.** Three of our board members finished terms this year and were recognized at the June 20th Board Meeting. They are Past President Stuart Katz, D.M.D., ’69, and board members Marion Wazney, D.M.D., ’80, and Roma Jasinevicius, D.D.S., M.Ed., ’76, associate professor, department of comprehensive care. We thank them all for their service.

- **White Coat ceremony.** We are looking forward to the next White Coat ceremony on July 30, where we will welcome the Class of 2016.

Finally, as I complete the first year of my two-year term as president of your alumni board of directors, I thank you for the honor of representing the more than 4,000 living alumni. Under the leadership of Dean Goldberg and our dedicated faculty, I am continually excited and impressed with the challenging programs for our student doctors to learn in a world-class research setting.

I encourage you to become as informed and involved as you can, since you are the true everyday ambassadors for our School of Dental Medicine.

Professionally yours,
E. Karl Schneider, D.D.S. ’71

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**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012-2013**

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34 | School of Dental Medicine
Edward Rogers and his wife, Betty, have been happily married for over 55 years. He currently enjoys dancing, playing cards, and being a church usher. His education at CWRU contributed to his very fulfilled and long life.

Travis Smith got an excellent education at CWRU for a great profession! He and his wife, Jane, live in Cuyahoga Falls, OH. He is currently a vocalist for his church and privately. He is a counselor and Bible leader to boys at the Safe Landing Youth Shelter while also working part-time as an instructor at the Summa Hospital Dental Resident Program.

Richard Waters and his wife, Norma, live in Jefferson, Ohio; where he enjoys participating in Civil War reenactments with the Jefferson Historical Society.

Robert Zenobi and his wife, Angela, live in Akron, Ohio. EMAIL: raz1931@aol.com

David Stevenson has been awarded the University of Southern California, Ostrow

1947
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1957
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1960
David Stevenson has been awarded the University of Southern California, Ostrow

1961
Charles “Chuck” Wiedman was this year’s Heritage selection for the Hall of Fame Class of 2012. He was a standout student-athlete for the Western Reserve Red Cat track & field program in the early 1950s. A three-year captain, Wiedman captured numerous pole vault championships while setting the WRU record in the event on three separate occasions. As a senior in 1954, his personal-best of more than 13 feet ranked second in the state of Ohio and helped lead the Red Cats to a third-place finish in the highly competitive Mid-American Conference. Wiedman was named the Litwak Trophy winner as the Most Outstanding Student-Athlete and was a Rhodes Scholar candidate in 1954. He was also heavily involved on campus with membership in Omicron Delta Kappa, Phi Society and Student Senate in addition to serving as Senior and Sports Editor of the yearbook as well as President of Delta Tau Delta as a senior.

Following graduation, Wiedman enlisted in the United States Army and continued athletic competition in track, basketball and softball from 1954 to 1956. He then returned to Cleveland and earned his degree in dentistry from WRU in 1961 before starting a dental career that spanned nearly 50 years in nearby Parma. Currently a resident of Frisco, Texas, Wiedman continues to compete athletically as an avid golfer and in Senior Olympic games. He and his wife, Dolores (Kasprzak, FSMC ’55), have been married for 54 years and have three daughters and three grandchildren.
School of Dental Medicine, Tommy Trojan Award, for 45 years as a Clinical Professor in Prosthodontics in the Restorative Division. He lives with his wife, Suyc, in Pasadena, California. They have two children, a daughter who is a linguist and a son who is a board certified endodontist.

1957

George Newman is proud to be a graduate of this very prestigious university. He’s semi-retired, working one day a week now. He enjoys gardening and fishing in his free time. He and his wife, Carol, reside in Parma, Ohio.

1962

Richard DePaul Sr. says CWRU School of Dental Medicine was “the key that opened the door for a profession I love.” His children and nieces are following in his footsteps of dentistry.

EMAIL: RDePaul972@aol.com

Glenn Keiper Jr. and his wife, Mary, are living in Akron, Ohio. In his free time he enjoys golfing and traveling.

EMAIL: Keiper GlennQ@gmail.com

Stephen Tolman is involved with “Paybac” Program for the Clark County (NV) School System and also volunteers for his political party. He and his wife, Sharlene, reside in Las Vegas, Nevada.

EMAIL: molar1@cox.net

Lawrence Turpen and his wife, Vera, have been happily married for 57 years and live in Nevada. He is presently retired for the third time and has two children, six grandchildren and a great-grandchild on the way. His education at CWRU, along with his 22 years of practice, helped him open many doors for future entrepreneurial opportunities and provided a financial foundation and management experience that led to two other successful business ventures.

EMAIL: larryturpen@charter.net

1967

Ronald Erkis and his wife, Joyce, are living in Columbus. He has been an associate professor at The Ohio State University in the Department of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry for 35 years and also has had a private practice for 38 years. He treasures his “wonderful education” with the “great class of ’67.”

EMAIL: ronerkisdds@yahoo.com

Michael Feinstein is happily married and enjoying his retirement living in Troy, OH with his wife, Judy. He enjoys bike riding, amateur astronomy and photography, and has raised two sons.

Leonard Goldstein lives in Great Neck, NY and is the director of Clerkship Education and Associate Professor of Family Medicine at the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. He is licensed in Acupuncture in NY and AZ. He has authored more than 50 published articles on TMD, pain management, acupuncture, forensic dentistry, and expert witnessing. He is on the Editorial Advisory Board for Practical Pain Management and a fellow of Academy of General Dentistry, International College of Dentists, and the Pierre Fauchard Academy.

EMAIL: lgoldst@nyit.edu

1972

Chester Bizga has six children and is living in Ohio. He reminisces that his dental school education “gave me an opportunity to be relevant to other people’s health and appearance. It gave me an opportunity to be creative and caring. It afforded me a great life with my family.” He golfs a lot, still works a little with his son, is healthy and notes, “I do what I want…oh, I always did that.”

Emil Poporad describes what dental school means to him as “a pathway to a wonderful profession. It also provided the ability to support my family.” He still owns a private practice. Emil and his wife, Kathy, live in North Canton, Ohio.

EMAIL: emilpoporad@me.com

1977

Lawrence Frankel and his wife, Bonnie (MSASS ’79), reside in Gates Mills, OH. He fondly notes that his education at the dental school “gave me the desire and background to develop my dental knowledge, to become an evidence-based clinician, and a sense of excitement of what can be accomplished by dentists.” He has raised three children, Bethanie, Jonathan, and Dustin, and currently has a private practice. He also teaches in a periodontics department clinic, while also serving on the Gates Mills Gas Well Committee and as Liaison to Mayfield Schools from Gates Mills Village. In his free time he enjoys biking, hiking, skiing, and cooking.

EMAIL: frankelbunch@roadrunner.com

Eliot Fidler and his wife, Christine, currently are residing in Melville, NY. He has a private practice and also is an Assistant Attending in the Department at Dental Medicine at North Shore LIJ University Hospital. He values his dental school education because it was “quality preparation for private practice.”
When dentist John Damiano was 12 years old, neither his mother, nor his piano teacher, fought his resolve to drop weekly piano lessons. “I felt being able to play ‘Hokey Pokey’ was achievement enough,” he explains. “It seemed reasonable that playing one familiar song throughout life meant I could be deemed an accomplished pianist. That early attempt at a gimmick proved to be quite prophetic.”

Now, nearly 40 years later, he plays the keyboard at larger venues such as political party banquets, fundraisers, Christmas parties, and wedding receptions. “To the untrained eye I look like a one-man band,” says Damiano. “To me, the contemporary keyboardist is an independent instrumentalist whose skill is controlling the countless musical nuances of the keyboard.”

“When the guests mingle around the bar or eat their meal, I’m off to the side of the room playing familiar songs,” he says. “Frequently I find myself discussing teeth, if someone asks for my professional opinion. My new motto is: Put the music where your mouth is.”

Damiano’s first big break came when a patient saw hidden potential in his “addiction” and asked him to play at the New York State Teacher Assistants Union banquet. In time, others asked him to play at their events.

“In my free time, I’m a general dentist working in a private practice that I opened in 1990 in Baldwinsville, New York,” says Damiano. He and his wife, Kathy, have three grown children, all residing in Baldwinsville.

Gerald Knierim lives in Sylvania, OH with his wife, Debra. Their son Kevin ’09 graduated from CWRU dental school and has joined the family practice. Gerald is very active in the local Toledo Chapter of the Special Olympics, helping with fundraising, coaching and treating the athlete’s dental needs. Gerald and his son also volunteer with Special Smiles at the Special Olympics State Games in Columbus, OH every June. He enjoys golf, biking bowling and weightlifting in his free time.

Raymond Virost is in his ninth year as a school board member for the Georgetown school district. He and his wife, Barbara, make their home in Ohio.

EMAIL: rpbv17@hotmail.com

K. Brad Knapp and his wife, Cindy, live in Chesterland, OH. His daughter Kelly graduated from OSU Veterinary School in June 2012. He states that his CWRU education “provided me a career in which I could make a good living for my family. The dental education was excellent and for me, dentistry has been a great career choice.” He is also involved with racing a 35-foot sailboat on Lake Erie.

EMAIL: KBK7478@aol.com

Edward Marshall, Jr. has been operating his private practice in Akron, Ohio for the past 25 years, specializing in oral and maxillofacial surgery. One of his three children is completing their dentistry degree at Pittsburgh, also pursing their specialty in oral and maxillofacial surgery. His time at CWRU gave him a “solid professional start to a rewarding career.”

1982

1987

Diana Davenport and her husband, John, are raising their son, Alexander, in Westlake, OH. She believes her profession is amazing because “it has provided for my family and enriched my personal life with life-long friends. I am grateful for my opportunity at CWRU dental school.” She enjoys skiing, boating and playing tennis. Her family lives by the motto “study hard, work hard and ski hard.”

Dennis Jensen is semi-retired working only a few days a week. He and his wife, Karen, reside in Chardon, Ohio. During the summer he enjoys participating in the senior Olympics track and field events. In the winter months he spends his time refereeing basketball games.

EMAIL: DrDennisJensen@yahoo.com

Serge Prescott recently sold his practice in Los Angeles, CA and moved to North Port, Florida with his wife, Elena. His office is brand new and fully equipped. He enjoys spending his free time with his family, playing ball, fishing, and working out.

Edward Shellard lives in Atlanta, GA where he is currently the Chief Marketing Officer for Carestream Dental. Since selling his practice in 1994, he has been on the business side of things, having served also as President of Kerr and obtaining an MBA. He has three children, Rachel, Adam and Sarah. The “fantastic four years” at CWRU gave him a “great clinical experience and a strong background in the sciences, which has helped me extensively in my professional life” and also “a rewarding experience in how to deal with others.”

EMAIL: sre114@yahoo.com

Some members of the class of 1987 had a chance to reconnect at the Chicago Midwinter Meeting in February 2012: Bob Gentile, Veronica Glogowski, Dave Phillips and Ed Shellard.
class notes

Roni Werner-Rosati describes her education at CWRU dental school as “extremely important!” She portrays her time at CWRU by saying, “it gave me a great base and beginning to pursue dentistry and strive to deliver the best dental care to my patients.” She and her husband, Robert, have celebrated 27 years of “wedded bliss,” have three wonderful sons, and call Hermitage, Pennsylvania home. Roni recently purchased a dental practice.

EMAIL: rsrosati@aol.com

1989

Michael DeGould (oral surgery) of Rockford, Ill., received a patent for his invention of a suction retractor for osseous and soft tissue surgery. EMAIL: middegould@gmail.com

Sanjeev Goel and his wife have two children, both of whom are pursuing dental careers. His son is in his final year of dental school, while his daughter is pursuing her specialty in Endodontics. He runs a general and multi-specialty practice in West Chester, Ohio. In his free time he enjoys tennis, traveling and golf.

EMAIL: drgoel2001@aol.com

1991

Kimberly Blakeslee recalls her time at CWRU as “one of the best experiences” of her life. She thanks the faculty and staff who prepared her well for her career. She has a passion for treating patients and providing excellent patient care. She now lives with her husband, John, and three children, Brian, Brad, and Bree in Michigan. She is an associate at a dental practice and also owns three Snap Fitness, 24/7 fitness centers with her husband.

Ryan Johnson is living in Lancaster, Ohio. He coaches two of his children, and loves running 5Ks with his oldest child.

1997

Allan Keith has owned his own general dentistry practice for 16 years. When reminiscing about his dental school education he values it because “it gave me a wonderful foundation to practice dentistry.” He speaks about his time at CWRU “I have life-long classmates and true friends that mean the world to me.” He and his wife, Lisa, call Canal Fulton, Ohio home. They have five wonderful children, and Allan states “my family is the most important aspect of my life!”

Suresh Goel (Perio 2001) was recently awarded the Kois Institute Dental Specialist Certification, one of only 14 periodontists in the world to have completed the certification. He is an instructor for the Institute for Advanced Laser Dentistry, and the procedure LANAP and have been since 2008. He recently opened his sixth periodontal office in Rochester, and now has five doctors on staff.

2002

Robert Barber and his wife, Joyce, reside in Arizona with their three children, Kaitlin, Jessika, and Joshua. This CWRU education gave him “opportunities that I never would have had otherwise.”
Michael Fioritto and his wife, Nicole ’05, reside in Concord, Ohio with their two children, Michael Jr. and Luke. Michael recently became an Associate Fellow of American Academy of Implant Dentistry. 

**Email:** doctorfio@hotmail.com

Jeffrey Lambert and his wife, Melanie, along with their four children, Zach, Josh, Jacob, and Seth, live in Utah. He runs two practices and enjoys mountain biking in the summer and skiing in the winter during his free time.

**Email:** lambert@xmission.com

Marina Ambartsumyan Lange resides in California with her husband, Ulrich. Her CWRU education “means a lot to me.” She adds “I am very thankful to CWRU faculty and staff.” She enjoys playing piano, painting and spending time with her family in her free time.

**Email:** LangeU@yahoo.com

Matthew Radkowski has received his Master of Science degree in Orthodontics from Saint Louis University. He and his wife, Marsha, live in Johnstown, Pennsylvania with their three children; Adam, Erik and Jillian.

Shane Wellington lives with his wife, Lisa, and their two sons Griffin and Grey in Wellsville, OH. He started a solo practice in 2004 and has since expanded his practice to provide orthodontics, implants and hospital dentistry. In his free time he enjoys hanging out with his family, hunting and fishing. His CWRU education allowed him “to provide high-quality care to my Appalachian community.”

2003

Joanna Kleckner recently opened her own dental practice in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. She is an Associate Clinical Instructor at CWRU, supervising dental students who participate in the Healthy Smiles Program. In her free time she enjoys spending time with her husband and daughter, taking walks in the Metroparks, and hiking.

2004

Zachary Mellion and wife, Keira, welcomed daughter, Georgia, 8 months ago. Big brother, Benedikt is excited to have a little sister.

**Email:** zacharymellion@mac.com

2008

Daniel Florian and his wife, Mirona, have two children. He currently practices at his own general dental practice in North Royalton, OH. He is certified in INVISALIGN, LUMINEERS and LASER dentistry. He is working on his accreditation in Implant placement and Botox cosmetic/dental treatments. He is also a member of The American Dental Association, Ohio Dental Association, Cleveland Dental Society and Midwest Implant Institute. He enjoys cycling, swimming, traveling and spending time with his family.

**Coming Soon...**

“What My Dental School Education Means to Me”

We would like to hear from you. We are looking for alumni to tell us what your dental school education means to you (200 words or less). If interested, please submit your story along with contact information and a photo of yourself. Email to dentalalumni@case.edu. We plan on making this an ongoing feature in the magazine.

Are you a dental school dean, assistant dean, associate dean, or similar title?

We are looking for alumni who are deans of dental schools to feature in an upcoming article of the magazine. If you would like to be included in the article, please send your contact information to dentalalumni@case.edu informing us of the position you hold and the school. We need this information no later than October 1, 2012.

**Don’t See Your Name? Feeling Left Out?**

Take a moment to update us on what you are doing. Class notes forms can be found at [http://dental.case.edu/alumni/resources.html](http://dental.case.edu/alumni/resources.html) or email us at dentalalumni@case.edu. Pictures are welcome.

Let us hear from you!

Let us know what you think about the articles in this magazine. We welcome your letters and comments.

Give us your feedback. Send your comments to dentalalumni@case.edu. We look forward to hearing from you.
CWRU ON THE ROAD

1) Jason Mandelaris ’08, ’10, Gerald Ferretti and Jean Felton ’09, ’11 at the reception for Pediatric Dentistry Annual Session

2) Christina and James ’84 Schneider and John Blakemore ’71 at the Westlake Country Club

3) Rebecca Goldberg, Amberlee Taylor ’08, ’12, Jack Gerstenmaier ’10, ’12, and Tracy Davies ’12, at the reception for Pediatric Dentistry Annual Session.

4) Jeanette Potts (Cleveland College ’46) and Madge Potts-Williams ’81 at a reception hosted by Drs. Lemmo and Pyle

5) Ken Chance ’79, Kari Cunningham ’10, ’12 and State Representative John E. Barnes, Jr. at a reception hosted by Drs. Lemmo and Pyle
6) Stan Bohonek ’87 and Tom Leatherman ’86 at the Westlake Country Club

7) State Representative John E. Barnes, Jr., Ron Lemmo ’84 and Marsha Pyle ’84 at a reception hosted by Drs. Lemmo and Pyle

8) John (’71) and Irene Blakemore, Meigan and Dennis (’81, ’83) Ward host Dean Jerold Goldberg ’70 at Westlake Country Club


10) President Barbara R. Snyder addresses the attendees gathered at the home of Ron Lemmo ’84 and Marsha Pyle ’84

11) André Mickel ’91, ’94, Kim Lindquist ’05 and Andy Wright ’05 at the reception held during the Endodontics Annual Session
If you’re using Facebook, take a moment to check out our page. Just search for **CWRU School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association** and be sure to click the “Like” button at the top when you get there.

You’ll see the latest news, photos and alumni & student awards.

It’s a great way to stay connected!
In Memoriam

WE MOURN THE LOSS OF THESE SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE ALUMNI AND FRIENDS AND EXTEND HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO THEIR LOVED ONES.

David Scott passed away peacefully at Atlantic Shores, VA on June 8, 2012 after a lengthy affliction with dementia. He was 93 years old. He served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Public Health Service from 1944-1965 serving in the National Institute of Dental Research, NIH and retiring as the Chief, Laboratory of Histology and Pathology, NIDR, NIH. He continued his distinguished career as the Thomas J. Hill Distinguished Professor of Physical Biology at the dental school at Case Western Reserve University and became the Dean of the school in 1969. In 1975, he retired and was appointed Dean and Professor Emeritus. In 1976, he returned to active duty with the USPHS as a Rear Admiral and Assistant Surgeon General to be the Director of the National Institute of Dental Research at NIH until he retired in 1981. He is survived by his two sons, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Sergia Abrigo, MS ’72 passed away February 6, 2012, at the age of 80. She is survived by her two sisters and two brothers.

Walter S. Barker ’60 of Bay Village, Ohio passed away June 2012. He practiced dentistry for 40 years in Bay Village. He is survived by his wife, Florence, three children and many grandchildren.

John Clark, ’47, age 87, of Medina passed away May 15, 2012. After graduation, he remained at the university on the faculty of the School of Dental Medicine. After 40 years he retired in 1987 as Professor Emeritus of Pharmacology and Operative Dentistry. He had served as Chairman of the Department of Operative Dentistry for almost 20 years. He was the first recipient of the Achievement as a Dental Educator award by the student Council of the dental school and was recognized as the Alumnus of the Year in 1987. He is survived by his wife, Florence, three children and many grandchildren.

George Dickie ’65 of Thibodaux, LA passed away May 15, 2012. He was 79. He is survived by his wife, Rita; four children, and six grandchildren. Dr. Dickie practiced dentistry in Vacherie, Louisiana from 1965 until his retirement in 1992. He loved snow skiing and mountain climbing in Colorado. He was an avid runner and participated in many 10K races.

James Donovan ’57 of Montgomery, New York, passed away on Saturday, August 18, 2007. He was survived by his wife, Charlotte.

James Ells ’59 age 82, of Mentor, Ohio, passed away November 30, 2011. He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Barbara, two daughters and one stepson. He was a Veteran of the U.S. Navy and retired from his dental practice in 1995 after 36 years.

Robert Friedman ’64 in his own words, “lived a wonderful life.” He passed away on April 15, 2010. A prankster with an irreverent and endearing sense of humor, Bob skied, ran marathons, competed in triathalons, grew beautiful roses, and always had a book in his hands. For four decades he practiced dentistry in Smyrna, GA. He is survived by his wife, Judy, his three daughters and three stepchildren.

Richard Gaylor ’56 of Cleveland, Ohio, passed away on Thursday, December 6, 2007. He was survived by his wife, Sally.

James W. Hedgepeth ’53, age 89, of Indio, California, passed away June 9, 2012, with his wife, Evelyn, at his side. He was a veteran of World War II. After graduation, he practiced dentistry in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, for 34 years. He moved to California in 2002. Affectionately known as Flash, he loved his family, friends, traveling, reading, and all sports, especially golf. In addition to his wife, Evelyn, he is survived by two children, three grandchildren and one great grandchild.

John W. Hedgepeth ’53, age 89, of Indio, California, passed away June 9, 2012, with his wife, Evelyn, at his side. He was a veteran of World War II. After graduation, he practiced dentistry in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, for 34 years. He moved to California in 2002. Affectionately known as Flash, he loved his family, friends, traveling, reading, and all sports, especially golf. In addition to his wife, Evelyn, he is survived by two children, three grandchildren and one great grandchild.

J. Norman Johnson ’51 a lifelong resident of Jamestown, NY, died peacefully at home on Feb. 24, 2012. He was 91 years old. A graduate of Jamestown High School, Norm enlisted in the army in 1943. After training in the Signal Corps at Fort Monmouth, NJ, He served in the 82nd Airborne Division and was involved in the Allied invasion of Europe and the liberation of a concentration camp. At the close of the war, his division occupied the American sector of Berlin. He practiced dentistry in Jamestown for 44 years, retiring in 1995. Norm was an accomplished woodworker, creating extraordinary pieces of furniture in his basement shop for his large family. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Alice “Ozzie” Johnson, and four children.
Charles Kirkpatrick ’76 age 61, passed away October 3, 2008. He began his professional career as an English instructor at Shaw High School in East Cleveland, OH. Then he attended CWRU dental school and started a pediatric dental practice in Parkersburg, WV. After retiring from dentistry, he returned to Youngstown. He leaves to mourn his passing his two children.

Thomas Knappe ’66 died September 10, 2009 at the age of 68. He was survived by his wife, Sharon, and two sons.

Randall Kulnis ’98 of Suffolk, Virginia, passed away on Wednesday, January 11, 2012, at the age of 54. He is survived by his wife, Deborah and daughter.


Philip Maier ’92, age 44, of Apopka, FL, passed on February 24, 2007, after 8 months of courageously battling complications incurred from a stroke. He was a dentist in the Apopka area for 15 years. The last two years he spent many hours coaching his son, PJ, in motocross events. He is survived by his wife of 22 years, Linda Soper Maier ’92 and his two children.

Edward McCarthy ’40, age 93, died July 21, 2007. He leaves two children to mourn his passing. He was a long-time Lakewood, OH, dentist and 40-year member of the Lakewood Kiwanis.

Carl Miller ’49 died April 8, 2010, at the age of 91.

Joseph Morris ’86, age 53, passed away March 27, 2012, at home, after a ten-month battle with pancreatic cancer. He is survived by his wife, Dawn, and three sons. Joe practiced dentistry in San Francisco for many years. He loved playing volleyball, tinkering in the yard, building things for his sons, and fixing just about anything he could get his hands on.

Frank Mrsnik ’75, age 62, passed away Feb. 29, 2012, at home. He is survived by his wife, Jane, and 3 children.

Debra Musacchia ’83 passed away January 31, 2012, at the age of 58. She is survived by her sisters and brothers.

Mike Nakanishi ’70 of Laguna Nigel, CA passed away May 29, 2012, at the age of 68. He had dental offices in Irvine, CA and Chino, CA. He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Margaret, four children and three grandchildren.

Edward Palmer ’80 of New Port Richey, FL, passed away on December 21, 2011, at the age of 57. He owned a private dental practice for 27 years in New Port Richey. Past President of the West Pasco Dental Association and the Cotee River Lions Club, Member of the American Dental Association and Florida Dental Association and member of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church. His hobbies included golf, riding his motorcycle with friends, cruises, going to the beach and spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Jacqueline, and two daughters.

Ted Preece ’61 passed away April 4, 2012, after a short stay in the hospital surrounded by his family. He served 4 years in the USAF during the Korean Conflict. He practiced dentistry for 35 years in Bountiful, UT, and enjoyed his work. He is survived by his wife, Carol, four sons and one daughter.

James Schieda, ’64, ’65 passed away December 23, 2011, at the age of 73. He is survived by his wife, Lynn, and two daughters.

William Steiner ’50 passed away on August 6, 2011, surrounded by family, in The Villages, FL. He served in the U.S. Navy with distinction in the Atlantic theatre, including the Normandy invasion where he made multiple crossings of the English Channel under fire. After the war, he attended dental school. During the Korean Conflict, he was called back to service and served as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force. After completing his service, he moved back to Louisville, OH, along with his new wife, Nancy, and entered private dental practice. He served thousands of Louisville residents for the next 37 years until his retirement in 1991. He served as President of the Stark County Dental Association. He was subsequently appointed by the Governor of Ohio to the Ohio State Dental Board and eventually served as President of the State Board as well. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Nancy, and three children.
Edward Suchard ’45 passed away peacefully on January 11, 2012, at the age of 95, in Saco, Maine. He studied Orthodontics and Oral Surgery at CWRU’s dental school. After receiving a degree in Oral Surgery, he served his country as an Army Captain during the Korean War at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, D.C. Following the war, he established an orthodontics practice in Akron, Ohio. For many years he lived in Peninsula, Ohio, with his wife, Dee, whom he met and married in 1963. In the 1970s, he retired to South Carolina where in 1995 his wife passed away. In 2009, he moved to Cape Elizabeth, Maine, to be near his nephew, Karl. Ed had no children and is survived by his nephews, Karl and Peter.

Dennis Tommasone ’68 age 69, of Munson Township, OH, passed away February 7, 2012. He was a dentist and a tenured professor at CWRU School of Dental Medicine for 28 years. He was a member of the Public Health Service, serving in Guatemala, Alaska, and Tulsa, OK. Dennis was the former fleet surgeon at the Western Reserve Yacht Club in Fairport Harbor, had a pilot’s license and enjoyed flying, along with restoring antique cars and collecting coins. He is survived by his four children, mother, brother, sister and brother-in-law, Ronald Occhinero ’61.

Arthur Turner ’45 age 93, passed away Monday, June 25, 2012. He was a longtime member of the Corydon Palmer Dental Society, member of Ohio Dental Association, and Life Member of American Dental Association. He was a faithful member of the First United Methodist Church of East Liverpool and served in many capacities, including Sunday School Teacher, Lay Leader, and on the Administrative Board. He is survived by one son, two daughters, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Francis Wong, ’58 died April 1, 2011, at the age of 81.

Bruce Forbes ’57 of New Martinsville, W.Va., passed away on Thursday, May 31, 2012. He was 79.

Dr. Forbes was commissioned as an officer in the United States Army during his senior year in dental school. Following graduation, he served in the Dental Corps of the U.S. Army for three years in Stuttgart, West Germany. While there, he served in the Restorative Pediatric and Oral Surgery Services, and as Commanding Officer of the Nellingen Dental Clinic in Stuttgart.

After an honorable discharge from the Army as Captain, he returned to New Martinsville and opened his private dental practice in 1960, serving his patients for 50 years.

Dr. Forbes was a member of the American Dental Association, receiving the ADA Life Membership Award in 1998, and the West Virginia Dental Association. He served on the W.Va. Dental Association Executive Council for two extended terms. He was a member of the Marshall, Wetzel, Tyler Dental Society and served as president, secretary and treasurer. He was inducted as a Fellow of the International College of Dentists in 2001. He was a member of the George M. Hollenback Operative Dentistry Seminar, the Academy of Gold Foil Operators, and the Academy of Operative Dentistry. Dr. Forbes was very active with the dental school. He was an active member of the CWRU School of Dental Medicine Alumni Board of Directors, serving as president and vice president. He also served on the Dean’s Visiting Committee. He was committed to giving his support to the mission and vision of the school.

Dr. Forbes was an avid boater, owning several over the years. He often used his powerboat during the New Martinsville Regatta as official race monitor. His other loves were snow skiing and golfing with friends and family. He had a lifelong love of Mercedes-Benz roadsters, Lionel trains, steam trains, and was one of the driving forces in bringing the B&O steam locomotive No. 1190 to display in New Martinsville’s Bruce Park.

He considered his greatest accomplishment to be his family, frequently sharing family stories with his friends and patients over the years.

He is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Jane Buchanan Forbes and four daughters. He was the proud grandfather of six. He is also survived by his sister, Linda and her husband, Dr. David Edwards. The family began a scholarship fund to honor Dr. Forbes’ legacy. Memorial contributions can be sent to CWRU School of Dental Medicine with a reference in the memo field: Dr. Bruce W. Forbes Scholarship Fund.
2012 Alumni Weekend Events

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2012

Blue Block Party
Dedication of Uptown Project
Euclid Avenue and Mayfield Road
7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Toby’s Plaza
11471 Euclid Avenue
Festival and Family Fun

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2012

All Alumni Luncheon
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Veale Center
2128 Adelbert Road (on campus)
Reconnect with your friends, classmates, fellow alumni, faculty and other special guests over lunch as President Barbara R. Snyder gives an update of university affairs. $20

The Grand Lecture: Dramatic Breakthrough in the Quest to Treat Alzheimer’s with Gary E. Landreth, Ph.D. and Dr. Paige Cramer
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Veale Center
2128 Adelbert Road (on campus)

Think Forum
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Wolstein Research Building, Room 5136
2103 Cornell Road (on campus)

About Face: A Look at Cosmetic Surgery
Join Faisal A. Quereshy, MD, DDS, FACS ’97 in an analysis of the facial structure in a systematic method to help with diagnosis and eventual treatment planning. Non-surgical treatments such as the various skin care modalities will be presented including skin treatments and noninvasive rejuvenation procedures. For more permanent treatment options, surgical procedures addressing the various facial sub-units will be discussed, including, face and neck lift, use of facial implants for facial augmentation in malar and chin regions, eyelid and forehead rejuvenation, rhino- and otoplasty. At the conclusion of this discussion, the participant will have a greater appreciation of the various cosmetic procedures, including risks and side effects.

Welcome Back Cocktail Reception and Dance Party
5:00 p.m. – midnight
Presentation of the 2012 Distinguished Alumnus Award
Wyndham Cleveland at Playhouse Square
1260 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH
Friday evening will be a welcome back reception with a dance party. The 2012 Distinguished Alumnus Award will be presented to Leonard Weiss ’63. $20

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2012

Continuing Education Course and Breakfast
Wyndham Cleveland at Playhouse Square
1260 Euclid Avenue
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Join us for light morning refreshments at 8:30 a.m.

Craig McDonough, DDS Memorial
Continuing Education Course
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Mario Pavicic, D.D.S. ’92 will take you on a journey of self-discovery and awareness. Many times we know what to do, we just don’t do it. Together, you will find the answers in all aspects of your life and business. This program will help you find balance to be the best dental professional possible, while maintaining happiness and fulfillment in your personal life. He will cover all aspects of your dental practice and give keen insight and knowledge about the “top ten” aspects of each department that you should implement to keep your office “above the curve”.

Sponsored by PNC Healthcare.

Reunion Class Dinners and Class Photos
5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Gather with your classmates for a time of reminiscing. Class dinners will be held at the Wyndham Cleveland at Playhouse Square (1260 Euclid Avenue). Class photos will be taken during this time. $45

Alumni Couples’ Reception
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
A celebration of the perfect matches made at Case Western Reserve University. By invitation only to those couples who are both CWRU graduates.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

The Seventh Annual Stephanie Tubbs Jones Gospelfest Concert
John Hay High School
2075 Stokes Boulevard, Cleveland
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Showcasing the talents of local musicians, churches and youth organizations in an annual celebration of the rich heritage of gospel music in Cleveland.

For a full list of events, visit
http://dental.case.edu/alumni/2012weekend/schedule
alumni events

september

September 14, 2012
Reception at the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
Annual Session
Hilton San Diego Bayfront
1 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

September 14, 2012
Reception at the Ohio Dental Association Annual Session
Hyatt Regency Columbus
350 High Street
Columbus, OH
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

September 27-30, 2012
Alumni Weekend and Reunion
Find out more at http://dental.case.edu/alumni/2012weekend/

September 30, 2012
Reception at the American Academy of Periodontology
Annual Meeting
JW Marriott LA Live
900 West Olympic Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

october

October 6, 2012
Halloweekends at Cedar Point
Sandusky, Ohio
Lunch Noon. – 2:00 p.m.
Park closes at midnight
Tickets $35

October 19, 2012
Reception at the American Dental Association Annual Meeting
Marriott Marquis San Francisco
55 4th Street
San Francisco, CA
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

For more information and to RSVP, contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at (216) 368-3480, toll free (877) 468-1436 or email dentalalumni@case.edu

Additional event Information is on our website at http://dental.case.edu/alumni/events.html
Parents:
If this issue is addressed to your daughter or son who has established a separate permanent address, please notify us of the new address:
(877) 468-1436 or dentalalumni@case.edu

Thank you!!!

CWRU School of Dental Medicine would not be what it is today without you and your support.

More than 670 alumni, faculty, staff and friends gave $436,738 between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012 making this a good year for the dental school annual fund.

Your annual gift helps to support student scholarship, patient care, cutting edge research and other urgent school needs.

We appreciate your support in educating the dental practitioners of the future.