Charting a Course Toward Care for All

How U of T’s Dental Public Health program is addressing barriers to better health

One volunteer’s experience in war-ravaged Congo

This year’s AGM – taking a fresh look at how the Association serves alumni interests

Play your own ball at Copper Creek September 17th – discount for recent grads – back cover
Cover Story:

15 Charting a Course Toward Care for All

How does a society ensure everyone has access to oral health care? The Faculty’s Dental Public Health program looks at the ‘big picture’. Through our research and student training, we are developing new ways to recognize, understand and address health inequalities; to research options for improving the health of those at risk; and to work with all stakeholders to implement evidence-based solutions. Whether it’s Canadian seniors in long-term care, indigenous communities in New Zealand, or other groups here and abroad, U of T is exploring better ways to keep everyone healthy.
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How privileged we are to have skills that allow us to change – and even save – lives!

Charting a Course Toward Care for All, our cover story, describes how our Dental Public Health program impacts countless lives the world over.

Alumni volunteer service is again highlighted with a first-person report from the Congo and our announcement of a Haiti presentation at the Alumni Annual General Meeting in October.

Our Gala honoured three who give back. Over 550 gathered to honour Aldo Bocca 7T4, Howard Tenenbaum 7T8, and the Toronto Alpha Omega Society. Among their many achievements, all three recipients exemplify service to the community and working toward better health for all. And I wish to personally thank everyone involved for helping us raise almost $110,000 to provide treatment to patients who would otherwise not get care.

Alumni, student and faculty news round out this issue, including upcoming Continuing Dental Education courses and our September Golf Tournament raising funds for student activities.

Keep well and keep in touch.

DAVID MOCK 6T8
Join us at this year’s Annual General Meeting on October 5th as we take a fresh look at how the Association serves alumni and supports the Faculty and its students.

By the time you read this issue of Alumni Today another group of DDS graduates will have received their graduation rings on behalf of the Alumni Association. We welcome them to this profession which has given us so much.

At this year’s Annual General Meeting the Alumni Board will be taking a fresh look at how the Association serves alumni and supports the Faculty and its students. What can the Alumni Association do for you? It’s your chance to join fellow alumni on October 5th and give us your input. Our new format includes free parking and a special presentation by Dr. Jack Cottrell 7T5 who established a permanent dental clinic in Haiti this year.

New Alumni benefits include class reunion support, a reception at the ODA spring meeting, expanded student mentorship and outreach to alumni beyond the Greater Toronto Area.

If you are organizing a reunion for 2011, be sure to contact the Alumni Office early so they can support your efforts. Several older classes have relied on the Alumni Office to take care of many reunion details including venue booking, registration and payment.

Thank you alumni and industry volunteers who worked on the Gala, which raised an impressive $109,000 to support clinic patients. Next stop: the Golf Tournament on September 17th, details on back cover.

Contact me at any time at vstavro@drvaleriestavro.com

VALERIE STAVRO 8T4
Dear Editor,
I am an avid reader of Alumni Today and the Winter Issue 2010 has prompted me to write. I must not have received the issue before this, as I missed the story of Mrs. Helen Chomyn.
I was one of four students from Australia (with Michael Wainwright, Bill Wood (deceased) and Fred Barnet (deceased)) in 1970. Mrs. Chomyn was our saviour. She was always there to advise us on ‘Canadian ways’, and was solid support for us when we were so far from home with little or no money. She is one of the best memories that I have of my time at U of T and I do wish her well.

There are quite a few Toronto graduates in Oz and we do get together now and then. Unfortunately, I have not been back to Canada since 1976 when I visited my old friend and mentor Dr. George Morgan 3T0 with whom I spent hours pouring over radiographs of all sorts of dental pathology.
I have never forgotten my wonderful time in Toronto and those that made the stay so memorable and pleasant.
After my return to Australia I graduated in law and have served as President of the State Dental Board for 20 years, as well as President of the Australian Dental Council. The Council was established by Dr. Lloyd O’Brien 6T9, the first President, and me, as a body to accredit Australian dental schools and examine overseas trained dentists for Australian registration.
Thank you for sending me your wonderful magazine for all these years.

John W. Dale 7T0
Adjunct Associate Professor
University of Sydney
Charles Sturt University
jdale@mail.usyd.edu.au

Dr. Dale, thank you for your letter – your missing copy is in the mail! – Editor
The Art of an Endodontist...

A practicing endodontist in Toronto, Dr. Mary Dabuleanu 0T2 has participated in several art exhibits as part of Romanian cultural events and has exhibited her work along with medical students at the University of Toronto.

Last August, Mary and her mother, Elizabeth Dabuleanu, organized a joint exhibit of their work at the McKay Art Centre in Unionville, Ontario.

“I feel fortunate that alongside my endodontic profession, I have been bestowed an artistic talent to enjoy during my recreational time.”

Graduate Student Honoured

Upon completing his Master of Science degree in Orthodontics last summer, Dr. Brian Laski 0T5 received the Aaron L. Posen Award for excellence and creativity in the orthodontic specialty program. This is only the sixth time this distinction has been awarded by the University of Toronto Faculty of Dentistry in the last 26 years, and the first time since 2002.

Mentorship Evenings Great Success

Alumni met with 100 students for a relaxed, informative evening in January, and followed up by welcoming students into their offices after hours on March 8th.

Thank you to: Steve Andrews 7T1, John Anthony 5T8, Nicholas Bekesch 7T5, Richard Cameron 8T5, Narendra Daljeet 8T5, Marika Dekausidje, Aaron Fenton 6T7, Bruze Glazer 6T6, Jaclyn Glick, Jillian Gordon 0T4, Judi Heggie 8T7, Andrew Kay 9T9, Lloyd Koutsaris 7T1, Lionel Lenkinski 7T9, John Maggirias 0T9, Amanpreet Mangat 0T6, Tim Milligan 7T0, Irma Montes-Hussey 7T9, Leses Pollard 8T7, Raj Singh 8T5, Valerie Stavro 8T0, Sam Strauss 7T5, David Tabuchi 8T3, Masood Tirgari, Phillip Jeremy Willenburg 8T5, Beata Zaboroski and Paul Zung 8T5.
Hey Alumni! Check Out Our Books!

It’s the only remaining free-standing Canadian academic dental library, and it houses the largest dental book collection in Canada!

Located on the second floor of the Faculty of Dentistry at 124 Edward Street, Room 267, our collection consists of about 10,000 items including books, print and electronic dental journals, and audio-visuals.

Our blog is updated monthly with new items. Some interesting posts include "Dentists in Film", a list of movies featuring dentists compiled by our part-time staff member Kate Johnson; as well as highlights of our collection, including "Children’s Dental Books" by Kate Johnson, and "This Won’t Hurt a Bit: Representations of the Dentist in Modern Fiction" by our former staff member Armen Svadjian.

The Dentistry Library is open to the public, so feel free to come in and browse our collection. If you would like to take items home to read, then you will need to purchase a Library Card, which comes at a greatly discounted price for Alumni. Just bring a photo ID and payment to the Research Reader desk on the 1st floor of Robarts, 130 St. George Street or visit us online at discover.library.utoronto.ca/alumni for prices and options.

If you would like to learn more about our collection check out our catalogue at library.utoronto.ca. You can search by subject, author and / or title. Visit our Blog at uoftdentistrylibrary.blogspot.com.

Shown above from left to right: Maria Buda; Margot Froud and Head Librarian Helen He.
In Memoriam

Daniel Gray McMichael
Dan McMichael 5T1 passed away in Osoyoos, British Columbia on December 15, 2009.

Prior to entering the Faculty of Dentistry Dan was a World War II veteran R.C.A.F. serving as a navigator in one of the famous Vickers Wellington Squadrons ‘Wellies’ for almost five years. His aircraft crashed as a result of enemy action after many operational sorties and several of his crew died. Dan was hospitalized in Scotland for a prolonged period before repatriation to his home in Kingston, Ontario.

Upon graduation Dan practised in Barry’s Bay Ontario.

I was proud to be his friend.
Dave Mitchell 5T1

Bill Zinn
Classmate Bill Zinn 5T1 of Waterloo died of cancer November 12, 2009 age 85.

During the war Bill served in the R.C.A.F. before practicing dentistry in Hanover for 31 years. The only son of dentist Dr. and Mrs. S.H. Zinn, he was a trustee of the Hanover District High School Board, an elder of Grace United Church, a member of the Hanover Legion and a life member of the Hanover Kinsmen Club.

At school, when I told him my name was Lionel, he chose to call me ‘Hamp’ after his favourite jazz band leader, Lionel Hampton, even though I could not play a mouth organ!

Bill leaves a son, John, in Toronto and a daughter, Mrs. Wayne Button, of Whitby and two grandchildren.
Lionel Metrick 5T1, Class Secretary

Donald Johnson
A 5T9 graduate, “Donnie” practiced in Thunder Bay for many years, retiring in the late 1990s. His greatest love was for his family, especially his grandchildren – Alex, Grace, Kaija and Seija.

Faculty Loses Valued Member
Just before going to press with this issue we received the sad news that Prof. David Locker, Associate Dean, Graduate and Postgraduate Studies, Discipline Head, Dental Public Health program and Director of the Community Dental Health Services Research Unit, had passed away. We will be carrying a tribute to Dr. Locker in the next issue of Alumni Today. If you would like to contribute your comments, please email them to barbaramurray@fastmail.fm

CORRECTION
In the last issue of Alumni Today we incorrectly showed Dr. Robert Brown’s graduation year as 6T7. Dr. Brown actually graduated in 6T5. Our thanks to Dr. Lawrence Jones graduating class president of 6T7 who noticed the error.

WE MOURN THE LOSS
Ruth Daley (nee Campbell) 5T3 (Dental Nursing)
Donald Johnson 5T9
David Locker
Daniel Gray McMichael 5T1
Leonard Shapira 4T5
Bill Zinn 5T1

Share Your Memories – Honour a Loved One
Please send your personal tributes and memories of those alumni who are no longer with us, to:

The Editor, Alumni Today
University of Toronto Faculty of Dentistry
124 Edward Street, Room 527, Toronto, Ontario M5G 1G6
or email: barbaramurray@fastmail.fm

Accompanying photographs should be sent either as high res attached jpegs or original photographs mailed or dropped off at the Faculty. Please notify us if you wish photographs to be returned.

Final date for tributes for the Fall 2010 issue: August 6, 2010.
Our alumni continue to share their volunteering stories with us, highlighting just how great the need is in so many places around the world. Dr. Howard Weld DDPH 7T5, MScD 7T6 sent in this story of his experience in the Congo.

In February 2009 I was approached by one of my patients, the President of FIAA (International Foundation of Friends of Africa), and asked whether I might consider going to Africa. (I had already donated some used equipment to this group for recycling to Africa). By May, a plan was developed and arrangements were made to travel to Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, in July.

I travelled with Dr. Alexis Mbongo, currently of Montreal, but formerly the Chief of Dentistry at the General Hospital in Kinshasa. We would work out of the Kintambo Hospital, the third largest hospital in a city of 9,000,000. Kintambo is a referral centre for maternal health issues, so it has a higher grade of facility, and has eight dentists on staff.

On arrival, we found a dental clinic that...no lights, no suction, no x-ray, no functioning equipment... we worked with flies on our instruments and surgical dressings...

Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, in July.
had no lights, no suction, no x-ray, no functioning equipment. We had a borrowed sterilizer that required a rock to hold its door shut. With doors open for light and ventilation, we worked with flies on our instruments and surgical dressings. Four chairs were set up in the clinic area and, with the help of the hospital staff, we were able to treat 70-80 patients per day, exclusively removing teeth. In spite of periodic blackouts, we delivered over 800 patient visits during the two weeks of our project.

Congo is an impoverished, war-ravaged country, so we expected difficult conditions but not the nightmare that we experienced. We were amazed at the ability of the local staff to work under such impossible conditions, but poverty forces people to do difficult things. Our hope now is to re-equip this hospital with donated equipment and help the dental staff at least enter the 20th century. Our trip was an amazing education that demonstrated how very fortunate we are to live in Canada.

Howard received his Diploma in Dental Public Health from the Faculty in 1975 and his MScD in 1976. He took a post as Assistant Professor of Preventive Dentistry at McGill before entering private practice in Ottawa where he has been since 1977. From 1984 until 2005, he volunteered as a member of the dental staff at the Elisabeth Bruyere Health Centre in Ottawa (chronic and palliative care patients) and was also a consultant to the multi-disciplinary Haemophilia clinic at the Ottawa Hospital from 1988 until 1994.

Just had a Reunion?

Please send your photos and stories to the Alumni Today editor at 124 Edward Street, Room 527, Toronto, Ontario M5G 1G6 or email to barbaramurray@fastmail.fm Emailed photographs should be send as attached (not embedded in word files) high resolution jpgs. We look forward to showcasing as many as possible in the fall issue of Alumni Today including Classes 6T0; 8T5; and the Dental Hygiene Class of 6T5 who had their reunions this May.

Calling the Class of 4T5!

Despite his best attempts, Dr. Robert Murray has not been able to organize a reunion, but we do hope to hear from class members so we can share your stories, memories and an update on your life in the next issue.

OVERCOMING THE OBSTACLES

Turn to page 15 for our feature story on the DPH program and the role that graduates are playing in developing ways to overcome obstacles to the provision of oral health care for all.
It’s an opportunity for alumni, faculty and staff to find out the areas of research that students are concentrating on. This year’s Research Day concentrated on the theme of ‘Molecular basis of health and disease’ which was successfully incorporated by Dr. Susan Kinder Haake, DMD, PhD, Professor, Section of Periodontics, Division of Associated Clinical Specialties, University of California, Los Angeles, and Dr. Richard Ellen, DDS, Professor, CIHR Group in Matrix Dynamics, Director, CIHR Training Program, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto.

Two mini talks were presented by the winners of the Student Research Group competition (held earlier in the year): Graduate student Reza Termei, and undergraduate student Stacey Kirshenblatt.

“The high calibre of basic and clinical research presented was a world-class exhibition of talent. The Faculty should be proud of this showcase of achievement by the future scientists that are beginning their careers here in our Dental Research Institute.”

Dr. Dennis Cvetkovitch
Director, DRI

Clinical tables followed the poster presentations and the day ended with a Wine and Cheese in the cafeteria.

A big thank you to participating departments: Anaesthesia, Endodontics, Paediatrics, Prosthodontics, Oral Radiology, Oral Surgery and the Library.

Mark the date now for next year’s Research Day, February 15, 2011. Alumni receive 3 CDE credits plus a hard copy of the abstracts book. This year’s abstracts can be viewed online at: utoronto.ca/dentistry/facultyresearch/dri.htm

Above: Dean Mock congratulates Reza Termei and Stacey Kirshenblatt winners of the SRG/Alumni Travel awards which make it possible for them to travel to the IADR Conference to be held this year in Barcelona.

Opposite page: students, faculty, staff and guest speakers enjoy the day.

Awards were presented to the following recipients in the various award categories:

Jeff Chadwick, David Lee, Sean Tjandra
Summer Student Category

Patrick Blit, Noelle Ochotny, Aileen Zhou, Carol Forster
Basic Science Graduate Student Category

Sagun Suri, Jaffer Kermalli, Milan Madhavji
Clinical Science Graduate Student Category

Amir Azarpazhooh, Constantine Batsos
Education, Behavioural and Health Sciences Research

Joanne McBane
Post-Doc and Research Associates Category
CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

Fall 2010 Courses (at time of printing)

September 2010 – May 2011
(2 Saturdays per month)
(Transitions Group)

Saturday, September 25, 2010
Certification in Dental Practice Management
Course Leader: Linda Anderson

Friday, October 15, 2010
Speakers: Dr. Luch Valenzano, Lucy Ferraro, Gaye Donnan

Saturday, Sunday,
October 16, 17, 2010
Management (Transitions Group) Course Leader: Linda Anderson

Friday, Saturday,
October 22, 23, 2010
Medical Emergencies
Speaker: Dr. Dan Haas

Saturday, Sunday,
October 25, 26, 2010
Oral Sedation and Nitrous Oxide Sedation
Speakers: Dr. Dan Haas and Dr. Michelle Tang

Friday, Saturday,
October 29, 2010
Giving Your Patients Something to Smile About: Composite Artistry – Simplified
Speaker: Dr. Ronald Jackson

Friday, Saturday,
November 5, 6, 2010
Prevention and Treatment of Implant Complications
Speaker: Dr. Mark Lin

Friday, Saturday,
November 26, 2010
Predictable Results in Adhesive Esthetic Dentistry
Speakers: Dr. Robert Ritter and Dr. Chris Ramsey

Friday, Saturday,
December 3, 4, 5, 2010
Endodontics
Speaker: Dr. Shimon Friedman

For a Complete Listing of Upcoming Live and On-line Courses, including The Breakfast Club Series visit:
www.cde.utoronto.ca
Call 416-979-4902 or 1-800-743-3788

CREATING DENTAL EXCELLENCE THROUGH CONTINUING DENTAL EDUCATION
2010 Awards of Distinction Gala

Proudly honouring

- Dr. Aldo Boccia
- Dr. Howard Tenenbaum
- Toronto Alpha Omega Dental Society

Together we raised almost $110,000 to give more patients access to care

Every year over 15,000 adults and children receive care at the Faculty’s clinics. About 35% of our patients report family income under $20,000. The cost for treatment in our clinics is significantly lower than in most private practices, but many patients facing financial challenges discontinue treatment. Gala proceeds are helping our students, staff and faculty move closer to the day when not a single patient misses treatment because of financial hardship.

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Oral Health Journal

In-Kind Sponsors
3M Canada
Colio Estate Winery
Crest Oral B
Delirala Design Inc.
PG Travel
Scotiabank Group
Tiffany & Co.

See you next year!

Awards of Distinction Gala 2011
Mark this date: Saturday, April 30, 2011 after the ODA Annual Spring Meeting

The University of Toronto
Faculty of Dentistry
& The Dental Alumni Association
When people start to question what they can and cannot afford, oral health care can start to act like a ‘luxury good’. For some within our society, such as those who are socially and economically marginalized, receiving adequate dental care has been an ongoing challenge that can only be aggravated by these tough economic times.

Many dentists donate their time to provide care at home and abroad in free clinics. Several of them have been profiled in Alumni Today. In order to more broadly overcome obstacles to the provision of oral health care for all, leaders in the dental profession and in government look to those working in the field of dental public health for research, policy work, and program implementation.

As governments around the world are paying closer attention to oral health and its relationship to general health, the importance and impact of dental public health is increasing.

What research efforts at the Faculty are leading to new solutions? How are we preparing students to conduct the research, analysis and program design approaches needed to meet today’s health challenges? What role are graduates of the Dental Public Health program playing in Canada and internationally? Read on to find out.
In today’s economic climate, are more Canadians finding access to dental care financially difficult?

Yes, and as professionals all of us are trying to work together to ensure that we meet the needs of everyone in our society, not just those that have private insurance. Over the last 30 years we really have seen a retrenchment from governments. More and more public programs have been cut, and more people have found themselves without resources to services they feel are necessary. I am increasingly informed by medical officers of health, and dental public health practitioners in the field, that middle income families are now at risk, and in some cases requesting assistance in accessing dental care. And that speaks to the nature of our economic downturn and the fact that more and more employers are not offering dental benefits, or are offering them in a way that the employee has to choose between vision, dental care, extended hospital stay etc.

How should dentists be reacting to this new reality?

It is important for the dental profession to get out in front and deal with these kind of problems as opposed to being caught unprepared and having to react to this new reality. And that’s part of what students in the DPH program are being trained to do. Look at the experience of the American dental profession, who have been more reactionary than proactive, and who are now facing a situation where governments are moving ahead to develop alternative types of dental providers and provision. They are training dental health therapists who treat children; they are beginning to expand the dental hygiene model, and there are even cases where physicians are now starting to be trained on how to extract primary teeth in children. These are not necessarily bad things, but from the point of view of the profession, as a dentist, I think we need to ensure that issues of quality are maintained, and that things are done in ways that recognize that we really are the leaders of the dental team.

What is the role of someone working in dental public health?

Graduates work with governments; they work as policy makers; as managers of public dental programs in municipalities, provinces or even at the federal level. We train our graduates in the principals of public health so that they are prepared for either policy jobs, government jobs or academic employment.

What does the training consist of?

It’s very much a multi-disciplinary and research curriculum. Students take introductory courses in public health at U of T’s new Dalla Lana School of Public Health, so they are introduced to major concepts and are able to interact with other public health colleagues. They take courses in bio-statistics, because they are going to need the ability to do data analysis later on in their career. They also take courses in basic epidemiology so that they understand the nature of diseases – not just oral diseases – and how these diseases behave in our populations.

What about courses that relate directly to policy?

Our health policy courses enable graduates to understand what types of decisions have been made about
Students: Addressing Needs Through Meaningful Research

A second year graduate student in the DPH program, Maria van Harten talks about why she decided to come back to the Faculty.

“I felt as though my career in private practice had plateaued. As someone who also works in correctional facilities I wanted to be doing more to address the needs of disadvantaged groups.

“The program is giving me the tools and knowledge to conduct meaningful research as well as be able to critically and systematically review research.

“I hope to gain practical management experience working in a health unit. To provide dental care for all in our community we need dentists working alongside other health care practitioners in agencies that reach out directly to those in greatest need.”

Linda McKay, a dental hygienist and full time educator in oral health programs, is delighted to have the opportunity of returning to the Faculty to pursue graduate education.

“The program focuses on the importance of evidence-based care for the community. It builds knowledge and skills in epidemiology, research methods, critical appraisal of the literature, and management principles. It also prepares us to collaborate with other health professionals in more effective public programming strategies.”

After graduating from dental school in his home country of Iran, Amir Azarpazhooh worked for three years as a public health dentist in remote rural areas of his home province. He completed the DPH program in 2007 and became a fellow and an examiner of the Royal College of Dentists of Canada in Dental Public Health.

“The experience of dealing with underprivileged people, and the frustration and the reward of organizing public clinics, led me to consider furthering my education in the area of public health. I have had several opportunities to conduct and publish systematic reviews, surveys and randomized clinical trials, as well as research aimed at identifying the barriers to access for certain populations. I believe this degree will be invaluable in helping me achieve my career objectives.”

(Amir was a recipient of an award at this year’s Research Day. See pages 12/13.)
Our dental care system faces many challenges in terms of meeting the needs of all Canadians. At the Faculty, within the Discipline of Dental Public Health, U of T faculty and students are conducting research that is having an impact on those needs and the way that government addresses them.

**ABORIGINAL POPULATIONS**

**Culturally Appropriate Material**

The lack of awareness of the negative impact of early childhood caries (ECC) means that many families have to leave their remote communities and fly to Sioux Lookout to receive dental treatment under general anesthesia. Working in partnership with the Sioux Lookout Zone Dental Program and First Nations communities in Northwest Ontario, **Dr. Herenia Lawrence**, Associate Professor, has developed an oral health promotion program, for pre-natal women and mothers of young children, using culturally appropriate material that is sensitive to the beliefs and attitudes of First Nations.

**Proven Effectiveness of Fluoride Varnish**

A two-year community-randomized controlled trial of the effectiveness of fluoride varnish to prevent and reduce ECC has also been completed. The results of that study are now having an impact on health policy in Ontario, with the introduction of fluoride varnish programs in the province.

**IMMIGRANT MINORITIES**

**Reducing Demand for Specialized Services**

How do limited oral health literacy skills, and the challenge of adapting to a different culture, affect immigrant minorities? The answer to this question is the goal of research being conducted with recent Brazilian and Arabic-speaking immigrants residing in Toronto. Graduate students, **Dr. Paola Calvasina** and **Dr. Oras Al-Rudainy** are assessing whether limited oral health literacy skills among immigrants impedes access to dental care for themselves and for their pre-school children.

Dental treatment for severe early childhood caries is often carried out under general anaesthesia in hospital operating rooms across the country. Evidence suggests that it is the children of new immigrants and refugees to Canada who are more likely to be admitted for this kind of treatment. The results of this study are expected to assist government in devising more effective ways of producing information that will improve new immigrants’ oral health and reduce the demand for specialized dental services.

**Three-Country Partnership on Child Oral Health**

Dr. Lawrence along with her partners in Australia and New Zealand – **Dr. Lisa Jamieson** (University of Adelaide) and **Dr. John Broughton** (University of Otago) – have just been awarded a 5-year grant to develop a culturally-appropriate early childhood caries intervention. Working in full partnership with the Indigenous communities involved, this research will provide much needed evidence for policy makers to address the challenge of improved oral health for Indigenous mothers and their children.
AN AGING POPULATION

Assessing Baby Boomers’ Needs
It’s obvious that, upon retirement, taking care of their teeth can become an expensive proposition for Canadians who no longer have insurance. Unlike previous generations who generally entered old age with dentures, baby boomers, because of better dental care, have retained more of their natural teeth. As they age, oral problems will arise and the treatment decisions of these patients will become much more complex and costly. There are many studies to show that people see the dentist less frequently once they are retired, a time of life when oral health becomes that much more important. And for those Canadians living in a long-term care facility, oral hygiene and oral health practices are a challenge for staff in terms of being able to clean residents’ mouths and obtain access to dental care. These things have major implications on people’s morbidity – even their mortality.

Master’s degree student, Robert Kotzer, is analyzing clinical examination and interview data from a representative sample of middle-aged and older adults in Nova Scotia as well as those residing in long-term care facilities in the province with the goal of developing a clear understanding of the oral health needs and expectations of the ‘baby boomer’ generation.

THE HOMELESS

An ‘Invisible’ Minority
A group that typically falls off the radar screen when statistical health surveys are conducted, the needs of the homeless are being assessed through a grant from the Office of the Chief Dental Officer.

With a goal of delivering basic preventive care, graduate student Dr. Rafael Figueiredo, working under the supervision of Dr. Carlos Quiñonez, is currently negotiating with shelters in order to finalize data collection procedures. Ultimately the data will be used for policy and advocacy purposes.

Planning a Comprehensive Public Health Dental Strategy for Ontario

Jointly sponsored by the Faculty and the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion, the Faculty recently hosted a one-day symposium aimed at discussing the potential for a comprehensive public health dental strategy for the province.

The catalyst for the symposium were discussions on community water fluoridation that Dr. David Locker (see sidebar) had with Vivek Goel, past provost of the University of Toronto (now head of the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion).

Internationally recognized leaders in dentistry spoke to an audience composed of all the major players, including government at both provincial and national levels and dental associations, who have a role to play in building and maintaining an effective and comprehensive oral health strategy.

David Locker
BDS, PhD, DSC, FCAHS
We are saddened to announce that Prof. David Locker, a valued member of our Faculty and Associate Dean, Graduate and Postgraduate Studies and Director of the Community Dental Health Services Research Unit, passed away this April.

An internationally renowned researcher, and one of the earliest dentists to hold a doctoral degree in medical sociology, Dr. Locker revolutionized the quantification of oral health and disease through his work on patient-based measures of oral health-related quality of life. He believed strongly in the value of sharing research internationally, and in translating research results into practical knowledge for the international community.

The DPH department, together with several close friends and colleagues of Dr. Locker, are planning a symposium in his memory at the upcoming meeting of the International Association of Dental Research (IADR) in Barcelona.

Donations in David’s memory will help graduate students present their research at international meetings. Cheques made payable to University of Toronto can be mailed to: Advancement Office, Faculty of Dentistry, 124 Edward St., Toronto ON M5G 1G6. For more information contact the Advancement Office 416.979.4940 or Dental Public Health 416.979.4900 ext. 4498.
Alumni of the Dental Public Health program are filling some big shoes both at home and abroad. Among the many who are effecting change and policy at a critical time are Dr. Patricia Main 7T5, DDPH 8T2, Dr. Peter Cooney DDPH 8T3 and Dr. Garry Aslanyan.

Getting Involved on a Broader Scale

“When I first started in community public health we were essentially running programs for children. Now we have programs for the homeless, for seniors, for new mums – all kinds of things. It is a much broader base, but the basic tenets and principles haven’t changed: you are still finding out what the community’s needs are and then organizing programs to meet those needs.”

Dr. Patricia A. Main
Registrar, Royal College of Dentists of Canada

No stranger to juggling multiple roles, Dr. Main has been an independent consultant since 2001 working with the federal government to impact policy change. She chairs the Federal Dental Care Advisory Committee and is also currently working with Dr. Peter Cooney, Canada’s Chief Dental Officer, on the Oral Health component of the most recent Canadian Health Measures Survey. One of the advantages of being in dental public health says Dr. Main is the fact that it “opens up a lot of unusual avenues”. Those ‘avenues’ have included chairing the District Health Council for Toronto, where she was instrumental in hospital reform, and the relocation of Princess Margaret Hospital. She has also chaired a committee for the Ontario Provincial Government working on the OHIP fee guide. “Because I had an epidemiology and best practice and evidence-based background I was very useful to other people. Through my training I had the skills needed to be involved on a broader scale.”

She credits the 23 years she spent running a dental program in North York for then Mayor Mel Lastman to the ability to look at data, analyse it and explain the implications – something that students in the program see as a very valuable component of their training.

Influencing Oral Health Decisions Around the World

The Office of the Chief Dental Officer of Canada was created in 2004 to improve the oral health status of Canadians and to increase awareness about the prevention of oral diseases. Dr. Peter Cooney, who completed his Specialty in Community Dentistry at the Faculty in 1983, became Canada’s first Chief Dental Officer – a role he still fulfills. One of his early goals in this new position was to get dental health included in the Canadian Health Measures Survey to be conducted by Statistics Canada. The last clinical measures survey done in Canada was in 1972. With 12 billion dollars spent each year on oral health care in Canada – the second most costly disease area after cardiovascular disease – the importance of having an accurate picture of the oral health care of Canadians, which will show where money and energies need to be focused, is paramount. Five years later that Survey has now been completed, and results can be viewed online at www.fptdwg.ca/English/e-documents.html.

And the impact that the Office of the Chief Dental Officer is having is not limited to Canada. For the fourth year, Dr. Cooney has been asked to chair the World Dental Federation, public health section. Made up of 140 chief dental officers from around the world, Dr. Cooney comments that “to be asked to continue chairing this group tells me that others seem to feel that what we are doing in Canada in terms of oral health is going in the right direction.”

“Many of our committee members involved in the Canadian Health Measures Survey are University of Toronto graduates from the dental public health program. The DPH program has had a solid impact on our knowledge base, with its evidence-based slant towards getting proper information and making informed decisions.”

Dr. Peter Cooney
Chief Dental Officer of Canada
Global Health Issues in Developing Countries

“Working with exceptional people at the Faculty, the discussions we had on public policy and the place health has in our societies, has played an important role in shaping my career, particularly over the last ten years as I have worked with health policy makers in over 60 countries.”

Dr. Garry Aslanyan
Manager, Portfolio Policy
Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases – TDR
World Health Organization

Another important component of the DPH program is the skillset taught to graduates on how to move your agenda through government. One alumnus who is using that skill to great effect is Dr. Garry Aslanyan. He completed the DPH specialty courses in 2001 and accepted a job with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) where he focused on global health issues in developing countries. He then took a position with the Public Health Agency of Canada where he led the efforts to establish Canada’s international links at a time of increased global concern with public health. He is currently involved at the World Health Organization on a program that funds research into infectious diseases associated with poverty, and provides support and training to researchers and institutions in countries where these diseases occur.

Addressing Health Inequalities

Dental Public Health specialists focus on identifying options for improving the health of those areas of the population least well-served by present systems. The challenge is to work with these communities to build culturally relevant solutions for improved oral health.

If we are to ensure that all Canadians have access to necessary oral health care, then all stakeholders, be they dentists, governments, or professional associations, need to be involved. In the words of Linda McKay, a current graduate student at the Faculty, dental public health, in part, is about “recognizing, understanding and addressing health inequalities. Dental Public Health specialists focus on identifying options for improving the health of those typically defined as marginalized, such as the homeless, unemployed, immigrant, aboriginal, and people with disabilities. This program creates a strong foundational understanding of the social determinants of health and their impact on such inequalities, and as such focuses on those areas of the population least well-served by present systems. The challenge then is to work with these communities to build culturally relevant solutions for improved oral health.”
Awards of Distinction Gala

Two outstanding individuals. One exceptional organization. This year’s Awards of Distinction Gala not only honoured them, but also raised funds to help patients access care at the Faculty’s clinics. A pretty good reason to party!

Toronto Alpha Omega Dental Society

“Toronto Alpha Omega Dental Society actively encourages members to give back and has become a community of service to our profession, to dental education and to patients in need.”

Dean David Mock

(President Dr. Sheryl Lipton 8T2 accepted the Award on behalf of Alpha Omega.)

Dr. Howard Tenenbaum 7T8

“A truly gifted and beloved teacher, and internationally recognized researcher who is sought after for his expertise, Howie has contributed to our collective understanding of clinical dentistry.”

Dean David Mock

Dr. Aldo Boccia 7T4

“Aldo’s distinguished dental career, exemplary leadership and devotion to his profession, along with his outstanding contributions to the betterment of the community, become hallmarks of excellence for all.”

Dean David Mock
Honouring Outstanding Achievements

**Toronto Academy of Dentistry Awards Night**

**Dr. Barry Sessle bestowed Honourary Life Membership**

Dr. Barry J. Sessle, Professor at the University of Toronto Faculty of Dentistry and Faculty of Medicine was honoured by the Toronto Academy of Dentistry at their Awards Night, November 12th. Dr. Sessle’s research into orofacial pain and neuromuscular function and dysfunction has been continuously supported for over 35 years by both the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the U.S. National Institutes of Health. The Honourary Life Membership bestowed on him by the Toronto Academy joins a long list of honours and awards garnered by Dr. Sessle over his career.

**50 Year Pins Awarded**

50 year pins were also presented to the following alumni all of whom graduated from the Faculty in 1959:

- Dr. Fritz Wilhelm Hoerner
- Dr. Harvey Louis Freedman
- Dr. Irving I. Petroff
- Dr. Jay Harvey Davis
- Dr. Bernard Crystal
- Dr. Melvin David Charendoff
- Dr. Ingrid Raminsh
- Dr. Samuel Misumi
- Dr. John Greenwood Linghorne

**Mr. Arthur Zwingenberger receives Academy Service Award**

Good friend of the Faculty, Mr. Arthur Zwingenberger, received the Academy Service Award in recognition of the role his company, SciCan Ltd., has played in the dental field. Mr. Zwingenberger said that he looked forward to continued challenges in the dental environment and to his and SciCan’s continued close contact with their dental customer base which has been an inspiration for 50 years.

**SCI Canada Announces 2010 Award Winners**

Dr. Paul Santerre, Chair, Biomaterial Dept. within the Division of Biological and Diagnostic Sciences and Full Professor at the Faculty, was the recipient of the Julia Levy Award at the Society of Chemical Industry Canada Annual Awards Ceremony and Dinner held in Toronto on March 25th. The Award recognizes successful commercialisation of innovation in Canada, in the field of Bio-medical Science and Engineering, with a particular focus on the synergistic relationship between university and business. “These awards acknowledge outstanding contributions to development and implementation of strategies that have resulted in the strengthening of Canadian industry, academic or research institutions in the field of chemistry,” said SCI Awards Chair and CKCI President Graham Knowles.

Former Director of the Dental Research Institute, Dr. Santerre is currently Director of the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering, and remains the chief scientific officer of IBI.
Persistence of bacteria and bacterial penetration into infected dentin has always been an issue in dentistry. Once they survive the harsh environmental conditions, the microorganisms may dwell in clinically occluded and inaccessible areas. Dr. Anil Kishen, who came to us from the Faculty of Dentistry at the National University of Singapore, joined our Endodontics Discipline as an Associate Professor this past year, and his research aims to address some of these issues by understanding factors facilitating bacterial adherence and biofilm formation on dentin, and the effect of chemical/disinfectants on dentin and bacterial persistence.

During his tenure at the National University of Singapore, Dr. Kishen gained international recognition for his research pioneering the use of nanotechnologies for dental applications. He has authored over 45 peer-reviewed scientific publications in journals focused on endodontics, oral biology, biomedical materials, engineering in medicine, biomedical optics, optical engineering, oral rehabilitation, science and technology, and bioelectronics. He has also been in high demand as a speaker in international scientific conventions.

Dr. Kishen has a PhD in Biomedical Engineering from the Nanyang Technological University in Singapore (2002), a MDS in Endodontics and Operative Dentistry from Tamilnadu Medical University in Madras, India (1996), and a BDS from the University of Madras, India (1992).
Dr. Torneck Heads IFEA 8th World Congress
The International Federation of Endodontic Associations will be holding its 8th World Congress in Athens, Greece October 6-9, 2010. Dr. Calvin Torneck is currently the Secretary of this organization. Membership includes endodontic associations and societies from 29 countries on five continents. The World Congress is the most nationally diverse meeting held in Endodontics.

Endo Ski Day
After a hiatus of several years students and staff of Grad Endo once again traded their files for fleece and headed up to Alpine Ski Club, Blue Mountain on Friday March 12th. Lunch was generously sponsored by Dentsply Canada. Later in the afternoon the group were invited back to the Torneck chalet for après ski and a light dinner. As in past years the ski day proved to be a great way to bring students and staff together in a relaxed non-academic environment.

Oral Radiology: Principles and Interpretation in its 28th Year
The textbook, Oral Radiology: Principles and Interpretation, written and edited by Drs. Stuart White and Michael Pharoah 7T5 is now in the 6th edition and its 28th year as a published textbook. Translated into Spanish, Portuguese, Polish, Farsi and soon Chinese, it has also been published with minor alterations in India and the Philippines. Contributing authors who are members of the U of T Faculty of Dentistry include Drs. Ernest Lam, Susanne Perschbacher (MSc Oral Radiology 0T6), Linda Lee, Bob Wood and Grace Petrikowski (Diploma Oral Radiology 8T8).

3rd Annual Wellness Fair at the Faculty
Thank you to everyone who attended the 3rd Annual Wellness Fair at the Faculty. The auditorium was alive and buzzing as people got the chance to take in the Zumba and Bootcamp fitness, while Yoga and Qigong helped to calm that energy down! Congratulations to our winners and thanks to our generous donors, volunteers and supporters. You know who you are!

Only Canadian Invited to Orthodontic Conference in India
Congratulations to Dr. Sunjay Suri, Orthodontics, the only Canadian speaker to be invited to the 44th Indian Orthodontic Conference held in New Delhi in November 2009. He spoke on the Treatment of Malocclusion in Individuals with Special Needs.

Carilynne Yarascavitch receives Olav Alvares Award
Congratulations to Carilynne Yarascavitch 0T4, (MSc Dental Anaesthesia 0T8) recipient of the “Olav Alvares Award for Outstanding Articles Published in the Journal of Dental Education”.
Co-authors include Dr. Glenn Regehr, Dr. Brian Hodges, and Dr. Daniel Haas. The Award was presented by Dr. Ronald Hunt, President of the American Dental Education Association, on February 28th at the ADEA Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. Carilynne is currently a PhD Student at the Faculty of Dentistry and Research Fellow at the Wilson Centre for Research in Education.

Quoted in the Wall Street Journal
Kudos to Dr. Dennis Cvitkovitch who was widely quoted in an article in the Wall Street Journal on December 7th entitled “A New Front in War on Cavities”. Read the entire article online at online.wsj.com.
message from the dss president

Preparing for the Real World

It was truly an honour to be part of this year’s DSS Council. Many thanks go out to the council members. You guys have made my job that much easier and I’m extremely proud to have served my term with your assistance. I would like to congratulate Edwin Chang who will serve as the DSS president for the 2010-2011 term. As the DSS president, and a member of the graduating class, I look back and truly appreciate the vast experiences that have occurred over the past year and how this Faculty has prepared me for the real world!

Our coed volleyball and men’s hockey teams both made it to the finals in the playoffs. Even though both teams were defeated in the finals, they played extremely competitively and represented our Faculty with true sportsmanship and utmost professionalism.

Through the generous support of the Alumni Association some students had the pleasure of attending the annual International Dental Student Conference (IDSC) 2010 which was held in Montreal at the end of January.

Students have participated in food drives, blood drives, the breast cancer walk/run, and the CN Tower climb. The second annual Oral Health Total Health (OHTH) day was an even bigger event this year.

This year’s Dentantics reps, Shayna Levitan and Elena Gershenzon, worked hard all year in order to produce a spectacular show. Thanks to all the Alumni who came out and supported our students in this wonderful event.

The Alumni Mentorship Program is a great program that enables students to interact with Dentists/Specialists. After the office visits, students along with Alumni saw themselves in a more informal setting sharing life experiences in general at the pub!

A big thanks goes to Dean Mock, Dr. Carroll, Susan Alksnis, the faculty, staff and Alumni Association for supporting the student body and facilitating a positive learning environment. Your efforts help us become confident and competent health care practitioners of the future.

Congratulations to the graduating class of 1T0, I wish you all the best in your future endeavours!

Fanar Swaida
Dental Students’ Society President
This year, Dentantics 2010 made a triumphant return to Hart House Theatre on March 11 and 12 as ‘Driller’ was performed to an enthusiastic crowd.

Dental students and staff showed off their many talents by singing, acting and dancing through the Michael Jackson themed show.

The hilarious performance, satirizing the day-to-day grind of U of T dental school, was accompanied by the amazing dentistry band that rocked out on multiple Michael Jackson numbers.

All proceeds of the event went to ‘Oral Health Total Health’, with the goal of creating a new special needs dental clinic at Mount Sinai Hospital.

A big thank you to everybody who helped make the show a tremendous success – especially the Class of 2011. It is amazing what busy dental students can accomplish outside of the classroom.

Congratulations 1T1 on a fantastic performance!

Shayna Levitan and Elena Gershenzon
Dentantics Producers

PHOTOS: EDWIN CHANG, 3RD YEAR STUDENT
The fourteenth annual Dental Students’ Society (DSS) and Alumni Association Awards of Distinction Night was held on Tuesday March 23rd at the Faculty. Exceptional students were honoured for their dedication to extracurricular activities while maintaining a good academic standing. We also had the pleasure of recognizing those faculty and staff members who go above and beyond in providing much needed support to our student body. It was a night filled with laughs, delicious catered food and drinks, and an overall positive atmosphere away from the classroom!

**Teacher of the Year Award**
Dr. E. Freeman 6T5; Dr. D. Haas 7T9; Dr. H. Holmes and Dr. D. McComb (MScD 7T4)

**Anita Arbour Award**
Connie Farramenta; Monica McFarlane; Elizabeth Geref and Terri Jancen

**Dental Students Society Honourary Member Award**
In recognition of outstanding contribution to undergraduate students:
Dr. G. Anderson; Dr. J. Brown;
Susan Alksnis; Dr. A. Plazas and Fatima Aguiar

**Dental Students Society Award of Distinction**
The Dental Students Society Award of Distinction was presented to Sean Prusky for having shown outstanding contribution, commitment and dedication to the Dental Students’ Society and participation in activities at the Faculty of Dentistry.
Symposium Marks Retirement

The Faculty of Dentistry is hosting a dinner and symposium to celebrate Professor Richard Ellen’s multi-dimensional contributions to our understanding of microbial ecology and its impact on human health, as well as his work as an inspiring teacher and valued mentor.

The dinner will take place at 6:30 p.m. at The Old Mill in Etobicoke on Sunday, June 27. The symposium will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, June 28 at the University of Toronto Faculty Club.

Information at www.utoronto.ca/dentistry under “What’s New”.

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The Faculty of Dentistry Alumni Department invites you to:

UNLIMITED GOLF! 4 CE CREDITS!
November 4-7, 2010. Charlotte, NC

Package Includes:
- Round Trip airfare from Toronto to Charlotte on Air Canada
- Tour of Pelton and Crane Facilities/Lunch and Seminar (4 CE Credits).
- Deluxe Motorcoach transfers to & from Charlotte Airport, to Pelton and Crane and to Ballantyne.
- Deluxe Accommodations, King or Two Doubles www.theballantynehotel.com

The Unlimited Golf Package is Limited Capacity! Reserve Now!

Package with airfare
Deluxe Double Occupancy: $1299 USD per person
Deluxe Single Room: $1799 USD
Transfers: included

Package without airfare
Deluxe Room No Airfare: $849 USD per person
Single Room no Airfare: $1349.00
Transfers: add $100 USD round trip

P&G TRAVEL is the exclusive provider of this tour package.
**Bonus** Reserve a 2 Room Foursome and get a Complimentary Breakfast for 4. (must be booked as a foursome and deposit received together).

Register Now as Space is Limited. A Non-Refundable Deposit of $500 USD per person is required at time of Booking; Final Payment is Due October 1, 2010.

Please contact either Virgil or Judy at: 905 303 0200.
Toll Free: 1 877 586 8747 or E-mail: info@pgtravel.ca

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Ensuring Viability of University-Based Continuing Dental Education

The current CDE academic year is coming to a close and planning is underway for the 2010/2011 year. We have a number of courses already confirmed that are highlighted in this issue (see page 13) and we are finalizing others that will be announced in the summer issue of CDE News. We have tried to create a mix of courses to touch all disciplines including courses that are of interest to the entire office team. We have also tried to have a balance of lecture-based, hands-on and half day or evening courses. We welcome your input into the planning process in order that we may meet your needs in areas of continuing dental education that is relevant to your practice. A number of on-line courses are also under production and will be available this summer for convenient viewing at home or on a rainy day at the cottage.

The Faculty very much appreciates the support of Alumni who attend courses that the CDE Department offers. University based CDE Departments across North America are under increasing pressure to ensure that these programs operate on a cost recovery basis. We know that there is an abundance of choice in the CDE area and dentists receive copious amounts of advertising for these programs. By choosing courses offered by the Faculty you are helping to ensure the viability of university based continuing dental education that will assist in improving your knowledge, skill and judgment throughout your professional career, with educational materials that are scientifically based and free of commercial influence.

The staff of the CDE Department wishes you a safe and enjoyable summer and we look forward to seeing you at a future course.

Partners in Excellence

Our CDE programs would not be possible without the generous support of unrestricted educational grants from the dental industry. Thank you to all of the companies listed below that either participated in our Partners in Excellence program or provided grants for specific courses.

The Aurum Group
Advil (Wyeth Canada)
Bisco Dental Products Canada
BMO Bank of Montreal
Brasseler Canada
Canadian Dental Protective Association
Citagenix
Clinical Research Dental
Crest Oral B (P&G Oral Health)
DCY Chartered Accountants
Dentsply Canada
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MediaMed
Nobel Biocare
Oral Science
RBC Financial Group
SciCan
Scotiabank
Septodont
Shaw Lab Group
Spiegel Rosenthal Business and Healthcare Lawyers
alumni today

U of T Faculty of Dentistry 9th Annual Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament

Raising funds to support dental student activities

Student leaders receiving awards for their volunteer efforts

Friday, September 17th, 2010
at Copper Creek Golf Club

Tee off: 8:00 am
Fee: $350 per player
Early Bird: $300 (by July 16)
Recent grads ('05 and later): $300
Includes breakfast, cocktails, lunch, prizes and gift
Choice of format: Individual Play or Team Scramble

Info/Sponsorships: www.utoronto.ca/dentistry/alumni or 416-979-4940 ext 1

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