

# Mdental

SPRING 2013

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



## Generations of Ambition:

When Dentistry  
Helps Families  
Grow

## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

### At Face Value

Our values are the fundamental characteristics that define us. At the University of Maryland School of Dentistry, the institutional framework is built upon seven core values: knowledge, excellence, leadership, civility, diversity, collaboration and accountability. More than aspirations, these values are instrumental components of daily life for our students, faculty, staff and alumni.

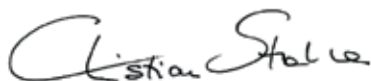
Excellence and accountability, for example, are demonstrated by a few of our stellar alumni who are the subject of this issue's cover story. Dedicated friends of UMSOD, the Sarubin, Eggnatz and Rosenthal families have built a legacy by providing exceptional care to their local communities.

Civility is a core value that has been taken to heart by our alumni. We are pleased to share the story of Lillian Wong, DDS '77, who serves as a compassionate role model by providing dental care to troubled youth. Alumni Michael DiPaula, DDS '70, Eric Katkow, DDS '70, and Peter Cha, DDS '86, showcase the diversity that is evident in our strong alumni base. Each of their stories is featured in a new section titled "Beyond the White Coat."

I hope that you will read the story of one of our dedicated faculty members, Valli Meeks, DDS '88, RDH, MS, who, in the spirit of collaboration, is working to establish a dental school in the African nation of Rwanda.

Knowledge and leadership are evidenced by two new department chairmen, Doug Barnes, DDS '83, MS, and Eung-Kwon Pae, DDS, MSc, PhD, and by new assistant dean Karen Faraone, DDS '78. I invite you to read more about these enthusiastic administrators and their new responsibilities in this magazine.

With a foundation rooted in our core values, the University of Maryland School of Dentistry continues to shape the future of dentistry.



Christian S. Stohler, DMD, DrMedDent  
Dean



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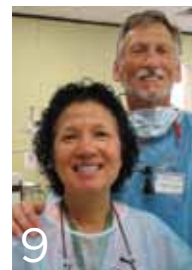
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# Generations of Ambition:

## WHEN DENTISTRY HELPS FAMILIES GROW



Three generations of Sarubin dentists and dentists-in-training: (from left) Max Emmerling, DDS '15, Danny Sarubin, DDS '94, Murray Sarubin, DDS '66, Murray's brother-in-law Robert Axman, DDS '52, Todd Sarubin, DDS '85 and Koby Sarubin, DDS '16.

### The Sarubin Family

Dr. Larry Donald Sarubin, who passed away in October of 2011, could not have imagined the impact his life would have on his community and future generations of Sarubins when he established his dental practice in 1958.

Born and raised in Baltimore, Larry Sarubin graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park and had a dream of someday becoming a physician. His son, Todd Sarubin, DDS '85, spoke about his father's humble beginnings at the 2007 Alpha Omega Fraternity Founders' Day Celebration where he presented his father with the Walter I. Levine Award for Meritorious Service. "My father's involvement in the fraternity and

the community never wavered. Whenever the fraternity hosted a local, national or international event, he was a major part of the action," says Todd.

The vision of Sarubin Family Dental Associates grew out of the turbulent 1950s, which was a time when Jewish and other minority groups struggled to integrate into mainstream America. Like many aspiring Jewish physicians of his time, Larry's dream of becoming a physician came to an end when his medical school application was declined. His strong work ethic and drive to succeed led him to begin working with his father, Samuel, at a women's coat factory. Later, he decided to enlist in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Albuquerque, N.M. for several years before returning to Baltimore in 1954.





Larry Sarubin, DDS '58, passed away in October, 2011, but his legacy lives on through generations of Sarubin family dentists.

After his military service, Larry held onto his dream of serving patients as a health care provider. Still feeling the sting of rejection from medical school, he was reluctant to follow the advice of friends and family. Finally, they persuaded Larry to go downtown to the School of Dentistry and talk with someone. After a lengthy conversation with the admissions director, Larry was accepted into the school on the same day.

It was during his tenure at the School of Dentistry, which was then known as the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, that Larry became involved in Alpha Omega. The fraternity would become one of his true passions. After graduating in 1958, Larry established his dental practice in Catonsville, Md. He founded his practice along with a physician friend, and the two shared patients as well as office space. His brother, Murray Sarubin, DDS '66, joined the growing dental practice in 1971.

Dr. Larry Sarubin's tireless work in the community is legendary. He has volunteered in various capacities as a faculty member at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry, and as a health care provider at Sinai Hospital in Baltimore. As an Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity volunteer, he mentored countless dental students and traveled with them to visit a recently built dental school in Israel.

Larry's greatest accomplishment may be the inspiration he provides to his family. Larry's brother, Murray Sarubin, DDS '66, nephew-in-law, Daryl Witt, DDS '75, son, Todd Sarubin, DDS '85, and nephew, Danny Sarubin, DDS '94, all followed in his footsteps to become dentists. In fact, Larry, Murray, Todd and Danny practiced together until Larry's death. Murray, Todd and Danny continue to practice at Sarubin Family Dental Associates. Larry also ignited a spark for dentistry in his grandsons, Max Emmerling, DDS '15, and Koby Sarubin, DDS '16.

"I was headed to medical school but realized that my dream was to be a dentist like my father. He had such passion for his profession and great compassion for his patients. 'Never compromise' was his motto. His patients became his friends. It was truly a sight to see," Todd concludes.

### The Eggnatz Family

Charismatic and visionary, Dr. Meyer Eggnatz set the bar high for family members who wanted to follow in his footsteps. Though he passed away in 1991 at age 84, he uniquely used the profession of dentistry as a launching pad to transform his family, profession, community and nation.



(L-R) Marian G. Eggnatz and husband Dr. Michael Eggnatz, Dr. Lee Eggnatz and wife Marian S. Eggnatz, and Lee's daughter, Laurie Tepperberg

Born in 1907 to Russian immigrants, Meyer Eggnatz grew up on Park Avenue in Baltimore. He was the only son in a household with four children, and learned about the importance of family at a young

age. While he was attending high school, Meyer worked for the family tailoring business after school, but it was never his true passion. Meyer's son, Lee Eggnatz, DDS '58, says that his father often disappeared from the family business to spend time with his mentor, Dr. George M. Anderson, an orthodontist and graduate of the University of Maryland School of Dentistry. "My father was not interested in taking over my grandfather's tailoring business. In the beginning, he was interested in becoming a physician, but during that time, it was not easy for those who were of Jewish descent to get into medical school," remarks Lee.



Meyer Eggnatz (right) receives a founder's medal at the dedication of the Hebrew University School of Dental Medicine in Jerusalem, Israel.

Meyer did eventually apply to medical school, but his application was declined. He received advice and reassurance from Dr. Anderson, who took the younger man under his wing and encouraged him to apply to dental school. Meyer accepted his mentor's advice, and enrolled in the University of Maryland School of Dentistry.

Throughout his dental school career, Meyer developed a true passion for the practice of dentistry. He quickly became involved in the Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity and enjoyed camaraderie with his classmates. He graduated from dental school in 1928 and established a private practice in 1930.

Shortly after he went into practice, Meyer learned that patients on the Eastern Shore lacked access to a local orthodontist. To remedy this situation, he began traveling to Eastern Shore communities to provide orthodontic care. At this time, the Bay Bridge

connecting the eastern and western shores of Maryland had yet to be built, so ferries transported traffic across the Chesapeake Bay.

Later in his career, Meyer became an assistant professor at his alma mater, where he was instrumental in establishing the Department of Orthodontics. His support of the school served as an inspiration for other faculty members as well as his fellow alumni. Dr. Eggnatz was elected president of the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery Alumni Association and was also named the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year.

In 1951, Meyer and his wife, Rena, moved to Miami Beach, Fla., where he launched another successful dental practice. Meyer leveraged his influence as a community dentist to create a better life for his family and his community. He was a mentor for many budding dentists in southern Florida.

Meyer and Rena worked tirelessly to raise money to support health care initiatives in Miami Beach. Their generosity extended overseas, as well; they helped fundraise to build the first dental school in Israel. Meyer held a true passion for serving his local community and reaching out to those in need around the world.

Lee learned a great deal from his father when he joined the family dental practice, 12 years before Meyer retired in 1978. Ten years after Meyer retired, Lee's son, Michael Eggnatz, DDS '88, joined the practice, as well. The family still embodies the community-minded dedication and philanthropic heritage of its patriarch. Drs. Lee and Michael Eggnatz are establishing a scholarship fund at the School of Dentistry. The scholarship will honor the legacy of Meyer and the Eggnatz family.

### The Rosenthal Family

Dr. Barry Rosenthal has felt a powerful connection to his alma mater ever since he graduated from the University of Maryland School of Dentistry





At left: Barry Rosenthal, DDS '78, hoods his son, Brian, during the 2012 Honors Convocation ceremony. Above: Barry Rosenthal, DDS '78, and his wife, Terrie, in their dental practice in Sunrise, Fla.

(UMSOD) in 1978. Thirty-five years later, that connection has grown even stronger: Barry's son, Brian Rosenthal, DDS '12, will follow in his father's footsteps and join the family dental practice this summer.

This is not the first time Barry has inspired someone else to become a dentist. However, he didn't expect to be a family trailblazer when he enrolled in dental school. Barry chose the profession because he felt a strong desire to serve people in his community. His younger brother, Mark, noticed Barry's passion for the profession and decided to follow suit, enrolling at UMSOD and graduating in 1980.

After Barry graduated from UMSOD in 1978, he served three years in the U.S. Army. Following his military service, Dr. Rosenthal decided to move to southern Florida, a location that he felt would offer more opportunities for a growing dental practice.

From the very beginning, Barry ran his dental office like a family business. Many of his employees have worked for him for 20 years or more. Barry met his wife, Terrie, after he hired her to work in his practice as a dental hygienist. The two have been happily married since 1985. Terrie has continued to work in the dental practice, first as a hygienist and now as a bookkeeper. As the practice flourished, the Rosenthal family flourished, as well. Barry and his wife have four children: Jason, Shayna, Brian and Melissa.

Brian took a keen interest in his father's work. While Barry encouraged Brian to make his own choices about his future profession, he couldn't help but show a certain bias toward dentistry. "I felt fan-

tastic when Brian decided to go to the University of Maryland for dental school. He said all along that he wanted to be a dentist, ever since he was a little boy. I'm proud that he's following in my footsteps," Barry remarks.

While Brian was attending dental school, he and his father often found themselves comparing notes about the latest dental technology. A true technophile, Barry endeavors to keep his practice current. He enjoys learning about the latest dental equipment at UMSOD. As an alumnus and

parent, Barry relished the opportunity to visit his son at school and see the high-tech clinics and simulation labs. In fact, Barry decided to purchase a specialized crown-milling machine for his practice after learning about the technology his son was utilizing.

Brian's graduation was a rewarding day. "It felt very good to be back at the school, especially since some of my son's professors were actually my classmates," states Barry.

Brian will join the family practice in July, after he completes a residency at a Navajo reservation in Winslow, Ariz. As summer approaches, Barry can hardly contain his excitement. "There's a big smile on my face when I think about working with Brian. He'll probably teach me more about dentistry than I'll be able to teach him, but I can teach him other important lessons, like how to handle patients," Barry remarks.

Since his own graduation, Barry has felt a deep desire to support his alma mater. Now that his son is an alumnus, too, Barry continues to support the education of future dental students.

One of those future students might even be a young Rosenthal, though Barry admits that it is a bit early to think about sending future family generations to the School of Dentistry. "I will say this: I wouldn't discourage it, that's for sure," Barry says.





Dr. Peter Cha performs with his hard rock band Faded-X.

## Rock Solid PETER CHA, DDS '86, MAKES TIME FOR MUSIC

**Peter Cha, DDS '86**, is as comfortable sitting next to a dental chair as he is jamming on a stage. Dr. Cha, who practices in Frederick, Md., spends his spare time playing electric guitar in three rock bands, each with a very different musical style.

Music has been an important part of Dr. Cha's life since high school. In fact, he is so passionate about rock and roll that he even found time to play while attending dental school. He recalls travelling to perform at a West Virginia club the night before an exam. "All the way back, I was driving and my bandmates were reading notes and discussing them. We managed to tough it out until the end of the exam and then came back to our rooms and passed out," he quips. Dr. Cha admits that sometimes his studies took a back seat to his music.

Dr. Cha has continued playing since he established his practice, though he does his best to avoid all-nighters these days. He performs with Faded-X, a hard rock and heavy metal band; ESP, a progressive classic rock band; and a Sunday morning church rock band. He enjoys the unique challenges of all three types of

music, but the Sunday morning performances are the ones he finds most fulfilling. "How often do you get to serve your church with something you already have a deep passion for?" he asks.

Playing in three bands involves plenty of practice. For example, while preparing for a gig, Dr. Cha will often immerse himself in a six-hour rehearsal session. The payoff for all that hard work comes when he is on stage, showing off his guitar skills in front of a screaming crowd. "The performance for me is a natural high. Generally, I'm kind of a shy guy, but put me on stage, behind a guitar, and I have a lot of fun," he offers.

The music keeps Dr. Cha young. It also helps him stay in shape; jumping around on stage is as good a workout as the gym, he says. The rock music he plays, from metal heavies Dokken to grunge superstars Pearl Jam, helps him relate to younger patients. "What can I do to connect with them? A lot of times, we'll talk about music. Many young patients are surprised. They think, 'what does an older guy like you know about rock?'" he concludes.





**Michael DiPaula, DDS '70**, doesn't need to venture far from his suburban dental practice to breathe fresh, country air. Located just a few miles from the beltway in rural Baltimore County, Dr. DiPaula's 120-acre farm is an easy getaway from the daily grind.

His love of the outdoors inspired him to buy the farm more than 30 years ago. As a child, he spent time on his uncle's farm and dreamed of owning enough land to keep horses. Today, he operates a horse-boarding business, Fox Folly Farm, and has a dozen equine tenants. Twelve different horses, with 12 unique personalities, are enough to keep Dr. DiPaula and his wife, Nancy, very busy. "When they can find a way to get into trouble, they'll do it," he remarks. The animals will occasionally suffer from colic or injure themselves on loose boards.

The work is not without its rewards, however, and witnessing the birth of a foal is one of the biggest. Dr. DiPaula recalls one Easter morning when his wife visited the barn to check on a pregnant horse. She noticed that someone had left the hose running, spilling water all over the floor. Irritated, Nancy returned to the house and came back to clean up the water. "She glanced in the pen as she walked by, noticed an extra pair of ears, and called me screaming, 'You'd better get down here, the foal is born!'" he exclaims.

The horses are a handful, but the farm work alone is practically a full-time job. Dr. DiPaula spends hours mowing his fields to keep the sprawling grounds in tip-top shape. The land is a source of great pride since he literally built the farm from the ground up. He designed the house and barn, dug the one-acre fishing pond, and spent an entire winter collecting rocks to construct a koi pond and eight-foot waterfall. A perfectionist, Dr. DiPaula recalls drawing sketches of the property for hours to ensure the house was built in the exact right spot—he wanted a clear view of the sunset over the pond.

For Dr. DiPaula, the greatest reward for all his hard work comes when he saddles up and takes a horse out onto one of the wooded trails. Alone in the forest, surrounded by the sounds of nature, he finds an overwhelming sense of peace. "This is my Shangri-La. When I'm here, I don't even know the rest of the world exists."

## Horsing Around

FOR DR. DIPAULA, THE BIGGEST REWARD FOR ALL HIS HARD WORK COMES WHEN HE SADDLES UP AND TAKES A HORSE OUT ONTO ONE OF THE WOODED TRAILS.

Dr. Michael DiPaula with one of his favorite horses

Photo by Adam Zewe



## Marathon Man: ERIC KATKOW, DDS '70, PICKS UP THE PACE

**Eric Katkow, DDS '70**, is running for his life—and his health. Passionate about fitness, Dr. Katkow has completed more than 25 marathons, 20 triathlons and 10 ultra-marathons, which are races of 31 miles or more.

He was introduced to running by a patient who visited his office in the late 1970s. The patient invited him to run a 10k with the Howard County Striders, but Dr. Katkow was worried he wouldn't be able to run such a long distance. "My patient said, 'If you can't make it that far, we'll send a car to pick you up.' He was, of course, kidding," Dr. Katkow says. Despite his misgivings, Dr. Katkow completed the 10k, developing a new love for a healthy pastime.

Fast forward a few decades and the 68-year-old dentist, who practices in Columbia, still laces up his running shoes regularly. Every Saturday morning, he can be found pounding the pavement with the Bagel Runners, a dedicated group who begin each run at a local bagel shop. They're so dedicated, in fact, that even the mountains of snow that fell on Columbia a few winters ago couldn't keep them indoors. "We ended up running four or five miles in the middle of the street behind a snow plow," he states.

A 10k doesn't seem too far to Dr. Katkow anymore. He has run his share of longer races and says the miles go quickly as long as he has a talkative run-

ning partner. "The biggest challenge of a marathon is having enough to talk about," he remarks. The social aspect of running is what Dr. Katkow enjoys the most, whether he meets someone new or catches up with an old friend. He once ran into two former student mentees during a 50-mile race in Washington County, Md.

Dr. Katkow's hobby has taken him to some truly picturesque places. He recalls running up Grandfather Mountain, the tallest in North Carolina's Blue Ridge range. With each step, Dr. Katkow marveled at the misty peaks surrounding him. Halfway around the world, he ran a 10k across the floors of volcanoes in Hawaii. He could feel the blistering heat from steam jets bursting through cracks in the earth.

More than a marathon man, Dr. Katkow also enjoys pushing himself by participating in triathlons. The swimming portion of the race is the most challenging, but he feels a great sense of accomplishment when he crosses the finish line. "I think exercise is really good physically and mentally. It is the best stress reduction activity that I know of," he concludes.

THE SOCIAL ASPECT OF RUNNING IS WHAT DR. KATKOW ENJOYS THE MOST, WHETHER HE MEETS SOMEONE NEW OR CATCHES UP WITH AN OLD FRIEND.

Above (L-R): Dr. Eric Katkow runs in the Baltimore Marathon, emerges from the water in the Columbia Triathlon and completes the biking leg of the Columbia Triathlon.

## PROFILE

# Lillian Wong, DDS '77

For Lillian Wong, DDS '77, dentistry requires steady hands and an open heart. She uses her profession to improve the lives of children, especially those in need of more than dental care.

Dr. Wong, who has been in private practice in Carlisle, Pa., since 1980, serves as the dental director at Hoffman Homes for Youth, a resident psychiatric center for children. Located amidst the rolling hills of rural Adams County, Pa., Hoffman Homes provides behavioral and cognitive therapy for about 140 troubled kids between the ages of 6 and 18.

For more than seven years, Dr. Wong has made the 45-minute drive through the countryside each week, providing comprehensive dental care in the center's clinic. The kids, and their unique needs, attracted her to the facility. More than half the children admitted to Hoffman Homes have attempted suicide and 95 percent have a history of aggression. "Many of these kids are from broken homes and have a lot of emotional issues. Some of the stories they tell about how they got there are truly heartbreaking," she states.

While the children are at Hoffman Homes, they are surrounded by caring adults in a safe environment. Dr. Wong strives to be patient and compassionate so she can act as a good role model. Still, she sometimes finds it difficult to communicate with the children about their oral health needs. Many have spent years bouncing between foster homes and youth detention centers and haven't visited the dentist regularly. Often, they view dental care as frightening, unfamiliar or pointless. "These are kids who do not have a lot of trust for any grownup. Trying to gain their trust so I can clean their teeth can be a real challenge," she remarks.

Despite their resistance, the children are often appreciative when Dr. Wong's work is complete. She recalls one child who fell and broke a tooth. He was skeptical when he sat in Dr. Wong's dental chair, but after she finished the restoration, the child was amazed that his new tooth looked better than the original. "Some of these kids walk in and say, 'I hate the dentist. I don't want to be here.' It feels good when, after the appointment, they actually say 'thank you,'" she explains.

Ultimately, Dr. Wong gets back even more than she gives to the children. Working solo and performing a wide range of dental services keeps her skills sharp for her own practice, which she shares with her husband, Bill Spruill, DDS '77. The warm feeling Dr. Wong gets when she sees a child's smile is the greatest reward of all. "I like to think that I'm fulfilling a need and doing something really useful. My hope is that, when these children leave Hoffman Homes, I've turned their opinions about dental care around," she concludes.



Dr. Lillian Wong in her Carlisle, Pa., dental office with her husband and partner Bill Spruill, DDS '77.

“I like to think that I'm fulfilling a need and doing something really useful. My hope is that, when these children leave Hoffman Homes, I've turned their opinions about dental care around.”







# Dental Students Juggle Married Life and Academics

*A strong marriage is built on commitment, compromise and hard work. Marriage is not always easy, but with the right mindset, it can be continually rewarding. For all its ups and downs, marriage sounds a lot like dental school.*

*No one knows that better than those who choose to walk down the aisle before setting foot inside the simulation lab.*



Nicole and Corey Chaney

## Paying Dues

Money is often in short supply for young couples. Nicole Chaney and her husband, Corey, are no exception. The two were married in June, 2009, and Nicole graduated from the dental hygiene program in the spring of 2012.

Both Nicole and Corey were repaying college loans and finding space in their budget to keep up with the payments on their new home. "Financially, we were a little strapped. Nevertheless, I had his support and we knew at the end of the day that this is what we really wanted to do," Nicole says.

Corey, an accountant by day, took a second job to help pay some of the bills. That made it even harder for the two to spend time together. Compromise is something they've learned the hard way, Nicole states.

## Working Together

Preparing for a wedding is stressful, but Raquel Brentson, DDS '14, had an added layer of anxiety—she was studying for her DAT exam at the same time. She took the exam a



Raquel and Donovan Brenston

month before she married Donovan and passed with flying colors. Despite a few setbacks, the wedding went off without a hitch, too. "I squeezed almost all the planning into the last month. I booked the chairs for my wedding two days before the ceremony," she remarks.

Since tying the knot, Raquel draws support from her husband, who, she says, showed a heartwarming level of understanding. She stays busy studying at the library—sometimes for whole days on end—and says it is wonderful to come home to a clean house with dinner on the table. "There are times I probably wouldn't have clean laundry or something to eat if it weren't for him," states Raquel.

## Time Management

Kevin Parks, DDS '12, has been perfecting his time management skills during nearly 12 years of marriage. He and his wife, Tiffany, also have three children, which made his balancing act that much more challenging.

While he was in school, it was difficult for Kevin to make time for school work, long clinic hours and his children's after school activities. He adopted a helpful approach. "When I was home, I was a father, but as soon as the kids went to sleep, then I was a dental student again," he remarks.

Still, he sometimes faced multiple exams in a week and ended up spending so much time at the library that his wife acted like a single parent. He relied on her support and understanding to keep him going. "I'm hoping this is something we look back on in five years with the realization that it was tough, but we made it through together," he concludes.



Kevin and Tiffany Parks with their three children



The Thoren and Iber families meet at the School of Dentistry. (L-R): Jeffrey Thoren with daughter Jane, Betty Iber, Frank Iber, Nancy Thoren and James Thoren.

# Alumnus Establishes Scholarship for **Married Students**

Thanks to Dr. Iber's financial support, Dr. Thoren was able to purchase dental instruments and pay the tuition of his young son Jeffrey's school. To help his family make ends meet, Dr. Thoren held several different summer jobs, including a position dissecting heads for the Department of Anatomy. During the school year, he and his wife were working 12- to 14-hour days. "We were basically right on the edge of bankruptcy the whole time we were going to school. If we had enough money for a pizza at the end of the week, then it was a good week," Dr. Thoren states.

Without Dr. Iber's support, the Thorens would have been forced to borrow substantial amounts of money to pay tuition. Instead, Dr. Thoren graduated debt free. Despite the struggles of school, neither he nor his wife ever gave up on the future they wanted for themselves and their children. He now hopes to make life easier for a dental student facing the same situation. "It's a hard way to go through school because you have to struggle the whole time, but the end result is that you end up where you want to be," he concludes.

For Dr. Iber, who has mentored more than 120 students, it is always rewarding when a friend achieves success. However, he never expected to be honored through a scholarship. "I am pleasantly overwhelmed by the gesture on their part," he says.

*Dr. Thoren served 17 years in the Army after graduating from UMSOD. He recently retired from practice in Tacoma, Wash. He and his wife, Nancy, have one son, one daughter and three grandchildren.*

When James Thoren, DDS '78, was completing dental school at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD), he and his wife relied on financial and moral support from their mentors, Dr. Frank and Anne Iber. The Thorens are hoping to help other students who are similarly situated by establishing a School of Dentistry scholarship in honor of their close friends. The Frank L. and Anne E. Iber Scholarship will provide an annual award to a married dental student.

Dr. Thoren knows firsthand how difficult it is to attend dental school while supporting a family. Married and raising a young son, he enrolled at UMSOD after serving in the Air Force. Faced with rigorous coursework and a busy clinic schedule, he was unable to work during the school year. His wife, Nancy, was offered a job as an administrator for Dr. Iber, who ran the gastroenterology department at the School of Medicine.

Dr. Iber recalls Nancy as the perfect secretary, able to deftly handle any task that came across her desk. Her salary increased each year she worked for him, commensurate with her stellar performance. The Ibers and Thorens quickly became close friends. "It was very clear that they were a team going to dental school, and she was going to be the breadwinner," he remarks.



# History Meets Herstory

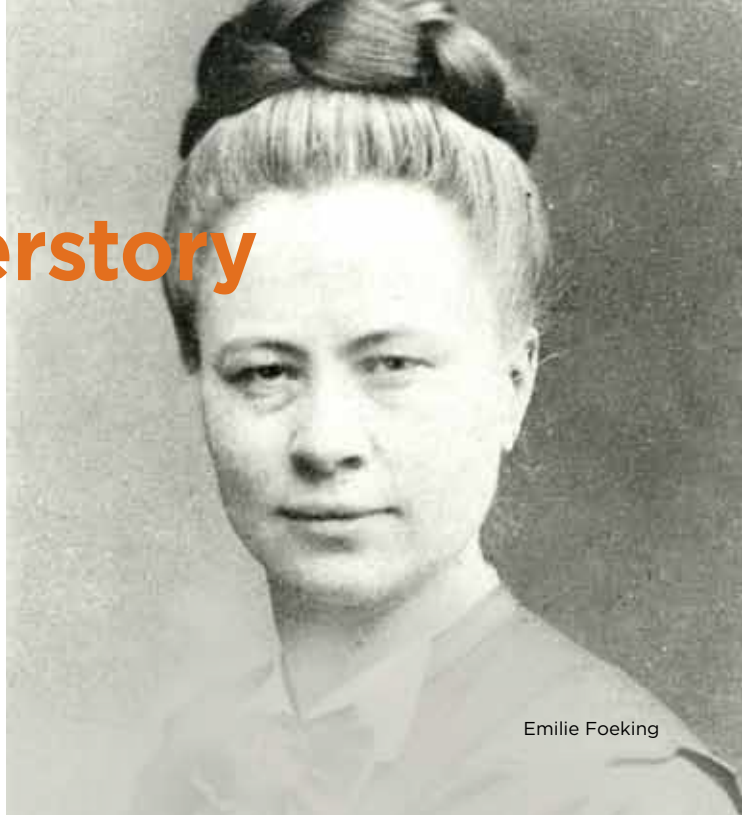
Women like Elizabeth Blackwell, Florence Nightingale and Marie Curie are historically renowned. In 1849, Blackwell became the first woman to graduate from medical school in the United States. In conjunction with medicine, Nightingale is considered a pioneer in formalizing a structure for nursing education. Curie is applauded for research in radioactivity and became the first woman to receive the Nobel Prize in 1911. These women are considered trailblazers, and perhaps feminist precursors, for overcoming significant social barriers imposed simply because of their gender. These struggles have been a common plight throughout history that persist today. Dental education and the profession of dentistry are not immune to them.

The first woman to graduate from a dental institution, Dr. Lucy Beaman Hobbs, pursued her dental education and career after she was denied admission to medical school in Cincinnati, Ohio. In February 1873, Emilie Foeking became the first female graduate from the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery. Foeking, born in Prussia, was rejected from the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery. She wrote a thesis entitled “Is Woman Adapted to the Dental Profession?” following her commencement. It was published in the *American Journal of Dental Science* in April, 1873. Through a series of questions, Foeking argued that women can practice dentistry. She supported her response with a variety of sources, including the Bible. She stated that change would not happen in a day, but over time.

Since Foeking’s graduation more than 140 years ago, women have entered the profession of dentistry in large numbers. In fact, the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD) class of 2016 has 67 male students and 63 female students. Female dental students find professional support through the national organization and local student chapters of the American Association of Women Dentists, or AAWD.

Fourth-year dental student Brittany Bergeron has been involved with the AAWD since her first year of dental school. Bergeron is the current student chapter president for UMSOD, as well as the national representative.

“The profession of dentistry is rapidly expanding for



Emilie Foeking

women. When I tell people that I am in dental school, they assume I am in the dental hygiene program. I have to politely correct them and inform them that I am actually going to be a dentist,” explains Bergeron during her break between classes and patients. She says that patients seem to enjoy having a female dentist, but she wishes they were not so surprised by the experience.

In addition to a large national support network, there are female dentists who paved the way as leaders in dentistry. Dr. Mary Beth Reidy, associate director of the post-graduate periodontics program, was recently elected president of the AAWD. She is particularly interested in effective women leadership within the profession, the role of women’s health in a dental school curriculum and the impact of health care legislation.

“It is great to see University of Maryland School of Dentistry students involved at the national level. I truly aim to be a mentor and help address concerns of women in the dental profession, which are not that much different from the concerns of our male counterparts,” states Dr. Reidy. She wants to position the AAWD as a resource and support network for practice management, work-life-balance and the continuation of education and advocacy.

If Dr. Foeking were alive today, she would be impressed by the answer to the question that her thesis posed long ago. Today’s female dental students will make sacrifices for their education in order to reach their goal. Like Foeking, history will remember them for their significant contributions to the profession.



# Dental Treatment Helps Patient Rebuild Her Life



**W**hen Helen Dale first sat in the waiting room at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD), she was unsure if she'd ever be able to talk again. Thirty years later, Dale not only speaks, she sings the praises of the UMSOD dentists who rebuilt her jaw, and helped her rebuild her life.

Her journey to the UMSOD clinic begins 2,500 miles from Baltimore. Dale, a native of Chicago, retired to Guadalajara, Mexico, in the early 1980s after a successful career in public relations. While she was living in Guadalajara, a burglar broke into her home and shot her twice in the face, completely destroying the left side of her jaw. She was rushed to a Mexican hospital, where she nearly died because the hospital did not have enough blood stored for surgical procedures. After being transferred to a private hospital, and receiving life-saving surgery, Dale took stock of her situation. "When I was shot, I thought that would be the end of my productive life," she remarks.

She returned to the U.S. and, on the recommendation of her son, Dale made the trip to Baltimore and the School of Dentistry. A frail woman on her

first visit to the clinic, she weighed only 89 pounds because she had been unable to eat solid food for weeks. Her jaws were wired shut so tightly that Dale could only drink through a flattened straw. She began treatment at UMSOD, where faculty members replaced bone in her jaw and rebuilt her upper and lower cheeks. "I was so impressed by their thoroughness and kindness at every level of the restoration," says Dale.

While she was receiving treatment at UMSOD, Dale's life took another unexpected turn. The Mexican peso lost so much value that all the money she had saved for her retirement in Guadalajara was worthless. Virtually penniless, Dale found an apartment in Baltimore and began building a new life. With her ability to speak restored, she took a job with the Baltimore County Police Department as a public relations officer. "I couldn't have gotten a job if it hadn't been for the treatment I received at the School of Dentistry," Dale states.

She began attending a church, which she discovered in a *Baltimore Magazine* she read one morning in the UMSOD clinic waiting room. At church, she met her future husband, Dr. Grady Dale, Jr., who then worked as assistant dean for student affairs at the School of Pharmacy. She had expected to return to Mexico and live out her retirement in solitude, but instead, she continues to enjoy a rewarding career, a happy family life and the ability to give back to her new community. Dale, who serves on the Electoral College for Maryland, also founded the activist group Maryland Women for Responsible Government.

She is grateful for the life she has today, and acknowledges that none of it would have been possible without the care she received at UMSOD. "The School of Dentistry gave me a new life and the opportunity to start a new career. I'm grateful for the ongoing service I've received," she concludes.





## PROFILE

Joshua Lubek, DDS, MD, FACS

## Da Vinci: On the Cutting Edge of Oral Cancer Surgery

**Q.** How did you develop an interest in head and neck cancer?

**A.** During my oral-maxillofacial surgery training at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, I learned a great deal about oncology. I find cancer surgery very interesting and challenging. For these patients, it is a very necessary surgery, so I feel a real connection with them. I enjoy helping cancer patients have a better quality of life.

**Q.** Tell us about your role as fellowship director of the Maxillofacial Oncology/Microvascular Surgery program.

**A.** I work with a group of fellows who are graduate surgeons and have an interest in furthering their knowledge of head and neck cancer. I enjoy training the next generation of academic oral-maxillofacial surgeons. They will use the skills they learn here to improve surgery programs across the country, ultimately providing better patient care.

**Q.** What are the biggest challenges of oral cancer surgery?

**A.** When patients come to me, they are scared. They are in a desperate situation and they are looking for help and hope. In addition, a lot of these patients have already received radiation or chemotherapy, which makes oral cancer surgery even more complicated. Reconstructions are often very difficult, especially for patients who present with advanced cancer because they were diagnosed late.



Photo by Adam Zewe

**TITLE:** Assistant Professor  
in the Department of Oral &  
Maxillofacial Surgery

**JOINED SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY:**  
2010

**CURRENT RESIDENCE:** Baltimore

**HOMETOWN:** Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**FAMILY:** Wife, Dr. Jessica Lubek  
(dentist practicing in Baltimore),  
daughter, age 7, and son, age 4

**HOBBIES:** Spending time with the  
family, snow skiing, water skiing, golf



**Q.** Tell us how you use the da Vinci robot for oral cancer surgeries.

**A.** The da Vinci robot was developed several years ago for general surgery procedures. I perform surgery while sitting at a console unit and watching the procedure on a 3D, high-definition television. The screen magnifies everything to show the minutest detail. I control the robot, which performs the surgery by precisely following my hand movements. The robot can hold four instruments in its arms and use two instruments simultaneously. The instruments are very small and narrow, which allows them to perform meticulous procedures.

**Q.** What are the biggest benefits of using the da Vinci robot?

**A.** The robot can manipulate the instruments with more precision than in traditional surgery due to the lack of hand tremor. The instruments are so tiny that surgery can be performed with only a small incision. For example, I used the robot to operate on a patient who had a tumor on the back of his tongue. The tumor was caused by recurrent cancer, so the patient had already undergone extensive treatments. I did not want to create a huge incision that would require advanced reconstruction. The robot was able to enter the oral cavity, making only a small cut, and excise the entire tumor.

**Q.** Do you anticipate using the da Vinci robot more frequently?

**A.** My colleagues and I have used the robot about 20 times this year. I would like to use the robot for more surgeries, but it depends on the case. Sometimes, traditional surgery is the better option for the patient. Most patients who could benefit from the robot are actually quite enamored with it. It is a new technology and many people find it very interesting.

**Q.** What do you see as the future of oral cancer surgery?

**A.** We are doing research to understand tumor biology. In recent years, oral surgeons have seen more patients who are nondrinkers and nonsmokers developing oral cancer. Some scientists think this could be linked to human papillomavirus. We are also studying new methods of early detection and prevention.

At left: Two of Dr. Lubek's surgical assistants work with the da Vinci robot.

**Q.** What is exciting about the new technologies in oral cancer surgery?

**A.** I recently began using 3D computer simulations for reconstruction and surgery. The computer allows me to create models and cutting guides for use in the operating room when I am removing a bone and reshaping it for a reconstruction. This leads to more accurate reconstructions and allows surgeons to work more efficiently in the operating room.

**Q.** What do you enjoy the most about your work?

**A.** I enjoy research, particularly studying tongue movements and reconstruction in cancer patients, because it leads to greater understanding of diseases. We can use that knowledge to help clinicians effectively diagnose and treat their patients. I also get a lot of satisfaction out of treating patients. As a cancer surgeon, I develop a strong relationship with my patients and their families.



The da Vinci robot allows Dr. Lubek to perform meticulous surgical procedures.



## Douglas Barnes, DDS '83, MS

Department of  
General Dentistry



Professor Doug Barnes, DDS '83, MS, has been named chairman of the Department of General Dentistry, a post he assumed on July 1, 2012. Dr. Barnes, who most recently served as director of the Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) Program, will continue to administer the residency program in his new role.

Dr. Barnes oversees the new Department of General Dentistry, which is home to the pre-doctoral general practice clinics and the AEGD program. "The new department will ultimately be creating a clinical environment that will mimic private practice as closely as possible. Hopefully, this model will allow students to progress farther than they have in the past," Dr. Barnes remarks.

He plans to intensify general dentistry training for pre-doctoral students, sharpening the focus on general dentists as treatment coordinators. Students will learn to collaborate with specialists to provide the highest level of care. In addition, students will gain additional experience treating patients in the streamlined clinic, Dr. Barnes says.

For Dr. Barnes, who graduated from UMSOD in 1983, leading the new department presents exciting career challenges. "I'm looking forward to creating a

whole new concept for the treatment of patients at the School of Dentistry and a model that will be new and exciting for students."

Dr. Barnes received his DDS from UMSOD in 1983 and earned a certificate in advanced general dentistry in 1984. He also received a master's degree in oral biology from the UM Graduate School in 1992 and completed an NIH fellowship in clinical research at the University of Washington. He is a member of Omicron Kappa Upsilon, the International College of Dentists and the Gamma Pi Delta Honor Societies.

Dr. Barnes is also a member of the Academy of General Dentistry, American Dental Education Association, American Dental Association, International Association for Dental Research and the American Association for Dental Research. Recently, he was

“THE NEW DEPARTMENT WILL ULTIMATELY BE CREATING A CLINICAL ENVIRONMENT THAT WILL MIMIC PRIVATE PRACTICE AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE.”

nominated for membership in the Pierre Fauchard Academy. He is an active clinical dental materials researcher. Dr. Barnes has published many articles

and presented lectures on esthetic dentistry in the U.S. and internationally. In addition to his teaching and research responsibilities, he maintains an active dental practice in Baltimore.



## Eung-Kwon Pae, DDS, MSc, PhD Department of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry



Eung-Kwon Pae, DDS, MSc, PhD, has been named chairman of the newly combined Department of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry. Dr. Pae, who assumed leadership in February of 2012, also heads the Department of Pediatrics, as Norman Tinanoff, DDS, MS, stepped down as chairman of the Department of Health Promotion and Policy and assumed the role of division director for pediatric dentistry.

Dr. Pae joins UMSOD from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Dentistry, where he served as professor of orthodontics and director of the orthodontics residency training program. He was drawn to UMSOD because of the state-of-the-art facilities and open laboratories. "Maryland provides wonderful opportunities to freely approach others within the university community. This collaborative environment really suits me," remarks Dr. Pae.

As chairman, he plans to enhance the educational mission of the new department. He is preparing to establish a sleep apnea clinic, offering pre-doctoral students, pediatric dentistry residents and orthodontics residents new opportunities for research and clinical training. "We are going to cover the entire spectrum of growth and development seamlessly, which gives our students a huge educational advantage," he says.

He anticipates developing a stronger research component within the department. Dr. Pae plans to

HE IS PREPARING TO ESTABLISH A SLEEP APNEA CLINIC, OFFERING PRE-DOCTORAL STUDENTS, PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY RESIDENTS AND ORTHODONTIC RESIDENTS NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCH AND CLINICAL TRAINING.

involve both pediatric dentistry residents and orthodontic residents in his own research. He has spent nearly his entire academic career researching obstructive sleep apnea and looks forward to collaborating with other investigators at the School of Dentistry. Dr. Pae also researches prenatal and postnatal diabetes. "I believe research is vital to clinical activities. Practitioners have to think logically, based on the science they have learned, and apply that knowledge to patient care," he remarks.

Dr. Pae, a native of South Korea, earned his DDS in 1980 from Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea. He earned his MSc and PhD degrees from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada, in 1989 and 1993, respectively. Dr. Pae received a certificate in orthodontics from the University of Connecticut in 1995. He is a member of the International Association for Dental Research and the American Association of Orthodontists.

## Karen Faraone, DDS '78

Appointed Assistant Dean of Student Affairs



“ I VIEW MY ROLE PRIMARILY AS A STUDENT ADVOCATE; ENCOURAGING A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENT GROWTH AND EDUCATION, FOSTERING COMMUNICATION, COUNSELING, PROBLEM SOLVING AND LIAISON FUNCTIONS. ”

Dr. Faraone will remain a preclinical and clinical instructor. She looks forward to working with students in a different way, but understands that her new role will bring its own challenges. “I think the biggest challenges will be maintaining accessibility and a level of student trust,” she remarks.

A lifelong educator, Dr. Faraone developed a deep passion for student advocacy early in her career. After graduating from UMSOD in 1978, she served as director of the Waxter Dental Clinic for the Baltimore City Health Department. While there, she acted as a preceptor for dental and hygiene students who rotated through the clinic. That experience hooked Dr. Faraone on education, and led her to apply for a faculty position at UMSOD.

Thirty-four years later, she still gets a thrill from teaching. Dr. Faraone is enthusiastic about this opportunity to take student advocacy to a new level. “I like the dynamic of interacting with students. This adds a new facet to my career. It is invigorating,” concludes Dr. Faraone.

Dr. Faraone graduated from the University of Maryland School of Nursing in 1974. She earned her DDS at UMSOD in 1978, received a master’s degree in instructional systems development from the University of Maryland Baltimore County in 1983 and completed a certificate in prosthodontics at UMSOD in 1987. She has served as a UMSOD faculty member since 1979, most recently as an associate professor of prosthodontics in the Department of Endodontics, Prosthodontics and Operative Dentistry.

Karen Faraone, DDS '78, MA, has been appointed assistant dean of student affairs. In her new position, which officially began in November, 2012, she advises, informs and supports the student body.

“I’m excited to begin this new chapter in my career, and I am so proud to be a part of the University of Maryland. I view my role primarily as a student advocate; encouraging a supportive environment for student growth and education, fostering communication, counseling, problem solving and serving as a liaison,” explains Dr. Faraone.

She will work with students, listening to their concerns, raising issues with administrators and faculty members and providing feedback to the student body. Dr. Faraone plans to arrange individual and small group meetings and large forums to openly discuss important topics. “This is also about teaching the students leadership and responsibility. I want to see them empowered in a positive way,” Dr. Faraone says.

The assistant deanship divides time between administrative and teaching responsibilities, so





BY MEGAN MOOREFIELD

## Valli Meeks, DDS '88, RDH, MS, Helps Establish a Dental School in Rwanda

**A**s the director of special care services, Valli Meeks, DDS '88, RDH, MS, understands the importance of knowing the patient population and expanding the health care focus. Her work in the PLUS Clinic and management of Ryan White funds made her a perfect dental representative for a health care delegation to Rwanda.

"I was honored that Dean Stohler and Dr. Mao asked if I would go and represent the University of Maryland School of Dentistry," states Dr. Meeks.

The Rwandan government and the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) are partnering to expand the health care workforce in this small, central-African nation. This delegation formed due to former President Bill Clinton's concern that the United States did not provide more assistance during the era of genocide.

"The focus of this delegation is to look at universities from the United States with health care professions and invite their faculty to come and teach the Rwandan health care workers," says Dr. Meeks. "One of the things that they are looking at is the fact that their resource pool is extremely limited. In fact, Rwanda has only 13 dentists for the entire country."

While there, Dr. Meeks, two representatives from Harvard University, a community health dentist, a dentist from Canada and a global health project director worked on developing a dental school curriculum. The government plans to construct a new dental school as a continuing commitment to building the infrastructure. This would also include a more efficient clinic with functioning equipment and more books for each student, as well as a library.

Currently, Rwanda's dental structure is divided into three key levels. A student is considered a dental assistant after completing his or her first year of instruction. After three additional years, students become dental therapists. After the fifth year, students attain the status of dental surgeons. A dental surgeon

is the equivalent of a third- or fourth-year dental student in the United States.

"Many dental students in Rwanda have not completed their training due to money or family issues. We hope that by reworking the curriculum and showing investment that this will entice the dental assistants and dental therapists to come back and complete their dental education," explains a hopeful Dr. Meeks.

The recently appointed Minister of Health, Dr. Agnes Binagwaho, was sworn in while Dr. Meeks and the delegation were in Rwanda. Dr. Meeks credits Binagwaho with truly leading this effort.

"Dr. Binagwaho wants to make sure the government of Rwanda welcomes the visiting faculty and



Above: A street vendor searches for customers in a Rwandan neighborhood. Below: Dr. Valli Meeks (bottom row, second from left) poses with other members of the CHAI team in Rwanda.

that they have housing and the tools necessary to teach," reflects Dr. Meeks. "The government has made a real commitment that this will happen within the next year."



FACULTY FOCUS



## John Bradbury, DDS

Education has been a passion for John “Rick” Bradbury, DDS, for the entire span of his 40-year career. Though he retired as director of operative dentistry in June, Dr. Bradbury has left an enduring mark on hundreds of oral health care providers.

Dentistry first appealed to Dr. Bradbury because it combined his interest in science with his love of handiwork. The Cortland, Ohio, native came east after completing dental school at The Ohio State University. During a residency program, he treated underserved patients in south-central Pennsylvania. Near the end of the residency, Dr. Bradbury began to consider teaching. “I thought that if I went into teaching, I’d have the opportunity to relate to dental students the way I wish my professors had related to me,” he remarks. He jumped at the opportunity to teach at UMSOD, originally planning to return to Cortland and start a practice after three years. “Instead, I fell in love with teaching,” says Dr. Bradbury.

## Ed Grace, DDS '64

Ed Grace, DDS '64, director of behavioral sciences, retired last year after more than 25 years at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry. He left behind a legacy of treating patients and teaching students with a combination of compassion and integrity.

A native New Yorker, Dr. Grace attended seminary for a year before changing paths and entering dental school. He always harbored a desire to serve his fellow man. “With dentistry, not only do I get to help people, but I am independent, able to do my own thing,” he remarks. After graduation, Dr. Grace served in the Navy for five years before establishing a private practice in Columbia.

He became a teacher by accident. While in private practice, Dr. Grace began treating special needs patients who were hospitalized. The University had

an opening for someone with his expertise and asked him to teach one day each week. Two years later, he sold his practice so he could teach full time and never looked back. Dr. Grace taught behavioral science courses and gave lectures on treating chronic pain conditions while providing care for pain and phobia patients. “It is important to look at the whole person. You have to know their social and psychological needs. If you ignore those, you’ll never fully treat the patient,” he states. Dr. Grace shared that lesson with students for more than 25 years.

“Caring for pain patients can be challenging, especially because there are so many different factors that influence pain,” remarks Dr. Grace. “Successfully treating a patient is richly rewarding, especially when that patient has been suffering for many years.”

Dr. Grace also felt fulfilled through his teaching



Only 27 years old, Dr. Bradbury was younger than many of his pupils when he joined the faculty. He learned a great deal from his students, most of whom were Vietnam veterans who were shaped by the ideals of the 1960s. Today, the dental student body is dramatically different. Twenty-first-century students are influenced by technology, he explains, and many lack the interpersonal skills that are vital to a successful dental practice. "It can be difficult to introduce students to the challenges of relating to people in very intimate situations. They tend to be accustomed to having a keypad between themselves and whomever they are interacting with," he states.

Despite the challenges of teaching, Dr. Bradbury enjoyed countless rewards from interacting with students. A good teacher is one who has an abundance of energy and patience, he says. "I must remember what it was like when I was a student and put myself in their shoes. The students don't have all the answers, even though I may have all the questions," he says. He remained in practice throughout his teaching career to keep his skills sharp, so he could help students when they needed support. He endeavored

to give constructive criticism with a positive spin, always finding something good to point out before he explained what a student did incorrectly. Ultimately, the best reward was seeing students blossom into dentists over four short years, states Dr. Bradbury.

Even after he retired, Dr. Bradbury wanted to stay involved with UMSOD. He continues to teach, now one day a week, as a volunteer member of the Dean's Faculty. With more free time, he also plans to travel with his wife, Pam, and engage in one of his favorite hobbies—singing. And when he's not volunteering, he might be found riding on his Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

As any good teacher knows, it is impossible to leave a class—or a career—without one last piece of parting wisdom for students:

*“Enjoy to the fullest your life as a dentist and do whatever it takes to maximize that enjoyment. The more we enjoy what we do, the better servants we are going to be for our patients.”*



activities. He worked with students in small groups, role playing patient behavior, to demonstrate the communication skills they will need to serve a wide range of patients. His advice for students is simple: be happy and enjoy your profession. "The students I've found over the past 25 years who are most successful in practice are the ones who really want to learn, who consistently do more than they need to," says Dr. Grace.

While retirement is bittersweet for Dr. Grace, he is looking forward to staying busy. He and his wife serve as ushers at the Hippodrome Theatre and also take classes together. Currently, they are learning to play bridge. He also plans to spend much of his time babysitting any of his 10 grandchildren. Dr. Grace feels fortunate to have had such a rewarding career and is excited for what the next chapter holds.







## Mort Wood, DDS '69, MEd

Throughout his 36-year career at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD), Associate Professor Mort Wood, DDS '69, MEd, endeavored to mold students into more than competent clinicians. He retired from teaching in June, but has left a powerful legacy at his alma mater.

Dr. Wood never expected that he would someday retire from UMSOD when he graduated with a DDS in 1969. Growing up, the Springfield, Mass., native had always been interested in health professions. He chose to pursue dentistry because it provides opportunities for professionalism without a physician's hectic schedule. After graduating from UMSOD, Dr. Wood established a private practice in Suffern, N.Y. "I always enjoyed dentistry and the relationships I built with patients. The only thing I didn't like was the isolation of solo private practice," he remarks. When an opportunity materialized for Dr. Wood to teach at his alma mater, he jumped on it.

As a new faculty member, Dr. Wood taught dental anatomy and occlusion—courses he continued to teach until his retirement. He was thrilled to be back in Maryland, though he found it difficult to see his mentors as newfound colleagues. "One of the hardest

things was learning to call my former professors by their first names," recalls Dr. Wood. He distinctly remembers one of his biggest highlights from those early years—an instance when one of his former professors asked for his opinion.

Dr. Wood has enjoyed the opportunity to work with students during all four years of their education. He encouraged students to be active, inquisitive learners and advised his pupils to embrace the notion that dentistry requires strong didactic skills and hand

*He was thrilled to be back in Maryland, though he found it difficult to see his mentors as newfound colleagues. "One of the hardest things was learning to call my former professors by their first names."*

skills, combined with an ethical approach. "Watching students really flourish throughout their third and fourth years, and then graduate as true professionals, is extremely rewarding," he states.

One of Dr. Wood's most rewarding experiences was his role as chairman of the Department of Restorative Dentistry from 1997 until 2005. Leading a department allowed him to be involved in the decision-making process for the school, he says. He took pride in the way the postgraduate program excelled during his tenure.

In retirement, he looks forward to spending more time with his wife, Evelyn. They are heavily involved in cat rescue and plan to devote more efforts to saving abandoned animals. They also plan to travel. In addition, Dr. Wood and his wife will have more time to devote to their world-renowned collection of teddy bears. Since 1994, they have written a regular pictorial column in *Teddy Bear and Friends* magazine, which they intend to continue.

Dr. Wood is excited for the opportunities presented by retirement, but can't shake a bittersweet feeling when he considers how rewarding his career has been. "It all boils down to the students. Watching them grow and flourish has been the best part of this job," he concludes.



## Spring Forward

Spring is a season of growth. It gives us hope and a sense of renewal. Author Marty Rubin said, “The deep roots never doubt spring will come.”

With the spring edition of *Mdental*, I am reminded that our professional lives and professional roots lie at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD). We have grown and prospered with our degrees from this magnificent institution.

Our graduates have excelled in dentistry, proudly serving in the military and in public health and dental education arenas. They have lectured nationally and internationally and have been involved in all levels of organized dentistry. During the past 25 years, I have had the privilege of working with dental students and alumni in locations that include Navajo reservations, the Dominican Republic, the Philippines and remote areas of Southeast Asia. As a result of programs that our graduates created, we are able to give back to the world in which we live. I am forever grateful for my dental education and the friends I have made along the way.

Our professional lives are like seedlings from a 173-year-old tree—the tree that is UMSOD. Each seedling went through trials and tribulations, droughts and floods, until it grew tall enough to create its own shade. This shade represents the way we influence and shape lives as members of the dental community. I have no doubt that our UMSOD tree would indeed be strong if we leveraged our collective shade to its benefit.

As alumni, we must reacquaint ourselves with our roots, learn what is going on at the school and share our experiences with students in a way that helps us all grow.

To this end, I hope you are planning to attend our 2013 All Alumni Reunion Weekend on June 7–9. Renew ties with classmates and learn about the very best that our alma mater has to offer.



Ngoc Chu, DDS '88, FACD, FADI, FPFA

*President, University of Maryland School of Dentistry Alumni Association*



# An Evening with the Stars

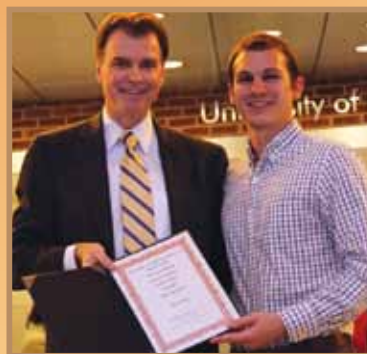
The University of Maryland School of Dentistry honored its top students during An Evening with the Stars celebration on May 14, 2012. Sixty awards were presented, the most in school history. Students received honors for outstanding achievement in academics, as well as dedication to community service projects. Awards were presented by department and in school-wide categories to the following students:

Michael David Anderson  
Irene Ebunoluwa Ayoola  
Shahrazad Bahrami  
Jordan Lynn Bauman  
Harry Herbert Benavent  
Jody Corinne Berinato  
Craig Ross Blatt  
Darryl Anthony Caesar  
Nicole Marie Chaney  
Christopher James Constantine  
Eric Marie Farabaugh  
Eva Theresa Fiastro  
Kristen Leigh Whetsell-Flemming

Samantha Ann Frey  
Christopher Gomez  
Laura Heisch  
William Thomas Hackett  
Owen Patrick Jordan  
Giselle Ann Primo Jose  
Gina Joshua  
Devin Jon Langguth  
Brian Thomas Lu  
Rui Ma  
Nikhil Seoni Mallick  
Walter Martin  
Cyrus Farookh Mistry

Maryam Nabavi  
Kristen Lenae Nelson  
Joon Park  
Kevin Jared Parks  
Minhthu Viet Phan  
Zachary Fain Reicher  
Christina Evette Samra  
Farashta Sediqzad  
John Philip Seisman Jr.  
Biraj M. Shah  
Diana Shoe  
Jacqueline Michelle Wolfson  
Kaveh Zand

*The University of Maryland School of Dentistry congratulates its Class of 2012 award winners, who exhibit a special dedication to academics, community service and patient care. These students epitomize the highest values of the institution and serve as role models to fellow students and professionals.*

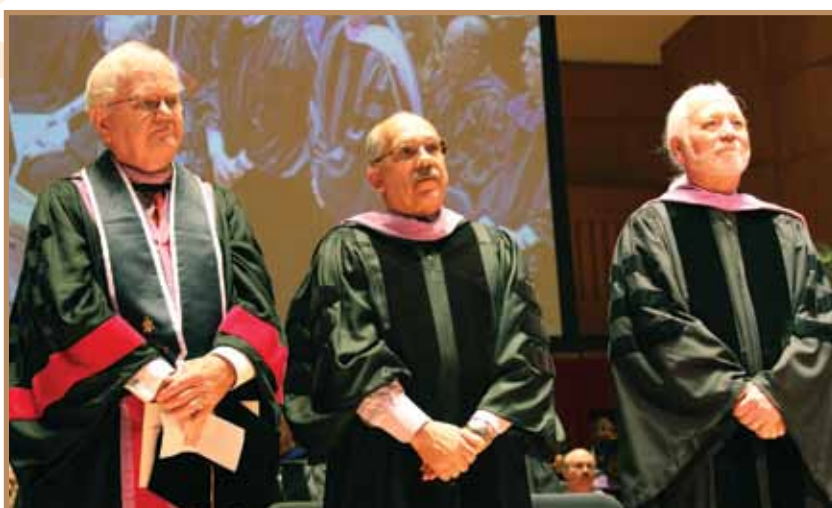


Clockwise: Jody Corinne Berinato receives The Colgate S.T.A.R. (Student Total Achievement Recognition); Seven seniors receive the Dean's Community Service Award; Kevin Jared Parks receives the Academy of Dental Materials Award; Christopher James Constantine receives the University of Maryland Baltimore Geriatrics and Gerontology Education and Research Award; and Jordan Lynn Bauman receives the Lippincott Williams and Wilkins Award.



# 2012 GRADUATION

PHOTOS BY ADAM ZEWE



Clockwise: Four graduating dental students smile for the camera; Herbie Benavent, DDS '12, receives his hood from father, Henry, and sister, Vanessa; (L-R) retiring professors Dr. Ed Grace, Dr. Mort Wood and Dr. John Bradbury are honored during honors convocation; dental and dental hygiene students prepare to line up and process in for the honors convocation ceremony.

# 2012 REUNION

All Alumni







Reunion weekend  
June 1-3, 2012

PHOTOS BY ADAM ZEWE





Photos by Adam Zewe

Nation's Capital Dental Meeting •  
March 30, 2012, Washington, D.C.



ADA Annual  
Session •  
Oct. 19, 2012  
San Francisco

Photos by  
Marcelena Holmes



# 2012 Alumni RECEPTIONS

Photos by Marcelena Holmes

Chesapeake Dental Meeting • Sept. 21, 2012, Ocean City, Md.



Yankee Dental  
Congress •  
Jan. 27, 2012  
Boston

◀ ◀

Photos by  
Megan Moorefield



▼ ▲

The Thomas P. Hinman  
Dental Meeting •  
March 23, 2012  
Atlanta

◀



# ClassNotes.....

**1973 Robert James Bray, DDS**, received the Vaughan Special Recognition Award from the American Board of Orthodontics. The award honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the orthodontics specialty. Dr. Bray operates a private orthodontics practice in Atlantic City, N.J.

**1977 Martin Schroeder, DDS**, received the Orkos Award for demonstrating professional excellence in the treatment of gum disease. The honor was presented by Perio Product, LLC, which cited Dr. Schroeder's dedication to providing quality, minimally-invasive periodontal care. Dr. Schroeder is in private practice in Biglerville, Pa. ♦ **Bill Spruill, DDS**, rode his bike 64 miles in the Mason-Dixon Challenge on July 14, 2012. The event raised more than \$1,000 for the Central Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Dr. Spruill and his wife, **Lillian Wong, DDS '77**, are in private practice in Carlisle, Pa.

**1980 Steven Vaughan, DDS**, received the 2011 Distinguished Graduate Award from Monsignor Slade Catholic School in Glen Burnie, Md. He was honored for the input he provided during the school's Middle States Accreditation process. Dr. Vaughan is in private practice in Glen Burnie, Md.

**1981 Jerry Killian, DDS**, was named one of the 2012 Top Dentists by *Baltimore Magazine*. The magazine surveyed more than 2,000 dentists in Baltimore and the



five surrounding counties, and asked where they would send their own family for dental care. Dr. Killian is in private practice in Baltimore.

**1982 Edward L. Ginsberg, DDS**, and his practice donated 1,000 toothbrushes and tubes of toothpaste to Kenya Connect, a project that delivers medical and dental supplies to needy children in Kenya. Dr. Ginsberg operates a pediatric dental practice in Catonsville and Ellicott City, Md.

**1987 Peter Ciampi, DDS**, was named one of the top dentists in New Jersey by *New Jersey Monthly Magazine*.

The honor was based on a survey of 6,000 New Jersey dentists. Dr. Ciampi maintains a cosmetic and restorative practice in Spring



Lake, N.J., and is a clinical assistant professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine.

**1988 Ann Eshenaur Spolarich, RDH, PhD**, received the American Dental Hygienists' Association Irene Newman Award for outstanding achievement in advancing the art and science of the dental hygiene profession. Dr. Spolarich serves as clinical associate professor and associate director of the National Center for Dental Hygiene Research and Practice at the Ostrow School of Dentistry of the University of Southern California.

**1995 Patrick Cuozzo, DDS**, was named one of the top orthodontists in New Jersey by *New Jersey Monthly Magazine*. He is one of only 323 New Jersey dentists honored in the publication, which polled more than 6,000 practitioners in the state to develop the list. Dr. Cuozzo is in private practice in Lincroft and Sea Girt, N.J.

**1996 Martin Mendelson, DDS**, has joined Spear Education at the Scottsdale Center in Arizona. His position is vice president of faculty club development and corporate relations. Spear





Education offers dental continuing education courses and produces dental curriculums.

**2001** **Todd Barsky, DDS**, was featured on *CBS Sunday Morning*. Dr. Barsky was interviewed about the popularity of veneers that appear natural. He practices at the Institute for Age Management and Intervention in Miami, Fla.

**2002** **Jason Cohen, DDS**,



was named 2011 Best Dentist through a reader poll by *Best of Bethesda Magazine*. Dr. Cohen is in pri-

vate practice in Chevy Chase, Md.

**2010** **Michelle Hack, DDS**, has been named General Practice Dentistry Resident of the Year at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Torrance, Ca. ♦ **Corey Smith, DDS**, and his wife, Stacy Ritter Smith, joyfully welcomed their first child, Victoria Leigh Smith, on June 18, 2012.



Send us your personal and professional news for the Class Notes section of *Mdental*.

Information may be e-mailed to [azewe@umaryland.edu](mailto:azewe@umaryland.edu) or sent to:

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## University of Maryland School of Dentistry Announces New Operating Plan for National Museum of Dentistry



The University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD) has merged the operations of the Dr. Samuel D. Harris National Museum of Dentistry with the UMSOD. The museum's exhibit portfolio will be maintained and tours will be given by appointment.

"The University of Maryland School of Dentistry fully supports the museum's mission to preserve the history of the profession. We are committed to honoring the intent of every donor," says Dean Christian S. Stohler, DMD, DrMedDent.

This new operational plan is necessary in order to make the museum financially viable and operate successfully within the school's budget. Members of the museum will continue to enjoy benefits that include free admission, 10 percent off

merchandise from the museum shop, invitations to special events, advance notice of programs and exhibitions and complimentary issues of *Mdental* magazine.

This new operational plan took effect on Nov. 30, 2012.

Visit [www.dentalmuseum.org](http://www.dentalmuseum.org) for more information or contact museum Curator Dr. Scott Swank at (410) 706-7461.



# IN MEMORIAM

*We are saddened by the loss of the following alumni:*

Ralph M. Bishop, DDS '45  
Jordan S. Bloom, DDS '53  
Don-N. Brotman, DDS '55  
Peter J. Buchetto, Jr., DDS '62  
James C. Bulger, DDS '55, MD '61  
Bernard Busch, DDS '56  
James C. Carroll, DDS '48  
Russell L. Chapman, DDS '54  
Thomas F. Clement, DDS '51  
Bernie O. Coberly, DDS '56  
William W. Cunningham, DDS '50  
L. Rodger Currie, DDS '52  
William W. Cwiek, DDS '60  
Gail E. Diamond, RDH '80  
Howard S. Diamond, DDS '81  
Zeno L. Edwards, Jr., DDS '52  
William W. Eldridge, III, DDS '65  
John M. Foley, DDS '59  
Charles J. Galiardi, DDS '56  
Joseph J. Giardina, DDS '60  
Melvin Goldenberg, DDS '62  
Samuel Hanik, DDS '36  
B. Ralph Hoffman, DDS '44  
Charles M. Horan, DDS '50  
Jerome P. Jermain, DDS '56  
W. Edgar Johnson, DDS '39  
Maurice J. Jurkiewicz, DDS '46  
Stanley H. Karesh, DDS '43  
Stephen E. Kleiman, DDS '76  
Richard T. Koritzer, Sr., DDS '62  
Robert M. Lattanzi, DDS '61  
Rodney S. Lawson, DDS '86  
Howard L. Levy, DDS '79  
Albert G. Little, DDS '71  
Martin P. Londergan, DDS '70

Elona G. Marcy, DDS '67  
H. Berton McCauley, DDS '36  
John B. McConnaughey, DDS '71  
Paige K. McFaul-Lang, DDS '94  
Charles H. Meinhold, DDS '48  
Faina Nagel, DDS '93 '95  
James E. Newman, DDS '46  
William L. Nufer, DDS '51  
Thomas F. Owens, DDS '57  
Oreste N. Passarelli, DDS '57  
Allan B. Pertnoy, DDS '62  
Donald A. Pirie, DDS '59  
Ernest A. Ponce, DDS '64  
James F. Pruitt, DDS '43  
Donald A. Romeo, DDS '62  
Theodore A. Rosa, DDS '61  
Saul Rosen, DDS '29  
John E. Rosoff, DDS '54  
Lawrence D. Sarubin, DDS '58  
Roger C. Sears, DDS '60  
Herbert Shapiro, DDS '50  
Thomas A. Simes, DDS '64  
Robert H. Smith, DDS '43  
Bernard L. Tell, DDS '52  
Merwin A. Todd, III, DDS '64  
Bernard Totz, DDS '46  
Felix T. Trommer, DDS '43  
Franklin J. Verbos, DDS '71  
Walton W. Weigand, DDS '55  
Michael E. Weintraub, DDS '68  
Francis W. Welch, Jr., DDS '63  
Bernard Wilkins, DDS '45  
John M. Williams, DDS '78  
William E. Wolfel, Jr., DDS '53  
Vincent J. Zugay, DDS '65



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**Mission:** The University of Maryland School of Dentistry seeks to graduate exceptional oral health care professionals, contribute to the scientific basis of treatments for diseases of the orofacial complex and deliver comprehensive dental care. These accomplishments will promote, maintain and improve the overall health of the people within Maryland and have a national and international impact, adopting the spirit of the University-at-large.

**Future Vision:** As we strive to achieve our goals, we envision the future. Reflecting on its heritage, the University of Maryland School of Dentistry will join in full partnership with other campus entities. The resulting multidisciplinary ventures will contribute to our prominence in scientific discovery, scholarly activity, and service to the community. Global outreach efforts of faculty, students, and staff will be mutually rewarding. An atmosphere of collegiality and intellectual stimulation will prevail, nurturing students, faculty, and alumni.

Administrative support will help foster creativity and responsiveness to a range of opportunities. The School will create and maintain an organizational structure that enhances our ability to achieve our goals. Students, faculty, and staff will provide the highest quality of oral health care. The world's first dental college, established in the 19th century, will take its place as the premier dental school of the 21st century.





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