

# PITT DENTAL MEDICINE

Winter 2017



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## PITT DENTAL MEDICINE

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*Pitt Dental Medicine* is published semiannually by the Office of the Dean as a service to alumni, students, and friends. Its purpose is to facilitate communication among alumni, students, and friends of the School of Dental Medicine. This publication holds itself not responsible for opinions, theories, and criticisms therein contained.

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Our residency training programs are among the strongest genuine assets of the School of Dental Medicine. These advanced education opportunities in dental specialty areas assure that our faculty, staff, and predoctoral students are exposed to the most contemporary facets of education, training, and clinical practice. Offering treatment through these dental specialty services directly to our patients or in cooperation with area dentists, ensures that we are providing the most advanced, high-level care to support the dental health of the people of southwestern Pennsylvania.

This issue of *Pitt Dental Medicine* describes those residency programs and features some individuals who have or are now participating in them. You also will note in the description of faculty accomplishments, that many of our current faculty have distinguished themselves in these dental specialty areas.

Our residencies provide a rich and fulfilling educational environment that complements our predoctoral program and greatly contributes to our clinical translational research. I believe, as you read this edition of *Pitt Dental Medicine*, you will come to appreciate the important role of our specialty education programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas W. Braun". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Thomas W. Braun (DMD '73, PhD '77)**

*Distinguished Service Professor and Dean,  
University of Pittsburgh*



Dr. Herbert Ray, Director of the Residency Program in Endodontics and Chair of the Department of Endodontics, observes Dr. Laura Gecina, (Endo '16) treat a patient at Pitt Dental Medicine Endodontics Clinic.

# At Home

## IN PITT'S RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

BY B. ROSE KELLY

Residents of all specialties have found a home within the Pitt School of Dental Medicine's Advanced Dental Education and Residency Programs.

The ten robust, diverse residency programs offered at the School of Dental Medicine echo the mission of the school: to educate, prepare, and train the next generation of dentists, to provide dental care to the people in southwestern Pennsylvania, and support the research effort at the school.

During their time at Pitt, residents focus on three core areas: academics, clinical training, and research. Each residency program is designed to be didactic, meaning that each experience, whether in the classroom, clinic or lab is intended to teach.

Pitt Dental Medicine has a significant clinical edge: the school offers all dental specialties in one location, giving residents a chance to work cooperatively with other specialty residents in a host of clinical settings.

Residents begin with a common core training where they further develop guiding principles in such fields as anatomy, statistics, and pathology, among others. This introductory concept has been in place for more than 20 years, according to Dr. Joseph F. A. Petrone, Associate Dean for Residency Education, who oversees all advanced education programs at the school.

“We spend the first four to five weeks presenting a common core curriculum, which puts all of our residents into one place at one time, giving them everything they need to get started. This prepares our residents for the rest of their time at Pitt,” Dr. Petrone said. “It’s very efficient and gets everyone on the same page right at the beginning.”

Following the common core training, residents move into varying types of clinical settings depending on their particular residency programs. These clinical experiences shape residents, preparing them to not only work with diverse patient populations but also to work collaboratively across specialty fields of dental medicine.

For example, many of the school’s residents have access to the School of Dental Medicine’s Multidisciplinary Implant Center, where they can learn how to place dental implants for patients who have lost teeth due to injury, periodontal disease, or some other issue.

Other residents, like those in the Advanced Education in General Dentistry and Dental Anesthesiology Programs, work with the Center for Patients with Special Needs, which provides care to patients with physical, developmental, neurological, and behavioral disabilities.

The Department of Dental Anesthesia hosts a great number of residents from other programs, where they learn how to administer nitrous oxide—and become certified to do so.

Such crossover is not always possible within dental residencies from other schools of dentistry. This is one of the ways in which Pitt’s School of Dental Medicine stands apart.

“All of these factors make for a greater learning environment,” remarked Dr. Petrone. “Thanks to these clinical experiences across departments, our 40-plus dental residents leave with the specialized training needed not only to do their jobs, but to excel at their jobs.”

Residents learn outside the clinic, too, by working throughout the tri-state area with regional dentists. These partnerships provide residents with a number of opportunities to work with patients who have complex dental, medical, and behavioral needs.

In the Department of Periodontics, for example, residents work with an officer manager to ensure that communication between them and referring dentists is efficient and effective, a common concern in private practice. This management tool was intended to teach residents the importance of communication and efficient workflow processes. Other departments have engaged in similar real-world learning modules.

All the while, Pitt’s residents also serve as teachers. Residents across specialties are shadowed by dental students and dental hygiene students, which gives the school’s students an inside look at these advanced fields of dentistry. In turn, this affords residents with an opportunity to be educators. Residents likewise attend seminars and national conferences where they are both students who learn the latest technologies and techniques, and presenters who convey new and emerging technologies developed here at the School of Dental Medicine.

The information that follows provides a glimpse into each dental residency program at the School of Dental Medicine, highlighting some of the most interesting features of each program. Together, these vignettes illustrate not only how Pitt Dental Medicine is a leader in the world of dental medicine education, but also how its residents are well on their way to becoming leading practitioners, researchers, and educators.

## Advanced Education in General Dentistry Program

**Program Director:** Maribeth Krzesinski, DDS

**Residency Length:** 1 year (begins July 1, yearly)

**Accredited:** This program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

**Residents:** 2 per year

**Program Goal:** The goal of this program is to provide training to recent graduates in clinical dentistry and applied basic science beyond the pre-doctoral level. The program also refines and enhances those skills necessary for generalist to provide comprehensive patient care for all population groups. The program is designed to instill confidence in the new dentist to allow him/her to become a leader in the general dental community.

**How to Apply:** Applicants must submit the American Dental Education Association Postdoctoral Application Support Service (ADEA PASS) application (program code: 131) or the self-managed application found on the School of Dental Medicine's Advanced Dental Education web page. The fee is \$50 using self-managed application. The application is rolling throughout the year.

**More information:** [dental.pitt.edu/advanced-education-general-dentistry-aegd-residency-program](http://dental.pitt.edu/advanced-education-general-dentistry-aegd-residency-program)

The Advanced Education in General Dentistry Residency Program (AEGD), established in 1989, has many strengths. Among them: its smaller, more personalized size. With only two residents admitted per year, residents are able to truly individualize their programs, fundamentally shaping their own residency experience.

The program boasts a challenging didactic curriculum and varied clinical experiences, which is necessary given the incredibly diverse patient population seen within the AEGD clinic. It's especially important that residents be exposed to working with patients who have complex dental, medical and behavioral needs.

In addition to completing a resident core curriculum, residents also spend one session a week at the School of Dental Medicine Center for Patients with Special Needs (CPSN), a center that provides care to patients with physical, developmental, neurological, and behavioral disabilities. At the CPSN, residents work as a team with multiple specialists, first-year dental students, and dental hygiene students.

"These varied clinical experiences allow our residents to become well-rounded clinicians. There is enough flexibility built into the program to allow the resident to investigate their specific interests, whether it is in the fields of education, research or a dental specialty," said Program Director Maribeth Krzesinski, DDS (Prosthodontics '94), who is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the school.

AEGD residents also work collaboratively with specialty residents throughout the School of Dental Medicine. This exposes them to a number of dental experiences and tools they may not have previously encountered. For example, in conjunction with the School of Dental Medicine Department of Dental Anesthesiology, AEGD residents treat patients using intravenous sedation, nitrous oxide and/or general anesthesia. While they do not directly provide anesthesia, they treat patients while they are under anesthesia. The residents also take two didactic courses given by the Department of Dental Anesthesiology. By the end of the program, AEGD residents can become certified to administer nitrous oxide in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Residents also experience implant dentistry, as they complete weekly rotations to the School of Dental Medicine Multidisciplinary Implant Center. Students and faculty at the school are actively involved in research related to dental implants. AEGD residents learn when a dental implant might be effective and how to administer the procedure. Dental implants are often an option for patients with missing teeth.

"Since the school has all of the dental specialties in one location, our residents have access to treat patients in any specialty clinic under the supervision of board-certified specialists. This is truly an asset to the program," Dr. Krzesinski said.

Outside the classroom, residents regularly meet and interact with regional dentists through continuing education courses and problem-based learning sessions, where they discuss ethical dilemmas in dentistry. This, combined with their core curriculum and clinical time, prepares them well for the practice of general dentistry.

"Through our program, residents learn how to work with diverse patients to achieve a successful treatment outcome," Dr. Krzesinski said. ●

## Advanced Education and Residency Program in Dental Anesthesiology

**Program Director:** Michael A. Cuddy, DMD

**Chair:** Joseph A. Giovannitti, Jr., DMD

**Residency Length:** 3 years

**Accredited:** This program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

**Residents:** 4 per year

**Goal:** The goal of this program is to prepare dentists to manage pain and anxiety in adult, pediatric, and special needs patients.

**How to Apply:** Applicants must submit the American Dental Education Association Postdoctoral Application Support Service (ADEA PASS) application (program code 131) and register for the Match Program. Please visit the ADEA PASS website for requirements, application fees, and deadline.

**More information:** [dental.pitt.edu/departments/dental-anesthesiology/advanced-education-and-residency-program-dental-anesthesiology](http://dental.pitt.edu/departments/dental-anesthesiology/advanced-education-and-residency-program-dental-anesthesiology)

Founded in 1949, the School of Dental Medicine Department of Dental Anesthesiology is the oldest dental anesthesiology department in the nation. As such, the department and residency program have been integrated seamlessly into the fabric of the Pitt and UPMC communities. In fact, a significant portion of the residency program is administered through the UPMC Medical Education Program.

This collaboration allows residents to participate in the benefits of everything a medical center has to offer, including experiences in pediatrics, general surgery, obstetrics, and critical care. It also means that residents serve as first-responders in the event of a medical emergency at the School of Dental Medicine. They are on call in each of the school's clinics and have handled "every imaginable emergency" from syncope to cardiac arrest.

Through this type of rigorous hospital training and expert faculty teaching, dental anesthesiology residents are prepared to manage pain and anxiety in adult, pediatric, and special-needs patients by using a wide variety of anesthetic techniques. Residents leave the program certified and with the capability to provide all levels of anesthesia services for patients undergoing an array of medical and dental procedures.

"Our residents benefit from the unique experiences of our faculty, who are involved in all aspects of dental anesthesiology, from national organizations to private dental anesthesiology practice. This exposure,

coupled with participation in national dental anesthesiology meetings, allows our residents to observe the discipline that it takes to be successful in their chosen field," said Residency Program Director and Associate Professor, Dr. Michael A. Cuddy (DMD '95, Anesth '99).

Having all dental specialties under one roof at the School of Dental Medicine enables those in the Dental Anesthesiology Residency Program to interact with all disciplines, a much-needed skill. Residents work collaboratively with other clinical departments at the school by providing sedation and anesthesia services for patients in the oral and maxillofacial surgery, pediatric, restorative, endodontic, and special needs departments. Residents also teach local anesthetic injection techniques to predoctoral dental students and dental hygiene students, and all dental students learn how to administer oral medications and nitrous oxide.

"This type of learning environment gives them the flexibility to work in dental education or private practice after completing the program and also enables them to work in many other states across the country, which many of our graduates have gone on to do," said Department Chair and Professor Dr. Joseph A. Giovannitti, Jr., (DMD '77, Anesth '79). "Since dental anesthesiology is a support service, it is essential that residents understand and meet the anesthetic needs of each of the other dental specialties."

The Dental Anesthesiology Residency Program also is invested in the Center for Patients with Special Needs, offering residents opportunities to develop skills with a special needs patient population. These skills, said Dr. Cuddy and Dr. Giovannitti, translate well in any future endeavors residents might undertake, since it represents a major "practice niche." The program's part-time faculty members also provide off-site anesthesiology training in dental offices throughout the local Pittsburgh community.

"This is a novel feature of the program that allows our residents to learn the nuances of running a private practice in dental anesthesiology, which is another experience that prepares them well for the future," Dr. Cuddy said.

The program also works with regional dentists by providing continuing education in anesthesia for dentists and dental hygienists across the region. The program's part-time faculty members run private anesthesia practices, providing services for the patients of multiple dentists and dental specialists in the area.

After leaving Pitt, many graduates are called upon to provide continuing education in anesthesia to specialty groups, Dr. Giovannitti said. Because residents understand the nuances of each discipline's specific antiesthetic needs, they can tailor their presentations to the appropriate audience. Their training also allows them to provide anesthetic services for a number of specialty procedures. ●

## Braxton M. Henderson

Over the last decade, Dr. Braxton M. Henderson (DMD '15) has studied at the University of Pittsburgh—as an undergraduate in biology, as a predoctoral student at the School of Dental Medicine, and now as a resident in the Department of Dental Anesthesiology at the school.

Originally from a small town outside of Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. Henderson became interested in dental anesthesiology while in his second year at the School of Dental Medicine.

“I was intrigued by the pharmacology and physiology of local anesthesia, and I also had a keen interest in the medically oriented courses,” said Dr. Henderson.

The school’s interdisciplinary curriculum allowed him to interact with and observe the residents and regional dentists as they performed procedures. The faculty that taught the local anesthesia course was a dentist anesthesiologist, and Dr. Henderson was invited to shadow the residents to learn more about the specialty.

“I realized then that dental anesthesia was what I wanted to do,” Henderson said.

As a current resident at the school, and working in hospital anesthesia rotations, Dr. Henderson is able to gain experience providing all levels of anesthesia to patients with various comorbidities. He works with faculty on a daily basis, gaining invaluable knowledge through the school’s didactic curriculum, and is encouraged to try different methods so he’s able to familiarize himself with as many drugs and anesthesia instruments as possible.

Dr. Henderson’s experience working alongside the school’s faculty of four

full-time and multiple part-time dental anesthesiologists has made all the difference in his training thus far.

“Each attending has his or her own way of treating patients. This allows residents to learn different methods and develop an individual working style based on the different experiences,” he said.

Working closely with local anesthesiologists was one of the unique draws of the residency for Dr. Henderson. The program features a strong private practice component, which offers additional opportunities for residents to rotate with part-time faculty in their private practices, and gain much needed real-world experience.

Additionally, Dr. Henderson and the Department of Dental Anesthesiology work closely with the Center for Patients with Special Needs, the pediatric dentistry department, oral and maxillofacial surgery, endodontics, periodontics, and general dentistry. Working together with various dental specialties allows him and the other residents to feel comfortable working with a wide range of patient populations and dental providers.

After finishing his residency at the School of Dental Medicine, Dr. Henderson hopes to start a dental anesthesiology practice in the Raleigh or Durham metro area in North Carolina. His current work in hospital rotations allows him to treat patients that reflect the demographic he intends to serve in the future. He also considers the potential of working in academics and pursuing a position with a dental institution where he could provide general anesthesia and sedation services, as well as teach dental students various anesthesia topics.





# Advanced Education and Residency Program in Endodontics

**Program Director:** Herbert Ray, DMD

**Residency Length:** 2 years

**Accredited:** This program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

**Residents:** 4 per year (beginning July 1, yearly)

**Goal:** The curriculum is designed to encourage residents to explore a wide range of topics while pursuing specialty endodontic training. The program helps students develop and master endodontic skills and identify and pursue avenues of interest in relevant basic science.

**How to Apply:** Applicants must submit the American Dental Education Association Postdoctoral Application Support Service (ADEA PASS) application (program code: 131) or the self-managed application found on the School of Dental Medicine's Advanced Dental Education website. The application cost is \$50 using the self-managed application. The application deadline is Sept. 2 of the year prior to matriculation. Interviews are granted on a rolling basis.

**More information:** [dental.pitt.edu/advanced-dental-education-and-residency-program-endodontics](http://dental.pitt.edu/advanced-dental-education-and-residency-program-endodontics)

The School of Dental Medicine Endodontic Residency Program was founded in 1969. Today, this program boasts a strong community referral network, allowing its residents to engage in a tremendous amount of work with private practice dentists from across the region.

This referral base is one of the program's greatest strengths, according to Dr. Herbert Ray, who has directed the program for seven years. In many ways, the program serves as a large network of practitioners that refer directly into the residency program from outside the school. This, coupled with research resources and support, allows residents to be engaged in meaningful clinical research related to endodontics.

"Our residents gain a lot of real-world clinical experience, not only in endodontic treatments and procedures, but they also learn how to professionally interact and communicate with their referring dentists. This is unique to the program," said Dr. Ray.

Many of the country's residency programs rely on patients from their schools. At Pitt Dental Medicine, nearly 85 percent of patients treated in the residency programs come from referrals made by community dentists. This gives residents the opportunity to correspond and discuss real cases with private-practice dentists. It also teaches them, early on, how to support general dentists as well as referring dentists.

The Endodontic Residency Program, like other Pitt dental residencies, thrives on the centralized nature of the school. Residents have numerous opportunities to work with other specialty residents, something that isn't always an option at other schools. Pitt Dental Medicine residents gain a deeper appreciation for the complex cases each specialty faces.

Importantly, as with other residency programs, residents in the Endodontics Residency Program also become teachers. Because residents work closely with dental students, communal learning often is sparked in the clinic.

"Dental students feel comfortable to come into the endodontic clinic to observe and learn by just watching what our residents are doing," said Dr. Ray. "So, a part of the goal of the residency program is training them to be future educators, program directors and dental leaders. In this casual manner, they are learning how to teach the practice of endodontics."

Residents leave the program fully prepared to become expert practitioners.

"I am proud of the skillset they leave here with," Dr. Ray said. "They all make the most out of their time at Pitt Dental Medicine and go on to be knowledgeable dental practitioners." ●



Pictured left to right:  
Dr. James Busch (Pedo '15);  
dental assistant Colleen  
Limbacher; Pediatric Dentistry  
Assistant Professor Dr. Danielle  
Cooper (DMD '13, Pedo '15).

## Advanced Education and Residency Program in General Practice Residency

**Program Director:** Keith Richmond, DMD, MDS

**Residency Length:** 1 year

**Accredited:** This program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

**Residents:** 3 per year

**Goal:** The program is designed so that upon completion of the program, General Practice residents are prepared to act as primary care providers; delivering emergency and comprehensive oral health care which are patient-focused and coordinated across disciplines..

**How to Apply:** Applicants must submit the American Dental Education Association Postdoctoral Application Support Service (ADEA PASS) application. Check the ADEA PASS website for requirements, application fees and deadline.

**More information:** [dental.pitt.edu/students/general-practice-residency-program](http://dental.pitt.edu/students/general-practice-residency-program)

The General Practice Residency is guided by the philosophy that oral health is an integral and interactive aspect of total health. This is why general practice residents engage in nine months of comprehensive care plus three months of rotations through anesthesia, emergency medicine, head and neck radiology, internal medicine, and oral and maxillofacial surgery. They also spend two weeks of the year working with Catholic Charities, a national organization providing disaster relief and helping the underserved, to provide free dental care to the uninsured.

The program is designed for recent dental graduates to gain more experience and refine the skills they acquired in dental schools. The residency is co-sponsored by UPMC and located at the UPMC Montefiore Dental Center on the UPMC Presbyterian/Shadyside Campus.

“Our affiliation with the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine allows general practice residents access to didactic and clinical experiences that most hospital-based programs are lacking,” said Program Director Dr. Keith Richmond.

Throughout their time in the program, residents prepare to become proficient at managing dental emergencies as well as medically-compromised patients. Unlike dental school, where students would

see up to two patients per day, residents see a full schedule of patients daily and have to quickly learn time-management skills. To best manage patient appointments and turn around, the Montefiore Dental Center relies on Practice Manager Catherine Smith.

Residents spend most of their time at the UPMC Montefiore Dental Center and no two days are the same. On a daily basis, residents manage dental emergencies, clearances for cardiac surgeries and transplants, and provide dental treatment for cancer patients, which is becoming quite common in the dental field. Patients often are referred by faculty at the school; these cases are typically too advanced for treatment by dental students, so residents have an opportunity to step in.

Residents work alongside attendings who demonstrate new techniques and tips from across dental specialties like oral surgery to endodontics. These attendings come from both Pitt Schools of Dental Medicine and Medicine and include Dr. Mark Ochs (DMD '82), Associate Dean for Hospital Affairs and Head of Hospital Dentistry; Dr. Sam Bakuri, periodontist; Dr. Susan Calderbank (DMD '77), general dentist; Dr. John Charletta (DMD '78), endodontist; Dr. William Chung, oral and maxillofacial surgeon and director of the dental center; Dr. Sally Farah (DMD '14), maxillofacial prosthodontist; Dr. Heidi Huber (DMD '87, Prosthodontist '91), maxillofacial prosthodontist; and Dr. Richmond, prosthodontist.

Alongside their clinical duties, residents in the General Practice Residency take didactic courses at the School of Dental Medicine. They engage in a six-week course in ethics, something unique to the program, and faculty use real-life cases that already have been adjudicated to teach residents. They also attend weekly lectures about treating cancer patients, geriatric patients, patients with systemic conditions, and patients with HPV.

“Their didactic courses are alongside residents from other specialties, and they also are able to attend continuing education courses offered by the school without the need to travel. These unique features set Pitt apart,” stated Dr. Richmond.

Through the General Practice Residency program, residents become more knowledgeable, experienced, and proficient. Upon completion of the program, they are ready to go into private practice with a thorough knowledge and understanding of how to manage medically compromised patients, including those with cancer. ●

# Advanced Education and Residency Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology

**Program Director:** Kurt F. Summersgill, DDS

**Department Chair:** Lawrence G. Schneider, DDS

**Residency Length:** 3 years

**Accredited:** This program is fully accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

**Residents:** Maximum of 2 per year

**Goal:** Through a mix of didactic courses, electives, hospital rotations, and research, residents will leave the program with the ability to practice in the field of oral and maxillofacial pathology.

**How to Apply:** Applicants must apply through The School of Dental Medicine self-managed application; requirements can be found at the website below. The cost is \$50. The application deadline is Oct. 1.

**More information:** [dental.pitt.edu/departments/diagnostic-sciences/residency-program-oral-and-maxillofacial-pathology](http://dental.pitt.edu/departments/diagnostic-sciences/residency-program-oral-and-maxillofacial-pathology)

Perhaps the most striking feature of this residency program is its devotion to the head and neck pathology rotation at UPMC Hospital System; no other U.S. program provides such an intensive opportunity. Residents spend 12 weeks at this rotation, which is approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

They are advised by and work directly with three UPMC head and neck medical pathology specialists: Dr. Raja Seethala, Dr. Simion Chiosea, and Dr. Robert Peel. Through this rotation, the residents receive extensive exposure to large oral pathology cases, in addition to pathology specific to the thyroid and larynx.

“Our residents hear the perspectives of three different oral and maxillofacial pathologists, as well as three head and neck medical pathology specialists, which lets them know that everything at the specialist level is not so ‘clear cut,’” said Program Director Dr. Kurt Summersgill.

Residents also participate in a great deal of research and scholar activity. Residents collaborate on research with dental and medical school faculty, dental residents in other specialties, and with faculty and residents at other institutions. Currently,

residents are working on research projects related to the characterization of the different salivary and odontogenic tumors by use of stains for histochemical markers; utility of digital diagnosis for cytologies and biopsies; radiographic features of lesions; case reports of interesting or classic lesions; and data mining of electronic records for trends and quality assurance.

The program affords the fully-integrated experience combining a tertiary care medical facility, a very busy dental school, and an active oral medicine clinical practice. In line with Pitt Dental Medicine’s other residency programs, residents interact with other specialty residents and can discuss diagnosis and management together. Faculty are always available for input. Residents also work with dental students, giving the dental students a chance to see the interplay of different specialties in nearly real-time.

Outside of Pitt, residents work collaboratively with local and regional dentists. They discuss the results of different biopsies they have submitted, sometimes discussing management options with them, which benefits both the resident and the regional dentists. Patient referrals for clinical evaluation from regional dentists give the residents an opportunity to interact and collaborate with practicing dentists in the community as they discuss the case.

“These experiences help our residents become stronger candidates for future employment. They have strength in teaching, clinical and microscopic practice, and scholarly research activity,” said Dr. Summersgill. ●

Dr. Ahmad Kamal (Perio '16) treats a patient with dental assistant, Ms. Paula Zanotti.



## Advanced Education and Residency Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

**Program Director:** Richard Bauer, DMD, MD

**Residency Length:** The program offers two options: a six-year, medical degree integrated program; and a four-year program.

**Accredited:** This program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

**Residents:** 3 per year (2 six-year positions; 1 four-year position)

**Goal:** The program trains residents to garner positions in both outstanding surgical practices and university attending positions at major medical centers throughout the United States.

**How to Apply:** Applicants must submit the American Dental Education Association Postdoctoral Application Support Service (ADEA PASS) application. The deadline is Sept. 1 of the year prior to matriculation.

**More information:**

[dental.pitt.edu/departments/oral-and-maxillofacial/surgery-residency-program](http://dental.pitt.edu/departments/oral-and-maxillofacial/surgery-residency-program)

One of the strongest features of the School of Dental Medicine Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is its focus on technology. Known as a thought-leader in the field, the department continues to remain at the forefront of technological advancements.

Because oral surgery is so complex, residents in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery use top-of-the-line tools to treat a variety of cases. This technological armamentarium enables residents to evaluate patients pre- and post-operatively; treatment plan and perform cases involving dental implants, bone deficiency grafting, corrective jaw surgery, extractions, traumatic facial injuries, and myriad other conditions.

Doctors and residents now can simulate and plan jaw surgery three dimensionally with the use of medical CT and CBCT scans with specialized computer software. They now simulate corrective jaw surgery on a computer, enabling them to virtually perform bone movements and print 3D splints to assist in the actual surgery. Also, the integration of computers has improved insight regarding

implant surgeries and enhanced resident education. “Our residents are not just proficient with these advanced technologies,” said Program Director Dr. Richard Bauer (DMD ’07, OMS ’13), “They help to drive the field forward.”

This residency program offers four- and six-year tracks. The latter incorporates a medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Residents in both tracks work in and among other departments in the School of Dental Medicine and UPMC Hospital System. A portion of the residents’ week is dedicated to cases that are performed in hospital operating rooms, which includes medically complex patients.

“This adds variety to our practice and enables us to see a broad spectrum of patients on a day-to-day basis,” said Dr. Bauer. “Our residents are able to witness a patient transformation from beginning to end. The ability to create a lasting impact on our patients is truly fulfilling.”

Like other residency programs, there is a great deal of coordinated effort with other dental specialty residencies, especially orthodontics,

periodontics, and prosthodontics. The department also works closely with the Department of Dental Anesthesia to provide combined surgical and anesthetic care to adults and children daily.

“Multidisciplinary care is of the utmost importance,” said Dr. Bauer. “Patients benefit from specialty care that is coordinated and communicated. This mission is evident in our residents and the care they provide.” ●



## Advanced Education and Residency Program in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics

**Program Director:** Joseph F. A. Petrone, DDS

**Residency Length:** 3 years

**Accredited:** The program is fully accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

**Residents:** 4 per year

**Goal:** The goals of the program are to provide an excellent advanced education in the specialty of orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics, to provide high quality clinical care and to conduct research designed to advance the knowledge of the specialty.

**How to Apply:** Applicants must submit the American Dental Education Association Postdoctoral Application Support Service (ADEA PASS) application. All positions are awarded through the Postdoctoral Dental Matching Program in the Phase I (fall) match. Check the ADEA PASS website for requirements, application fees and deadline.

**More information:** [dental.pitt.edu/departments/orthodontics-and-dentofacial-orthopedics/advanced-dental-education-residency-program](http://dental.pitt.edu/departments/orthodontics-and-dentofacial-orthopedics/advanced-dental-education-residency-program)

In the world of orthodontics, technology has not yet replaced clinical experience and expertise, according to Dr. Joseph F. A. Petrone, Associate Dean for Residency Education and Program Director of the Advanced Dental Education Residency Program in Orthodontics and Dentofacial

Orthopedics. This is why training at the resident level is so important.

“If you want to do braces on a large scale, then you need to come to a program like ours and learn how best to do that,” Dr. Petrone said. “If you want to hold yourself out to the public to be an orthodontist, or any other dental specialist, you need to have advanced, specialized training.”

And Pitt Dental Medicine’s facility offers such training. The clinic used by orthodontic residents is generous and large. This is relatively unusual, according to Dr. Petrone, who said most dental schools are unable to allocate large spaces to orthodontics. Having all specialties under one roof also enables residents to crossover with other specialty residents, especially those in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

“Ten percent of the people who have orthodontic problems also have dento-facial abnormalities, and the ideal treatment for these patients is to straighten their teeth and align their jaws surgically,” said Dr. Petrone. “This requires an integrated approach to treatment. The school’s interdisciplinary environment provides this for our residents.”

The first several weeks of their residency is spent learning the common core curriculum with other residents at the School of Dental Medicine. The next portion of the curriculum is devoted to clinical orthodontics. Residents learn through a module setting, where they bring patients in and treat them. This allows residents to develop proficiency through broad and diverse experiences in patient care.

Much of the program reflects contemporary orthodontics that aren’t stipulated in the standard. For example, residents work with Invisalign®, which isn’t technically in the standard. “If we didn’t expose them to these current orthodontic techniques, they wouldn’t be totally prepared when they leave the program,” Dr. Petrone said.

This type of teaching and learning is one of the greatest advantages for residents in the program.

“I remember being a dental student—it’s different being a resident,” said Dr. Petrone. “I think it makes for a great learning environment, when you have that higher-level of faculty interaction and in-depth learning.” ●

Dr. Moshen Azarbal, associate professor and director for the prosthodontics residency program, works with current periodontics residents, Dr. Eric Heckenbach (DMD ’14) and Dr. Seyed Tofighbakhsh.



## Dr. Indru Punwani

With a long and successful career as an academic and pediatric dentist, Dr. Indru Punwani (MDS, Pedo '68) was one of the first candidates selected when the School of Dental Medicine residency program in pediatric dentistry began in 1965.

"I was very impressed by both the city of Pittsburgh and the School of Dental Medicine," said Dr. Punwani, who came to the U.S. from India.

Before coming to the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Punwani studied at the University of Bombay (now Mumbai) and completed a Guggenheim Fellowship in pediatric dentistry in New York. He served as a resident under Pediatric Dentistry Department Heads Dr. Molly Foster and Dr. Robert Rapp.

"The appealing nature of the program was the welcoming and nurturing faculty who were immersed in scholarly activities," Dr. Punwani said. "When I was a resident, my studies and clinical experiences took place in both the School of Dental Medicine and Children's Hospital. Between the two, I received outstanding clinical and research training, and mentoring."

The school's approach to exposing residents to both clinical work alongside research was influential in Dr. Punwani's path as an academic and clinician, which is evident in his experience in all aspects of pediatric dentistry.

His current work focuses on community-based pediatric dentistry for vulnerable populations, and he has co-authored hundreds of publications on that subject. Additionally, he's mentored many residents from his own program at the University of

Illinois at Chicago, College of Dentistry, where he serves as Professor Emeritus.

But the experiences that were most influential in Dr. Punwani's successful career were the mentorships that he received from the faculty at the School of Dental Medicine. In the late 1960s, he accepted a joint appointment as an instructor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry and the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh [of UPMC]. From there, Dr. Punwani has held academic appointments as an instructor and assistant professor at the University of Bergen, Norway, as well as Professor and Head of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, College of Dentistry and Chief of Dental Service at the University of Illinois Hospital.

Dr. Punwani looks back at his time in Pittsburgh and at the School of Dental Medicine with fondness.

"This is where I met and married my wife, and met some of my colleagues and good friends, such as Dr. Milt Houpt (DDS '68), who went on to head the Department of Pediatric Dentistry in New Jersey, Dr. Mike Till, who went on to become the Department Head and the Dean of the University of Minnesota Dental School, and Dr. Arthur Nowak (DDS '61), who went on to become highly respected at the University of Iowa and serve as the Head of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry," he said. "I had wonderful company and very fond memories."

Dr. Punwani still serves the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation as a consultant evaluating pediatric dental programs in the United States.



*"The appealing nature of the program was the welcoming and nurturing faculty who were immersed in scholarly activities."*

# Advanced Education and Residency Program in Pediatric Dentistry

**Program Director:** Deborah Studen-Pavlovich, DMD.

**Chair:** Adriana Modesto Vieira, DDS, MS, PhD, DMD

**Residency Length:** 2 years

**Accredited:** This program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

**Goal:** The goal is to train residents in the advanced diagnostic and clinical techniques necessary to provide specialty care to children, adolescents and individuals with disabilities.

**How to Apply:** Applicants submit the American Dental Education Association Postdoctoral Application Support Service (ADEA PASS) application and the Postdoctoral Dental Matching Program (MATCH). Applications are due by Oct. 1 of the year prior to matriculation.

**More information:** [dental.pitt.edu/departments/pediatric-dentistry/advanced-dental-education-and-residency-program-pediatric-dentistry](http://dental.pitt.edu/departments/pediatric-dentistry/advanced-dental-education-and-residency-program-pediatric-dentistry)

The Residency Program in Pediatric Dentistry offers two track possibilities. The first: a two-year program leading to a certificate in pediatric dentistry. The second: a three-year, funded-track granting a certificate in pediatric dentistry and a multidisciplinary Master of Public Health degree.

Both tracks train residents in advanced diagnostic and clinical techniques necessary to provide specialty care to children, adolescents, and individuals with special health care needs. The second track differs, however, by training residents with additional rotations to care for patients in underserved rural settings and those with special needs, as well as course work in public health. Funded by a grant from the Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA), this residency track is co-directed by Dr. Robert Weyant (DMD '82), Chair of the Department of Dental Public Health and Associate Dean for Public Health and Outreach. The grant continues until July 2020.

In both tracks, residents engage in a variety of clinical experiences and didactic coursework. Resident are taught by full- and part-time faculty who have dedicated records of teaching, service and scholarly research activity within the School of Dental Medicine, the University, and nationally and internationally.

The clinical facilities are also an asset to residents; the area is well-maintained and allows the resident to provide all dental care within the department. For example, in 2014, two general anesthesia suites and a recovery room were added with the help of funding from the Highmark Foundation and the University. All dental needs—from examinations to complex dental procedures—can be completed within the renovated and expanded clinical area for patients from infancy to age 18.

“One of our greatest strengths is having a long-standing relationship with the Dental Anesthesiology Residency Program,” said Program Director Dr. Deborah Studen-Pavlovich (DMD '80, Pedro '83). “Being able to offer sedation services for our patients within the school is an example of providing excellent service to them. Not having to travel to a hospital or surgical center is a huge benefit to everyone involved, but especially to the patients and their parents.”

The Department of Anesthesiology also provides in-house training to the pediatric dental residents. Therefore, residents graduate from the program with more comprehensive knowledge and utilization of sedation and outpatient general anesthesia. In addition, the program emphasizes all aspects of teaching

predoctoral dental students: Residents present lectures, provide instruction to the preclinical program, and oversee dental care in the predoctoral dental clinic.

“Just being able to walk down the hall and talk with a colleague from a different dental specialty about what he or she may think about a clinical dilemma is a wonderful opportunity for our residents,” Dr. Studen-Pavlovich said. “And shadowing residents is very beneficial to dental students since they can learn from dental professionals who are at the next level of competency. This allows Pitt dental students to acquire extra knowledge about treating or managing younger and sometimes more difficult patients. It’s also helpful if the dental student is interested in pursuing a career in pediatric dentistry,” Dr. Studen-Pavlovich said. ●

## Advanced Education and Residency Program in Periodontics

**Program Director:** Kelly L. Williams, DMD

**Chair:** Charles S. Sfeir, DDS

**Residency Length:** 3 years

**Accredited:** This program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

**Residents:** 3 per year

**Goal:** The program is designed to train periodontists in all phases of periodontal and implant therapies including a broad knowledge base of other dental and medical disciplines, as well as teaching future generations of educators.

**How to Apply:** Please see details on our web site.

**More information:** [dental.pitt.edu/departments/periodontics-and-preventive-dentistry/advanced-dental-education-and-residency-program](http://dental.pitt.edu/departments/periodontics-and-preventive-dentistry/advanced-dental-education-and-residency-program)

The field of periodontics is foundational to dental medicine in many ways, given that periodontists are trained to evaluate the structures supporting the teeth. They must prevent, diagnose and develop comprehensive treatment plans to treat periodontal disease—a gum infection that can destroy the jawbone— that could involve bone regeneration of the jaw, sinus lifts and dental implant placement.

Because of the breadth of the field, periodontics often intersects with other dental specialties. This relationship motivates the curriculum and training within the Pitt Dental Medicine Residency Program in Periodontics, which combines interdisciplinary clinical training with cutting-edge research.

The three-year certificate program provides residents with the necessary training to utilize all periodontal diagnostic modalities, address multiple levels of anxiety and pain control, and to treat patients with non-surgical, surgical, regenerative, and dental implant therapies. In addition, the residents gain real life experiences as they learn how to professionally interact and communicate with referring dentists. The interdisciplinary program, led by Program Director Dr. Kelly Williams (DMD '07, Perio '10) and Department Chair Dr. Charles Sfeir is evidence-based and rooted in research. Residents begin their clinical education early in the program, which continues to build throughout the three years into varied and extensive clinical experience. The residents receive extensive clinical experiences so they are prepared to graduate and achieve successful careers.

“Our residents are exposed to objective clinical training, allowing them

to forge their own opinions based on solid scientific evidence,” said Dr. Williams. “This interdisciplinary training is a tremendous benefit to residents.”

The School of Dental Medicine Multidisciplinary Implant Center receives active participation from the Departments of Periodontics, Prosthodontics and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. This allows periodontics residents to work closely with prosthodontists and oral and maxillofacial surgeons. Also, periodontics residents work closely with residents and faculty from the anesthesiology program, allowing them to execute their own mild to moderate intravenous sedation for patients, and treat patients under general anesthesia.

“The setting at Pitt Dental Medicine allows for this kind of interdisciplinary education and patient care,” Dr. Williams said. “This, alongside the integration of strong basic science with clinical training, broadens the perspective of our residents.”

What also provides context for residents is the range of faculty expertise within the Department of Periodontics. “Our residents receive clinical education under the mentorship of many practitioners with varied backgrounds and areas of expertise,” said Dr. Sfeir. Department faculty comprises researchers, clinicians and private practitioners, a mix that affords residents access to a comprehensive clinical training. The backgrounds of the department’s faculty include strong foundations in basic science research focusing on technologies in bone regeneration, stem cell biology, novel treatment of periodontal disease by modulating the immune system, dental implant research, and all facets of clinical practice in the field.

A recent benefit added to the program was an office manager dedicated solely to the residents to ensure ongoing communication between residents and referring dentists, a common concern for dentists in private practice. This practice management model was intended to stimulate the workflow and efficiency that residents will need to make sure their private practice businesses are successful.

“Our officer manager is fully engaged with the residents to ensure that scheduling and communications run efficiently. In addition to registration and scheduling, a key aspect of the office manager is to facilitate interoffice communications between the residents and referring dentists. This kind of communication skill is absolutely essential to a successful specialty practice, and our goal is to emulate this during the residency program.” Said Dr. Williams.

While in the program, residents work closely with referring dentists from other departments in the school; serve as a resource to local dentists and periodontists; perform the most-advanced, cutting-edge procedures in the treatment of difficult cases; and interact with and teach dental students. “The residents are a tremendous resource to the dental students who learn from them extensively” said Dr. Sfeir. ●



# Advanced Education and Residency Program in Prosthodontics

**Program Director:** Mohsen Azarbal, DMD

**Chair:** Robert L. Engelmeier, DMD

**Residency Length:** 3 years with the option to complete a master's degree

**Accredited:** This program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

**Goal:** The program's didactic and clinical components are designed to train and equip the graduate to transfer new prosthodontic knowledge and approaches, to implement evidence-based prosthodontic decision-making in clinical practice and to prepare for certification by the American Board of Prosthodontics.

**How to Apply:** Applicants must submit the American Dental Education Association Postdoctoral Application Support Service (ADEA PASS) application or the self-managed application (which costs \$50). The deadline is Oct. 30 of year prior to matriculation..

**More information:** [dental.pitt.edu/departments/prosthodontics/advanced-dental-education-residency-program-prosthodontics](http://dental.pitt.edu/departments/prosthodontics/advanced-dental-education-residency-program-prosthodontics)

The field of prosthodontics treats patients with missing teeth or oral and maxillofacial issues. At Pitt Dental Medicine, residents use dental implants, dentures, veneers, crowns, and teeth whitening to improve oral health as well as esthetics for patients.

Both the curriculum and hands-on learning within the Residency Program in Prosthodontics equip residents with an intensive knowledge of prosthodontics and the ability to make evidence-based decisions in clinical settings. And, being a resident in the program affords many learning opportunities, among them: the ability to receive advanced training in prosthodontics; implantology; advanced digital dentistry, such as CEREC technology; occlusion; temporo-mandibular disease (TMD); and exposure to maxillofacial prosthodontics.

One of the best opportunities for residents is working in the graduate prosthodontic clinic and the School of Dental Medicine Multidisciplinary Implant Center. In these settings, residents manage the care of patients requiring moderate to complex oral rehabilitative treatments that cut across dental disciplines. They also gain knowledge of new and evolving research and technologies related to dental implants and prosthodontic methods.

"Our curriculum and intense clinical experience prepares our residents to be successful leaders in the field of prosthodontics," said Department Chair Dr. Robert L. Engelmeier (DMD '70).

In terms of its curriculum, the program trains residents to be proficient in the diagnosis, treatment planning, and management of multidisciplinary cases. The program also allows

residents to simultaneously pursue a master's degree. All courses are taught by board-certified dental faculty.

Because Pitt Dental Medicine offers all specialties in one place, prosthodontics residents also can collaborate with faculty and residents within other specialties, both in interdisciplinary treatment planning and interdisciplinary treatment of complex patients. And the interactions extend to the school's dental student and dental hygiene clinics, too. Residents in the Department of Prosthodontics inherit the advanced cases from these two treatment clinics. Residents include dental and dental hygiene students in the treatment of patients. They also serve as teachers in some preclinical laboratories and didactic courses, as well as clinical teachers in the undergraduate clinical modules. ●



Pictured left to right: Dr. Sean Thoms (Anesth '16); former Dental Anesthesiology faculty member, Dr. Richard Montandon (Anesth '14) and Dr. Matthew Castele (Anesth '16).



## MESSAGE FROM THE DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Fellow alumni,

Hello, and welcome to the Winter 2017 issue of Pitt Dental Medicine magazine. I'd like to thank all of our alumni who have made 2016 such a great year for the dental school. Our school continues to build on its rich tradition through contributions and support from you, it's alumni. As we prepare for the new year, I'd like to take time to reflect on the past year at the school, and look forward to events in 2017.

In this issue, our feature story focuses on the residency programs at the School of Dental Medicine. Our school has eleven advanced education residency programs to promote our profession. Our incoming class of students begin their journey learning the foundation of dentistry, and can look forward to the opportunity to advance their education and skills through these programs.

In August the school welcomed 80 first professional students at our Annual White Coat Ceremony. Thank you to all alumni who supported this event, especially those who contributed by purchasing white coats for our students.

The school started a grass-roots mentoring project that continues to evolve. The alumni association has connected students with alumni for dinners and shadowing opportunities to allow students to gain a better understanding of dental career possibilities. Alumni interested in mentoring students are encouraged to contact Nancy Poe at [poen@pitt.edu](mailto:poen@pitt.edu).

Please mark your calendars for the student alumni mentoring event at the school on March 1. This will be a networking event for first- and second-year students. The annual Bowser lecture will be held April 1, and the 17th Annual Dean's Scholarship Ball will be held April 29.

Our alumni serve as the foundation for building a brighter future. Thank you to all those who support the school in so many ways. I wish you all a very happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Matthew Karski (DMD '10)**  
*President, Dental Alumni Association*

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## MESSAGE FROM THE DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION VICE PRESIDENT DENTAL HYGIENE

Dear Friends,

Pittsburgh hosted dental hygienists from all over the country at this summer's American Dental Hygienists Association (ADHA) 93rd Center for Lifelong Learning Annual Session Conference at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. It was wonderful seeing so many alumni and friends enjoying the exhibits and participating in the Center for Lifelong Learning. Thanks to the many Pitt Dental Hygiene graduates and friends who also joined us at the alumni reception at the Westin William Penn and helped to make it a great success.

In August, the Dental Hygiene Program sponsored annual table clinic presentations. We were happy to invite our alumni and are grateful to those who joined us at the event—students and faculty truly appreciate your interest and support.

Alumni are always welcome to return to the school and to see what's new in the Dental Hygiene Program. When the Class of 1981 was unable to attend the scheduled activities at

the 2016 Homecoming, they arranged a class reunion a few weeks before Homecoming. Ms. Angelina Riccelli, program director, provided the members of the Class of 1981 with a tour of the school and our clinic, and she presented an update on our program. They were delighted to hear that the school now provides an associate degree in dental hygiene, and were impressed with the improvements in our curriculum and our achievements in the area of interprofessional collaboration with the Pitt's School of Nursing.

For more exciting news from the Dental Hygiene Program, please see page 35.

We invite you to become involved and stay connected to your alma mater!

**Ms. Susan Ban (DH '80)**  
*Vice President, Dental Hygiene,  
Dental Alumni Association*



# White Coat Ceremony 2016

On August 29, 2016, 80 members of the incoming first professional Class of 2020 and 34 members of the dental hygiene Class of 2018 received their white coats during the 2016 White Coat Ceremony. This significant event welcomes incoming School of Dental Medicine students as they begin their professional career studies.

Dean Thomas Braun welcomed new students, families, faculty and staff to the event. He then introduced Dr. James Guggenheimer, who is celebrating 50 years at the School of Dental Medicine (please see story on page 26) who spoke briefly and was presented with a gift honoring his golden anniversary. Guests then welcomed Dr. Herb Ray, Chair of the Department of Endodontics and President of the Pennsylvania Dental Association (PDA). He introduced those in attendance to the benefits the PDA can offer them as practicing dental professionals. Dr. Matthew Karski (DMD '10), president of the School of Dental Medicine Dental Alumni Association, talked about the diversity of the Class of 2020 and about the significance and symbolism of the white coat. Dr. Adriana Modesto

Vieira, Chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, welcomed the Class of 2020 and introduced the requirements and benefits of being invited to be a member of Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU), the national dental honor society. Vibrant, ongoing research at the School of Dental Medicine was the topic of Associate Dean for Research Dr. Charles Sfeir's welcome.

Dental Hygiene students were personally welcomed by Dental Hygiene Program Director Ms. Angelina Riccelli. Finally, Dr. Christine Wankiiri-Hale, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, invited each new student to receive his or her white coat. In addition to supporting the 2016 White Coat Ceremony, alumni wrote short notes to inspire and

energize incoming predoctoral and dental hygiene students that were placed inside the pockets of their white coats. A light afternoon reception followed for students, their families, faculty and staff in the new Salk Hall Pavilion Atrium.

Family members, friends, faculty and alumni may watch a recorded broadcast of the event on our website. Please visit our web site for details and directions to view this exciting event, or view archived videos from past year's White Coat Ceremonies.

The White Coat Ceremony receives support in part from the Harry K. Zohn (DMD '84) and Cecile A. Feldman, DMD White Coat Endowment Fund as well as contributions from our alumni and friends.



# ALUMNI UPDATES



## **Dr. Deborah Edwards (DMD '79)**

recently returned from a mission trip to the Urukundo Village in the Republic of Rwanda, where she worked with local dentists to provide services in a start-up dental clinic.

## **Dr. Simon Ghattas (DMD '09),**

of Boynton Beach, Fla., recently became a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics.



## **Dr. Elaine Berkowitz (DMD '86)**

Recently was honored as the 2016 Caregiver Champion at the

Eighth Annual Celebrating Senior Champions Dinner and Auction on October 26 at the Omni William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh. The event, which supports the UPMC Senior Communities Benevolent Care Fund, was hosted by famed Pittsburgh Steeler, Rocky Bleier. Dr. Berkowitz practices geriatric and special needs dentistry in the Pittsburgh area and has been recognized as one of the region's top dentists. She retired as a Lieutenant Colonel after a 38-year career in the United States Army Reserves. She continues to be active in military organizations and is the recipient of a Doctor Honoris Causa from the University of Kosovo.



## **Dr. Peter Ross (DMD '79)**

continues to serve as the president of the Pennsylvania Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, a position he has held since 2015. He is a retired United States Army Colonel and currently owns a pediatric dental practice in Lancaster, Pa.

Since his recent retirement,

## **Dr. Alexander Sax (DMD '76)**

has spent the past year providing basic oral surgery and acute dental care to inmates at the Allegheny County Jail. He is a general dentist with Correctional Dental Associates, a New Jersey-based corporation that provides "cost-effective, affordable, high-quality dental services" to inmate populations. Dr. Sax's duties include various extractions, as well as treatment for infections, lesions, tumors and facial cellulitis.



Keep us posted by sharing your news and updates. Email Nancy Poe at [poen@pitt.edu](mailto:poen@pitt.edu), or call **412-648-8910**.



## **Dr. Paul J. Schwartz (DMD '82, GPR '84)**

of Dunkirk, Maryland, was elected to a two-year term on the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) Board of Trustees during the association's 98th Annual Meeting in September, 2016. As the District II Trustee, Dr. Schwartz represents oral and maxillofacial surgeons in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and the dental federal services.

# ADA 2017 America's Dental Meeting

## Pitt Dental Medicine Alumni Reunite in Denver

The Pitt Dental Alumni Association hosted a well-attended reception on October 20 in Denver during the 2016 American Dental Association's (ADA) America's Dental Meeting. Dean Thomas Braun welcomed guests to the reception at the Hyatt Regency Denver. Alumni were interested in updates about Pitt Dental including student acceptance, research programs, and current renovations at the school.

The 2017 ADA America's Dental Meeting will be held October 19 - 23 at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Ga. Please visit [dental.pitt.edu](http://dental.pitt.edu) for updates on the time and location of our reception at the next ADA annual meeting. The annual Pitt Dental Alumni Reception is open to alumni and friends of the school.



Top: The school was grateful to have Eastern Dentists Insurance Company (EDIC) Chairman of the Board, Dr. Richard LoGuercio, and Vice President of Sales, Jack Dombeck, at the meeting. During the reception Dr. LoGuercio presented Dean Braun with a generous gift from EDIC to support the School of Dental Medicine.

Bottom, pictured left to right: Dr. Andrew Kwasney (DMD '83, MDS '85); Dr. Terry Buckenheimer (DMD '80); Dr. Gary Jeffers (DMD '75); and Dr. Thomas Braun.

### Pitt Dental Medicine Alumni Inducted into ACD and ICD 2016

Congratulations to the following School of Dental Medicine Alumni who recently were inducted as new fellows of the American College of Dentists (ACD) and the International College of Dentists (ICD)

#### ACD Inductees

- Dr. Norman S. Chun (DMD '81)
- Dr. Charles M. Carpenter (DMD '73)
- Dr. Maria Tacosky (DMD '93)
- Dr. Jeanne C. Sutton (DMD '90)
- Dr. A. Omar Abubaker (DMD '91, PhD '84)

#### ICD Inductees

- Dr. Sara Louise Haines (DH '01, DMD '09)
- Dr. Steven Herbert Helm (DMD '89)
- Dr. Joel Brian Reiter (DMD '85)
- Dr. Theodore John Rockwell (DMD '86)
- Dr. Jeanne Christine Sutton (DMD '90)
- Dr. Beth Ann Troy (DMD '05)



# Homecoming 2016

## 2016 Reunion Classes Come Home

The University of Pittsburgh Alumni Association sponsored festive activities for 2016 Homecoming weekend and the School of Dental Medicine hosted alumni and school events to reconnect former classmates and friends.

Pitt Dental Homecoming events kicked off on Friday, October 7, with an all-day continuing education course sponsored in part by the T. F. Bowser Memorial Fund. The course "Cancer Patients: Ready or Not, Here They Come!", by Dr. Susan Calderbank (DMD '77) presented the most common treatment options related to oral side effects due to chemo therapy and head and neck radiation.

Also, on October 7, the Dental Alumni Association accepted a Gold Banner award in recognition of outstanding service provided to alumni from the Pitt Alumni Association during a luncheon at Alumni Hall.

Dental Medicine Homecoming activities also included

a reception for dental alumni, students, and friends at Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall Ballroom. The class reunion dinners also were held at Soldiers & Sailors Ballroom and included the 50-year reunion of the Dental Class of 1966, many Golden Alumni (those who graduated prior to 1966) and seven other class reunions. In addition to the reunion classes, students and alumni mentors met for dinner and to talk about life beyond dental school and potential professional opportunities ahead.

Despite the rainy evening, alumni and guests enjoyed an excellent view of the fireworks and laser show from the balcony of Soldiers & Sailors Hall. Many of the classes planned tailgating events and post-game dinners for the Pitt football victory against Georgia Tech the following day.

We thank everyone who attended, especially the reunion organizers and alumni mentors, for making the evening a success.

*Photos by Alex Jones Photography*



## Celebrating Fifty Years

*The Class of 1966 celebrated their golden reunion during Pitt Homecoming 2016. Front row, pictured left to right: Dr. Jeffrey Slone, Dr. Arnold Thomas, Dr. Charles Kalson, Dr. Thomas Findlan. Back row, pictured left to right: Dr. Clinton Logan, Dr. John Rowles, Dr. Robert Campbell, Dr. Thomas Diem. Not pictured: Dr. Charles Oakley*



# Class of 1963 Homecoming



The class of '63 included: back row, left to right: James Wempa, Dino Angelici, Jr (son of Dr. Dino R. Angelici who could not attend), Burt Zwibel, Edward Braun, William Kinast, Mark Ricard, James Johnson, Max Barmoy. Front row, left to right: Abel Soster, Jack Whittaker, Robert Vitori, David Reeder, Jay Maust, William Martin, Philip Ruben

The School of Dental Medicine Class of 1963 reunited for a 53rd reunion on September 24, in Monroeville, Pa., hosted by classmate Dr. James Wempa and his wife, Marilyn. Fourteen classmates joined spouses and family members for the celebration.

The Class of 1963 graduated 90 members, many of whom have stayed in contact over the years with their 53 remaining classmates. Dr. Robert L. Engelmeier (DMD '70), Chairman of the Department of Prosthodontics, represented the Dental Alumni Office.

# Homecoming 2016



**DH Class of 1986**



**Golden Alums**



**DMD Class of 1981 and Spouses**



**DMD Class of 1976**



**DMD Class of 1996**



**DMD Class of 1986**







**DMD Class of 2006**



**Golden Alums and Spouses**



**Students and Mentors**

# 2017 Pitt Dental Medicine Homecoming

Join your fellow dental medicine alums for a very special Dental Homecoming next year.

**Friday, September 15, 2017**

### This exciting weekend features:

- Continuing education class on Friday
- Luncheon for the 50-Year Reunion Class and Golden Alumni
- Tours of the dental school
- Cocktail party
- Pitt vs. Oklahoma State football game
- Residency program alums are invited to return and visit with residency program directors

The University of Pittsburgh Homecoming 2017 is not yet scheduled, but please join us for our special Pitt Dental Homecoming on September 15, 2017.



*Pitt Alumni enjoying a football game. Pictured left to right, Dr. Richard Gradisek (DMD '81), Tom Bailey (Pitt '74), Dr. David Spokane (DMD '91), and Dr. Joseph Ross (DMD '83).*

We encourage classes to organize reunions, especially those class years ending in 2 and 7. Please contact Nancy Poe if you would like to organize the class reunion and you need assistance contacting classmates or securing a venue. Class reunion information will be published in the Summer 2017 issue of *Pitt Dental Medicine* magazine.



## Celebrating a Golden Anniversary:

### Dr. James Guggenheimer Remembers His First Fifty Years at the School of Dental Medicine

Dr. James Guggenheimer earned his DDS from Columbia University College of Dental Medicine. After postgraduate training in oral medicine, he joined the faculty of the School of Dental Medicine in the Department of Oral Diagnosis, now called the Department of Diagnostic Sciences, in 1966. Below he recalls his time here and what his future at the school holds.

"My tenure at the School of Dental Medicine continues to be as exciting, stimulating, and rewarding as my first day—when the school was on Thackeray Street. I have always been happy with my decision to pursue an academic career in dental medicine. Each day, I look forward to the challenges that await as the students and I undertake the pathological evaluation of our diverse patient population. During our encounters, it is still inevitable that someone presents with some new or variant of an oral condition, the diagnosis of which occasionally remains obscure. This can readily be resolved, however, with assistance from any of our best and brightest colleagues in the department, with their almost as many years of collective experience and expertise.

In addition to my clinical teaching, I have been able to engage in an array of research studies that have been similarly rewarding. When I arrived in Pittsburgh, I discovered that there was always enthusiastic support and encouragement to collaborate and undertake projects of mutual interest with past and current faculty in the school, as well as with faculty in the other Schools of Health Sciences at Pitt. Over the years, I took part in a number of challenging clinical studies that I hope have contributed to the knowledge base of oral medicine. Research, however, seemed much easier 50 years ago when it felt like there was a great deal to discover. A now dim recollection of one of my first projects dealt with identifying tooth abnormalities in children with the Rubella (German measles) syndrome acquired during the last epidemic of 1962-1964, before a vaccine became available in 1968.

I continued my research with the head and neck surgeons in the Department of Otolaryngology, a pairing that led to findings as to why oral cancers were not being diagnosed in their early stages, when affected patients would have a better prognosis. Another opportunity presented as a result of the development and success of liver transplantation in our health center. In

conjunction with members of the transplant team, we identified a number of dental health issues that had not previously been described in patients with end-stage liver disease.

Between 1982 and 1983 we began to encounter the first patients with the AIDS virus and became actively engaged in their treatment. This was only two years after the disease was first identified in the U.S. We then witnessed the emergence of the HIV/AIDS pandemic that became the predominant biomedical challenge of modern times.

Despite all that has been discovered and accomplished during the past 50 years, we are still confronted by new concerns and challenges. One of these is the management of patients with BRONJ, and its companion condition, medication-related osteonecrosis of the jaw. (MRONJ)

Several novel and stimulating approaches to teaching students also have emerged. Foremost, the Standardized Patient program gives first-year students one-on-one experiences with actors who simulate the interaction that occurs during a patient's first visit. This can become a scintillating experience when personal, probing questions about the health history have to be asked and answered. In the third year, this exercise transitions to a confrontational interaction when the students are challenged by "the angry patient," and the scenario entails resolving a potentially explosive and stress-provoking encounter. The school is taking part in several programs that entail a new model for providing integrated, collaborative health care with clinical experiences and simulated exercises in conjunction with students from the Pitt Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, and the Allied Health Professions.

If all that has transpired portends the future, rather than looking back we should look ahead to the next 50 years, whether I am here or not."

Pictured above: Dr. James Guggenheimer is flanked by his son, Paul, and wife, Connie, during his 50th anniversary recognition at the White Coat Ceremony in August, 2016.

# Teaching Young People About Seniors



Dr. Cheppa presents a talk about geriatric dental medicine to high school students participating in the University of Pittsburgh Health Career Scholars Academy.

Dr. Edward Cheppa (DMD '80), clinical associate professor at the School of Dental Medicine, is making a big difference in the lives of young people and how they think about medical treatment for seniors. For the past twenty years, Dr. Cheppa has been inspiring students and professionals, across the University of Pittsburgh campus and throughout the region, about the special nature of caring for and providing dental treatment to senior patients. He has presented at UPMC Presbyterian Hospital Grand Rounds, continuing education courses across the Commonwealth, and in courses at the School of Dental Medicine.

Pennsylvania has one of the oldest populations in the country. Health care providers from all disciplines are able to benefit from an understanding of the fundamentals of caring for this important group. This includes the day-to-day difficulties they face as well as the impact that governmental agencies can have

*“As a dental professional and educator, I hope to promote up-to-date ideas that may enhance the quality of treatment for our older population.”*

on the health of older patients. Dental care providers, who often are the first to see signs of a bigger problem for their patients, can launch a multidisciplinary response by communicating with the patient's other healthcare providers, as

well as mental health providers, attorneys, and governmental agencies. Dr. Cheppa educates dental and medical students about the necessary intricacies of this kind of multidisciplinary approach to their older patients. In fact, most courses at the school instruct students to some degree about geriatric dental treatment for systemic health issues, medications, and caries pattern, for instance.

Dr. Cheppa also presents to undergraduate students in the region to empower them to become the guardians of the next generation of older patients. In the photo above he is shown presenting “Oral Health in the Older Adult” to 26 participants in the Geriatric Concentration of the University of Pittsburgh Health Career Scholars Academy. The academy is held annually for rising high school juniors and seniors interested in the medical field and is sponsored in part by Pitt and The Aging Institute of UPMC Senior Services.

# FACULTY UPDATES



**Dr. Robert Engelmeier**, professor and chair of the Department of Prosthodontics, was appointed as a visiting professor of MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. There, he will teach an annual course in obturator framework design for maxillofacial prosthodontic fellows.

**Dr. Jean O'Donnell (DMD '90)**, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, completed a master's degree in higher education management in May, 2016, at Pitt.

**Dr. Bill Young (DMD '86, Pros '90)**, clinical assistant professor in the Department of Prosthodontics, received his board certification in prosthodontics in October, 2016, and is now a Diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics. The School of Dental Medicine Department of Prosthodontics now has seven Board-Certified Prosthodontists on our faculty

**Dr. Joann Prasad** has been invited to serve on a newly-formed University of Pittsburgh Humanities Committee. The group hopes to maintain the momentum generated last year during the Year of the Humanities at the University, and has the goal of highlighting the important role that humanistic thinking plays in research and education across the University.



**Dr. Alexandre Vieira**, professor and director of the Dental Registry and DNA Repository, was inaugurated as President of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) Cariology Research Group this summer in Seoul, South Korea. The Cariology Research Group is one of the largest and most influential groups within IADR. He also has been reappointed as a Faculty Representative to the Health Sciences Committee of the Board of Trustees for Fiscal Year 2016-2017, by Pitt Chancellor, Dr. Patrick Gallagher.



**Dr. Wankiiri-Hale (DMD '02, AEGD '03)** has completed a fellowship in the ADA Institute for Diversity in Leadership in September, 2016, where she presented her project at the ADA headquarters. The mentoring program that she initiated through her leadership project, "Bridging and Bonding Beyond Dentistry," continues to grow as it comes into its second, successful year at the school. It was a major part of the Celebration of Diversity event held at the University Club in October, 2016. Many students in the Class of 2020 have been paired with alumni who will mentor these new students. Bridging and Bonding is open to all dental students as well as prospective students at Pitt who are seeking a career in dental medicine. Learn more about this exciting new opportunity for students and alumni of the School of Dental Medicine to join together by downloading the Summer 2016 issue of Pitt Dental Medicine at [dental.pitt.edu/pitt-dental-medicine-magazine](http://dental.pitt.edu/pitt-dental-medicine-magazine).

*"Everybody needs some form of mentorship. This program brings that opportunity directly into the hands of every student and alumni in our large and varied Pitt Dental Medicine family."*

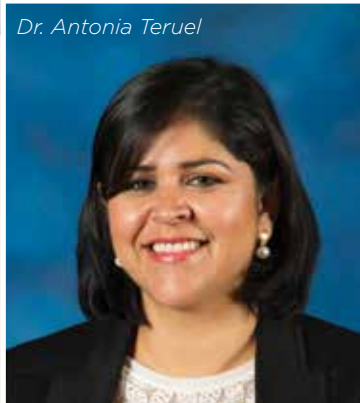
Pitt Dental Medicine was very well represented during the 2016 ADEA Summer Program for Emerging Academic Leaders, held in Freeport, Maine, in July.

**Dr. Marnie Oakley (DMD '92)**, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, who is a faculty member with the program, gave a day-long address to attendees. **Dr. Christine Wankiri-Hale (DMD '02, AEGD '03)**, who was a student in the program in 2012, and a student in the ADEA Leadership Institute in 2013-14, now serves as a faculty advisor to the program. This year, dental faculty members **Dr. Thomas Kunkel (DMD '85)**, assistant professor of prosthodontics; **Dr. Antonia Teruel**, assistant professor of prosthodontics; and **Dr. Danielle Cooper (DMD '13, Pedo '15)**, assistant professor of pediatric dentistry; attended the program. About 60 dentists in total attended the program designed to engage dental faculty who are beginning their academic careers and have been identified by their academic institutions as faculty who may grow into leadership roles.

*Dr. Marnie Oakley*



*Dr. Antonia Teruel*



*Dr. Thomas Kunkel*



*Dr. Danielle Cooper and Dr. Andrea Zanardelli Nave*

We congratulate the School of Dental Medicine Pediatric Dentistry resident alumni who have achieved diplomate status with the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry (ABPD) in 2016: **James Busch (Pedo '15)**; **Danielle Cooper (DMD '13, Pedo '15)**; **Kendra Martin (Pedo '13)**; and **Andrea Zanardelli Nave (DMD '99, Pedo '14)**. Also this year, several Pitt Dental Medicine Alumni are Board Certified in Pediatric Dentistry: **Michael Austin (DMD '09)**; **Azita Elyaderani (DMD '11)**; **Alexandra Jensen (DMD '13)**; **Aditi Jindal (DMD '10)**; and **Courtney Walter Uselton (DMD '13)**.



*Dr. Joanne Prasad and Dr. Zsuzsa Horvath*

**Dr. Joanne Prasad, Dr. Elizabeth Bilodeau, Dr. Zsuzsa Horvath, and Dr. Nina Markovic**, representing the School of Dental Medicine, presented posters at the Pitt School of Medicine's First Annual MedEd Day in September, 2016. School of Dental Medicine presentations were inspired by the University's celebration of the humanities in 2015. Topics included using techniques from the theatre to enhance communication skills and cultural competence in dentistry; using online gaming to improve and enhance learning in the diagnosis of oral lesions; using a multidisciplinary approach in conjunction with the field of nursing to improve the management of dental emergencies; and teaching writing to healthcare workers to help humanize the field.



Pitt Dental Medicine faculty members, Dr. Deborah Studen-Pavlovich (left) and Dr. Matthew Cooke (right) are joined by presenters Dr. James Coll and Dr. Sue Seale.

## Pediatric Dentists Present Up-to-Date Pulp Therapy Information

Pitt Dental Medicine Pediatric Dentistry faculty, along with Pediatric dentistry and endodontic residents, enjoyed a presentation by two highly respected pediatric dentists with connections to the School of Dental Medicine. On October 28, 2016, Dr. James Coll (DMD '69) and Dr. N. Sue Seale, a former pediatric dental faculty member, graciously donated their time and knowledge to present their talk, Update on Vital Pulp Therapy in Primary Teeth, a very informative presentation about the most current information on vital pulp therapy in the primary dentition.

For 39 years, Dr. Coll previously had a pediatric dental office in York, Pa. He teaches part-time at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry.

Dr. Seale was a faculty member at the Pitt School of Dental Medicine from 1972-1974. She spent the rest of her academic career at Baylor College of Dentistry, Texas A and M Health Science Center, in Dallas, as chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry (1986-2009) and as Regents Professor of pediatric dentistry.

## CUTTING EDGE IMAGING

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Pathology Biopsy Services  
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## University Dental Health Services

Oral and Maxillofacial  
Radiology Imaging Service

Dr. Lou Rafetto, 2016 President of American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, presents Dr. Mark Ochs with the William J. Gies Foundation Award in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the 2016 AAOMS opening ceremony.



# FIRST STUDENT GRADUATES WITH CERTIFICATE IN DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Mr. Corey Black (Class of 2016) will be the first dental student at the School of Dental Medicine to graduate with a certificate in Dental Public Health. The certificate program, new last year, reinforces the commitment the School of Dental Medicine has made to improving the health of the community in the Commonwealth. In order to earn his certificate, Mr. Black completed a fellowship at the Birmingham Clinic, a local, outpatient care facility that provides free and reduced cost health care to the public. Interestingly, Mr. Black's focus at the clinic was not providing dental care, rather, he was part of a network of University students who worked with patients to provide non-health-related resources such as translation, housing, and support in using various governmental agencies.

A Central Pennsylvania native, Mr. Black recalls how his upbringing in a low-income, single-parent home ultimately impacted him in a positive way. He credits much of his family's endurance to the community support systems that were available to them.

His youth also influenced his choice of career: "I really feel that I can give back the most by being a dentist." He said. His experiences in the Birmingham Clinic certainly have prepared him for being able to address his patients concerns and needs beyond providing them with quality dental care. After graduation in May, 2017, Mr. Black plans to continue his involvement in providing dental care to the community. He adds, "I would like to, one day, pursue a master's degree in public health, and possibly work at a dental public health facility."

A little over a year old, the Certificate in Dental Public Health Program has given him many opportunities to reaffirm his dedication to serving those in need. Currently, about a dozen students in the Class of 2020 are interested in the certificate program. The program accepts students who are in good academic standing and meet specific program requirements. More information about the Certificate in Dental Public Health Program may be found at [dental.pitt.edu/joint-degree-dmdmph-certificate-dph](http://dental.pitt.edu/joint-degree-dmdmph-certificate-dph).

**“A course at the Graduate School of Public Health taught me the importance of understanding patients to effectively communicate with them and the idea of health literacy, which is recognizing that a patient’s age does not always reflect their ability to understand concepts in health care. From this I now better understand how to recognize when someone may be having difficulty completing paperwork, comprehending instructions, or understanding specific medical terms.”**




## Dr. Mark Ochs Honored with ADEAGeis Award

Dr. Mark Ochs is the 2016 recipient of the William J. Gies Foundation Award in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery which recognizes annually a faculty member for distinguished achievement in the field of oral and maxillofacial surgery. Dr.

Ochs, professor, Associate Dean of Hospital Affairs, and Chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, was recognized during the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) opening ceremony in September,

2016. Among the highest awards given in recognition of dental teaching achievement, the award is a barometer of the high caliber climate of dental education found at the School of Dental Medicine.

*“It’s a distinct honor and a privilege to teach young women and men interested in dentistry and oral maxillofacial surgery. I want to thank Dr. Thomas Braun for leading the way, and my wife, Kathy, for helping me find my way.”*



## Dr. B.J. Costello: Achievements During 2016

### Elected Director of ABOMS

Dr. Bernard J. Costello, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs at the School of Dental Medicine, was elected as a director to the American Board of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery (ABOMS). One of the highest honors achievable in the discipline, his term is for 8 years, culminating as president of the organization. Dr. Thomas Braun, Dean of the School of Dental Medicine, is the only other person from Pitt to have served as President of ABOMS.

The ABOMS is the certifying board for oral and maxillofacial surgeons, administers written and oral examinations to ensure the quality and safety achieved by board-certified surgeons.

### ACPA Celebrates 75 Years

In the Spring of 2018 the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association (ACPA) will return to its roots and celebrate its 75th anniversary in Pittsburgh—the city where the organization began—welcoming 700-800 international attendees. Dr. Costello, vice president-elect of the organization, will act as the event liaison to coordinate and organize the celebration. While the ACPA currently is headquartered in North Carolina, the University of Pittsburgh was a strong influence in shaping the organization. Dr. Betty McWilliams, former director of the University of Pittsburgh's Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Center, helped develop today's industry standard for multidisciplinary comprehensive team care for cleft and was president of the organization in 1965.



Pictured left to right are Dr. Jacqueline Sohn Costello; Dr. Bernard J. Costello; and Mr. Christopher George, fourth grade teacher at Eisenhower Elementary.

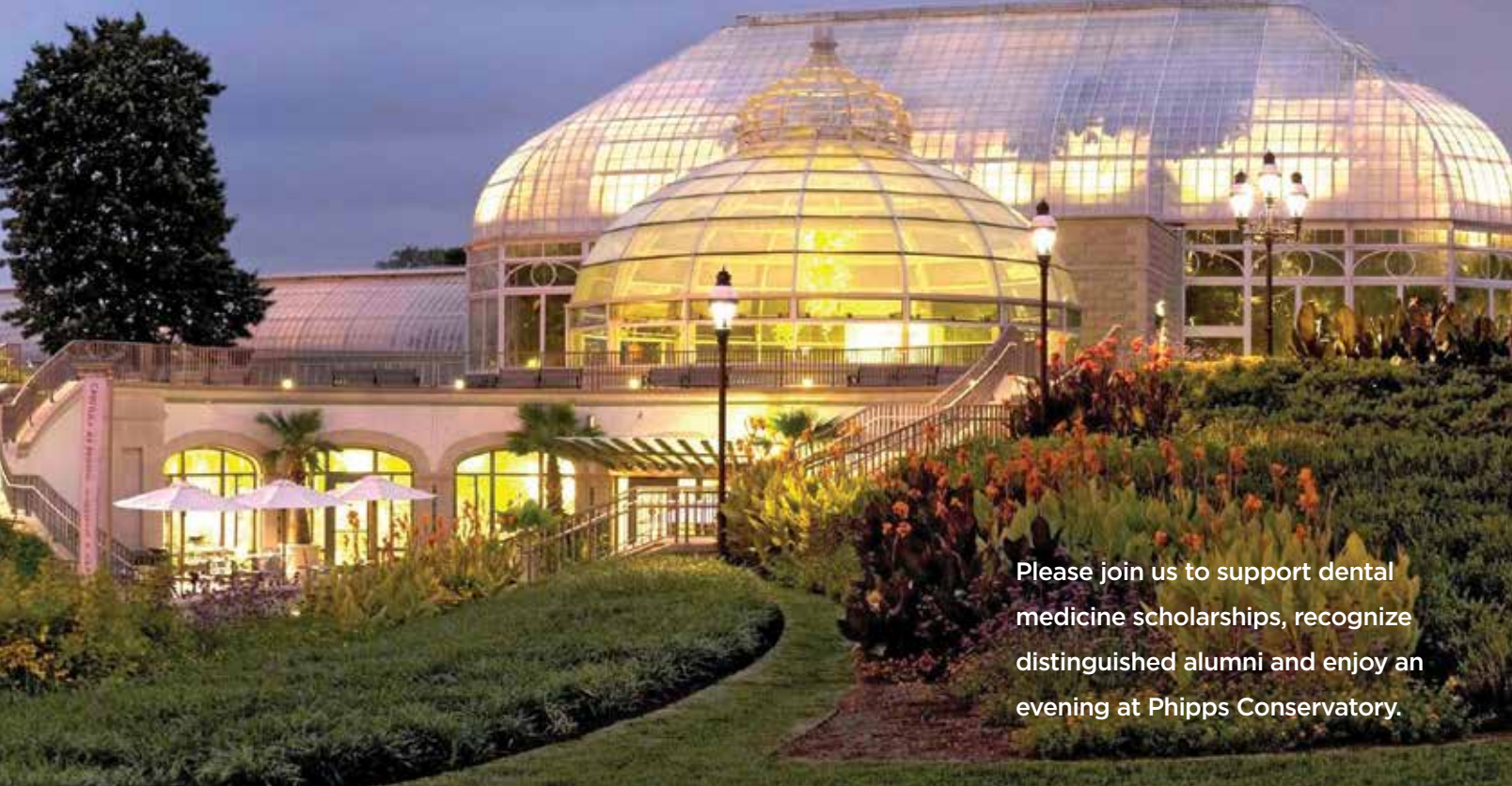
### Helping Children be a Good Friend

Dr. Costello and his wife, Dr. Jacqueline Sohn Costello (DMD '97), an orthodontist in Bridgeville, Pa., joined forces to talk with children in the classroom of one of his patients. Their focus was to help children understand others, like his young patient, who have facial difference. Utilizing the very popular book, *Wonder*, the team talked about the value of being a good friend and embracing differences in one another. On most elementary school reading lists, *Wonder*, a New York Times bestseller, was written by R.J. Palacio, who also was the keynote speaker at the 2015 ACPA Annual Meeting. Dr. Sohn donated six copies of Palacio's book to the school's library.

## Alpha Omega Honors Dr. Christian Moore

Congratulations to Dr. Christian Moore, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery resident at the School of Dental Medicine, for being selected as a member of the Alpha Omega Honor Society, the national medical honor society, through the Pitt School of Medicine. This honor will follow Dr. Moore throughout his career. The Pitt Dental Medicine family is very proud of his accomplishments and for his admirable representation of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department.





Please join us to support dental medicine scholarships, recognize distinguished alumni and enjoy an evening at Phipps Conservatory.

17<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
*Dean's Scholarship Ball*

**April 29, 2017**  
**6 p.m.**

**Phipps Conservatory**

Tickets are \$200 per person for this black tie event, and seating is limited.

Invitations will be mailed in early 2017. If you would like additional information or have questions, please contact **Nancy Poe** at [poen@pitt.edu](mailto:poen@pitt.edu) or **412-648-8910**.



**Distinguished Alumnus Dental Medicine**

**COL Shan K Bagby**  
(DMD '93)



**Distinguished Alumnus Advanced Education**

**Dr. Andrew Kwasny**  
(DMD '83, MS Ortho '85)



**Distinguished Alumna Dental Hygiene**

**Ms. Susan Ban** (DH '80)



# Strengthening the Pitt Dental Medicine Family

## The Dental Alumni Association Hosts the Third Annual Celebration of Diversity

Fostering an inclusive environment for all students, alumni, and faculty is one of the benefits of being a member of the Pitt Dental Medicine family. Creating a community where people are valued for their unique backgrounds and contributions continues to be a key priority at the school. On October 23, the Dental Alumni Association sponsored its third annual diversity reception for the Pitt Dental Medicine community. School of Dental Medicine faculty, alumni, staff, current and prospective students, and other members of Pitt's diversity community were in attendance in support of the school's efforts.

The Associate Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Christine Wankiiri-Hale (DMD '02, AEGD '03), welcomed applicants, alumni, students, residents, and faculty members to hear student accounts of their unique paths towards dental school. Attendees were then updated on the school's efforts at diversity recruitment through its holistic admissions process. During her speech, Dr. Elizabeth Bilodeau (Oral Path '11), Director of Admissions and Chair of the Pre-doctoral Admissions Committee, reflected on the current admissions efforts to strengthen the Pitt Dental family saying, "we seek to recruit creative leaders of dentistry to build and strengthen the Pitt Dental family with a focus on enhancing the diversity of our community."



Pictured left to right: Ms. Pamela Connelly, Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion, joins Pitt Dental Medicine Associate Dean for Student Affairs, Dr. Christine Wankiiri-Hale and Dental Alumni Association Board member, Dr. Rachel Eglash.

Ms. Pamela Connelly, University of Pittsburgh Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion, was the keynote speaker. Ms. Connelly spoke of Pitt's University-wide commitment to diversity and inclusion and invited everyone to join her in supporting Pitt's Year of Diversity and its corresponding events in 2017. Members of the Pitt community are coming together during the academic year to host events in order to strengthen and reflect on the campus community and culture. At the end of the night, copies of "Why Are They Angry With Us?" were gifted to all in attendance.

The Celebration of Diversity was sponsored by the School of Dental Medicine and supported by a generous grant through the Pitt Alumni Association.

# Dental Hygiene News

by Angelina E. Riccelli, RDH, MS, Director of the Dental Hygiene Program

The University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Dental Hygiene Program has had exciting opportunities to be in the spotlight during the past several months. First, Pitt Provost Patricia Beeson approved the change from a Certificate to an Associate Degree in Dental Hygiene, effective with the graduating class of 2017. This change involved approval from the School of Dental Medicine administration, the Senior Associate Dean for Health Science Budget and Planning Committee, and the Provost's Advisory Committee on Undergraduate Programs (PACUP). Dental Hygiene students now are fully recognized as undergraduate students at Pitt.

The second major event was the 2016 American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) Center for Lifelong Learning Annual Session Conference that was held in Pittsburgh at the David Lawrence Convention Center from June 8 through 14. ADHA President Jill Rethman, an adjunct faculty member of Pitt's Dental Hygiene Program, pictured below with students and faculty, spoke to our students about the exciting potential of a career in dental hygiene. That evening, the Dental Hygiene Alumni Association hosted a reception for alums at the Omni William Penn Hotel, with 42 program graduates in attendance with their guests. The event was well-received with many positive comments about the progress of the program. Many of our current students volunteered during the conference and 70% of our students attended conference sessions. I served as chair of the planning committee for the conference and exceeded the

Jeopardy-style board review with Anna Pattison, associate professor and former chair of the University of Southern California Dental Hygiene Program. Many Dental Hygiene Program faculty attended continuing education courses such as Curriculum: Making, Mapping & Managing; "Dead Bones Walking": Osteoporosis and Its Treatment and the Link to Osteonecrosis; Critical Thinking Throughout the Dental Hygiene Curriculum; and Maximizing the Potential of Ultrasonics, among numerous other offerings for educators, licensed hygienists, and students. In order to increase student attendance from other schools to the conference, the University provided student housing at Nordenberg Hall at reduced cost.

The third major event was the "Teaching Methodology and Strategies for Effective Instruction of Periodontal Instrumentation" continuing education

course which was presented by Professor Anna M. Pattison, RDH, MS, on Monday, June 13 at the Edward J. Forrest Continuing Education Center at the School of Dental Medicine. Full- and part-time dental hygiene faculty were in attendance, in addition to members of the Department of Periodontics, including department chair, Dr. Charles Sfeir. This lecture, discussion, and hands-on seven-hour course, compared and contrasted the use of various methods for teaching periodontal instrumentation. Strategies for teaching the fundamentals of instrumentation in pre-clinic and for teaching advanced techniques in clinic were discussed. Best practices with instructional methods, calibration of faculty, and evaluation of student progress was analyzed.

This has been an exciting time for the Dental Hygiene Program.





# Mission of Mercy

Caring Volunteers are at the Heart of our Dental Mission

Lines of people formed at the Convention Center in downtown Pittsburgh well before 5 a.m. for the 2016 Mission of Mercy in Pennsylvania (MOM n PA). Made up of mostly the working poor who have a difficult time getting healthcare, the line of people included a diverse group of people who simply needed dental care but had limited or no access to affordable treatment. MOM n PA has been providing annual no-cost dental care to the underserved populations in Pennsylvania for 3 years.

MOM-n-PA, a non-profit organization, has one goal—to treat 1,000 patients per day in their large-scale, two-day, annual dental clinic. Each year, large stadiums and convention centers are transformed into 120-chair dental offices and dental treatment is provided— first-come, first-served—at no cost. Treatment is provided on a basis. Since the first event in Philadelphia in 2013, MOM-n-PA has completed 18,291 procedures on 5,572 patients with the help of 2,997 volunteers, totaling \$2,730,084 worth of care provided. As a result of the first event, the mission gained major support and has become an annual event holding a mission

in Allentown in 2014 and Harrisburg in 2015. The 2016 event took place in Pittsburgh on June 3 and 4 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. In an effort to contribute to the care of patients in our community and aid Mission of Mercy (MOM) in the goal of treating 2,000 patients, the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine conducted a very limited patient schedule on Friday so that students, faculty, and staff could volunteer their time and talents to ensure this event was a success in Pittsburgh. The event made it possible to donate \$842,000 worth of dental services to those in need.

**The MOM n PA 2017 event will take place in Erie, Pa., on June 16-17.**

*Original story by Giana Lupinetti, Class of 2018.*



For more information on how to get involved, please visit [mom-n-pa.com/volunteer-information/](http://mom-n-pa.com/volunteer-information/).



You may also visit the MOM-n-PA Dental Missions page on Facebook at [facebook.com/MomnPaDentalMissions/timeline](https://www.facebook.com/MomnPaDentalMissions/timeline).

## University Dental Health Services Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Biopsy Service

**For more than 40 years the Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Biopsy Service has conducted consultation and tissue diagnostic services for the dental and medical communities of Western Pennsylvania.**

**Our board-certified oral and maxillofacial pathologists provide a rapid, accurate diagnosis of your biopsy specimens.**

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[dental.pitt.edu/oral-and-maxillofacial-pathology-biopsy-service](http://dental.pitt.edu/oral-and-maxillofacial-pathology-biopsy-service)

**412-648-8629**  
[PittsburghOralPathology@dental.pitt.edu](mailto:PittsburghOralPathology@dental.pitt.edu)

# IN MEMORIAM

**Dr. Siegfried W. Amundsen (DDS '50)**  
June 30, 2016

**Dr. Allen J. Ashcroft (DDS '54)**  
July 2, 2016

**Dr. Edward D. Ayres (DDS '53)**  
May 20, 2016

**Dr. Paul J. Benz (DDS '54)**  
September 3, 2016

**Dr. Joseph Bogusky (DDS '58)**  
June 14, 2016

**Dr. Charles E. Carrier (DDS '58)**  
June 18, 2016

**Dr. Ernest R. Cervis (DDS '51)**  
August 1, 2016

**Dr. James L. Coon (DDS '44)**  
August 8, 2016

**Dr. Francis M. Corsello (DDS '48)**  
July 9, 2016

**Dr. David A. Corso (DDS '58)**  
May 21, 2016

**Dr. David G. Daubenspeck (DDS '61)**  
April 4, 2016

**Dr. Vincent I. DiSalvo (DDS '63)**  
November 5, 2016

**Dr. Stanley J. Douglas (DMD '68)**  
June 3, 2016

**Dr. Nina P. Eglitis (DDS '51)**  
October 1, 2016

**Dr. Sanford Jay Gelb (DDS '55)**  
May 12, 2016

**Dr. William R. Grubler (DDS '52)**  
July 1, 2016

**Dr. Thomas R. Hixenbaugh (DMD '80)**  
August 3, 2016

**Dr. Mack David Hoch (DDS '52)**  
June 12, 2016

**Dr. Bruce E. Johnson (DDS '61)**  
July 30, 2016

**Dr. Frederick M. Keiper II (DDS '56;  
MS, Ortho '58)**  
October 5, 2016

**Dr. Philip S. Kift (DDS '53)**  
May 19, 2016

**Dr. William A. Kimpel (DDS '59)**  
October 27, 2015

**Dr. Paul R. Klim (DDS '52)**  
August 12, 2016

**Dr. Gerald A. Levitt (DDS '63)**

**Dr. Gilbert J. McLaughlin (DDS '56)**  
September 26, 2016

**Dr. William H. Mercer (DMD '67)**  
May 12, 2016

**Dr. Stephen D. Moses (DDS '64)**  
June 28, 2016

**Dr. Frank G. Pallan  
(DDS '54; MS, Oral Surg '58)**  
September 10, 2016

**Dr. Joseph D. Paterson (DDS '51)**  
May 20, 2016

**Ms. Barbara M. Prudoff (DH '70)**

**Dr. Albert L. Rednor (DDS '43)**  
July 1, 2016

**Dr. Charles W. Shearer (DDS '53)**  
June 2, 2016

**Dr. Arthur I. Steinberg (DDS '63)**  
May 9, 2016

**Dr. Edison K. Strong Jr. (DDS '53)**  
February 2, 2016

**Dr. Sherwood H. Wolfson (DDS '57)**  
May 23, 2016

## REMEMBERING FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS

**Ms. Connie Tanner-  
Bird (RDH '76)**  
November 23, 2016

Honored as the Distinguished Alumna for Dental Hygiene at the 2003 Dean's Scholarship Ball, Ms. Tanner-Bird served on the School of Dental Medicine's Board of Visitors for 17 years and was involved in many continuing education courses at the school. She completed certificates in dental assisting and dental hygiene in 1975 and 1976 respectively, and earned a master's degree in 1979. She was a Pitt cheerleader and adjunct faculty at the School of Dental Medicine, and a friend to many, here.



**Mr. Michael Kostin**  
October 19, 2016

Michael Kostin was a fourth-year dental student from Mountain Top, Pa. A memorial service was held in Heinz Chapel on Friday, November 4, 2016. Born in Kazakhstan, Mr. Kostin was 27 years old and will be missed by all of the Pitt Dental family.



**Mr. Edward D. Klinefelter**  
August 12, 2016

Former staff member, Mr. Edward Klinefelter, passed away on Friday, August 12, 2016. Mr. Klinefelter retired from the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine in 2003 after 48 years of service.

**Dr. Harry Cameron Metz Jr.  
(DDS '45; MS, Ortho '52)**  
June 28, 2016

Dr. Metz was one of four to organize the Pittsburgh Cleft Palate Diagnostic Group at the Falk Clinic, which later became the University of Pittsburgh Cleft Palate Clinic. He retired as a clinical professor of orthodontics at the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine and a practicing Orthodontist.



## News from the Center for Craniofacial and Dental Genetics

The School of Dental Medicine Center for Craniofacial and Dental Genetics (CCDG) would like to welcome new post-doctoral researcher, Dr. Jasmien Roosenboom to their team. Dr. Roosenboom is from K.U. Leuven University, in Belgium, and will be working together with Dr. Seth Weinberg on phenotyping methods and analyses.

The R01 grant, "Factors Contributing to Oral Health Disparities in Appalachia", has been renewed for another 5 years. A new R03 grant, entitled "Analysis of Whole Genome Sequence Data in Orofacial Clefts," has been received in order to analyze genomic sequencing data. The grant is from the Kids First project (X01-HL132363 "Kids First:

Genomic Studies of Orofacial Cleft Birth Defects"), which is part of the Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research Program. So that the high volume of data required for this new project may be properly and efficiently analyzed, the CCDG has acquired an additional 680 terabytes of computational memory.

Summer, 2016, witnessed a large volume of publications coming out of the CCDG. Included among these are three in the *Journal of Dental Research*: Chronic Periodontitis Genome-wide Association Study in the Hispanic Community Health Study / Study of Latinos; Fear of Pain Mediates the Association Between MC1R Genotype and Dental Fear;

and Association Studies and Direct DNA Sequencing Implicate Genetic Susceptibility Loci in the Etiology of Nonsyndromic Orofacial Clefts in Sub-Saharan African Populations. Also published were the Genetic Modifiers of Patent Ductus Arteriosus in Term Infants in the *Journal of Pediatrics*; Parental Experience Caring for Cleft Lip and Palate Infants with Nasoalveolar Moulding in the *Journal of Advanced Nursing*; and Hypertelorism and Orofacial Clefting Revisited: An Anthropometric Investigation in the *Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal*, among others.



## Thank You Class of 2011

We would like to say "thank you" to the School of Dental Medicine Class of 2011 for your responses to our recent survey enquiring how well Pitt Dental Medicine prepared you for practice. Sometimes students and alums don't think that your voices are heard, but please know that we do listen. Following are some examples of changes we have made in response to your feedback and others.

The first-year dental occlusion course has been re-vamped over the past few years with increasingly positive student response, and the prosthodontic department continues to look at ways to improve it even further. Our students' performance on the dental anatomy and occlusion part of the NBDE Part I has subsequently increased when compared to the national average.

After several iterations, the practice management course seems to have hit a nice balance for students this year in addressing their interests, and we will continue to modify that area based on feedback.

Last year, the orthodontic department added an optional workshop in align technology, which was received very positively by students.

In prosthodontics, significant experiences in CAD-CAM technology were added and again received positively by students.

Once again, thank you for your time and feedback. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Jean O'Donnell (MSN '81, DMD '90, MEd '16)  
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

# Finding a home at the Center for Patients with Special Needs

Bennett Luhn became a patient at the Pitt Dental Medicine Center for Patients with Special Needs (CPSN) very early in his young life. Before he turned one and began cutting teeth, his home health nurse recommended having a dentist give him a dental examination due to some of Bennett's oral conditions. His home health nurse's sister, Dr. Lynne Taiclet (DMD '85), is the director of the Center for Patients with Special Needs. Dr. Lynnie, as she's called by many patients, was happy to assist and even performed Bennett's initial dental examination in his home since it can be cumbersome for him to travel.

Now, as Bennett grows older—he is now a big seven-year old boy—travelling with him can still be difficult, but his family is more familiar with his travel conventions. Recent improvements in the exterior of Salk Hall, and adding a dedicated driveway to the Center, have made it easier to get in and out of the CPSN. The Luhn's say that their number one concern about finding quality dental and medical care for their son, is determining what he needs. He is non-verbal so finding out what his needs are can sometimes be a guessing game. But there have been stand-out providers that have helped them better understand what they want in a health care provider.

Throughout their six years of being cared for at the Center for Patients with Special Needs, Bennett's parents have found that the best qualities in a dental care provider—as well as any medical care provider they go to—are that they have a positive perspective on the patient, that they provide one-on-one care, and that they take time to really get to know the patient and build a trusting relationship. Staying with the same high-quality dental care provider for a long time has proven to be beneficial to the whole family. The CPSN team has come to truly know and care about Bennett and his family.

Bennett's mother, Kelly, says about the CPSN, "Nearly seven years later we are still going to Pitt Dental Medicine Center for Patients with Special Needs for Bennett's dental care. No other dental office is better. The expert treatment he receives is personalized—the dental team has known him since he was 6-months old— and we trust them to do the right thing. They treat him with care and respect, the space is well designed to be calm and quiet with little sensory input, and the new drop off area makes it so much easier to get in and out. We'll keep going to the CPSN until they kick us out!"

*"Pitt's Center for Patients with Special Needs is one of Pittsburgh's hidden gems."*



Bennett Luhn is joined by his sister Marena in the front row. Right behind them are Bennett's mom, Kelly, and Dr. Lynne Taiclet. Flanking them on each side are Dr. Sarah Ruby, a first-year pediatric resident, and Dr. Elena Kureichyk (DMD '13), a faculty member in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry.

# Pediatric Dentistry Community Outreach

In September, 2016, six dental students and two pediatric dentistry residents held a dental screening event for the children attending Mount Washington Children's Center. Thirty-five preschool-aged children received

free dental exams, and had fun with the dental students and residents learning about oral. The Pitt Dental Medicine team made sure that all children in need of further treatment from a pediatric dentist received a written referral for

treatment to give to their parents or guardians. Each child also received a free oral hygiene kit that included a toothbrush, toothpaste, kid's floaters, oral hygiene instructions and stickers.

DMD student Audrey Eichlaub, Class of 2018, talks with children at Mount Washington Children's Center.



Second-year pediatric dentistry resident, Dr. Lindsey Behrman, joins one of the preschoolers for a laugh.

Please watch our website and the Summer 2017 issue of *Pitt Dental Medicine* for news about Give Kids a Smile Day and Summer Smiles.

## University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Twenty-third Annual T. F. Bowser Memorial Lecture Series

### Improving Clinical Outcomes with Straight Talk Pharmacology

by James L. Rutkowski, DMD, PhD

**Saturday, April 1, 2017, 8:30 a.m.**

School of Medicine Scaife Hall Auditoriums 5 and 6

This high energy, informative, and interactive presentation is designed for dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants. Dr. James Rutkowski's pharmacological know-how will help participants treat patients with decreased post-operative complications—making daily practice for the dentist and staff more enjoyable.

### Registration deadline is Friday March 24, 2017.

To register online for Continuing Education events, including the Annual T.F. Bowser Memorial Lecture, please visit our [website dental.pitt.edu/continuing-education](http://www.dental.pitt.edu/continuing-education) and select the course you wish to attend from our course list. You may register for more than one course at a time.

To register by phone with a credit card, please call **412-648-8370**. All tuition refunds will be assessed a \$25 administrative fee. School of Dental Medicine tuition benefit is not applicable for this course.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact Diane Fleishman at **412-648-8370**, or fax at **412-383-9069**.

The T. F. Bowser Memorial Lecture Series was established in 1995 by Dr. Ellsworth T. Bowser to honor his father, Dr. Theodore Bowser (DDS '24). The series has featured notable speakers on a variety of topics and is the School of Dental Medicine Center for Continuing Education's most well-respected and well-attended continuing education event.





# 2016 ASDA Steel City Dental Expo

The American Student Dental Association (ASDA) welcomed keynote speaker, Mr. Lee Culp, at the Ninth Annual Steel City Dental Exposition held on September 22, 2016 at the Wyndham Pittsburgh University Center. Mr. Culp, a certified dental technician, presented on the endless possibilities of digital dentistry. Nobel Biocare generously sponsored a lunch buffet. Following the lunch break, vendors presented their products at a vendor fair. This event would not have been possible without the help and assistance of School of Dental Medicine faculty members Dr. Mark Ochs, Dr. Edward Narcisi, Dr. Marnie Oakley, and Dean, Dr. Thomas Braun.



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- University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association
- Pitt Dental Hygiene Alumni
- Pitt Dental Young Alumni

# Why I Give:

## Dr. Karl Weiss



Dr. Karl Weiss and his wife, Brandy, visited New Zealand on their honeymoon. Here they are pictured during lunch after a helicopter ride to the top of the mountain.

If you would like to show your support for Pitt Dental Medicine such as this, or other programs that benefit our residents, first professional students or dental hygiene students, please contact Paul Casey at **412-383-7544**, or **pbc8@pitt.edu**.

**Dr. Karl Weiss is a proud University of Pittsburgh alumnus. A native of western Pennsylvania, his time at Pitt as an undergrad, dental student and orthodontics resident were a very influential and positive experience that shaped his life and successful career.**

Completing his undergraduate degree in 1986, Dr. Weiss earned his DMD in 1991. After completing a hospital residency at the University of Michigan in 1992, he was accepted into the advanced dental education residency program in orthodontics at the School of Dental Medicine. He completed this certificate program in 1995. Afterward, he worked at a few dental offices to earn enough to begin paying off his school debt. In 1997 he began a long career with Katsur Dental & Orthodontics.

The University of Pittsburgh has been a more important influence to Dr. Weiss than in simply preparing him with the skills needed to be a successful dentist. He feels an unending bond with the Pitt family. In 2015 he joyfully married his wife, Brandy, in Heinz Chapel. During the festivities, he and his wife retired with 70 guests to the top of the Cathedral of Learning to look over the campus that still impresses him after all the years. From that high vantage point, he fondly recollected his years as a dental student and resident at the University he loves.

He is a very busy dentist with primary offices in Pittsburgh and Phoenix, and he spends many weeks developing, opening and growing new practices. He recently returned to southwestern Pennsylvania from spending nine months at one of the offices in Reno, Nev. While the business side of dentistry was not on his radar, much, as a student, as his career has grown he recognizes how a good understanding of business positively impacts being a successful clinician.

When he is not practicing, Dr. Weiss enjoys making presentations to

students and residents at Pitt Dental Medicine and other schools nearby. He feels a sense of obligation to give back to the school that has been a life-long positive influence on him. He has presented practice management talks to Department of Orthodontics residents, as well as at other universities, hoping to build awareness to the some of the other aspects of dentistry that go beyond clinical skills. Through sharing his expertise, Dr. Weiss is able to help residents be better prepared to succeed and at the same time he fulfills his desire to give back to the School of Dental Medicine.

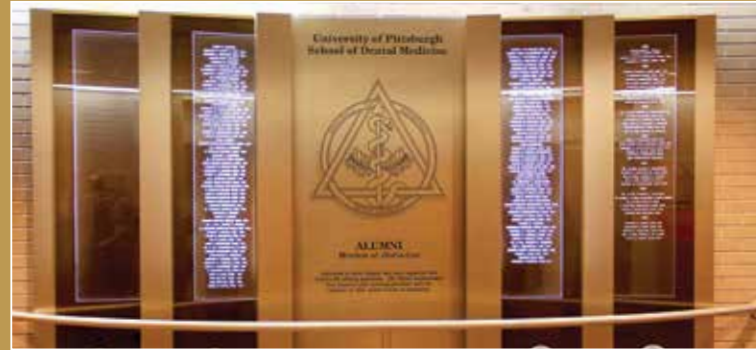
As a resident, Dr. Weiss found that positive interactions with faculty, along with attending lectures at Pitt and other dental schools, invaluable to developing his understanding of orthodontics, and he hopes to continue to offer positive experiences to residents. The knowledge he gained by attending presentations and talks as a resident proved to be an advantage to his academic success as a dental student and resident, and ultimately to his career success. One hurdle he and other residents encountered was the difficulty of paying for the cost of attending and traveling to these presentations.

To ensure that residents at Pitt Dental Medicine are able to attend national seminars and lectures, so they too can benefit from these educational experiences, Dr. Weiss established the Dr. Karl W. Weiss Orthodontic Resident Educational Fund, an endowment designed specifically to help orthodontic residents attend premier events. His dedication to the University of Pittsburgh will now carry on beyond him, benefitting generations of dentists to come.

# 2016 Donors of Distinction

The School of Dental Medicine gratefully acknowledges our 2016 additions to the Donors of Distinction.

**Dr. Donald E. Davis (DDS '64)**  
**Dr. Stephen G. Dunn (DMD '88)**  
**Dr. and Mrs. Jason Klevansky**  
**Drs. Jon and Julie Klevansky**  
**Dr. Maribeth Krzesinski**  
**Dr. James P. Miller III (DMD '77)**



Each year, the names of alumni and friends whose lifetime giving to the School of Dental Medicine is \$10,000 or greater are added to the Donors of Distinction wall over homecoming weekend. Donations to the school help in a variety of ways. Whether your contributions are directed toward scholarships, facility advancement, or to the general fund, please know that you are making a difference here at the school. Your gifts are truly appreciated.

To find out your giving history and how close you are to being added to this distinguished plaque, please contact **Paul Casey** at **412-383-7544** or **pbc8@pitt.edu**.

## University of Pittsburgh Dental Anesthesiology Legacy Lecture Series

The Department of Dental Anesthesiology is pleased to announce the Dental Anesthesiology Legacy Lecture Series beginning on October 6, 2017. This continuing series will be an excellent opportunity for those interested in dental anesthesiology to receive timely, pertinent, and high-level continuing education with clinical application. It also will be an opportunity for our dental anesthesia alumni to return to their roots. The meeting series will feature nationally known speakers and resident presentations. The first program, "Dental Anesthesiology: Past, Present, and Visions of

the Future," features keynote speaker Dr. Morton B. Rosenberg, who is one of the most well-known names in dental anesthesiology. Dr. Rosenberg is Emeritus Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Division of Anesthesia and Pain Control, and Emeritus Professor of Anesthesiology at Tufts University Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine. Dr. Rosenberg has had a long and distinguished career and his talk will recount the history of dental anesthesiology, its progression to present day, and his vision of the future.

**Plan to attend the opening reception on Friday, October 6, at the Duquesne Club in Pittsburgh, followed by the complete CE program on Saturday, October 7. Please save the date for what we hope will become the "must attend" dental anesthesiology meeting of the year.**





# University of Pittsburgh

## School of Dental Medicine

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## Winter 2017 Calendar of Events

### February 2017

#### Health Sciences Foundation Winter Academy

##### February 15

Palm Beach at The Breakers

##### February 17

Naples at the Ritz-Carlton, Naples.

For more information, please contact  
**Paul Casey** at **412-383-7544**

### March 2017

#### March 1

#### Dental Alumni Association (DAA) Executive Committee Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting

5 p.m.

457 Salk Hall

#### March 1

#### Student/Alumni Networking Event for First- and Second-Year Students

6 – 7 p.m.

Room 458 and 457 Salk Hall.

Please e-mail **Nancy Poe** at **poen@pitt.edu** if interested in attending.

### April 2017

#### April 1

#### Twenty-Third Annual Bowser Memorial Continuing Education Lecture Series

Improving Clinical Outcomes with  
Straight Talk Pharmacology  
Dr. James Rutkowski

Scaife Hall

To register, or for more information,  
please visit **dental.pitt.edu/ce**

#### April 21

#### Alumni Reception at the PDA Pennsylvania's Dental Expo

4 - 6:30 p.m.

The Hotel Hershey

#### April 29

#### Seventeenth Annual Dean's Scholarship Ball

6 p.m.

Phipps Conservatory  
and Botanical Gardens

### May 2017

#### May 19

#### Senior Luncheon and Senior Awards Ceremony

11:30 a.m.

University Club

#### May 20

#### School of Dental Medicine Diploma Ceremony

1 p.m.

Heinz Hall

#### May 27

#### Dental Pediatric Alumni Reception

5 – 7 p.m.

American Academy of Pediatric  
Dentistry Annual Session Headquarters  
Hotel, Gaylord National Resort and  
Convention Center

### September 2017

#### September 15

#### Pitt Dental Medicine Homecoming

### October 2017

#### October 6 & 7

#### University of Pittsburgh Dental Anesthesiology Legacy Lecture Series

Keynote by **Dr. Morton B. Rosenberg**,  
Emeritus Professor of Oral and  
Maxillofacial Surgery, Division of  
Anesthesia and Pain Control, and  
Emeritus Professor of Anesthesiology  
at Tufts University Schools of Medicine  
and Dental Medicine

Reception Friday evening and CE Saturday,  
Duquesne Club, Pittsburgh, PA



For up-to-date details on any  
event listed, please visit  
**dental.pitt.edu.**