

## Pledges Completed

The OHSU School of Dentistry's three largest corporate donors – the Oregon Dental Association, The ODS Companies, and A-dec, Inc. – completed payment in 2008 on significant five-year pledges. The multi-year pledges were made during the Oregon Opportunity Campaign. "We are so grateful to the ODA, ODS, and A-dec, for their ongoing support of the dental school," said Dean Jack Clinton, D.M.D. '64. "These gifts were absolutely instrumental in helping us carry out our mission of educational excellence."

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# SOD Hosts Operative Consortium

OHSU was host for the annual Consortium of Operative Dentistry Educators (CODE) meeting in late October. More than two dozen representatives from Arizona School of Dental and Oral Health, Loma Linda University, UCLA, USC, University of the Pacific, the University of California, San Francisco, University of Washington, University of British Columbia, and University of Nevada, were on hand Oct. 23 and 24 to discuss CODE curriculum and tour the OHSU School of Dentistry's clinics.

"The consortium is composed of the people who run operative dentistry programs in the various dental schools

in our region," said **John Lee**, D.D.S., director of the division of operative dentistry. "We all report on what's going on in our programs and talk about upcoming curriculum changes. At this meeting, a variety of questions were answered by all of the schools. Additionally, we had an interesting presentation on ways to assess operative dentistry course outcomes."

Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. '64, who was one of the founding members of the consortium in the late 1960's, gave a historical perspective on CODE.

**George McCully**, D.M.D. '73, the WREB (Western Regional Examining Board) representative, offered proposals for *(continued on page three)*

## DS1 Profile: Stevenson Smith

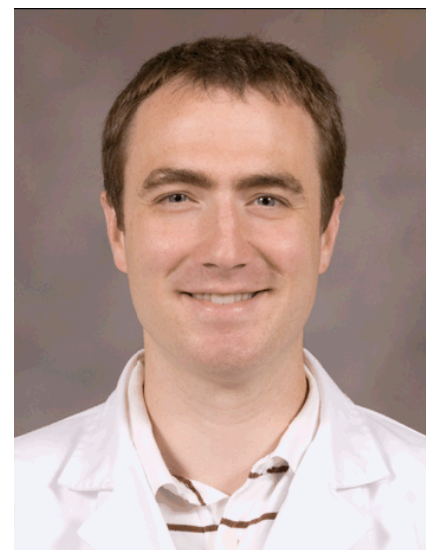
**Legacy:** Oscar Smith, D.M.D. '53 (grandfather); Steven E. Smith, D.M.D. '73 (dad); Jessica Smith Jackson, D.M.D. '01 (sister)

**Degree:** B.S. in business management. Brigham Young University, 2008.

**Hometown:** Eugene, Ore.

**Why Dentistry?** I had a good look at it. As I assisted in my dad's office, it was something I felt excited about.

**Why OHSU?** There is the obvious family draw, so there were nostalgic reasons. I'm thinking about joining my dad's private practice when I graduate.



First-year OHSU dental student Stevenson Smith

## Dr. Hamm Brings Charm and Camaraderie to Clinic Floor

**David Hamm**, D.M.D. '52, is a downright celebrity on the School of Dentistry clinic floor.

"Dr. Hamm, good to see you," says a dental student, giving the assistant professor of prosthodontics the "secret" Hamm handshake that everyone seems to know.

"Nice bow tie," chimes in another dental student, thrusting a hand – and a treatment plan -- in front of Dr. Hamm.

Laughs Dr. Hamm, "I ought to teach a class in bow-tying, I have so many kids wanting me to show them how to properly do their tie." He signs the plan and moves on to the next bridge group, shaking hands, smiling, and verbally sparring with students and staff, who flock to his side.

"It's all in an afternoon's work for Dr. Hamm, currently the oldest faculty member at 85.

"You have to be around here to appreciate these people," he said, with his trademark grin and eyes sparkling. "The staff, faculty, and students are wonderful. I like being exposed to young, energetic, motivated, smart, and eager people who are fun to be around. They keep me young."

After what he calls "three challenging years" in the United States Marine Corps during World War II (Dr. Hamm was honorably discharged in late 1945 and was awarded a Purple Heart), Dr. Hamm entered dental school on the advice of his own dentist, **Bill Morgan**, D.M.D., who told the 19-year-old he'd have good hand skills, due to his love of skinning and tanning animals while growing up in Hermiston, Ore.

"On our first day of dental school, one of the local well thought of porcelain guys in the city was lecturing and one of my classmates asked how much he charged for his work," said Dr. Hamm. "This man visibly bristled and said, 'Young man, you do a good job and the fees will take care of themselves.'

"Well, at the time, we believed him because we didn't

have any experience in how to run a practice," said Dr. Hamm. "That's one of the differences in how it was and how it is. Now we know that what he said is a lot of baloney."

Dr. Hamm attended dental school in the University of Oregon dental school building at NE 6<sup>th</sup> and Oregon Streets. "We had no running water within 20 yards of the operatory, no compressed air. If you wanted to irrigate something, you did it with a syringe.

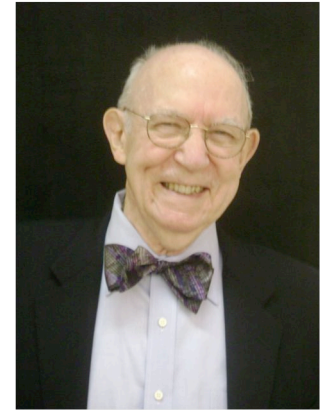
Dr. Hamm remembers setting out buckets on rainy days when a leaky skylight would water the operatory.

One day, Dr. Hamm was in class on the fourth floor of the "antique" dental building when an earthquake swayed telephone poles and electrical wires. "Professor **Ellis Jump** didn't miss a beat," he said, with a chuckle.

Dr. Hamm noted that most of his dental classmates were war veterans. "We dealt with what we had to and didn't know the difference," he said. "I think dental students today are treated more fairly and that's good."

After graduation in 1952, Dr. Hamm taught prosthodontics at the school for one year while his dental office was constructed in Hillsdale, Ore. **Eugene Kelly**, D.M.D. '59, assistant professor emeritus of oral and maxillofacial surgery, helped often with surgical work on Dr. Hamm's patients. Dr. Hamm was in private practice in Hillsdale for 43 years, retiring in 1995.

In 1998, he joined the School of Dentistry faculty, looking for something fun to do "besides going to the rifle range and shooting" *(continued on page eight)*



*David Hamm, D.M.D. '52*

## New SOD Appointment

**Michael Plunkett**, D.D.S., M.P.H., assistant professor of community dentistry, was recently appointed to the Oregon Health Services Commission, Dental Task Force. The Health Services Commission prioritizes health services for the governor and establishes benchmark rates for Oregon Health Plan patients.

## Operative Consortium

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modifications to the WREB. **Ed Hewlett**, D.D.S., associate professor and vice chair of restorative dentistry for University of Southern California, Los Angeles, was regional coordinator for the annual event.



*George McCully, D.M.D. '73, the Western Regional Examining Board representative (left), and Mark Fogelman, D.M.D., clinical assistant professor, department of dentistry, University of British Columbia, listen to a discussion at the October Consortium of Operative Dentistry Educators meeting. (Photo John Lee, D.D.S.)*

"The best thing about the group is the opportunity to network and find out what's working at different dental schools," said Dr. Lee. "I really appreciate belonging to this group. We were happy to play host and show our colleagues the good things that are happening at OHSU."

## Phonathon Raises \$186K

The fall phonathon on behalf of OHSU School of Dentistry – the second phonathon this year -- raised an impressive amount for dental student scholarships.

In five nights of calling that ended Nov. 6, \$186,756 was pledged, up five percent from the \$177,000 raised in the February phonathon, and an increase of 12 percent from 2007.

"I am really proud of our results, given that we had already called our alumni and friends in February," said Development Director **Pat Regan**. "We had 435 pledges this phonathon, with the average gift at about \$429. There were 17 new donors and 91 donations at the Dean's Gold Circle level (\$1,000 or higher), which was terrific since increasing Dean's Gold Circle membership was one of our goals.

"The most exciting part of the phonathon was that each night we boosted our totals, compared to prior years," said Pat. "We narrowly missed our goal of raising \$40,000 per night (for a \$200,000 total), but hope to reach those numbers next year."

More than 50 alumni, faculty, and staff donated their time making calls.

"Given all the changes that we made with this year's phonathon, this was a great effort by all," said Pat. "We thank everyone who volunteered for helping us to beat last year's numbers. I'd say we did pretty well given the current economic status of our country."

There's still time to make a gift. Call the alumni office to donate, (503) 494-0983.

## SOD Research Team Publishes in *Journal of Endodontics*

An OHSU School of Dentistry team has found that a significant percentage of dental patients with the inflammatory diseases irreversible pulpitis and apical periodontitis also have the Epstein-Barr virus. The Epstein-Barr virus is an important human pathogen found in more than 90 percent of the world population. It is associated with many diseases, including infectious mononucleosis, malignant lymphomas, and nasopharyngeal carcinoma.

The findings are published online ([www.jendodon.com/article/S0099-2399\(08\)00879-0/abstract](http://www.jendodon.com/article/S0099-2399(08)00879-0/abstract)) in the *Journal of Endodontics*, one of the leading peer-reviewed endodontology journals. The study also is expected to be published in the December 2008 (volume 34, issue 12) issue of the *Journal of Endodontics*.



The caries microbiology and oral molecular diagnostics laboratory includes from left to right, top, second-year dental student Yanwan Chen, Ph.D.; recent endodontology graduate Hong Li, D.D.S., MS.c., Ph.D.; Student Assistant Dan Lafferty; Assistant Professor of Integrative Biosciences Tom Maier, Ph.D.; second-year dental student Kyle Thames; second-year dental student Shawn Monahan; and bottom, left to right, Shahram Fazilat, D.D.S. a recent pediatric dentistry resident; third-year dental student Vicky Chen; OCMID Scholar Rebecca Sauerwein; first-year dental student Tyler Finlayson; second-year dental student Amanda Rice; Student Assistant Truman Nielsen; and Curt Machida, Ph.D., professor of integrative biosciences, and principal investigator. (Photo courtesy Dr. Machida)

Although the number of studies examining the role of herpesviruses in oral disease has been increasing, the majority of studies have focused on periodontitis, with no systematic attempt to examine herpesvirus in endodontic patients with varying inflammatory diseases. The OHSU study assessed the presence of human cytomegalovirus (HCMV), Epstein-Barr virus (EPV), herpes simplex virus (HSV-1), and Varicella zoster virus (VZV) in 82 endodontic patients, including patients with irreversible pulpitis and apical periodontitis, and compared them with 19 healthy patients. The goal of the study was to determine the potential association of herpesvirus with clinical symptoms, including acute pain and size of radiographic bone destruction.

Using a variety of methods, the OHSU team found the Epstein-Barr virus DNA and RNA in significantly higher percentages (43.9 percent and 25.6 percent respectively) compared with healthy patients (0 percent). Human cytomegalovirus DNA and RNA were found in measurable numbers in both endodontic patients (15.9 percent and 29.3 percent respectively) and in healthy patients (42.1 percent and 10.5 percent respectively). Herpes simplex virus DNA was found in low percentages of endodontic patients (13.4 percent) and only one patient showed the presence of Varicella zoster virus.

While a previous study examined the incidence of herpes viruses in apical periodontitis, "this is the first time irreversible pulpitis has been analyzed for the presence of herpes viruses and associated with Epstein-Barr virus," noted **Curt Machida**, Ph.D., OHSU professor of integrative biosciences and principal investigator, whose lab was host for the study.

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## SOD'ers In New Global Health Center Course

The School of Dentistry is playing a key part in an interdisciplinary community health and educational exchange program developed by OHSU's Global Health Center. The five-week Saturday elective course, new this fall, brought together students and faculty from all OHSU schools to care for African refugees from Africa House.

The course is supported by the Third World Medical Research Foundation, the OHSU Global Health Center, and donations from various Portland, Ore., businesses.

Africa House President **Valerie Palmer** said OHSU students have four hours of contact each Saturday with Burundian and Somalian Bantu refugees.

"Refugees arriving in Portland and countrywide must undergo the most extraordinary acculturation to strange-to-them ways, including those relating to health and hygiene," said Valerie. "They also bring their culture, language, experiences, and strange-to-us ways, including those relating to health and disease. "From this recognition was born the idea of a two-way community exchange of information: from student to refugee and from refugee to student," she said. "The principle of two-way learning is a crucial component of the philosophy of the Global Health Center."

About 30 OHSU students in five interdisciplinary teams, faculty from the four schools, and an Oregon State University student assessing the program, worked with about 50 African adults and children. The SOD contingent included first-year dental students **Jesse Hollander** and **John Loberg**; second-year dental students **Jacob Morrow**, M.P.H., **Haley Hunt**, **Katie Marsh**, and **Marisa Sonerholm**. **Mike Plunkett**, D.D.S., M.P.H., assistant professor of community dentistry, served as the SOD faculty representative.

"The idea is that students from all disciplines work together to get at the very basics of patient-centered care. It is easy for each of us to get focused on our particular area of practice and forget that we are part of a health care team," said Dr. Plunkett.

Each interdisciplinary student team was given a map of the clients' country of origin, a questionnaire and data to assist in an interview, a referral sheet for potential health issues, a client information card, and an interpreter, if necessary. The students then interviewed each client assigned to their team, took their vitals, and provided oral and eye exams.

The students assessed the client's needs and referred any emerging health issue to a discipline-appropriate faculty member, who decided if a referral was appropriate. At the end of the four-hours, students compiled their experiences, thoughts, and questions, and discussed them at a debriefing conducted by faculty.

"I enrolled in the course because I wanted to work with a global community that I'd never interacted with before, all while staying in Portland," said Katie. "It was great meeting the students from the nursing, pharmacy, and medical schools. While teaching our clients about the importance of health care and addressing their particular concerns, we also taught each other about our different fields of study."

## Some Like it Pink: Sandee Valentine

Wearing a pink shirt one Friday while lunching with her friends, who (coincidentally) were similarly clad in pink, **Sandee Valentine** heard a passerby remark on the ladies' cheery pastel attire. So began Pink Friday, a two-year School of Dentistry tradition where all interested clinic students, staff, and faculty wear pink.

"I only had one pink shirt when this began," said Sandee, the School of Dentistry's longtime clinic supply supervisor. "I've had to buy new pink shirts as the event has grown, as have other staff. Dental students now purposely buy pink, red, or burgundy scrubs for Pink Friday."

One year ago, Sandee said one of the staff members brought in some leftover pink items and they decided to draw names to see who would get them. "That's how Pink Friday Give Away began," she said. "It was so well-received that staff and faculty began donating items for a once a month drawing."

Sandee's last Pink Friday at the School was Nov. 21.

**Denice Stewart**, D.D.S., M.H.S.A., associate dean for clinical affairs, who "doesn't like pink," said Sandee, "but has been a good sport and worn pink on several Fridays," drew the prizes, including two winners of \$10 Starbucks gift certificates. "To qualify for Pink Friday drawings, people must wear pink, red, or burgundy," said Sandee. "Purple doesn't count."

Sandee said her favorite Pink Friday was when fourth-year dental students **Travis Agee** and **Chris Clave** walked into the clinic wearing pink scrubs, the first males to "bravely" take on the color.

"The thing I like best about Pink Friday is that students, staff, and faculty all participate and have fun together," said Sandee. "It's pretty cool."

After 16 years of ensuring the clinic is stocked and providing friendly and efficient customer service, Sandee retired at the end of November to spend more time with her grandchildren. But rest assured, she passed the torch before exiting the building: **Susan Bond**, the care coordinator for the Steel group practice, has volunteered to help keep the Pink Friday tradition alive.



*There's Sandee, front and center, on her last Pink Friday Give Away (light pink shirt with OHSU lanyard around her neck) with fellow pink dental students, staff, and faculty, Nov. 21. (Photo Devin Brvant)*

## Dental Applications Up

Doctor of dental medicine applications to OHSU School of Dentistry are up this year. As of Nov. 24, there were 1,127 dental school applications for fall 2009, said **Mark Mitchell**, M.A., associate dean for student affairs, and up to another eight applications could be received before this year's cycle is over. OHSU's high in terms of dental applications was in fall of 2007, noted Mark, with 1,119 applicants for the 75 positions. "The pool is up nationally, too," said Mark. "Historically, when the economy is down, dental applications increase, so that may be one reason for the increase."

## Honor for Dr. Stewart

**Jeffery Stewart**, D.D.S., M.S., associate professor of pathology, recently was inducted as a Fellow into the Pierre Fauchard Academy, which is an international honor dental organization ([www.fauchard.org](http://www.fauchard.org)). Dr. Stewart was selected by the Academy for his service to the dental profession, and numerous contributions to dental literature, research, and public service. Dr. Stewart was nominated by **Robert Myall**, B.D.S., M.D., professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, and received his medal from **Weston Heringer Jr.**, D.M.D. '79, at a ceremony in early November. Dr. Stewart was one of five Fellows selected from Oregon in 2008.



*Jeffery Stewart, D.D.S., M.S., associate professor of pathology (right) receiving his Pierre Fauchard Academy medal from Weston Heringer Jr., D.M.D. '79*

## New SOD Student Group

A handful of dental students have been working behind the scenes with **Mike Plunkett**, D.D.S., M.P.H., associate professor of community dentistry, to get a new student service organization off the ground, Dentists Making a Difference (DMD). Interested dental students are encouraged to join the group.

Dentists Making a Difference has met several times now, with the goal of consolidating community service efforts where possible with existing student organizations, and planning for two large community events per year. One such event may happen in the spring of 2009 in Hood River with La Clinica del Carino partnering with local dentists to provide care to workers in the surrounding orchards.

"One of the unique qualities of this group is that students will be taking the lead to develop relationships with our community partners," said Dr. Plunkett. "Each dental student participating is assigned a clinic or organization that they will contact to explore ways that our organization

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## Student Group (continued from column at right)

might partner to meet community needs. The goal is not program development, but for us to lend a hand of support and involvement to existing off-campus organizations."

Dental students involved include: **Jesse Hollander** (DS1); **Curt Lemrick**, **Jacob Morrow**, M.P.H., and **Vishal Panchmatia** (DS2); and **Vicky Chen**, **Shepard DeLong**, **David Garlock**, **Allison Hallin**, **Erin Laird**, and **Amanda Tinkle** (DS3).



*Michael Plunkett, D.D.S., M.P.H.*

The next Dentists Making a Difference meeting is set for Tuesday, Dec. 9, at 5:45 p.m. in the student lounge/lunch room on the second floor.

## SOD Calendar

<b>Dec. 19</b>	Last day of fall term, DS1 to DS4
<b>Dec. 22</b>	OSHA Inservice, 8 a.m. to noon, all classified and non-classified staff
<b>Jan. 5</b>	Start of 12-week winter term
<b>Jan. 19</b>	OHSU Holiday (MLK's birthday)
<b>Feb. 16</b>	OHSU Holiday (President's Day)
<b>Feb. 19</b>	First Robert G. Gootee Lecture in Leadership and Professionalism

## Dr. Hamm

*(continued from page two)*

or chasing a golf ball." Dr. Hamm is in the clinic now four afternoons a week, floating between the three bridge groups on the former junior side of the clinic. "The cold, dark side," clarified Dr. Hamm.

"I assist dental students in the fabrication of removable dentures," he said. "I also oversee insertion of immediate dentures in oral surgery."

When not at the dental school, Dr. Hamm enjoys hunting, fishing, and shooting at the local range. He and wife, Vera, recently celebrated 62 years of marriage. They have two sons, a daughter, and four "super" grandchildren.

"He is a remarkable person and a great asset to the faculty in the clinic," said **Michael Carlascio**, D.M.D. '81, assistant professor of operative dentistry, who calls Dr. Hamm, "Sergeant." "I have great respect for him and look forward to the days he is in clinic. Dr. Hamm brings an irresistible charm and warmth to the clinic and I can only hope to have the same level of energy when I am his age."

If you have a submission for *Dental Bites*, please contact Sydney Clevenger (clevenger@ohsu.edu, 503-418-1792) by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication. Photos are also welcome in jpg or tif format.

## Updated Educational Travel Procedure for Dental Students

School of Dentistry students are increasingly caring for patients outside the building, both locally and abroad, said **Phyllis Beemsterboer**, M.S., Ed.D., associate dean for academic affairs, which is part of a new educational strategy to boost real-world experiences for students. To ensure dental students are approved to miss clinic and that they have their patient responsibilities covered while gone, the Dean's Council recently approved a new authorization process effective immediately. There are now two forms for dental students to fill out prior to travel, Physical Absence from the SOD Approval Form, and Planned Absence Form. The forms are at <http://ohsu-eres.lib.pdx.edu/eres>. Go to the electronic reserves page and click on SOD, then click on SOD OCA and put in your password. Please contact Dr. Beemsterboer with any questions.

## Journal of Endodontics

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"The incidence of irreversible pulpitis and apical periodontitis, caused by bacteria and possibly the latent herpes virus, is painful and can greatly impair the body's natural immune system. Studies such as ours could someday lead to more effective treatments of inflammatory diseases of the mouth."

The OHSU team included **Hong Li**, D.D.S., M.Sc., Ph.D., a recent OHSU endodontology graduate; third-year OHSU dental student **Vicky Chen**, B.S.; second-year OHSU dental student **Yanwen Chen**, Ph.D.; **J. Craig Baumgartner**, D.D.S., M.Sc., Ph.D., chairman of the OHSU endodontology department; and Machida.

The research was funded by the American Association of Endodontists Foundation, the Oregon Clinical and Translational Research Institute, the NIH's National Center for Research Resources, and the NIH Roadmap for Medical Research.