



Dental Bites

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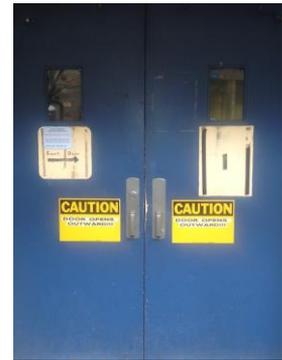
Short Takes

OHSU School of Dentistry is on track to participate in Give Kids a Smile (GKAS) day in 2015, said Multnomah Dental Society Executive Director Lora Mattsen. The event is scheduled for Feb. 28, and will be the first OHSU Give Kids a Smile day held in Skourtes Tower. At press time, local Boys and Girls Clubs were expected to be the GKAS patients. In addition, the American Dental Association is dispatching a photographer for the event.

Marquam Hill Dental School Deconstruction

With the Marquam Hill dental school building officially closed and sealed, OHSU Facilities and Logistics is turning its attention to safely and cost-effectively deconstructing the 1956 structure. A comprehensive deconstruction plan is in the works and could be approved as early as this month.

"This is not your routine demolition project," said **Lee Weidman**, project manager. "The biggest challenge is that a portion of Southwest Campus Drive is supported by the back wall of the building. You can't collapse the building without retaining the hillside. We are working through options that would allow us to strengthen that wall so that once the building is gone the existing back wall will be strong enough to keep the hillside where it belongs."



"One concept under consideration involves cutting holes in the back wall and then drilling auger piles into the hillside behind it," said Lee. "The piles are then connected to the existing wall with steel and concrete to create an assembly that is strong enough to hold back the hillside. In order to do this, we have to remove the building floor by floor, and strengthen the wall as we work our way down."

Lee said that the project's location also presents unique challenges. "The building is situated in close proximity to no less than three patient care facilities," he said. "The dust, vibration, and traffic typically associated with a demolition project have to be carefully managed in order to prevent any disruptions to patient care and other work at OHSU. This consideration also extends to OHSU's neighbors. Developing a plan that is acceptable to the local neighborhood committees is something that we have been working on for some time. There will be hundreds of truckloads of material that will have to be transported off the hill and making sure that is done in the least disruptive way is a key element of this project."

"As with most demolition projects, we will focus on salvaging as much raw material as possible including some of the metals in the building and even the concrete structure itself which will be reused and resourced," said Lee. "Materials that cannot be reused or need abatement like flooring and insulation common for structures of this era, have to be removed in a strictly controlled environment prior to demolition and that effort could take several months to complete on a building this size."

Lee said the project is anticipated to last approximately eight months and could begin in 2015.

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SOD Staff Profile: Helen Franco

Family is where it's at for **Conseca "Helen" Franco**, and one reason why working at the dental school fulfills the longtime administrative assistant in clinical administration.

"I look forward to coming to work," said Helen, who has been with the dental school for 17 years. "It is important to me to work with nice people and that is why I've stayed. I don't think I've ever worked with anyone at the dental school that I didn't like. It's like family here."

Helen grew up in Bayombong, a province in Nueva Vizcaya in the northern part of the Philippines. The oldest of five children, Helen attended Adamson University in Manila, receiving a bachelor of science in chemical engineering.

Helen's parents immigrated to the United States in July of 1995, and selected Oregon because other relatives were located here. Helen was left in charge of her siblings back in the Philippines until each Franco child received their papers to immigrate, as well, one by one.

"In our culture, your parents send you to college and once you finish, it is your responsibility to help," said Helen. Upon arrival in the U.S., Helen took the state exams right away to find a job to help support her family. She joined OHSU's nutrition center as a temporary employee in November of 1995 (OHSU was then a state-owned entity) and she transferred to the dental school the following year, working as an office specialist.

In 2007, Helen joined clinic administration, reporting to **Susan Clinton** and **Denice Stewart**, D.D.S., M.H.S.A., senior associate dean for clinical affairs. Helen coordinates the Faculty Dental Practice lab bills, and all of the ordering, billing, and accounts payable for clinic administration.

"I like that it is always busy," said Helen. "The new building is very bright which I like."

Helen is proud to discuss her siblings, whom she helped put through school. Second sister, **Reyna Gille** has been employed in OHSU Hematology/Oncology for 20 years. Second to youngest sister **Melanie Franco** graduated from OHSU School of Nursing and has worked at OHSU for 10 years in the Bone Marrow Transplant department. Youngest sibling **Reynaldo Franco** attended medical school in Maryland, and now works at Legacy Meridian Park as a hospitalist. Another sister, **Grace**, recently returned to the Philippines, and Helen enjoyed connecting with her on a December trip to her home country.

In her spare time, Helen plays the piano, knits, and makes wire trees with gemstones. She and her husband, **Richard Gunsolus**, live in Oregon City. She has two step children.

"When I first came to the U.S., I had to start over," said Helen. "It was worth it. I have found a new home."



SOD Welcomes New Faculty and Staff

Please welcome the following new staff and faculty to OHSU School of Dentistry:

***Kim Doyle**, C.D.T., joins the dental school this month as lab technician/instructor in restorative dentistry. Since 1999, Kim has owned a dental lab in Sammamish, Wash., specializing in ceramics.

***Jorge Garaicoa**, is a new assistant professor of restorative dentistry, likely joining the dental school in February. Dr. Garaicoa received his doctor of dental surgery from the Catholic University Santiago of Guayaquil, and was assistant professor there, as well as a general dentist at the Duran, Ecuador, Ministry of Public Health before briefly going into private practice. In 2009, Dr. Garaicoa began an AEGD (advanced education in general dentistry) program at the University of Rochester, and upon completion two years later, initiated a master in science, and a certificate in prosthodontics from the University of Iowa College of Dentistry.



***Sivaraman "Sivi" Prakasam**, B.D.S., M.S.D., Ph.D., has joined the school as assistant professor of periodontology. Dr. Prakasam received his bachelor of dental surgery from The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University in Chennai, T.N., South India, a doctoral degree in oral biology and pathology from the State University of New York, Stony Brook, and a master's of science in dentistry, a certificate in periodontics, and a certificate in light parenteral conscious sedation from Indiana University. Most recently, Dr. Prakasam was clinical assistant professor and Faculty Dental Practice periodontist at Indiana University. Dr. Prakasam's research is centered around biomarkers in periodontic disease.



***Paul Vanderwal**, is the dental school's new marketing manager. Most recently, Paul was director of public relations and brand strategy at Harris Massey Herinckx. He has more than 25 years of experience in brand, product, and service marketing. Paul is an Oregon native, and studied at Lewis & Clark College. He holds a master's in business administration from Portland State University.



Dental School Staff Initiatives in the Works

Staff are an integral part to boosting the dental school patient experience, and will be engaged in helping to create an even more efficient system of oral care at OHSU School of Dentistry, especially as "we continue the complicated process of learning to live in our new space," said OHSU School of Dentistry Dean **Phillip Marucha**, D.M.D., Ph.D., at the Dec. 22 staff in-service.

"It takes a while to figure it all out," he said. "I think we need to have a conversation about it."

Dr. Marucha said that a series of lunch meetings for staff are in the works for input and community building. To give staff credit for their work, Dr. Marucha said a staff awards program will be discussed in the new year. Additionally, he said, a staff development component will be added to the annual September faculty retreat.

Recent Photos from OHSU School of Dentistry



Dale Barker, D.D.S., assistant professor of endodontology (left) gets into the holiday spirit while reviewing radiographs with third-year dental student Crystal Kelso in the pre-doctoral endodontology clinic. Dr. Barker's hat was in honor of "Ugly Sweater" day on Dec. 17. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)



Assistant Professor of Pathology and Radiology Ying Wu, D.D.S., M.S.D., Ph.D. (right) talks with Sunil Kapila, B.D.S., M.S., Ph.D., the Thomas M. and Doris Graber Endowed Professor, chair of orthodontics and pediatric dentistry, and graduate orthodontics program director at the University of Michigan, who spoke Dec. 12 on "Temporomandibular Joint Disorders: Innovations in Diagnostics and Therapeutics," as part of the Dean's Seminar Series. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)



Periodontology Dental Assistants Vivian Koch (left) and Luz Tulipat, D.M.D., are festive at the Dec. 22 staff in-service. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)



The Stoker twins, third-year dental students Sydney and Amelia, care for a patient in the Steel group practice (ninth floor) on Dec. 12. Care Coordinator Eva Brame was so taken by the girls' similar posture that she grabbed Peter Morita, D.M.D., '86, associate dean for patient services, to take a photo of the one-of-a-kind "mirror image." (Photo Peter Morita, D.M.D., '86)



The sculpture located on the southeast corner of the Collaborative Life Sciences Building was inspired by molecules and apples, according to the Los Angeles-based artist Christian Moeller. For more on the sculpture, go to www.ohsu.edu/sod and click on the Dec. 8 Top News Story. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)

School Calendar

Jan. 5	Start of 11-week winter term
Jan. 6	Dean's Seminar
Jan. 19	MLK Holiday
Feb. 16	President's Day Holiday
Feb. 20	Sealant Day
Feb. 28	Give Kids a Smile
March 20	End of 11-week winter term
March 30	Start of 12-week spring term
Spring 2015	Dental Specialty Speed Dating
April 2	SOD Research Day
April 9-11	Reunion Weekend

Deconstruction *(continued from page one)*

In the meantime, the Marquam Hill dental school building is "on mothball status," said **Roger Cole**, Facilities operations manager.



Used refrigerators await their fate at the Marquam Hill dental school loading dock. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)

"We are ramping down the systems as we can," said Roger. "The heat is turned down to 45 degrees to ensure the sprinkler system will work, if necessary, but that the pipes don't freeze. We've turned off the utilities not associated with systems required for code such as fire sprinklers, detectors, and alarms. The access control system has been reprogrammed, and we've reduced maintenance activities to a bare minimum."

The Marquam Hill dental building is the first entirely vacant facility to be operated by OHSU in its history," Cole said, "we don't often bring down buildings at OHSU, so this is really exciting."

OHSU ASDA Hosts District 10 Meeting

By Sara Edmonson, ASDA Communications Chair

New to *Dental Bites* this issue is the OHSU American Student Dental Association (ASDA) Section! This will be a great resource to learn about the upcoming events hosted by ASDA.



This month is a particularly exciting one, as OHSU ASDA will be hosting the 2015 District 10 Meeting, which will be held in the new Collaborative Life Sciences Building. The meeting will take place all day Friday, Jan. 9, all day Saturday, Jan. 10, and the morning of Sunday, Jan. 11.

Dental students from Arizona Student and Health Sciences, Midwestern University, Roseman University of Health Sciences, University of Nevada Las Vegas, University of Utah, University of Washington, OHSU, and others will all be in attendance to learn about integrating personal and professional development, leadership, and how to stay involved in organized dentistry. The theme of the meeting is "Dentistry from All Angles."

At the meeting, dental students can network with featured speakers, dentists, and dental students from across the country, learn about leadership, organized dentistry, and personal and professional development, and partake in many social events, including the vendor fair and Friday and Saturday night social events.

For more information about the District 10 Meeting, speak with your ASDA Chapter President or visit our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1530884733816465/>

For more information about ASDA, please visit: <http://www.asdanet.org/default.aspx>

Sterilizer Monitoring Service Going Strong

For several decades, the dental school has offered third-party sterilizer monitoring. **Steven King**, Ph.D., associate professor of integrative biosciences, now directs OHSU's Sterilizer Monitoring Service (SMS), which has clients from Alaska to Florida.

"Anyone who needs to maintain records indicating that sterilization equipment functions properly will use a monitoring service such as ours," said Dr. King. "This includes dentists, surgeons, body artists, and sterilizer repairmen."

For dental offices, most states—including Oregon, Washington, and California—require weekly monitoring of sterilizers. Medical offices in those states are required to test monthly. In Oregon, businesses conducting electrolysis, piercing, or tattooing, also are required to monitor sterilizer function monthly.

Biological monitoring of sterilizers depends upon the sterilizer killing the test organism. Because bacterial spores are the most resistant form of bacteria, spores have been the most common test material.

Each sterilizer used by OHSU clients is assigned a unique identifying number in the SMS database. Clients receive packets of test strips and sheets of barcodes for each sterilizer. "The test strip is simply added to a load, and the sterilizer run as usual," said Dr. King. "The strips are embedded with spores of two bacterial species, *Geobacillus stearothermophilis* and *Bacillus atrophaeus*.

"We use two test species to rule out false positives and negatives," said Dr. King. "Those two bacterial species are notoriously hard to kill, preventing false negatives, or grow at 60 degrees Celcius, a non-permissive temperature for ordinary bacteria living all around us, which prevents false positives."

Once the test strips are sterilized, they are bar coded, and then returned to the dental school. Results are returned the next business morning, said Dr. King. "We are known for being fast and reliable," he said.

The Sterilizer Monitoring Service was founded in 1990 by **Beverly Watkins**, M.S., and she was followed by directors **George Riviere**, D.D.S., Ph.D., and **Michael Meredith**, Ph.D. (who retired this year). Dr. King became director in June 2014.

Early clients, according to longtime Lab Assistant **Eugenia Dodd**, were primarily a handful of local dentists looking for a service to test their sterilizers. This was in the days before mandatory testing," said Eugenia. "In the early going, there were a lot of not sterile results but the number began to decline, thanks to feedback from the school's Sterilizer Monitoring Service." A similar trend is now occurring with the water testing of dental units, noted Dr. King, another service that OHSU School of Dentistry provides.

"We are pleased to be one of the main providers of sterilizer monitoring in the Portland area," said Dr. King.

For information about the dental school's Sterilizer Monitoring Service, please call (503) 494-4641, or go to www.ohsu.edu/sod and click on "About" and then "Services."