Budget Update
With the deadline for a 2008-09 School of Dentistry budget a month away, Dean Jack Clinton, D.M.D. said he is exploring “every possible option” to meet what now appears to be a $2 million deficit for the School, the budget cut amount requested of the School by the university in mid-February. “There are still so many unknowns, but we are looking carefully at everything that has been presented and we hope to announce soon what we plan to do to meet this budget cut request,” said Dean Clinton.

Table of Contents
Dental Month 1
First Lectureship 1
New Faculty 3
Phonathon 4
Cambodia trip 6

Children’s National Dental Health Month
Mayor Tom Potter Attends Give Kids A Smile day for Second Year

Having “thoroughly enjoyed” the 2007 Give Kids a Smile day, Portland Mayor Tom Potter on Feb. 29 visited the predoctoral clinic for the second year in a row to show his support for children’s oral health.

“It’s great to see these children after their care,” said Mayor Potter. “They seem to be smiling more. Every time I come here I realize how important this care is.”

According to Lora Mattsen, executive director of the Multnomah County

Dental Society, 350 children from Portland Public Schools received oral care at 14 sites around the city, OHSU being one of them.

Nine-year-old Shana Gardner from Ventura Park Elementary said she was feeling a lot better after having a molar pulled because of a large cavity.

Said Gladys Arana-Lemus, 9, a third-grader at Earl Boyles: “They always treat us nice and kindly and you get your teeth all clean.”

SOD Has First Endowed Lectureship

To honor ODS President and CEO Robert Gootee for his many years of service, The ODS Companies board recently established a new program at the School of Dentistry: The Robert G. Gootee Lectureship in Leadership and Professionalism. A plaque was presented to Mr. Gootee on Feb. 1 in room 606, coincidentally the ODS Conference Room, to celebrate the new endowed lectureship, the first for the School.

“This is the perfect time for this to happen,” said Dean Jack Clinton, D.M.D. ’64. “The change in how we educate our dental students and care for our patients has boosted professionalism amongst our students and faculty. We have a reputation for doing an incredible job of training dentists, but maybe the (continued on page three)
Dr. Terkla Visits School
Former School of Dentistry Dean Louis Terkla, D.M.D. ’52 visited the school recently to share his newest woodworking creation with staff and faculty, including Thomas Shearer, Ph.D., associate dean for research and Mike Meredith, Ph.D., associate professor of integrative biosciences, both woodworkers.

“This is tricky work,” said Dr. Terkla. “The steps are so complex it would take hours to go through them all.”

Dr. Terkla’s bowl—his first that is segmented—combines 600 pieces of such exotic woods as eastern maple, gabon ebony, and bubinga.

The detail work, patterned after a southwest Indian blanket—took three 40-hour weeks to complete. Dr. Terkla used graph paper to draw the initial pattern, then each piece was cut individually and the bowl lathe-turned.

“Very impressive,” said Dr. Shearer, who several years ago hand-built a 12-foot sailboat. “It’s really beautiful.”

Dr. Terkla noted that he began woodworking when he was five-years-old and accidentally cut his knee with a knife.

A DEA conference highlights millennials
During a recent ADEA (American Dental Education Association) board meeting in Washington, D.C., 40 millenial dental students discussed their perceived strengths and weaknesses and other trends to shed light on how schools can provide better dental education.

Millenials are those students born between 1979 and 1994. The students on the panel at the ADEA board meeting were from Howard University and the University of Maryland.

Led by New Jersey Institute of Technology’s university librarian, the dental students interviewed said they use technology constantly to access information, conduct business and stay in touch, and that the Internet, text messaging, digital music, and downloads were all vital to their lives. The students expressed a preference for the ease of use of technology, but wanted to ensure that personal interaction remained a key part of their learning experiences.

Many students indicated that their best academic experiences were those that involved a great deal of hands-on learning and allowed them to study in a group setting. According to ADEA, the students also felt strongly that the best professors were those who care whether students were learning class materials, rather than just memorizing them, and those who made themselves available for help when necessary.

Student Drug Policy Approved
OHSU recently approved a new Student Drug and Alcohol Testing policy (No. 02-01-003), effective Feb. 12. All students accepted to educational programs with a clinical component, like the School of Dentistry, now must successfully pass an initial drug screening, prior to entering school. All students may also be tested any time "for cause." The School of Dentistry will begin developing the policy details, such as when the testing will commence for dental students. The new policy is available for review in the student affairs office.
New Appointment for Associate Dean

Phyllis Beemsterboer, M.S., Ed.D., associate dean for academic affairs, was recently appointed by the American Dental Association (ADA) president to serve as a member of the ADA's National Oral Health Literacy Committee. The ADA authorized the formation of the Committee as a result of a 2006 resolution from the House of Delegates. Poor literacy skills can impede dental patients’ abilities to seek out needed health information and also to process and understand that information in making appropriate oral health care decisions. The 12-member advisory committee provides input regarding policies, programs and interventions related to improving oral health literacy. Dr. Beemsterboer was appointed for her expertise in dental education and bioethics.

New Faculty in SOD

Darius Arlauskas, D.M.D., is an adjunct assistant professor in operative dentistry. Dr. Arlauskas received his doctor of dental medicine from OHSU in 1998. He is a general dentist at Gentech Dentistry in Clackamas, Ore.

Robert S. Henshaw, D.D.S., is an adjunct assistant professor in periodontology. Dr. Henshaw received his doctor of dental surgery from University of the Pacific and a specialty certificate in periodontics and implantology from OHSU in 2002. Dr. Henshaw is in private practice in Portland.

Endowed Lectureship

(continued from page one)

greatest impact of being a provider are those values we tend to lump together as professionalism.”

According to Development Director Pat Regan, almost $54,000 of the $75,000 needed to endow the lectureship fund has been raised. “The first lecture will occur about one year after the fund is endowed,” said Pat. “It would be our hope that Robert will deliver the first lecture on leadership and professionalism.”

“Education is important to me and to be involved in it in this way means a lot to me,” said Mr. Gootee, who attended with wife, Roje; ODS board members; and a handful of School of Dentistry deans and department heads.

The Robert G. Gootee Lectureship in Leadership and Professionalism was initiated by ODS board chair Jay Lamb, a 1980 School of Dentistry alum.

“It’s important for any profession to maintain professionalism and dentistry is no different, said Dr. Lamb. “With this lectureship, we want to help make sure the dental students turned out are clinic-capable and hold a standard of professionalism.”

Mr. Gootee and the ODS board in attendance rode the tram and toured the Dr. and Mrs. Carl Rietman Pediatric Dentistry Clinic, pre-doctoral clinic, simulation lab, and newly remodeled second floor classrooms.

“This is our first endowed lectureship,” said Dean Clinton. “We are so happy and grateful for all that Mr. Gootee and ODS do for us.”

Dental Bites is the SOD’s monthly internal newsletter. If you have a submission, please contact Sydney Clevenger (clevenge@ohsu.edu) by the 25th of the month prior to each monthly publication.
Big Numbers at Alumni Association Phonathon

Final numbers are in for the annual Alumni Association phonathon and an impressive number of pledges were raised, according to Development Director Pat Regan. In six nights of calling, more than $177,000 was raised in pledges and commitments, almost eight percent ($13,000) more than the year prior.

As in 2007, money raised during the 2008 phonathon is going toward student financial aid, unless otherwise designated by the donor.

“As economies have gotten tighter, I feel it is important to support the School and keep it as strong as we can,” said Martha Rich, D.M.D. ’81, when asked why she volunteered to make pledge calls to alums.

Seventy-nine alums—from the class of 1962 to the class of 2006—and 27 dental students from the classes of 2008 and 2009, volunteered to make calls and to help during the phonathon.

Fourth-year dental student John Delplanche found the phonathon an easy way for dental students to give back. “Even if we can’t give out of our own pockets right now, we can give of our time,” he said between calls.

The Steel group practice raised the most pledges. Phonathon volunteers receiving large pledge totals included third-year dental students Annalisa Taylor ($10,350) and Melissa Beadnell ($10,250). The class of 2008’s Devin Brice called all six nights, received 22 pledges ($8,946) and was able to reach 31 alumni to thank them for their gift.

Five School of Dentistry staff volunteered their time at the phonathon.

“We so appreciate all of our volunteers,” said Pat. “Whether they manned phones, worked computers, or stuffed envelopes, we couldn’t have done it without them.”

Dental Student Heads to National Research Conference

First-year dental student Kyle Thames will be attending the 44th Annual Dental Students’ Conference on Research March 16 to 18 in Gaithersburg, Md. The conference is sponsored by the American Dental Association (ADA) through its Foundation, with the support of Johnson & Johnson Oral Health Division. The goal of the conference is to introduce outstanding dental students to scientists from the ADA, industry, the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, and the ADA Foundation, to raise awareness of the wide ranging careers available in oral health research. Kyle is heavily involved in research at OHSU. He recently was elected vice-president of OHSU’s Dental Student Research Group, has submitted three grant proposals in the past six months, and is conducting research for the ODA-ODC Student Table Clinic competition.
Professor Appointed to State Board

Michael Plunkett, D.D.S., M.P.H., assistant professor of community dentistry, has been appointed to the Oregon Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB). Dr. Plunkett is the first oral health care provider appointed to the PHAB, which serves as an advisory body to the director of the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS). The PHAB advises the DHS director on policy matters related to the operation of DHS, provides a review of statewide public health issues, and participates in public health policy development.

"This is a big deal for OHSU, the School of Dentistry, and our community dentistry outreach program," said Dean Jack Clinton, D.M.D. '64. "That Dr. Plunkett has only been in Oregon a short time and has already made inroads in the public health policy arena says a lot about his ability to build relationships and forge interdisciplinary connections, abilities which are key to boosting oral health care for all Oregonians." The appointment is for four years.

Prior to moving to Oregon in April 2007, Dr. Plunkett was on the clinical faculty at the University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Dentistry and a clinical dentist at the Cabot Westside Health Center in Kansas City, Mo. He received his master's in public health from the University of Kansas School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine in Kansas City, Kansas, and his doctor of dental surgery from the University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Dentistry in Kansas City, Mo.

Volunteers Needed April 2

Volunteers are needed to help provide tours of the School of Dentistry to alums, other dental professionals, and their families during an open house scheduled from 3 to 7 p.m., Wed., April 2, as part of the pre-Oregon Dental Conference weekend. This is the first such event since the School of Dentistry held its centennial celebration in 1999, says Development Director Pat Regan.

"This will be a chance for the school to showcase recent upgrades in the pre-doctoral clinic, the simulation clinic, and the Dr. and Mrs. Carl Rietman Pediatric Dentistry Clinic," said Pat.

To volunteer, contact Lisa Thorsrud, (503) 494-0983. "We are looking for volunteers from the faculty, staff and students who would be interested in leading guests on the tours," said Pat. "Part of the tour will also include a ride on the Portland Aerial Tram."

Sealant Day Expands in April

On Feb. 16, the School of Dentistry hosted the 10th annual Sealant Day for Buckman Arts Elementary School students, said Mary Ann Haisch, R.D.H., M.P.A., coordinator for outreach services. About 31 Buckman students received 69 sealants from the pediatric dentistry residents and dental students, and seven students were referred for additional treatment.

In April, Mary Ann will for the first time, take the Sealant Day program to another school. Raleigh Park Elementary in Beaverton was recommended by John Mitchell, Ph.D., associate professor of biomaterials and biomechanics, as a diverse student population with 29 percent of their students eligible for free or reduced price lunches, and Mary Ann was able to make arrangements with the school's principal. On April 10, the school's second-graders will hear about home dental care and the importance of good nutrition. Children whose parents complete permission forms will be screened for sealants on April 23. Then on April 30, the screened students will receive sealants at OHSU.

Microsoft Office Upgrade

On March 3, OHSU will begin upgrading to Microsoft Office 2007. Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint will be installed first; the email application will be installed later in the spring. Check the Ozone (under Microsoft Migration Spring 2008) for the open labs scheduled through March 28.
COS Event Draws 1,100

Second-year dental students Jesse Gridley (left) and Rhinelle Torres were Mr. Molanator and the Tooth Fairy at Celebration of Smiles on Feb. 16 at the Portland Children's Museum. The annual event, co-sponsored by the School of Dentistry, drew more than 1,100 children and families, said Prashant Gagneja, chair of pediatric dentistry. Second-year students Amanda Tinkle and Olyesa Salathe organized the event on behalf of SOD. (Photo Dan Carter)

New Award for Stewart

Jeffery Stewart, D.D.S., M.S., associate professor of pathology, recently was selected as a Fellow of the 2008-09 American Dental Education Association Leadership Institute, a program designed to develop the nation's most promising dental faculty to become future leaders in dental and higher education. Dr. Stewart is one of 21 of the dental educators selected from throughout the country to attend the Leadership Institute's ninth class. The Leadership Institute consists of yearlong sessions, workshops, and projects highlighting personal and interpersonal development, administrative competencies, legislative leadership, faculty development, and other learning opportunities. Dr. Stewart is OHSU’s second ADEA Leadership Institute Fellow since the Institute began in 2000.

Providing Care in Cambodia

Fourth-year dental students Erica Kelly (left) and Melissa Beadnell (right) with Cambodian orphans they helped to care for in Purat while on a Medical Teams International mission in mid-January, with a handful of other OHSU School of Dentistry alums. (Photo Dennel Beadnell, R.D.H. ’77)

Said Melissa, "We worked for 10 days and treated children and their caregivers at six of the orphan homes in the area run by the Four Square Children of Promise. We treated more than 200 children and adults. We brought all of our own equipment over with us so we had basically everything that we would have here, except for x-rays of the teeth that we worked on, and access to supplies. If we ran out of something, we improvised. For example, we had to make rubber dams out of rubber gloves. We were able to do many restorations to save as many teeth as we could. We also did extractions and endodontic procedures. For many of the children, it was the first time they had ever seen a dentist. The kids were so thankful for what we had done for them. They were constantly hugging and thanking us … they were so precious!"

Added Erica, "I have never seen such poverty, such lack of health care, yet such happy children! It was hard to believe that the children we worked on were all orphans, they were so enthusiastic … even when we were treating them. The people we met were definitely the highlight. The dental experience was wonderful and both Melissa and I find ourselves doing procedures three times quicker than before we left. You definitely come back with a new appreciation for chairs that recline, hand pieces that aren’t driven by compressors that keep breaking down, and lights that don’t rely on generators to work. I never thought I’d be so happy to see a working dental chair!"