



Mid-Year Update

In late April, School faculty and staff were invited to attend "updates" on accreditation planning (see story, at right), quality assurance, infection control, and the Advisory Committee on Excellence (ACE). News was also presented from the Dean regarding state funding and a potential new partner for a South Waterfront-located dental school, not on OHSU land. "Phasing away from state appropriations for" *(continued on page eight)*

Four Dental Students Score AADR Fellowships

OHSU School of Dentistry fared well at the AADR (American Association for Dental Research) annual meeting April 1 to 4 in Miami, with four dental students winning research fellowships, more than any other dental school in the nation. This is the second time in four years that OHSU dental students have received four AADR research awards in one year.

George and **Phil Han**, second-year dental student **Kyle Thames**, and third-year dental student **Vicky Chen**, each received a \$2,100 stipend for dental research. Upon completion of their research and its presentation at an AADR annual meeting, each student will receive another \$600.

Vicky is sponsored by Sunstars-America, Inc.; *(continued on page three)*

First-year dental students **Stephen**

Accreditation Planning Continues at SOD

An intensive self-study document is being prepared for the School's October site visit from the Commission on Dental Accreditation, the arm of the American Dental Association that accredits all United States dental education programs. **Phyllis Beemsterboer**, M.S., Ed.D., associate dean for academic affairs, is preparing the self-study document, with input from five SOD faculty committee chairs. The document, she said, must be mailed to the Commission and site reviewers 60 days prior to their visit.

The School will be measured against six standards: institutional effectiveness (Dr. Beemsterboer); educational program (Dr. Beemsterboer); faculty and staff (**Jack Ferracane**, Ph.D., chair and professor of restorative dentistry); educational support services (**Mark Mitchell**, M.S., associate dean for student affairs); patient care services (**Denice Stewart**, D.D.S., associate dean for clinical affairs); and research (**Tom Shearer**, Ph.D., associate dean for research and **Ron Sakaguchi**, D.D.S., Ph.D., M.B.A., associate dean for research innovation).

The School of Dentistry's site visit is October 6 to 8.

"This is a routine site visit that we do every seven years to maintain our dental school accreditation," said Dr. Beemsterboer. "Even though this is a routine visit, we always want to put our best foot forward."

Expected in October are about a dozen reviewers, led by **Huw Thomas**, B.D.S., M.S., Ph.D., dean of dentistry for the University of Alabama at Birmingham. The reviewers *(continued on page three)*

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Dr. Assael Receives National OMS Educator Award

In recognition of his educational contributions to oral and maxillofacial surgery, **Leon Assael**, D.M.D., chair of oral and maxillofacial surgery, recently received the Donald B. Osbon Award for Outstanding Educator, by the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS). "You are highly respected by your peers in education and have fostered the future growth of the specialty through efforts to continually improve residency and pre-doctoral education, and have trained competent members of our specialty," wrote George Kushner, D.M.D., M.D., chair of the OMS Faculty Section, in Dr. Assael's award letter. "Under your tutelage, your trainees were provided not only the necessary requisites to practice the specialty in a competent manner, but you also instilled in them the highest ethical and moral ideas of a professional." Dr. Assael will receive his award at the AAOMS annual meeting in October. For his efforts, Dr. Assael will receive a framed certificate and \$2,000 for donating to the educational institution of his choice. Dr. Assael is generously donating his monetary award to the OMS department to support resident education.



Leon Assael, D.M.D.

Table Clinic Draws Students

Five dental student groups participated in the annual Table Clinic competition during Oregon Dental Conference weekend, according to **John Mitchell**, Ph.D., assistant professor of biomaterials and biomechanics (see also, page four, for more on ODC weekend). Winners of the four-hour clinic will be announced May 7 at the School of Dentistry's Research Symposium (see page six). The student clinician competition is sponsored by the Oregon Dental Association and DENTSPLY.

SOD Staff Hold "Holiday" Potluck



Despite the cancellation, due to snow, of the annual staff holiday potluck in December, the show went on March 30 in the second floor cafeteria. Staff performed a skit, "The First Dental School Cook Off Challenge." Three "celebrity" cooks, Barbara Lewis (playing Guy Fieri), Sandee Valentine (playing Ina Garten), and CharEll Melfi (playing Paula Dean), were to prepare a spring dish. The moderator was Wendy Becker (playing Alton Brown) and the judges, shown above (from left) were Sharon Reams (playing Judge Judy), Keith Lavadour (playing Chef Ramsey), and Kelly Donan (playing Betty from Mode magazine). Tamara Jones was on camera and Emily Atwater responsible for lighting. The chefs were asked to incorporate peas into their springtime dish. Barbara made espessor pumpkin cake, Sandee made fresh fruit tart, and CharEll came up with deep fried chicken wings. Said Barbara, "We prepped, the judges tasted and gave remarks, and a trophy was awarded. Everyone was a winner!" (The cookoff resulted in a tie score).

OHSU Lecture in Ethics

The Madeline Brill Nelson Speaker Series in Ethics Education continues May 7, with two one-hour lectures in the School of Nursing. Matthew Wynia, M.D., M.P.H., director of the Institute for Ethics at the American Medical Association, will talk about "National Health Care Reform: An Ethical, Cultural, and Business Imperative," at 8 a.m. in room 144. At noon, Dr. Wynia will speak on "Origins of a Racial Divide: The AMA Apology to African American Physicians," also in room 144. All members of the health community are welcome. There is a welcome coffee at 7:30 a.m. For more information, call 4-3062.

AADR Fellows *(continued from page one)*

Stephen by Colgate-Palmolive; Phil by DENTSPLY International; and Kyle by Johnson & Johnson Oral Health Products Division. The dental students each have a mentor and each mentor receives \$300 for supplies.

Stephen will study under the mentorship of **John Mitchell**, Ph.D., associate professor of biomaterials and biomechanics, for his project, "Orthodontic Mini-Implant Stress Distribution." Phil is mentored by **Agnieszka Balkowiec**, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of integrative biosciences, and an adjunct assistant professor of physiology and pharmacology in the School of Medicine, for "Effects of BDNF on Potassium Currents and Excitability of Trigeminal Neurons from Rats with Tooth Pulp Inflammation." Vicky is mentored by **Curt Machida**, Ph.D., professor of integrative biosciences, for her project, "Herpesviruses in Symptomatic Endodontic Pathosis: Association of Epstein-Barr Virus with Irreversible Pulpitis and Apical Periodontitis." Kyle's mentor is also Dr. Mitchell and his project is "Attachment of Sol-Gel Bio-Active Glass on Titanium Implants."

AADR research fellowships are designed to encourage dental students to consider careers in oral health research.

The IADR (International Association of Dental Research) annual meeting was held at the same time as the AADR and Dr. Mitchell presented results of some of his research.

Food Drive Winner

The Fremont group won the School of Dentistry's March food drive competition, which brought in the equivalent of one and a half tons of food. For their efforts, the group received breakfast at their April 13 group huddle, courtesy of Artisan Dental Laboratory.

Young People Visit SOD

The School of Dentistry hosted a group of Hispanic students last month, as part of an OHSU Gear Up visit coordinated by the university's Center for Diversity and Multicultural Affairs. Forty young people ages 11 to 17 from the Tri-Cities, Wash., toured the pre-doctoral clinic and the simulation lab, according to **Jim Bell**, SOD Hispanic Student Dental Association chapter founder. Second-year dental student **Anne McLean** gave an impromptu demonstration of the hand piece and explained how dental students learn using mannequins. "I spoke to them briefly about dentistry as a profession and a bit about our student HSDA organization," said Jim. **Mark Mitchell** did an excellent job of speaking about the school and of dentistry as a profession. Mark also speaks excellent Spanish!"

New Staff for SOD

Welcome to:

***Keith Lavadour**, a property specialist with the SOD supply and logistics department.

Accreditation *(continued from page one)*

selected for the SOD visit are expected to examine the doctor of dental medicine program, as well as endodontology, periodontology, and orthodontics (oral and maxillofacial surgery is on a five-year accreditation cycle and pediatric dentistry just received its accreditation so it is on a different review cycle).

"We hope that all faculty will plan to be on campus in early October for the site review, and well-versed in the self-study document," said Dr. Beemsterboer. "Dental students will be invited to an open session to talk with the commission reviewers, and Dental Student Council leaders also will be asked to meet with the review team."

Bound and electronic copies of the self-study document are expected to be ready for review in early August, she said.

Annual Meeting and Awards Lunch Draws 200

The Alumni Association's Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon on April 4 during Oregon Dental Conference weekend drew more than 200 alums from the classes 1944 to 2012, many from the classes ending in "4" and "9." A number of SOD'ers received awards, including:

*Second-year dental student **Daniel Floyd**, who received the Ted Green Memorial Book Award for his essay on patient care, and his experiences at Give Kids a Smile when a child told Dan he was "the best dentist he'd ever had." Dan received \$500 for his efforts.

*Fourth-year dental student **Cassie Fede**, who was selected by the class of 2009 to receive the "Going the Extra Mile" award. Cassie was honored for her outstanding character, commitment, and service to the class, school, and community.

***Donald Sirianni**, D.M.D. '64, an assistant professor of prosthodontics, who received the Faculty Award for his expertise in crowns and bridges, thoughtful and insightful approach to dentistry, and way of instilling pride in a job well done.

* For supporting her husband through dental school to private practice to now Dean of the School of Dentistry, **Mary Clinton** (wife of Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. '64) received the President's Award.

*Adjunct Assistant Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery **Steve Beadnell**, D.M.D. '80, received the John C. Peterson Alumnus of the Year Award.

For a complete list of award winners, along with their comments and photos, see the June *Caementum*.

Also announced at the Annual Meeting and Awards Lunch was a new endowed scholarship for dental students, the Northwest Dental Endowed Scholarship Fund. The new \$50,000 endowed scholarship will be funded over the next four years by Pacific Continental Corporation, the bank holding company for Pacific Continental Bank, along with a multi-year \$8,000 scholarship award.

"We are extremely grateful to Pacific Continental Bank for taking the initiative to create an endowed scholarship for OHSU dental students," said Dean Clinton. "It is most reassuring during this difficult financial time to see a bank with the confidence in the dental professional and dental education make an investment in our future with a scholarship endowment. With the frequency of double digit tuition increases, this scholarship will help offset the financial stress of entering their professional practice carrying a huge educational loan."

When fully funded in four years, the Northwest Dental Endowed Scholarship Fund will provide an annual scholarship award to an OHSU dental student. Until the endowment is fully funded, Pacific Continental will provide a \$2,000 annual scholarship to be awarded to an OHSU dental student.

Fourth-year dental student **Alan Chen** was selected as the first recipient of the Pacific Continental Bank scholarship. The total amount provided by Pacific Continental Bank over the next four years is \$58,000.

Class of 2013 Snapshot

The class of 2013 has been selected. Though there will be a number of changes between now and August when the new dental students matriculate, said Associate Dean for Student Affairs **Mark Mitchell**, M.A., the class is shaping up nicely.



Mark Mitchell, M.A.

The 75 new dental students were selected from 1,132 applications.

One surprise in 2009 was that applications were received from 47 of the 50 states and British Columbia. "This tells us that we are a national resource in people's minds," said Mark. "Another promising trend was the number of non-Whites, which is at 15 right now."

The average grade point average of the dental students now selected is 3.69 and the Dental Admissions Test score average is 18.74. Forty of the dental students are from Oregon, 11 from out of state, and 24 from Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE) states. There are 26 females and 49 males—about the same ratio as in past years.

"As the dust settles, I think we'll find many of the GPA and DAT scores inching even higher," said Mark. At press time, dental students from Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Montana, North Dakota, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Wyoming, Washington, and Utah, had been accepted.

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

SOD Student Wins ASDA Honors



Five OHSU American Student Dental Association (ASDA) Leaders attended the ASDA annual session in Louisville at the end of March, including (from left) first-year dental student Vijay Patel (alternate delegate and secretary); third-year dental student Lindsay Brown (OHSU ASDA president); first-year dental student Patrick Corning (pre-dental committee); third-year dental student Ryan Voge (historian); and second-year dental student Jacob Morrow (legislative liaison). The first day brought surprise and prestige to OHSU when Lindsay was awarded not only with district delegate of the year, but National Delegate of the Year, as well. "During the next few days, our chapter was also awarded for having the best state advocacy program and participation in the nation," noted Lindsay. "While we were excited and gratified by this year's accomplishments, our discussion immediately turned to how we could do better next year." ASDA leaders had the chance to learn about dentistry issues. There was a panel of dental educators discussing ethics and students were able to ask questions and talk about how they might handle various ethical scenarios. A presentation was given on midlevel providers and studies currently being conducted on their use. "This seemed to be a hot topic and was discussed extensively among students," said Lindsay. "Twelve resolutions were discussed in the house and new policies set forth. Several breakout sessions provided students the chance to hear from national dentistry organization leaders. According to Lindsay, "students learned a lot this year in Louisville and came back with pages of notes and ideas to help each other and organized dentistry become better. Plans have begun to start a student-run ethics club at the School, with the faculty and administration involved in every step. Improvements to chapter communications are being made, and we are exploring new ways of involving all members. The Legislative Grassroots Committee is planning more activities to educate students and provide opportunities to involve them." The main goal of the annual session is to present and discuss resolutions, in hopes of passing policies that benefit all United States dental students. Each year at the ASDA national meeting, elections are held for president, two vice presidents, and speaker of the house of delegates. "These leaders are key members of the association and represent dental students nationwide," said Lindsay. "This year's presidential race was the closest in the association's history and had to be decided by a second round of voting."

OCTRI Fellowships Awarded

OHSU dental students won four of the 10 OCTRI (Oregon Clinical and Translational Research Institute) awards announced in late April. Winners each receive a \$3,000 stipend for summer research. They include:

***Vicky Chen** (DS3), whose project is "Herpesviruses in Symptomatic Endodontic Pathosis: Association of Epstein-Barr Virus with Irreversible Pulpitis and Apical Periodontitis," under mentors **Curt Machida**, Ph.D., professor of integrative biosciences, and **Karla Kent**, Ph.D., associate professor of integrative biosciences.

***Tyler Finlayson** (DS1), , who will study Genotypic Analysis of Mutans Streptococci Isolates in Caries-Active and Caries-Free Children: Use of Arbitrarily-Primed Polymerase Chain Reaction in the Development of Genetic Fingerprints," also in the Machida lab.

***Todd Groesbeck** (DS1), whose research project is "Threat Geometry of Orthodontic Mini-Implants," with **John Mitchell**, Ph.D., associate professor of biomaterials and biomechanics.

***Anne McLean** (DS2), who is studying "Regulation of Brain-Derived Neurotropic Factor Expression in Response to the Induced Inflammation of Dental Pulp in Mice," under the mentorship of **Agnieszka Balkowiec**, Ph.D., M.D., assistant professor of integrative biosciences.

Babies Galore

It's been the usual dental student baby boom, according to admissions and student affairs coordinator **Jenna Wilkinson**. In February, March, and April, there were at least seven new SOD babies born to: **Kendra Flann, Julie Gourley, Ted Rask, Luke Barsalou, Calie Roa, Curtis Andrus**, and **Tyler Saunders**, with at least three more babies on the way. Congrats!

May Research Symposium

The School's R25 grant gleaned April 2007 is supporting the May 7 Research Symposium, designed to showcase the diverse research within the School and to stimulate new interest in research amongst dental students, residents, and faculty. The Research Symposium begins at 5:30 p.m. in the second floor SOD auditorium. Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. '64, will be on hand to talk about the importance of research.

SOD Surplus

Want to put an item in surplus? Please call **Tom Coleman**, 4-8821 with the room number in which the item resides and the name of the item for surplus. For computer hard drives, please call ITG 4-2222.

SOD Calendar

May 1	Talent Show, 6:30 p.m., Old Library Auditorium. Pizza and beverages provided.
May 7	SOD Research Symposium, Room 220-225
May 7-9	Alaska Dental Society Annual Membership Meeting
May 16	DS3 Golf Tournament, 7:30 a.m., Langdon Farms
May 20-22	Montana Dental Association Annual Meeting
May 23-26	WREB Exam
May 25	Holiday—Memorial Day
May 29	Pedo barbecue (tentative pending weather), 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$3 suggested donation.
June 2-3	DSG Elections. Submit slate of four candidates by May 21.
June 4	Hooding and Honors Convocation, Old Library
June 12	Ice Cream Social. Student Lounge.
June 22	Finals Week Breakfast, 7:30 a.m., Lounge.

Orthodontia Bacteria Study Published Nationally

OHSU School of Dentistry researchers have found that the majority of patients with self-ligating orthodontic brackets retain fewer bacteria in plaque than patients with elastomeric orthodontic brackets. The SOD team also found that a biochemical technique measuring ATP- (adenosine triphosphate-) driven bioluminescence could be a useful chair-side tool in the rapid quantification of oral bacteria and in the assessment of oral hygiene during orthodontic treatment.

The findings are published in the April 2009 issue of the *American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics*, one of the leading peer-reviewed orthodontia journals.

The OHSU team included **Peter Pellegrini**, D.D.S., a third-year resident who recently completed specialty training; **Rebecca Sauerwein**, the 2008 OCMID Student Research Scholar in Caries Microbiology and a research assistant in integrative biosciences; **Tyler Finlayson**, first-year dental student; **Jennifer McLeod**, a 2007 OCTRI Summer Research Fellow and third-year dental student; **David A. Covell Jr.**, D.D.S., chairman and associate professor of orthodontics; **Tom Maier**, Ph.D., assistant professor of integrative biosciences; and **Curt Machida**, Ph.D., professor of integrative biosciences and principal investigator.

Acid-producing bacteria that surround orthodontic appliances are a common orthodontic problem. Such bacteria can lead to tooth enamel breakdown and potential discoloration of the tooth surface, and these aesthetic changes can persist for many years after orthodontic treatment. While the newer bonded orthodontic brackets have many advantages over the old metal bands that were fitted around each tooth, they do impede good oral hygiene, resulting in plaque accumulation and increased tooth enamel breakdown.

While several studies have investigated the effects of fixed orthodontic appliances on bacterial flora, few studies have compared the effects of bracket architecture – specifically the archwire ligation method – or have evaluated the accumulation of bacteria that occurs with the bonding of fixed appliances. The OHSU study also was different from other studies in that it was a randomized clinical study, comparing the numbers of oral bacteria in plaque surrounding two distinct orthodontic appliances, self-ligating versus elastomeric ligation, using a split-mouth design.

The OHSU study examined 14 patients aged 11 to 17, each patient containing both self-ligating and elastomeric orthodontic brackets on opposing sides of the mouth, at both one week and five weeks after bonding. The numbers of oral bacteria in plaque surrounding the brackets were evaluated at both appointments, in addition to a pre-bonding appointment, using both conventional plating techniques enumerating bacterial colony number and the ATP-driven bioluminescence technique.

More bacteria, including oral streptococci, were retained at tooth surfaces in plaque in patients with elastomeric orthodontic brackets at both the one- and five-week post-bonding appointments, and bacterial levels were particularly high at the one-week visit. Higher ATP-driven bioluminescence levels were also observed in plaque surrounding the elastomeric orthodontic appliances.

“We were surprised that the manner of ligation promoted differences in the levels of plaque bacteria surrounding the bonded tooth surfaces,” noted Dr. Machida. “Our results suggest that the use of the self-ligating appliances promote reduced retention of plaque bacteria on tooth surfaces surrounding the appliances. “Our study also provided validation that ATP-driven bioluminescence can be used as a way to quantify bacteria rapidly and reliably at the dental chairside.”

Mid-Year Staff/Faculty Update

(continued from page one)

some OHSU schools, transitioning the funds to areas of OHSU that are disproportionately underfunded, gives the dental school a chance to re-imagine and re-invent ourselves," said Dean Clinton. "While we always appreciate whatever funding the state provides, the unpredictability of our annual appropriation creates challenges when trying to work a budget, particularly for the long-term. Relying less upon state appropriations gives us the chance to work with numbers and budget constraints that are predictable. If the state agrees with OHSU's request to redistribute its annual state funds to wherever the university sees most appropriate, we will have a chance to be more entrepreneurial and I am excited about that possibility."

Dean Clinton emphasized that should the dental school go to a financial model that no longer relies on state funding, he does not anticipate the loss of any dental school program, staff, or faculty. "Despite the headlines you may read in the coming weeks, I am confident that we will not lose anything we have due to state budget "cuts," he said. "I want you to know that I was part of the planning team that wants to redistribute the state funds OHSU receives and I think it's a good idea."

The School recently was approached by a private developer who wants to create an office tower and hotel, anchored by a School of Dentistry building. The land is on the South Waterfront, close to the tram, but is not on land owned by OHSU.

"This would be an entrée to moving the dental-related curriculum to a different address," he said. The School's affiliation with OHSU would remain the same, the Dean said. "In reality, we are closer to this happening than at any time in 15 years.

"This is a time of renewal for the dental school. The reason we're getting this opportunity is because we have an incredible reputation. Now we just need to ramp up and see that we continue to maintain the excellent dental education and patient care that we currently provide."

The Dean said he expects the LEAN approach the school is employing in several areas of the school to maximize efficiency, to expand. He also talked about the customer service committee (ACE) that is charged with finding ways to boost patient, student, and staff experiences at the school (see story, page nine).

"We need smiles," he said. "We need a commitment from everyone here that we will work to create an atmosphere where every single person can walk away and say 'this is the place I want my family to get their care' and to be a place where people want to work and receive their dental education."

Spring Phonathon Adding to Student Scholarship Fund

At press time, the OHSU Foundation was nearing the end of a spring phonathon on behalf of the dental school, held to increase the percentage of alumni who give, and to create a broader base of support. "We're contacting alumni that were not reached during our main, fall phonathon," said **Pat Regan**, SOD development director. After four nights of calling, more than \$21,000 had been raised, the majority of which will go into the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund, which now has more than \$500,000 for dental student scholarships. About 15 dental students helped make calls, according to Development Coordinator **Jessica Smith**.

ACE Leading Charge to Boost Service Excellence

The School of Dentistry's Advisory Committee on Excellence (ACE) has been quietly working to make inroads in service excellence.

"Our committee is charged with providing ideas and tools to implement that will make the School a place where patients want to come and people want to work," said **Mike Taylor**, D.M.D., assistant professor of restorative dentistry, who is on the ACE. "Our goals are to increase patient satisfaction and retention, improve dental student experiences and future relations with the School of Dentistry, and boost employee job satisfaction.

Dr. Taylor provided his comments at the recent mid-year faculty/staff update (see story page one). The group's objectives for achieving its goals are to enhance communication and feedback; reduce barriers to job performance; address the needs for professional roles; model and provide positive feedback; create a more user-friendly environment; and more systematically express gratitude to employees and customers, he said.

The ACE had a hand in the recent staff town hall and potluck. The pre-doctoral clinic waiting room remodel was initiated by ACE. In early March, the ACE coordinated a professional development seminar for a diverse cross-section of 40 staff and faculty with Ben Bernstein, Ph.D., a nationally known performance coach and psychologist who talked about stress and success in dental education. And in mid-December at the annual staff/faculty holiday party, ACE committee members greeted attendees as they arrived and invited partygoers to write compliment cards to School colleagues that were then hand-delivered.

"We have a number of projects planned," said Dr. Taylor. "Now we want more input from staff in terms of service excellence ideas for their own work areas." To offer positive suggestions, there is a suggestion box in the mailroom, box 11, and the ACE team – **Susan Clinton** (co-chair); **Stacy Lomeli** (co-chair); **Karla Kent**, **John Engle**, **Brandy Eurto**, **Cindy Kleinegger**, **Sharon McKay**, **Denice Stewart**, **Frank Stroud**, **Andrew Williams**, and **Kelly Wiss** – are open to ideas one-on-one.

Some of the ideas on the table, said Dr. Taylor, include initiation of a volunteer program that could be used to greet patients entering the School; coordinating workshops on professional behavior; and providing professional development in group huddles on the clinic floor.

"A dental practice will not survive if patients don't feel they receive quality care or that they weren't treated with respect and that applies to the dental school," said Dr. Taylor. "We need patients to return here for care and go out into the community and say 'I had great care.'"

"The same can be said for employees. You can't keep the doors open for your patients, if you have an unhappy staff."

OSLER Awards Announced

First-year dental students recently won two of the six short-term (12 week) summer research fellowships through OHSU's OSLE (Oregon Students Learn and Experience Research) program, designed to boost health professionals' interest in research. Each OSLE winner received \$5,000 for study and research support. The awardees are:

***Stephen George**, who will examine "Orthodontic Mini-Implant Stress Distribution and An Implant Collar," with mentor **John Mitchell**, Ph.D., assistant professor, biomaterials and biomechanics.

***Alex Vo**, who will study, "Potential Selection of Fluoride-Resistant Mutans Streptococci: Phenotypic Characterization of Cariogenicity Markers of Acid Tolerance and Generation of Biofilms," with mentor **Curt Machida**, Ph.D., professor of integrative biosciences.

OHSU's HSDA Holds Event

The Hispanic Student Dental Association (HSDA) at the School of Dentistry held its largest service event yet, in April, at Raleigh Park Elementary School in Beaverton.

Twenty Hispanic children and 15 of their parents received oral hygiene education on April 14 from first-year dental students **Orrin Mackey, Jon Hall, Katie Rock, Melissa Jackson, Brian Summers**, and **Matt Harris**, according to first-year dental student and HSDA founder **Jim Bell**.

"The school officials were very pleased with our visit," said Jim. "The kids were excellent and learned a lot!"

Did You Know? The SOD currently has 157 volunteer faculty in its ranks, along with eight pre-dental students volunteering in the pre-doctoral clinic.

DS1's Mustache March



The Class of 2012 proudly displays its growings for Mustache March. (Photo Jessica Smith)

If you wondered why some of the first-year dental students looked a little less groomed this spring, blame it on Mustache March. About a dozen dental students from the class of 2012 participated in the event, now in its third year.

"Over winter break of 2006, four dental students from the class of 2010 (now DS3's **Aron Geelan, Brian Prins, Pat Heaphy, and Nate Braxmeyer**) wanted to see who could grow the biggest mustache," said third-year dental student **Jason Yole**. "It was discussed mostly as a joke to do an event in March to follow along with the basketball tournament. Hence, Mustache March was born."

DS3 **Erich Ott** headed the first mustache event, laying the ground rules: A full beard could be grown for one week and then after that, only a mustache was allowed. Prizes were given that first year and the "players" were put into brackets, just like March Madness, with winners advancing to the next bracket.

The classes of 2011 and 2012 have since carried on the Mustache March tradition (sans prizes and brackets). "Hopefully, the class of 2010 has started an SOD tradition for years to come," said Jason.