



Recollections Needed!

OHSU is collecting stories for a Diversity Story Wall, to be unveiled this June in Kohler Pavilion, and wants input from School of Dentistry faculty, staff, and alumni. The goal of the Diversity Story Wall is to tell a little of the story of diversity at OHSU and in dentistry, science, and medicine. The Diversity Story Wall committee is looking for: names, photos and recollections of colleagues whose contributions marked a significant moment relating to diversity (for example a first of any kind); recollections or
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Dental Students Provide Outreach

OHSU School of Dentistry students did an impressive job of coordinating February outreach activities as part of National Children's Dental Health Month. Thousands of young people and their families received oral education and patient care during the three major School events.

Celebration of Smiles

More than 2,500 people visited the Portland Children's Museum Feb. 4 and 5 during Celebration of Smiles.

"On Friday, there were 1,071 guests in four hours!" said second-year dental student **Erica Coe**, who organized the annual oral education event with classmate **Geoff Peterson**, and another four dozen first- and second-year dental students. "There is nothing more rewarding than reaching out to kids and the community. I feel very honored to take part in such a great event."

Children went from station to station to paint plaster molds, make tooth pillows, get their face
(continued, right column)



First-year dental student Carly Miller-Werben was one of about 50 dental students who volunteered at Celebration of Smiles, an annual oral education event at the Portland Children's Museum. (Photo Dan Carter)

painted, and brush "Wally" the alligator's teeth. Portland State University students presented an excellent skit Feb. 4 and the Alphabeticians gave three oral health-related performances Feb. 5.

"It was a marvelous display of student community engagement and creativity," noted **Eli Schwarz**, D.D.S., Ph.D., M.P.H., chair of community dentistry, attending the event for the first time.

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New Research from Balkowiec Lab Published

The lab of **Agnieszka Balkowiec**, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of integrative biosciences, has released a major finding published online in *Neuroscience* that has implications for the development of orofacial pain treatments. The study is available at <http://www.sciencedirect.com> by doing an author search. The research is expected to be published in the print version of *Neuroscience* in April. Using an animal model developed last year, Dr. Balkowiec and her team have discovered the underlying molecular mechanism of the increase in BDNF (Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor) production by pain-sensing neurons during inflammation. The study shows that the increase is mediated by the pro-inflammatory cytokine Tumor Necrosis Factor- α (TNF), which is dramatically elevated in inflamed tooth pulps.
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Staff Profile: Kimberly Poole

Kimberly Poole thrives in a fast-paced, somewhat “chaotic” environment, traits that serve her well as administrative, resident, and externship coordinator for the department of oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMFS).



“Things are different every day,” said Kimberly, a longtime OHSU employee. “I never know what I’m going to walk into each morning or what’s in store for me.”

Kimberly grew up in “little” Townsend, Mont., 32 miles from Helena in a house built by her grandfather. She attended Montana State, and then a vocational school, where she received her dental assistant certification.

“My mother was a nurse and I watched my first surgery when I was in high school,” she said. “So after my dental assistant training, I knew I wanted to work in oral surgery. I liked the way you could help people with facial deformities feel better about themselves and improve their life. I love the operating room environment and the pace. But oral and maxillofacial surgeons were few and far between in Montana and assistants stayed in their jobs, so I had to look elsewhere for this opportunity.”

Kimberly moved to Oregon in 1982 and was hired by Beaverton Oral Surgeons after a “few questions and a nod” by **Eugene Kelley**, D.M.D. `59, assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery. “Over a short time, we hit it off well and developed a great trust. He used to let me and another dental assistant seat his patients.”

In 1985, Kimberly joined the Oregon Regional Primate Research Center, then under an OHSU umbrella, but not an official university entity. She worked there three years assisting in the general surgery part of the research protocol. “It’s pretty amazing to do surgery on a primate fetus, put it back into a thriving womb and watch it mature,” said Kimberly.

Kimberly joined OHSU in 1988, where she managed the Baird Hall cashiers office. After five years, she moved to Facilities Management, and then to Logistics where she started in reception and then moved into the surplus department, where she said much reorganizing was needed. “I have seen it all!” said Kimberly. “That was a really fun place to work and learn about OHSU. And use my work history, education and good common sense for the institution.”

Kimberly had bumped into Dr. Kelley a few times over the years and learned he was chairman of the oral and maxillofacial surgery department (1999 to 2001). When she saw an open administrative position in OMFS a few years later, Kimberly called Dr. Kelley to ask if he was still chairman.

“He wasn’t, but Dr. **[Robert] Myall** was [2001-2005]. Dr. Kelley said, “Why are you asking, do you want that job?” And when I said “yes,” he said “I’ll go put in a good word with Dr. Myall.”

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Student Presents Research

Third-year dental student **Phil Han** heads to San Diego this month for the IADR/AADR/CADR General Session and Exhibition where he will present his research, "BDNF Effects on TNF Alpha Pre-Treated Trigeminal Ganglion Neuron," a project funded by a 2010 AADR fellowship. Phil's mentor is **Agnieszka Balkowiec**, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of integrative biosciences.

School Calendar

March 7	ASDA Pre-dental admissions information night
March 25	End of 12-week winter term
March 28 to April 1	Spring Break
April 4	Start of 12-week spring term
April 7 to 9	Oregon Dental Conference
April 9	Alumni Association Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon
May 2	Robert G. Gootee/ODS Companies Endowed Lectureship on Leadership and Professionalism, 3 p.m., OHSU Auditorium (Old Library)
May 30	Memorial Day (School holiday)

Balkowiec Lab *(continued from page one)*

The study also found that nerve stimulation enhances the BDNF production in response to TNF. The new finding, coupled with a Balkowiec lab discovery last year that indicated nerve cells carrying pain information from the head to the brain produce large quantities of BDNF, a protein involved in pain signaling, in response to inflammation could play a significant role in the development of new treatments for orofacial pain conditions, such as TMJ disorder, trigeminal neuralgia, and toothache. **Ewa Balkowiec-Iskra**, M.D., Ph.D., visiting scientist from the Medical University of Warsaw, and **Anke Vermehren-Schmaedick**, Ph.D., research associate, conducted the research.

ODA Mentor Dinner



About 30 dental students attended the late January ODA Mentor Dinner, sponsored by the Oregon Dental Association (ODA)'s New Dentist Committee. Ten Oregon dentists, the majority of them from the Portland-area, provided a glimpse Jan. 27 into what it's like to be a dentist. "It was an incredible opportunity to get a sense of real-world dentistry," said second-year dental student **Iraj Kasimi**, an OHSU representative for ODA. School of Dentistry faculty volunteering their time to attend the dinner and talk with students in the second floor lounge included **Todd Beck**, D.M.D. '94, assistant professor of community dentistry, **Jennifer Crowe**, D.D.S., M.S., Ortho '08, adjunct assistant professor of orthodontics, and **Sue Walker**, D.M.D. '95, affiliate assistant instructor of restorative dentistry. Alumni Association Board Member **Connie Masuoka**, D.M.D. '88 is shown far right next to **Julian Diebler**, a visiting dental and medical student from Germany working in the department of oral and maxillofacial surgery for a few months. (Photo courtesy ODA)

Submit Your Ideas to Dental Bites

If you have a story idea or a photo for Dental Bites, please contact Sydney Clevenger, clevenger@ohsu.edu, prior to the 25th of the month.

Gootee Lecture is May 2

All dental students and faculty are invited to the third Robert G. Gootee/ODS Companies Endowed Lectureship in Leadership and Professionalism, set for May 2. The annual lecture was established in 2007 by the ODS Companies Board of Directors, as a tribute to Robert's many years of service.

To RSVP, go to www.ohsu.edu/sod/alumni and scroll down to Upcoming Alumni Events.

Neal Keny-Guyer, chief executive officer of Mercy Corps is the lecture speaker this year. He is a social entrepreneur committed to creating a more just and peaceful world. He holds a bachelor of arts in public policy and religion from Duke University, a master's of arts in public and private management from Yale University, and an honorary doctor of humane letters from Portland State University.

Mr. Keny-Guyer joined MercyCorps in 1994 as chief executive officer. Under his aegis, Mercy Corps has emerged as a leading international humanitarian and development organization with ongoing operations in nearly 40 countries, 3,700 staff, and an annual operating budget of \$308 million.

February Outreach *(continued from page one)*

After January oral education presentations by Outreach Coordinator **Mary Ann Haisch**, R.D.H., pediatric dentistry residents screened second graders at Buckman Elementary and Raleigh Park Elementary for the School's "Sealant Day."

Second graders needing sealants whose parents provided permission for oral care were then brought to the dental school for care on Feb. 4 (21 children from Raleigh Park) and Feb. 18 (30 children from Buckman). Fourth-year dental students, with the assistance of pediatric faculty, pediatric dentistry residents, *(continued, right column)*

February Outreach

(continued from left column)



First-year dental students Dallas Gerritz (Mr. Molarnator) and Brittany Smith (Tooth Fairy) talk to children and families at Celebration of Smiles. Other dental students volunteering for these roles (the students took shifts) included Brian Bollwitt, Yangshin Woo, Katie Shelton, David Bass, and Vincent Colasurdo. (Photo Dan Carter)

and dental assistants from Chemeketa Community College, placed the children's sealants in the Dr. and Mrs. Carl Rietman Pediatric Dentistry Clinic.

Fourth-year dental student **Mathilde Reznick**, who plans to work in a general practice in Washington State after graduation, said interacting with children is gratifying. "It is always very helpful to learn more about treating pediatric patients," said Mathilde.

Mary Ann said Sealant Day was very successful. "We saw a lot of needs, including caries, abscessed teeth, caries in permanent teeth and orthodontic needs," she said. *(continued on page five)*

Ortho Alum Receives Award

A December 2010 orthodontics alum, **Adam M. Timock**, D.D.S., M.S., will receive the Thomas M. Graber Award of Special Merit from the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) at their May annual session in Chicago. Dr. Timock will receive the award for his master's in orthodontics thesis project, "Accuracy and Reliability of Buccal Bone Height and Thickness Measurements from Cone-Beam Computer Tomography Imaging." He is one of six orthodontics residents receiving AAO research awards based on a competition among entries from graduate orthodontic programs across the United States and Canada. Dr. Timock's research committee included **Terry McDonald**, D.D.S., assistant professor of orthodontics; **Jennifer Crowe**, D.D.S., Ortho '08, adjunct assistant professor of orthodontics; **David Covell Jr.**, D.D.S., Ph.D., assistant professor and chair of orthodontics; and **Brian Benninger**, M.D., assistant professor of integrative biosciences and oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Sellwood Surprise



The Sellwood Bridge Group recently organized a surprise 50th birthday party for Group Leader Lynn Whitley, D.M.D. '89, assistant professor of clinic administration, complete with three cakes, pictures, and nice handmade gifts. "It was an overwhelming surprise and the first time the whole group is captured in a photo," said Dr. Whitley. Happy belated birthday, Dr. Whitley!

February Outreach

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OHSU's Give Kids a Smile (GKAS) day began early Feb. 25 with 40 pre-screened children from local Boys and Girls Clubs arriving by 8 a.m. for care in the pre-doctoral clinic. "Thank you, weather Gods for not snowing!" said GKAS organizer and fourth-year dental student **Vishal Panchmatia**.

"Without OHSU's support, these kids wouldn't see a dentist," said **Kari Kunst**, literacy supervisor at Wattles Boys and Girls Club, which is located in the Lents neighborhood. "Our parents have the desire for their children to see a dentist, just not the means. It's nice to have continued support every year."



Fourth-year dental student Mathilde Reznick caring for a Buckman second grader on Sealant Day. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)

The next round of pre-screened children -- about 160 of them -- began arriving by bus around 9:30 a.m. and were greeted as they stepped out of their vehicles by Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. '64. The children -- all from uninsured and low-income homes -- represented various Portland-area schools, said Multnomah Dental Society executive director **Lora Mattson**.

Fourth-year dental students **Katie Marsh**, **Amanda Rentschler**, and **Vijay Patel** also helped organized the event.

Hospital Dental Service to be Restored with Gift

The School's Hospital Dental Service and general practice residency, lost in 2003 due to university budget cuts, may be restored, thanks to a recent \$1 million pledge from an anonymous donor.

The donor, from the Albany, Ore., area, heard about the value of the OHSU program from her personal dentist, alum **Patrick Hagerty**, D.M.D. '85, and immediately agreed to make a donation.

"She refers to this as God's work," said Dr. Hagerty. "She's a very strong person who knows her own mind so I knew she was serious about helping."

School Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. '64, is currently working with the university to identify space for the Hospital Dental Service. An ideal location, he said, would be on the seventh floor of OHSU's Mark Hatfield building near the Oral Surgery Clinic.

Dr. Hagerty credits his general practice residency at OHSU in giving him the tools to treat patients with special needs. "So many patients with special needs have unusual metabolic disorders and you always have to be thinking outside the box," he said. "Dental training in a hospital setting is essential to this kind of dentistry."

Smiles: The Musical!

There's still time to be part of *Smiles: The Musical!* an original production to be performed later this year at Doernbecher Children's Hospital by interested dental students, staff, and faculty. Contact Ben Bernstein, bernsteb@ohsu.edu if you'd like to be involved in some way.

Diversity Wall *(continued from page one)*

memorabilia relating or portraying OHSU in larger national contexts (for example, the civil rights movement); items that offer perspective on OHSU's ongoing journey to create a community of inclusion around issues like age, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, color, race, religion, and sexual orientation; and noteworthy diversity milestones in the history of science and medicine. If you have a story to share, please contact **Karen Peterson**, peterska@ohsu.edu.

Kimberly Poole *(continued from page two)*

In the OMFS department, she is the administrator for the department and current chair **Leon Assael**, D.M.D., sets up appointments and meetings as needed, coordinates all of the OMFS coursework (nine courses per year) for faculty and students, troubleshoots and coordinates the residency program for the 13 OMFS residents, assists OMFS alumni residents, and coordinates OMFS resident and departmental events. Kimberly continues to support both Drs. Myall (now professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery) and Kelley, helping with PowerPoint presentations and other technological needs.

A quilted wall hanging in her office, made by her mother, is one sign that Kimberly is devoted to family ... and crafty herself. An avid quilter, Kimberly makes about 12 quilts a year for herself, as gifts, and to donate. A few years ago, one of Kimberly's quilts was raffled during an alumni event. She also enjoys cooking and travel. "I like to enjoy my work ... and have a good time."

Global Health Lecture

The Kathryn Robertson Memorial Lecture in Global Health is Friday, March 11, at 2 p.m. in the OHSU Auditorium. Dr. Anne-Marie Slaughter will speak on "The Health of Our World." For more information, go to www.ohsu.edu/ghc.