New OHSU Dental School Dean Named

Following a national search, dentist and immunologist Phillip T. Marucha, D.M.D., Ph.D., was recently named the ninth dean of OHSU School of Dentistry. Dr. Marucha (Muh-Roo-Kuh) is expected to join the school in September.

Dr. Marucha will lead the school as it moves into its new facility, the Skourtes Tower, which is scheduled to open in 2014 within the OHSU/OUS Collaborative Life Sciences Building on Portland’s South Waterfront.

Dr. Marucha currently serves as associate dean for research and director of graduate studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) College of Dentistry. He replaces Dean Emeritus Jack W. Clinton, D.M.D. `64, who retired in late 2011, and is now helping to coordinate the dental school’s transition into the Skourtes Tower. Since Dr. Clinton’s retirement, Gary Chiodo, D.M.D. `78, F.A.C.D., has served as interim dean.

“I am very excited about the opportunity to work with the many excellent faculty, students, staff and alumni that make up the OHSU community,” said Dr. Marucha. “As we complete the new building, I would like to see us build on the history of outstanding clinical education to become extraordinary in all facets of dental education and research. This will take the collaboration of our colleagues from the other health sciences to develop interdisciplinary patient care as well as research. My goal is to facilitate the ideas of and mentor the faculty, students and staff to help the school become pre-eminent. I see this as a great opportunity to forge this new exciting relationship to train excellent dentists, scientists and future educators for Oregon and beyond.”

Prior to his associate deanship at the University of Illinois, Dr. Marucha served as professor and head of the periodontics department in the UIC College of Dentistry. He also was a professor of periodontology and director of the comprehensive training in craniofacial sciences program at Ohio State University.

Dr. Marucha received his dental medicine degree from the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine and remained there for a certificate in periodontology and a doctoral degree in immunology. In 2007, he became an ADEA (American Dental Education Association) Leadership Institute Fellow.

Dr. Marucha is an active researcher with nearly 200 publications, abstracts and invited presentations. He has been a principal investigator on more than a dozen grants and has been an investigator or mentor on another 30 research and/or training grants. Most recently, Dr. Marucha implemented a clinical research program to improve the health and well-being of minority populations.
OHSU School of Dentistry at IADR

OHSU School of Dentistry faculty, post-doctoral fellows, and students had a visible presence at the recent International Association of Dental Research (IADR) meeting in Seattle.

Faculty at the mid-March conference included: Jack Ferracane, Ph.D., professor and chair of restorative dentistry, who presented at three symposiums and one workshop; David Covell Jr., D.D.S., associate professor and chair of orthodontics, who helped organize a symposium and presented a poster; Carmem Pfeifer, D.D.S., Ph.D., assistant professor of restorative dentistry, who was an oral presenter; and Juliana da Costa, D.D.S., associate professor of restorative dentistry; Steve Gold, D.D.S., assistant professor of restorative dentistry; Tom Hilton, D.M.D., M.S. ’03, Alumni Centennial Professor of Operative Dentistry; and Kirsten Lampi, Ph.D., professor of integrative biosciences, who presented posters.

Postdoctoral fellows Fernanda Gwinner and Satin Salehi (from the Ferracane laboratory) presented posters at IADR, as did second-year pediatric dentistry resident Katie Marsh, D.M.D. ’11 (mentored by Curt Machida, Ph.D. ’83, professor of integrative biosciences and pediatric dentistry), undergraduate student Claire Skach (mentored by Drs. Hilton and Ferracane), and nine second- through fourth-year dental students.

Dental students with posters included DS2’s Margie Campbell (Dr. Machida) and Andrew Sloan (Drs. Pfeifer and John Mitchell, Ph.D.); DS3’s Denise Gates (with two posters mentored by Drs. Ferracane and Mitchell), Traci Saito (mentored by Drs. Ferracane and Mitchell), Kelly Sayre (mentored by Drs. Ferracane and Mitchell), Craig Wright (mentored by Dr. Mitchell) and Annie Zhu (mentored by Agnieszka Balkowiec, Ph.D., M.D., professor of integrative biosciences); and DS4’s Amy Trevor (mentored by Dr. Machida) and Dan Walsh (mentored by Ron Sakaguchi, D.D.S., M.S., Ph.D., M.B.A., professor of community dentistry).

Several students received IADR awards. Denise won third place in the clinical science division of the Dentsply/Caulk poster competition for “Early Identification of Carious Lesions, Comparing DIAGNOdent and Caries ID.” Traci received a $1,000 American Association of Dental Research (AADR) Bloc Travel Grant to support her trip and poster, “Ion Release from Bioactive Glass-containing Glass Ionomer Cements.” And Kelly received a $2,500 IADR/Heraeus Kulzer Travel Grant—one of five international awardees and the only recipient from North America—to attend the IADR general session and present a poster entitled “Prevention of White Spot Lesions Using a Novel Orthodontic Cement.”

First-year dental student Alexander Sonesson also received an AADR Student Research Fellowship. Please see the April Dental Bites for details.
New Faculty

*Lisa M. Greene, D.D.S., has joined the faculty fulltime as an assistant professor and will train to help as a leader in the group practices. Dr. Greene has been in private practice since 2007. She also worked at Kaiser Tigard Dental. Dr. Greene received her doctor of dental surgery from Loma Linda University School of Dentistry in 2002.

*Marie E. Lathrop, D.M.D. `86, Orthodontics `89, has re-joined the faculty part-time as an assistant professor of orthodontics. Dr. Lathrop graduated from OHSU with honors.

*Gary Nelson, D.D.S., M.S., has joined the faculty fulltime as an assistant professor of pediatric dentistry. Dr. Nelson received his doctor of dental surgery from Loma Linda University School of Dentistry in 1978, and a certificate and masters degree in pediatric dentistry from the University of Iowa.

*Nahmjee L. Skarada, D.M.D. `06, has joined the faculty part-time as an assistant professor in restorative dentistry. Dr. Skarada was an associate dentist at Oak Park Family Dental Care.

*Anastacia M. Whitman, D.M.D., Pediatric Dentistry `11, has joined the faculty part-time as an assistant professor of pediatric dentistry. Dr. Whitman received her doctor of dental medicine from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in 2006. She was a pediatric dental associate at Happy Kids Dentistry in Longview.

Upcoming Anniversary Lecture

On May 21, Mace Rothenberg, M.D., senior vice president of clinical development and medical affairs for Pfizer, will talk about the growing importance of industry-academia collaboration for discovery and drug development. Go to http://www.ohsu.edu/125/lectures/

Diversity Committee Announced

The majority of the School of Dentistry’s Diversity Committee members have been selected. They are:

*Agnieszka Balkowiec, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of integrative biosciences;
*Phyllis Beemsterboer, M.S., Ed.D., associate dean for academic affairs;
*Jack Ferracane, Ph.D., professor and chair of restorative dentistry;
*Leslie Garcia, M.P.A., OHSU assistant chief diversity officer, center for diversity and inclusion;
*Lillian Harewood, D.M.D. `95, Alumni Association board member;
*Noor Khaki, third-year dental student;
*Mark Mitchell, M.A., associate dean for student affairs;
*Sikhmanpreet Sidhu, first-year dental student.

The Diversity Committee chair is Jay Anderson, D.M.D., M.H.S.A., director of the Russell Street Dental Clinic. The committee, which will host its first meeting soon, will explore ways to boost diversity within the school.

Faculty Passing

Bruce Fiske, D.M.D. `74, an assistant professor of orthodontics for six years, died April 9. Dr. Fiske was a longtime donor and he and his wife, Bunny, have named the seminar room in the graduate and specialty clinic space in the Skourtes Tower that is now under construction. “Dr. Fiske made many significant contributions to the education of orthodontic residents over the past decade, positively impacted hundreds of patients that he treated over his career, and was a valued colleague here and in various orthodontic professional organizations,” said David Covell Jr., D.D.S., M.S., chair of orthodontics. Remembrances may be made to the Dr. Bruce Fiske Resident Education and Research Fund through the OHSU Foundation, 1121 SW Salmon Street, Portland, OR 97205.
Photos from Oregon Dental Conference weekend

First-year dental student Joseph Knight presents his team’s research project at the Student Table Clinic competition, sponsored by the Oregon Dental Association and Dentsply, with support from the school’s Alumni Association and Dean’s Office. Joseph’s team included classmates Jacqueline Platta and Jonathan Yih, and mentor Carmen Pfeifer, D.D.S., Ph.D., assistant professor of restorative dentistry. Their project was “Collagen Cross-Linking in Dental Composite Adhesives.” A total of six student-led teams participated in the annual Table Clinic. Winners will be announced on Research Day, May 31. For Student Table Clinic photos, go to the school’s home page and click on Alumni. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)

Fourth-year dental students (from left to right) Erica Coe, Geoff Peterson, and Kalli Elford had a table at ODC to promote the Patient Assistance Program founded by Geoff and Erica. (Photo Mark Mitchell)

Steve Beadnell, D.M.D. ’80, associate professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery and Immediate Past President of the Alumni Association (left), and Peter Morita, D.M.D. ’86, assistant professor and Steel group leader, share a laugh at the Alumni Association awards luncheon. Alumni were able to write their memories along a pictorial timeline. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)

Fourth-year dental student Emily Jones (left) offers waxing advice to Trent Rencher, D.M.D. ’83, Poulsbo, Wash., at his class’s waxing contest in the third floor lab, which kicked-off their 30th reunion. Dr. Rencher said he had an electric waxer in dental school, but that he didn’t use it often and only waxed once a year or so after graduation. Dr. Rencher retired from dentistry five years ago to farm. Emily’s dad, Mark Jones, D.M.D. ’83, is Dr. Rencher’s classmate. Second-year dental student Kaveen Ranasinghe judged the waxing contest and selected Oregon City’s Bryan Guthrie, D.M.D. ’83, as the winner. (Photo Sydney Clevenger).
2013 Alumni Association Awards Lunch Winners

Jeffery Stewart, D.D.S., M.S., associate professor of pathology (left), and Denice Stewart, D.D.S., M.H.S.A., senior associate dean for clinic affairs, received the Honorary Alumni Awards from Barry Taylor, D.M.D. ’95, assistant professor of restorative dentistry.

Tom Maier, Ph.D., assistant professor of integrative biosciences, received the Faculty Award, which was presented by Steve Beadnell, D.M.D. ’80, associate professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, who is now immediate past president of the Alumni Association.

About 35 dental students—many of them pictured above—received awards and/or scholarships that were presented during the Alumni Association Awards Lunch, including: fourth-year dental student Dan Walsh (Go the Extra Mile Award); third-year dental student Traci Saito (Ted Green D.M.D. Award) third-year dental student Kelly Sayre ($2,000, Northwest Dental Scholarship Endowment Fund); third-year dental student Nathan Risley and fourth-year dental student Amy Trevor ($10,000, Willamette Dental Foundation Scholarship and Willamette Dental Group Scholarship, respectively); third-year dental student Denise Gates ($20,000, ODS Scholar in memory of Kathryn Robertson); third-year dental student Kristen Ho and second-year dental student Kevin Sagawa ($2,300, Hawaii Dental Student Endowed Scholarships); fourth-year dental student Erica Coe ($2,400, Dr. George A. And Diane McCully Endowed Scholarship); and third-year dental student Shannon Woods ($10,000, Yui Sing "Dany" and Debbie Tse Scholarship). Another 26 third- and fourth-year dental students received $1,000 scholarships from the Alumni Association.

A surprised Dean Emeritus Jack Clinton, D.M.D. ’64, received the President’s Award from Dr. Beadnell.

All Alumni Association Awards Lunch photos were taken by Dan Carter. They are available for purchase and/or viewing online at www.ohsu.edu/sod by clicking on the Alumni link.
Dental Students Win OHSU Quiz Bowl

Which OHSU students know the most about medicine? If the recent university Rho Chi Quiz Bowl is any indication, dental students are tops. OHSU School of Dentistry’s team of four third-year dental students—Jessica Henderson, Brian Bollwitt, JJ Ooi, and Courtney Hays—took first amongst seven medical, nursing, and pharmacy competitor teams.

“Our team came together because I am an uber-nerd and I love quizzes!” said Jessica. “I asked my very good friend, and one of the smartest people I know, Courtney, to help me win the quiz bowl. Courtney then asked some of her smartest friends, JJ, and Brian, to help.

“The quiz bowl was a fantastic event,” added Jessica. “It was a delight to get to use our knowledge of medicine which we have been amassing for so many years.”

The Rho Quiz Bowl was sponsored by OHSU’s College of Pharmacy and Rho Chi, and was open to all OHSU students. Questions were incorporated into the competition from faculty members all over campus.

Quiz bowl questions nailed by the dental student team included: Who discovered penicillin? (Alexander Fleming); what is the pathognomonic cell of Hodgkin’s Lymphoma? (The Reed-Sternburg cell); and what does the acronym AAA stand for? (Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm).

Each team member received a $25 gift card. “I intend to use my gift card to stay up late studying so we can win next year!” said Jessica.

If you have a story idea for Dental Bites, please contact Sydney Clevenger, clevenge@ohsu.edu.

School Calendar

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<td>May 4</td>
<td>DS3-hosted golf tournament, Stone Creek Golf Course.</td>
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<td>May 27</td>
<td>Memorial Day—Holiday</td>
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<td>May 31</td>
<td>SOD Research Day, noon to 3 p.m., rooms 220/225 and 2nd floor atrium</td>
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<td>June 14</td>
<td>SOD Commencement, 10 a.m., Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall</td>
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<td>June 21</td>
<td>End of 12-week spring term</td>
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OHSU’s Public Vote Policy

As the fluoride debate heats up, due to the May 21 vote on fluoridated water in Portland, OHSU employees are reminded that state law prohibits the promotion or opposition of a public vote during work hours, and that OHSU employees may not represent the university at any time in promoting or opposing public votes. For more information, please visit http://o2.ohsu.edu/blogs/staffnews/2013/04/18/remind-ter-political-activity-guidelines-2/.

Salem Outreach

OHSU School of Dentistry continued its extensive reach into the community by traveling to Salem to provide oral care to teens living in uninsured and low-income families. Six dental students, supervised by pediatric dentistry department chair John Engle, D.D.S., Pediatric Dentistry ’72 (center), gave prophyls to 21 young patients aboard the Medical Teams International mobile dental clinic. Second-year dental student Jessica Ingham is on the left and second-year dental student K.C. Gilbert is on the right. The outreach was part of OHSU’s 125th anniversary activities. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)