



Dental Bites

May 2014

Short Takes

**Have questions about the Skourtes Tower OHSU School of Dentistry move to the OHSU/OUS Collaborative Life Sciences Building? A blog has been created to help school employees stay in the loop. Go to: <http://o2.ohsu.edu/blogs/sodmove/>.*

**Interested in a metal cart, dental chair, or instrument sterilizer? The SOD is having a moving sale! Email movingsale@ohsu.edu to find out what's available for purchase.*

New Chair for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery



Pamela Hughes, D.D.S.

Pamela J. Hughes, D.D.S., joins the OHSU School of Dentistry this month after an extensive national search. Dr. Hughes comes to OHSU from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry where she was an associate professor, and Advanced Education Program Director in the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Department of Developmental and Surgical Sciences.

Dr. Hughes is a native of the Detroit-area. She received her doctor of dental science from the University of Detroit-Mercy, and certification in oral and maxillofacial surgery from the University of Minnesota. She is also a 2008 graduate of the American Dental Education Association Leadership Institute.

After her OMFS certification, Dr. Hughes was in private practice for many years in the Chicago area, before joining the faculty at the University of Minnesota in 2005. She is board certified by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and the National Dental Board of Anesthesiology.

Dr. Hughes has four main research interests: Sjogren's Syndrome, bisphosphonate-related osteonecrosis, clinical outpatient oral and maxillofacial surgery, and the National Dental Board of Anesthesiology, and she has numerous published papers, book chapters, research abstracts, and presentations.

In 2009, Dr. Hughes received the Faculty Educator Award from the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. *(See page five for more faculty/staff additions)*

SOD Well-represented at 2014 Pain Day

This year, School of Dentistry students and faculty demonstrated their strong support for pain research at OHSU by attending the annual Pain Awareness and Investigation Network (PAIN) Day, held on April 11th in Vey Conference Center. The Network, established in 2011, brings together scientists and clinicians across the OHSU Schools with the goal of fostering collaborations and supporting research efforts related to pain. The Network's motto is "Discovery through Collaboration."

Out of about 120 attendees, more than 50 were from the SOD. At least four dozen dental students were accompanied by Dean **Phillip Marucha, D.M.D., Ph.D.**, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs **Phyllis Beemsterboer, M.S., Ed.D.**, and two integrative biosciences faculty, Professor *(continued on page eight)*

Table of Contents

OMFS Chair	1
PAIN Day	1
Dan Lafferty	2
Recent Photos	3
Student Photos	4

Class of 2014: Dan Lafferty Beats the Odds

If the road to dental school graduation were measured in distance, **Dan Lafferty** has likely come the farthest from the Class of 2014.

Struggling with a learning disability and his paternal influence incarcerated since early childhood, Dan began dabbling in drugs during high school and was “invited” to leave his junior year. But a job with decent pay, renewed faith, and a wife and child, ultimately led Dan back to a General Education Degree (GED), a bachelor of science, and then dental school: A 13-year-journey of transformation culminating in a doctor of dental medicine degree next month, on June 13.



Dan Lafferty

“I feel excited and hopeful in dentistry in a way that I never could have imagined,” said Dan, 36, who is part of the Hawthorne bridge group. “It fits me like a glove. I can’t tell you how happy I am to be here. It’s a miracle.”

Dan grew up in Salem, Utah, 20 minutes south of Provo, the fourth of seven children and the oldest son. School proved a struggle due to a form of dyslexia (he was not diagnosed until college) and Dan said he lacked motivation. His mother sewed doll clothes to help the family survive, but not having a father took its toll, and Dan began drinking, smoking pot, and experimenting with drugs like mushrooms and methamphetamines.

“I made bad choices,” said Dan. “All the Utah folks I knew had either died or were on a downhill path. I knew it wasn’t good.”

When he was 17, a year after being kicked out of high school, Dan’s uncle got him a job as a movie set construction prop maker in Los Angeles. “I knew I was good with my hands,” said Dan. “It took my being in Los Angeles to begin changing. I turned back to my Mormon faith and I felt more optimistic.”

Dan lived in a closet the first three months he was in Los Angeles. In a short amount of time, he began making—and saving—money and he brought his mother and four of his siblings to California, renting a home and supporting the family. He was 18.

“Something happened inside,” said Dan. “My desires for drugs and nowhere-ness were gone and I started to learn what it was like to care for others. I wanted to lead my family.”

Though he had “dodged” going on the mission that many Mormons pursue in their youth, Dan’s renewed faith changed his mind and he took a leave of absence for two years of service in Wellington, New Zealand. “Ever since the mission, I have been on a faith-building journey,” said Dan.

Upon return to L.A., Dan met his wife, **Toni**, at a church dance and they married in 2001. Dan obtained his GED but was mostly “trying to avoid school.” But after first son, **Gabriel**, now 12, was born, the Laffertys decided to move from the bustle of L.A., to Oregon. Dan began working in the tile and stone industry at the recommendation of another Lafferty uncle, and then did temporary work while he figured out what to do with his life.

(continued on page seven)

Recent Photos from the School of Dentistry



Denice Stewart, D.D.S., M.H.S.A., senior associate dean for clinical affairs, spoke about "Analyzing Medical Errors and Learning from Errors to Prevent Harm," at the April 4 interprofessional education (IPE) event for first-year OHSU students from dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, radiology, and medicine. (Photo Aaron Bieleck)



Three OHSU School of Dentistry deans came together during reunion weekend in April. From left to right are Jack Clinton, D.M.D. '64 (2004 to 2011); Lou Terkla, D.M.D. '52 (1967 to 1984); and Phillip Marucha, D.M.D., Ph.D. (2013 to present). (Photo Dan Carter)



Peter Morita, D.M.D. '86, associate dean for patient affairs (left), James Katancik, D.D.S., Ph.D., associate professor and chair of periodontology (center) and Tom Hilton, D.M.D., alumni centennial professor of operative dentistry, at the Alumni Association's Awards Luncheon. (Photo Dan Carter)

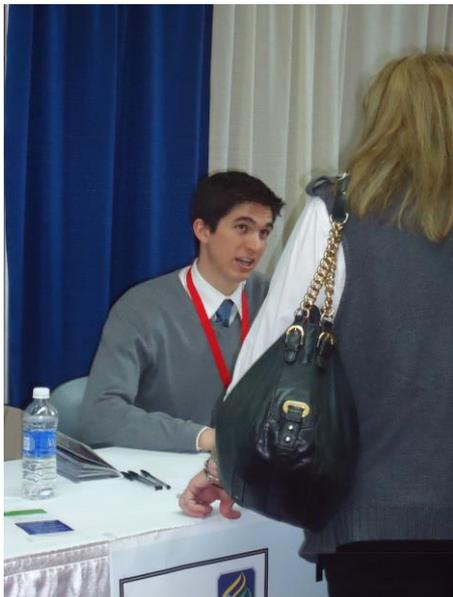


Jim Katancik, D.D.S., Ph.D., associate professor and chair of periodontology, was asked to speak as part of OHSU's prestigious Marquam Hill Lecture Series. Dr. Katancik shared this drawing from then young son, Michael, to kick off his April 17 talk on diabetes and its association with oral health. Michael, now 17 and in high school, was in the audience, along with Dr. Katancik's wife, Cindy. To watch a video of Dr. Katancik's lecture, go to www.ohsu.edu/mhlectures and scroll down to the information on Dr. Katancik. (Photo Jennifer Smith)



David Morton, Ph.D., professor and associate dean for research (center) and Curt Machida, Ph.D., professor of integrative biosciences (right), chat with Jeffrey Ebersole, Ph.D., professor and associate dean for research and graduate studies, Center for Oral Health Research, University of Kentucky College of Dentistry. Dr. Ebersole was on campus at the end of April to speak on "Macrophage Plasticity and Phenotypes Related to Periodontitis," as part of the Dean's Seminar Series designed to promote research and collaborations. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)

OHSU Dental Students Active in April



Fourth-year dental student Tyler Peterschmidt talks to an Oregon Dental Conference attendee about the Student Patient Assistance Program. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)



About two dozen dental students attended the Alumni Association's annual Awards Lunch. From left to right are: fourth-year dental student Carly Peterschmidt, and third-year dental students Kaci Drapes, Margaret Campbell, Adam Ward, Kerry Csiga, and Rachel Jablonski. (Photo Dan Carter)



Second-year dental students Dustin Reese (left) and Casey Norlin man the fishing pond at Celebration of Smiles, at the Portland Children's Museum. Next to the fish "pond" was tooth mold painting with molars and bicuspids single-handedly crafted at home by Donald Sirianni, D.M.D. '64, assistant professor of restorative dentistry. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)



Second-year dental students McKay Pearson (left) and Ryan Belcher in the 10th floor simulation clinic of the Skourtes Tower. "This is going to be very nice for the students," said Ryan. "It's very spacious between the rows. We're going to be doing more CAD/CAM which is exciting." (Photo Sydney Clevenger)



Fourth-year dental student Koa Yamashita conducts a dental screening at Celebration of Smiles. About 1,240 children and their families attended the free event, said second-year dental student Emily Irby, who coordinated the outreach. "The event went super well," said Emily. "If we can evoke positive feelings from these kids early on in regards to oral health, their dental future is going to look a whole lot brighter." (Photo Sydney Clevenger)

School Calendar 2014

May 2	Talent Show
May 3	Dean's Gold Circle (Invite only)
May 9	Research Day, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Old Library
May 10	Robert Quinton-Cox Memorial Softball Tournament, Noon
May 17	DS3 golf tournament
May 22	Faculty Senate Awards
May 24-26	WREB Dental Exam
June 13	Commencement
June 20	End of 12-week spring term
June 20	MOVE BEGINS!
June 26	CLSB event for students, staff, and faculty, 2 to 6 p.m.
July 1	Residency programs begin
July 7	Begin seeing patients in Skourtes Tower

Faculty/Staff Additions

Welcome to the following new faculty and staff:

***Richie Kohli**, B.D.S., M.S., has joined the department of community dentistry as an assistant professor. Dr. Kohli attended the Luxmi Bai Institute of Dental Sciences and Hospital in India. She received her master's degree in dental public health from the University of Iowa. Dr. Richie is in private practice in Beaverton. Recent research includes the oral health status and dental care treatment needs of adults in Clackamas County and a statewide survey of the attitudes of dentists towards the introduction of mid-level providers in Punjab, India.

***Tamara Murrain**, periodontology administration.

***Rochelle Ntsasa**, dean's office administration.

***Olga Parker**, dental clinic administration.

Every effort is made to compile an accurate listing of new faculty and staff. We apologize for any omissions. Please contact Coral Pipkin (pipkinc@ohsu.edu) or Sydney Clevenger (clevenger@ohsu.edu) with information about new employees or job switches within the dental school.

Dental Students Receive Scholarships

Third-year dental student **K.C. Gilbert** is the recipient of the Moda Health Scholars Program for tuition and fees for 2014-2015, a \$20,000 award in memory of **Kathryn Robertson**.

"I want to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to Moda for their generosity, as well as to the selection committee," said K.C. "I am incredibly honored to receive such an award. This scholarship provides me some relief from the burden of debt that has accumulated from higher education and for that I am tremendously grateful and blessed."



Third-year dental student Katelyn Nichols (left) and fourth-year dental student Jessica Henderson (right) each received \$10,000 from Willamette Dental Foundation, scholarships presented by E. David Granum, D.M.D. '81, at the April 5 Alumni Association Awards Lunch. (Photo Dan Carter)

Two scholarships also were recently awarded by the Willamette Dental Foundation. Receiving \$10,000 each are third-year dental student **Katelyn Nichols**, and fourth-year dental student **Jessica Henderson**.

(continued on page seven)

Faculty Passing

David E. Hamm, D.M.D. '52, Portland, Ore., died Feb. 27 at age 90. Dr. Hamm was on faculty at OHSU School of Dentistry for more than 10 years. See the 2007-2008 *Annual Report* (www.ohsu.edu/sod) and turn to page 25 for a feature on Dr. Hamm.

Happy Persian New Year: It's 1393!

by Sadaf Assadi, DS1

Persian New Year, called Norooz (there are various accepted spellings), is celebrated on the first day of Spring, or Vernal equinox, which occurs when the sun crosses the equator. This year, it happened on March 20, at 9:57:07 a.m. Norooz is one of the most, if not the most, loved and celebrated holidays in Iran, but it isn't only celebrated there. Norooz is also celebrated in Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Albania, Georgia, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, and other countries, as well. It is an important day that has been celebrated for over 3,000 years and is considered to have Zoroastrian origins.



Sadaf Assadi

This year, Norooz was also celebrated at the School of Dentistry, during the last Integrative Biosciences session before finals. Three first-year dental students: **Karaneh Janan**, **Azin Torkian**, and myself wanted to share a small piece of our ancient culture with the rest of the class. We brought Persian sweets, different cakes, and Persian tea [chai]; we also wanted to show a different face of Iran, one that is often overlooked completely, especially in the media. We therefore played a couple of videos, one about the meaning of Norooz and the other with pictures and music from the different regions of Iran. **Curt Machida**, Ph.D., professor of integrative biosciences, helped us put the event together and we are all very grateful to him.

"One of the greatest assets of the Class of 2017 is the diversity of the student population, and the willingness of students to share cultural values and traditions. The video presentation by Sadaf, Azin, and Karaneh, in celebration of the Persian New Year, was striking in demonstrating the beauty of the Persian culture and its people," said Dr. Machida.

The festivities of Norooz begin even before New Year's Day. The eve of the last Wednesday of the year is called Chahar-Shanbe Soori, and is celebrated by jumping over fire. While jumping, people say "zardi-e man az to, sorkhi-e to az man," meaning "my yellowness (sickness) to you (the flame), and your redness (health) to me"; we therefore cast off our illnesses, and ask for health and wellness. Although this phrase is merely tradition nowadays, it demonstrates the significance of fire for the early Iranian people and within the Zoroastrian religion.

After Chahar-Shanbe Soori, New Year's Day arrives. Iranians set up a haft seen table, which literally means "seven S's". Seven things that start with the Persian letter 'S' are set out and each symbolizes something important for the new year such as health, rebirth, age, wealth, etc. Norooz lasts for 13 days, and the days are spent by visiting family (elders first) and friends. Children often get some money from their parents and older relatives. On the 13th day, everyone spends the day outside in parks and among nature; it's considered bad luck to stay indoors. People have picnics, barbecues, play games and have a good time.

With that, I wish you all a wonderful new year, full of happiness, health, and good times....sal-e no mobarak!

NOWRUZ

The spring has come, and flower-strewn pastures shine

With buds, all opening now, except for mine.

Dan Lafferty *(continued from page two)*

"I was working with my hands, but I knew it wasn't where I was supposed to be," said Dan. "At that point, I was driven to my knees.

"A dental school friend helped me feel like I could go back to school and I got a clear answer to do dentistry," said Dan. "Though I had done everything I could to avoid school, I finally put my head down and went back."

Dan spent six terms at Portland Community College, from 2004-2005, taking pre-requisites to get into Portland State University (PSU). In 2008, he received a bachelor of science in General Science from PSU.

"I have the ability to compensate for some of my weaknesses in the classroom," said Dan. "My learning disability was finally diagnosed and that helped. Somehow, it all works. Having family support and a good work ethic also made a difference."

Dan studied for the Dental Admissions Test (DAT) every day and passed on his fourth try, matriculating to OHSU School of Dentistry in 2010. Studying with friends is the best way for Dan to learn new material and he said one of his "favorite parts of dental school is being linked" with classmates like **Greg Kiene** and **Daniel Egbert**. Dan said he is "so grateful for his classmates walking with him every step" of the four years.

"I love dental school," said Dan. "It has helped me become what I naturally want to be. I love to help people, especially with things they can't do themselves."

Dan passed Part I of the National Dental Examinations on his first try. However, Part II of the National Dental Examinations is more didactic than Part I and proved more difficult. "My boys (in addition to Gabriel there is **Nolan**, 10, **Langston**, 8, **Camden**, 4, and **Quintin**, *(continued, right column)*

Student Scholarships

(continued from page five)

Other recent dental student scholarships include:

*Third-year dental student **Junghee Kim** received a \$2,000 Northwest Dental Scholarship from Pacific Continental Bank.

*Third-year dental student **Kevin Cheng** received the \$2,000 Hawaiian Dental Student Endowed Scholarship.

*Third-year dental students **Margaret Campbell, Kerry Csiga, Kaci Drapes, John McLennan, Farielle Houran, Mary Vaughan, Josephine Verlanic**, and **Adam Ward**; and fourth-year dental students **Noor Khaki, William Marra, Michelle Nguyen, Nate Risley, Erica Robinson, Tesha Waggoner, Nels Walther**, and **Shannon Woods** each received \$1,000 as Alumni Association Scholars for Excellence.

Dan Lafferty *(continued from left column)*

five months) cried when I told them I had failed," said Dan. "They see me struggle firsthand and understand the importance of education."

With more intense studying, Dan passed Part II on the second try. He is working hard to prepare for the Western Regional Examining Board examinations at the end of this month.

After graduation, Dan who is on scholarship at OHSU through the United States Navy, will be stationed in Norfolk, Va., for the first of his four years of service.

"I have made it through faith," said Dan, who has served as an Elder's Quorum President within his church ward for the last three years.

"The closer I stay to my faith, the happier I am. I know now I am on a path to a better me."

Overseas Outreach

A number of OHSU School of Dentistry students, staff, and faculty have recently participated in overseas humanitarian work:

***Luzviminda "Luz" Tulipat**, D.M.D., lead dental assistant in graduate periodontology (see the March 2013 *Dental Bites*, page two), recently led a group of oral caregivers on a mission to The Phillipines, providing care to children and their families in a handful of municipalities within Iloilo. With Luz were: **Richard Park**, D.M.D. '67, assistant professor of pediatric dentistry; Second-year Periodontology Resident **Mahdad Nassiri**; Second-year Pediatric Dentistry Resident **Jenette Intrachat**; and third-year dental students **Kevin Cheng**, **Junghee Kim**, **Jessica Kloenne**, **John McLennan**, **Kevin Sagawa**, **Alison Shisler**, **Kevin Sagawa**, **Katelyn Nichols**, and **Andrew Sloan**.

*A handful of OHSU dental students were in Misahualli, Ecuador, in early April with **Scott Dyer**, D.M.D. '00, and **Greg Williams**, D.M.D. '98, affiliate instructor of community dentistry, through Wide Open Humanitarian. From their base, the group of 30 dentists, dental hygienists, assistants, and OHSU dental students traveled to various villages within the Amazon Rain Forest to provide oral care to those with poor access to care. Third-year dental students **K.C. Gilbert**, **Mary Vaughan**, **Kendra Chandhoke**, **Farielle Houran**, and **Shawn Platt**, all were on the week-long mission.

Research Week!

OHSU Research Week is May 5 to 9, with the School of Dentistry's Research Day set for the 9th from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dean Phillip Marucha, D.M.D., Ph.D., is the 2014 Research Day keynote speaker, which starts at noon.

Pain Day *(continued from page one)*

Curtis Machida, Ph.D., and Associate Professor **Agnieszka Balkowiec**, M.D., Ph.D.

Keynote speaker, **William Maixner**, D.D.S., Ph.D., director of the Center for Neurosensory Disorders at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Dentistry, shared the results of his cutting-edge translational research in chronic trigeminal pain.

"Trigeminal pain conditions are among the most difficult to treat and of most interest to dentists," said Dr. Balkowiec. "It was an exceptional research presentation that has injected a large dose of excitement and hope for new developments in treatment of trigeminal pain conditions. Our students got an opportunity to appreciate the complexity of factors that contribute to chronic pain conditions, as well as the incredible amount of effort that is invested in every new discovery that they learn about in class."

Drs. Marucha and Balkowiec also met with Dr. Maixner and discussed research collaborations. "Dr. Maixner and I share the same background in cardiovascular physiology," said Dr. Balkowiec. "Until the meeting, I did not realize that there was a cross-talk between the cardiovascular and trigeminal systems. I am extremely grateful to Dr. Maixner for his advice to explore the influence of hypertension on chronic pain. Overall, Dr. Maixner's visit was among the most scientifically-inspiring in my nearly 12 years with the School of Dentistry."

After Dr. Maixner's seminar, Dr. Balkowiec, who serves as PAIN Scientific Director and chair of the awards committee, announced the 2014 winners of the Excellence in Pain Training Award, a new initiative to support pre- and postdoctoral trainees in pain research across the OHSU Schools.