



Dental Bites



September 2011

WREB Results

The OHSU School of Dentistry recently officially received its WREB (Western Regional Examining Board) results for the Class of 2011. Of 71 dental students taking the licensing exam, 70 students—99 percent—passed successfully on the first try. Peter Morita, D.M.D. '86, associate dean for patient services and Steel group leader, noted that for the student who did not pass, only two sections of the seven-part test need to be remediated. Dr. *(continued on page three)*

Groundbreaking Set for New Building

Touching base with faculty and staff regarding the School of Dentistry's new building, Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. '64, said in early August that planning is coming along, but has been challenged by constantly moving parts.

"There is a lot of pressure to abide by the aggressive schedule set by the architects and we are playing catch up in getting our planning up to where the rest of the building is now," said Dr. Clinton. We are still behind the curve. I am convinced that planning a new building of this size is like a game board with built in hurdles and challenges.

(continued, right column)

The new dental school building – with groundbreaking set for Oct. 19 - is actually a 70,000 square foot tower on the top eight floors of the estimated 12- to 14-story OUS/OHSU Collaborative Life Sciences Building. The tower (about one-fourth of the building) will be named after **Gene**, D.M.D. '68, and **Bonnie Skourtes**, the lead donors for the project with a gift of \$10 million.

"The footprint for the Skourtes tower was established before the dental school officially became involved and is fairly limited," said Dean Clinton.

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Class of 2015 Joins School of Dentistry

On campus early and foregoing much of the breakfast provided to patiently wait seated in rooms 220-225 for their official welcome, the Class of 2015 kicked off dental school with a bang! The 75 new dental students joined the School of Dentistry Aug. 15 for orientation and their first day of classes.

"I feel good. I'm ready," said first-year dental student **Jessica Kloenne**, 23, from Portland. First-year dental student **Jacob Foutz**, 27, Medford, Ore., admitted to some nervousness, but was philosophical. "It's just like the first day of anything," he said.

Forty-two of the first-year dental students are from Oregon, 14 are from WICHE (Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education) sites, 18 are from out-of-state, and one is an international student. *(continued, right column)*



DS1 Jessica Kloenne on the first day of dental school (Photo Peter Morita, D.M.D. '86)

The Class of 2015 is more diverse than in years past, reflecting the applicant pool and somewhat the new federal guidelines for reporting ethnicity which give students more options in identifying race, said **Mark Mitchell**, M.S., associate dean for student affairs. Fourteen of the first-year dental students are Asian Pacific Islanders, one is Hispanic/Latino, eight identify as having more than one ethnicity, one is a nonresident alien (from South Korea), and the rest are White. *(continued on page two)*

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Class of 2015 *(continued from page one)*



The Class of 2015's Jacob Foutz (Photo Peter Morita, D.M.D. '86)

Forty-four of the first-year dental students are male; 31 are female. The median age is 24. Four dental students are over age 30.

"I've been practicing dental hygiene for 10 years and wanted to do more," said **Stefanie Buckley**, 30, from Roseburg, Ore., who moved with her husband and two young sons to Portland this summer prior to the start of dental school. "There is a lot of need in our community," she said. "It's sad to go into schools and see the great need for oral health." Stefanie said that after graduation she is "interested in children's public health" and

hopes to work with the dentist for whom she has been a hygienist for eight years, **David Sutton**, D.D.S.

The overall grade point average of the incoming class is 3.67, a slight bump from the past two years. Three of the first-years have master's degrees as well as a bachelor's degree and a handful have earned two bachelor's degrees or have double-majored (transcripts are still being collected, so the exact number wasn't confirmed at press time).

Sarin McKenna, 26, from Bangkok, Thailand, grew up in Corvallis, Ore., and received a bachelor of science degree and a master's degree in Food Science and Human Nutrition from the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida. "I was a dietitian and I liked helping people," she said. Working in a dental office through college and graduate school also motivated her interest in dentistry. "I always wanted to move back to Oregon," said Sarin. "I heard great things about OHSU. It was my first choice."

Jacob, who has a bachelor of science in biology and a minor in chemistry described dentistry as "doctor meets engineer" which appealed to his love of working with his hands and desire to be in health care. "OHSU is a great school and has a great reputation," he said. "I have a lot of dentist friends who have gone to OHSU and say good things about it."

Jessica, who has been researching the lingual nerve for a year and a half in the lab of **Brion Benninger**, M.D., assistant professor of integrative biosciences and oral and maxillofacial surgery, said she appreciates the School's sense of community. "Even though I haven't been an official student until now, everyone was so kind and I wanted to be a part of an institution like that," she said.

Nine from the Class of 2015 (**Kenneth Gilbert, Elise Grellmann, Matthew Mauger, Bradley McGowan, Bryan Neish, Jordan Peterschmidt, Raymond Reeves, Lauren Royse, and Marcus Uchida**) have parents or siblings who are OHSU School of Dentistry graduates. Another four first-year dental students have OHSU dental relatives.

Matthew, 25, Eagle River, Alaska, noted that it was his father, **Michael Mauger**, D.M.D. '90, who inspired him to become a dentist. "My dad is an endodontist and so people come to him in a lot of pain and he can help relieve their pain. I think dentistry is a way I'll be able to help people."



DS1 Stefanie Beckley (Photo Peter Morita, D.M.D. '86)

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Summer Session Expands

Based on recommendations from the School's Strategic Plan five years ago, the summer session beginning 2012 will extend to eight weeks from six weeks.

Phyllis Beemsterboer, M.S., Ed.D., associate dean for academic affairs, said increasing requests for more content in the curriculum, a need for added spontaneity in classes, and the pre-doctoral clinic needing to be more available to patients were the reasons for the change.

"Optimally, we want dental care to be available year-round so that people can depend upon us to be their dental provider," she said. "With this change, we are getting close to offering care 48 weeks a year."

Spanish Classes Available

The fall 2011 Spanish classes begin the week of Sept. 26 and go through Dec. 3 for dental students interested in learning how to communicate chair side to Spanish-speaking patients without an interpreter. Classes meet once a week for one hour and 15 minutes for 10 weeks. Cost is \$81 including materials. Go to www.spanishclasses.org or call (503) 827-4483.

Summer Calendar

- Sept. 22** Fall Faculty Conference, rooms 220-225
- Sept. 23** End of six-week early fall term
- Sept. 23** Cantwell Memorial Golf Tournament, 7:45 a.m., Langdon Farms in Aurora
- Sept. 24** Cantwell Memorial Lecture/Margaret Ryan Dental Hygiene Update, 8 a.m. lecture, Vey Auditorium
- Sept. 26** Start of 12-week fall term
- Oct. 11** Alumni and Friends Reception at ADA, 6 p.m.

Class of 2015 (continued from page two)



*DS1 Matthew Mauger.
(Photo Peter Morita,
D.M.D. '86)*

School of Dentistry Associate Dean for Student Affairs **Phyllis Beemsterboer**, M.S., Ed.D., welcomed the Class of 2015 and emphasized that dental students have an awesome responsibility. "Today is all

about getting you to the point where you have earned a doctor of dental medicine degree," she said. "When you're finished and you have your degree, you will be responsible for the people that sit in your chair.



*DS1 Sarin McKenna.
(Photo Peter Morita,
D.M.D. '86)*

"Keep your eye on the goal," she said. "It's not going to be easy, but you will have some fun along the way and get to know one another well, which is also part of the learning process."

Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs **Denice Stewart**, D.D.S., M.H.S.A., noted that first year dental students should begin thinking about how their newfound knowledge could apply to the pre-doctoral clinic and patient care, even though they are not physically assigned to the pre-doctoral clinic until next fall.

"Everything you learn beginning today extends to the clinic and will help you become a better dentist," said Dr. Stewart.

WREB (continued from page one)

Morita also said that four individuals from the Class of 2011 received 100 percent on the endodontology section, two received 100 percent on the Patient Assessment and Treatment Planning Test, and another person received 100 percent on two sections: periodontology (computerized and clinical tests) and prosthodontology.

New Building *(continued from page one)*

"We want to configure each floor to accommodate students and patients. One recent challenge has been where to receive patients -- since the patient floors are currently designated near the top of the tower -- and how to accommodate 85,000 annual patient visits without patients having to stop at other floors. Our current idea is to have the patient reception on the ground floor with a dedicated elevator to the clinic."

Unexpected space constraints also have made planning challenging, such as where to place the new instrument management system for dental students, as well as space for an advanced education in general dentistry program.

"We have been having a lot of discussions about where to put things to maximize space and efficiency," he said.

"This is a process with an ebb and flow," added Dean Clinton. "Nothing has yet been decided except the shape of the building and that there will be a lot of windows.

"We know what cards have been dealt. We have a hand. And we know that good things will ultimately come out of it to create something that we have been dreaming about for a long time."

Philanthropy for the new building has been very successful. On June 11, it was announced that \$27 million had been gifted or pledged toward the \$43 million philanthropy goal. On June 30, the OHSU Board of Directors, with a recommendation from President **Joe Robertson**, M.D., M.B.A., approved the School's move to South Waterfront.

School Development Director **Pat Regan** noted that there is still \$16 million more to raise for the new facility. "The support of alumni has been incredible," he said. "We have alumni who've been giving \$1,000 a year who are *(continued, right column)*

Boats at Sunset



Associate Professor of Orthodontics Ross Kaplan, B.D.S., currently has about 50 photographs, including the one above taken in Sitka, Alaska, on exhibit in the OHSU Student Center. "My photographs in this exhibit are mainly landscapes, flora and fauna and cityscapes," said Dr. Kaplan. "I love to be out in the natural world and to use my photography to record my impression of what I see." Dr. Kaplan joined the School of Dentistry in 1973. He said his interest in photography began after high school graduation when he received a Pentax camera as a gift. Dr. Kaplan's photos will be displayed in the Student Center through October or you can go to his website, www.rosskaplanphotography.com. (Photo courtesy Dr. Kaplan)

New Building *(continued from left column)*

now going to give \$5,000 over five years. That's the excitement that's out there.

"Every gift matters," he said. "The more people who give, here at the school and in the community, that sends a strong message."

To make a gift, contact Pat, reganp@ohsu.edu, or (503) 494-0980.

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

August was Professionalism Conference for DS1's

First-year dental students concluded their two-week orientation (see page one) with the annual Professionalism Conference at Cannon Beach Aug. 25 and 26.

An Aug. 24 evening fall kept Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. '64, sidelined from the retreat for the first time in 24 years. Filling his shoes at the last minute was **Peter Morita**, D.M.D. '86, associate dean for patient services.

"Thanks very largely to the group leaders, who spoke about the pre-doctoral clinic and patient care and kept the conference flowing, it went very well," said Dr. Morita. "I think everyone enjoyed themselves."



The St. John's group practice bonds at Cannon Beach. The gray sweatshirts were a gift from the Alumni Association. (Photo Peter Morita, D.M.D. '86)

Each first-year dental student was assigned to a group practice at the conference. Each group practice planned its sand sculpture and worked on a case study, preparing a treatment plan with the help of their group leader and one of six second- through-fourth-year dental students, **Lee DeKrey, Denise Gates, Iraj Kasimi, Kyle Malloy, Stephanie Nicola, and Kelly Riley.**

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Sign Up Now for Cantwell Events

There is still time to register for Back to School weekend events this month, including the Cantwell Memorial Golf Tournament (Sept. 23) and the Cantwell Memorial Lecture and Margaret M. Ryan Dental Hygiene Update (Sept. 24). Go to www.ohsu.edu/sod and click on Alumni to find registration information.

The Cantwell golf tournament has a 7:45 a.m. shotgun start at Langdon Farms Golf Course. The Cantwell Memorial Lecture/Margaret M. Ryan Dental Hygiene Update is at 8 a.m. in the Vey Auditorium of Doernbecher Children's Hospital with guest speaker **Glen Johnson**, D.D.S., M.S., professor and director of the division of dental materials science at the University of Washington. Dr. Johnson will discuss, "New Dental Adhesives and Luting Agents – What Should you use and Why?" worth four credit hours.

Cannon Beach *(continued from left)*

The annual sand sculpture "contest" was held during low tide the first afternoon with dental students charged with creating world's landmarks. Sculptures ranged from Copihue to the Lincoln Memorial.

On the second day of the conference, students presented their case study results, heard from the upper class students on what it's like to be a dental student, and learned about the importance of professionalism in dentistry.



The Class of 2015 at Cannon Beach. (Photo Peter Morita, D.M.D. '86)