Dean Clinton noted that the Hawaii Dental Student Scholarship Endowment Fund, initiated to help Hawaiian dental students enrolled at OHSU with tuition and fees, has reached $30,000 of the $50,000 needed to initiate the fund. To donate, contact the Alumni Association at (503) 494-0983.

All alumni have the opportunity to sample the Hawaiian hospitality this October during the American Dental Association conference in Honolulu. An alumni reception is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 3.

Dean Clinton updated alums on the 300 dental students now enrolled, including the four Hawaiians: first-year dental students Eric Muraoka and Jordan Takaki; third-year dental student Rhinelle Torres; and fourth-year dental student Alison Buccat.
Two years ago, John Riley came to the OHSU School of Dentistry with his teeth in complete disrepair. The 46-year-old Lake Oswego, Ore., resident hadn’t been to the dentist in 20 years because of a dental phobia and he was in pain.

When he came to us, John didn’t have health insurance and he said he couldn’t afford going to a private practice dentist. He needed extensive work – from extractions to oral surgery to bridges and crowns – as well as basic oral care.

Despite his fear of dental treatment, John knew he had to get help and he made the commitment to a dental treatment plan and subsequent weekly appointments. He’s been a good patient of the school ever since.

“I haven’t even thought about going to a different dentist,” said John, who is now insured again. “The process at the school takes longer, but I feel real comfortable when I’m there with my student and the instructors are there to guide everything. I’ve been there so often I’ve gotten to know a lot of other dental students, too.

“For me, hearing the students talking to the instructors is great because you know what’s going on,” said John. “You get the insider’s view of dentistry and it’s interesting. Your care is always planned out. I feel like I get really good care.

“I was just telling my student, Matt, the other day that I think I’m over my dental phobia,” said John. “It’s not a big thing any more for me to go to the dentist and I think I’m over the hump of being afraid.”

John said he is on track to complete his major dental work in June. “When Matt is ready to graduate this year, I’ll be done with my dental treatment, except for regular cleanings,” said John. “I’m very happy with the care I’ve gotten. This has been a really good experience for me.”

Patients like John typically come to OHSU when they’re uninsured and need dental treatment, but are on a tight budget for their care. In these uncertain economic times, it is pleasing to hear that the School of Dentistry continues to be a resource for those caught between wanting to do the right thing for their teeth and paying for essentials like food and housing.

We all know how vital good oral health care is in any economy and that dentistry is often one of the expenses people think they can live without. The OHSU School of Dentistry is committed to providing comprehensive care for the insured – or uninsured – as we have for more than 100 years.
Message from the Association President

The OHSU Alumni Association (YOUR alumni association) has made two significant changes. These allow the Alumni Association to better fulfill its mission and goals:

First, we have historically sponsored a continuing education course for dental hygienists in the winter and for dentists in the fall associated with a golf tournament. A few years ago, we combined these events into the “alumni weekend” each September. For 2009, Friday, Sept. 25, will be the Cantwell Memorial Golf Tournament, a team golf tournament and fundraiser for the Cantwell Memorial Lecture and Margaret M. Ryan Dental Hygiene Update series. It will be held at Langdon Farms Golf Course. On Saturday, Sept. 26, there is a continuing education course for dentists and dental hygienists. As we work together in our offices as a team with our dental hygienists, it is appropriate to attend these continuing education courses at the same time together. This continuing education course is free to OHSU alumni. Put these dates on your calendars now.

Second, last year we changed the bylaws of the association to have ALL alumni of OHSU be members of the alumni association. No more dues or membership drives. We have 4,400 doctors of dental medicine and 1,225 registered dental hygienists in the association now. The alumni association leaders can now focus more on our mission of promoting the partnership between alumni and the School of Dentistry to strengthen its academic and fiscal health and to the students as future alumni members.

The next activity is Reunion Weekend. Dental and hygiene classes ending in 4 and 9 will be holding reunions the weekend of the Oregon Dental Conference on April 3 and 4. The Alumni Association supports these reunions in many ways. Contact Jessica Smith at (503) 494-0983 if you need more information.

Also during the Oregon Dental Conference weekend, we will hold the Alumni Association Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon. Come help recognize this year’s Alumni Award winners and hear the latest happenings at the school and in the Alumni Association. Plan on attending Saturday, April 4, at 11:30 a.m., conveniently held right in the Convention Center. Hope to see you there.

James C. Alder, D.M.D. ’82

Reunion Fee Change Passed by Alumni Board For By-Laws

School of Dentistry alums celebrating their 50th reunion year or more and those who have graduated from the school within the last five years are now considered members of the ‘5 and 50 Club’ and are invited to attend the Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon for free. The proposal, which was passed unanimously Feb. 16 by the Alumni Association Board, will be added to the By-laws.

“There has been a lot of confusion these past years about who gets a free lunch at the Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon during Oregon Dental Conference weekend,” said Development Director Pat Regan. “As it turns out, there has never been a written policy in the Alumni Association By-Laws regarding free lunches for reunion classes, so we decided to establish one and expand the free lunch to include more classes than in the past.”

The written policy now states: Any person, who graduated from the OHSU School of Dentistry 50 or more years ago, or has graduated from the school within the last five years, will be admitted to the OHSU School of Dentistry Alumni Association Annual Meeting and Luncheon for free. Guests of the 50-year and up graduates and the graduates within five years will be charged the current lunch price. To receive a free lunch, alumni must register by March 23.
Inaugural Robert G. Gootee Lecture
A Hit with Dental Students

OHSU dental students, staff, and faculty were treated on Feb. 19 to a lecture on leadership and professionalism by Robert G. Gootee, as part of an endowed lectureship in Mr. Gootee's name.

The School’s first fully endowed lectureship, the Robert G. Gootee Endowed Lectureship in Leadership and Professionalism, was announced one year ago by The ODS Companies board, led by Jay Lamb, D.M.D. ’80, to honor Robert Gootee, the longtime president and CEO of The ODS Companies.

“Leadership and strong ethics are often underutilized and underachieved particularly in today’s busy economic climate,” said Dean Jack Clinton, D.M.D. ’64. “Having a good ethical background is critical to success in business and dentistry is no different.”

First- and fourth-year dental students were invited to attend the Gootee lecture, held in the School’s second floor classroom. The majority of The ODS Companies board and executive team also attended the lecture, as well as Oregon Dental Association Executive Director Bill Zepp, ODA President-elect Rick Asai, D.M.D. ’81, and OHSU President Joe Robertson, M.D., M.B.A.

“When we were considering a way to honor Robert, this lectureship was a natural fit,” said Dr. Lamb, of Eugene, Ore. “Robert is an authentic leader and he has credibility in who he is and what he does.

“We see the dental school as a cornerstone to the dental profession in this state and so this lecture at the school goes hand-in-hand with that vision.

“When you leave dental school you will be asked to be a leader – either willingly or unwillingly – so you need to take that role seriously and reflect on it from time to time.”

Mr. Gootee noted that he is not a dentist, but he loves dentists.

“One of the chasms that I’d like to bridge today is that I’m not all that different than any of you,” he said. “You may think I’m very different from you, but hopefully, by the end of this lecture, you will see that we’re much closer.

“In the end, all of you in running your dental practices, in the leadership that you will inherit because of your education and status in our society, will be CEOs in your own right,” said Mr. Gootee. “You won’t think it yet, but you will be.”

Mr. Gootee used books and quotes and his own experiences to talk about leadership: the importance of communication, of working with others who share common values, having a vision and feeling confident about your decisions, making prudent people choices both personally and professionally, being honest, taking the blame and sharing the glory, and not letting mistakes bog you down.

Fourth-year dental student Suzan Nguyen said she didn’t know what to expect, but she was glad she attended the lecture.

“I liked the lecture a lot because communication is so important. When we communicate with other people we have to have trust, be honest, express what we don’t know, and acknowledge mistakes. Having heard that these are important traits from someone else is good. In practice, I will remember what he said and continue to be better. When we’re out making money, we may
sometimes forget what we believe and that's what I don't want to lose,” said Suzan.

The following are key excerpts from the inaugural Robert. G. Gootee Lectureship in Leadership and Professionalism.

Your degree is just the price of admission into your profession. It gives you a standard of excellence that becomes very much a common ground once you obtain it. Because when somebody goes to the dentist, they assume a certain level of expertise and they don't know where you finished in your class.

It's a double irony for me to be up here speaking to you because I don't think leadership is about the leaders. I think if it becomes about the leader, that leader has failed.

The other thing that is a double irony for me is to be in a lecture hall standing in front of a group of outstanding students because I was a very poor student in college. It just wasn't me.

I grew up in Corpus Christi, Texas. My mother was a third grade school teacher her entire life and my father after he got out of the Marines in World War II was a mail carrier and that's what they did. I was the youngest of three children, the only one that went to school.

It's one of the reasons I've always believed so much in education as the great equalizer in our society because if you have an education, you can do anything in this country and it can lead to many other things.

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I think we've got a very visionary president. He's very articulate. His words that stuck out to me were that “Focusing your life solely on making a buck shows a certain poverty of ambition.” So true. You know it's true when you see it, but what wonderful words.

So you will have to think about that as you enter the profession of dentistry because you will all become affluent. Trust me on that. And it's more of a burden, more than you think it will be.

If you're not willing to pay a price for your values, are they really your values at all? How true. And you will be tested on that as life progresses.

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You have to have an idea of where it is you're going. You have to have a vision. You have to understand what it's going to take to get you there otherwise you're never going to accomplish it. You need to know who's going to be with you on that journey. And you need to recognize the obstacles a long time before they appear so you can bob and weave your way around them. If you don't, all you'll be doing is dealing with the problems when they arrive, and that's not a very visionary position to find yourself in.

A lot of people are afraid to surround themselves with outstanding colleagues. That is the biggest mistake that you can make. You can never be successful unless you create a team of colleagues that are better than you are.

Make prudent people decisions. It's all about the people, whether it be a dental assistant, hygienist, a partner, your spouse in life. Those are the biggest things. And when in doubt, keep looking. Don't feel pressured to fill a position. You will almost always make mistakes, either that or you'll just be lucky if you didn't make mistakes. So if you can't find the right person, keep looking, they're out there.
That is the ultimate throttle on any organization, including a dental practice, a dental school, a dental organization, is the people, because it takes the people to get the job done.

When you need to make a change, act. Don’t do it too soon. People are human beings, they have lives. You might be wrong in your assessment of them. So, do it slowly. The point is, when you know, do it.

Put your people on the biggest opportunities, not your biggest problems. Let those that work with you – and yourself for that matter – work on the strengths, not on the weaknesses. Everybody has weaknesses. Don’t worry about it. Just have a team of people with varied strengths and you’ve got the bases covered.

If you don’t surround yourself with people that share your values, you won’t get your vision accomplished. By the same token as you start your career, if you find yourself working with people that don’t share your values, get out as soon as you can. Don’t quit. Find another job as soon as you can. Learn what you can from that situation. And then get out.

[We need to have] common understandings: where are we going, why are we going, how are we going to get there, how will we know when we get there. A lot of people don’t get to that fourth point. And when you get there, celebrate. Sometimes you just get going on and you’ve solved one problem, and it just goes down to triage to the next problem, and you just never stop to celebrate those successes. You’ll have a million of them. Take the time to do that. It’s a great way to enthuse other people and help them recognize when they’ve met their goals.

Vince Lombardi … was the coach of the Green Bay Packers. The Super Bowl trophy is called the Vince Lombardi trophy. He was probably the greatest NFL coach. He won the first three super bowls. If you paid attention to Vince Lombardi around the time he was there, it wasn’t about Vince Lombardi, it was about Bart Starr or the Green Bay Packers, but it wasn’t Vince Lombardi. It was all about the team, which was why he was such a great coach, and it was one of his basic tenets of leadership.

One of the things he did really well that you also have to do as well is communicate. What people believe is what they believe and it may not be the same thing you’re thinking that they believe. So you need to communicate with them, in your personal life and in your professional life. If you can’t communicate with them, your ideas aren’t going to go anywhere.

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Be honest. You can’t be a leader if you’re not honest. People won’t trust you. As soon as you demonstrate that you’re not honest, you’ve lost your leadership.

Take the blame and share the glory. You don’t want to discourage those around you, you want to inspire them. People know what they’re responsible for. But if you are shedding out the blame, you’re going to lose the respect and they won’t want to work for you and you won’t be able to inspire them.

You’re going to make mistakes. You’re going to make them with your patients, you’re going to make them in your profession, you’re going to make them in your personal life. It’s life. It happens. Move on. Don’t let it drag you down. That’s what happens with a lot of people, they make a mistake and it just drags them down. If you’re not making a mistake, you’re not out there doing enough, that I will guarantee you. If it’s that safe of a world for you, you’re not involved in enough things. So don’t worry about it. You’ll still be fine.

Don’t be afraid to say, “I don’t know.” I love that response. It’s the fastest way to get away from a question that you truly don’t know rather than trying to dream up some answer and getting yourself all messed up because of it. Encourage a culture of independent thinking. In the end, be responsible for the decisions you make. You have to make some tough ones.

Don’t expect that everybody is going to agree with everything you do. You may establish a treatment plan for a patient that some other dentist may disagree with. It’s okay. You have your professionalism. They have their professionalism. But you haven’t made your decisions for unanimous agreement. That’s leadership. It’s the way it is.
This is one of my favorite books, it's written by a guy named Jim Collins, called From Good to Great. In the book, they go through a couple of concepts: the hedgehog and the fox. Which one is the CEO?

The fox knows many things and is very smart, but the hedgehog knows just one thing. The hedgehog simplifies a complex world into one idea, or principle or concept that guides everything. They're not simpletons. They have a piercing insight that allows them to see complexity and underlying patterns and come up with a simple concept to execute.

That's hard to do. Hedgehogs accomplish that. They understand that the essence of profound insight is simplicity. And it is. Often times when people tell you something and you just can't understand it, don't do it. It ought to be simple enough that you can see clearly that it is the right thing to do.

Who’s a great hedgehog? Winston Churchill was one of my favorite people in history. He was a very focused guy. Here’s a quote, "Never give in. Never give in. Never, never, never, in nothing great or small, large or petty, never give in. So, his hedgehog approach was to never give in.

[Leadership] is a stream of decisions over a period of time that accounts for great outcomes. It's not just one thing. And they don't all have to be the right [decisions].

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What I’ve learned over time is that life isn’t linear at all. I’m a forestry major and I went back to school at Texas A&M because it was the only school I got into because of my grades and I got an MBA. Back in those days they made you choose a curriculum. I chose accounting, I became a CPA and I went into public accounting with Price Waterhouse. It was my entry into business. That was just a limb for me. I never wanted to be an accountant; I wanted to be a forester, that’s what I thought. But something changed. Then I got to really like the business and so I got out of that and I went to work for a technology company, and then I went to work for an environmental contracting company and then I went to work for a health care marketing company. And what I was doing was the advice I gave you: I was in some bad situations. I learned, and I got out. Because if you don't get out, what happens to you is you become like those that you don't admire.

I had the opportunity in 1998 to work as chief financial officer at ODS. ODS at that time was a fairly small company, employed a little over 100 people. It was $67 million in annual revenue at that time and it’s grown a lot. So our tree of decisions has led us into a good place. In my own personal life, being able to find that opportunity and being nurtured by the people around me, both in my personal life and my spouse and our board of directors and the colleagues that I work with at ODS, has been what has allowed me to be here today to talk to you. It has been a great honor and a great pleasure.
Juan Young Trust Supports School of Dentistry’s Pediatric Patients

by Sami Jarrah, OHSU Foundation

For the Juan Young Trust, Oregon’s children are a priority. A longtime supporter of OHSU, the Juan Young Trust assists non-profit institutions throughout Oregon that positively impact our state’s people and communities.

Since 2001, only a year after the trust was established, OHSU has been a grateful beneficiary of the Juan Young Trust’s exceptional generosity. OHSU has received nearly $350,000 from the trust, for everything from the Doernbecher Children’s Hospital’s Kenneth W. Ford Northwest Children’s Cancer Center to the Casey Eye Institute’s Elks Children’s Eye Clinic.

The School of Dentistry, too, has received significant support from the Juan Young Trust – particularly in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, chaired by associate professor Prashant Gagneja, B.D.S., M.S. With more than $125,000 of support, the trust has helped to provide care for children from low-income families who do not have dental insurance and who do not have the financial resources to pay for dental or oral care.

Without the trust’s support, many of the pediatric dentistry programs available to Oregon’s un-insured and under-insured families would not be possible, from basic dental patient care to emergency surgeries, from prevention programs to education outreach.

Not only do Oregon’s neediest children receive quality dental care, but the dental school’s students enjoy positive and rewarding experiences providing charity care, which promotes social responsibility among the school’s graduates.

And, for one four-year-old from Tillamook Head Start, the Juan Young Trust was a true savior. Referred to the OHSU School of Dentistry for extensive dental treatment, this four-year-old needed extensive dental treatment. The treatment would have cost nearly $2,000 – none of which the child or the child’s family could afford. But with financial resources from Tillamook Head Start and the Juan Young Trust, there was one happy four-year-old – sparkly smile and all!

To contribute to the School of Dentistry’s pediatric dentistry programs, please visit dentistry.ohsufoundation.org, or contact the School of Dentistry’s Office of Development & Alumni Relations at (503) 494-0983.

New Grant from Juan Young Trust

OHSU School of Dentistry recently received a new $7,000 grant from the Juan Young Trust for its pediatric dentistry department.

The grant will enable the School to begin developing an early “dental home,” for uninsured, low-income children, including screenings, examinations with preventive care, and follow-up.

“This is an incredible gift for Portland-area children who otherwise would not have access to quality dental care,” said Prashant Gagneja, B.D.S., M.S., chair of pediatric dentistry. “This kind of generous philanthropy is so critical, particularly in times when the economy is uncertain, and families are much less likely to spend scarce dollars on oral care.”

The goal of the early dental home is for the children selected to have very few or no dental caries at their subsequent visits; for all the children to exhibit fewer dental problems at recall appointments; and for all the children in the program to demonstrate improved health behavior in the dental clinics.

“Early and preventive care is essential, so the model we are creating is for very young children, in the hope that we can get some of these youngsters off to a good start with their oral hygiene,” said Dr. Gagneja.

“We appreciate the continued support from Juan Young Trust.”
OMS Clinic is First in Country to have Powertome

**Anthony Bounneff**, D.M.D. ’86, recently donated a Powertome system to the OHSU School of Dentistry for use in the oral surgery clinic. The Powertome was conceived by Dr. Bounneff and **David Howerton**, D.M.D. ’83, who wanted a device to better control the amount of force needed to extract a tooth, reduce trauma for the patient, and better preserve bone and tissue.

Dr. Bounneff founded the Westport Medical Company along with **Doug Porter**, a mechanical engineer and owner of a consulting engineering firm, to design and manufacture the Powertome.

The Powertome enables oral surgeons, periodontists, and dentists to perform extractions that minimize the amount of alveolar bone loss in the same way that an extraction using a manual periotome does, but performs the extraction in much less time.

Dr. Bounneff believes that the Powertome is one of the few technological advances in the past 40 years for tooth extraction and he wanted OHSU to be the first university to have the instrument. “We wanted to give the School an opportunity to take advantage of it for their patients, education, and research,” said Dr. Bounneff.

Hand periotomes, used for extractions, often require using mallets with dental assistants tapping on the handle to expand the periodontal ligament space to separate the tooth from bone. This can cause unnecessary anxiety, bone loss, and increased pain for the patient.

“It was fine when patients were asleep,” said Dr. Bounneff. “But the sight of a hammer is terrifying for an awake patient during the procedure and possibly bad publicity for the practice afterwards. The patients didn’t like it.

“Hand periotomes also are fatiguing for oral and maxillofacial surgeons that have to manually force the instrument between the tooth and bone,” said Dr. Bounneff. “The blade is sharp and can slip or can cause accidental damage to surrounding tissue. I’ve never really liked hand periotomes.”

It was that frustration that led Dr. Bounneff and Dr. Howerton to develop the Powertome Periotome. “Dave and I were in the car on the way to Eastern Oregon five years ago,” said Dr. Bounneff. “We were talking about dental technology and how it hasn’t changed much and how great it would be to have a handpiece that does all the tapping rather than a mallet. It went from there and we started contacting engineers.”

Dr. Bounneff founded the Westport Medical Company along with Doug Porter, a mechanical engineer and owner of a consulting engineering firm, to design and manufacture the Powertome.

The Powertome Periotome is currently being marketed to universities and private practices through Westport Medical, based in Salem, Ore.

Dr. Bounneff, who is in private practice in Beaverton, Ore., recently rejoined the OHSU School of Dentistry faculty as an assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery (he was on the faculty from 1991 to 2001), and is on campus Thursday afternoons. **Eugene Kelley**, D.M.D. ’59, assistant professor emeritus of oral and maxillofacial surgery, started one of the first oral and maxillofacial surgery practices in Portland, with **Christ Bounneff**, D.M.D. ’64, Dr. Bounneff’s father.

Dr. Bounneff uses the Powertome daily in his practice. “It is safe to say patients aren’t objecting to the Powertome Periotome,” said Dr. Bounneff. “We think this is a revolutionary new instrument that will improve the way teeth are removed.”

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**Get Ready for the Spring Phonathon**

The Alumni Association is planning a follow-up phonathon this spring to contact alumni missed during the five nights of calling last fall. The follow-up phonathon will be April 20-23 and April 27-30.

“The intent is that our fall phonathon now will be our major call-around to alums and that the spring phonathon will be calls to alumni who were not reached the first time around,” said **Pat Regan**, School of Dentistry development director. To volunteer, call the alumni office, (503) 494-0983.

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In the 12 patients with cellulitis, 17 percent had human cytomegalovirus and 8 percent had Epstein-Barr virus. None of the patients with cellulitis had herpes simplex virus or Varicella zoster virus.

“We anticipated that herpesviruses might be associated with radiographic bone destruction or abscesses larger than five millimeters, but that was not the case,” said Dr. Machida. “Based on this study, we concluded that herpesviruses are present, but not necessary for an endodontic patient to develop abscesses and cellulitis. The size of radiographic lesions was not predictive on whether patients with abscesses contained herpesvirus particles.”

The OHSU team included Vicky Chen, a third-year OHSU dental student; second-year OHSU dental student Yanwen Chen, Ph.D.; Hong Li, D.D.S., M.Sc., Ph.D., a recent OHSU endodontology graduate; Karla Kent, Ph.D., associate professor of integrative biosciences; J. Craig Baumgartner, D.D.S., M.Sc., Ph.D., chairman and professor of the OHSU endodontology department; and Dr. Machida.

In the December 2008 Journal of Endodontics, Dr. Machida and his team found that a significant percentage of dental patients with the inflammatory diseases irreversible pulpitis and apical periodontitis also have the Epstein-Barr virus. The Epstein-Barr virus is an important human pathogen found in more than 90 percent of the world population. It is associated with many diseases, including infectious mononucleosis, malignant lymphomas, and nasopharyngeal carcinoma.

The team for that study included Hong Li, Vicky Chen, Yanwen Chen, Dr. Baumgartner and Dr. Machida.

In January, the lab of Curtis Machida, Ph.D., OHSU professor of integrative biosciences, published two papers this winter, both in the Journal of Endodontics. At press time, a third study from the Machida lab had been accepted and was awaiting publication in a different journal.

In the February 2009 Journal of Endodontics (volume 35, issue 2), Machida’s team found transmissible herpesvirus particles in endodontic abscesses and cellulites, the first time herpesvirus particles have been detected in patients with any type of endodontic disease, and the first published study regarding herpesviruses and their potential association with endodontic abscesses and cellulitis.

Abscesses and cellulitis are severe and painful endodontic diseases caused by bacteria. Patients with these diseases also can be infected with latent herpesviruses. The OHSU study assessed the presence of human cytomegalovirus, Epstein-Barr virus, herpes simplex virus, and Varicella zoster virus in 31 endodontic patients with abscesses and cellulitis, and then compared them with 19 healthy patients.

Using a variety of molecular techniques, the OHSU team found that 29 percent of patients containing endodontic abscesses and experiencing tooth pain had human cytomegalovirus, 6 percent had the Epstein-Barr virus, and 3 percent had herpes simplex virus. None of the patients containing endodontic abscess exhibited Varicella zoster virus.

In January, the lab of Agnieszka Balkowiec, M.D., Ph.D., principal investigator, OHSU School of Dentistry assistant professor of integrative biosciences and OHSU School of Medicine adjunct assistant professor of physiology and pharmacology, published two major studies.

One study, published in a January issue of the Journal of Neurochemistry (vol. 108, pp. 450–464), found that nerve cells controlling heart rate and blood pressure synthesize a molecule known to be critically important for proper nervous system growth. The finding could someday play a significant role in the prevention of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and high blood pressure.
According to the National Institutes of Health, SIDS is the leading cause of death in children between 1 month and 1 year of age. About one in three adults in the United States has high blood pressure.

“Our discovery sheds light on how the nerve supply to the cardiovascular system is established during development,” said Dr. Balkowiec. “Someday we hope to better understand cardiorespiratory developmental disorders such as SIDS.”

Changes in blood pressure are signaled to the brain by nerve cells called baroreceptors. The OHSU study shows that baroreceptors make a molecule called Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor (BDNF), which belongs to the family of neurotrophins that play a critical role in the development and plasticity of other nerve cells. (Studies suggest that developmental abnormalities in nerve pathways that control the cardiovascular and respiratory system may result in SIDS).

Balkowiec and her team found that the stimulation of baroreceptors, as experienced during an increase in blood pressure, leads to the release of BDNF. The study also discovered that BDNF is present at the central end of baroreceptors in the brainstem.

“In fact, BDNF is likely to play the most important role at the central end of baroreceptors, where they connect to second-order neurons in the blood-pressure control pathway,” said Balkowiec. “BDNF has previously been shown to play an important role in establishing neuronal connections in other parts of the nervous system, but this is the first time it has been considered a factor in the blood pressure control system.”

Studies under way, in collaboration with Virginia Brooks, Ph.D., OHSU School of Medicine professor of physiology and pharmacology, indicate that levels of BDNF in cardiorespiratory nerve cells increase dramatically when blood pressure rises. This suggests a direct role of BDNF in regulation of blood pressure, said Balkowiec.

Additional study authors include neuroscience graduate student Jessica Martin, B.S., and two OHSU research assistants, Victoria Jenkins, B.A., and Hui-ya Hsieh, B.S.

A second study in Dr. Balkowiec’s lab involved discovery of a novel function of the peptide known as Nerve Growth Factor (NGF), in the development of the trigeminal nerve. The trigeminal nerve provides the signaling pathway for periodontal pain, dental surgical pain, and pain associated with temporomandibular disorder, trigeminal neuralgia, migraine, and other neuropathic and inflammatory conditions.

Working with researchers in the dental school departments of Endodontontology and Integrative Biosciences, second-year endodontology resident and lead author of the study, Leila Tarsa, D.D.S., M.S., found a new mechanism involved in establishing junctions – known as synapses – between trigeminal nerve cells. Nerve cells communicate with one another through chemicals called transmitters that are released at synapses. The transmitter release from nerve cells endings is possible only if aided by several molecules that are critical for proper function of the synapse. Dr. Tarsa’s research shows that NGF promotes transport of one of the molecules (called synaptophysin) from the nerve cell body to its ending.

The study appeared in the journal Neuropeptides in early 2009.

In addition to published studies, another sign of a thriving research program, said Dr. Shearer, is the retrieval of new grants.

David Morton, Ph.D., professor of integrative biosciences, received this winter a one-year, $64,000 grant from the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) to study the function of a fruit fly gene related to a human gene associated with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig’s disease).

A large genetic analysis funded by MDA indicated that a gene, FLJ10986, may interact with environmental cues to trigger ALS in certain people. Little is known about how the FLJ10986 gene functions in humans, said Dr. Morton, or how defects in the gene could lead to ALS.

Fruit flies, he said, have a gene very similar to FLJ10986. In previous experiments, Dr. Morton and his team reduced the expression of the fruit fly gene, resulting in neurodegeneration in the fly’s brain.

“The Muscular Dystrophy Association has funded us to gather additional preliminary data to understand more about the function of the fruit fly gene that is similar to FLJ10986,” said Dr. Morton. “Findings from this study should lead to a better understanding of the normal role of this gene in humans and perhaps someday help scientists in earlier diagnosis of ALS or a potential treatment.”
Malpractice: A Band with a Little Teeth

Three years ago, a group of first-year dental students were sitting in the Student Learning Center talking about entering the annual School of Dentistry talent show.

“I thought it would be fun to sing an AC/DC song,” said now fourth-year dental student Cole Johnson. “Nik (Rawley) said he would play guitar, and Charlie (Hartman) owned a bass. Then Matt (Moen) said he used to play drums and our fledgling band “AC/DMD” was born.”

Since then, the band has changed its name to Malpractice. The group has played in a handful of venues, most often the Dublin Pub in Beaverton.

The band has their own logo and T-shirts and, in a nod to the music they play, Cole and Matt have rocked several 80s hairstyles.

“We are strictly an 80s cover band specializing in power ballads featuring such as Bon Jovi, Kenny Loggins, Def Leopard, and the Scorpions,” said Cole. “If the vocals are too high, the guitar too fast, the drums too difficult, and it reeks of big hair and tight pants … we’ll play it.”

Though the band is busy with school, we “realize it’s important to do other things besides school and dentistry,” said Cole.

OHSU Dental Students Tapped for ASDA Leadership

Several OHSU dental students recently were selected for leadership positions within the American Student Dental Association.

Second-year dental student Vishal Panchmatia was appointed to the ASDA Editorial Board as contributing editor. There are four contributing editors on the ASDA Editorial Board, reporting to an editor-in-chief. Contributing editors set policy for ASDA publications and the website; identify potential contributors and help coordinate articles; and write articles and offer suggestions for content and design.

Second-year dental student Jacob Morrow was tapped as vice chair of the Legislative Grassroots Network (LGN), an arm of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA). Jacob will provide leadership in advocacy and other aspects of the political process. For example, he will represent dental students on the American Dental Political Action Committee (ADPAC) Board of Directors and is a voting member; he works with other ASDA members to set up ADPAC drives at their respective chapters; and he will help plan the National Dental Student Lobby Day.

Fourth-year dental students Charlie Hartman (top left), Matt Moen (top center), Nik Rawley (right center), and Cole Johnson (front), are Malpractice.
New Student Association at SOD

First-year dental student Jim Bell, 37, has been closely tied to the Hispanic community most of his adult life. He spent three years in Chile doing church service and going to the university to better his Spanish where he met wife, Betty. Upon returning to the U.S., he incorporated into his social network Hispanic people from all over Latin America.

“Many of our close friends and family are Hispanic, so I have grown sensitive to issues facing Hispanics over the years,” said Jim.

That’s why when Jim became a student at OHSU and the School of Dentistry, he established a local chapter of the national organization Hispanic Student Dental Association (HSDA), the student branch of the Hispanic Dental Association (HDA). Its 12 members – mostly first and second year students – met in late January to establish objectives, elect officials, and discuss 2009 projects.

The group hopes to raises awareness of oral health issues facing Hispanics among OHSU students and dental professionals; provide a voice for the Hispanic oral health professional; stimulate interest and encourage entry of Hispanics into oral health; promote the oral health of the Hispanic community through improved prevention, treatment, and education; foster knowledge concerning Hispanic oral health problems; and disseminate information to Hispanic dental professionals and the Hispanic community.

“There is a broad range of serious challenges facing the dental profession and, although we recognize one person can not do much to solve the complexities of our dental health care system, by voicing our opinions and becoming involved, we have a better chance of shaping the dental industry so that more people have access to quality dental care,” said Jim.

Some of the members of OHSU’s new Hispanic Student Dental Association chapter include (from left to right) Jacob Morrow, HSDA Chapter Founder Jim Bell, Brian Summers, Katie Rock, Mark Mitchell, M.S., associate dean of student affairs, Michelle Yang, Willie Fugere, John Hall, and Eric Berkner. (Photo Bryce Reiser)
ASDA Pre-Dental Committee Offers Mock Interviews

Before second-year dental student Amanda Rentschler was admitted to OHSU School of Dentistry, she wished there had been an opportunity to practice her interviewing skills for dental school. So when the ASDA (American Student Dental Association) Pre-Dental Committee was brainstorming ways to help pre-dental students with their journey to dental school, Amanda and her fellow committee members decided upon a mock interview event.

“We put our undergraduate experiences together and decided that if we had had an opportunity to practice interviewing [for dental school], we would not have passed it up!” said Amanda.

On Feb. 2, the ASDA Pre-Dental Committee, led by first-year dental student Patrick Corning, with supervision by Mark Mitchell, M.A., associate dean of student affairs, and 15 dental student volunteers, held the first OHSU ASDA mock interview session. About 15 pre-dental students attended, from such schools as Reed College, Pacific University, Oregon State University and University of Portland.

Pre-dental students were asked to wear business attire and bring their personal statements for review. In their invitation to the mock interview event, they were cautioned that the experience was meant to be helpful practice for dental school interviewing, but not necessarily indicative of OHSU School of Dentistry or any other dental school.

Pre-dental students who attended “learned about one-on-one interviews, group interviews, dos and don'ts, and how to handle themselves during interviews,” said Amanda.

“It was a lot of fun. [The pre-dental students] want the event to continue!”

Dental Student Takes Advantage of New Community Outreach Program to Care for Underserved

Fourth-year dental student Ryan LeMert knows he wants to work in a rural community after graduation in June. So when he was asked to practice dentistry off campus in Roseburg and Baker City, as part of the OHSU School of Dentistry’s community outreach program, he jumped at the chance.

“I am 95 percent done with my clinic requirements and wanted something worthwhile to do with my time,” said Ryan. “I am heading immediately into private practice after graduation and see this opportunity as absolutely invaluable in my transition from a student to dentist in the ‘real world.’”

Ryan, 26, is spending two weeks in two rural Oregon communities this spring. In Roseburg, he saw patients at the Umpqua Community Health Clinic, visited schools to teach young people about dental hygiene, and familiarized himself with how the Douglas County Health Department operates.

“The clinics and dentists seem delighted to have dental volunteers,” said Ryan. “It is refreshing to have a change of pace and another way to learn dentistry.”

OHSU’s Community Dental Rotation is currently an elective; by fall, every fourth-year dental student will be required to spend at least two weeks in community-based education. The community dental rotation is sponsored by AHEC (Area Health Education Centers) and the Oregon Office of Rural Health.

One goal of the program is to increase the number of dentists practicing in rural, underserved areas, said Mike Plunkett, D.D.S., M.P.H., assistant professor of community dentistry and director of outreach programs.

Come June, Ryan will be one of those new rural dentists. “I’ll be in rural southern Oregon in a single dentist office with only one dentist in the area,” he said. “I hope these six weeks will give me a valuable jump-start on being on my own in a private practice.”
Course Offers Dental Students Taste of Oral Injections

They say dental students never forget their first oral injections and the class of 2011 is no exception.

“The professors made sure to let us know of the negative consequences of a poorly placed injection!” said second-year dental student Travis Hamilton. “I’ve had oral injections before at my dentist. After the first injection, [in anesthesia lab] I felt much more comfortable. I actually felt less discomfort this time [getting an oral injection] compared to previous times with my old dentist.”

The OHSU School of Dentistry’s Dental Anesthesia course is being taught this winter by Julie Ann Smith, D.D.S., M.D., assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Dr. Smith said she works hard to help dental students feel comfortable about giving – and receiving – oral injections. Dental anesthesia is so important to a dental practice,” said Dr. Smith. “We use DVD instruction, as well as verbal instruction, using skull models to demonstrate the various anesthesia techniques.

“We also discuss when you would use certain types of anesthetic and/or certain anesthesia block techniques by integrating case scenarios into the discussion.”

The dental students then pair up and do injections on one another, under the supervision of faculty.

DS2s Amanda Rice and Marisa Sonerholm have been paired for much of the anesthesia lab. “Having already successfully attempted all recommended blocks, my partner and I wanted to get as much practice in as we possibly could,” said Marisa. “I ended up administering an IA, long buccal, PSA, MSA, ASA, and nasopalatine through the interdental papilla on her all in one session. She did basically equivalent shots to me, only substituting an Akinosi for the IA and adding in a couple of extra attempts at my elusive long buccal nerve. The left side of my face was numb for hours!”

Both Marisa and Travis called the course “terrific,” and appreciate the hands-on approach to learning and the euphoria of starting to practice real dentistry.

“It has also been so useful to me to experience what I will expect my patient to endure,” said Marisa. “I now am very familiar with the level of pain they can anticipate when receiving an injection. I know what the effects of anesthetic feel like, and roughly how long their altered sensations will last. All of these experiences will help me to be a more knowledgeable and empathetic practitioner.”

Agreed Amanda, “The best way to learn how to give painless, successful injections is with practice. The techniques taught in general anesthesia are vital to a successful practice.”
OHSU School of Dentistry students were all over the Portland-area in February providing dental education and oral care, as part of National Children's Dental Health Month. Despite a tight budget, the School was committed to continuing with its traditional children's dental health month activities.

"With the uncertain economy, taking children to the dentist is a lower priority for uninsured and low-income families, even though it is very important that children receive regular dental care," said Prashant Gagneja, B.D.S., chair of pediatric dentistry. "Providing care and education to low-income children will not only help the children and their families, but, hopefully, raise awareness statewide about children's oral health needs. We feel that now is an especially important time for our dental students, staff, and faculty to support the community."

Celebration of Smiles
On Feb. 6 and 7, the School sponsored Celebration of Smiles at the Portland Children's Museum, in conjunction with local dental societies. The Alumni Association made a contribution to the event for materials and supplies. More than 1,400 children and their families attended the Saturday event highlighting the importance of early and regular oral health care.

New in 2009 was a free Friday evening event at the museum sponsored by Target, said second-year dental student Vishal Panchmatia, who coordinated Celebration of Smiles. "In a span of just three hours, the museum had over 1,000 children come and enjoy our dental-themed exhibits, which is an all-time record for turnout," said Vishal. "We were very thrilled by the amazing showing."

First-year dental students Steve Jackson (left) and Tyler Bendixsen use Wally the Alligator at the Portland Children's Museum to demonstrate brushing tips to a young Celebration of Smiles attendee. (Photo Dan Carter)
Sealant Day

For the 11th year, the School of Dentistry offered Sealant Day to Buckman Arts Elementary School second-graders. Seventy Buckman children were pre-screened on Feb. 10 and about 30 received free sealants from third- and fourth-year dental students in the Dr. and Mrs. Carl Rietman Pediatric Dentistry Clinic on Feb. 19.

“You’re doing great!” fourth-year dental student Diep Pham told seven-year-old Aliza Richardson, who was clutching her stuffed puppy, Buddy.

Aliza has a regular dentist, said her mom, Colleen, but they have no dental insurance and the cost of sealants is a stretch. “This is a great opportunity,” said Colleen. “I’m happy OHSU is doing this for Buckman.”

Fourth-year dental student Amy Fine intends a career in community dentistry.

“It’s good to get this volume of young patients for practice,” she said.

Children’s Dental Health Day

In Vancouver, Wash., the same weekend, more than 30 dental students, primarily third- and fourth-year students, provided dental care to low-income and uninsured children in Clark County at a Clark College-sponsored Children’s Dental Health Day. The event is similar to Give Kids a Smile, noted fourth-year dental student Michael Melanson, with dental students receiving pedodontics credit for procedures completed. Peter Lubisch IV, D.M.D. ’01, OHSU assistant professor of pediatric dentistry, was the faculty advisor for the Clark College event.

Outreach to Brooks Elementary

Third-graders at Brooks Elementary in Brooks, Ore., were treated to an oral health presentation by OHSU dental students Feb. 13. The dental students were split into four groups and 80 third-graders rotated between presentations on oral hygiene, nutrition, dental anatomy, and dental emergencies.

“The students loved it,” said predoctoral clinic coordinator and honorary alum Melissa Monner.

Said third-year dental student David Garlock as he approached the school and saw the Brooks students waving from the classroom, “I feel like I’m coming in on a white horse!”
OMS Head Completes Care for Kenya Shooting Victim

Walking down the hall to the department of oral and maxillofacial surgery, Elizabeth Bwayo looks like a different person than when she arrived at OHSU two years ago.

The Kenyan, sister of honorary School of Dentistry alum Grace Kuto, was randomly shot in the face by gangsters in Kenya in early 2007. Her husband, Job, was killed in the attack, and her friend, Carol Briggs, was also severely wounded in the face.

Now, two years later, Elizabeth has come to say goodbye to her lead surgeon, Leon Assael, D.M.D., chair of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

“You have a human touch,” Elizabeth said to Dr. Assael, with a big hug. “You get involved personally and that played a big part in my healing. Knowing that you were excited about my healing made all the difference.”

After the February 2007 shooting, Elizabeth and Carol received care at Nairobi Hospital from Eric Kahugu, F.E.D., R.C.S.I., F.D.S., M(Ed)Sc., F.I.A.O.M.S., one of 15 oral and maxillofacial surgeons in the country of 28 million. Dr. Kahugu had met Dr. Assael at several conferences and, when he learned his patients were from Oregon, arranged for their transfer to OHSU as soon as they were stable.

“From the point at which we started, we have achieved a lot,” said Dr. Assael. “Unfortunately, this is a fairly common injury to the jaws, so we have a lot of experience. We’ve come out of this as well as anyone can.”

Elizabeth has had a full reconstruction, including a lip tongue release with a forearm flap. She can eat by mouth and her scars blend beautifully along the sides of her chin. Her speech is growing clearer ever day.

“The techniques used in reconstruction aren’t available most places in the United States,” said Dr. Assael. OHSU specialists Mark Wax, M.D., F.A.C.S., and Thomas Albert, D.M.D., were instrumental in Elizabeth’s care, as was Charles Dufort, D.M.D., a Vancouver, Wash., prosthodontist, and a number of OHSU residents and other health professionals.

“We’re all capable of hard work, but we can only pray for good results and we’ve had very good results,” said Dr. Assael.

On Feb. 7, Elizabeth flew back to Nairobi to resume her life in Africa, where she’ll manage a guest house the Bwayo family owns.

“I received the best care,” said Elizabeth. “I know when I get home, people won’t recognize me. When I look at the pictures after the shooting, I look so different. I am just so happy with Dr. Assael and his team.”

New Group Leader

Thomas Galbraith, D.D.S., assistant professor of operative dentistry, has joined the Hawthorne bridge group practice as leader. Dr. Galbraith joined the School of Dentistry one year ago. Prior to joining OHSU, Dr. Galbraith was in private practice in Weed, Calif. He is a 1979 graduate of the University of Southern California School of Dentistry.

Dr. Galbraith will lead the Hawthorne group with Eric Anderson, D.M.D. ’05, assistant professor of restorative dentistry. The group practice structure for the School began fall of 2007.
Alum Writes New Technique Manual

One of OHSU School of Dentistry’s alumni and newest board members recently unveiled a new technique manual. William Bonniksen, D.M.D. ’75, spent six months drafting a “Technique Manual for Gold Castings,” a course he has taught to second-year dental students since joining the faculty in 2006. Dr. Bonniksen introduced his manual just in time for the start of winter term in early January.

The 44-page manual has large, colorful photographs with step-by-step instructions and discussions about clinical relevance throughout the book.

“I did a lot of gold work in my practice for 30 years and I felt that I could add something to the gold program,” said Dr. Bonniksen, who retired from his Salem, Ore., private practice the same year he joined the School. Dr. Bonniksen is an assistant professor of restorative dentistry and was in the Tucker Study Club for a decade.

Dr. Bonniksen wrote all the copy, snapped all the photographs, and taught himself Microsoft Publisher to design the manual, published through the university. Ten copies of the manual are available for lending.

“There is always something to learn about dentistry,” he said. “I included some of the practical experience from the clinic, so dentistry actually helped write it. It was a lot of fun, and the dental students seem to like the book.”

New Faculty for School

The following have joined the OHSU School of Dentistry faculty:

- **Cynthia Scheines**, D.D.S., Ph.D., an adjunct assistant professor of periodontology. Dr. Scheines was in private periodontic practice in Argentina, and taught periodontology at the Asociacion Odontologica Argentina. She received her doctor of dental science and her doctoral degree in periodontics from Universidad del Salvador in Buenos Aires.

- **Sheena Kalia**, D.D.S., an adjunct assistant professor of pediatric dentistry. Dr. Kalia is a 2008 graduate of the School’s pediatric dentistry residency program. She received her doctor of dental surgery from the University of Alberta, Canada.

OHSU Continuing Dental Education Calendar

For information about the following courses, please call (503) 494-8857, or go to www.ohsu.edu/sod/continuinged. Ask about early registration fees.

**April 13 to May 30**

*Spring Oral Radiology Proficiency* (50 hours)
Kelly Wiss, C.D.A. and Lynn Ironside, R.D.H.

**April 24 to 25**

*Understanding Your Dental Patient with Significant Medical Disease: Part III – Immunology** (16 hours)
Barton S. Johnson, D.D.S.

**April 25**

*Hypnosis in Dentistry* (Four hours)
J. Henry Clarke, D.M.D. ’61

**May 9**

*Endodontic Update: The Latest and Greatest* (Seven hours)
J. Craig Baumgartner, D.D.S.

**May 30**

*The New Dentist – Taking Action for the Bottom Line* (Three hours)
Bill Blatchford, D.D.S.

**June 20**

*AIDS: Its Implications in Dentistry* (Seven hours)
David Rosenstein, D.M.D., and F. James Kratochvil, D.D.S.

**Applicable toward dental hygiene limited access permit education requirements.

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Bob Quinn, D.M.D. ’55: A Consummate Teacher For 51 Years

It’s hard to find an OHSU School of Dentistry alum who hasn’t been taught dentistry by E. Robert “Bob” Quinn, D.M.D. ’55. Thousands of the School’s approximately 5,500 living alums count him as an instructor. An estimated 40 percent of the 300 full- and part-time faculty were mentored by Dr. Quinn. And the longtime associate professor of operative dentistry has taught everyone from Eugene Kelley, D.M.D. ’59 to Nirvana Schuyler, D.M.D. ’07 – and a whole bunch of great oral health professionals in between.

“Dr. Quinn has always been a student-first educator,” said Scott Dyer, D.M.D. ’00, M.S., Ph.D., assistant professor of restorative dentistry. “He was the first to explain a procedure, give a student a hand, and offer a word of encouragement.”

Peter Morita, D.M.D. ’86, associate dean for patient services, had Dr. Quinn during his third year of dental school. “The man stands for quality, yet he interacts with humility and teaches for the sheer pleasure of sharing his knowledge and skills,” said Dr. Morita. “He is one of those mentors that during the dental school years was always ‘Dr. Quinn,’ and even after graduation and his admonishing you to call him ‘Bob,’ he is still and always will be, ‘Dr. Quinn.’”

Michael Carlascio, D.M.D. ’81, assistant professor of operative dentistry, credits Dr. Quinn with influencing his decision to become a dentist, having observed Dr. Quinn care for patients when he was a high school senior.

William Bonniksen, D.M.D. ’75, assistant professor of restorative dentistry, also visited Dr. Quinn’s practice to observe patients during his time in dental school. “He just knew so much about dentistry from the simplest to the most complex,” said Dr. Bonniksen. “His teaching always had clinical relevance, and I appreciated his insight into ways people can apply knowledge. He’s a super guy to have taught dentistry for 50 years.”

But even after a two-day manual dexterity test – required in those days – where Dr. Quinn carved shapes in a chalk block dental instrument to prove his mettle, he was placed on the alternate list for dental school for lack of science credits.

“The School was having trouble getting Oregon residents to apply and at that time 60 percent of the class had to be from Oregon,” said Dr. Quinn. “I got called up right before school began. I played (center linebacker) football on a Saturday night and I started dental school on a Monday morning.

“I’ll never forget that first day,” he said, with a chuckle. “There was a young guy, Kare Evju, from Norway in our class asking all these questions and I couldn’t understand a word he said! I figured it was because I only had two years of pre-dental under my belt, but it turns out, he was speaking Norwegian.”

Dr. Quinn attended dental school at the old building on N.E. 6th and Oregon streets.

“The building was getting pretty bad and the school was close to losing its accreditation,” he said. “In the clinic, we had buckets hanging from chicken wire to catch the rain leaking from the ceiling.

“There was no running water or compressed air at the chair side and our patients spit into cuspidors,” he said. “We used a squeeze bottle to rinse patients mouths so they could spit into the cuspidor because the sinks were at the end of the aisles.

“There wasn’t any room for chairs, so we stood while we saw patients.”

Patients, said Dr. Quinn, were people off the street, much like today. The dental school was inexpensive, he said; much cheaper than going to a dentist in private practice.

Dr. Quinn lived with another first-year dental student in what he calls “The Attic,” a room with “wallpaper between the studs,” located on 10th and Broadway. The room cost $7.50 a month and some yard work.


After graduation in 1955, Dr. Quinn served two years in the United States Army as a dentist in Korea. (Dr. Wagoner was commissioned by the United States Navy as a dentist).
In 1957, the pair began teaching at the dental school – now in a $2.2 million building on Marquam Hill – and opened a private practice in Beaverton, Ore., sharing a staff person. "We were both easygoing," said Dr. Quinn, of the friend and partner he calls "amazing.

"If one person used an extra pound of plaster, neither of us worried," he said. "There were times I'd say I was tired and I'd find John had come in and done some crowns for one of my patients without even having been asked. We each tried to do 110 percent."

At one point, Dr. Quinn's wife, Shirley, was the bookkeeper, and Dr. Wagoner's wife, Marilyn, the receptionist. "They told us when we built our new office (a block from Beaverton High School) that dentists can't work together that closely, but we never had a problem," said Dr. Quinn. The only "trouble" Dr. Quinn had in private practice was with technology.

"When John and I started with computers, three days worth of books were lost," he said. "That's what turned me off computers for good. When they put computers into the dental school I was worried I might have to quit. I'm not an email guy.

Dr. Quinn retired from private practice in 1997. (Phillip Freeman, D.M.D. '97, purchased the practice).

"I continue to teach because I love dentistry," said Dr. Quinn. "And I love to teach."

(continued on page 20)

Kenneth Cantwell, D.M.D. '43, Nic Marino, D.M.D. '57, and Seattle's Dr. Lloyd Jacobson. After the 1980s when aesthetic dentistry moved into implants, Dr. Quinn was in high demand to lecture for such organizations as the American Academy of General Dentistry and the Kerr Company.

"One thing I enjoy in the clinic is that they often send dental students to me with aesthetic dentistry questions and patients," said Dr. Quinn. "I think dental students appreciate my knowledge of composites and porcelains."

Now 78, Dr. Quinn works at the School two full days a week. (Fittingly, it was his legislator father-in-law who overturned mandatory retirement at 70, enabling Oregonians to work in their later years).

"I continue to teach because I love dentistry," said Dr. Quinn. "And I love to teach."

(continued on page 20)
J. Henry Clarke, D.M.D. ’61 can rattle off dates as if the events happened yesterday. The longtime OHSU School of Dentistry professor can tell you exactly when he started lecturing on the history of dentistry (1969), when he assumed fulltime dental history duties for the dental school (1972), when anesthesia was discovered (1846); and the year anatomic forceps were invented (1826), just to name a few.

“I have always loved history,” said Dr. Clarke, professor emeritus of community dentistry. “My mother always said, ‘He who loves history lives twice.’ And that seems about right.”

As a youngster, Dr. Clarke was fascinated with Native American culture and history. While at the University of Utah for his undergraduate studies (he ultimately received a bachelor’s degree from Portland State University), Dr. Clarke became interested in United States Western history. And with a father who immigrated to the U.S. as a teenager, Dr. Clarke had a good facility for English lore.

Dr. Clarke planned to become a college professor. But then he met his wife, Linda, and was drafted into the Korean War.

“The day before I was to be shipped out, I had an abscessed tooth,” said Dr. Clarke, laughing at the irony. “They wouldn’t delay my draft for the tooth to be fixed.

“When I reported for duty, they were going to extract my central incisor and my dentist at home had been planning to do a root canal. I sure didn’t want to lose a tooth right in front, so I asked for an oral surgeon and he did the root canal procedure. It was at that point that I decided dentistry was a fascinating field and I managed to get into the dental corps because I knew I could better provide for a family on a dentist’s income.”

Dr. Clarke attended University of Oregon Dental School (now the OHSU School of Dentistry) and graduated in 1961. Upon graduation, he opened a private practice in southeast Portland.

OHSU Professor Knows Dental History

But he missed teaching. And the business side of dentistry never appealed.

During the 1960’s, many dental schools were revising their dental school curriculums and eliminating their history of dentistry courses. Dr. Clarke had heard that George Batterson, M.S., who was then teaching dental history, would be retiring, and in 1969, he asked then-Dean Lou Terkla, D.M.D. ’52, if he could take Batterson’s spot to ensure the course remained within the dental curriculum.

Bob Quinn, D.M.D. ’55

(continued from page 19)

“I never had the pleasure of Dr. Quinn as an instructor,” said Dean Jack Clinton, D.M.D. ’64, “because when I was in School he only taught dental students in the last half of the alphabet.

“It is a rare individual that works at the School of Dentistry – or even the university – for 50 years,” said Dean Clinton. “There are only one or two people at OHSU who achieve that milestone every year. And, even today, fifty years after he began teaching here, Dr. Quinn remains a perennial student favorite. Fortunate is the dentist who has Bob as a mentor.”

Indeed, Dr. Quinn has been honored with dozens of instructor awards from various graduating classes; most recently, he was elected faculty marshal at the 2008 hooding and honors convocation. He was president of the alumni association from 1982-83, alumni of the year in 1991, and has received numerous dean’s awards, most recently in 2007. Dr. Quinn also holds countless memberships in various dental organizations.

“Dr. Quinn is a great instructor with whom I truly enjoyed working,” said Dr. Schuyler. “As a dentist in private practice, I have treated a handful of his former patients, as well as two of his former employees. From their affectionate accounts, as well as my own experiences with him, Dr. Quinn is a hard-working and meticulous dentist who is always warm and outgoing. The standard he has set is one that we should all strive to achieve.”

Added Dr. Carlascio: “Dr. Quinn is a rock star. He has touched the lives of so many dentists as an educator, mentor, and friend. We are so fortunate to have him at the dental school.”
Dr. Terkla asked Dr. Clarke to begin giving lectures that fall.

In 1972, Dr. Clarke scaled back his private practice, accepting a half-time position as supervising dentist in the School of Dentistry’s dental hygiene department. In 1973, he assumed general education department head responsibilities.

One of Dr. Clarke's first tasks was to restore and organize the thousands of archival materials languishing in room 13 on the ground floor of the school. The Alumni Association gave Dr. Clarke and the School's then dental librarian two $10,000 grants: one to create a history of dentistry room on the sixth floor; the other to restore rare books.

“The first journal of dentistry was called the American Journal of Dental Science and we have a complete collection,” said Dr. Clarke. “We also have a complete collection of Dental Cosmos from 1859 forward, a publication which was later replaced by the Journal of the American Dental Association. We have a number of rare books, including the works of G.V. Black, and many older works.

“I believe we have one of the best collections on the West Coast.”

Due to budget cuts in the late 1990's, the School of Dentistry lost its library (now the Student Learning Center). The books were moved to the OHSU Biomedical Information Communication Center (BICC) and the dental history room was turned into a computer room. The majority of the school's historical collection was transferred to the second floor of the BICC and is now in a special history of dentistry room. The historical displays line the first, second, and sixth floor hallways of the dental school.

Dr. Clarke feels strongly that dental history should be taught with enthusiasm and a positive approach, “otherwise it’s just a dead subject.”

“Dentists have made so many contributions to humanity that students need to know about,” noted Dr. Clarke. “In the 1600s, abscessed teeth were the fifth leading cause of death. People either put up with the pain or used home remedies until many died of spreading infection such as Ludwig's Angina or brain abscesses. If they tried to have the tooth pulled they often died from accidents or secondary infection.”

The discovery of anesthesia by a dentist in 1846 was a key advance, he said, as was the development of anatomic forceps – also by a dentist – in 1826. The discovery of anesthesia opened the doors to surgery, said Dr. Clarke, and dentists have made many contributions to surgery, particularly plastic surgery, a field pioneered by a dentist.

“The history of dentistry has always been one of the most popular courses in school,” said Dr. Clarke. “The American Academy of History of Dentistry has an essay contest every year (M.K. Bremner Award) and OHSU dental students have placed first in the contest more times (14 total) than any other dental school, which speaks to our history curriculum.”

Bob Johnson, D.M.D. ’77, now shares the history of dentistry teaching duties with Dr. Clarke, and the course is taught to students in the first year of dental school, rather than the second.

Interested in the psychology of dentistry after treating many patients who did not like the numb mouth (or the pain) associated with dentistry, Dr. Clarke in 1964 attended a Canadian course in clinical hypnosis and became active in the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis and what is now the Oregon Society of Clinical Hypnosis.

Since 1973, Dr. Clarke has taught an elective course at OHSU in clinical hypnosis. In addition to his part-time OHSU appointment, he spends one-half day a week at the Kaiser Permanente TMD clinic using hypnosis to treat difficult cases of tension and myofacial pain. In 1974, he organized the School of Dentistry’s division of behavioral sciences. Dr. Clarke later received a master's degree in human behavior/education from Portland State University.

In 1997, Dr. Clarke retired from chair-side dentistry.

"I love every part of teaching, from the preparation of a lecture to giving the lecture to creating a PowerPoint, to writing exams,” said Dr. Clarke. "I love learning and the learning environment. I really have the best of all worlds here."
On the Go:  
Ted Flaiz, D.M.D. ’44

He may be the only one in his class to make the trip, but Ted Flaiz, D.M.D. ’44, is planning on being at the Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon April 4.

“It’s too bad that those guys in my class who’ve been contacted about the reunion said they are not in any shape to travel,” said Dr. Flaiz. “But I’ll be there.” Dr. Flaiz, 88, likely will be the oldest OHSU School of Dentistry graduate in attendance.

The Hermiston, Ore., resident has kept busy in the 64 years since graduation. He volunteers for Medical Teams International, working on a mobile dental clinic two-to-three days a week in eastern Oregon. In the last eight years, Dr. Flaiz has volunteered more than 2,000 hours treating over 4,000 patients – about $1.5 million in free dentistry. [Editor’s Note: At press time, some of the clinics for the Walla Walla van where Dr. Flaiz volunteers, had been cut due to budget constraints. To help, contact Keith Canwell at (509) 301-9621].

“I do a lot of extractions, and to be able to help someone get rid of a toothache that has kept them awake for days, it is rewarding,” said Dr. Flaiz, who has been volunteering on the vans for the past six years, conducting more than $1 million in free dental care. “I think we’ve done a lot of good and made a lot of people happy.”

When he’s not volunteering on the dental van, Dr. Flaiz can be found … well, anywhere. “My wife (Phyllis, who died in February; see page 25) says I’ve done dentistry in 20 countries in the world!” he said. “I just got back from Guadalajara and Trinidad on a mission.”

Dr. Flaiz grew up on the southeast coast of India where his father was a missionary. The family later relocated to California where his father pursued a medical degree.

Dr. Flaiz intended to pursue medicine or dentistry and was accepted to OHSU School of Dentistry’s precursor, North Pacific Dental College.

After dental school graduation, Dr. Flaiz was drafted twice, serving in the Pacific (he was part of the first group of troops to land) and later in the Korean War as a prosthetics officer.

In 1953, Dr. Flaiz opened a private practice in Prineville, Ore., and treated patients there for 15 years until he was asked by his church to open a dental clinic in a new Ethiopian hospital.

“It took a lot of serious thinking about accepting a mission salary for a good private practice income,” said Dr. Flaiz. “But we went and I haven’t been in practice since then, which was 1971.” A Communist takeover ended the adventure six years later and the family was asked to gather equipment for a new clinic in Tanzania. From there, it was on to the Caribbean.

Dentistry in such countries as Russia, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Borneo, and New Guinea followed.

“The people in these countries are so appreciative of our help,” said Dr. Flaiz. “One little girl in New Guinea gratefully offered me all she had – two peanuts – after a morning of dental care.”

“People in this country don’t appreciate what we have,” he said. “We really have so much.”

Dr. Flaiz is pleased to live in Oregon once again with his four children and their families nearby. But that doesn’t mean he’s resting on his laurels.

“I can’t stand sitting around doing nothing,” he said. “Just sitting around is not for me!”
Unlike many dentists, Barry Taylor, D.M.D. ’95, likes to write.

“I never minded writing,” said Dr. Taylor. “In fact, I’ve discovered that I really enjoy it.”

Dr. Taylor will have plenty of chances to write as the new editor of the Oregon Dental Association’s Membership Matters, a monthly magazine for dental professionals with a circulation of 1,800. Previously, Dr. Taylor was editor of the (OAGD) Oregon Academy of General Dentistry’s newsletter.

“There is so much talk about access to oral care,” said Dr. Taylor, a dentist at Willamette Dental in Beaverton, Ore. “My goal as editor is to emphasize what dentistry can do to provide access for all people, highlighting individuals who are providing volunteer services locally and within Oregon, and provide a forum for workforce challenges. I still believe the current dental model is an efficient one and I’d like to talk about ways to maintain the basic model while improving access to care.”

Dr. Taylor grew up in a dental environment. Mom, Bernadette, is the executive director of the OAGD, and dad, Vince, provides software services for dentists. The youngest of four, Dr. Taylor attended Oregon State University, graduating with a bachelor of science in general science. He then did a fellowship at the Portland VA Medical Center’s department of psychiatry, studying dopamine receptors and how they’re affected by various medications.

After his fellowship, Dr. Taylor went on to dental school. He remembers “great instructors and classmates.” After graduation, Dr. Taylor opened a private practice in Beaverton, Ore., that he recently sold to join Willamette Dental. His flexible schedule gives him more time with sons Carl, 6, and Sage, 10 – and more time to write.

“When dental students are writing their original essays to get into school, I always tell them to remember what they wrote about helping people and making a difference,” said Dr. Taylor.

“It’s those written words that are key after graduation.”
**Class of 1959**

Myron Dahl, D.M.D. ’59, Fairview, Ore., is traveling.

Gerald Eastwood, D.M.D. ’59, Lusby, Md., has been married to wife, Marilyn, for 40 years. He has traveled to all 50 states. He enjoys sailing on the Chesapeake Bay. Dr. Eastwood finds dentistry a “wonderful profession,” and volunteers for Mission of Mercy.

Robert Gilbert, D.M.D. ’59, Ozark, Ariz., practices general dentistry in Paris, Arizona. He practices four days a week and “plays” every weekend on his farm, complete with tractors and cattle.

Gary Hall, D.M.D. ’59, Langley, B.C., practiced general dentistry for 40 years. He is actively volunteering overseas. Dr. Hall has been married to wife, Gerry, for 53 years.

Jerry Heston, D.M.D. ’59, Spokane, Wash., has been volunteering for 14 years, providing dental care to low-income clinics in Spokane and Jamaica and on the Smilemobile, among others. Dr. Heston and wife, Connie, have volkswalked in 48 of the 50 United States and six of the 10 Canadian Provinces.

**Class of 1963**

Lee Metcalf, D.M.D. ’63, Fullerton, Calif., enjoys motorcycles, photography, and travel (boat cruises).

Dick Moffitt, D.M.D. ’63, Eugene, Ore., is bike touring on the West Coast. He sailed his boat to Tahiti in 2003.


Bill Scharwatt, D.M.D. ’63, Lake Oswego, Ore., is in private practice half time. He plays golf and enjoys organic gardening, woodworking, remodeling, and travel. Dr. Scharwatt and wife, Carole, have been married 45 years.

**Class of 1964**

Fred Bremner, D.M.D. ’64, Lake Oswego, Ore., longtime editor of the Oregon Dental Association’s Membership Matters, recently received two editorial awards at the American Association of Dental Editors meeting in San Antonio. Dr. Bremner received the 2008 Distinguished Dental Editor Award for his superior leadership and production of high-quality publications. He also received the 2008 Prize for Dental Journalism presented by the AADE in conjunction with the American College of Dentists, for his August editorial “Preserving the Privilege,” an in-depth analysis of the importance of self-governance for dentists.

**Class of 1974**

Gordon Croft, D.M.D. ’74, Meridian, Idaho, is in private practice in Boise. About 30 years ago, he bought a 40-acre farm where he and wife, Ann, raise cattle and horses. Dr. Croft hunts deer and elk. He has taken a number of trips to Europe and done volunteer work in Peru and Mexico for the past seven years.

William (Bill) Griffiths, D.M.D. ’74, West Linn, Ore., is in general family dentistry. Dr. Griffiths and wife, Mary, recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in Maui. He says he loves Apple Computers, digital cameras, and his family.

**Class of 1979**

Kathy Hames, R.D.H. ’79, Denver, Co., did temporary work three-to-five days a week for 28 years, retiring from dental hygiene in 2007 to become a real estate investor. Kathy was a finalist for first year of the Survivor television show. She is an avid gardener and her garden will be featured on a Denver Hospice tour this June.

**Class of 1986**

Alum Jacqueline Bourdette, D.M.D. ’86 (right front) cares for a young patient during the School’s 2008 Give Kids a Smile day, while Dean Jack Clinton, D.M.D. ’64 (left) and former Portland Mayor Tom Potter say “hello.” Dr. Bourdette was a general dentist in several public health clinics before obtaining her began doing sleep dentistry in 2000. Dr. Saager recently became engaged to Ellen Brown and will marry this July during the weekend portion of Cycle Oregon.
pediatric dentistry certificate from OHSU (she graduated in 1994) so has experience working with young people from varied socioeconomic backgrounds. “I like working with kids,” said Dr. Bourdette, who owns her own pediatric dentistry practice in the Multnomah area of southwest Portland. “It’s fun and the kids are a blast.” Dr. Bourdette re-arranged her schedule to volunteer for the 2009 Give Kids a Smile Day (on Feb. 27), when about 200 low-income, uninsured children received free care from dental students, staff, and faculty in the predoctoral clinic. (Photo Dan Carter)

Class of 1988
John MacDonald, D.M.D. ’88, Salem, Ore., is in private practice. He is on the Unitek Advisory Board and lectures around the country.

Mary Kay Schwab, D.M.D. ’88, Portland, Ore., is in private practice.

Rosalyn Wright, D.M.D. ’88, Reno, Nev., is in private practice.

Class of 1989
Lori Mansfield, R.D.H. ’89, Reno, Nev., married Josh McDonald last June. Lori has retired from dental hygiene and is an instructor at Truckee Meadows Community College.

Class of 1991
Daniel Saucy, D.M.D. ’91, Salem, Ore., recently became president of the Society of Physicians for Wine and Health. Dr. Saucy is the first dentist to be president of the society.

Class of 2001
Scott Carter, D.M.D. ’01, Boise, Idaho, is opening a community dental clinic and private practice. He recently married Amelia Justin, D.M.D. ’03.

1950’s

Jeffery Currier, D.M.D. ’54, died Feb. 7 at age 80 in Sheridan, Ore.


David Carmichael, D.M.D. ’50, has died.

1960’s
Joe M. Egge, D.M.D. ’69, died Jan. 29 at age 65.

Helen Emery, R.D.H. ’67, died Feb. 15 at age 63.

Ronald Skreslet, D.M.D. ’64, died May 2, 2008.

Alumni Family

Dorothy Kawai-Chock, wife of Kyle Chock, D.M.D. ’80, and a 1974 graduate of the OHSU School of Nursing, died Jan. 28.


Clara M. Porter, widow of Donald Porter, D.M.D., died Jan. 24 at age 82. Contributions may be made to the Donald R. Porter Endowment Fund at the School of Dentistry.

Staff/Faculty

Wilbur Van Zile, D.D.S., died Feb. 9 at age 104. Dr. Van Zile joined OHSU (then University of Oregon Dental School) in 1959 as the first chair of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Forty-one years ago:
The School of Dentistry Alumni Association had just purchased a state-of-the-art record keeping system for keeping track of alumni, according to the January 1968 Caementum. The record keeping system enabled the alumni office to store significant information about alums as well as payment of dues and attendance at postgraduate courses. In Caementum, the card system was described as a key-sort type, so that when a code item was punched out and a needle sorter placed in the holes of the cards, the cards on alums could easily be coded and sorted. Today, alumni records through the Alumni Association are all computerized. Everything from photographs to press releases to details on great-grandchildren can be housed in the alumni database. If you have new information for the alumni office’s records, please send it to sdalumni@ohsu.edu or call Jessica Smith, (503) 494-0983.

Eighteen years ago:
Bob Quinn, D.M.D. ’55, was named Alumni of the Year at the annual meeting and awards luncheon (see story, page 18). According to the summer 1991 Caementum, Dr. Quinn made it to the lunch seconds before organizers finished reading his many accomplishments aloud. The 2009 Alum of the Year award will be announced April 4 at the Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon at the Oregon Convention Center. For more information, call the alumni office, (503) 494-0983 or go to www.ohsu.edu/sod/alumni.
### Reunion Weekend 2009

**April 3 to 5**

**Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon**  
*Saturday, April 4*  
Oregon Convention Center

**Spring Phonathon**  
*April 20-23 and April 27-30*  
OHSU Foundation

**Alaska Dental Society Annual Membership Meeting**  
*May 7 to 9*  
Fairbanks Westmark Hotel  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**Montana Dental Association Annual Meeting**  
*May 20 to 22*  
Best Western Heritage Inn  
Great Falls, Montana

**Idaho State Dental Association Annual Session**  
*June 11 to 13*  
Boise Centre on the Grove  
Boise, Idaho

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The following classes have announced their reunion plans. For more information on scheduled events and those yet to be scheduled, please contact the Alumni Office at (503) 494-0983

**DMD**
- **1949**  
  *Annual Meeting Luncheon and Awards*, Saturday, April 4 at 11:30 a.m.

- **1954**  
  *Annual Meeting Luncheon and Awards*, Saturday, April 4 at 11:30 a.m.

- **1959**  
  *Lloyd Center Doubletree Hotel*, Saturday, April 4 at 6 p.m.

- **1964**  
  *OHSU School of Dentistry*, Saturday, April 4 at 6 p.m.

- **1969**  
  *Chart House Restaurant*, Saturday, April 4 at 6 p.m.

- **1974**  
  *Pazzo Ristorante*, Saturday, April 4 at 6 p.m.

- **1979**  
  *Heathman Hotel*, Saturday, April 4 at 6 p.m.

- **1984**  
  *Columbia-Edgewater Country Club*, Saturday April 4 at 6:30 p.m.

- **1989**  
  *McMenamins on Broadway*, Friday, April 3 at 4:30 p.m.
  and *Andina Restaurant*, Saturday, April 4 at 6:30 p.m.

- **1994**  
  *Alexis Restaurant*, Saturday, April 4 at 6 p.m.
  and *Andina Restaurant*, Saturday, April 4 at 6:30 p.m.

- **1999**  
  *Meriwether’s Restaurant*, Friday, April 3 at 6 p.m.

- **2004**  
  *Old Market Pub*, Saturday, April 4 at 6 p.m

**RDH**
- **1984**  
  *Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon*, Saturday, April 4 at 11:30 a.m.

- **1989**  
  *Grand Sierra Resort*, Reno, June 19 to 20

- **1999**  
  *McMenamins Kennedy School*, Saturday, April 4