THIS EDITION'S CONTENT

A Letter from the Dean
About Dental Bites
The Emergency Dental Care Clinic
SoD Spreading Good
SoD Profile: Dr. Hui Wu
Online Spring Curriculum
Continuing Dental Education
Student Scholarship Recipient Highlights
NAIIS Honorable Mention
SoD Rising Stars
2020 Alumni Award Recipients
Research Recognition
2020 Flame Awards
Dear Alumni & Friends,

I hope that this letter finds you well. The pandemic has caused anxiety and grief for people all around the world. We are all dealing with the loss of our “normal” due to the adverse effects of COVID-19. May and June are typically a time for celebration at the School of Dentistry, but unfortunately, all in-person convocation and graduation celebrations have been canceled. An online university-wide convocation is scheduled for June 7, 2020, at 10 am with the school-specific ceremony scheduled sometime after. Details on how to view these ceremonies will be sent towards the beginning of June.

Innovation out of necessity has been a regular occurrence since modified operations began in March. The School of Dentistry has gained much in regards to enhancing our academic methodologies and providing more clinical delivery options in our curriculum. Our students are now completing their midterms and have finished eight weeks of online coursework. In this edition of Dental Bites, you will read about some of their experiences with the virtual curriculum, and you will learn more about how it was developed. Many of the methodologies developed during this time will continue after COVID has resolved and we have returned to our “new normal.”

The Emergency Dental Care Clinic (EDCC) has seen well over 300 patients since March 23, 2020. You will learn more about the inception of the clinic in this newsletter and what operations have been like since Governor Kate Brown announced on April 23, 2020, that she is lifting her order delaying non-urgent procedures for health care providers. The SoD has formed a task force to open the clinics gradually. The work that the EDCC has done has set us up for success in tackling this transition. Everyone is doing an amazing job, but I want to give my own shout-out to Dr. Karan Replogle and her team for their excellence.

OHSU Leadership has made some difficult decisions to address the serious financial realities we face in the months and, potentially, years ahead. Starting July 1, the university will implement a new financial plan to combat the impending recession. Departmental budget cuts and salary cuts for unclassified administrative employees, faculty, and research-ranked employees will be put in place. The hope is to avoid widespread layoffs in the future and to help alleviate the financial strain of the university caused by COVID-19.

In the coming months, we all will be working towards reopening the school. What being “open” will look like in the future will not be the same as it was in the past. Until a vaccine is developed, life, work, and school will be different. The School will persist and face these unavoidable circumstances with courage, grit, and creativity. What lies ahead will be demanding, but I am confident that the SoD is up for the challenge, and that we will eventually come through this time stronger than ever. I am so blessed to work with the greatest people.

Sincerely,
Phil

Phillip T. Marucha, DMD, PhD
Dean, School of Dentistry
Oregon Health & Science University

About Dental Bites
The purpose of Dental Bites is to improve the quality of the SoD community by empowering individuals with the knowledge of where the school has been, where it is at, and where it is going. This newsletter will feature profiles of new employees, information about events and programs, stories about faculty, student, staff, and alumni achievements, and insights into how people contribute to the success of the School.

If you have content or ideas that you think should be shared through Dental Bites, please email bites@ohsu.edu.
THE EMERGENCY DENTAL CARE CLINIC

In mid-March, it became apparent that OHSU most likely would be entering modified operations and shutting down all non-emergent and elective procedures due to COVID-19. SoD Leadership knew that they needed to start thinking about how to provide emergency services; not only to carry on OHSU’s mission of improving the health and well-being of Oregonians during this pandemic but to also help minimize the number of patients in the ED so that healthcare providers on the hill were better able to allocate their limited resources. A team was assembled to develop what is now the Emergency Dental Care Clinic (EDCC). This team was comprised of groups and individuals who represent every aspect of the patient experience, including, but not limited to: call-center representatives, clinic managers, patent access service specialists (PAS), dental assistants, residents, faculty, sterilization, operations, social workers, logistics, informatics, and administrative staff.

"It was a surreal moment," said Dr. Karan Replogle, Chair of Endodontics and Head of the EDCC, "dental professionals typically wear two hats when they are practicing: dental expert and customer service. In this instance, we needed to take off our customer service hat and put on a public health one." The team started working together to reach out to all patients of record to postpone scheduled appointments, develop an over-the-phone methodology for determining a true dental emergency, create a system to screen for COVID-19, figure out the new intake procedure, ensure that the clinic would be sterilized and stocked with the PPE and supplies needed to carry out procedures, and schedule the staff required to run all aspects of the clinic.

The clinic opened on March 23, 2020, only four days after the initial brainstorming meeting. Dr. Replogle had this to say about the quick turnaround, "I'm amazed at not only the willingness of everyone to help but also by the quality of work that is being put forth. Everyone is giving 110%. The creativity, agility, and the astonishing degree of compassion that is being employed is inspirational."

The clinic is open Monday – Friday from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Patients can call the SoD Appointment Center at (503) 494-8867 from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm. Procedures are done by faculty, residents, and dental assistants from GPR, Endodontics, and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in the Robertson Life Sciences Building (RLSB). As of May 13, 2020, 110 extractions, 42 root canals, and 455 other procedures have been carried out by the clinic. 533 patients have also was triaged using teledentistry. Initially, the EDCC only provided services to SoD patients of record. Once the clinic was running after a couple of weeks, the EDCC was able to see patients who were not of record. Many dentists in Oregon are unable to provide emergency procedures due to generously donating their PPE to local hospitals. Currently, the patient pool is made up of roughly 1/3 of patients of record, and 2/3 of patients not of record.

When a patient calls, they first speak with an appointment center representative who screens them to determine if they are experiencing a dental emergency. If an emergency is likely, the representative has a resident call the patient to ask questions about their exposure/non-exposure to COVID-19 and ask additional questions about their dental-related symptoms. If the patient appears to have no signs of exposure to the Coronavirus and their condition is deemed to be a true dental emergency, they are given an appointment time and transferred to a dental assistant who takes their medical history. When a patient comes to the RLSB for their appointment, they are greeted by a PAS who has them sanitize their hands and don a mask. After the completion of intake procedures (done using social distancing), the PAS accompanies the patient in the elevator to the 11th floor, where they are handed off to a dental assistant. The dental assistant leads the patient to a room where they wash their hands, and then the patient has their temperature taken and is additionally screened for COVID-19 by a resident. After passing the screening process, the patient is then treated. All dental assistants and residents wear a bonnet, goggles, N-95 mask, face shield, gloves, and surgical gown when carrying-out aerosol generating procedures.

Dr. Replogle says that one surprising development from this whole situation is how close everyone has gotten. She says that humor has been something that has helped during this challenging time. Pithy sayings, memes shared through the Daily Huddle emails, and the jokes told during bi-daily Webex meetings...all of these small but meaningful things that have helped keep the mood light. She also made the observation of, "There is nothing like a crisis to discover if the infrastructure you have in place is indeed solid. It is evident that the right people are in the right places here at the School of Dentistry."
Everyone has set their own needs and wants aside and are focused on how they can help our patients and team members. They are thinking about how their actions will affect everyone holistically.” Megan Sage, Associate Director of Clinical Operations, who oversees Patient Support Services, reports that patients of the EDCC are being surveyed. The results of the survey show that patients are incredibly grateful for the care they can access at this time and hope to be back for cleanings and non-emergent procedures once things “get back to normal.” “Our Appointment Center team has been very busy since modified operations began,” said Megan, “many of the calls haven’t been emergency-related. People just want someone to talk to.” Megan is incredibly proud of all the team members who are interacting with patients.

On April 23, 2020, Governor Kate Brown lifted the order delaying non-urgent procedures for Oregon healthcare providers. Immediately after this announcement, the SoD Appointment Center was inundated with calls. Patients are eager to get their postponed procedures done, and many assume that since the ban is lifted, that OHSU clinics would simply go back to business as usual. Due to PPE levels, restrictions on academic institutions, and a variety of other reasons, this is not possible. Scheduled appointments for visits are still on hold, and the inclusion of non-emergent procedures will occur gradually. One of the challenges right now is educating our patients while at the same time acknowledging their frustrations. PAS, Ariana Jimenez Mendez had this to say about her interactions with patients on the phone right now, “We are here to help and serve them. It’s important to have an empathetic tone to show that we care. Yes, it is frustrating that they must continue to postpone their visit, but if they hear that we care and that this is what is being mandated and for their safety, they listen.”

Since the Governor’s announcement, a plan is being developed by a group of SoD staff and faculty known as the “Transition Taskforce” to reopen. They will ensure the clinics reopen in compliance with Governor Brown’s guidelines and consistent with OHSU policy and best practices. During this time, the EDCC will continue to run. The structure and operation procedures established by the EDCC will be the foundation for the reopening of OHSU’s Dental Clinics.

There is no shortage of big-hearted people who are associated with the School of Dentistry. We all share in OHSU’s mission to improve health for all Oregonians, and we often accomplish that by doing good deeds and acts of service. Here are just a couple of examples of community members, staff, alumni, and faculty spreading good.

A water main broke at the OHSU Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinic while patients were being seen. Dr. Petrisor and Dental Assistants, Ana Katzung and Ashley Kmita responded to the emergency so that facilities got the water shut off, and then they helped manage patients in the clinic. For days afterward, they also worked tirelessly to clean out all the affected areas and get things re-sterilized and stored away again. A provider commented that he was amazed at how the clinic looks this week - as if nothing ever happened.

The Portland community has been so incredibly supportive during this time. Local businesses and organizations have donated food and services to show our providers in the Emergency Dental Care Clinic and on the hill how much they appreciate their hard work. Above is a snapshot taken from the tram of one local resident’s backyard - little displays of gratitude like this warm the hearts of our people on the front lines.

Dr. Fay Gyapong Porter, DMD ’90 was featured, along with other dental professionals on KATU 2 News for their work providing free emergency dental care to people and families in Oregon and Southwest Washington. Thank you, Dr. Gyapong Porter, for all your selflessness and hard work during this time.
SOD PROFILE:  
HUI WU

The resilience of the human body has always been something that fascinates Dr. Wu. He attributes his interest in biology to a falling accident that he was involved in as a teenager. The fall caused some of his teeth to break, and the injuries to the rest of his body were pretty severe, but even as a young child, he could not believe how quickly he healed.

After earning his undergraduate and graduate degrees in Biology in China, Dr. Wu applied for Ph.D. programs in the United States. Dr. Wu shared, "25 years ago, many students from China wanted to study science, engineering, and technology in the US. I was fortunate to be accepted to the University of Vermont's Cell and Molecular Biology Program to receive my graduate training in the laboratory of Dr. Paula Fives-Taylor."

Dr. Wu considers Dr. Fives-Taylor to be one of his most influential mentors. She inspired him to most become an academic professor and researcher in microbiology. Dr. Fives-Taylor was an expert in microbiology and molecular genetics, who was highly recognized within the oral biology research community for her pioneering investigation on how bacteria attach to the surfaces of teeth. Dr. Wu looked up to her for not only being a great educator and prolific investigator, but she was also a wonderful caring human being. "She was extremely positive and always was there for her colleagues and trainees," said Dr. Wu. "She would go line by line through my papers and make sure I was on the right track, and she always encouraged and inspired me to explore and test new ideas in research." Dr. Wu had the idea of pursuing a non-academic career after earning his Ph.D., but he was taken aside by Dr. Fives-Taylor, who convinced him of his potential in research and encouraged him to look at going into academia. It was at that time, Dr. Wu felt compelled to give back and support young researchers the same way Dr. Fives-Taylor had helped him.

Dr. Wu was recruited by the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in 2004 to teach and conduct research in the School of Dentistry and Medicine. He has employed many of the teaching skills that he learned during his time at the University of

CONNECT WITH DR. WU

If you would like more information about the Office of Research or wish to learn more about the School of Dentistry’s research, please contact Dr. Wu at wuhu@ohsu.edu

Vermont, mentoring and training numerous graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and dental scientists, as a professor of dentistry and microbiology. Dr. Wu is very proud of the success of his mentees, who received individual AADR/IADR awards, NIH pre-doctoral and post-doctoral fellowships, and NIH career development awards. Many of his trainees have become independent research investigators. Dr. Wu was recognized by the UAB Graduate School and was the recipient of the Dean’s Award for Excellence in Mentorship. In 2017, Dr. Wu was also honored to receive the prestigious "Outstanding Alumni Award" presented by the University of Vermont College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

During his tenure at UAB, Dr. Wu established the UAB university-wide Microbiome Research Center. As the founding director, he supported research and the training of emerging microbial science investigators. Dr. Wu also served as a research mentor and the pre-doctoral and post-doctoral Training Director in the UAB School of Dentistry’s Dental Academic Research Training Program since its inception in 2007. Two years before joining OHSU, he was the Principle Investigator (PI) for that program as well. Dr. Wu has received continual NIH funding since 2003 and currently has five Research Project Grants (R01) as a PI or co-PI. He has more than 80 manuscripts published in mainstream journals, and served on several editorial boards, including being an Associate Editor for “Molecular Microbiology” and “Frontier in Microbiology.” Being a regular member of the NIH ODCCS study section, Dr. Wu has served as a chair of various NIH and AHA grant review panels. Dr. Wu has also taken on many leadership roles in local, national, and international associations, including Vice-President for the IADR Oral Microbiology and Immunology Research Group. He is a recipient of the IADR/GSK Innovation in Oral Care Award and an elected fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology.

As Associate Dean for the Office of Research, Dr. Wu plans to serve and promote the investigators who are carrying out the vital research done throughout the School of Dentistry. "Two important things going forward for the SOD research are retaining the best talents and continual growth," says Dr. Wu. "We have outstanding investigators in several research areas. We need to retain and promote them and provide an environment for their continued successes. The other side of the coin is growth, including, "...growth of our infrastructure, growth of new opportunities for research and research training, growth of collaborative research with other OHSU schools, growth of the number of grant applications, and growth of our team of outstanding researchers." Dr. Wu is excited to help foster and champion the growth of the research and training carried out at the School of Dentistry.

In his spare time, Dr. Wu enjoys running on the waterfront and traveling with his wife and two daughters. Their older daughter, Danielle, is pursuing a degree in Global and Public Health at Cornell University; and their younger daughter, Janina, is a junior at high school. Both of the girls play varsity volleyball. Dr. Wu and his wife enjoyed the times driving them to practices and watching their games at various tournaments in the last decade. They all look forward to the family’s next vacation trip in the Pacific Northwest.
ONLINE SPRING CURRICULUM

For OHSU School of Dentistry (SoD) students, and thousands of other dentists-in-training around the nation, the COVID-19 pandemic caused in-person classes, simulation clinics, laboratories, and patient-care clinics to shutter in mid-March. Fortunately, OHSU was proactive in sharing information related to the impact a pandemic would have on all of its educational programs. In early March, SoD Deans and Academic Deans were told to begin preparations for modifying the spring term schedule based on epidemiological projections and the rise of COVID-19 cases in Washington. The hard work of faculty, staff, and students made it possible to transition all classes and clinical work to a virtual environment before Monday, March 30, 2020, the start of the spring term.

Dr. Gary Stafford, Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, who heads the Office of Academic Affairs (OAA), had this to say about the changeover to an online curriculum,

"This was truly a collective effort and showcased what I find to be one of the finest attributes of the University as a whole. Everyone working together towards a common goal! The list of those who contributed to this endeavor not only includes university leadership, school of dentistry leadership, and faculty but staff and students as well. The OAA educational support team, comprised of Crystal Paredes, Tara Moreno, and Coral Pipkin, has been invaluable during this time. I am constantly amazed by their efforts and willingness to give of themselves for the betterment of our faculty and students," said Dr. Stafford of his team.

The OHSU Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) also supported all of the educational programs in this transition. In fact, due to the need for remote learning, they rolled out their new teleconferencing software, WebEx, two weeks earlier than planned. This fast-tracking, combined with the many distance learning resources the TLC provided, which included the development of their Transforming Teaching website, has helped the SoD be successful.

Although many of the students, faculty, and staff miss interacting in-person, Dr. Stafford sees a silver lining on having to move online. He had this to say about the future, "I view this situation as a 'grand experiment,' not just for us but dental education in general. We are currently experiencing what will be looked back on as the great divide. In other words, dental education pre-COVID and post-COVID. Flipped classrooms and different distance-based learning strategies will lead to a more flexible educational experience for our students while not diluting what they take-away. They may get more out of it than with the traditional Socratic Method." In this virtual learning environment, the SoD was able to pilot a program based around treatment planning/case presentation sessions. After in-person classes resume, Dr. Stafford foresees expanding these sessions in the curriculum into more formalized dental rounds. The faculty have seen the benefit of this type of instruction first-hand, and Dr. Stafford is grateful to have been able to implement these sessions into the curriculum during the crisis.

Creating an online curriculum is a process that takes months, if not sometimes years, to do correctly; throw in the fact that many of our staff members, faculty members, and students are also homeschooling and providing daycare for their children due to the Stay-at-Home order, and building this online curriculum in two weeks is nothing short of a miracle. Many faculty were excited about this challenge, and some faculty who are more comfortable in a traditional classroom, have found the online teaching experience was not as bad as they had imagined. It took a significant amount of work: time, and collaboration to adjust courses to suit the new context. Crystal Paredes, Program Technician for the OAA, has noticed a change in the faculty since the implementation of the new format. "It’s so great to see all of our faculty, even our faculty who usually prefer non-digital methods of teaching, enthusiastically using the online tools and resources that are being employed to make this curriculum possible," she said. By the time in-person classes resume, all of the SoD’s faculty members will have extensive experience with this form of instruction.

The students have been instrumental in helping finesse and improve the curriculum. Each Friday, SoD Leadership meets with SoD Student Leadership, and the students share the
The experiences of each student moving to online are widely different depending on the type of learner they are and where they are at in the DMD program. DS1, Kunal Mansukhani shared, "The new format has allowed me to study more freely and gives me time to plan my day to maximize my time best. There have been some hiccups with the structure and best way to evaluate students in didactic courses, particularly with the shortened timeline, but overall I have enjoyed the online format.” DS4, Heather Howell has this to say, "The online format is more collaborative since we hear feedback from multiple faculty and students on one case. In clinic, it was typically more of one-on-one interaction between the student and their assigned faculty for that day. With this format, we get to present the case and hear feedback from multiple faculty members and specialists at one time. That being said, it is hard to replace direct clinical experience with online learning. Still, we appreciate the accommodations to help move us closer to graduation during this time.'

Dr. Peter Morita, Associate Dean for Patient Services, heads our Group Practice Leader (GL) program. Students from all four classes are assigned into one of the 6 Group Practices and are provided mentorship, oversight, advice, facilitation, and progress checks through their journey at the SoD to become dentists. He had this to say about what he has seen with the students since online classes started. "We realize there is a lot of apprehension, anxiety, and uncertainty the students have about their dental school education and the impact all of this is going to have on their careers, but their collective attitudes and support for one another is nothing short of amazing.” According to Dr. Morita, it is challenging to replace hands-on experience, but the students have done a remarkable job in adapting to this "new way" of case presentations. He misses the hustle and bustle of being in the RLSB. Students used to just pop their heads in his office and chat, and now they meet with him via video conference. "I see that what we used to take for granted is not, and the ‘little things’ are more appreciated than before. I see the faculty and staff working together more than ever before, with new understandings of what each other’s roles are, and not just learning about what we are, but who we are. I believe newfound respect and friendships are developing. I know that faculty, residents, students, and staff have been exposed to and have interacted with one another more than ever before, and that is something that brings a solid feeling of community”

The University is now moving forward with a plan to hold in-person classes in the summer and slowly open OHSU clinics. SoD Leadership will continue working with OHSU Leadership and public health experts to ensure the safety of our students, staff, and faculty. Due to COVID-19, future learning environments and clinical operations will look very different from what was considered the norm three months ago. The experiences gained, and the knowledge learned from this term’s online curriculum experience will forever influence future curricula. The entire SoD community is working together to plan for the future. We will continue to innovate to train skilled dentists and to carry-on improving the health and well-being of Oregonians and beyond.

Stay up to date with the ever-changing world of dentistry through OHSU’s Continuing Education (CE) courses. Our online offerings make it possible for you to complete CE conveniently from the comfort of your screen and at your own pace. Our courses are taught by world-renown researchers and scholars who present on topics that will make an immediate positive impact on your professional practices. We offer a wide range of continuing education opportunities for dental health professionals, clinical researchers, biomedical scientists, and dental educators.

Listed below are just some of the courses you can complete online. For a full list, visit the OHSU Continuing Education web page.

- **COVID-19 Pandemic Scientific, Medical and Pastoral Challenges** - Presented by David Carsten, D.D.S. - FREE | 1 CE Credit - Click here for more details
- **Online Post-Traumatic Stress Disorders (PTSD)** - Presented by Tobie Jones, D.M.D. - $14 | .5 CE Credit - Click here for more details
- **Surviving World War C and the Post Pandemic** - Presented by David Carsten, D.D.S. - $19 | 1 CE Credit - Click here for more details
- **Online Surgery Tips for the General Dentist** - by Akshay Govind, M.D., D.M.D., M.P.H. - $49 | 1.5 CE Credit - Click here for more details

Easy, convenient, and available for CE credit, these courses are taught by world-renown researchers and scholars who present on topics that will make an immediate positive impact on your professional practices.
COLUMBIA BANK ENDOwed SCHOLARSHIP

CONOR SCANLON

The Columbia Bank Endowed Scholarship is a donor-funded scholarship for OHSU pre-doctoral students who are residents of Idaho, Oregon, or Washington. This scholarship is intended to go to recipients who are highly involved in civic engagement and active in their Pacific Northwest communities.

The recipient of the 2020 Columbia Bank Endowed Scholarship is Conor Scanlon. Conor was born in Ohio but was raised right here in beautiful Portland, Oregon. He enjoys giving back to his community and had this to say about being the recipient of the scholarship this year, "Columbia Bank's generosity provides me with continued inspiration to serve Oregon's residents by way of public health upon my graduation."

Having a career in healthcare has always been Conor's professional goal. He decided to go down the pathway of dentistry because it is one of the few fields where you can diagnose and treat the majority of patients in one visit. This summer, Conor is excited about working with Dr. Jack Ferracane to research the effects of time-dependent monomer release from variably cured resins on S. mutans biofilm formation.

Conor wanted to share the following, "I would like to thank the Office of Student Affairs and Alumni Relations for developing great relationships with local businesses, and I would like to thank Columbia Bank for their kindness and belief in my goals. Thank you, Dr. Carmen Pfeifer, for introducing me to dentistry in 2013. Your unmatched enthusiasm pretty much immediately convinced me to pursue a career in the field. I also would like to thank my classmates, instructors, research mentors, friends, and family for supporting me throughout dental school. It takes an army of support to keep all of us marching through this curriculum."

MELISSA MARIMAN, D.M.D., ENDOwed MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

HEATHER HOWELL

The OHSU School of Dentistry Melissa Mariman, D.M.D., Endowed Memorial Scholarship is a donor-funded scholarship for OHSU pre-doctoral students in the third quarter of their fourth year in the dental school curriculum.

Dr. Mariman graduated from the OHSU School of Dentistry in 1999. After graduation, she accepted a position at the Bellingham Dental Clinic, working mainly with underprivileged children. Through her work at the clinic, Dr. Mariman learned about the need for more anesthesiologists in the area and applied to and was accepted to Loma Linda Medical Center. She completed the program in February 2004 and returned to Washington to resume her career. Within months of returning to Washington, Dr. Mariman learned she had brain cancer. This scholarship is intended to be a living tribute to Dr. Mariman while benefiting students at the OHSU School of Dentistry.

The recipient of the 2020 Melissa Mariman, D.M.D., Endowed Memorial Scholarship, is Heather Howell. Heather is a student who exemplifies the characteristics of Dr. Mariman: a caring individual who shows compassion for not only the patients but classmates, someone who is diligent in their academic career, and someone who is a hard worker. Heather was born and raised in Polson, Montana, which is located on the Flathead Indian Reservation. After earning her undergraduate degree in Biology, she took a gap year to apply for med school and to work at a family friend's dental practice as a dental assistant, where she grew to love dentistry. Heather enjoyed how she could immediately help people and form relationships with her patients. Her final decision to pursue dentistry came after Heather went on a dental mission trip to El Sauzal Orphanage in Mexico, where she felt called to be a dentist. When asked how she feels about being the recipient of this scholarship, Heather shared, "I feel very honored to have been chosen for this award! After reading about the impact that Dr. Mariman made on those around her, I hope that I can leave a mark on OHSU and my community in the same way she did!" After graduation, Heather plans to return to Montana to work at the Indian Health Services site, where she completed her external rotation.

"I would like to thank God, my family, and my friends for helping me to become the person that I am today," said Heather, "I strongly attribute my desire to serve others and show compassion to my faith and my upbringing. I would also like to thank my classmates and faculty for allowing me to serve in the leadership positions throughout dental school! For all of the undergrads, I know dental school can be tough, and there is always a lot to do, but don't limit yourself! Push yourself and take advantage of all of the extra opportunities that dental school can also provide - you won't regret it!"
WILLAMETTE DENTAL GROUP SCHOLARSHIP
SARAH KANG

The Willamette Dental Group Scholarship is a donor-funded scholarship for OHSU pre-doctoral students. Willamette Dental Group is a group practice with more than 50 dental offices in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. Willamette Dental Group desires to recruit and retain dentists interested in a successful extensive group practice dedicated to delivering superior care through a partnership with its patients to stop the disease/repair cycle utilizing evidence-based methods of prevention and treatment. Recipients must demonstrate a sincere commitment to becoming a practitioner of oral health, dedicated to keeping their patients well. They must show a keen interest in joining a group practice setting after graduation.

The 2019/2020 Willamette Dental Group Scholarship recipient is Sarah Kang. Sarah loves that being a dentist requires that she is a life-long student. Dentistry is a continually evolving field, and this drives her to be a better clinician every day by staying up-to-date with the latest developments. Sarah and her family have lived in Beaverton, Oregon, since she was six years old. Her parents were very influential in Sarah’s decision to become a dentist. “They always encouraged me to dedicate my life to work that is both emotionally rewarding and intellectually challenging, and said that there is nothing more rewarding than improving the lives of others,” said Sarah. When asked how she felt when she was awarded the scholarship, Sarah said, “I was shocked and incredibly honored to be the recipient of the scholarship! I am very grateful that my passion for the profession was recognized. I am humbled by Willamette Dental Group’s generosity to give back to dental students to support their educational endeavors.” After graduation, Sarah is staying in the Pacific Northwest to work as a general dentist.

SARAH wanted to share the following, “I would like to thank my mentors at OHSU that have taught me the importance of evidence-based dentistry in making sound clinical decisions and the significance of continuing education to strive for excellence continually. My parents have always been my cheerleaders throughout my education, and I have them to thank for helping me get this far! I also want to thank my dental friends, who have reminded me that our mistakes or failures are always the biggest opportunities to grow.”

HAWAII DENTAL STUDENTS ENDOVED SCHOLARSHIP
SHAYD SHINSATO

The Hawaii Dental Students Endowed Scholarship is a donor-funded scholarship for OHSU pre-doctoral students who are residents of the state of Hawaii. This Scholarship was created by five OHSU alumni from Hawaii. They desire to give back to their alma mater and pave the way for future dental professionals from Hawaii who demonstrate their same passion and commitment to education and their community. Recipients are dental students who have outstanding academic and scholastic achievement records and who want to give back to their community in Hawaii.

The 2019/2020 Hawaii Dental Students Endowed Scholarship recipient is Shayd Shinsato. Shayd was born and raised on Oahu. He was humbled to receive the award and had this to say about being the recipient, “I am forever thankful to The Hawaii Endowed Dental Committee for allowing me to receive this award not once, but twice throughout my schooling at OHSU. I promise to pay it forward once I have become an established clinician.” Shayd has always wanted to pursue a career in healthcare. What attracted him to dentistry was the opportunity to help people get the smile that they want. After graduation, Shayd will be practicing dentistry back in Hawaii on Oahu and Maui.

When asked if there was anyone Shayd wanted to thank, he had this to say, “First and foremost, I would like to thank my friends in dental school, and without them, I wouldn’t be graduating. Next, I would like to thank my family for encouraging me to push on through the toughest parts of dental school. Lastly, Dr. Brunner, Dr. Watanabe, Dr. Moore, Dr. Carrion, and Dr. Bruechert along with a number of others, have shaped me into the clinician I am today. I am forever thankful to everyone who has supported me, and I promise to take everything I have learned here into my future practice.”

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The OHSU School of Dentistry offers several endowed scholarships for postdoctoral (advanced graduate education) and predoctoral (DMD) students at the School. Each scholarship has its own purpose and criteria, and the amount may vary from year to year.
Professionalism is one of the core competencies in dentistry. As such, the OHSU School of Dentistry has embraced professionalism as one of the Student Learning Outcomes for all students that are enrolled in the DMD program. The SoD's Professionalism Monitoring Form may be submitted by any person (e.g., students, staff members, or faculty members) at any time while a dental student is enrolled at OHSU. Students who are recognized for their exemplary professionalism via this form are referred to as "Rising Stars." Listed below are the Rising Stars for the winter term.

**DS4 Students**
- Anna Beers
- Victor Tran
- Brandon Wilburn

**DS3 Students**
- Elizabeth Burgstahler
- Erin Chavet
- Eric Christensen

Examples of professional behavior include, but are not limited to:
- Listens & responds to others respectfully
- Interacts well w/instructors, peers and patients
- Demonstrates knowledge of cultures, including perspectives, aesthetic traditions, and cultural practices
  - Maintains a positive attitude
  - Takes responsibility
  - Applies ethical perspectives and ideas independently, and w/ others
  - Exhibits personal behavior and hygiene which contributes to a clean and comfortable environment

**PROGRAM HISTORY:** On May 6, 2019, Gov. Kate Brown signed Oregon House Bill 2220 into law, allowing dentists to prescribe and administer vaccines to patients of any age, starting in 2020. The law empowers dentists to help improve vaccination rates in Oregon, prevent the spread of disease, and further integrate oral health with physical and behavioral health, ultimately better serving patients and promoting public health. With its signing, Oregon became the first state in the United States to permit dentists to vaccinate all patients, including young children, with many types of vaccines.

To help Oregon prepare to implement this new law, Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) School of Dentistry had its first-ever vaccination training on September 27, 2019. Over 100 third- and fourth-year dental students were trained. Following the training, the students put their new knowledge to use by vaccinating each other, dental faculty, and staff against influenza. Over 150 students, faculty, and staff were vaccinated against the flu by dental students, marking the first time an Oregon dental institution administered vaccines and received training on vaccine science, administration, policies, and procedures.

The training developed for dental students is ongoing and will be done for each subsequent third-year class to build a cadre of trained dentists qualified to provide vaccines in the State of Oregon. In December 2019, the training was approved by the Oregon Board of Dentistry for all dentists in the state. Dr. Marucha and Alex Case of the SoD and Andrea Dayot and Misti Powell of Occupational (OCC) Health were the champions of this program.
The John C. Peterson Alumni of the Year Award honors Dr. John Peterson, a 1955 DMD graduate, for his years of service to the OHSU School of Dentistry and its Alumni Association. This award recognizes OHSU School of Dentistry alumni who demonstrate the qualities that Dr. Peterson displayed as an advocate for dentists and dental hygienists, and who in professional achievement and service to their communities reflect the highest ideals of the School and dental profession. Connie Masuoka, DMD ’88, is the recipient of the award in 2020.

Connie Masuoka grew-up in Portland, OR, and spent summers with family in Honolulu, Hawaii. She came into dentistry because she finds meaning in helping and connecting with people and loves that the diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of a patient can often occur in one visit. As a General Dentist, Dr. Masuoka enjoys the relationships she has with her patients and the variety of dental treatment procedures that she can carry out.

Outside of dentistry, she is an advocate for the Portland Japanese American community on cultural and civil rights/social justice issues. She currently serves as the President of the Japanese American Museum of Oregon, which is working on opening its new space later this year. Dr. Masuoka has this to say about being this year’s recipient, “I am over the moon about this award, as Dr. Peterson was my favorite person in dental school. He was a brilliant and kind person who worked for the students, always trying to support their best interests. He believed in me and recommended me for my first job, community dentist at the MHCC dental hygiene program.” She also shared her appreciation for all the people who contributed to her being awarded, “I would like to thank the alumni association board for selecting me, and remember those who encouraged me and helped me be an alum – Dean Louis Terkla, Dr. Hebert Krambein, Dr. Paul Oyamada, Dr. Jim Bennett, and Dr. Matt Masuoka (my dad).”

The John C. Peterson Alumni of the Year Award honors Dr. John Peterson, a 1955 DMD graduate, for his years of service to the OHSU School of Dentistry and its Alumni Association. This award recognizes OHSU School of Dentistry alumni who demonstrate the qualities that Dr. Peterson displayed as an advocate for dentists and dental hygienists, and who in professional achievement and service to their communities reflect the highest ideals of the School and dental profession. Connie Masuoka, DMD ’88, is the recipient of the award in 2020.

Connie Masuoka grew-up in Portland, OR, and spent summers with family in Honolulu, Hawaii. She came into dentistry because she finds meaning in helping and connecting with people and loves that the diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of a patient can often occur in one visit. As a General Dentist, Dr. Masuoka enjoys the relationships she has with her patients and the variety of dental treatment procedures that she can carry out.

Outside of dentistry, she is an advocate for the Portland Japanese American community on cultural and civil rights/social justice issues. She currently serves as the President of the Japanese American Museum of Oregon, which is working on opening its new space later this year. Dr. Masuoka has this to say about being this year’s recipient, “I am over the moon about this award, as Dr. Peterson was my favorite person in dental school. He was a brilliant and kind person who worked for the students, always trying to support their best interests. He believed in me and recommended me for my first job, community dentist at the MHCC dental hygiene program.” She also shared her appreciation for all the people who contributed to her being awarded, “I would like to thank the alumni association board for selecting me, and remember those who encouraged me and helped me be an alum – Dean Louis Terkla, Dr. Hebert Krambein, Dr. Paul Oyamada, Dr. Jim Bennett, and Dr. Matt Masuoka (my dad).”

The Honorary Alumni Award is presented to individuals who have contributed significantly to the Alumni Association, the School of Dentistry, the OHSU community, and the profession of dentistry but have not received a degree from OHSU. Jill Mason, MPH, RDH, EPP, is a 2020 OHSU School of Dentistry Honorary Alumni Award recipient.

Jill Mason is the OHSU School of Dentistry’s Director of Community-Based Dental Education. Jill grew up in Ontario, Oregon, and when she was in high school, she was in a terrible car accident as a teenager. The impact caused both of her front teeth to be knocked out. The incident opened her eyes to the lack of services that are available to communities like the one she is from. The dentist who restored her teeth mentioned dental hygiene as a career. The rest is history.

Jill Mason, MPH, RDH, EPP, is a 2020 OHSU School of Dentistry Honorary Alumni Award recipient. Jill Mason grew up in Ontario, Oregon, and when she was in high school, she was in a terrible car accident as a teenager. The impact caused both of her front teeth to be knocked out. The incident opened her eyes to the lack of services that are available to communities like the one she is from. The dentist who restored her teeth mentioned dental hygiene as a career. The rest is history.

Jill Mason practiced as a Hygienist for five years. Although the work was rewarding, she knew she wanted to teach and decided to transition her career to a more academic role. She earned her Master’s in Public Health in 1987 with focuses in dental public health, health behavior, and health education. In 1989, Jill started working with OHSU’s Dental Hygiene program. Using her experience in dental hygiene and public health, she developed a program to place student hygienists in rural communities for their rotation and was a program faculty member. In 2011, she was asked to implement her Community-Based Rotation Program with fourth-year students enrolled in the Doctor of Dental Medicine Degree program.

Outside of her work, you can find Jill competing. Jill is a prolific athlete. Currently, she is a member of five softball teams, three soccer teams, and is a Rose Festival dragon boat paddler. In her office, Jill proudly displays the most recent gold medal that she and her softball team won in the Huntsman World Senior Games, somewhat like the Olympics for older athletes. She is at her happiest when she is helping students expand their experience or is in the dugout.

Jill Mason, MPH, RDH, EPP, is a 2020 OHSU School of Dentistry Honorary Alumni Award recipient. Jill Mason grew up in Ontario, Oregon, and when she was in high school, she was in a terrible car accident as a teenager. The impact caused both of her front teeth to be knocked out. The incident opened her eyes to the lack of services that are available to communities like the one she is from. The dentist who restored her teeth mentioned dental hygiene as a career. The rest is history.

Jill Mason practiced as a Hygienist for five years. Although the work was rewarding, she knew she wanted to teach and decided to transition her career to a more academic role. She earned her Master’s in Public Health in 1987 with focuses in dental public health, health behavior, and health education. In 1989, Jill started working with OHSU’s Dental Hygiene program. Using her experience in dental hygiene and public health, she developed a program to place student hygienists in rural communities for their rotation and was a program faculty member. In 2011, she was asked to implement her Community-Based Rotation Program with fourth-year students enrolled in the Doctor of Dental Medicine Degree program.

Outside of her work, you can find Jill competing. Jill is a prolific athlete. Currently, she is a member of five softball teams, three soccer teams, and is a Rose Festival dragon boat paddler. In her office, Jill proudly displays the most recent gold medal that she and her softball team won in the Huntsman World Senior Games, somewhat like the Olympics for older athletes. She is at her happiest when she is helping students expand their experience or is in the dugout.

Jill Mason, MPH, RDH, EPP, is a 2020 OHSU School of Dentistry Honorary Alumni Award recipient. Jill Mason grew up in Ontario, Oregon, and when she was in high school, she was in a terrible car accident as a teenager. The impact caused both of her front teeth to be knocked out. The incident opened her eyes to the lack of services that are available to communities like the one she is from. The dentist who restored her teeth mentioned dental hygiene as a career. The rest is history.

Jill Mason practiced as a Hygienist for five years. Although the work was rewarding, she knew she wanted to teach and decided to transition her career to a more academic role. She earned her Master’s in Public Health in 1987 with focuses in dental public health, health behavior, and health education. In 1989, Jill started working with OHSU’s Dental Hygiene program. Using her experience in dental hygiene and public health, she developed a program to place student hygienists in rural communities for their rotation and was a program faculty member. In 2011, she was asked to implement her Community-Based Rotation Program with fourth-year students enrolled in the Doctor of Dental Medicine Degree program.

Outside of her work, you can find Jill competing. Jill is a prolific athlete. Currently, she is a member of five softball teams, three soccer teams, and is a Rose Festival dragon boat paddler. In her office, Jill proudly displays the most recent gold medal that she and her softball team won in the Huntsman World Senior Games, somewhat like the Olympics for older athletes. She is at her happiest when she is helping students expand their experience or is in the dugout.

Jill Mason, MPH, RDH, EPP, is a 2020 OHSU School of Dentistry Honorary Alumni Award recipient. Jill Mason grew up in Ontario, Oregon, and when she was in high school, she was in a terrible car accident as a teenager. The impact caused both of her front teeth to be knocked out. The incident opened her eyes to the lack of services that are available to communities like the one she is from. The dentist who restored her teeth mentioned dental hygiene as a career. The rest is history.

Jill Mason practiced as a Hygienist for five years. Although the work was rewarding, she knew she wanted to teach and decided to transition her career to a more academic role. She earned her Master’s in Public Health in 1987 with focuses in dental public health, health behavior, and health education. In 1989, Jill started working with OHSU’s Dental Hygiene program. Using her experience in dental hygiene and public health, she developed a program to place student hygienists in rural communities for their rotation and was a program faculty member. In 2011, she was asked to implement her Community-Based Rotation Program with fourth-year students enrolled in the Doctor of Dental Medicine Degree program.
Established in 2010, the Legacy Faculty Award is presented to a longtime faculty member who has worked or is still currently working at the OHSU School of Dentistry and who has demonstrated a commitment to educating and mentoring the next generation of dental professionals. This year’s recipient is Rita C. Patterson, DMD, FAGD.

Dr. Patterson is from Oregon, and she grew up on a small farm in the Willamette Valley. As an undergrad, she was an art major who worked in the natural science department. One of the science advisors introduced the idea of her pursuing dentistry as a career, and Dr. Patterson was intrigued. She saw how dentistry is a combination of science, art, and helping people, and this mixture was the perfect fit for her. Being from Oregon and having all her family here, she decided to earn her DMD at OHSU’s School of Dentistry.

She began her dental career at the Oregon State Hospital Dental Clinic as a general dentist and was presented with the opportunity to help with a unique project at OHSU in 1993, where she would come to campus once a week. In 1995, an OHSU faculty member retired, she was asked to take over their three-term course of first-year prosthodontics, and the rest was history. As a professor, she enjoys the problem-solving, organization, and creativity that is needed to be an effective educator, and she loves working with students and getting them excited about the field they have chosen. In her spare time, Dr. Patterson claims that she has a bad habit of collecting hobbies. She enjoys reading, sketching, painting, scrapbooking, sewing, cooking and canning, wood finishing, building, gardening, crafts, hiking, photography... just to name a few. Dr. Patterson shared, “Dr. Mark Malloy, he was instrumental in my gaining confidence in the area of teaching and was exceptional in encouraging people. He became Chair of the Fixed Prosthodontics Department and my boss in the early part of my career at OHSU. I do hope I display some of what he modeled for me.”

Dr. Langford was born and raised in Bartlesville, OK. He earned his DDS from Baylor College of Dentistry in Dallas, TX. Growing up, Dr. Langford worked with his father on the family home and assisted him with woodworking projects. He has always been a natural with hand-eye skills, which aided him greatly in his dental career. He practiced for 40 years as a general dentist in Montana, before retiring and moving to Portland to be closer to family. A colleague at OHSU encouraged him to take up a teaching position at the School of Dentistry. Dr. Langford had always wanted to mentor young dentists, so he pursued the opportunity and served as an Assistant Professor for five years.

Now in his second retirement, Dr. Langford and his wife are active in their church and work within some of its ruling and service committees. They enjoy spending time with their daughter and her family, who live in Portland and traveling to see their son, who lives in England. Exploring Portland’s beautiful parks and lovely neighborhoods, while walking their dog, is one of their favorite things to do. For many years now, Dr. Langford has been a serious woodworker, making furniture for his home and others.

Dr. Langford is honored to be a recipient and had this to say, “It is quite humbling and gratifying to have others observe my work with students and feel deeply enough to place my name in consideration for such an honor,” he said. “I want to thank the Alumni Association’s committee for their deliberations and kindness. As always, thanks to my wife, Terry, and to our children, who have allowed me to pursue my passion for dentistry. I would be remiss if I didn’t thank those who were willing to take a chance on hiring me, so Dr. Tom Hilton and Dr. Juliana da Costa must be included in those who were significant supporters of my overture to join the OHSU faculty.”
RESEARCH RECOGNITION

The School of Dentistry’s researchers transforms dentistry every day with their findings. Whether in the lab, the clinic, the community, or the larger world, their work brings to light amazing discoveries that are innovating and elevating dental healthcare. Each month, we feature some of the fantastic accomplishments and work that our researchers are doing. Discover more about the Office of Research here.

DEVELOPING MORE DURABLE DENTAL MATERIALS

Picture above: Carmen Pfeifer, DDS, PhD and her lab, have developed a filling that is twice as strong and longer lasting than fillings used today.

Dr. Pfeifer and her team were highlighted in the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) Science News!

With support from a 2013-2018 NIDCR initiative, Dr. Pfeifer’s lab developed a filling that is twice as strong and is longer lasting than those currently used in dental clinics. The work led to Dr. Pfeifer’s receipt in fall 2019 of NIDCR’s Sustaining Outstanding Achievement in Research (SOAR) award, which provides support for exceptional mid-career scientificists to pursue potentially transformative research programs. Dr. Pfeifer’s SOAR work will build on her earlier research by exploring how oral microbes affect filling materials.

Most of the fillings used today are dental composites. They are white and look tooth-like, but they last only seven to 10 years, says Dr. Pfeifer. Over time, the composites can crack, break, or simply fall out, but they most often need replacing when new cavities develop around the edges of a dental filling. Dr. Pfeifer and her colleagues have developed the next-generation of filling materials. Read more about their discoveries here.

2020 AOD RISING STAR

Picture above: Silvia P. Amaya Pajares, DDS, MS

The Academy of Operative Dentistry (AOD) has named Assistant Professor of Restorative Dentistry at the SoD, Dr. Silvia P. Amaya Pajares, a 2021 AOD Rising Star.

The Rising Star Faculty Award (RSFA) has been established by the Academy of Operative Dentistry (AOD) with the intent to embrace the younger generation of dental faculty members and to strengthen the future AOD-membership. This biennial faculty award (funded by the AOD Founders Fund) aims to encourage, stimulate and support early-career faculty clinicians in their chosen professional path and highlight their activities.

Recipients need to be an early-career clinical faculty and member of the AOD. The Nominator should also be an AOD member. Early-career faculty is defined as a faculty member holding an assistant clinical professor position (at least 60% appointment) and be within 10 years from the end of their last degree or training program. The formal presentation of the RSFA award will take place at the next Annual Meeting of the Academy in February 2021. The Awardee will receive a monetary gift and a recognition and will need to present a Table Clinic to showcase her clinical-or-educational-oriented activities. Congratulations, Dr. Amaya Pajares, and thank you for all your contributions to the SoD!

2020 FLAME AWARDS

The Flame Awards ceremony, held on March 3, 2020, is just one way to recognize the scope of activities that show how involved students and faculty are in improving their communities. Students across campuses, programs and schools come together to celebrate the innovation and dedication they exemplify in their day-to-day at OHSU. The All-Hill student council sponsors this event. Each year, it is a time to celebrate the contributions students and faculty make toward education, health and learning.

Three SoD students were recognized for their hard work, generosity, and compassion.

WINNER: Advancement In Community Engagement Award
Recognizes a student who demonstrates an outstanding commitment to serving and partnering with the community at large (e.g., outside of OHSU). This work goes above and beyond what is required for scholastic purposes.

Scarlett Ketwich, DS4

RUNNER UP: Excellence in Clinical Service and Patient Care
This award is intended to recognize a student who has gone above and beyond to provide exemplary patient care within their scope of practice. Students are recognized who have enhanced patient experiences or healthcare delivery.

Darcy Olander, DS3

RUNNER UP: Mentor Award
This award is presented to students who demonstrate commitment to mentoring and teaching. Students committed to education help to create increased awareness about pertinent issues related to health or science, and they inspire learning and questioning. They teach about innovation and new areas of research to patients, peers, and the general public.

Umer Syed, DS3