



Walking Challenge for Heart Month

All OHSU employees who pledge to walk during February can receive a free pedometer, T-shirt, and raffle entry for prizes. Sign up for the American Heart Month walking challenge on Feb. 1 at the BICC Gallery from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free heart health screenings will be available. (Or, to sign up, go to www.startpdx.org and select OHSU as your company). Then, log your progress every time you walk between Feb. 1 to Feb. 29. On Feb. 29 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the BICC, there will be food and prizes for all walkers. Walkers can choose between an OHSU Health Squad or Go by Tram T-shirt.

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Tort Cap Ruling To Affect SOD Budget

The School of Dentistry will be making significant changes this winter, due to the financial impact on Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) from the recent Oregon Supreme Court ruling on the Oregon Tort Claims Act. The Tort Claims Act eliminates the tort liability cap for all public bodies in Oregon, OHSU included. To cover the cost of higher liability and insurance, an estimated \$30 million is being cut from OHSU's annual budget.

The School of Dentistry may be asked to make cuts from its budget in the three- to four-million range,

said Dean Jack Clinton. Final guidelines and actual targets are still being determined by the university's Executive Leadership Team.

Along with the other OHSU schools—medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and science and engineering -- the School of Dentistry will greatly reduce the amount of unfunded research conducted (research that is self-funded by OHSU, rather than funded by external grants).

"We will also be integrating our basic science research with the School of Medicine," said Dean Clinton, "an
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Gift of SOD History

Russell Street clinic receptionist **Rosemary Anderson** recently donated to the School of Dentistry an old photograph she discovered of the North Pacific College (the precursor to the University of Oregon Dental School and OHSU School of Dentistry) dental class of 1941. Rosemary's father, William, was one of 23 dentists graduating in 1941.

After graduation, Dr. Anderson married a former dental assistant from the college, Agnes Royal, and began practicing dentistry in Northeast Portland. Dr. and Mrs. Anderson had two children, Martin and Rosemary, and three grandchildren.

When Rosemary's father died in 2000, she discovered the black and white photo amongst her dad's belongings. (Rosemary's mother, Mrs. Anderson, died in 1996). Rosemary joined the Russell Street clinic in March of 2006 after answering an ad in the *Oregonian*.

"My dad was very proud of the education he received at North Pacific," said Rosemary.

Rosemary's uncle, Robert K. Anderson (Dr. Anderson's brother) attended the University of Oregon Dental School, graduating in 1947. Robert Anderson died in 1994.

Class of 2010 Receives White Coats

The afternoon of Jan. 11 was a significant dental school moment for the class of 2010, as 75 dental students received their white coat, signifying entry into the pre-doctoral clinic.

Though dental students traditionally receive their white coat between their second- and third-year of dental school, the School of Dentistry's new group practice structure has brought first- and second-years into the clinic for patient care much sooner than before and they need their identifying white coats earlier in the curriculum," said Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D.

Dental students were called to the podium by their group leader. **Michael Taylor**, D.M.D. and **Donald Sirianni**, D.M.D., assistant professors of prosthodontics, were selected by the class of 2010 to coat students. Eight dental student legacies received their white coat from a dentist family member.



The Class of 2010's Nicholas Smith (left) celebrates his new white coat with family members, from left, brother, Andrew, a fourth-year dental student; father, T. Alexander Smith, D.M.D. '81, who coated Nicholas on the dais; mom, Peggy; and sister, Natalie. (Photo Dan Carter).

"The white coat is symbolic of your transformation today from learner to teacher, from student to practitioner," said **Denice Stewart**, D.D.S., M.H.S.A., associate dean for clinical services. "At OHSU, the white coat is an important symbol of the service and care we provide for our patients. These are the changes we honor today."

With their white coats, second-year dental students now will be included in the weekly group practice huddles and be responsible for some provision of patient care.

Representatives from the Oregon Dental Association, The ODS Companies, and the School of Dentistry Alumni Association were also on hand for the ceremony. **Jeffrey Stewart**, D.D.S., associate professor of pathology, was on hand representing both SOD faculty and the Multnomah County Dental Society (he's the current president).

Phonathon Underway

Despite the slushy weather, the first night of calling for the School of Dentistry's annual phonathon, got off to a great start. More than \$47,000 was raised on Jan. 29, according to Development Director **Pat Regan**, the highest first-night total in four years. The phonathon continues Feb. 5, 6, and 7. To volunteer, contact the Alumni office at (503)-494-0983.

As in 2006, the majority of funds raised during the phonathon will go into the newly created Alumni Association Quasi-Endowment Fund, which supports dental student financial aid/scholarships, said Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D., which will be particularly important, given the fall 2008 tuition hike for dental students (see story page one). "Our intent is to raise enough money for student scholarships that we can keep the tuition increase for our current first, second, and third-years students to a single digit increase."

February is National Children's Dental Health month

The School of Dentistry is gearing up for Children's National Dental Month activities in February:

*On Feb. 16, OHSU School of Dentistry is co-sponsoring 'Celebration of Smiles,' a one-day event for children and their families, to highlight the importance of early and regular oral health care. 'Celebration of Smiles' is from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Portland Children's Museum and is open to the public. Children can paint tooth molds, play in 'Wally Gator,' the giant reptile chair, and much more.

*This is the 10th year, the School of Dentistry will offer Sealant Day for Buckman Arts Elementary School students, said **Mary Ann Haisch**, R.D.H., M.P.A., coordinator for outreach services. Mary Ann visited Buckman on Jan. 17 to talk to 100 second-graders about home dental care and the importance of good nutrition and to hand out permission slips for a free dental screening. On Feb. 5, those children whose parents have completed the permission forms will be screened for sealants by OHSU pediatric dentistry residents. Then on Feb. 19, the screened Buckman students will receive sealants from the pediatric dentistry residents and dental students, in the school's Dr. and Mrs. Carl Rietman Pediatric Dentistry Clinic, beginning at 9 a.m.

*OHSU will host in its predoctoral clinic 'Give Kids a Smile Day' on Feb. 29 this year (the national American Dental Association event is Feb. 1). About 200 uninsured children from the Portland-area are expected to receive free oral care that day, said **Prashant Gagneja**, D.D.S., M.S., head of the pediatric dentistry department at OHSU, beginning at 9 a.m. The goal of the event is to highlight for policymakers the problem of children's uninsuredness in Oregon and the effect that poor oral health has on children's lives. Contact Dr. Gagneja for more information, gagnejap@ohsu.edu

SOD Classroom Remodel Nearing Completion

The physical improvements to five School of Dentistry classrooms are going well, according to **Debbie Reaume**, continuing education program manager, who is coordinating the remodels.

Rooms 220 and 225 have new paint, a repaired back wall, a new audio system, new LCD projectors, and new podiums with 'touch' screens to control the audiovisual. Still to come are drapes, new tables, and a refinish of the white board area.

Rooms 420 and 525 have new paint, repaired back walls, and new chairs and tables.

Those rooms also will soon have a new front table, an audiovisual upgrade, four chairs for more seating, and the white board area will be refinished.

Room 408 now has a sound-absorbing door (between room 408 and 407) and repaired lighting and ceiling tiles. Fresh paint and carpet are still to come, as well as an LCD projector installed.

The classroom remodels began in August 2007, with funds from the School of Dentistry's 2006-2007 capital budget.

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idea that has been under discussion for quite some time as the university has been developing its strategic plan for 2020."

Dean Clinton said tuition for dental students is likely to rise, possibly as much as 10 to 25 percent. The 30-year-old Russell Street Dental Clinic, which provides care to the uninsured, will be restructured or closed.

"Most of the changes will take place over time, and are primarily structural," he said. "We expect most of the changes will eventually benefit the School and OHSU, as the university attempts to accommodate the added tort liability expenses. We will protect the School's core mission of training students to become dentists and the dental specialty residency programs, while maintaining our history of excellence."

OHSU estimates that between 200 to 300 positions will be eliminated university-wide.

University-wide cost-cutting measures will also affect the School of Dentistry's operations, including delayed upgrades to older campus buildings, delayed information technology improvements, a reduction in benefits for new employees, and a reduction in central services (administration, facilities, planning, finance, human resources, and communications).

"We are eager to start hammering out the details to help us meet this extensive budget remodel," said Dean Clinton. "It will likely take many months and possibly years to fully implement all of the changes that have been enumerated for us."

Dental Bites is the SOD's monthly internal newsletter. If you have a submission, please contact Sydney Clevenger (clevenge@ohsu.edu).

New Faces in SOD

Please welcome to the School of Dentistry:

***Thomas Galbraith**, D.D.S., an assistant professor in the department of restorative dentistry. Dr. Galbraith recently moved to Oregon to be closer to his sons, after retiring from 25 years in private practice, most recently in Weed, Calif. Dr. Galbraith received his doctor of dental surgery degree from the University of Southern California School of Dentistry in Los Angeles.

***Jennifer Mitchell**, a research assistant working part-time with **Ron Sakaguchi**, D.D.S., Ph.D., associate dean for research and innovation. Jennifer will perform literature research, data analysis, and manuscript editing for the NIH R25 research curriculum grant received April 2006. Jennifer comes from OHSU's internal communications department. She received her bachelor of arts in English from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio.

***Shelley Winn**, Ph.D., an adjunct associate professor in biomaterials and biomechanics. His doctoral degree, from Brown University, was in medical science with an emphasis in artificial organs, biomaterials, cellular technology, and neuroscience. Dr. Winn also is an associate professor of research for OHSU School of Medicine's department of surgery, division of plastic and reconstructive surgery. From 2000-2007, Dr. Winn directed research studies at Northwest Wound Healing Center, and held the same title at OHSU.

***Tim Young**, a development assistant, working with Development Coordinator **Lisa Thorsrud** and Development Director **Pat Regan**. Tim previously worked with the Oregon Trial Lawyers Association, and also with Portland State University in the Auxiliary Enterprises Office. Tim received a bachelor of science in political science and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Oregon. Coincidentally, Tim's dad, **Darrell Young**, served as SOD's associate dean of finance for many years.