



Holiday Sweater Wearers Raise \$380

The Hawthorne bridge group raised the most funds (\$193 of the \$380 total) for the charity of their choice (still undetermined at press time) during the third annual "Holiday Sweater Day," held on Dec. 13. The Hawthorne group won a free breakfast sponsored by the Dental Student Government for their group's first 2010 team huddle. St. John's care coordinator Emily Atwater's name was drawn for a \$10 Starbucks gift card. About 40 dental students, staff, and faculty participated.

Table of Contents

Legislative Visit	1
Pediatric Dentistry	2
ASDA Interviews	4
Service Excellence	5
Curriculum Update	6

"Dr. of Smiles" at Pediatric Clinic

Senior officers of the Gul Reazee Grotto, the local chapter of a national humanitarian foundation, visited medically-fragile young people and their families on Dec. 16, prior to the children receiving dental treatment paid for by the Gul Reazee Grotto at the Pediatric Dental Surgery Clinic in Doernbecher Children's Hospital. The

Gul Reazee Grotto has gifted about \$170,000 to the School since January 2009, said Lloyd Fries, R.Ph., also known as "Dr. of Smiles" for the Masonic group. Mr. Fries is the recently elected "monarch" (president) of the Gul Reazee Grotto. The Gul Reazee Grotto is the local chapter of the Grottoes *(continued on page three)*

ASDA Hosts Legislative Visit at School of Dentistry

The American Student Dental Association (ASDA) recently hosted a School tour and town hall for Rep. Chris Harker, who represents Washington County and is vice chair of the House Healthcare Committee and a member of the Education Committee. Rep. Harker was an OHSU researcher prior to starting a software development company that creates programs to facilitate research grant submissions.

ASDA Trustee for the Oregon Dental Association (ODA) and **Charlie Muraki** (DS2), ASDA Legislative Liaisons **Thomas Cardwell** (DS1), and **Jesse Hollander** (DS2), and Alternate ASDA Trustee to the ODA **Iraj Kasimi** (DS1), welcomed Rep. Harker on Nov. 24 with a short presentation by Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. '64. **Suzu Funkhouser**, OHSU director of state and local relations, and **David Robinson**, OHSU interim provost, also attended.

The ASDA representatives then took Rep. Harker on a tour of the first- and second-year pre-clinic laboratory spaces and the pre-doctoral clinic. "We discussed with [Rep. Harker] the need for updated



Dental students (from left) Thomas Cardwell, Charlie Muraki, Jesse Hollander, and Iraj Kasimi with Rep. Chris Harker (center) on Nov. 24. (Photo Mark Mitchell)

facilities and increased space to maintain the high quality of education that the School provides to its students," said Charlie.

About 120 dental students attended a lunch time Town Hall. Rep. Harker talked about health care legislation passed in the 2009 session of the Oregon State Legislature, and answered student questions about funding for dental education and oral health care issues that affect Oregon.

"The students were interested in legislative support for the school, as well as funding for *(continued on page three)*

Happy Holidays!



Dental students prep for finals in mid-December with a beautiful Noble Fir as back drop. The holiday tree was donated by John Derbyshire, D.D.S., assistant professor of periodontology, from his Hillsboro-area tree farm, Christmas Mountain Trees. (Photo Sydney Clevenger)

DS1 Profile – Emily Jones



Age: 23

Degree/School: Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, Portland State University

Why Dentistry: I've worked for my dad (Mark S. Jones, D.M.D. '83) since I was 14.

Why OHSU: I like that my family is here. I'm interested in community and international work.

Dr. Engle to Head Pediatric Dentistry

John Engle, D.D.S., assistant professor of pediatric dentistry, recently was appointed interim chair of the pediatric dentistry department. Dr. Engle accepted the appointment in early December, replacing **Prashant Gagneja**, B.D.S., M.S., who stepped down for health reasons. Dr. Gagneja, the youngest OHSU department chair in history, will remain on the pediatric dentistry faculty.

"With the new Pediatric Dentistry Surgery Clinic in great demand, our pediatric dentistry residency program is now hospital-based, and the fact that we would like our pediatric dentistry program to grow further, we are dealing with a number of new procedures and operations that require a full-time leader providing direct day-to-day involvement," said Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. '64. "We appreciate Dr. Engle's willingness to help us during this transition."

Dr. Engle received his bachelor of science from Chico State College, and his doctor of dental surgery from the University of California, Los Angeles.

After dental school, Dr. Engle moved to Oregon and conducted four years of graduate studies in dental materials science at the School of Dentistry. He also received his certificate in pediatric dentistry from OHSU in 1975. A year later, he joined the School of Dentistry as a research assistant in the department of dental materials science and became research associate in that department in 1978.

Dr. Engle joined OHSU as an assistant professor of pediatric dentistry in 1976 for 10 years, rejoining the School faculty in 2006. Dr. Engle is in private practice in Mollalla. He volunteers with the Clackamas County Children's Dental Clinic and Medical Teams International.

Dr. of Smiles *(continued from page one)*

of North America (www.hfgrotto.org).

"This is Grotto Day at Doernbecher," said Mr. Fries. "All of the children seen on our day, we pay for with local funds." The children seen on Dec. 16 all were uninsured and from the Portland-area. Each child received a free dental cleaning, prophylaxis, exam, and x-rays from **Sherry Lemon**, R.D.H., M.S., dental assistant **Mary Bravo**, second-year pediatric dentistry resident **Elizabeth Palmer** and first-year pediatric dentistry resident **Shelby Hiles**.

The Grotto's donations to low-income and uninsured children with special dental needs began eight years ago. Mr. Fries credits **Kathy Vu**, School PAS resource specialist, for actively finding children with special needs who qualify for the funds, which gave the program a boost.

"Kathy started calling us about three years ago when she had uninsured patients and then she went through her files to find uninsured children who fit our criteria and the program grew from there," he said. "If it hadn't been for Kathy, this program would never have gotten as far as it has."



Kathy Vu, PAS resource specialist, with Lloyd Fries, monarch of the Gul Reazee Grotto, which helps support the School's Pediatric Dental Surgery Clinic. (Photo courtesy Lloyd Fries)

Legislative Visit *(continued from page one)*

programs to support oral health care, especially in rural areas and programs that serve lower income patients," said Charlie.

School Calendar

Jan. 4	Start of 12-week term
Jan. 18	School holiday (MLK's birthday)
Feb. 5	Celebration of Smiles, 5 to 8 p.m., Portland Children's Museum
Feb. 6	Celebration of Smiles, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Portland Children's Museum
Feb. 15	School holiday (President's Day)
Feb. 26	Give Kids a Smile day at OHSU, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
March 10	Robert G. Gootee/ODS Companies Endowed Lectureship on Leadership and Professionalism, 3 p.m., OHSU Auditorium (Old Library)
March 15 to 19	DS4 School Boards
March 26	End of 12-week winter term
March 29 to April 2	Spring Break (no classes or predoctoral clinic)

Faculty on ADEA board

The Drs. Stewart (**Denice**, D.D.S., M.H.S.A., associate dean for clinical affairs, and **Jeffery**, D.D.S., M.S., associate professor of pathology) recently were elected to the board of the ADEA (American Dental Education Association) Leadership Institute Alumni Association. Dr. Denice Stewart was elected to the office of secretary-treasurer and Dr. Jeffery Stewart will serve as representative for his leadership class. The ADEA Leadership Institute Alumni Association is comprised of Institute graduates from the past 10 years, about 150 individuals from dental schools across the country.

Dr. Denice Stewart graduated from the institute in 2006 and Dr. Jeffery Stewart graduated in 2009. The purpose of the ADEA Leadership Institute Alumni Association is to develop and conduct regular leadership and personal development programs for alumni, raise funds to support Leadership Institute alumni, promote communication within Institute alumni, and encourage participation in the Leadership Institute by promoting it at alum home institutions, and serve as a resource for ADEA.

Mock Interviews at School

OHSU's ASDA (American Student Dental Association) recently sponsored its second mock interview event for pre-dental students. According to third-year dental student **Amanda Rentschler**, who is on the ASDA's Pre-Dental Committee, 26 pre-dental students from Portland State University, Oregon State University, Western Oregon University, Oregon Institute of Technology, Lewis and Clark, and Willamette University, attended the Dec. 1 event.

"This year's format was slightly different than last year because each pre-dental student got to do one-on-one interviews with more than one dental student so they could see how different people interview, and then each pre-dental student got a personal tour of the School," said Amanda. The Pre-Dental Committee also had an opening Powerpoint presentation, led by committee chair and second-year dental student **Patrick Corning**, a question and answer session after the interviews, and light refreshments.

Second-year dental student Lee DeKrey "interviews" a pre-dental student on Dec. 1. (Photo Amanda Rentschler)



Pre-dental students were asked to wear business attire and bring their personal statements for review. In their invitations, pre-dental students were cautioned that the experience was meant to be helpful practice for dental school interviewing, but not indicative of any dental school.

Forty dental students helped with the mock interviews with all four dental classes represented, said Amanda. Three first-year dental students joined the pre-dental committee of the ASDA in October and helped at the event, including **Markus Bateman**, **Taylor Diggs** (whose younger brother was at mock interviews), and **Nicole Grant**.

Health and Safety Update

At a recent staff in-service, the School's health and safety officer **Karla Kent**, Ph.D., associate professor of integrative biosciences, discussed the School's emergency and hazardous materials plans.

The School's emergency plan, said Dr. Kent, is organized by floor and department, with designated floor monitors helping to manage employee rosters and safe evacuations. Employees should know their floor's evacuation route, she said, which is available for review in an emergency resource book located in every department. Employees should also know the location of spill kits, eye wash stations, fire blankets, fire extinguishers, fire pull stations, emergency showers, and AED's, said Dr. Kent.

In an emergency at the School, employees are encouraged to call 4-4444, which is preferred on campus over 911.

Dr. Kent also spoke about fire prevention and noted that combustibles are not allowed within 18 inches of any ceiling and extension cords are banned.

The School's hazardous materials plan also is available for viewing in every department. Employees who handle hazardous materials, she said, should be familiar with each chemicals manufacturer/importer/distributor and its' MSDS (material safety data sheet), as well as the container label and any personal protective equipment required. The non-emergency number for OHSU Environmental Health and Safety is 4-7795.

Dental Bites is the School's monthly internal newsletter. If you have a story or photo submission, please contact Sydney Clevenger (clevenger@ohsu.edu, 503-418-1792) by the 25th of the month prior to each monthly publication.

ACE Continues to Make Strides Toward Excellence

The School's ACE (Advisory Committee on Excellence) was busy in December championing service excellence for dental patients, staff, faculty, and students, at several events.

"Every one of us has a role in excellence," said Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. '64, at a Dec. 20 staff in-service. "The School is going to grow and improve every day, every month, and every year. Every person in this school has an impact on how dentistry is practiced today and in the future. Great customer service is the tiebreaker that gets companies ahead. We want to provide care the way we expect to receive it."

Bob Johnson, D.M.D. '77, assistant professor of community dentistry, related to staff his experience as an employee at the old Farrell's Ice Cream Parlor and what his then-boss advised regarding an unhappy customer. "Mr. Farrell said that the customer isn't always right because there is no right or wrong. He said that we were trained to meet customer expectations and sometimes we get it right and sometimes we don't do it very well and we just need to keep trying. I've always remembered his advice.

"When my patients come to see me in my practice, the Russell Street clinic, and this School, they have an expectation in their minds and it's my job to try to allay their hopes and fears. I remind myself that this is not a tooth I'm working on, this is a person. If my staff is thinking along the same lines, they're going to help me and the patient. I've been at this for more than 30 years and I don't always get it right, but I keep working on it."

Stephen Persichetti, D.D.S., M.S., associate professor of community dentistry, teaches practice management to third-year dental students. "I try to express the value of having great staff," he said. "The only way to make things happen is if the staff runs the office and the dentist focuses on what he or she is trained to do, which is dentistry." Dr. Persichetti relayed an office epiphany of his own when he discovered high staff turnover related to inconsistent rules in a three-dentist office. "We realized that the staff couldn't get with the program because the rules changed all the time. The moral is that you may think people are not paying attention, but they are."

Staff at the in-service viewed an OHSU training course with seven qualities of service excellence: empathy, enthusiasm, ownership, responsibility, adaptability, balance, and resiliency, and then broke into small groups to discuss.

The ACE Committee also was front and center at the School's service excellence appreciation celebration Dec. 10, with 150 staff, faculty, and friends attending. A dental song to the tune of "Oh, Susannah," was performed by the ACE Committee.

The ACE also presented appreciation awards to five individuals who exemplify service excellence by going out of their way to help others, smile, and portray a positive attitude. The awardees included **Karla Kent**, Ph.D., associate professor of integrative biosciences; **Tom Galbraith**, D.D.S., Broadway group leader; **Mark Mitchell**, M.A., associate dean of student affairs; **Grace Kuto**, patient business services; and **Reasmey (Mey)Kon**, cashier. The individuals were selected from ACE Committee nominations. Each awardee received a bottle of "bubbly" and a gift card.

Update on Evidence-Based Dentistry Curriculum

First-year dental student **Daniel Walsh** recently completed the School's newly reconfigured CDEN701 course, presenting an evidence based dentistry evaluation with his St. John's IGP (integrated group practice) to basic science and clinical faculty, and Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. '64. The goal of CDEN701 is to boost students' critical thinking skills and demonstrate how scientific evidence is used in clinical situations.

These skills are the focus of recent revisions in the pre-doctoral curriculum, thanks to an NIH (National Institutes of Health) research education grant that provides financial support for projects in critical thinking and research literacy. Both this CDEN701 and the DM711 introduction to dental materials provide and reinforce the knowledge base and skills for students to utilize critical thinking throughout their careers and to use an evidence based approach to clinical decision making.

The evidence-based dentistry (EBD) presentations at the end of the CDEN701 course were the next step for first-year students who began working collaboratively to develop a treatment plan for one patient during their September Cannon Beach retreat.

At Cannon Beach, first-year dental students worked within their assigned group practices to answer a clinical question, said **Denice Stewart**, D.D.S., M.H.S.A., associate dean for clinical affairs. Each group was given the same question, yet had different patient histories.

Dental students worked with their group leaders to develop a treatment plan. They could use the associate deans in attendance as resources as well as references brought up on PDA (personal digital assistant)'s.

"At the end, when the students were presenting their plans at Cannon Beach, they realized that their clinical questions were similar, but they had different patients," said Dr. Stewart. "The point was to show that we treat each patient as an individual. Even though they may all have a missing tooth, there are other factors to consider when preparing a treatment plan."

This fall's CDEN701 course was condensed into two-hour, six-week sessions (rather than 12 weeks of one-hour sessions), utilizing exercises instead of lectures and focusing on interactive classroom activities. Each group practice continued with its Cannon Beach case, but in a "more formal fashion with clinical questions and evidence-based decision-making" as the framework in CDEN701, said Dr. Stewart.

The clinical question for the St. John's group, for example, was: "In a middle-aged patient, will placing an immediate load implant as compared to a delayed load implant provide for an equivalent level of retention?"

Said Daniel, [Our scenario] "raised many unanswered questions. At times, it was difficult to find information on a topic that we were unfamiliar with. However, overcoming the difficulties of our case study coincided with learning how to use new sources of information. For example, our patient indicated that he takes a specific herbal supplement. Initially, we found very few research articles discussing the correlation between the supplement and dental treatment. Our lack of success with peer-reviewed articles led us in a completely new direction toward various OHSU faculty members who provided us with expert opinions.

(continued on page seven)

Evidence-based Decision Making *(continued from page six)*

"CDEN701 provides an effective method of developing and refining research skills," said Daniel. "During my undergraduate education, I became accustomed to choosing my own research topics. CDEN701 takes research a step further by presenting students with a patient case that must be dealt with, regardless of a student's comfort level with the subject material. This is not unlike the circumstances that I will one day experience as a clinician. I will not be able to choose the complications that my patients present with. Instead, I will need to be prepared to solve unexpected and potentially unfamiliar problems.

"Students taking the course must remember that, in order to be an effective clinician, they must have the ability to access and interpret high levels of evidence afforded by peer-reviewed journals," he said.

The faculty and dean, said Dr. Stewart, were "so impressed with the level of the content by all the groups presenting, especially considering there were only six weeks of class and the students are just in their first year of dental school." Dr. Stewart said that the students' professionalism and presentation skills also were noteworthy. The Steel practice group presented their findings at a faculty development workshop in November.

"CDEN701 is the basis for what dental students will be doing in all of their courses and clinical work throughout their four years of dental school," she said. "We hope these EBD exercises lay the groundwork for students to become excellent clinicians."

The course was team taught by Dr. Stewart, **Ron Sakaguchi**, D.D.S., Ph.D., associate dean for research and innovation, and **Heather Hill**, D.D.S., a National Library of Medicine fellow in OHSU's department of medical informatics and clinical epidemiology. Dr. Hill, a dentist from Minnesota, was in the first class of the ADA's Evidence Based Dentistry (EBD) Champions Conference and workshop.

Dr. Sakaguchi continued to reinforce critical thinking and evidence-based decision making in DM711, which immediately followed CDEN 701 as six, two-hour sessions in the second half of the fall term for first-year dental students. Students developed CATs, or critically appraised topics, in which they researched scientific evidence for the use of dental materials in specific clinical situations. They presented their CAT presentations in lieu of a final exam in DM711.

"The first-year dental students understand the fundamentals for developing clinical questions, searching the scientific literature, and analyzing the evidence to answer the clinical questions," said Dr. Sakaguchi. "Our goal is to provide opportunities for students to build on these fundamentals throughout their education at OHSU to provide the very best evidence-based care for their patients."



Building on the skills he learned in CDEN701 two years ago, third-year dental student Charles Nguyen made an EBD stool for a recent presentation he gave during his group practice huddle. (Photo Ben Bernstein, Ph.D.)