



**OHSU School of Dentistry/Dental Bites**

**June 2010**

***Hooding and Commencement News***

In less than three weeks, the Class of 2010 will receive their lilac hoods and diplomas, signifying graduation from dental school. The hooding and commencement—combined this year into one ceremony—is set for 10 a.m. on Friday, June 18 in the OHSU

Auditorium (Old Library) and requires a ticket, said Mark Mitchell, M.S., associate dean for student affairs. Large-screen viewing is also available on the first floor of the BICC Gallery (admission does not require a ticket) and live via the Web (for *continued on page seven*)

**Dental Students Win at OHSU Research Forum**

Two awards during a recent OHSU all-student research competition were received by dental students. The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual All-Hill Student Research Forum was March 13 and 14.

“To my knowledge, this is the first time the dental school has ever had a student win an All-Hill student research prize, much less two students,” said **John Mitchell**, Ph.D., associate professor of biomaterials and biomechanics who is the faculty lead for the Dental Student Research Group and mentored a dental student winner.

Second-year dental student **Todd Groesbeck** won first place, a \$300 cash prize, in the oral presentation category for physiology, for his project, “Influence of Implant Thread-Design on Bone Surface” *(continued, right column)*

**Beemsterboer Selected for ACD Fellowship**

**Phyllis Beemsterboer**, Ed.D., was recently selected by the Board of Regents of the American College of Dentists (ACD) to receive Honorary Fellowship. Honorary Fellowship is bestowed on individuals who do not hold a dental degree, but have significantly advanced the profession in oral health and have shown exceptional leadership in education, research, public health, administration, public service, or related health care fields. This is the highest honor the ACD awards to non-dentists. Dr. Beemsterboer is one of four individuals to receive the ACD honor this year. The award will be presented at the ACD’s annual meeting in October.

Strain Around Orthodontic Mini Implants.” Dr. Mitchell is Todd’s mentor. Todd also presented his project at a recent American Association of Dental Research meeting.

First-year dental student **Kyle Malloy** won first place in the poster presentation category, receiving a \$200 cash prize. He was one of 10 poster presentation winners. (Poster presenters did not present their research orally).

Kyle’s project was, “What is the Schneiderian membrane and its historical and clinical importance.” Kyle’s mentor for this project – a different project than the one that won the recent ODA-sponsored Table Clinic—was **Brion Benninger**, M.D., assistant professor of integrative biosciences and oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Twenty dental students participated in the All-Hill research forum.

**New Elevator Signs**

Check the School elevators for new specialty symbols for orthodontics and pediatric dentistry, designed to improve signage within the School, particularly for non-English speaking patients. The Action Committee for Excellence (ACE) is seeking input on symbols for additional departments. For more information, contact ACE, [lomelis@ohsu.edu](mailto:lomelis@ohsu.edu), or [grosses@ohsu.edu](mailto:grosses@ohsu.edu)

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## Group Leader Profile: Eric Anderson, D.M.D. '05

**Eric Anderson**, D.M.D. '05 is the kind of young faculty member that any university would love to recruit. In his last year of dental school, he was student body president, on the Oregon Dental Association board of trustees, active in community outreach, achieved high honors and clinical honors, and, at graduation, received the School's prestigious Stephen Peglow Award for integrity and compassion.

"I had always been interested in teaching," said Dr. Anderson, 33, who joined the faculty immediately after graduation and has led the Hawthorne group since the pre-doctoral clinic transitioned to a group practice structure in 2007. "I told Dr. (**Charles**) **Malloy**, D.D.S. (director and assistant professor of prosthodontics), that I wanted to teach when we were meeting one day and the Dean (**Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. '64) happened by. It ended up being a three-hour lunch."

Dr. Anderson grew up in LaGrande, Ore., the fourth son of six boys. His father taught marketing and promotional strategies and the family spent a year in New Zealand while his father was on sabbatical.



*Eric Anderson, D.M.D. '05,  
Hawthorne group leader. (Photo Dan  
Carter)*

During high school, Dr. Anderson was selected for the School of Dentistry's Dental Careers Institute, a one-week series of lectures and activities (discontinued in early 2000) to interest young people in dentistry. "I came and stayed in the dorms [on Upper Campus Drive; now closed] and that was it—I decided to be a dentist," he said. He received his bachelor of science in human biology from Brigham Young University.

For dental school, OHSU appealed, in part, because it was "more difficult" than other schools he investigated, said Dr. Anderson. "I thought it would be good in the end," he said. "Some dental schools don't require lab work and I thought that would be beneficial."

Dr. Anderson likes the group practice structure for the added mentoring and teamwork dental students experience. "The dental school provides a great starting point for a career in dentistry," he said. "I think it's important for students to learn to make their own clinical decisions. I like to let them decide upon their own patient treatment plans and then I let them know if I disagree and they need to go in another direction.

"I also try to talk to students about giving back, doing service, and participating in other activities that give you a well-rounded perspective in life."

For the past two years, Dr. Anderson has joined Wide Open Humanitarian on missions to Guatemala, providing oral care. He – along with SOD'ers **Scott Dyer**, D.M.D. '00, assistant professor of restorative dentistry, and third-year dental student **Amanda Rice** -- spent 10 days during spring break in March, caring for 1,000 people in remote villages eight-to-10 hour bus rides from Guatemala City.

*(continued on page four)*

## Endo News

Endodontology department chair **Christine Sedgley**, M.D.S., M.D.Sc., F.R.A.D.C.S., M.R.A.C.D.S. (Endo), Ph.D., reports that **Craig Baumgartner**, D.D.S., Ph.D., professor emeritus of endodontology, received the Louis Grossman Award during the April American Association of Endodontists (AAE) meeting in San Diego. The Louis Grossman Award recognizes an author for cumulative publication of significant research studies that have made an extraordinary contribution to endodontology.



*Professor Emeritus of Endodontology Craig Baumgartner, D.D.S., Ph.D., recently received a national endodontology award (Photo Christine Sedgley, M.D.S., M.D.Sc., F.R.A.D.C.S., M.R.A.C.D.S. (Endo), Ph.D.)*

At the same AAE meeting, three OHSU graduates of the endodontology program – **Najia Usman**, D.D.S., Endo `02, **Tian Xia**, D.M.D., Endo `02, and **Doug Ferris**, Endo `03 -- were admitted to the American College of Diplomates after having successfully completed the board certification process.

*Dental Bites* is the School's monthly internal newsletter published the first Monday of each month. If you have a story or photo submission, please contact Sydney Clevenger (clevenge@ohsu.edu, 503-418-1792).

## School Calendar

<b>June 5</b>	Welcome to the Alumni Association dinner (DS4)
<b>June 18</b>	SOD Commencement, 10 a.m., Old Library
<b>June 25</b>	End of 12 week spring term
<b>July 6</b>	Start of six-week summer session
<b>July 16</b>	White Coat ceremony (DS2)
<b>August 13</b>	End of six-week summer session

## Dental School Helps with OHSU Head and Neck Screening

The School of Dentistry had a strong presence at the recent Head and Neck Cancer Awareness and Screening Day sponsored by OHSU at the Knight Cancer Institute. Two faculty and six dental students helped to screen about 385 people at screening, held April 16. Attendees also were educated about risk factors and preventive behaviors.

Participating in the interdisciplinary, team screenings were third-year dental student **Jacob Morrow**; fourth-year dental students **Cynthia Lehnertz**, **Richard McKinney**, **Matthew Sandberg**, **Benjamin DeGraff**, and **Nicholas Smith**; **Kevin Arce**, M.D., D.M.D., assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery; and **Jeffery Stewart**, D.D.S., M.S., associate professor of pathology.

The screening included a patient history, facial skin examinations, palpation of salivary and thyroid glands and head and neck lymph nodes, and a comprehensive oral soft tissue examination. Screening participants also had the opportunity to participate in an observational clinical trial to test the incidence of oral human papillomavirus in the general population.

## Service Excellence Training Underway

The School's ACE (Action Committee for Excellence) initiated service excellence training in mid-May to further its mission of creating a culture of compassionate caring and improved knowledge and health for all.



*Ben Bernstein,  
Ph.D.*

Twelve participants – dental students, staff, and faculty – “who would give good feedback on how to further tailor the program” were nominated by ACE for the first round of training, said **Ben Bernstein**, Ph.D., affiliate assistant professor of community dentistry, an ACE member and training facilitator.

The four-week training consists of an online Sakai portion in which participants respond to a questionnaire, watch a video, and read an article. They then meet as a group to share and learn. Another experience on Sakai and a final group meeting round out the training.

The initial team of 12 will be divided into four subgroups of three, with dental students, staff, and faculty evenly divided among them, said Dr. Bernstein. “We are offering tools and training in three areas of service excellence,” he said. “Staying calm, being empathetic, and showing appreciation all are important elements to improving relationships with patients and collaborating with colleagues, and ultimately can reduce stress and enhance the spirit of teamwork at the School.

“This session is the first in what we hope are many service excellence trainings for dental students, staff, and faculty,” said Dr. Bernstein.

## Dr. Anderson (continued from page two)

“Some people had never seen a dentist,” said Dr. Anderson. “It was really fulfilling.”



*The Newport Bay bridge at dawn, Dr. Anderson's prize-winning entry in a recent photo contest. (Photo Eric Anderson, D.M.D. '05)*

Dr. Anderson also likes to quilt, bake, mountain climb (this summer he's heading up Mt. Hood and Mt. St. Helens) and photography. Recently, one of his photos -- of the Newport Bay bridge -- received Honorable Mention in an *Oregonian* photo contest that garnered 4,000 entries.

## Gift to OMS

Former oral and maxillofacial surgery chair (1969 to 1998) **Ralph Merrill**, D.D.S., now retired, was recently cleaning out his home and found some dental-related items he has donated to the School's oral and maxillofacial surgery department.

Amongst Dr. Merrill's gifts are old books and photos, a surgical ortho articulator, several alcohol burners, a metal case for drill points, stones, burs, and assorted sandpaper discs, and a beautiful black dental carrying case with three compartments filled with such items as hand mirrors, amalgam packing and carving instruments, mixing spatulas, small rulers, blue inlay wax, and rubber tooth clamps. Thank you, Dr. Merrill!

## Welcome back, Dr. Ferracane

**Jack Ferracane**, Ph.D., restorative dentistry department chair, is back in the building after a year's sabbatical in England at the University of Birmingham Dental School.



*Jack Ferracane, Ph.D.*

Dr. Ferracane said his sabbatical was an excellent opportunity to recharge, learn, and establish great friendships with wonderful people.

"I learned how to do cell culture, gel electrophoresis, and identifying gene activity by polymerase chain reaction," said Dr. Ferracane. "My studies were based on exposing dentin to different concentrations of acids to show that sequestered, bioactive proteins could be released and potentially aid in the repair of the damaged tissue.

"We showed that the proteins that were released had some ability to stimulate cell growth and mineralization when present in the right concentrations, and that certain genes related to mineral formation were upregulated in the cells."

Dr. Ferracane said he was able to interact with a variety of pulp biologists, molecular biologists, materials scientists, and clinical scientists, as well as a host of graduate students and other visiting professors from Japan and Germany.

"I hope to maintain my professional and personal ties with the folks at the University of Birmingham Dental School, and continue to do research in the area of dentin and pulp regeneration," he said.

Dr. Ferracane joined the dental school faculty in 1989.

## 1915 Switchbox Comes Home

The dental school recently received a 1915 Tennessee red marble switchbox for its historical collection, an acquisition that has come full circle through the university.

The 8" x 28" switchbox—essentially a portable breaker box--was designed for old-time dental offices. Dentists would run all of their electrical components through the switchbox, including lighted and heated mirrors, light wands, cautery, dental drills, x-rays, and air and water syringes, according to **Ross Epstein**, D.D.S., a general dentist in Newport News, Va., who reports on modern and Victorian dental equipment for the *Journal of the History of Dentistry*.

"If you look at the sophistication of these switchboxes, early dentists actually had more technological capabilities than we do today," said Dr. Epstein.

The switchboxes, according to Dr. Epstein, were used to control the electrical currents (both alternating and direct) coming into dental offices. In the early 1900's, not all cities had electricity and some doctors used batteries in their offices to run their switchboxes. Even in cities with electricity (Portland got electricity in 1907) the current could be unreliable and dentists would run backup with batteries to ensure their boxes stayed running. *(continued on page six)*

## Antique Switchbox *(continued from page five)*

It is believed that at one time, the 1915 Tennessee red marble switchbox was located in the old dental school dorm on Upper Campus Drive, possibly as part of a historical collection stored on the seventh floor.

In 1976, when **Barbara Glidewell**, R.N., M.B.S., affiliate assistant professor of community dentistry, was beginning her first job at OHSU in Surplus Property, her team was tasked with cleanup of the old dental school dorm and she noticed the switchbox—not knowing what it was—in a “junk pile” behind the dorm that was later transferred to the incinerator behind Gaines Hall. Taken with what she dubbed the “busy box,” Barbara eventually asked if she could have the box and “no one objected.”

“I kept it all the years, knowing I would have it mounted in my office one day,” she said. Sure enough, when Barbara became OHSU ombudsman two-and-a-half years later, she had it mounted on the wall in her department’s lobby.

“It became quite a conversation piece,” said Barbara. “I always told my staff that when I retired the box should be displayed at the dental school.” In January, when Barbara retired from OHSU fulltime, she was true to her word, arriving at the dental school on her last day with the heavy switchbox on a cart.

“None of us knew what it was,” said Dean **Jack Clinton**, D.M.D. `64, who gratefully accepted Barbara’s gift. “All we knew is that it had a number of fuses, switches, and spigots and had some sort of electrical application.” Professor emeritus of community dentistry **J. Henry Clarke**, D.M.D. `61, sent a photo of the object, along with a description, to the *Journal of the History of Dentistry*, and Dr. Epstein called to identify it.

Switchboxes came into vogue in the late 1800’s and marble was used because it doesn’t conduct electricity. The 1915 Tennessee red marble – which cost \$70 to \$100 back in the day – was one of many switchboxes made by the Electro Dental Manufacturing Company in Philadelphia. Today, its worth is estimated at \$200 to \$300.

“We aren’t sure yet what we’re going to do with it, but we’re happy that it’s here,” said Dean Clinton. “It is an important part of dental history.”



*This odd-looking contraption was a mystery at the School until recently. (Photo Dan Carter)*

## Pathology Honor for McLean

Third-year dental student **Annie McLean** has always loved puzzles. That's one reason why the Portland, Ore. native plans to pursue oral pathology as a dentistry specialty. Annie is off to a good start on this path (no pun intended), having recently won a prestigious \$1,000 award to travel to Tucson and present her research at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology (AAOMP) in mid-May. Annie's award was one of only three such awards bestowed nationally.



*Third-year dental student Anne McLean (left) receives a \$1,000 check from Harvey Kessler, president of the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology. (Photo Lee Slater)*

"Oral pathologists are specially-trained detectives," said Annie. "Each patient biopsy tissue slide has several features that are clues that aid in the search for the right diagnosis. I love the fact that, as an oral pathologist, I will have so many opportunities, such as running a biopsy service, seeing patients, and teaching."

Annie credits **Cindy Kleinegger**, D.D.S., M.S., associate professor of pathology and radiology; **Jeffery Stewart**, D.D.S., M.S., associate professor of pathology and radiology; and **F. James Kratochvil**, D.D.S., associate professor and chair of pathology and radiology, for inspiring her oral pathology interest.

*(continued, right column)*

## Dentistry Represented on the Hill

Second-year dental students **Charlie Muraki** and **Vijay Patel** recently were elected to the All-Hill Student Council. Charlie was elected Student Body President and Vijay is the editor of the *Pulse*.

## Hooding and Commencement

*(continued from page one)*

computers with RealPlayer or Flash Player) at: <http://media.ohsu.edu/ramgen/broadcast/sod.rm>. For more information on graduation, go to [www.ohsu.edu/sod](http://www.ohsu.edu/sod) and click on the bottom right photograph titled, "Graduation." Seventy-four dental students are graduating this year.

## Pathology *(continued from left)*

Annie attended Willamette University in Salem, receiving a bachelor of science in biology, with chemistry, Spanish, and music minors. She selected OHSU "because of its very good clinical reputation" and so that she could live with her family for the first few years of School.

At the AAOMP meeting Annie presented the first known case of bilateral calcifying odontogenic tumors (CEOT) of the mandible. "Most dental students learn about CEOT in a very basic way, but Annie delved into the literature and became an expert on this rare lesion," said Dr. Kleinegger. "She presented the case report and review of the literature to an enormous room full of oral pathologists and did a fantastic job. She made us very proud!" Annie was the only dental student to give an oral presentation at the meeting.

In Tucson, Annie met oral pathologists from all around the country, including the directors of the oral pathology graduate programs. "They all know Annie now and were very impressed by her. This is going to make a big difference when she applies for residencies," said Dr. Kleinegger. "Annie was also able to spend time with current residents and learn more about what training in oral pathology is all about."