

# Dental Alumni news

## MODEL CITIZEN

**Dr. Bea Gandara  
of Oral Medicine named  
WSDA's Citizen of the Year**

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**■ NO. 2 IN RESEARCH**  
*New world rankings  
improve our standing*

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**■ BIG GIFT FOR CLINICS**  
*Bien-Air providing electric  
hand piece controllers*

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**■ THE FACTS OF THE MATTER**  
*Dr. Joana Cunha-Cruz  
wins national EBD award*



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# DentalAlumninews

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

FALL 2019

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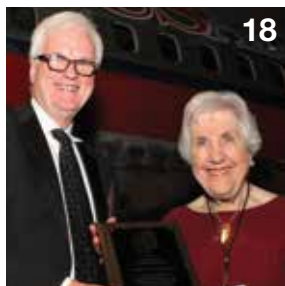
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# DentalAlumniNews

Online: <https://dental.washington.edu/alumni-friends/connect/magazine/>

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# The good news keeps on coming

**H**ello, fellow alumni! It is with great pleasure that I write my third *Dental Alumni News* update, and continue to share news about all the positive goings-on and changes at our School.

I would first like to thank the amazing team in the Alumni office that has put on some wonderful events over the past several months. The Campaign for Clinics kickoff was a fun and exciting event at Husky Stadium's Don James Center. The Ernie



Jones lecture in Kane Hall was another outstanding day of learning and collaboration, and the Dean's Club Dinner at the Museum of Flight was absolutely spectacular. Kudos to our amazing team! If you have not attended alumni events in the past, please consider doing

so. I hope you were able to make it to our Dental Alumni Golf Tournament on Sept. 13 and football event on Sept. 14. If not, then be sure to mark them on your calendar for next year as soon as they're scheduled.

As I mentioned, the Campaign for Clinics is the newest fund-raising endeavor, and our School is buzzing with excitement. Dean Chiodo's goal is to upgrade the clinics, and have the quality of our facility match our dental school's outstanding top-tier rankings. This is another opportunity for alumni to step up and give back to the school that made our careers possible. There are many donation level options, so please visit the website at <https://dental.washington.edu/campaign-for-clinics/> and choose one that suits you best. Also, if you have accidentally let your membership dues lapse, please visit [www.uwdentalalumnirenew.com](http://www.uwdentalalumnirenew.com).

Along with depending on the all-important individual alumni donations during the campaign,

### Keep us posted!

Your classmates and others in our School's community want to know what's happening in your life, and we're not hearing from you nearly often enough. So please take a few minutes to update us on your practice, family, personal adventures, or anything else you'd like to tell us. (And send photos!) Send email to Randy Newquist at [randyn@uw.edu](mailto:randyn@uw.edu) with "Class Notes" in the subject line.

our School will rely on corporate donations as well. Just recently, the Bien-Air company made a large donation of brand new electric hand piece control units and installation services to supply the clinics. These units have already been installed in the D-1 Simulation Clinic, and the other pre-doctoral and most of the graduate clinics are soon to follow. The in-kind value of this gift will eventually be well over \$1 million, so thank you, Bien-Air!

In other alumni news, Clinical Associate Professor Bea Gandara of our Department of Oral Medicine has been named WSDA Citizen of the Year. This is not only in recognition of her exemplary record of volunteering at tribal clinics, Union Gospel Mission, Chief Seattle Club, and many other locations, but it also honors her as the School's prime mover with the UW Summer Health Professions Education Program for college and high school students. We could not be more proud.

I will finish with some updated rankings of our fantastic dental school. In the most recent surveys, we sit at No. 3 in the United States (up from No. 4) and No. 10 in the world (up from No. 14), and No. 2 in the world for dental research. Although this is impressive, I could not agree more with Dean Chiodo when he states that there is no reason why we can't be No. 1!

JASON BOURNE (’01)

*UW Dental Alumni Association President*

# Our team is here for you

Our Office of Advancement, Alumni Services, and Continuing Dental Education works to help you support and stay informed about our School of Dentistry, connect with one another, and assist you in your professional development. We're always happy to hear from you!



**RANDY NEWQUIST**  
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Randy, who has been at the UW since 1986, was our longtime Director of Alumni Services before becoming Assistant Dean in early 2018 and leading our office. He oversees our School's fund-raising operations and also remains closely involved in Dental Alumni Association activities.



**DOUG DAY**  
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Doug started at our School in 2016 after extensive experience in corporate sales and working with non-profits in fund-raising and philanthropy. He assists our alumni, faculty, and friends in their philanthropy with a focus on major gifts and planned giving, and also helps alumni to increase their level of engagement with the School.



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Greg joined us in 2017 after working as Director of Graduate Affairs for Noble and Greenough School, a private high school in Boston. His primary focus is building relevant programming for recent DDS alumni while engaging corporate partners. Greg also serves on the University Advancement Equity team, which strives to make the UW more diverse, welcoming, and inclusive.



**SARAH MARTIN**  
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Sarah came to us in 2016 a few months after starting at the UW in Gift Services. Before that, she spent 10 years at the Kansas Historical Society in her home state managing the National Register of Historic Places program. An architectural historian and public historian by training, she also works part time as a consulting historian throughout King County. In our office, her roles include tracking gift activity, managing donor lists, supporting fund-raisers, and more.



**STEVE STEINBERG**  
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Steve joined us from the *Seattle Times* in 2008 after 35 years as a professional journalist, editing and writing for national magazines and newspapers including the *Dallas Morning News*. He writes and edits the *Dental Alumni News*, posts material on our School's website and social media, works with news media, writes news releases for external publication, produces videos, and assists the Dean's Office with communication.



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Sally started at our School in 2002 working for Pediatric Dentistry, then moved to CDE a year later. She lived in France for nearly two years after graduating from the UW, then came home and worked for a printing software firm. As CDE director, she plans new courses, maintains accreditation, oversees marketing, and develops course ideas based on industry needs, participant requests, and dental organization partnership possibilities.



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Joy started with us as a UW student assistant majoring in anthropology in 2007, then became a CDE temp, then a full-time office assistant, and now program coordinator. She assists in CDE program planning, dealing with logistical details and compiling course materials, and monitors the CDE registration system.

## A very satisfying first year

**A**ug. 1 marked my first anniversary as Interim Dean of our School of Dentistry. I am in a reflective mood and this seems like a good time to assess what has been accomplished and contemplate our direction as we move forward.

There have been surprises, but they have often been good ones. Having been at Oregon Health & Science University, I was familiar with the UW School of Dentistry's excellent reputation before I came aboard. Even so, I did not fully appreciate the incredible quality of our faculty until I began working with them. There are very good reasons why we enjoy a Top 10 world ranking overall and are No. 2 in the world in research, and they start with our faculty.



New proof of this arrives regularly, the latest being the well-deserved selection of Dr. Joana Cunha-Cruz of Oral Health Sciences for the Evidence-Based Dentistry Mid-Career Faculty Award from the American Dental Association and the American Dental Education Association (see Page 12). She

becomes our third faculty member to receive the award since its inception four years ago, joining Dr. Greg Huang and Dr. Donald Chi. This tells you something about the standard of rigor that our faculty members bring to their work and impart to our students.

One of the most important priorities for this first year was to relaunch our faculty practice, which we have done under the new name of UW Dentistry. We will be marketing the practice to our natural constituency, which is the UW's faculty, staff, and students. A good deal of work remains to be done, but I am heartened by our progress so far. This is a key part of strengthening our revenue stream, which is essential to our long-term financial stability.

You may notice that this issue of the *Dental Alumni News* contains no news about fiscal issues, which is a welcome departure from the last couple of years. The explanation is simple: We now have a firm grip on our finances and are fiscally stable, and I fully expect to have encouraging news to report in the near future. We have begun discussions with the UW administration about repayment of our cumulative

debt, but it is clearly understood that this will be done with available revenues – *never* with donor funds.

We have also taken the much-needed step of revising our third-year and fourth-year curricula to ensure continuity of care and more consistent exposure to clinical procedures. I owe many thanks to Dr. Sami Dogan of Restorative Dentistry, Dr. Avina Paranjpe, and their colleagues on the task force appointed to evaluate these issues. Our training, already excellent, will be even stronger as a result, and I expect that our patients' experience will also benefit.

Other notable accomplishments include:

- Successfully securing additional state support for Medicaid and DECOD patients in the amount of \$2.5 million for the biennium, with \$250,000 per year in permanent funding for DECOD
- Securing full CODA accreditation for all programs
- Revitalizing our Diversity Blueprint and restarting initiatives related to diversity and inclusion.

As I look ahead, I note that 2021 will mark the 75th anniversary of the opening of our School. I sincerely hope that we will celebrate this milestone with clinical infrastructure that reflects our quality and standing. We have a long, long way to go to reach that point, however, with chairs and other equipment and furnishings in urgent need of replacement.

Our "Imagine Our Future" Campaign for Clinics is off to a strong start, and we are grateful to Bien-Air for its wonderful gift of electric hand piece control units and motors to our clinics (see Page 10). If you have not done so already, I hope you will contribute. This is a critical need for our faculty, students, and patients.

In the meantime, I always welcome your thoughts and suggestions at [gchiod@uw.edu](mailto:gchiod@uw.edu) on how to make our School even better. No. 10 in the world is very good indeed, but I am even more interested in No. 1.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gary T. Chiodo". The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

GARY T. CHIODO, DMD, FACD  
Interim Dean

DON'T  
JUST  
STAND  
THERE.



STAND HERE.



**With a new curriculum** and rising patient numbers, our School needs affiliate faculty volunteers more than ever.

There's never been a more exciting time to help shape the course of dental education at the UW. If you can give us a half-day a week or more, join our ranks and help create the next generation of outstanding Husky dentists!

**For information on joining our affiliate faculty, please contact Christina Wee in our Dean's Office at [cwee@uw.edu](mailto:cwee@uw.edu).**



# Global research rank reaches No. 2

Our School of Dentistry rose one spot to No. 2 in the world among dental schools in the new Academic Ranking of World Universities by the ShanghaiRanking Consultancy.

The UW trailed only the University of Michigan's dental school in the 2019 rankings, which were released in June. Rounding out the top five after the UW were the dental schools at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, King's College London, and Harvard University.

**“This recognition reflects the work of our outstanding and dedicated faculty and staff and the continued emphasis on our research mission.”**

– Interim Dean Gary Chiodo

“I am so gratified to see that our School of Dentistry is now ranked No. 2 in the world,” said Interim Dean Gary Chiodo. “This recognition reflects the work of our outstanding and dedicated faculty and staff and the continued emphasis on our research mission, which is an integral aspect of our identity.”

The ARWU assessment focuses heavily on research performance and reputation. The annual rankings were originated by Shanghai Jiao Tong University in 2003.

Our School's focus on research extends beyond the studies done by faculty members and full-time researchers. Students, mentored by faculty, are also encouraged to engage in research



*Dr. Michael Baldwin, one of our 2015 DDS graduates, has continued his research studies on the DDS/PhD track.*

through programs such as the Summer Research Fellowship Program and the Multidisciplinary Predoctoral Clinical Research Training Program. The School also offers a DDS/PhD track for students that allows them to pursue advanced research after earning their dental degree.

For 28 years, our School has also conducted the Summer Institute in Dental and Craniofacial Clinical Research Methods, one of the leading training programs of its kind. The six-week institute, which draws attendees from around the world, provides training in biostatistics, clinical epidemiology/study design, personal computing applications, clinical trials, behavioral research in dentistry, grantsmanship, and case studies in data analysis.

The School is also home to the Timothy A. DeRouen Center for Global Oral Health, which since 2013 has promoted international collabora-

tions in dental research and education. It has also sought to align its mission more closely with the UW's Population Health Initiative.

“It is truly a group effort to become and remain a top-tier dental school,” Dean Chiodo said, “and we simply have a superb group at the UW.”

Earlier in the year, our School of Dentistry also rose to No. 3 in the United States and No. 10 in the world in the more broadly focused 2019 Quacquarelli-Symonds (QS) World University Rankings.

The School, which was ranked fourth in the United States and 14th in the world in 2018, has risen in the QS standings for four consecutive years. The dental schools at the University of Michigan and Harvard University were ranked first and second in the United States, while Sweden's Karolinska Institutet was named the top dental school in the world. ■

# Bien-Air donates electric hand piece control systems

One of the signature sounds at our School, the piercing whine of hand pieces, will soon be conspicuous by its absence.

Thanks to a major gift by Bien-Air, electric hand piece controllers were added to dental delivery units in the D-1 Simulation Clinic in May and will be phased in to other clinics starting in September. (The old air turbine connections will remain.) Through its David Mosimann Foundation, Bien-Air, which is the world's largest maker of electric motors for dentistry, is donating control units and installation services for almost every operatory at the School. Second-year students will buy their own Bien-Air motors and hand pieces, at about the same price as the air turbine hand pieces, and take them along when they graduate.

Interim Dean Gary Chiodo, who is an unabashed fan of electric hand pieces, oversaw the addition of the system at Oregon Health & Science University's new dental school before coming here.

"They're state-of-the-art, and almost all dental schools are converting to them," he said. At least 33 have done so in the United States. "I was absolutely adamant that we needed to implement electric hand pieces here. The decision point was not if we would implement electric hand pieces, but when."

He cited advantages over the old air-turbine technology:

Electric hand pieces are far quieter, which benefits not only patients (especially fearful ones), but also students and faculty. Imagine the noise when

65 of the old hand pieces are switched on at the same time in our D-1 Simulation Clinic.

The electric models can run about 33 percent faster, at up to 400,000 rpm. More significant, they have increased torque and cause less vibration.



*Dr. Ricardo Schwedhelm (left) and Interim Dean Gary Chiodo watch Asher Chiu of the Class of 2021 practice with one of the new electric hand pieces in the D-1 Simulation Clinic.*

The electric models can also be programmed for restorative, endodontic, scaling, and implant placement options.

Dean Chiodo tasked Dr. Ricardo Schwedhelm, our Associate Dean for Clinics, with investigating the possible acquisition. Dr. Schwedhelm met with a Bien-Air representative in October 2018 during an American Dental Education Association/BENFACA meeting in Pittsburgh. There, he learned about the Mosimann Foundation's

program of donating control units and installation services at U.S. dental schools. After gathering information from four leading dental school suppliers, he had a system from each one installed in D-1 for faculty and students to evaluate. Bien-Air turned out to be the top choice.

D-1 and the RIDE simulation clinic in Spokane received a full installation of Bien-Air's Optima MX2 system at the end of May so that second year students could start using them

during the Operative course. September installations were scheduled for the D-2 and D-3 pre-doctoral clinics, D-4 faculty practice, Graduate Periodontics, and the Dental Urgent Care and DECOD clinics. Graduate Prosthodontics is having two systems installed, but will await an anticipated remodeling to install the rest.

Graduate Endodontics is receiving Bien-Air's more advanced iOptima system, which features enhanced programmability for different file systems via an iPod Touch. Pediatric Dentistry will also receive new units later on. Eventually, our School will have about 200 control units in the phased installation, with an ultimate in-kind value of more than \$1 million.

"I want to thank Bien-Air and Ricardo, who did such a great job in making all of this happen," Dean Chiodo said.

"We are very excited and honored to be partnering with the UW," said Marla Mattinson, Director of Academic Relations for Bien-Air USA. "This is the technology [the students] will one day use in their own dental practices, so it is crucial for them to become experienced with it starting their first day of clinical dental procedures." ■



## Dr. Nelson Vitous, Dr. Austin Baruffi earn Hungate affiliate faculty honors

Dr. Austin Baruffi and Dr. Nelson Vitous were honored on March 29 with Hungate Awards, our School's highest recognition for affiliate faculty members.

Dr. Vitous ('70), who has taught in Restorative Dentistry since 1975, received the Hungate Lifetime Award for Teaching Excellence. Dr. Baruffi, who also has taught in Restorative Dentistry as well as Oral Medicine, received the Hungate Award for Teaching Excellence.

Dr. Vitous, who practices privately in Seattle, was cited for his extraordinary dedication to his faculty duties. "His level of commitment to teaching always impressed me," wrote Dr. Kavita Shor, his Restorative colleague since 2009, in a nominating letter.

She added: "Dr. Vitous goes the extra mile, often making adjustments to his busy private practice schedule to be here at the School of Dentistry when we need him, including after hours

for grading exams. ... He carefully critiques the work performed by students and yet maintains a very amicable relationship with the students. Dr. Vitous is always there for the students, often spending time after regular class hours. He is well liked by the students and receives high scores on student feedback evaluations in my course. ... It is because of the dedicated commitment and support from great teachers like Dr. Vitous that we can afford to maintain a good standard of pre-clinical education for our students."

Dr. Baruffi, who practices privately in Tukwila, was nominated by the entire Class of 2018. In a letter to the selection committee, Dr. Kris Harris, the class president, wrote: "What sets Dr. Baruffi apart from other affiliate faculty is that he is both professional and clinically competent while still extremely personable with his students and patients alike. He's current on the latest technology and advances

in dentistry and always explains the reasoning on why he does things the way he does. He loves to teach and it's apparent as he introduces himself to each patient with a handshake and smile. He is patient, reaffirming when mistakes are made, and yet challenges each of us to not except anything other than our best effort. Dr. Baruffi leads by example and is a phenomenal clinician worth emulating."

Established in 2014, the awards are dedicated to the memory of Dr. William P. "Mitch" Hungate, a 1978 UW dental alumnus and affiliate faculty member for 33 years. Dr. Hungate, an avid outdoorsman and triathlete, died in an avalanche in the Cascades in 2013. The awards honoring him were created with donations by friends, family and colleagues. ■

*Above: Dr. Jeff Parrish ('79, center), chair of the selection committee, joins Hungate Award winners Dr. Nelson Vitous (left) and Dr. Austin Baruffi.*

# Dr. Joana Cunha-Cruz wins national EBD award

Dr. Joana Cunha-Cruz of our School's faculty has received the 2019 Evidence-Based Dentistry (EBD) Mid-Career Faculty Award from the American Dental Association and the American Association for Dental Research.

The annual awards, which began in 2015, recognize dental educators and clinicians who have made significant contributions to implement and advance EBD. The three awards each year include the Accomplished Faculty Award, the Mid-Career Faculty Award, and the Practice Award for practicing clinicians.

Dr. Cunha-Cruz, a dentist and epidemiologist, is a Research Associate Professor in our Department of Oral Health Sciences with an adjunct appointment in the UW School of Public Health. Since joining our faculty in 2009, she has focused her research on inequities in oral health and health care. She teaches critical thinking and evidence-based practice methods and applications and is our School's curriculum lead for EBD. She holds a DDS from Brazil's State University of Pernambuco and MS and PhD degrees in public health/epidemiology from the State University of Rio de Janeiro.

Before joining our faculty, she was Visiting Assistant Professor from 2007 to 2009 and Visiting Research Scientist from 2004 to 2007 in our Department of Dental Public Health Sciences, which later became Oral Health Sciences. Before that, she was a research assistant in the Institute of Social Medicine at the State University of Rio de Janeiro. She also served

as a research consultant for Brazil's National Agency for Health.

In 2005, she was the first recipient of the International Association for Dental Research's Evidence Based Dentistry Network Prize for a systematic review protocol. Since then she has published several systematic



*Dr. Joana Cunha-Cruz*

reviews and critical appraisals of evidence, taught EBD courses, and used and generated new evidence through her research. A key focus has been developing more equitable evidence-based programs – to meet the people where they are, make the best practices the easiest choices, and adjust patients' environment to help make changes.

In Oregon, she designed and evaluated an integrated mobile and clinic-based dental care delivery system with interprofessional teams to improve children's oral health in rural areas. She has also worked with a tribal

health care organization to build health-care teams, including dental therapists and community health workers, to improve oral health for Alaska Native children and adolescents in isolated communities in southeast Alaska. She has also worked with the Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic to design and test an oral health intervention that helps families swap out sugary beverages in favor of fluoridated water, along with integrating nutrition services and dental services in the clinical setting.

"I am very pleased to receive the Evidence-Based Dentistry Mid-Career Faculty Award," Dr. Cunha-Cruz said. "My hope is to help students become lifelong learners and be able to critically appraise health claims from the media and research to guide their health-care decisions."

She is the third School of Dentistry faculty member to receive the EBD award. In 2015, the first year it was given, Dr. Greg Huang, our Chair of Orthodontics, received the Accomplished Faculty Award, and Dr. Donald Chi of Oral Health Sciences received the Mid-Career Faculty Award. The UW completed a sweep that year as Dr. Jane Gillette ('02), a Montana clinical research dentist, won the Practice Award.

"I am thrilled to see Dr. Cunha-Cruz's work recognized by this prestigious award from the ADA," said Interim Dean Gary Chiodo. "Her research addressing oral health inequalities through community-based strategies is visionary and creative. She has used evidence-based practices and strategies to inform and advance clinical practices and public health policy. Her work benefits individual patients, providers, and communities. This is such a fitting recognition of her accomplishments." ■

# Dr. Douglas Ramsay leads research after Dr. Linda LeResche retires

Dr. Linda LeResche, Associate Dean for Research and Faculty at our School of Dentistry since 2011, retired from her post on July 1. She will become Professor Emeritus of oral medicine, pending approval by the UW Board of Regents.

Her position has been filled by Dr. Douglas Ramsay (Ortho '90), Chair of the Department of Oral Health Sciences, who assumed his new duties in addition to his current ones.

Dr. LeResche replaced Dr. Timothy DeRouen as Associate Dean when he became the school's Interim Dean that year. During her tenure, the School has continued to conduct a robust research program (see Page 9) despite challenging circumstances.

With the Great Recession in full swing, state funding for the UW had been declining substantially since 2009. At the same time, major multi-year grants at the School were ending, while some of our most prominent researchers were nearing the end of their careers or departing. Competition for federal grant funding was also growing more intense.

"My philosophy has always been that it's a big ship, and I want to turn it around," Dr. LeResche said. She added that one of her job's most satisfying aspects has been the opportunity to mentor and support junior faculty. "It's very rewarding to see people

advance in their careers and their research," she said.

Dr. LeResche started at the school in 1983 as a researcher in the Department of Oral Medicine, rising to become full Professor in 2004. While at the UW, she was also appointed Adjunct Professor in the Department of Oral Health Sciences, and Affiliate Research Investigator at the Group Health Cooperative (later Kaiser Permanente of Washington) Health Research Institute. Before coming to the UW, she served as a technical consultant for Survey Research Associates Inc. and as a research scientist at Johns Hopkins University.

"As a researcher, you have the freedom to pursue ideas where they lead," she said. "It's a rare profession in which you can try to answer questions of societal importance and of interest to you at the same time." At the UW, her own research has focused on the behavioral and epidemiological aspects of pain. One of her projects was a five-year study of predictors for chronic opioid use.

Dr. Ramsay said, "The School of Dentistry has a long-standing history

as one of the leaders in conducting both basic and clinically relevant dental research. As the incoming Associate Dean, one of my primary goals is to develop and execute a strategy that strengthens our school's contributions to the advancement of dental and craniofacial research."

The school, he said, must train its students in an environment that is strong not only in education – both in the clinic and the classroom – but also in research, scholarship, and service.

Dr. Ramsay holds the rank of Professor in the departments of Oral Health Sciences, Orthodontics, and Pediatric Dentistry. He has served as Acting Chair of Pediatric Dentistry (2002-2003) and Chair of Dental Public Health Sciences (2003-2011) and has been Chair of Oral Health Sciences since 2011.

Dr. Ramsay's extensive research experience includes being principal investigator of eight research grants from NIH, receiving a Research Career Development Award from NIDCR, and directing the School of Dentistry's institutional training grant from NIDCR. He currently directs the school's Regional Clinical Dental Research Center. Dr. Ramsay also has been a practicing

orthodontist and is a diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics and a member of the Edward H. Angle Society of Orthodontists. ■



Dr. Linda LeResche



Dr. Douglas Ramsay

# UW honors Dr. Theresa Cheng

Dr. Theresa Cheng, Clinical Assistant Professor in our Department of Periodontics, has received a 2019 Award of Excellence from the University of Washington for outstanding public service.

Dr. Cheng (Perio '85), whose work in the community has included leading a volunteer organization connecting low-income veterans with dental care, was honored with the other recipients on June 13 at a ceremony at the UW's Meany Hall. The prestigious annual awards recognize achievements in teaching, mentoring, public service, and staff support.

Dr. Cheng launched Everyone for Veterans in 2008 after reading a news account of a local Iraq veteran who had been seriously wounded by an improvised explosive device. She initially sought to provide free dental care to veterans' spouses or mothers, but expanded her efforts after learning that the Veterans Administration does not provide dental care to most veterans.

Today her organization boasts nearly 300 dentists along with specialists and dental labs across the United States who provide volunteer services to low-income veterans. Some of these veterans served as long ago as World War II.

"Besides dental work, the trust, caring and social aspects that we provide is a powerful healing factor to these veterans," Dr. Cheng told the *Dental Alumni*



"Besides dental work, the trust, caring and social aspects that we provide is a powerful healing factor to these veterans. Oftentimes, they tell us that this restores their faith in humanity."

— Dr. Theresa Cheng

*News* in 2014. "Oftentimes, they tell us that this restores their faith in humanity."

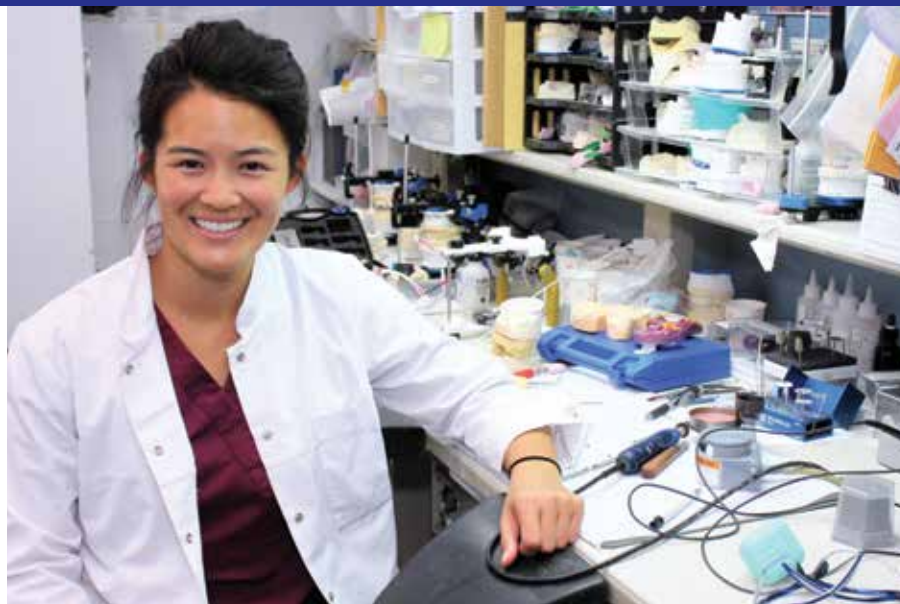
Dr. Cheng has also been a board member with Washington Women in Need, a Kirkland-based nonprofit organization that helps low-income women by providing financial assistance for health care and education. Many of these women are victims of domestic violence, and Dr. Cheng recruited volunteer dentists to help them in addition to her work in fundraising, strategic planning, and program evaluation for the agency.

Dr. Cheng's work in the community was recognized by the Washington State Dental Association, which named her one of two WSDA Citizens of the Year in 1998. That year, the city

of Issaquah proclaimed January 20 as Dr. Theresa Cheng Day in honor of her volunteer work. For her work with veterans, she received the 2017 Washington State Outstanding Service to Veterans Superior Award from the Governor's Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee. ■

## You can help vets

To join Dr. Cheng's organization to help veterans receive dental care, contact Everyone for Veterans on its website at [www.everyoneforveterans.org](http://www.everyoneforveterans.org).



## Dr. Dianne Gan named Wands Fellow for 2019-20

Dr. Dianne Gan, a second-year Graduate Prosthodontics resident at our School of Dentistry, has been selected as the 2019-20 David H. Wands Fellow in Graduate Prosthodontics.

Dr. Gan becomes the 12th recipient of the fellowship at the UW. After expressing her appreciation for the award, she said: "This program has far exceeded my expectations. The treatment planning seminars are very intense and provoke spirited discussion, which in my opinion is an awesome way to learn. I have also found the interdisciplinary coordination to be very unique to this program."

Dr. Gan, who received her DMD at the University of Connecticut, earned a BS degree in biology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y. She completed an externship at New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, worked as a research assistant at the Colgate-Palmolive Global Technology Center, and studied briefly at the University of New

South Wales in Australia. She has also accompanied humanitarian dental missions to Honduras and the Amazon River basin.

In addition, her community work has included helping to teach health education at the American School for the Deaf in West Hartford, Conn.

"There are so many communities within our larger communities who don't get the same opportunities for learning as the rest of us," she said. "It makes me feel grateful, and the students we taught were amazing."

Her interest in health care started early, with a number of physicians on both sides of her family, including her parents. She,

however, became the first in her family to pursue a dental career.

"Initially, I thought I wanted to be an orthodontist," she said. "I really appreciated how orthodontics changed my smile, and I wanted to be able to have that same impact on other people." However, her direction changed after she entered dental school.



Dr. David Wands

"I realized that I actually liked prepping teeth and making dentures," she said. "I realized that I could have that same impact on people by changing their smiles in a different way."

She has not firmed up her post-residency plans, but wants to eventually own a practice. In addition, she said, "I definitely want to teach. I think this program really provides us with a skill set that is ideal for presenting to large audiences."

That aspiration meshes well with one of the goals Dr. Wands set for the fellowship, which was to encourage recipients to enter academic dentistry and teach prosthodontics.

A faculty member in our Department of Prosthodontics for 22 years, he originally established the fellowship at the University of Maryland, where he received his DDS with honors in 1967 from the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery. He practiced for seven years with the U.S. Public Health Service and later completed a graduate prosthodontics residency at the UW before joining the dental faculty. He taught both undergraduate and graduate prosthodontics, achieving the rank of Clinical Professor.

He initiated the fellowship at the UW in 1998 with a new \$500,000 commitment, partly in appreciation for the quality of his training but also to get residents to consider pursuing academic dentistry.

He is a member of our Dean's Club and helped found the UW Graduate Prosthodontic Alumni Association. In 1999, he was honored by the Dean's Club with its highest award, Honorary Lifetime Member. He is a Life Member of the Academy of Prosthodontics and Pacific Coast Society for Prosthodontics. Now retired from private practice in Olympia, Wash., he is an avid saltwater and freshwater fly fisherman as well as a master gardener. ■

# Laquita Grissett named Magnuson Scholar

Laquita M. Grissett, a PhD candidate at our School of Dentistry, has been named a University of Washington Magnuson Scholar for 2019-20.

Grissett, a graduate research assistant in the Department of Oral Health Sciences, is one of the six scholarship recipients named annually, one for each of the UW's Health Sciences schools. She plans to pursue a dental degree after completing her PhD.

"I feel incredibly blessed and honored to be a recipient of the Magnuson Scholarship," she said. "This is an extremely prestigious award, and my heart is overflowing with gratitude."

The scholarships, funded from a \$2 million endowment from the Warren G. Magnuson Institute for Biomedical Research and Health Professions Training, commemorate the late U.S. Sen. Warren G. Magnuson. He was a dedicated supporter of biomedical research and was instrumental in establishing the National Institutes of Health, Medicare, and Medicaid during his career in the Senate. The awards are the highest given to UW Health Sciences students, who are selected for their academic performance and potential contributions to research in the health sciences.

Grissett's current research at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center focuses on understanding the cellular and molecular underpinnings

that govern and drive the development of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma in patients with a genetic disorder called Fanconi anemia. After she completes her studies, she said, she wants to pursue head and neck cancer research and investigate the link between oral and systemic diseases.

A South Carolina native, she received a BS in biology, magna cum laude, from the University of South



*Laquita Grissett, now working on her PhD, plans to pursue a dental degree afterward.*

Carolina in 2016 and was named to the Phi Beta Kappa honorary society. She was a 2017 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program pre-doctoral trainee, and her previous scholarship awards include a 2019 Student/Post-Doc Advisory Committee Course Scholarship at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research

Center, Abney Foundation Scholarship, Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, and University Studies Abroad Consortium Scholarship.

"Ms. Grissett's work in elucidating the molecular bases for head and neck cancer in Fanconi anemia patients is critically important and timely," said Interim Dean Gary Chiodo. "While Fanconi anemia remains a relatively rare genetic disease, it carries very high morbidity and mortality. We have so much more to learn about it, and her research focus is another important step toward improving diagnosis and treatment options." ■

## Keep those craniums coming!

Thanks to our donors who continue to send human skulls to Dr. Sue Herring of Oral Health Sciences for instructional use at our School of Dentistry! Since our last issue, she's received skulls from Dr. George T. Fraley ('58), Dr. Richard Westin ('58), Dr. John O. Ruud ('60), and Dr. Heidi Horowitz ('83).

Dr. Herring, who also teaches in our Department of Orthodontics, uses the skulls as one of several



instructors in a School of Medicine pre-doctoral course on medical and dental anatomy. She also uses them in her School of Dentistry postgraduate course on head and neck anatomy.

The School's collection of skulls is aging, and skulls have grown prohibitively expensive in a time of shrinking budgets, Dr. Herring said. She noted that decades ago, dental students often bought skulls, and those would be prime candidates for donation if they're no longer in use. She also said that the newly donated skulls are almost always in better condition than the rest of the collection.

The skulls must be actual human specimens – not plastic – and in reasonably good condition, with no major parts missing or broken, she said.

Skulls may be sent directly to Dr. Herring at the School of Dentistry's Department of Orthodontics, 1959 N.E. Pacific St., Box 357446, Seattle, WA 98195. If a tax deduction is desired, donors should state their valuation of the skull in an email or in writing. (Dr. Herring's email is [herring@u.washington.edu](mailto:herring@u.washington.edu).) The School can then provide an official acknowledgment of the donation.



# New reversible cement tested

Dentists well know how much of a struggle it can be to remove orthodontic appliances or an old crown or bridge. Muscle alone can't always do the trick, and it's not a pleasant experience for the patient either.

That may soon be a thing of the past, however, with the development of a new reversible cement tested by School of Dentistry researchers.

The cement was developed by the CAO Group, Inc., a dental supplier that also invented LED cement-curing lights and modern diode lasers. CAO and our School's researchers presented their findings in June at the International Association for Dental Research

“The reversible cement can be used in many applications where cementation is needed. The prosthetics can be easily removed, and surfaces can be easily cleaned. It will facilitate and improve all clinical cementation procedures.”

– Dr. Daniel Chan, Chair of Restorative Dentistry

conference in Vancouver, B.C.

They reported that the cement, after being weakened by exposure to a diode laser, allows the dentist to use as much as 77 percent less force for removal. Tests were conducted using ex-

tracted teeth and orthodontic bands.

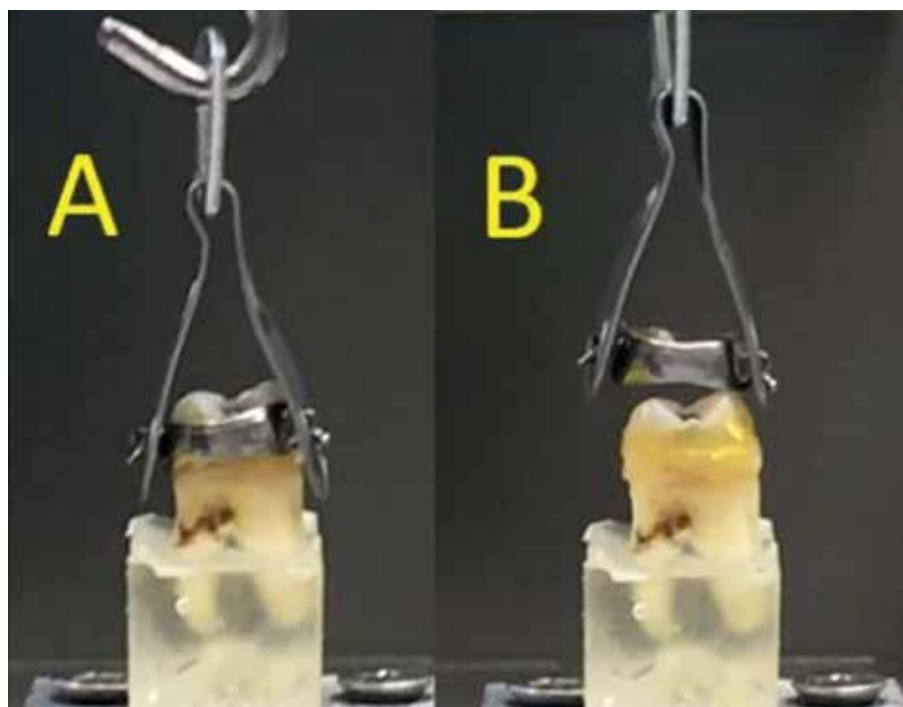
The researchers also found that residual cement could be easily cleaned without damage to the bands or the tooth enamel. The laser diode debonding process was fast, too, taking as little as 10 to 20 seconds.

Development of the cement meets a long-held goal for dentists, who have sought a cement that can bond or debond dental prosthetics on command. CAO spent more than a decade researching and developing the cement, which leaves the dental prosthetic or tooth undamaged in the course of debonding.

“Reversible cement developed by CAO showed great promise for applications in restorative dentistry,” said Dr. Daniel Chan, Chair of our Department of Restorative Dentistry. “The reversible cement can be used in many applications where cementation is needed. The prosthetics can be easily removed, and surfaces can be easily cleaned. It will facilitate and improve all clinical cementation procedures.”

“Reversible cement could have very important applications in orthodontics,” said Dr. Greg Huang, Chair of our Department of Orthodontics. “The reversible cement could be considered for any of the cementation processes in orthodontics, including brackets, bands, and fixed retainers.” ■

*In tests, the reversible cement reduced the force required for removal by as much as 77 percent.*



Cement	Debonding Pulling Force Required (Newtons)	Standard Deviation
3M – GI (3M)	169	80
Band-Lok (Reliance)	238	90
Reversible Cement without laser (CAO)	185	55
Reversible Cement with laser (CAO)	38	10

# Faces and places of interest during the spring and summer



Guests had a chance to tour the museum's Apollo 11 exhibit, which included the lunar mission's command module.

Dr. Dave Minahan ('75), one of the evening's co-hosts, presents the Honorary Lifetime Member Award to Dr. Doris Stiefel.



## Dean's Club dinner

**MUSEUM OF FLIGHT ■ MAY 4, 2019**

Guests gathered at the Museum of Flight for another memorable evening, which featured presentations of the Dean's Club Honorary Lifetime Member Award to Dr. Doris Stiefel ('54) and the Distinguished Alumnus Award to Dr. Mark Drangsholt ('84, Oral Medicine '95). ■

Bonnie Delecki and Dr. Chris Delecki, president of the Washington State Dental Association



Dr. Chuck Bolender and Dr. Alex Narvaez ('82)

Interim Dean Gary Chiodo and Dr. Minahan



Stephanie Campbell ('19), the Johnson Student Leadership Award winner, with Dr. Sarah Fraker ('98), the evening's other co-host.



Lisa Hess, Dr. Jim McGraw (Endodontics '69, seated), and Dr. Tim Hess ('94)

Drs. Linda Edgar ('92) and Bryan Edgar ('76)



Karen Nieman and Dr. Bob Nieman ('79)

Stephanie Clark ('19), the Nichols Student Leadership Award winner, with Dr. Fraker



Drs. Oleg Shvartsur ('11) and Nikole Shvartsur ('13)



Dr. Mark Drangsholt ('84, Oral Medicine '95) receives his Distinguished Alumnus Award from Dr. Carrie York ('91, GPR '92), chair of the award committee.



# Hooding 2019

**UW MEANY HALL ■ JUNE 8, 2019**

As proud family members and friends looked on, the 72 graduates of the Class of 2019 received their doctoral hoods. Special guests included members of our Class of 1969, celebrating their 50-year anniversary of graduation. Dr. Marty Anderson of our Restorative Dentistry faculty, the keynote speaker, delivered some valuable life lessons. And as one grad put it: It's good to be finished with the 20th grade. ■



*Dr. Marty Anderson, the keynote speaker, sports a decidedly Nordic mortarboard.*



*Graduates gather before the ceremony. Back row, from left: Gurpreet Kaur, Hasti Borgei, Neha Ahuja, Anoop Gill, Emily Gimness, Anmol Gill. Front row, from left: Jonathan Choi and Julian Nguyen.*



*Members of the Class of 1969 at the ceremony included (from left) Dr. Deck Barnes and his wife, Mary Ann, and Dr. George Hussey and his wife, Helen.*



*Faculty members chatting backstage before the ceremony include (from left) Drs. James Newman, Greg Huang, Sue Coldwell, Avina Paranjpe, and Interim Dean Gary Chiodo.*



*The Class of 2019*

GradImages

# Honors and Awards Ceremony

**UW HEALTH SCIENCES ■ JUNE 7, 2019**

Academic awards and faculty and staff recognition capped the academic year during the annual ceremony. ■



*Classmates (from left) Kristi Pedersen, Jordan Wiley, and Paul Lutgen savor the moment before receiving their hoods..*



*Dean Chiodo, in his first UW commencement, congratulates Niecole Coder.*



*Interim Dean Gary Chiodo, in a surprise presentation, gives Director of Student Services Carol Brown a plaque of appreciation for her longtime service to our School. She is retiring in September.*



*Class president Stephanie Campbell addresses classmates and guests.*



*Justin Crosby receives the Dental Lifeline Network Brian D. Stone Memorial Award from Dr. Susanne Kölare Jeffrey of our faculty. The award recognizes a graduating student who has demonstrated a commitment to help people with special needs or as a community volunteer, and who has also demonstrated outstanding clinical care.*

*Dr. Sue Hollinsworth ('78, far left) and Dr. Larry Lawton ('75, Oral Medicine '87) present American College of Dentists awards to (from left) Gillian Lim, Elizabeth Floodeen, Lauren Blanchard, and Kerry Streiff.*



# Scholarship luncheon

**UW SOUTH CAMPUS CENTER ■ JUNE 7, 2019**

The annual luncheon, which was inaugurated in 2016, gives scholarship recipients and donors a chance to meet and mingle. ■



*Nadia Grishin of the Class of 2020 delivers a powerful and often emotional talk about the impact that a scholarship gift can have.*

*Interim Dean Gary Chiodo welcomes scholarship students and donors to the luncheon.*



*Dr. Dianne Gan, this year's recipient of the Wands Fellowship in Graduate Prosthodontics, joins Dr. Van Ramos, our Director of Graduate Prosthodontics.*





The Class of 2021

## White Coat Ceremony

**UW KANE HALL ■ JUNE 29, 2019**

Rising third-year students received their clinical coats in a ceremony marking one of the most important milestones in dental school. Students take an oath of professionalism and ethics at the ceremony, which is sponsored by our Dental Alumni Association, the International College of Dentists, and the American College of Dentists. ■



*Morgan Anderson receives her clinical coat from Dr. James Newman of our Restorative Dentistry faculty.*



*Dr. Alireza Sadr of Restorative Dentistry delivers the keynote talk.*



*Registrar Zene Tefera shares the happy moment with Class President Samuel Snipes.*



*Omri Margalit receives congratulations from Dr. Natasha Flake of Endodontics.*



*Asher Chiu slips into his new clinical coat.*



*Jia Wang signs her oath as Dr. Dolphine Oda of Oral Medicine looks on.*



Student inductees from the Class of 2019 are welcomed by Dr. John Evans (far left), Dr. Greg Huang (second from right), and Dr. Natasha Flake (Endodontics '07). The students are (from left) Kerry Streiff, Anoop Gill, Anmol Gill, Lauren Blanchard, Mari-Alina Timoshchuk, Stephen Siew, and Elizabeth Floodeen.

## Omicron Kappa Upsilon dinner

**UW CLUB ■ MAY 22, 2019**

Students were recognized for high academic achievement and inducted into the dental honorary society along with faculty members. ■



Dr. Jon Suzuki delivers the keynote speech, imparting hard-earned lessons gleaned from his career. He is Professor of Microbiology and Immunology in the School of Medicine and Professor of Periodontology and Oral Implantology in the School of Dentistry at Temple University in Philadelphia.



Robert Rosenthal, a RIDE student, receives the Dr. William S. Kramer Award of Excellence, given to a rising third-year student who has demonstrated scholarship, character, and the potential promise for advancement of dentistry and service to humanity. He is joined by Dr. Flake and Dr. Randy Maebo ('89).

Flanked by Sandy Phillips (left) and Dr. Flake of our faculty, Dr. Amy Kim of Pediatric Dentistry is inducted as an OKU faculty member.



Dr. Richard Presland (center) is welcomed as a new honorary faculty member by Dr. Daniel Chan and Dr. Flake.



Dr. Flake and Dr. Any Marashi (far right) join scholarship winners (from left) Asher Chiu, Samuel Snipes, Calvin Panah, Fang Sun, Nadia Grishin, and Kayla Casebier.





## Pacific Northwest Dental Conference

**BELLEVUE, WASH. ■ JUNE 20-22, 2019**

Our School's Business Partners were out in force at the region's big annual dental get-together. ■



Loni James and Zach Nicklos of Zimmer Biomet



Paul Constantine and Don Anderson of Constantine Builders

Lynn O'Day and Jerry O'Day of Garfield Refining



Rose Chapman of Omni Practice Group



Jennifer Buch and Jon Lallatin of Straumann

Eva Christman of Dentsply Sirona



Teresa Ramirez (left) and Natasha Norman of MCNA Dental





# Ernest M. Jones Memorial Lectureship

**UW KANE HALL ■ MARCH 29, 2019**



*Dr. Robert Lowe's presentation was titled "Practical Excellence in Restorative Dentistry: Integrating Modern Technologies with Proven Results."*

Our School's signature annual continuing-education event featured internationally known clinician and educator Dr. Robert Lowe. ■



*Dr. Deck Barnes ('69, left), chair of Jones Lectureship speaker selection, joins Dr. Lowe.*



*The Jones luncheon featured a presentation by Dr. Jason Bourne ('01), president of our Dental Alumni Association, to Dr. Don Raleigh ('50). Dr. Raleigh, a member of our first graduating class, is a Pearl Harbor veteran who served in the Navy throughout the Pacific campaign of World War II and then entered dental school. He has served as class representative since leaving school and has been one of the most faithful attendees at meetings of our Alumni Board of Trustees.*

## Summer Institute in Dental and Craniofacial Clinical Research Methods

**UW HEALTH SCIENCES  
JUNE 7, 2019**

The Summer Institute, which ran from June 24 to Aug. 2 this year, is one of the world's top programs of its kind, drawing participants from all over the globe. Institute courses include biostatistics, clinical epidemiology, personal computing applications, behavior and measurement in dental research, grantsmanship, fundamentals of observational studies and clinical trials, and case studies in data analysis. ■



*Dr. Christy McKinney (front row center), the Summer Institute director, joins this year's attendees outside Hogness Auditorium in the Health Sciences Center.*

# Upcoming alumni events



**FRIDAY, OCT. 4**

## **School of Dentistry / Dental Alumni Association Reception Meet Interim Dean Gary Chiodo**

6:30 – 8 p.m.

The Heathman Lodge ■ 7801 NE Greenwood Drive ■ Vancouver, Wash.  
RSVP by Sept. 25 at 206-616-0716 or email [randyn@uw.edu](mailto:randyn@uw.edu), or online at [events.uw.edu/2019VancouverReception](http://events.uw.edu/2019VancouverReception)



**SUNDAY, OCT. 13**

## **Alaska Airlines Dawg Dash 10K Run and 5K Walk/Run**

UW Campus

Bring family and friends – kids and dogs are welcome!  
Stop by our Dental Alumni Association table  
and join our team!



## **FRIDAY, JAN. 10, 2020 Dental Alumni/WSDA Mentor Reception**

6 – 8:30 p.m.

Burke Museum ■ UW Campus  
Even if you're not a mentor, this is a  
great opportunity to start!



**WEDNESDAY, JAN. 29, 2020**

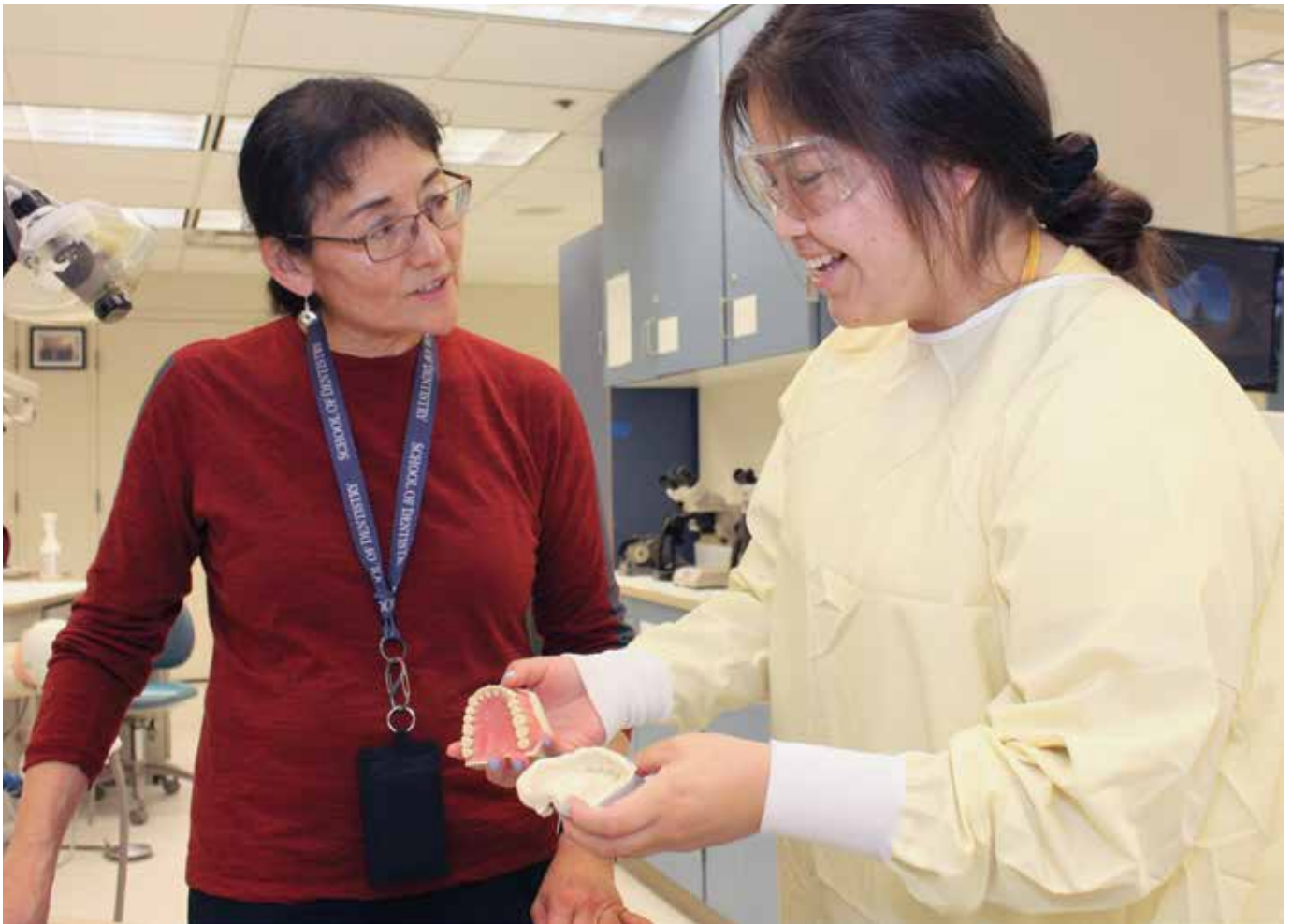
## **Beginning a Practice/Practice Opportunities**

6 – 8:30 p.m.

UW South Campus Center, Room 316

Contact Greg Croak in Advancement ([gcroak@uw.edu](mailto:gcroak@uw.edu)) if you  
want to present your experiences or current opportunities to  
our students. Current openings are available on our website and  
in our email newsletter. Visit [dental.washington.edu](http://dental.washington.edu) to learn more!





# MODEL CITIZEN

*WSDA honors Dr. Bea Gandara of Oral Medicine for her tireless outreach to the underserved and efforts to guide young people into dentistry*

**BY STEVE STEINBERG** DENTAL ALUMNI NEWS EDITOR

**D**r. Bea Gandara is waiting. Moments ago, she posed a scenario to her class of first-year dental students: A 36-year-old male patient presents with chronic fatigue, bleeding gums, and unintentional weight loss. She asked for possible causes.

A few seconds go by. Nobody responds. Another teacher might jump in here and offer a hint, just to keep things moving.

Dr. Gandara waits.

Finally, a student near the rear of the small lecture hall raises his right hand tentatively. “Thyroid?” he asks.

“Yes,” Dr. Gandara says, beaming. “That’s certainly possible.” And then she moves along briskly with more suggestions: HIV infection, leukemia, acute necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis. And in teaching how to take a medical history, she cites the importance of treating patients with respect, patience, and empathy.

Those values aren’t just for patients. They flavor Dr. Gandara’s dealings with virtually everybody – students, colleagues,

*Above: Dr. Gandara has been talking up dental careers to young people for nearly three decades. Here she helps a student in the Summer Health Professions Education Program learn how to take an impression.*

# “I HAVE NEVER MET ANYONE ELSE SO DEDICATED TO MAKING DENTAL CARE AVAILABLE TO THE HOMELESS AND UNDERSERVED.”

– SAMUEL SNIPES, PRESIDENT OF THE CLASS OF 2021

staff members, patients, and others. And they have a great deal to do with her selection as the 2019 Washington State Dental Association Citizen of the Year.

## A MODEL OF CARING

Since joining the Department of Oral Medicine as a research associate in 1987, Dr. Gandara (Oral Medicine '85) has established herself as one of our School's most compassionate, caring figures. Her dedication to providing care for those on the margins – women's shelter clients, migrant workers, homeless teens and adults, isolated tribal communities – has been unflagging.

“I have never met anyone else so dedicated to making dental care available to the homeless and underserved,” says Samuel Snipes, president of our Class of 2021. “She spends her free time, weekends, and lunch breaks planning, fund-raising, and organizing outreach events. Dr. Gandara has such a kind and giving heart. ... We love her as our professor, colleague, and role model.”

Says student Jessica Latimer of the Class of 2020: “Dr. Gandara has had an essential role in establishing the strong culture of service we have at the School of Dentistry. Through the hundreds of outreach events that she has organized in her career, Dr. Gandara educates students about inaccessibility to dental care and prepares them for their integral role in public health.”

Her colleagues concur. “It is a major understatement to say that she is dedicated or to say that she is a good role model of kindness and caring,” says Dr. Ed Truelove, the iconic former longtime Chair of Oral Medicine and current faculty member. “In reality, she is far more than a role model. She is the best, and she has changed the lives of many disadvantaged patients and, more importantly, changed the attitudes and behavior of hundreds of dental students.”

“Characteristically, she always

gives the students all the credit, and clearly never considers her own pivotal role in making all these impactful events occur,” says Dr. Sara Gordon, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and an Oral Medicine faculty colleague. “Bea is uniquely committed to social justice and lives her life in proof of her beliefs.”

“She is one of the most selfless people I have ever met,” says Dr. David Dean ('10, Oral Medicine '14) of the Oral Medicine faculty. “She is the perfect example of a health-care provider who lives her mission every day. She cares for everyone in her sphere – patients, students, colleagues, and family – with dignity and respect and has inspired a generation of dental students to do the same.”

Yet as impressive as this may be, it still paints an incomplete portrait. Dr. Gandara, now a Clinical Associate Professor of Oral Medicine, is a first-rate academician whose work was recognized in 2006 with a Rothwell Award for Teaching Excellence, our School's highest faculty honor. She was inducted into the Omicron Kappa Upsilon dental honorary society in 2007, and received the WSDA Faculty Award in 2013.

“I enjoy working with the students, both the pre-docs and the grads, as well as my fellow faculty and all the wonderful staff



*Much of Dr. Gandara's time away from school is spent as a volunteer at clinics such as the one at Chief Seattle Club. Here she works with pre-doctoral student Nousha Panahpour Eslami ('21) to treat a patient.*

# “SHE IS THE PERFECT EXAMPLE OF A HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER WHO LIVES HER MISSION EVERY DAY.”

– DR. DAVID DEAN, CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AND  
GRADUATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, ORAL MEDICINE

members,” she says. “I get to work with them in the classroom, in the clinic, and in outreach settings. It is the interpersonal relationships, trying to stay hopeful, being creative together through thick and thin, that I find the best thing about teaching here.”

Dr. Gandara is also an accomplished researcher specializing in salivary gland disorders, with multiple papers, book chapters, and presentations to her credit. Her early research also connected her with the American Lupus Society and National

which will be officially bestowed at WSDA’s House of Delegates meeting in Spokane in late September. She started her Oral Medicine residency here in the summer of 1982, and at the same time went to the Northwest Chicano Health Organization Summer High School Health Career Camp in Seattle to talk with young people about dental careers.

Since then, there have been countless such visits and talks in her career pipeline work, taking her as far afield as Alaska.

One of the most important aspects of this work has been her involvement with the University of Washington’s Summer Medical and Dental Education Program for undergraduate and high school students. She served as dental director from 2008 to 2014, then as dental coordinator and guest faculty.

When the program widened its scope and became the Summer Health Professions Education Program a couple of years ago, she stayed on. This summer, you could still find her in the D-1 Simulation Clinic, darting from student to student,



*Dr. Gandara and Chelsea Stone, Program Coordinator for our Office of Educational Partnerships and Diversity, talk about a grant possibility with Greg Croak, our Assistant Director of Advancement.*

Sjogren’s Syndrome Association, on whose medical advisory boards she has served.

“The connection is primarily because I started out the research aspect of my oral medicine career with a [National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research] fellowship in salivary gland research,” she says. “At the time, salivary gland research was huge at our School in Oral Biology. So I became very interested in research in saliva as a diagnostic fluid, but eventually focused on clinical aspects of salivary dysfunction. Lupus erythematosus and Sjogren’s Syndrome are both conditions that can involve severe salivary gland dysfunction, so that led to my involvement in those societies.”

## INSPIRING YOUNG PEOPLE

Even beyond the volunteer work, the teaching, and the research, there is more: her work in drawing young people into dentistry. It is an important reason for her WSDA recognition,

showing them how to take impressions and do wax-ups. Over the years, a number of these students have gone on to enter dental school here and elsewhere.

“I’ve gotten to work with them in outreach before and during dental school and now see them out in the community working as dentists,” she says. “Some of them are even teaching our students in the dental school and in outreach settings. Our dental profession and the oral health of our communities benefit when the work force represents all of our communities.”

She made an early impression on Nousha Panahpour Eslami of our Class of 2021: “Dr. Gandara has been a role model of mine even before dental school. I first met her as an AmeriCorps member serving in the Office of Educational Partnerships and Diversity [at the School of Dentistry]. Throughout my year, I was constantly amazed by her attention to detail, perfectionist mind frame, and desire to help everyone and all the causes she possibly could.”

# “I AM SO GRATEFUL FOR EVERYTHING DR. GANDARA HAS TAUGHT ME. I KNOW I WILL ALWAYS STRIVE TO BE A BETTER DENTIST AND KINDER PERSON BECAUSE OF HER.”

– JESSICA LATIMER, CLASS OF 2020

“She empowers young students who may be uncertain of pursuing health careers as a result of their background and upbringing, and inspires a confidence in them that anything is possible if they set their minds to it,” says John Bui of the Class of 2020.

## MARINE BIOLOGY BECKONED

As a child, Dr. Gandara gave little thought to a career in health care.

“I wanted to be a marine biologist since I was a little kid and learned to scuba dive with my dad as soon as I was old enough at age 14,” she says. “Not too many people scuba-dived back then in my community, but there was a TV series about the ocean that featured a famous oceanographer, Jacques Cousteau, and his crew, and this fed my interest in life in the ocean.”

She was born in East Los Angeles and grew up there and in neighboring Montebello. Her father was a systems analyst who met her mother while stationed with the Army in Kyoto, Japan. Mom stayed home mostly, but also worked as a waitress for years to help bolster the family’s finances. She wasn’t too sure about marine biology as a secure career for her daughter.

“I enjoyed science, math, and artwork as well as working with people, so dentistry seemed like a good match,” Dr. Gandara says. She switched to pre-dental at the University of Southern California, but marine biology still held a lingering attraction. “I savored every day of the trimester I spent at Santa Catalina Island Marine Biology Center, where we dived every day,” she says.

“Back then, shadowing a health professional was not as common, so to be honest I did not know truly what I was getting into. I was just pretty confident that I could do it. My love and appreciation for dentistry as a profession developed while in school.”

She was fortunate enough to find inspiring mentors at USC, foremost among them Dr. Charles Goldstein, the dental director of the school’s mobile clinic. She quickly fell in love with community outreach.

“Working with my fellow students serving migrant farm worker children in the huge San Joaquin Valley in Charlie Goldstein’s mobile clinic program became

a major activity for me outside of the school walls,” she says. “Charlie saw the need, had a can-do approach that was so positive and non-judgmental, and made things happen. He was very good at getting funding. He really trusted his young charges to do their best and created a community of Mobile Clinic-ers.”

That community has an outpost in Oral Medicine today. Colleagues Kim Espinoza, who is director of our DECOD clinic, and Austin Baruffi of the affiliate faculty also worked in the mobile clinic and now not only teach here but also volunteer with Dr. Gandara as preceptors at outreach events in Seattle and around the state.

“We don’t have a secret handshake,” Dr. Gandara says, “but our bond is there every time.”

## SATISFACTION IN OUTREACH

Dr. Gandara’s outreach work remains just as fulfilling as it was at USC, and not only for the much-needed care that patients receive. Seeing other dental professionals give of themselves is rewarding, too, she says.

“It is all the faculty who volunteer and oversee the students in our outreach events who inspire and show the joy of serving those with lack of access to care, how easy it is to do, and who demonstrate cultural humility,” she says. “It is also the dentists in the community who volunteer who are role models for our students. We have such power to help as dental professionals. People helping people makes for a caring and safer society for all.”



*Dr. Gandara lectures pre-doctoral students on taking a medical history.*

# “OUR DENTAL PROFESSION AND THE ORAL HEALTH OF OUR COMMUNITIES BENEFIT WHEN THE WORK FORCE REPRESENTS ALL OF OUR COMMUNITIES.”

– DR. BEA GANDARA

Her work with our School’s Office of Educational Partnerships and Diversity is another source of satisfaction. “It combines two missions of the School, which are to train dentists who improve the oral health of Washington state, and contribute to the dental profession by reaching out to those with lack of access to care and increasing representation of all our communities in the profession,” she says. “I think that one particular aspect I really feel happy about is when one of our dental students, while providing care or education in an outreach setting, inspires younger students to start or continue the long journey

DDS programs, not very many Hispanic students, and even fewer who were Hispanic females,” she says. “But there was a Southern California Hispanic Dental Association that was unique and actually preceded the national HDA organization that was founded in 1990, many years after I graduated. The Southern California Hispanic Dental Association welcomed us and helped us feel supported all throughout school. It meant a lot to me to have colleagues and mentors supporting us. I also worked as a dentist for Los Angeles County at a comprehensive health center in East Los Angeles, where almost 99 percent of my patients were Hispanic. So I started my career as a dentist being a part of a Hispanic professional community.

“When I came to Seattle, I met Dr. Sid Gallegos [’81] and Dr. Alex Narvaez [’82] and became a part of the nascent Pacific Northwest Hispanic dental professional community. I was limited in participation for a number of years when my kids were little. As my family demands lessened, I was able to work more in outreach and workforce diversity issues and become more involved with the Hispanic Dental Association.”

## RARE RELAXING MOMENTS

Almost inexplicably, Dr. Gandara still finds time for relaxation. “I like to hike with my husband, though it mostly occurs only during our vacation time in other countries,” she says. She and Jeff

Hummel, married for 34 years, have a grown son and daughter.

“Lately I have gotten into vegetable gardening, which I find immensely satisfying even if it’s just a few turnips and carrots here and there. I also really enjoy photography and video making, and that is what I would probably spend more time doing if I could.”

Ultimately, though, her legacy will be far more than turnips or carrots or images.

“I am so grateful for everything Dr. Gandara has taught me,” says Jessica Latimer. “Throughout my life, I know I will always strive to be a better dentist and kinder person because of her.”

“Our students learn so much more than the technical aspects of clinical dentistry from her,” says Interim Dean Gary Chiodo. “They learn the ethical goals and values of reaching out to those who lack conventional access to care and doing all that we can to help these populations.

“In my view, she is truly a Citizen of the Year.” ■



*Dr. Gandara chats with Oral Medicine faculty colleague Dr. Ashland Doomes (left) and Dr. Jackie Wong (’15), who is completing her Oral Medicine residency.*

to becoming a health professional themselves.”

It’s taken a lot of effort to get to this point, she acknowledges. “The logistics of building outreach programs and community relationships takes a lot of work and a very long time. I feel that’s what we’ve been doing for the past nine years or so with amazing student leadership, faculty participation, administrative support, and our partnership with AmeriCorps. I think we now need to spend time developing outcomes research to see how to improve our students’ experience and best serve the communities that lack access to care. Also, I would like to add that component to the work of our office, so that outreach work does not take away from time developing scholarly activities for a faculty member, but is accepted as a part of scholarly activities when program evaluation is included.”

Dr. Gandara also has a special attachment to the Hispanic Dental Association (HDA) that is rooted in her days at USC. “When I started dental school, there were very few women in





**Dr. Jeffrey McLean**, Associate Professor of Periodontics, has begun a three-year term, starting July 1, as a member of the Oral, Dental and Craniofacial Sciences Study Section at the National Institutes of Health's Center for Scientific Review. Members are chosen based on their demonstrated competence and achievement in their scientific discipline as evidenced by the quality of research accomplishments, publications in scientific journals, and other significant scientific activities, achievements and honors.

Study sections review grant applications submitted to the NIH, make recommendations on these applications to the appropriate NIH national advisory council or board, and survey the status of research in their fields of science.

Dr. McLean also co-authored a study this year that showed how a larger genetic inventory may help explain how certain dangerous bacteria can persist in a hospital environment and continue to infect patients. The research was published in April in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. Dr. McLean and his colleagues wrote about their discovery that three closely related species of bacteria of the family Enterobacteriaceae outlived all other oral bacteria in a long-term starvation or "doomsday" experiment.



**Dr. James Johnson**, Chair and Program Director of Endodontics, received the I.B. Bender Lifetime Educator award and **Dr. Avina Paranjpe**, Associate Professor of Endodontics, received the Edward M. Osetek Educator award at the American Association of Endodontists annual meeting in Montreal in April. Dr. Paranjpe was also inducted to the American Board of Endodontics as a director.



Ana Lucia Seminario

**Dr. Ana Lucia Seminario** and **Dr. Joana Cunha-Cruz** of our faculty were honored at the annual Latinx Faculty Recognition Event on May 2 by the University of Washington's Latino Center for Health. The event celebrates scholarly achievements of Latina and Latino faculty during the current academic year. Dr. Cunha-Cruz is Research Associate Professor in the Department of Oral Health Sciences and associate director for strategic partnerships for the UW School of Public Health's Northwest Center for



Joana Cunha-Cruz

Public Health Practice, which conducts research and promotes public health workforce training. Dr. Seminario is Associate Professor of Pediatric Dentistry with an adjunct appointment in global health in the UW School of Public Health. She is also director of our School's DeRouen Center for Global Oral Health, which pursues research collaborations in Kenya, Peru, Thailand, and Seattle.



Douglas Dixon

**Dr. Douglas Dixon** stepped down as Graduate Program Director for the Department of Periodontics, effective July 1, to focus more closely on pre-doctoral teaching and his research. **Dr. I-Chung "Johnny" Wang**, Clinical Associate Professor of Periodontics, took over as Interim Director. Dr. Dixon, who is Associate Professor of

Periodontics, had directed the program for the last five years. Dr. Wang, a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology, has served on the Curriculum Committee and Student Progress Committee and with the RIDE program as faculty liaison for educational technology.



Johnny Wang



**Dr. Travis Nelson**, Acting Chair of Pediatric Dentistry, delivered the keynote speech at the annual meeting of the Taiwan Academy of Pediatric Dentistry in June. He spoke on "The Present and Future of Pediatric Dentistry."

Several faculty promotions were announced with an effective date of July 1. They include:

- **Dr. Donald Chi** of Oral Health Sciences, from Associate Professor to Professor with tenure. He was also promoted from Adjunct Associate Professor to Adjunct Professor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry.
- **Dr. Diane Daubert** of Periodontics, from Clinical Assistant Professor to Clinical Associate Professor.
- **Dr. Mariella Garcia** of Pediatric Dentistry, from Clinical Assistant Professor, Salaried to Clinical Associate Professor, Salaried.
- **Dr. Yen-Wei Chen** of Restorative Dentistry, from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor with tenure.
- **Dr. Rachel Greene** of Restorative Dentistry, from Clinical Instructor, Salaried to Clinical Assistant Professor, Salaried.
- **Dr. Murat Maga** of Oral Health Sciences, from Adjunct Assistant Professor to Adjunct Associate Professor.

(Clinical salaried appointments do not require Board of Regents approval.)

## DR. SARAH FRAKER

### *A life lived to the fullest*

**D**r. Sarah Fraker ('98), president of our Dean's Club Board of Trustees, established herself early on as a doer and achiever. Growing up in Seattle, she spent years training as a classical ballerina with Pacific Northwest Ballet. She relished science and math in school, and took up crew when she decided that her career would lie somewhere other than ballet. She learned valuable lessons from that, too.

"I learned about teamwork and how the sum of our effort is often greater than the individual parts," she writes on her practice's website. In dental school, she was fourth-year class president, and took an active part in our American Student Dental Association chapter.

She joined the practice of her father, Dr. Ross Fraker ('80), in Seattle's Green Lake neighborhood, taking it over after he retired in 2010. And she has compiled an enviable record of community involvement since leaving school.

She served on the Lakeside School alumni board and has also been an alumni interview volunteer for undergraduate applicants to Tulane University. In addition she is a board member of the Youth Lacrosse Club in Mukilteo, which she and her family have called home for 18 years. She has served organized dentistry as president of the Seattle King County Dental Society and as a nine-year member of its Executive Council. Her work with the Washington State Dental Association includes 20 years in the House of Delegates.

She's been a dental volunteer with Special Olympics and the Northwest Kidney Center, helping to provide dental clearance for transplant candidates. She has volunteered for the annual Seattle King County Clinic at KeyArena. All that, plus she's a soccer mom of James and Grant (ages 14 and 11). Sarah's husband, Jim Jensen, travels often for his work as Director of Sales for Eagle Brand Foods, but he is also her biggest supporter.

There's no magic formula for packing all this into her life.

"I've learned to function with a little less sleep," she says. "I do wake up fairly early most days – about 4 a.m. – and get things done while the house is quiet. Part of it is having a good support team. My husband is my partner in all of this and helps keep our busy life going." She salutes the others who help with the boys and their activities, and says it also helps to have a good office staff that's empowered to make decisions.

"Also, I guess I really don't know how to say no," she confesses. "It's flattering to be asked, and it's important to be involved to help ensure positive results."

She credits her parents, who were also high achievers, for a good part of that drive. Along with his DDS, her father has a

PhD in mathematics and was a university math professor before becoming a dentist. Her mother has a master's degree and was a math and science teacher, then a high school assistant principal. "Education was always important in our family," she says.

She learned the importance of being involved while in school, too: "I came to understand that if you want to see change, you have to stay involved. You can't just sit back and let life happen to you. By being involved you can help impact the outcome."

Her pro bono dental work has become increasingly meaningful too. In addition to her volunteering, she donates care at her practice, and she would like to pursue more humanitarian travel when the boys get a little older.

"We as dentists have a unique skill set," she says. "We can do things that nobody else can. Being able to provide those services to people who need them – I view that as a gift." She recalls a Kidney Center patient whom she gave a dental clearance and who received a new kidney just a few months later. "We changed his life through dentistry, which is pretty amazing," she says.

Now she's thinking far down the road: "I view myself as part of my dad's legacy, and I think about what kind of legacy I want to leave." She hopes to take her boys along on a humanitarian trip and says, "I want to help them understand that the life they live is very different from so many others in the world. I don't know if my boys will become dentists, but I want them to still find ways to do good in this world." ■



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# MARK AND BARBARA WALKER

## *A deep sense of obligation*

The Walker family's ties to our School of Dentistry run strong and deep. Dr. Mark Walker received his DDS here in 1981, and he and his wife, Barbara, sent their son Josh here. He received his DDS in 2012.

"When Josh was accepted at the UW, I don't think there ever was a question of going anywhere else," his dad told the *Dental Alumni News* in 2013. "It was a dream come true for Josh and myself."

In the course of his career, the elder Dr. Walker became a leading figure in the Washington dental community. He is a past president of the Washington State Dental Association and the Seattle King County Dental Society and has chaired the American Dental Association's Council on Governmental Affairs. In 2018, he was named our Distinguished Alumnus.

Yet with all this and more on his plate in addition to his private practice, dental humanitarian work, and community involvement, he always found time for our School. He was president of our Dean's Club in 1998-2000 and continues to serve on its board. The support that he and Barbara have given our School has earned them philanthropic recognition as UW Benefactors.

That recognition, however, could not be less important to them. What has prompted their support has been gratitude for what our School gave them, and a deep sense of obligation to give something back to the School and the community.

"The School has played an important part of our lives together," Dr. Walker

says. "We were married shortly before starting dental school in 1977, and so Barb has experienced each step of the journey from the beginning. The School has provided a great education and firm foundation for our life in dentistry. The dental profession has provided a tremendous opportunity for personal growth



Mark and Barbara Walker

and financial stability."

Pride in the School also factors into their support, Dr. Walker says. "As I've been involved in organized dentistry and traveled around the country, the School has always been highly regarded among dental professionals. In my 38 years of practice, I've worked with numerous dentists from different schools and have found the UW dentists to be the best trained and skilled."

In 2004, the Walkers established an

endowed scholarship for third-year dental students. Meeting the recipient each year at the annual scholarship luncheon has been inspiring, they say, and the overall experience of supporting the School has been gratifying.

Now they have gone a step further, and it is quite a step indeed: The Walkers have designated a \$1.5 million legacy gift to our School. Such gifts are often designated for a particular department or program, but this one is unrestricted, to be used at the Dean's discretion.

"I'm a general dentist and found every department valuable in my education," Dr. Walker says. "We trust that the Dean would know where a gift was needed the most."

More than anything, they hope that their gift will inspire other alumni and friends of the School to emulate their support.

"We would highly encourage every graduate to give back to the School," Dr. Walker says. "It's a great feeling to know you can have an impact on the lives and education of students entering our profession. With a planned gift, you have full use

of your financial resources during your lifetime and the opportunity to 'pay it forward.' " ■

### How to give

If you would like more information about a legacy gift to our School, please contact Randy Newquist at [randyn@uw.edu](mailto:randyn@uw.edu), Doug Day at [daydoug@uw.edu](mailto:daydoug@uw.edu), or Greg Croak at [gcroak@uw.edu](mailto:gcroak@uw.edu).

# **W** BUSINESS **PARTNERS** 2019

## SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

The UW School of Dentistry relies on the annual contributions from our many Business Partners in support of students, faculty and programs. We encourage alumni and friends to consider these organizations that give so generously to our School.

### **GOLD PARTNERS**

3M Foundation	Delta Dental of Washington	Pew Charitable Trusts
Advantage Silver Dental Arrest	Dentway Dental Group	Seattle Children's Hospital Research Institute
American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics	Dentsply Sirona Implants	Seattle King County Dental Society
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### **PARTNERS**

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# Helping our School and the community

In 2009, the Guardian Life Insurance Company of America forged its initial connection with our School of Dentistry with a financial commitment to boost our Regional Initiatives in Dental Education program. From there, Guardian has broadened its support, adding annual sponsorships for our Dean's Club dinner in 2010 and our Partners in Diversity dinner in 2011.

That support should come as no surprise to anyone acquainted with Guardian's record of community involvement. Just last year, the company, which is also one of the largest U.S. dental insurance providers, announced a partnership with the Children's Health Fund to provide dental services and education to children. In all, Guardian has committed \$1 million to provide high-quality dental care to children in underserved communities across the country.

The partnership's signature program, Guardians of the Smile, seeks to teach students about the importance of proper oral hygiene. To help youngsters develop good habits early on, the program employs a character called the Tooth Guardian, who uses fun and interactive methods to teach oral care. So far, the program has been active in major Southwestern cities including Dallas, Austin, and Phoenix.

Guardian has also helped to shine a spotlight on the state of Washington's oral health. A survey the company conducted last year found that two-thirds of the respondents said they were likely to put off dental procedures because of concerns over cost. Some of these citizens are especially vulnerable, and Guardian has stepped up here as well.



**"It is highly important to our organization to share our vision and values with the dental professionals of tomorrow."**

– Paula Williams, Guardian's Dental Network Recruiter and head of Guardian's dental network team in Washington state



**SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY**  
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

"One partnership that we are very proud of and that will be of interest to dental students is Guardian's partnership with Dental Lifeline Network, a national organization committed to providing free comprehensive dental treatments to people living with disabilities or who are elderly or medically fragile," said Paula Williams, Guardian's Dental Network Recruiter and head of Guardian's dental network team in our state.

Last year, Guardian gave DLN \$125,000 to provide much-needed care to Washington residents, helping reduce a backlog of 147 such cases. DLN works through volunteer dentists to treat these patients, and its grant helped the network step up its recruitment of Washington dentists, primarily in the Seattle-King County area, to begin treating the patients on the waiting list.

"To date, we continue to encourage Washington dentists to lend their services by contacting DLN at 888-623-2780 or visiting [www.WillYouSeeOne.org](http://www.WillYouSeeOne.org)," Williams said.

With all this, our School of Dentistry is an excellent fit with Guardian, she said: "Our common goal is to deliver quality dental care to communities in the great state of Washington and throughout the Pacific Northwest."

Ultimately, Guardian's community initiatives are informed by its clear sense of mission. "We pride ourselves on our values, which are infused in our corporate culture and how we work with our partnering dentists," Williams said.

That extends to Guardian's support for our School, too, she added: "It is highly important to our organization to share our vision and values with the dental professionals of tomorrow."

"We gain so much from our relationship with supporters like Guardian," said Randy Newquist, Assistant Dean for Advancement and External Affairs. "Their commitment to serving the community reflects the values of our School and the UW, and we are proud to have them as one of our outstanding Business Partners." ■



*A sampling of current studies at the School of Dentistry (some abstracts may be condensed)*

In this issue, we highlight recently funded research projects conducted by a DDS/PhD student and a resident (some abstracts may be condensed).

## **Immediate Reconstruction of Mandibular Osteomyelitis Defects with rhBMP-2: Histologic, Histomorphometric and Immunohistochemical Analysis**

**PI: Dr. Rodney Nishimoto**

**Funding: Osteo Science Foundation**

Reconstruction of mandibular defects secondary to osteomyelitis presents a common, severe, and challenging problem for oral and maxillofacial surgeons. The off-label use of recombinant human bone morphogenetic protein-2 (rhBMP-2) for mandibular bone regeneration has become an accepted and reliable method of reconstruction. However, active infection at the operative site is a contraindication to its use. As such, the clinical utility of rhBMP-2 for mandibular reconstruction in settings of active infection is unknown. Immediate reconstruction of mandibular osteomyelitis defects with rhBMP-2 may allow for improved patient outcomes and a faster return to function by obviating the need for a secondary reconstruction procedure and the morbidity associated with an autologous bone donor site. The purpose of this study will be to answer the following clinical question: Among patients with mandibular osteomyelitis treated with surgical debridement and immediate reconstruction with rhBMP-2, are there any significant histologic, histomorphometric or immunohistochemical differences between native and reconstructed bone after complete bone healing? The investigators hypothesize that after complete bone healing, defined as > 6-months post-reconstruction, there are no significant histologic, histomorphometric, or immunohistochemical differences between native and reconstructed bone. The specific aims of this study will be to: 1) evaluate the histologic, histomorphometric and immunohistochemical features of mandibular bone regenerated with rhBMP-2 placed immediately into an area of active infection; and 2) compare the histologic, histomorphometric and immunohistochemical characteristics of regenerated bone with native bone. If mandibular bone reconstructed with rhBMP-2 in a site of active infection is found to be comparable to native bone, this could lead to expanded clinical indications for its use and a paradigm shift in the reconstruction of mandibular osteomyelitis defects.

## **Characterization of Sodium Dependent Phosphate Transporter 2 Signaling in Hard Tissue Mineralization**

**PI: Philip Walczak**

**Funding: NIDCR**

Growth and homeostasis of bones requires calcium and inorganic phosphorus (Pi). With millions of Americans suffering from bone mineralization disorders, there exists a need for understanding processes governing hard tissue mineralization. Pi is implicated in not only forming hydroxyapatite, the main crystal giving bone its compressive strength, but also regulating osteoblast and chondrocyte differentiation and function. PiT-2 (gene: Slc20a2) is the major form of sodium-dependent Pi transporters in mineralized tissue. Our laboratory is one of the first to have identified its potent role in regulating skeleton development and mineralization. Knockout of the PiT-2 gene in mice resulted in tooth and bone mineralization abnormalities, as evidenced by reduced osteoblast numbers, bone density and volume, and impaired incisor development and amelogenesis. The focus of this research is to further explore the role of PiT-2 in cellular and extracellular processes governing skeletogenesis, dentinogenesis, and amelogenesis. Specifically, Aim 1 will confirm and extend our preliminary findings to determine whether PiT-2 is required for regulation of odontoblast and ameloblast numbers, differentiation, and/or mineralizing activity with deficiencies leading to impaired dentinogenesis and amelogenesis. A role of PiT-2 in dentin repair and tertiary dentin formation will also be studied using a molar injury mouse model. In Specific Aim 2, we will define the mechanisms of action of PiT-2 in mineralizing cells using osteoblasts as an example. A Pi transport and sensing/signaling function of PiT-2 will be dissected through engineered PiT-2 transport deficient mutants. We expect these studies to provide a better understanding of how Pi influences functions of hard tissue forming cells, serving as basis to develop novel therapeutics for patients suffering from mineralization disorders, such as osteoporosis and osteopenia.

*For details on any study at the School of Dentistry, contact Dr. Douglas Ramsay, Associate Dean for Research & Faculty, at [ramsay@uw.edu](mailto:ramsay@uw.edu), or Sang Sim at [ssim@uw.edu](mailto:ssim@uw.edu), or the principal investigator.*

## ■ CLASS OF 1960, PERIODONTICS CLASS OF 1968

**Dr. John Ruud**, Wenatchee, Wash.: Dr. Ruud continues to practice two days a week at age 90. He is finally contemplating retirement this year, and would like to turn the practice in Wenatchee over to a recent School of Dentistry graduate if possible. Anyone with interest is asked to contact his daughter, Carol Ruud-Tillery, at carol@tilleryresorts.com.

## ■ CLASS OF 1975

**Dr. James Lloyd Ribary**, Gig Harbor, Wash.: I sold my practice in Gig Harbor at the end of 2009. My wife and I travel frequently. I enjoy playing golf in my free time. We have eight grandchildren to keep us busy when we are home. Life is good!



*Dr. Rooney receives congratulations for a job well done.*

## ■ CLASS OF 1994

**Dr. Patrick Rooney**, Blaine, Wash.: Accompanied the U.S. Navy hospital ship USNS Comfort last fall and winter during a four-month humanitarian mission to Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, and Honduras. About 200 military doctors, nurses, and technicians went on the mission, along with about 60 medical and dental professionals from NGO aid groups. The mission's goal was to help neighboring nations deal with the flood of Venezuelan refugees who had fled their country's economic and political turmoil. I also departed this August for an additional 3½-month continuation of last year's mission to serve with our Navy in a most distressed and needy region of our hemisphere. It is my third mission with our Navy with USNS Comfort, including to the Philippines aboard sister ship USNS Mercy in 2016. It's a dental career fulfillment to bring my skill set to a most desperate, needy, but most grateful population of our partner nations in the depth of their desperation across the region!



*Dr. Rooney and an assistant treat a patient.*



*The USNS Comfort*



## reunions



### ■ CLASS OF 1960

Members of the Class of 1960 and their spouses gathered on June 5 at the Ram Restaurant and Brewery in University Village for an enjoyable lunch. And, of course, plenty of reminiscing was also on the menu.

### ■ CLASS OF 1969

The Class of 1969 and their spouses got together on July 27 at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Seattle for some good conversation and fellowship. Each classmate shared a five-minute catch-up about what they have been doing. Of the 17 who attended, nine are still practicing to some extent. Most of this group have been married for around 50 years or more. Two couples came from California. The rest were from Washington. Five were instructors in our School of Dentistry for many years. Only one has a child who also is a dentist. Several other classmates who didn't come also have children who became dentists. – *Deck Barnes*

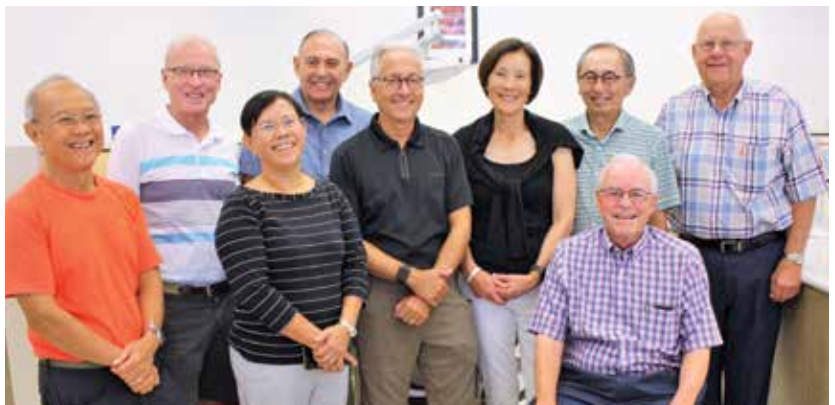


Front row (from left): Ron Konopaski, George Hussey, Bill Kirchner, Gordon Douglas, Roy Gunsolus, and Jerry Bates. Back row (from left): Lonn Riggs, Daryl Habich, Paul Zosel, David Cotant, Ted Leonard, Dale Bloomquist, Deck Barnes, Ernie Barrett, Tom Conlon, and Ward Damon.

### ■ ORTHODONTICS CLASS OF 1979

Alumni and spouses visited the Ortho clinic on July 25 and enjoyed a tour hosted by Dr. David Turpin (Ortho '66), Moore-Riedel Professor of Orthodontics, who also delivered an update on the residency program. The alums had a lot of fun finding their old operators – although they looked very different since the clinic's 2012 remodeling – and reviving memories.

*Dr. David Turpin (seated) hosted the visit (from left) Jin Lek Long (the husband of Dr. K. C. Woon), Dr. John Moore, Dr. Woon, Dr. Carlos Castro, Dr. Janice Yip and her husband, Stan Takasaki, and Dr. Don Gardner.*



# in memoriam

We are saddened to note the passing of classmates, colleagues and friends. For a fuller accounting of their lives, please go online to <https://dental.washington.edu/alumni-friends/in-memoriam/>.



**DR. DALE O. MURRAY**  
**CLASS OF 1951**

Dr. Dale Oliver Murray passed away on Dec. 5, 2018. He was 92. He practiced dentistry for over 40 years.



**DR. ROBERT L. SWENSON**  
**CLASS OF 1953**

Dr. Robert Leon "Bob" Swenson passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family, on April 30, 2019. He was 94. He enjoyed a 40-year family practice in Seattle's Northgate area.



**DR. JOHN L. WALTERS**  
**CLASS OF 1955**

Dr. John Lawrence Walters passed away on June 11, 2019. He was 90. He received a degree in zoology at the UW and was a member of Phi Gamma Delta. He set up his dental clinic in the Wedgwood area of

northeast Seattle, where he practiced for over 35 years. During the 1970s he offered free dental care (up to a month each year) at the Catholic missions in the jungle in the state of Chiapas in Mexico and in Guatemala and Peru. He donated his body to the UW for research.



**DR. EDWARD R. JANISCH**  
**CLASS OF 1956**  
**ORTHODONTICS CLASS OF 1968**

Dr. Edward Robert "Bob" Janisch died on March 13, 2019. He was 87. He graduated from the School of Dentistry in the top of his class and was a member

of Alpha Delta Phi, Omicron Kappa Upsilon, and Purple Shield. He commenced his private dental practice in Seattle in 1958. He also had an office in Bellevue, Wash., and taught at the School of Dentistry over the course of his career. He began practicing orthodontics in 1968. After a skiing accident in 1970, he suffered a stroke that paralyzed his right side. He returned to his orthodontics practice in 1974 and resumed teaching orthodontics at the School for many years.



**DR. MELVIN F. RUGG**  
**CLASS OF 1956**

Dr. Melvin Frederick "Dr. Mel" Rugg died peacefully in his sleep on Dec. 13, 2018 due to complications from a fall. He was 86. He also battled cancer and heart disease for many years. He built an office building in

downtown Kent, Wash., in the late 1960s and moved his dental practice there. He retired in 2002 after 46 years of dentistry. He was a life member of the American Dental Association and the Washington State Dental Association and a respected member of the American Academy of Gold Foil Operators.



**DR. RICHARD L. VANDERSCHULDEN**  
**CLASS OF 1957**

Dr. Richard Lee VanDerschelden died peacefully on Jan. 31, 2019 at his home. He was 84. He practiced dentistry in the South Park neighborhood of Seattle for 44 years. During this time he was active with

South Park Lions and Georgetown Community Center and helped

open the Highpoint Dental Clinic. He made three humanitarian dental trips to Bolivia. After retiring he volunteered 10 years at the Union Gospel Mission Clinic.



**DR. ROLAND S. KUMASAKA**  
**CLASS OF 1958**

Dr. Roland Shozo Kumasaka passed away peacefully on Jan. 19, 2019 in Seattle. He was 88. He and his family were incarcerated in the internment camp at Minidoka, Idaho during World War II. He received a degree in Public Health and Preventative Medicine from the UW. He established a dental externship with the state of Washington before starting his dental practice in Des Moines, Wash., in 1960. He retired from practice in 1997. He was honored to be a Fellow of the Pierre Fauchard Dental Honor Society. He was also a charter member of the Northwest Asian American Dental Seminar Group and the Des Moines Lions Club. He was involved with the establishment of the dental care program at Keiro Nursing Home and coordinated the publication *The Green Lake Japanese American Community 1900-1942*.



**DR. ANDREW M. HOUG**  
**ORTHODONTICS CLASS OF 1960**

Dr. Andrew Marc Houg died on Feb. 10, 2019. He was 86. He taught in the UW Department of Orthodontics from 1961 to 1972. He had a practice in Seattle's Northgate area until his retirement in 1996. He served as president of the Northern Section of Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontics and with the UW Orthodontic Alumni Association.



**DR. JAMES L. LORD**  
**CLASS OF 1964**  
**GRADUATE PROSTHODONTICS CLASS OF 1970**

Dr. James Lorin "Jim" Lord passed away on Feb. 17, 2019 in Seattle, due to complications associated with cancer following a stroke. He was 81. He served on the UW dental faculty as an instructor, assistant professor and associate professor for most of his career. He maintained a private practice in North Seattle for 27 years. He was active in numerous local and national academic and professional associations. He was president of the Seattle-King County Dental Society (1987-88), president of the Washington State Society of Prosthodontists (1985), president of the Pacific Coast Society for Prosthodontics (1990-91), and president of the Academy of Prosthodontics (1998).



**DR. THOMAS R. VAN DYKE**  
**CLASS OF 1970**  
**ORTHODONTICS CLASS OF 1973**

Dr. Thomas Russell Van Dyke passed away peacefully at Beehive Homes Assisted Living in Perry, Utah on July 30, 2019. He was 76. He served as president of the Utah Orthodontic Society and in various professional service-oriented groups.



**DR. JAMES R. HANSEL**  
**ORTHODONTICS CLASS OF 1970**

Dr. James Robert Hansel of Bremerton, Wash., passed away on Sept. 7, 2018. He was 78.

## SPOTLIGHT COURSE

### ■ FRIDAY, NOV. 1

#### **CE1921: Restorative Dentistry Update 2019: Practical Tips to Improve Results**

*This course is offered in partnership with Pierce County Dental Society.*

Come hear the latest on restorative dental materials and techniques, and what you should include in your dental practice. Topics will include:

- Caries management – what to leave behind
- Pulp capping and managing pulp exposures
- Dental adhesion approaches to enhance restoration longevity
- Innovations in composite materials
- Class II composite restoration techniques
- Understanding the latest ceramic materials
- Preparation designs for e.max and Zirconia
- Veneer preparation variations
- Impression materials and techniques
- Cements – what to use where and how
- Preventing restoration fractures using a 5-step system

**LOCATION:** Emerald Queen Conference Center, 5580 Pacific Highway E., Fife, Wash.

**TIMES:** Registration and Continental Breakfast 8 - 8:30 a.m.  
Course 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**TUITION** (includes lunch): \$255 for dentists, \$155 for dental staff or retired member dentists (\$25 more after Oct. 25)



**INSTRUCTOR:** Richard G. Stevenson, DDS

Dr. Stevenson received his bachelor's degree in chemistry and his dental degree, and later completed a fellowship in medical education, all from UCLA. He practiced general dentistry for seven years before accepting a full-time teaching position at the UCLA School of Dentistry as an assistant professor in Operative Dentistry. Dr. Stevenson has been

recognized by his students on five occasions as the Teacher of the Year and has received numerous additional teaching awards from 20 different classes of students. In 2009, he received the American Dental Association's Distinguished "Golden Apple" Teaching Award in both the pre-doctoral and post-doctoral categories. Dr. Stevenson is a charter member and past president of the Orange County R.V. Tucker Cast Gold Study Club and was the secretary of the Academy of R.V. Tucker Cast Gold Study Club for six years. Dr. Stevenson is currently professor emeritus of Clinical Dentistry at UCLA and served as chair of the Section of Restorative Dentistry for 17 years. He practices dentistry in West Los Angeles with a focus on microscope dentistry, implant restoration and esthetics.

**REGISTER ONLINE:** <https://tinyurl.com/yxdz6qj7>

**CREDITS:** 7 hours

### ■ FRIDAY, OCT. 4

#### **An Introduction to Myofunctional Therapy, Dentistry and Airway Health**

Sarah Hornsby, RDH, BS

This course is offered in partnership with the Washington Dental Hygienists' Association.

Please register through WDHA at [www.wsdha.com](http://www.wsdha.com).

The Mountaineers Club

7700 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle

7 credit hours

### ■ FRIDAY, OCT. 18

#### **Oral Pathology Boot Camp with Surgical Considerations**

Dolphine Oda, BDS, MS and Libby Kutcipal, DDS

The Mountaineers Club

7 credit hours

### ■ SATURDAY, OCT. 19

#### **Improving the Oral Health of Your Older Patients**

O. Ross Beirne, DMD, PhD; Bea Gandara, DDS, MSD; Susanne Kölare Jeffrey, DDS, PhD; Kurt Labberton, DDS; and Rod Wentworth, DDS

This course will be limited to 50 participants.

The Davenport Grand

333 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, Wash.

7 credit hours

### ■ FRIDAY, OCT. 25 – SATURDAY, NOV. 2

#### **CDE Land Tour to Portugal**

Lisa Koenig, BChD, DDS, MS

Locations in Portugal including Lisbon, Óbidos, Douro Valley, Porto, and Minho province

12 credit hours

### ■ FRIDAY, FEB. 28, 2020

#### **The Oral Cavity Under Acid Attack and Treatment Planning**

Marc Geissberger, DDS

This course is offered in partnership with the Snohomish County Dental Society.

Lynnwood Convention Center

3711 196th St. SW, Lynnwood, Wash.

7 credit hours

### ■ SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2020

#### **Ergonomics: Neck, Back & Beyond and Fitness 101 for Dental Professionals**

Bethany Valachi, PT, DPT, MS, CEAS

This course is offered in partnership with the Washington Academy of General Dentistry.

UW South Campus Center

1601 NE Columbia Road, Seattle

7 credit hours

### ■ FRIDAY-SATURDAY, MAY 1-2, 2020

#### **Oral Surgery for the General Dentist / Hands-On Workshop**

Karl Koerner, DDS

This course is offered in partnership with the Washington Academy of General Dentistry.

Washington AGD Educational Center

19415 International Blvd., #410, Seatac, Wash.

16 credit hours

### ■ FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2020

#### **Graduate Prosthodontics Symposium**

Location TBD – save the date now!

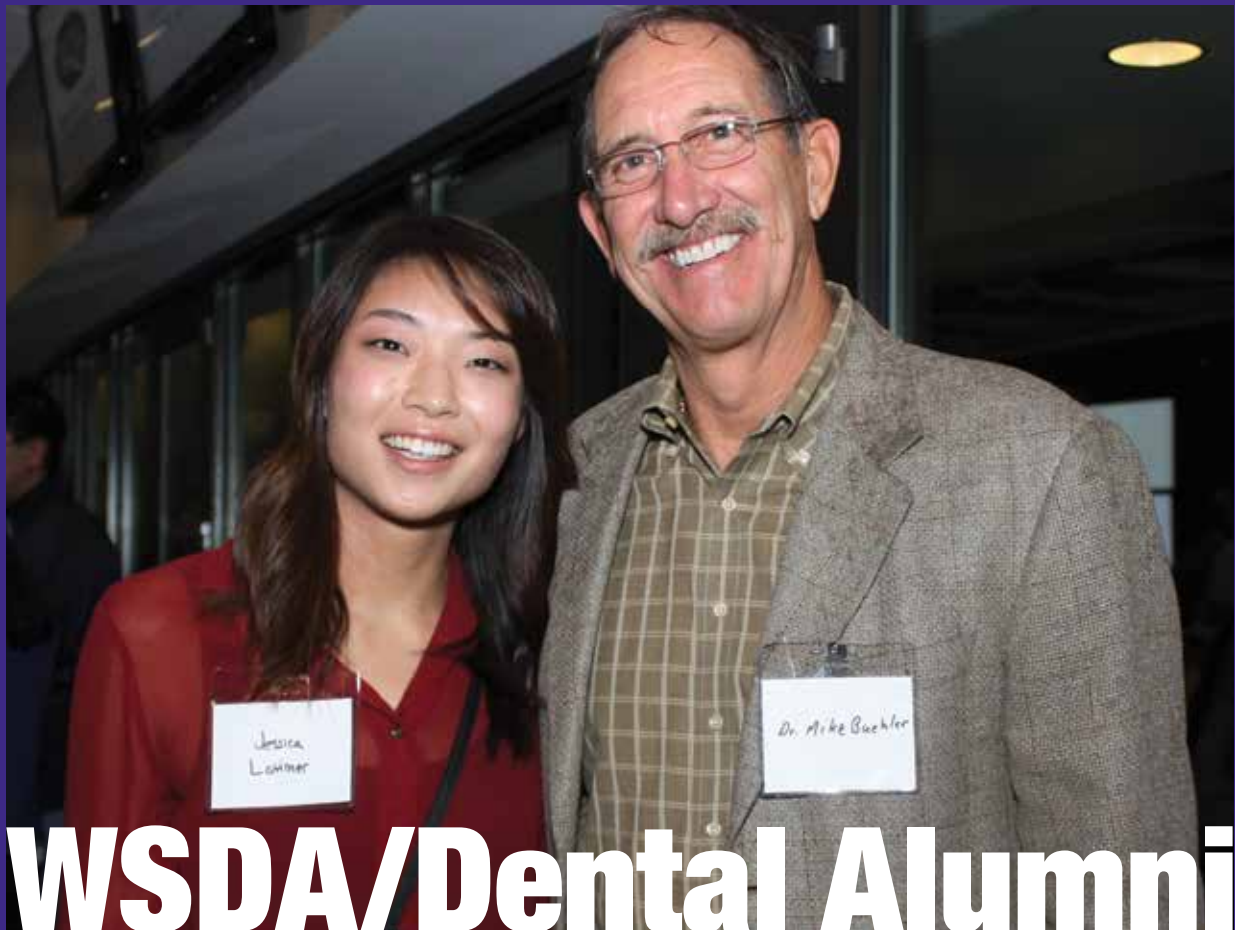
**For registration information, visit [www.uwcde.com](http://www.uwcde.com) or call 206-543-5448.**

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ADE Association for Continuing Dental Education

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# WSDA/Dental Alumni Mentor Program

Mentors make a tremendous impact on our students. They demonstrate professional behavior and ethics. They give students real-world knowledge of dental practice that the classroom — and even school clinic — can't always provide. They are a powerful force in directing the future of the dental profession.

## **DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?**

Contact Greg Croak at the School of Dentistry:  
[gcroak@uw.edu](mailto:gcroak@uw.edu) or 206-616-0716.

*The annual Mentor Reception takes place from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 10, 2020 at the new Burke Museum on the UW campus. Don't miss it!*

**SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY** B471 HEALTH SCIENCES

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## alumni calendar of events

### ■ **FRIDAY, OCT. 4**

School of Dentistry Dean's Reception

Time: 6:30 - 8 p.m.

The Heathman Lodge

7801 NE Greenwood Drive

Vancouver, WA

### ■ **MONDAY, OCT. 28**

Dental Alumni Full Board Meeting

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Washington Athletic Club, Seattle

### ■ **FRIDAY, JAN. 10, 2020**

Dental Alumni/WSDA Mentor Reception

Time: 6 - 8:30 p.m.

Burke Museum

UW Seattle Campus

### ■ **WEDNESDAY, JAN. 29, 2020**

Beginning a Practice/POPs Event

Time: 6 - 8:30 p.m.

South Campus Center, Room 316

UW Seattle Campus

### ■ **FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020**

Ernest Jones Memorial Lecture

Time: 8:30 am. - 4:30 p.m.

Kane Hall

UW Seattle Campus

### ■ **MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020**

Dental Alumni Full Board Meeting

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Washington Athletic Club, Seattle

### ■ **SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2020**

Dean's Club Dinner

Time: 6 - 9:30 p.m.

Chihuly Garden & Glass Museum

Seattle Center

*For more details on these or other UW Dental Alumni Association events, please call 206-543-7297.*

*Information is also available on the School of Dentistry website's alumni page at <http://dental.washington.edu/alumni-friends>*