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Class Notes
I think of alumni, for example, who take valuable time to mentor students considering a career within dentistry and to also pursue their own continuing dental education. Of students who are in class and clinic during the day and who meet in the evenings to plan lunch-and-learn activities for their colleagues’ benefit. Of faculty and staff who work together to support student education and who then draw on each others’ ideas to make their team even more effective in providing educational support.

There is much we can learn from each other, and we can accomplish this in many ways.

Two events occurred in one week a few months ago that really exemplified the teacher-student continuum for me. ENNEAD, our School’s student-led volunteer organization, recruited student volunteers to serve as mentors to pre-dental students.

The group had a pizza social to usher in this program, and more than 80 students attended. Many people made this happen, but I give particular credit to Jackie Garner, an ENNEAD board member and fourth-year dental student at the time, who brought great energy and vision to organizing this new program.

Later that same week, faculty members attended our School’s first focus groups held as a part of the ongoing curriculum revision process. The two topics were dental student academic programs and critical thinking; the format was open forum and the discussion was lively and compelling. More group discussions have followed, and they have been equally informative.

Dr. Janet Guthmiller, associate dean for academic affairs, leads our ongoing curriculum revision process, and she has from the beginning stressed that all of us who care about and support dental education at UNC’s School of Dentistry have ownership of this process. As we proceed, there will be many ways in which alumni, faculty, staff, students and other friends of the School can become involved in our curriculum revision’s purpose: to better prepare our students for careers as dental practitioners and as oral health leaders in communities throughout the state.

I am very pleased, in particular, that faculty members have approached this process with such commitment and enthusiasm.

James Eagle, DDS ’66, advises Ashley Schaaf in the Student Dental Clinics, while Anna Gladwell looks on. Eagle has received multiple honors for teaching excellence and was a clinical associate professor at the School of Dentistry before his retirement a few years ago; he now is an adjunct faculty member. It is becoming increasingly common for School faculty to provide on-the-spot guidance to clusters of fourth-year dental students in the clinics.
enthusiasm because they truly will lead day-to-day implementation of the revision. The four faculty members who have directed efforts to revise fourth-year DDS clinical education — Drs. Ed Kanoy, Bill Murdock, Leland Webb and George Gerds— have done a tremendous job with this new initiative, and students and patients are already benefiting from the new system. Dr. Kanoy, who also leads the Workgroup on Clinical Education, says this has been the best year of teaching he’s ever had.

I have enjoyed extensive discussions with cabinet officers, department chairs and other faculty members, staff, students and alumni concerning our collective responsibility to instill confidence and competence in the talented students who graduate from our School. A renewed commitment to the area of general dentistry would seem highly appropriate, and I have appointed Dr. Gerds to serve as the interim director of general dentistry within the Department of Diagnostic Sciences and General Dentistry as we continue our dialogue. General dentistry is crucial to predoctoral education, and I value the process of building consensus on the best way to enhance this area.

Some important change, like the new developments within general dentistry and the Student Dental Clinics, may not be immediately apparent to the eye. Some important change, such as the construction fence that will soon surround a significant portion of the School of Dentistry footprint, is immediately noticeable to the eye. Site preparation will soon begin for the Dental Sciences Building, involving the decommissioning and demolition of the Dental Research Center and Dental Office Building. Amid much change, our School’s mission of excellence in education, patient care, research and service is strong and unwavering. Thank you for the many ways in which you inform the School of Dentistry’s mission and the practice of dentistry.

John N. Williams

**BODAGER IS NAMED NEW ASSISTANT DEAN FOR ADVANCEMENT**

Brad Bodager has been appointed the new executive director for the Dental Foundation of North Carolina and assistant dean for advancement for the UNC School of Dentistry.

Bodager began work at the School on May 14. A law graduate of the University of San Francisco, he also received his master of laws degree from Georgetown University. Bodager most recently served as executive director for advancement at the Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law. Among his other advancement experience, Bodager served as director of alumni relations and of campaign leadership gifts at Duke University School of Law from 1996 to 2000.

His career also includes 15 years spent within the private practice of law, government relations and public service. He is authorized to practice law within the jurisdictions of Virginia, the District of Columbia, Ohio, West Virginia and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Bodager’s responsibilities at the School of Dentistry will include planning, organizing and directing fund-raising efforts and special events, as well as establishing and maintaining networks of key constituencies to advance the School’s mission. He will work closely with Dean John N. Williams and the Foundation board, among other School leaders, in these initiatives.

Williams said Bodager brings to the School of Dentistry a wealth of experience and a track record of achievement within the field of advancement.

“Brad clearly recognizes the tremendous support provided by our School’s alumni and friends and what this support has made possible for our dental education and service to the state,” Williams said. “He also has articulated innovative ideas on how to further develop these partnerships and how we can most appropriately engage foundations and industry in the promising patient-centered research under way at the School.”

Bodager said he plans to spend his first months in the School “being a very good listener concerning the issues on the minds of the alumni and learning from the department chairs and other School leaders on what they view as priorities.

“The education of dental health professionals is a very important mission, and it is extremely important to place the School of Dentistry front and center in articulating that focus,” he added. “I want to learn the goals and objectives, as determined by the School’s administrative and alumni leaders, and robustly pursue those goals.”

Kelly Almond, executive director of the Dental Alumni Association and associate director of the Foundation, had most recently served as interim executive director of the Foundation. Williams commended her for her leadership and for her ongoing dedication and responsiveness to the School’s alumni.

“This has been a very busy and fulfilling year in the life of our School, and I am very grateful to Kelly for her outstanding leadership and insight. We have celebrated the culmination of a very successful fund-raising campaign this year. Looking forward, I am confident in the team we have in place to support our alumni and the Foundation and in what this team can achieve to advance our School.”
# Continuing Dental Education Calendar

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<tr>
<td>June 5-6</td>
<td>Annual Update in General Practice</td>
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<td>June 6</td>
<td>The Epidemiology of Infection Control in Dentistry: Principles and Particulars of Protection (SPICE)</td>
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<td>June 12-14</td>
<td>25th Annual Dental Review</td>
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<td>June 27</td>
<td>Esthetics and Conservative Operative Dentistry for General Practitioners: Keys to Successful Posterior Composites</td>
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<td>June 28-July 5</td>
<td>CE at Sea: Timely Topics in Dentistry</td>
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<td>July 11</td>
<td>The Epidemiology of Infection Control in Dentistry: Principles and Particulars of Protection (SPICE)</td>
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<td>July 16-18</td>
<td>Clinical Oral Pathology for Educators</td>
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<td>July 21-26</td>
<td>Annual Prosthodontics for General Practitioners</td>
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<td>August 1</td>
<td>Clinical Excellence in Dental Hygiene</td>
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<td>August 6-8</td>
<td>National Dental Assisting Educators Workshop</td>
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<td>August 15</td>
<td>Nitrous Oxide Annual Update Training</td>
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<td>August 22</td>
<td>Esthetics and Conservative Operative Dentistry for General Practitioners: Keys to Successful Ceramic Restorations</td>
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<td>September 3</td>
<td>Intraoral Radiography for Office Trained Dental Assistants</td>
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<td>September 24</td>
<td>Fourth Annual Hinman Lecture featuring Dr. Gordon Christensen</td>
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<td>October 3</td>
<td>Incorporating an Infant and Early Childhood Dental Program Into Your Practice: Why? Who? and How?</td>
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<td>October 10-11</td>
<td>Preparing for Tomorrow: Periodontology and Dental Hygiene</td>
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<td>October 13-17</td>
<td>Orthodontic Mini Residency</td>
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<td>November 1</td>
<td>Coronal Tooth Polishing for the Dental Assistant II</td>
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<td>November 7</td>
<td>Prevention and Management of Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office</td>
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<td>November 7</td>
<td>OSHA, TB, Bloodborne Pathogens and Infection Control: Annual Update</td>
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<td>November 12</td>
<td>Intraoral Radiography for Office Trained Dental Assistants</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 13-15</td>
<td>Immediate Loading of Dental Implants Demonstration Course</td>
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<td>November 14-15</td>
<td>Advanced Functions in Dental Assisting: A DA II Prep Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>7th Dental Implant Therapy Symposium</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 21</td>
<td>54th Annual Dental Seminar Day: Ethics in Dentistry</td>
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For full information on Continuing Dental Education courses, please visit [http://www.dent.unc.edu/ce/cde/courses/](http://www.dent.unc.edu/ce/cde/courses/)

Continuing Dental Education  
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Email: cde@dentistry.unc.edu
The Research Triangle Park Web site describes its resident organizations as a “critical mass of innovation.”

Add one more innovative organization to that list: The UNC School of Dentistry’s research laboratory operations. And add one more crucial step completed in preparing for the Dental Sciences Building construction project.

Featuring more than 200,000 square feet when completed in December 2011, this building will include educational space and state-of-the-art research laboratories. DDS class size also will expand to up to 100.

The School signed a lease to rent space within a Research Commons Building on RTP’s T.W. Alexander Drive beginning March 1, 2008. This site will serve as “a home away from home for the research laboratories”—in the words of Dr. James Beck, associate dean for research—during the building construction, and the move began in May.

The off-campus site is a mixed-use facility consisting of space for offices, meetings and research laboratories. The School of Dentistry leased the first and third floors of the building, representing 68,800 square feet. The University’s Board of Trustees, University of North Carolina Board of Governors and N.C. Council of State had previously approved the building lease.

Beck said an estimated 50 percent of faculty and staff conducting research within the School would relocate to the RTP site, with plans to return to the School campus after construction of the Dental Sciences Building.

“The Research Commons laboratory space is better space than we currently have in the School, and we plan to come back to the new Dental Sciences Building space in three years with an even stronger research program,” he said.

“However, in the interim, regular contact with our colleagues on campus will be more challenging; faculty and staff from both locations are committed to working harder so we can maintain the high quality of educational experiences for our students.”

Raw Material, Innovation Combine in Exciting Dental Sciences Building Project

New developments include a move to RTP for some research lab operations

The UNC School of Dentistry’s home page now has a direct link to up-to-date information on the Dental Sciences Building project.

Please visit www.dent.unc.edu to find information, including:

- A PDF with detailed visuals and information on the interior and exterior features of the building, as well as a timeline for construction activity;
- Dean John N. Williams’ e-mails to the School community; and
- Information on the location and features of the Research Commons Building, where the majority of the School’s research operations are moving during construction.

Continued on next page

School News
Dean John N. Williams invited members of the School community to attend information sessions on the Dental Sciences Building project during fall 2007. He also sends e-mails to the School community as new developments occur.

“It is important that we do as much as possible to minimize any challenges our students, faculty and staff may experience as we go forward,” Williams said. “Sharing as much information as possible is also critical.

“I have been so proud of the way our School’s faculty, staff and students have approached the Dental Sciences Building construction project,” he added.

“Obviously, there will be much change and relocation associated with this process, and for several years, but our community really sees the promise inherent to this building — and the many ways education and patient-centered research will benefit as a result.”

Among the latest developments are the following:

- Several offices have already moved off-site, including the Dental Foundation and Dental Alumni Association (now at Southern Village), Continuing Dental Education/AHEC (now at the Chapel Hill North location near Timberlyne Shopping Center), some areas of Financial Affairs (to Patient Accounting and DFP Administration) and the Department of Endodontics (next to the Dean’s Office suite).

- Two buildings on the School’s campus will be decommissioned: the Dental Research Center in May and the Dental Office Building in early June. Their demolition is tentatively set for July.

The N.C. General Assembly appropriated $25 million to the School of Dentistry for the final planning and design, site development and early construction of the Dental Sciences Building.

Gov. Mike Easley signed the budget bill including that appropriation in summer 2007.

The creation of the Dental Sciences Building and expansion of the DDS class size at UNC are part of the Joint Plan for Dentistry in North Carolina, a cooperative effort between UNC and East Carolina University. The plan received UNC Board of Governors approval in fall 2006.
Nine UNC School of Dentistry faculty members have been named the first recipients of the Dean's Excellence in Teaching Award.

Dean John N. Williams and Dr. Janet Guthmiller, associate dean for academic affairs, established the award to recognize dental school faculty who have demonstrated excellence in teaching. Department chairs nominate faculty members for the honor, and award recipients receive a one-time stipend of $1,500 toward teaching and professional development activities.

Williams and Guthmiller ask that department chairs consider the effectiveness of individual instruction. Instruction or teaching is broadly defined as classroom, preclinical and laboratory mentoring of students, as well as clinical teaching and teaching in extramural and community-based programs.

“When our faculty members invest fully in the academic lives of their students, they are investing in the advancement of oral health,” said Williams. “As is the case throughout campus, our faculty members strive for excellence in teaching. I hope this honor will further inspire our faculty members and demonstrate our gratitude for their commitment.”

Williams added that the awards will be presented on a yearly basis.

“We are very fortunate to have many excellent teachers in the School of Dentistry,” said Guthmiller. “Dean Williams and I appreciate the opportunity to thank this year’s award recipients for investing their time and talents in the education of our students.”

The award recipients for the 2007-2008 academic year are:

Dr. H. Garland Hershey, Jr.  
professor, Department of Orthodontics

Dr. Matt Hopfensperger  
clinical assistant professor, Department of Prosthodontics

Dr. William C. Murdock  
clinical associate professor, Department of Diagnostic Sciences and General Dentistry

Vickie P. Overman  
clinical associate professor, Department of Dental Ecology, for dental hygiene education

Dr. David W. Paquette  
associate professor, Department of Periodontology

Dr. Glenn J. Reside  
clinical associate professor, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Dr. Allen D. Samuelson  
clinical associate professor, Department of Dental Ecology, for DDS education

Dr. William F. Vann Jr.  
distinguished professor, Department of Pediatric Dentistry

Dr. Al Wilder  
professor, Department of Operative Dentistry
Dr. Ray C. Williams, chairman of the UNC School of Dentistry's Department of Periodontology, has received a 2008 University Teaching Award, the highest campuswide recognition for teaching excellence.

Williams received a Distinguished Teaching Award for Post-Baccalaureate Instruction; these awards were given to four full-time faculty members and carry a one-time stipend of $5,000.

Williams and the other 20 honorees campuswide, selected in nine categories, were recognized during halftime at the Carolina-Virginia Tech men's basketball game in February. The honorees received further recognition from Chancellor James Moeser at an awards banquet.

The University Committee on Teaching Awards, affiliated with the Office of the Provost, reviews nominees, collects additional information and recommends nominees to the chancellor on six of the nine award categories, including the post-baccalaureate teaching award.

Within the School of Dentistry, Williams is the Straumann distinguished professor of dentistry. Before joining the University in 1994, he was head of the Harvard School of Dental Medicine’s Department of Periodontology and associate dean for graduate education.

Williams received the American Academy of Periodontology’s Outstanding Educator Award in 2004, given to “an exemplary periodontal faculty member who has been an inspired and dedicated teacher.”

“Dr. Ray Williams reflects his commitment to academic dentistry in many tangible ways, but one of the most remarkable to observe is the way he encourages his colleagues and the residents

within the periodontology program,” said Dean John N. Williams. “His words and actions, his interactions with others, show his dedication to teaching and to advancing dental education.”

Added Dr. Patricia Diaz, a third-year resident in the periodontology program, “Dr. Williams is a great mentor; he cares for the professional development and future of all his students. He tailors constructive criticism and advice to the needs of each student, always taking into consideration your career plans and niche where you would like to develop as a professional. This is a very unique quality in a mentor.”

(UNC's University Gazette contributed to this story.)
Event Explores Prosthodontic, Technology Connections

The UNC School of Dentistry and the American College of Prosthodontists Education Foundation (ACPEF) in January hosted a national symposium focused on emerging digital technologies in prosthodontics.

Dr. Lyndon Cooper, Stallings distinguished professor of dentistry and chairman of the Department of Prosthodontics, organized the event. Ping Fu, chief executive officer of software and services company Geomagic Inc., which is headquartered in Research Triangle Park, and Dr. David Gratton, assistant professor of prosthodontics at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry, were the event’s co-chairs.

“The Digital Prosthodontics Technology Conference” brought together about 30 prosthodontists and 20 industry leaders nationwide to discuss topics as diverse as technology transfer within dental school and private practice settings; leading research needs; the role of digital diagnostics in prosthodontics; and the most appropriate means of storage, management and sharing of digital data.

“Integrating digital informatics, imaging technology, rapid prototyping and novel dental materials will provide a new level of clinical excellence accessible to a wide array of dentists worldwide,” said Cooper, also vice president of the American College of Prosthodontists. “Prosthodontists are innovation leaders and have formed new partners in the rapidly changing technology industry.

“Together we will bring clinical improvements to the dental community by careful testing and evaluation, documentation and, especially, education.”

He added that Fu’s collaborative effort in spearheading this conference was a perfect example of the importance of teamwork among the ACPEF, educational institutions and industry.

Cooper, Fu and Scott Root, president and chief executive officer of Astra Tech Inc. and ACPEF board member, provided introductory remarks at the event. Fu’s remarks illustrated the recent technology advances from automotive and aerospace industries that have made their way into the medical appliances market.

“Three-D scanners and CBCT [cone beam computed tomography] have advanced to where it is cost-effective to design and manufacture individualized dental devices,” said Fu. “Software is now simple enough to be used by non-technical operators, and automated fabrication systems with new medical-grade materials are production-friendly and efficient.”

After Fu’s remarks, School of Dentistry Dean John N. Williams offered remarks to the group. Sessions focused on diagnostic imaging, intra-oral data capture, custom implant abutments/prostheses, prosthesis fabrication and software’s role in treatment planning.

The final session allowed participants to discuss what they had learned and apply that to the future of prosthodontics.

This conference took place a year after the School of Dentistry and ACPEF sponsored “The Scope of Prosthodontic Research,” featuring 15 presentations by deans, department chairs and academic, military and corporate investigators from throughout the United States and Canada.

The mission of the ACPEF is to secure and steward resources with the aim of advancing prosthodontics. The ACPEF provides funding to support education, research and growth of the specialty and discipline of prosthodontics.
Chancellor Visits Tri-County Family Dental Center
As Part of His Carolina Connects Initiative

UNC Chancellor James Moeser visited with Tri-County Community Health Council Inc. officials (including dental and medical practitioners) in Dunn in late November 2007.

Part of Moeser’s Carolina Connects initiative, this visit focused on how Tri-County is advancing health in a five-county area of rural southeastern North Carolina—and also on a new residency program in collaboration with the School of Dentistry.

Tri-County officials meeting with Moeser included J. Michael Baker, Tri-County Community Health Council Inc. chief executive officer; Dr. Horace Harris, Tri-County Family Dental Center director; Dr. Jason Lee, staff dentist and UNC School of Dentistry alumnus; and Dr. Uday Reebye, an oral surgeon and UNC School of Medicine alumnus.

Through a partnership that began in August 2007, the School of Dentistry sends two dental residents on rotation simultaneously during four-week periods. These residents, totaling eight for the academic year, are on-site at Tri-County Family Dental Center Monday through Thursday, returning to the School each Friday for class and clinic. The School of Dentistry administers this program through its Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) Program.

Moeser met the two UNC dental residents then on rotation at Tri-County Family Dental Center – Drs. Tom Shannon and Andy Mancini – during his visit.

Dean John N. Williams and Dr. Frank Brantley, director of the School’s AEGD Program, accompanied the chancellor on this visit to the center.

Carolina Connects is an initiative begun by Chancellor Moeser in 2004 that takes University officials around North Carolina to highlight the ways in which Carolina serves the state’s people and its communities.

Moeser will leave office on June 30; he intends to return to UNC as a professor after taking a year’s research leave.
Young people who are heavy smokers of cannabis may be putting themselves at significant risk for periodontal disease, according to new research.

The study, published in the Feb. 6, 2008, issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association, is believed to be the first to explore whether or not smoking a substance other than tobacco—in this case, marijuana more than other cannabis products—may be a risk factor for gum disease.

Dr. James D. Beck, a William R. Kenan Jr. professor in the UNC School of Dentistry’s Department of Dental Ecology, was one of the study’s authors. He also is associate dean for research at the School. Beck’s comments and the study findings were reported in media outlets nationwide and beyond, including Reuters, Bloomberg News and National Public Radio.

After controlling for tobacco smoking, gender, socioeconomic status and infrequent trips to the dentist by one-third of the participants, the study reported a “strong association between cannabis use and periodontitis experience by age 32.”

Study participants who reported the highest use of cannabis were 1.6 times more likely to have at least one gum site with mild periodontal disease — compared to those who had never smoked cannabis.

This group’s risk of having at least one site with more severe gum disease was estimated to be more than three times higher than the group who never used the substance.

“In the United States, we think about periodontal disease as being a problem after the age of 35,” said Beck. “These findings, that almost 30 percent of

“These findings, that almost 30 percent of individuals at age 32 had periodontal disease, indicate that this younger group may need more attention.”

DR. JAMES D. BECK

Continued on next page
individuals at age 32 had periodontal disease, indicate that this younger group may need more attention."

The 903 participants are part of a longitudinal study of a group of children born at Queen Mary Hospital in Dunedin, New Zealand, between 1972 and 1973. The recent study’s senior author is Dr. W. Murray Thomson, a professor of dental public health at the Sir John Walsh Research Institute at the University of Otago’s School of Dentistry, in Dunedin.

The study suggests that the benefits of public health measures to reduce the prevalence of cannabis use may carry over to gum disease. Additionally, researchers wrote, studying a possible association between cannabis use and periodontal disease in other populations “should be a priority for periodontal epidemiological research.”

Other study authors were Drs. Richie Poulton, David Welch and Robert J. Hancox, all of Dunedin School of Medicine, the University of Otago; Jonathan M. Broadbent of the Department of Oral Sciences, University of Otago; and Drs. Terrie E. Moffitt and Avshalom Caspi, with King’s College London and Duke University.

Funding was provided by the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research and the National Institute of Mental Health, both components of the National Institutes of Health; the Medical Research Council of the United Kingdom; and the Health Research Council of New Zealand, which supports the Dunedin Multidisciplinary Health and Development Research Unit.

**Immediate Past President of ADA Gives Commencement Address**

Dr. Kathleen Roth, immediate past president of the American Dental Association, gave the keynote address at the UNC School of Dentistry’s 2008 commencement ceremony.

The 6 p.m. May 11 ceremony took place in Memorial Hall on the University campus.

Roth completed her term as ADA president in October 2007 — the second woman to serve as ADA president since the organization’s creation in 1859. Prior to this role, she served a four-year term on the ADA Board of Trustees as Ninth District trustee. She also served on the Council on Membership and Communications and, when that council was divided, as vice chair of the Council on Membership.

She also served on ADA task forces on education for dental hygienists and accreditation of international dental schools, among other ADA initiatives. She is a past president of the Wisconsin Dental Association.

Among her other leadership activities, she participated in a Congressional briefing panel on women’s oral health in 2003 and made a professional presentation on women’s oral health at an international dental congress in New Delhi, India, in 2004.

Roth, who also is a dentist in general practice in West Bend, Wis., is a graduate of the Marquette University School of Dentistry. Her alma mater presented her with a 2005 Dental Community Service Award.

“Dr. Roth is the epitome of leadership within dentistry,” said School Dean John N. Williams.

“She encourages others through her integrity, positive attitude and forward-thinking approach. Her interests are many — access to care, technology, the future of dental education — yet she never forgets that the patient is at the center of all discussion within dentistry.”

Roth said she valued her role in congratulating and addressing the graduating class of 2008. “As new colleagues entering the dental profession, they will be faced with many challenges and limitless opportunities. It is critical that the practicing dental community and our newest of graduates engage in a lifetime of service to all — those with resources, as well as the underserved in our country.

“These new graduates will soon begin to create a path in their professional lives and within organized dentistry. The potential for great things is open to each and every one of them.”
Not just another year

Fourth-year DDS clinical education receives a major revision; patients, students, faculty benefit

Fourth-year dental student Allison Perry and Dr. George Gerdts, interim director of the division of general dentistry, enjoy a conversation with Donna Kath, a patient in the UNC Student Dental Clinics, during the spring 2008 semester.
Readers of Dr. Stephen R. Covey’s best-seller “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People” will recognize it as the second habit: Begin with the end in mind. And that, in Dr. George Gerdts’ estimation, is exactly what the UNC School of Dentistry is doing in revising its fourth-year DDS clinical education.

“What does it take to get a competent newly graduated dentist out the door? That’s the philosophy we used in designing the senior year [of clinical education] for them.”

A competent dentist, says Dean John N. Williams, is one who possesses the knowledge, skills and values necessary to provide excellence in patient care.

The process officially began in 2007, when Williams appointed Dr. Ed Kanoy to lead the newly formed Workgroup on Clinical Education. Informally, though, it began in 2005, with a general conversation on clinical education that Williams and Kanoy had before Williams became dean, and the conversations continued. Kanoy resigned as chairman of the Department of Prosthodontics in 2006 and planned to enter practice after almost 30 years at the School of Dentistry. Williams asked him to reconsider his plans, and he did.

The workgroup, launched in spring 2007, was one of the first components in the School’s comprehensive DDS curriculum revision, and Williams requested that a new fourth-year clinical model be in place at the start of the 2007-2008 academic year. Kanoy enlisted the leadership of his colleagues Dr. Leland Webb, associate professor of prosthodontics; Dr. Bill Murdock, clinical associate professor of diagnostic sciences and general dentistry; and Gerdts, who has since been appointed interim director of the division of general dentistry within the Department of Diagnostic Sciences and General Dentistry.

The four faculty members discussed how to give senior dental students more clinic experience. Dr. Douglas Solow, associate dean for clinical education, Travis Hicks (center), Kelly Konczal and other members of the DDS Class of 2008 enjoyed the increase in one-on-one faculty mentoring in the new clinical education model.
affairs, had divided the students into four groups, and the clinic had four patient care coordinators. “It made sense for us to slide in to the group with the students,” Kanoy says of the faculty leaders. “You look at the spaces: 64 chairs and a class of 81 students. The first thing that was obvious was that we can’t get the whole class together at once, but we can get three-fourths of them.

“Every student could be in there six times,” he adds, “so we’ll all be in there those six times. The other times, students in our group would be on assignment in endo, perio, pedo and ortho.”

The new clinical model, in implementation, makes for a busy work environment and one in which students — and their patients — receive more personal attention. “I was comparing my completed procedures between this year and last year. The recent clinic changes have allowed me to be so much more productive than would have been possible in the old system,” says Allison Perry, DDS Class of 2008. “The feel up here now is more like a group practice.”

Those are comments that Williams, in particular, appreciates hearing from students.

“This new system has worked out better than even I thought it could, and I’m grateful to Dr. Kanoy and the workgroup leaders,” he says. “A lot of that success is due to the commitment of our faculty members, who truly believe in what this new model can accomplish in preparing our students for their careers after graduation. And a lot of the success has to do with the students, who had every reason to be a bit anxious about this change, yet have responded to it with maturity and enthusiasm.”

Kanoy reports that the new model has resulted in an initial increase in student access to clinics in the order of 27 percent for seniors, 17 percent for juniors and 16 percent for sophomores. That time has also focused more on individualized treatment plans, too, with students treating “whatever the patient needs on that given appointment,” says Gerds. “You’ll see people performing operative dentistry and prosthodontics, including removable and fixed; people getting urgent care appointments; patients of record and walk-ins. Extractions are being done, new patients are being examined and treatment plans are being developed.”

Faculty members have more of an opportunity to get to know the students: “I enjoy being in here and interacting with them,” says Webb of the students in his clinic group. “I see them getting better and more confident.”

The focus also is more on patient needs in the clinics, Gerds says. “This is driven by patient needs. Working with dental assistants and hygienists is something we are going to grow. The other thing, too, is that we’ve assigned a faculty member to work with 20 students. This results in consistency in the approach to providing dental care, so the students aren’t getting a wide range of opinions on how to treat patients.”

Right up until April, the expectation is that students would have a patient scheduled and be in clinic six times a week, Gerds says. Competition for chairs has been eliminated, too, and replaced with guarantees of time attending to patients, adds Kanoy.

“I don’t have to fight for a spot,” says Kelly Konczal, DDS Class of 2008. “We know that we have these spots. We just show up.”

“The feel up here now is more like a group practice.”

ALLISON PERRY
DDS Class of 2008
Kanoy says the 2007-2008 academic year has been the best year of teaching that he’s experienced at the School of Dentistry.

“To me, there is a totally different atmosphere than I have ever experienced in the past. It seems to be that everyone has a common goal. Everybody is engaged fully, and everybody is working toward the same purpose.”

The clinical education faculty leaders have also looked at the second and third years of dental education and are continuing discussions of those educational models. The operative dentistry and periodontology clinics have been re-established. The hospital and community dentistry extramural rotation schedule has been adjusted so that every third-year student will now complete both rotations during the summer.

As the School’s comprehensive curriculum process continues, the clinical workgroup will work to apply what it has learned to the work of the other curriculum groups: basic science; behavioral science, communication, ethics and professionalism; and preclinical education.

“We want our students to receive as much patient care experience as possible,” says Solow. “Our curriculum and clinics will be reorganized so that students become less concerned with the numbers of clinical procedures they perform, and more focused on attaining competency in all of the disciplines expected of a general dentist.

“We will motivate them to stay busy, provide quality care and learn to treat patients comprehensively as they will be doing in the communities they will be serving. We owe that to them and their future patients.”

The UNC School of Dentistry initiated a major DDS curriculum revision in 2007. The process continues in its mission to ensure that graduates are fully prepared to practice and serve the people of North Carolina and beyond.

Among those changes, already implemented or in process:
- Sweeping changes made to fourth-year clinical education in the 2007-08 academic year; involving strategic planning from the Workgroup on Clinical Education and Dr. Douglas Solow, associate dean for clinical affairs;
- Ongoing curriculum committee focus groups on topics such as dental student academic programs, critical thinking, patient services and outreach, teaching methods, technology and support; and
- Four workgroups established in basic science; behavioral science, communication, ethics and professionalism; preclinical education; and clinical education.

“Implementation of curriculum changes must be a fluid process,” Guthmiller says. “We must be responsive to the following factors: faculty reviews and comments; student comments; the School administration’s focus on what constitutes educational program success; alumni feedback and recommendations; new scientific findings; and a commitment to more efficient use of resources, such as the School’s clinical facility.

As we press forward in this process, we all need to be flexible to allow for opportunities provided by change,” says Guthmiller. “I am encouraged by the many ideas generated by faculty, staff and students, and we look forward to exchanging information with alumni and other key constituencies as we proceed.”

In December, faculty members and student leaders attended a retreat and brainstormed on a variety of curricular issues. Guest speaker Dr. Huw F. Thomas, dean of the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry, discussed the need for curriculum change in dental education and the curriculum revision process at UAB. Other guest speakers included Dr. Richard Buchanan, dean of the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine; and Dr. David T. Ozar, professor and co-director of graduate studies in health care ethics in the Loyola University Chicago Department of Philosophy. Ozar spoke on ethics and professionalism in dental education.

Another retreat was held in May 2008.
Department of Dental Ecology

Rebecca S. Wilder, MS, associate professor and director of graduate dental hygiene education, is the co-editor of the recently published second edition of Mosby’s Dental Hygiene: Concepts, Cases and Competencies. The textbook includes 51 chapters focusing on a contemporary biopsychosocial approach to oral health care. Chapters address evidence-based decision-making, the body’s response to challenge, drug-induced adverse oral effects, orthodontics, emergency management of dental trauma, immune system dysfunction, saliva and salivary dysfunction, HIV/AIDS and other subjects. Co-editors are Susan J. Daniel (assistant professor in the Department of Dental Ecology from 1984 to 1991), MS, and Sherry A. Harfst, both adjunct clinical associate professors in the Department of Dental Ecology.

Lauren L. Patton, DDS ’86, a professor and director of the School’s General Practice Residency Program, gave the keynote addresses at two conferences in Japan in January 2008. Patton spoke on “Oral Manifestations of HIV and Periodontal Disease” at the Ninth Annual Meeting of the Japan AIDS Protection Society in Tokyo. The Japanese Foundation for AIDS Prevention sponsored the meeting and invited lecture-ship in honor of World AIDS Day. World Health Organization statistics for 2005 estimate the number of Japanese individuals with HIV infection at 17,000, and 9,900 of these individuals are women. She also spoke on that topic at the HIV Conference of Dental Research in Hokkaido and the Annual Meeting of the Society of AIDS Preventing Act in Sapporo.

Ron Strauss, DMD, PhD, the department chairman and dental director of the UNC Craniofacial Center, gave the keynote address at two symposia in December 2007—one in Moorestown, N.J., and the other in Bauru, Brazil. Strauss spoke on “Quality of Life Outcomes in Persons with Facial Differences” at the Seventh Scientific Postgraduate Symposium at the University of Sao Paulo’s School of Dentistry, located in Bauru. The Hospital for the Rehabilitation of Craniofacial Anomalies, the world’s largest craniofacial treatment center, sponsored the symposium. He spoke on “Quality of Life, Facial Appearance and the Burdens of Craniofacial Care” at a symposium on “Speech and Learning Problems Associated with Cleft Palate: The Pre-School to High School Years.” Cooper University Hospital in New Jersey and the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association sponsored the symposium.

David Zajac, PhD, associate professor, received two National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research awards in September 2007 that focus on children and infants. One, a one-year R56 award, focuses on “Speech Intelligibility Testing in Children with Repaired Cleft Palate”; in collaboration with Lucia Cevidanes (Department of Orthodontics), DDS, PhD ’03, and Katarina Haley (Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences), PhD, Zajac will use a computerized test to determine the influence of structural and phonetic factors on speech intelligibility in children with repaired cleft palate. The other, a two-year R21 award titled “Early Assessment of Infants with Cleft Palate Following Surgical Repair,” will evaluate the clinical utility of an approach to determine palatal repair success in infants soon after surgery.

Continued on next page
Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery


Glenn Reside, DMD, clinical associate professor, has been elected to faculty membership in Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honor Society.

Timothy A. Turvey, DDS, professor and chair, and William Proffit, DDS ’59, PhD, Kenan professor, presented lectures at the annual meeting of the South African Society of Maxillofacial and Oral Surgeons in Johannesburg in October 2007. Turvey also was an invited lecturer at the 18th Congress of the International Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons in Bangalore, India, in November. He lectured on “Midface Advancement for Syndromic and Cleft Patients.”

Raymond White, DDS, PhD, professor, was the guest speaker at the Kentucky Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Meeting, held November 2007 in Louisville. He presented the latest data from his research on the efficacy of removing wisdom teeth.

Department of Orthodontics

Sylvia Frazier-Bowers, DDS, PhD ’99, is a member of the National Marfan Foundation’s Professional Advisory Board. The board participates in and provides guidance in the foundation’s medical programs and publications. The National Marfan Foundation is a nonprofit voluntary health organization dedicated to saving lives and improving the quality of life for individuals and families affected by the Marfan syndrome and related disorders.

Department of Periodontology

Dr. Nadine Brodala, DDS, MS ’02, assistant professor and director of the ITI Implant Scholarship Program, spoke at the 2007 FDI World Dental Federation meeting in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Her talk was a part of the International Academy of Periodontology Symposium, and she presented on “Pre-Prosthetic Periodontal Surgeries and Esthetic Considerations in Implant Dentistry.” Following this meeting, she traveled to Kathmandu, Nepal, to participate in a regional FDI meeting and then to the annual esthetic and implant dentistry meeting in Chandigarh, India.

Jonathan Owens, staff dental hygienist, participated in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Team in Training marathon in Dublin, Ireland, in October 2007; he raised $5,500 to benefit the organization. He was, at press time, planning to participate in other races: the AIDS Walk and Ride (Raleigh in May) and the Marine Corps Marathon (Washington, D.C., in October).

Ray C. Williams, DMD, department chair and Straumann distinguished professor, chaired a January roundtable discussion of key opinion leaders in cardiology, endocrinology and periodontology at the Royal College of Physicians in London. This group reviewed the current evidence for the relationship between oral health and general health and proposed next steps for collaboration between dentistry and medicine.
Webster-Cyriaque Is Featured in NIH Video for Students

Dr. Jennifer Webster-Cyriaque, an associate professor within the UNC School of Dentistry’s Department of Dental Ecology, is one of three researchers featured in a National Institutes of Health educational video titled “Women in Dental Research.”

The video shows Webster-Cyriaque focused on all facets of her day-to-day life as a researcher: patient care; meetings with students, residents and colleagues; editing and writing scientific publications; teaching; and interaction with faculty members. She also discusses how to maintain a work-life balance and the early influences that led her to pursue dental research as a career path.

“Research is a process,” she says in an on-screen interview, “and we’re continually building on the findings of other people. Our hope is that each contribution we make can be something that someone else can build upon.”

“Women in Dental Research” represents a collaboration among

Dr. Ken May, vice dean at the UNC School of Dentistry, answers questions from the kindergarten class at Vienna Elementary School in Pfafftown, N.C., after making a presentation during National Children’s Dental Health Month. His grandson, Bryson, had invited him to speak to his class.

Department of Prosthodontics

David A. Felton, DDS ’77, MSPROS ’84, professor, received the American College of Prosthodontists Distinguished Service Award in November 2007 at the college’s annual session in Scottsdale, Ariz. A past president of the college and editor-in-chief of the Journal of Prosthodontics, Felton was honored for “his long-term service and support of the goals and objectives of the college and substantive contributions to the specialty of prosthodontics.”

Webster-Cyriaque

The video is the fifth in a series of videos titled “Women Are Scientists.” This video series, a joint venture between the NIH offices of Research on Women’s Health and Science Education and the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research.

The video shows Webster-Cyriaque focused on all facets of her day-to-day life as a researcher: patient care; meetings with students, residents and colleagues; editing and writing scientific publications; teaching; and interaction with faculty members. She also discusses how to maintain a work-life balance and the early influences that led her to pursue dental research as a career path.

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Beck Is Named Associate Dean for Research

Dr. James D. Beck, who joined the UNC School of Dentistry faculty in 1985, has been named the School’s associate dean for research.

Beck, whose appointment was effective in February 2008, had served as interim associate dean since July 1, 2007, when Dr. Patrick Flood stepped down from the position to concentrate on research and teaching.

“Jim is highly regarded by his colleagues within the dental school and our University’s entire health affairs campus,” said Dean John N. Williams. “His leadership in oral health research is recognized throughout the world. Also, he is particularly attentive to ways in which our School of Dentistry can increase meaningful collaborations — research and otherwise — that will benefit human life and bring attention to issues central to advancing oral and overall health.”

Beck, who received his doctorate in epidemiology from UNC in 1969, also is a William R. Kenan Jr. professor in the School of Dentistry’s Department of Dental Ecology. He is co-director of the Center for Oral and Systemic Diseases. Dr. Steven Offenbacher, OraPharma distinguished professor of periodontal medicine, is the director.

Beck also is an associate director in the School of Medicine’s General Clinical Research Center, which is focused on advancing patient-centered research and is one of four such centers nationwide to have a dental component. He has published more than 200 journal articles and book chapters, and his research areas include geriatric dentistry, dental epidemiology and oral-systemic disease relationships.

He founded the School’s Special Care Clinic and the Oral Epidemiology Ph.D. Program. Beck currently directs a National Institutes of Health-funded program to train future dental academicians in clinical research.

In 2004, the American Association for Dental Research (AADR) presented him with its Distinguished Scientist Award in recognition of his research’s significance to the oral health sciences.

Paquette Is Named Assistant Dean for Graduate/Advanced Dental Education

Dr. David Paquette, associate professor of periodontology at the UNC School of Dentistry, has been named the School’s new assistant dean for graduate/advanced dental education.

The part-time position was previously held by Dr. Carroll-Ann Trotman, who left the School’s faculty in 2007 to become associate dean of academic affairs at the University of Maryland Dental School.

Paquette, a School faculty member since 1994, also is graduate program director for periodontology. To date, he has published 45 articles and two book chapters relating to possible links between periodontal and systemic health and other issues related to periodontal disease.

His current leadership roles include chairing the American Academy of Periodontology’s (AAP) Subcommittee on Research Submissions and serving on the editorial boards for six journals. He also is a past president of the International Association for Dental Research’s (IADR) Periodontology Research Group and was a fellow to the American Dental Education Association’s (ADEA) 2006-07 Leadership Institute.

He is a 2006 recipient of the AAP’s R. Earl Robinson Regeneration Award, which is presented to the authors of a peer-reviewed paper that has contributed the most to knowledge of periodontal regeneration during the previous year. Paquette was among the co-authors on “Platelet-derived Growth Factor Stimulates Bone Fill and Rate of Attachment Level Gain: Results of a Large Multicenter Randomized Controlled Trial.”

In his new role as assistant dean, Paquette is responsible for planning and implementing policies, procedures and systems related to the advanced education programs at the School of Dentistry. He leads coordination of admissions, curriculum, accreditation and outcomes assessment related to these programs and also will design and implement instructional tracks and collateral degree programs with other schools campuswide.

“Dr. Paquette is an exceptional researcher and role model for graduate students within our Department of Periodontology. In his expanded role, students in all of our graduate programs will benefit from his dedication and leadership,” said Dean John N. Williams.
Cooper Is New Chairman of Prosthodontics

Dr. Lyndon Cooper became the new chairman of the UNC School of Dentistry’s Department of Prosthodontics in January 2008.

Cooper, a faculty member in the School of Dentistry since 1993, is also the Stallings distinguished professor of dentistry within the Department of Prosthodontics. He directs Graduate Prosthodontics and the Bone Biology and Implant Therapy Laboratory.

Dr. Thomas Ziemiecki, an associate professor of prosthodontics, had previously served as interim chair of the department.

Dean John N. Williams said Cooper’s leadership would help the department strengthen its national and international prominence in prosthodontics, particularly within research and patient care.

“Dr. Cooper is committed to ensuring our School’s continued excellence within prosthodontics,” Williams said. “Through his extensive patient-directed and NIH-funded research, his hands-on national leadership and his mentorship of the next generation of prosthodontists, he is demonstrating his commitment to improving the quality of human life.”

Cooper is a Diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics and is the vice president of the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP) Board of Directors. He is the chairman of the ACPEF’s “Vision 2012: Brilliant Futures” campaign. The “Vision 2012” goals are to lead efforts to advance prosthodontics and its research and education, specifically; and to fund educational curriculum innovation and reform initiatives.

He received the ACP’s 2004 Clinician/Researcher Award.

Cooper’s laboratory focuses on bone biology, adult stem cell bone regeneration and clinical evaluation of dental implant therapies. The laboratory’s current investigation of the role of inflammatory signaling on stem cell differentiation to bone forming cells is supported by a five-year National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research grant. The research group’s study findings have been featured in more than 70 publications and in more than 200 national and international presentations.

IN MEMORY: SCHOOL REMEMBERS DEDICATED FACULTY, STAFF MEMBERS

Denise Hancock passed away Dec. 17, 2007. She joined the School of Dentistry in 1978 as a dental assistant in the Dental Faculty Practice. At the time of her death, she was a patient relations representative in the Department of Orthodontics. Ms. Hancock was known for her dedication to patients and colleagues, her talent in creating scrapbooks for special events and for her ability to create a joyful working environment for those around her. The Department of Orthodontics recently established the Denise Hancock Memorial Award, honoring her achievements and recognizing the current or former dental assistant within the School who best exemplifies hard work, loyalty and a sense of fun.

Veronica Sanchez passed away Feb. 2, 2008. She joined the School of Dentistry in 1998 as a dental assistant within Clinical Affairs. She received a Staff Employee Excellence Award in late 2007, honoring her achievements in teamwork, innovation, creativity and other areas. Dr. Douglas Solow, associate dean for clinical affairs, nominated Ms. Sanchez for the award, noting her dedication, professionalism, sense of humor, positive approach to life and dentistry, and excellent communication skills. She received numerous other awards for her work within the School, including faculty and staff appreciation awards at the 1999 and 2000 Spurgeon Dental Society Annual Awards Banquet.

Dr. Robert “Bob” Kusy passed away Feb. 6, 2008. He joined the School of Dentistry in 1972 as a research associate; he was named a professor in 1989, and his faculty appointments were within the School of Dentistry’s Department of Orthodontics, the School of Medicine and the University’s Curriculum in Applied and Materials Sciences. He retired in 2006. Dr. Kusy was well known for his research, publishing more than 200 scholarly papers and giving lectures worldwide during his career. He received numerous honors for teaching, including honorary membership in the UNC Orthodontic Alumni (2007). He also received the American Association of Orthodontists Foundation’s B. F. Dewel Memorial Research Award and served on the editorial boards of several research journals.

Dr. Sid Kalachandra passed away March 14, 2008. He joined the School of Dentistry in 1985 as a research assistant professor, and his affiliation with the School spanned more than 20 years. He served as research professor in the Department of Periodontology, and his most recent research involved the controlled release of drugs in the oral cavity primarily to help HIV/AIDS patients cope with infections. He traveled widely also serving faculty positions at Queen Mary and Westfield College of the University of London and at Virginia Tech. Dr. Kalachandra was known for his kind and welcoming nature.
Nathan White, DDS Class of 2008, has been recognized for his musical talents, with mentions in two Chapel Hill “best of” lists. Nathan Oliver, the title of White’s band and debut album, was named one of the Daily Tar Heel’s top 10 albums for 2007 in its “Best of the Tar Heel State” list. “White’s yelps and screams add flair and dynamics to his deceptively brilliant songwriting,” the DTH wrote, in ranking the album sixth. The Independent Weekly ranked Nathan Oliver’s “State Lines Pt. 1” as one of the Triangle’s best 35 songs of 2007. The band, White says, is in the process of recording more songs.

Sindhura Citineni, a second-year dental student, received Kenan-Flagler Business School’s Outstanding Young Alumni Award at its Ninth Annual Alumni Association Awards Ceremony in November 2007. The award honors an alumnus or alumna of the last decade who demonstrates leadership in career accomplishments and exceptional commitment to the business school.

Citineni, founder of the nonprofit Nourish International, received her bachelor’s degree in business administration from UNC Kenan-Flagler.

Allison Cavenaugh and Joshua Fein, both third-year dental students, were among the 11 students recently selected for a national academic dental careers fellowship. The American Association for Dental Research (AADR) and the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Academic Dental Careers Fellowship Program selection committee chose the 2008 fellowship class from all U.S. and Canadian dental schools and ADEA member allied dental programs. The fellowship class is made up of 10 dental students and one allied dental student.

Fellowship components include a day-and-a-half summer fellow/mentor training session, biweekly collaborative meetings between fellows and mentors, faculty/administrator interviews, teaching practicum in four settings, career reflection essays, research practicum, poster presentation at the 2009 AADR/ADEA Annual Session and other activities. The fellowship’s focus is to encourage and prepare students to enter academic dentistry.

Cavenaugh’s faculty mentor is Dr. Lorne Koroluk, an associate professor with a joint appointment in the Departments of Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics. Fein’s faculty mentor is Dr. Eric M. Rivera, chairman of the Department of Endodontics.

The 2008 AADR/ADEA Academic Dental Careers Fellowship Program fellows were formally announced at a reception held as a part of the ADEA Annual Session and Exhibition in Dallas.

Cherri Kading, a first-year student in the master of science degree program in dental hygiene education, has been awarded the ADEA/Sigma Phi Alpha Linda DeVore Scholarship and the ADEA/Crest Oral-B Scholarship for Dental Hygiene Students Pursuing Academic Careers. The ADEA/Sigma Phi Alpha Linda DeVore Scholarship awards a $1,000 scholarship to an individual pursuing allied dental education study at the baccalaureate, master’s or doctoral degree level. The ADEA/Crest Oral-B Scholarship for Dental Hygiene Students Pursuing Academic Careers grants two $2,000 scholarships to dental hygiene students who are pursuing education beyond an associate’s degree and who have an interest in an academic career. Kading received her honors at the 2008 ADEA Annual Session and Exhibition in Dallas.
Shannitta Bridgers, DDS Class of 2008, received an ADEA/Johnson & Johnson Products Preventive Dentistry Scholarship. Twelve predoctoral dental students nationwide received the $2,500 award, applied to tuition and fees for predoctoral dental study. The scholarships' purpose is to support predoctoral dental students who have demonstrated academic excellence in preventive dentistry. The awards were announced at the 2008 ADEA Annual Session and Exhibition in Dallas.

Avni Patel and Nurica Good, both third-year dental students, were recently selected as 2008-09 North Carolina Albert Schweitzer Fellows. Honoring the legacy of Dr. Albert Schweitzer, the fellows devote a year to service initiatives benefiting local communities that lack access to adequate health services. Patel and Good will develop and implement an oral health education program for nursing home residents, family members and staff at Britthaven of Chapel Hill.

Eight dental and medical students from UNC and Duke University spent a month in fall 2007 helping area children become more active and make healthier food choices. “Passport to Health,” involving third-, fourth- and fifth-graders at Durham’s Lakewood Elementary School, featured interactive lessons focused on nutrition, exercise and oral health. The program, a part of the North Carolina Schweitzer Fellows Program, concluded Dec. 7.

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Matthew Olmsted received third-place honors in the fall 2007 American Dental Association/Dentsply Student Clinician Research Program competition.

The judged competition — held during the ADA Annual Session in San Francisco in fall 2007 and during Olmsted’s fourth year as a dental student — featured student representatives from 52 dental schools nationwide. Each participating student clinician had previously been selected through his or her individual school’s poster presentation competition.

Olmsted’s research project, in the category of clinical research/public health, was titled “Human Bite Force Production in Amelogenesis Imperfecta Patients and Their Family Members.” Amelogenesis imperfecta (AI) is a tooth disorder causing abnormalities in the development of enamel. In his research, Olmsted studied the relationship between anterior open bite, affecting an estimated third of AI patients, and bite force production. Olmsted’s study focused on evaluating bite force before and following treatment of AI teeth. His study featured 16 human subjects — 10 were affected by AI and six were not affected — and measured sub-maximal bite force at the incisors, right and left first premolars and right and left first molars.

His study results indicated bite force to be the most pronounced at the first molars, decreasing anteriorly along the dental arch. “AI patients did generate lower bite forces than their non-affected counterparts,” Olmsted wrote in his research abstract. “Bite force of AI patients did increase following restorative treatment.”

Dr. J. Timothy Wright, Dr. James W. Bawden distinguished professor of pediatric dentistry and chairman of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, and Dr. Sylvia Frazier-Bowers, assistant professor of orthodontics, were Olmsted’s research advisers.

As honored as Olmsted was to receive his award, he was even more honored that he now shares a research distinction with his father, Dr. John Olmsted (MS ENDO ’77), who won first place in the clinical research/public health category of the ADA/Dentsply competition in 1974. He now has a private practice with offices in Greensboro, High Point and Asheboro.

The Olmsteds are the first father-son award recipients in the competition’s history.

“I am honored to represent the UNC School of Dentistry by earning third place at the 2007 ADA/Dentsply Student Research Program,” said the younger Olmsted. “This honor has been made even more meaningful by becoming the first father-son winners in the program’s history.”
UNC Students Participated in State’s Largest Free Dental Clinic

UNC dental students traveled to Rocky Mount for two days in March to take part in what is believed to have been the state’s largest free dental clinic ever staged for underserved patients.

The North Carolina Dental Society organized the effort — called “Dental Access Days,” or DAD — and organizers report that 879 patients were seen and treated during the two-day event. The total number of North Carolina Dental Society-related volunteers was 251, and volunteers from Rocky Mount numbered 200.

“DAD is an offshoot of other free clinics in the state called ‘Missions of Mercy,’ which have been held for several years now,” said Dr. Alec Parker, the dental society’s executive director and a retired Asheville dentist, before the event.

UNC undergraduates also were among the state’s pre-dental students who participated in the clinic. They assisted in event set-up and oral hygiene education, among other activities.

An estimated 20-plus UNC dental students provided a range of dental services, depending on their level of dental education; these services included oral hygiene education, dental cleanings, dental fillings and extractions. For this clinic, the School of Dentistry administration granted clinic attendance credit for students who would normally be in the School’s clinic for the first day of the event.

The two-day Rocky Mount event is the first of what is hoped to be several such dental society-sponsored clinics statewide each year, organizers said.

“The involvement of our DDS students underscores the importance of what it means to be a professional,” said Dr. John N. Williams, dean of the School of Dentistry. “By working side-by-side with other volunteers, our students will gain important insight into their own professional identity of how, as dentists, they might give back to society.”

Both Williams and Dr. Douglas Solow, associate dean for clinical affairs, served as volunteers for the Friday event. Dr. Al Wilder, a professor in the Department of Operative Dentistry, also provided patient care.

The Rocky Mount dental clinic was held in a 35,000-square-foot vacant supermarket building in Englewood Square Shopping Center. Adult patients were seen from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on both days on a first-come, first-served basis. Patients were at least 18 years of age and with income levels not more than 200 percent of the national poverty level annually.

“I feel that the support from the North Carolina Dental Society, the N.C. MOM [Missions of Mercy] program and the School of Dentistry administration for student volunteers for the DAD clinic is such an important step toward combating the dental access-to-care issues in our state,” said Savannah Gelesko, a second-year dental student and UNC School of Dentistry project manager for the event. “The more students who are exposed to these disparities while in school, the more likely they will be to work toward helping people who can’t afford dental treatment on their own after they graduate.”
Second-year dental student Tiffany Williams might readily agree that it would take a lot of $5 hotdog lunches to get to Malawi.

Yet during one week in January, Williams and the other 2008 Malawi Project team members — Roger Gause, Alexis Corbitt and Oscar Mvula — sponsored two such events and sold an estimated 200-plus lunches to a supportive UNC School of Dentistry community through this fund-raising effort.

Ask Williams about it and she will say — with her characteristic smile and laugh — that they went grocery shopping the day before, then got to the School between 7 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. that day to put the hotdogs in the slow cookers and get to class by 8 a.m., then staffed the event for a few hours. She will add: “We all work hard. It’s a big effort on all of our parts.”

Williams is quick to smile about the controlled chaos of a weekday lunch fund-raiser but just as quick to reflect on the larger meaning of these efforts. For example, Malawi: “What we see in textbooks here is what they [previous Malawi Project team members] saw in Malawi. We take for granted that everything is provided for us. Over there, people are lacking so much.”

Malawi is important to Williams, representing her first trip to Africa, a chance to help others and a life-changing experience. Yet this is just one of the outreach efforts that Williams has helped lead, including:

• Serving as one of nine board members for ENNEAD, the School’s student-led volunteer organization;
• Working to re-launch the American Dental Education Association student chapter in the School of Dentistry, with officer recruitment and membership as key goals;
• Coordinating, in the fall of 2007, the student-led National

THE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY MALAWI PROJECT

The UNC School of Dentistry’s Malawi Project provides an experience for four dental students to spend nearly a month providing much-needed dental care and oral health education in Malawi. This educational and service-oriented experience has been a long-standing success, and the people of Lilongwe, Malawi, look forward to the visit each summer.

Another program goal is for students to learn while delivering important services and to return better prepared to meet unmet health needs in their own communities.

To contribute to the Malawi Project, please make your tax-deductible payment out to the Dental Foundation of North Carolina and designate “Malawi Project” on the “For” line of the check. Mail your check to:

Dental Foundation of NC, Inc.
UNC School of Dentistry
Campus Box 7451
Chapel Hill, NC 27599

To make a credit card gift, please visit the Dental Foundation’s Web site: www.dent.unc.edu/foundation/, or call Kelly Almond or Courtney Mitchell at (919) 966-4563.
Primary Care Week essay contest for a week in which all UNC health affairs schools promoted health policy;

- Creating, with fellow student Charmaine Porter-O’Reilly, the REACH (Responding Educating and Assessing Children’s Health) program at Camp Can Do, a day treatment camp in Durham; and
- Creating a trivia/scavenger hunt for African-American History Month. (One two-part question: This man was the first African-American dentist, receiving his DMD from Harvard School of Dental Medicine in 1869. George Franklin Grant became the second African American to graduate from Harvard School of Dental Medicine, but he also achieved this ‘first.’ What was it? Answers: Dr. Robert T anner Freeman and first African-American professor at Harvard.)

Williams traces her commitment to outreach to her years as a student at Richmond Community High School in Richmond, Va. There, she volunteered regularly, so when she got to Spelman College, she became a student youth coordinator for the Youth Enrichment Program in Atlanta. She mentored many students in that role, and other people have mentored her — particularly in her choice of career. Williams’ aunt, Eveleigh Williams-Goodall is a podiatrist, and Williams noticed her satisfaction in interacting with patients. Williams had thought about a career in medicine but then shadowed a dentist, who had a patient who was missing her teeth. That patient made an enduring impression on Williams: “She was getting her dentures fixed, and she was so upset because she was walking around with no teeth. Afterward, she was so grateful. She couldn’t thank the dentist enough for restoring her smile. From that moment on, dentistry was key for me.”

The determination to make a difference in others’ lives came before that interaction with a patient, before her leadership as a Spelman undergraduate, even before the volunteerism opportunities she embraced as a high school student. It began with two people and what they gave her: her parents, Tecumseh Williams Jr. and Mrs. Terry G. Williams.

“My parents have done the best they could to provide for me. They worked hard to give me what I needed, and give my brother and sister what they needed. Seeing someone else who doesn’t have parents to do that for them, that wears on my heart. I can’t walk past a need without trying to fulfill that need.”
The DDS Class of 2011 boasts several students who have a parent who also graduated from the School of Dentistry. Seven members of the class are following in the footsteps of a parent as they pursue their DDS degree from UNC.

**All in the Family**

- Stephen Edgerton, DDS '80
- Taylor Edgerton
- Todd Engstrom, DDS '74
- Ryan Engstrom
- Sam Evans, DDS '84
- Anna Evans
- Robert Crouch, DDS '79
- Abby Crouch
- David Modlin, DDS '75
- Michael Modlin
UNC Chancellor James Moeser announced in January that the Carolina First Campaign raised $2.38 billion to finish as the fifth-largest completed campaign in U.S. higher education and the largest completed fund-raising drive at a university in the South. The School of Dentistry raised $41.7 million during the campaign, surpassing its $30 million goal by 39 percent.

“Carolina First truly transformed this University,” Moeser said. “Every dollar has made us a stronger institution, and every donor has our deepest gratitude.”

“The campaign’s success attests to the tremendous leadership of our volunteers and the hard work of so many of our faculty and staff. Thanks to them and our donors, Carolina First has provided us with a margin of excellence that will enable us to be of even greater service to our students, as well as citizens here in North Carolina, across the nation and around the globe.”

Carolina First, which supported UNC’s vision to be the nation’s leading public university, began July 1, 1999, and ended Dec. 31, 2007. Its public launch came in October 2002 with a $1.8 billion goal. That mark was raised to $2 billion in October 2005. Not only did Carolina surpass its overall goal, but each professional school and unit exceeded individual goals as well. The campaign also boasted yearly records for commitments ($363.6 million), which include pledges, and gifts ($250.8 million), both set in fiscal year 2007. The final $2.38 billion raised included $419.7 million for faculty, including 208 new endowed professorships; $345.3 million for students, including 577 new scholarships and 196 new fellowships; $579.4 million for research; $664.8 million for strategic initiatives; and $185 million for facilities.

“What is the Dental Foundation of North Carolina?
Chartered in 1950 by the UNC School of Dentistry’s founders, the Dental Foundation of North Carolina is the School’s non-profit foundation. It raises funds from alumni, friends, corporations and foundations to provide exclusive support for students, faculty, and programs at the UNC School of Dentistry. Assets in the Dental Foundation are overseen by its Board of Directors, most of whom are UNC School of Dentistry alumni. All contributions to the Dental Foundation of North Carolina are tax deductible and are, in short, contributions to the UNC School of Dentistry.
On Oct. 12, 2007, some of the UNC School of Dentistry’s most loyal donors, alumni and friends dressed to the nines and gathered at the George Watts Hill Alumni Center with a dual mission — to celebrate the School’s annual donors of $1,000 or more at the Dean’s Club Ball and the hugely successful Carolina First Campaign, which was closing on Dec. 31. Jim Harrell Sr., DDS, chairman of the School’s campaign, followed Dental Foundation president Sharon Morgan, DDS ’81, in addressing the packed room. Following are his remarks:

“… I thank all of you for letting me stand up here in front of you once again to talk about our great School of Dentistry.

“Sharon mentioned that I’d been involved in a few fund-raising campaigns for the School over the years and that’s true. Now, I know some people say they don’t like asking for money, and the truth is, neither do I if I’m asking for a cause I don’t believe in. But I’ve never minded for a single minute asking for money for this fine School of Dentistry and I’ll tell you why.

“When I was coming through school, there was no school of dentistry in North Carolina for aspiring dentists to attend. You can’t imagine how much excitement there was in our profession when UNC finally opened its doors to dental students — to know that our state’s dentists were going to be trained within our own borders. We knew this school would mean great things for the people in this state — that our health would improve, and it did.

“Then over time — a really short period of time, when you think about it — UNC didn’t just
fill a need for the state, it became a national leader. We became the School people looked to for how to conduct dental education and dental research, and how to have a dental faculty practice, and how to offer continuing education to dentists already serving in their communities.

“So that added pride to our gratitude. Gratitude to have a school of dentistry, and pride to have one of the best. And let me tell you, when you’re grateful for and proud of an institution for what it’s done for you and for the people in your state, it’s an easy thing to ask for money for.

“So it’s been my profound privilege to chair the Carolina First Campaign. And let me say one other thing. It’s also easy to ask for money for a School when you know so many people are willing to support it. And support it, you have.

“We’re celebrating the closing of the Carolina First Campaign tonight — a campaign we officially kicked off in this room on an evening in February nearly five years ago. That night, we had before us a goal to raise $30 million for the School of Dentistry by the end of 2007. Tonight, I’m pleased to announce that we reached that goal. In 2004.

“In the three years since we reached that goal, we have raised an additional $10 million for good measure, bringing our combined total to nearly $41 million. We exceeded our goal by 39 percent.

Martha Zaytoun; Morris Griffin, DDS ’68; and Kathy Griffin

“But perhaps more impressive than this is the number of people who contributed to this goal. As of this week, 4,722 alumni, friends, students, patients, dental practices, foundations and corporations have contributed to the Carolina First Campaign on behalf of the School of Dentistry. It has been the collective effort of a lot of people who have the best interests of this school of dentistry at heart. That collective effort has increased the ability of the Dental Foundation to support the school by more than $2 million each year. And that amount will only grow as the endowments this campaign has helped create continue to grow. “So, we’re here tonight to celebrate these significant achievements, and I’m here to thank you all for your part in making this School great and keeping Carolina on top. We could not have done any of this without all of you, and you have reason to be proud. Thank you most sincerely.”
Dr. Stan Allen

Stan Allen, DDS, has been awarded the Dental Alumni Association’s Honorary Lifetime Member Award for demonstrating a great love and enthusiasm for the profession of dentistry in North Carolina.

Allen received his dental degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C., in 1974 before completing a two-year general dental practice residency certificate in 1976. Stan Hardesty, DDS ’93, says of his friend, “Stan is one of those people whom you are glad you know and are glad that your paths in life crossed, because you are the better for having known him. His altruism and his modesty make me proud that my alma mater, the University of North Carolina, will bestow an honorary alumni award upon him.” Adds Brad Morgan, DDS ’81, “Whether it has been his service to the ADA, the N.C. Dental Society (NCDS), the Old North State Dental Society, the N.C. State Board of Dental Examiners, the American Association of Dental Examiners, the Southern Conference of Deans and Dental Examiners, the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies or the Sedation Advisory Panel of the Board of Dental Examiners, Stan has represented our state and our profession in an exemplary fashion, bringing honor and respect to each and every organization with which he has had involvement.”

Dr. Ralph Leonard

Ralph Leonard, DDS ’85, has been awarded the Dental Alumni Association’s Distinguished Service Award for his dedicated service to the School.

Ken May, DDS ’73, the School’s vice dean, says, “In addition to his faculty duties, Dr. Leonard has served as the director of the Dental Faculty Practice since 1998. Under his leadership, the DFP has experienced a steady annual growth and continues to be the premier model for dental faculty practices throughout the United States. He is an active participant in the practice and has been instrumental in getting the faculty and staff to gain acceptance of the electronic patient record and digital imaging. Ralph teaches students in our DDS, graduate and allied dental programs and is well-respected by all of them. He continues to conduct research in the areas of tooth whitening and dental unit waterline safety. He lectures extensively for continuing dental education and AHEC on OSHA topics. Ralph is a team player and has definitely demonstrated an institutional commitment throughout his career.”

Leonard was born and raised in Chatham County. He earned his undergraduate and master’s degrees at Appalachian State University before receiving his DDS at UNC in 1985. Since graduation he has served the School in numerous teaching capacities and in 1998 became director of the Dental Faculty Practice. Known as a beloved clinician and leader, Leonard is the recipient of many awards, certificates and honors from organizations such as the UNC Dental Assisting Program, the Student ADA and the 3rd District Dental Society.
Dr. Harald Heymann

The John C. Brauer Award has been presented to Harald Heymann, DDS '78, for his lifetime commitment to dentistry in North Carolina and a relationship with the UNC School of Dentistry that touches four different decades.

In the past 30 years, Heymann has served the Department of Operative Dentistry in all levels of instruction and administration and was the department's chair from 1990 to 2000 when he was named graduate program director. He is a three-time recipient of the School’s Faculty Teaching Award and has been a part of the Dental Faculty Practice since graduation from the School in 1978. His extraordinary reach is felt locally and nationally. He is a member of the Academy of Operative Dentistry and the International Association of Dental Research and is past president and a fellow of the American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry. He is also a fellow in the International College of Dentists, the American College of Dentists and the Academy of Dental Materials. The author of more than 175 scientific publications, he has also delivered more than 900 lectures on various aspects of esthetic dentistry worldwide and was a guest lecturer at the L.D. Pankey Institute.

Dr. Gavin G. Harrell

Gavin G. Harrell, DDS '78, was recognized with the Distinguished Alumnus Award. His service to the profession, his community, his church and his fellow man is marked by extraordinary accomplishments along the way.

Harrell is a member of the Pierre Fauchard Academy, and is a fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry, the Academy of Dentistry International and the American College of Dentists. He served as president of the Blue Ridge Dental Society, the Second District Dental Society and the N.C. Academy of General Dentistry. He was vice president of the N.C. Dental Society in 1998. He has served on the NCDS Board of Trustees since 2000, was chairman of the board in 2004 and currently serves as the secretary-treasurer of the NCDS.

For his community, he has served two terms as the president of the Tri-County United Way and as chairman of the board twice. During his seven years on the Surry County Board of Health, he chaired the board for six years. During his tenure, the health department moved into a new state-of-the-art facility. He is a deacon in the Baptist Church and serves on dental missions every year.

The Dental Foundation of North Carolina hosted its annual Scholarships and Fellowships Dinner on Nov. 8, 2007, to celebrate the donors and recipients of the Foundation’s endowed scholarships and fellowships. Those endowments permitted the Foundation to award more than $300,000 to scholarship and fellowship funding to dental hygiene, DDS and post-DDS students this year. Below are the scholarship and fellowship recipients for the 2007-2008 academic year.

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<tr>
<th>Scholarship/Memorial Scholarship</th>
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<tr>
<td>Carolina First Campaign Scholarship</td>
<td>Zachary Harrison, Class of 2009</td>
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<td>Claude Adams Jr. Scholarship</td>
<td>Lauren Kennedy, Class of 2011; Francis Symmes, Class of 2011; Jenna Bridger, Class of 2010; Bethany Harris, Class of 2010</td>
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<td>Dr. Robert Russell Clark Memorial Scholarship</td>
<td>Katherine Donovan, Class of 2011; Sindhura Citineni, Class of 2010; Tanya Ashe, Class of 2009; Kathryn Hawn, Class of 2009; James Fetner, Class of 2008</td>
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<td>Delta Dental Plan of North Carolina Scholarship</td>
<td>Heather Lee, Class of 2011</td>
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<td>Dental Friends Scholarship</td>
<td>Katherine Sloan, Class of 2011</td>
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<td>Miguel and Carolina Hernandez Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<td>Dr. Edmund Baxter Hopkins Memorial Scholarship</td>
<td>Jennifer Johnson, Class of 2008</td>
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<td>Linda Paschal Jarvis Scholarship</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
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<td>Kendrick, Kendrick &amp; Petersen Scholarship</td>
<td>Patrick Galloway, 2011</td>
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<td>Lobolloy Dental Study Club</td>
<td>Brett Alvey, Class of 2010</td>
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<td>Keith T. Macdonald and Family Scholarship</td>
<td>Andrea Swan-Herdrich, Class of 2011</td>
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<td>Kenneth N. and Georgia S. May Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morgan Family Scholarship</td>
<td>Brian Karriker, Class of 2010; Jessica Marshall, Class of 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. H.V. Murray, Jr. Memorial Scholarship</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert W. and Maude B. Outland Scholarship</td>
<td>Patrick Miller, Class of 2011; Jennifer Winchester, Class of 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eldon and Zetta Parks Scholarship</td>
<td>Richard Uhlir, Class of 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raynor/Ferguson Scholarship</td>
<td>Savannah Gelesko, Class of 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raynor/Garcia Scholarship</td>
<td>Eric Nicholson, Class of 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raynor/Holland Scholarship</td>
<td>Kimberly Hammersmith, Class of 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raynor/Miska Scholarship</td>
<td>Tate Jackson, Class of 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. and Mrs. J. Ronald Sain Scholarship</td>
<td>Laura Weekes, Class of 2009</td>
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</tbody>
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Jack and Grace Silvers Scholarship
Tate Jackson, Class of 2010
Garrett Spruill, Class of 2008
Shamik Vakil, Class of 2008

Clarence Lee Sockwell Scholarship
Maggie Wright, Class of 2011

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. “Dink” Styers Scholarship
Bryan Lockhart, Class of 2010

E. Bud Tarrson Family Scholarship
Brandon Burke, Class of 2008

Lois E. Taylor Scholarship
Monica Meng, Class of 2009

Dr. William “Bill” Tulloch Memorial Scholarship
Justin Roberts, Class of 2011

UNC Dental Alumni Association Scholarship
To be determined

United Concordia Companies, Inc. Scholarship
Jimani Mwendo, Class of 2009

Dr. Michael A. “Mickey” Webb Scholarship
Graham Farless, Class of 2008

James Gurney and Ruth Williams Scholarship
Ryan Londry, Class of 2011

Dental Foundation of North Carolina Fellowships
Awarded 2007–2008

Advanced Education Fellowships
Dr. Julie Clark
Dr. Tung Nguyen

Elsie and Baxter Sapp Fellowships
Dr. Julie Molina
Dr. Deepali Jere

Ann and G. Randolph Babcock Fellowship
Dr. John Murdoch
Dr. Ming-Yi Chou
Dr. Sean Murdoch
Dr. Sorin Uram-Tuculescu
Dr. Ibrahim Duqum
Dr. Carolina Vera Resendiz
Dr. Vishnu Raj
Dr. Georgia Macedo
Dr. Ghadeer Thalji
Dr. Elizabeth Andrews

Miriam Easterling Baker Fellowship
(Orthodontics)
To be determined

Andrew M. Brooks Fellowship
(Orthodontics)
Dr. Jeff Berndt
Dr. Gavin Heymann
Dr. Scott Tucker
Dr. Gary Tucker

Mary Jean Breeland Fellowship
(Pediatrics)
Dr. Antonio Braithwaite
Dr. Rhonda Kearney
Dr. Julie Molina

Theodore Oldenburg Fellowship (Pediatrics)
Dr. Ray Tseng
Dr. Antonio Braithwaite
Dr. Jonelle Grant
Dr. Liz Prada

Jack Menius Fellowship (Pediatrics)
Dr. Stephanie Blumenshine
Dr. Elizabeth Kelly
Dr. Jossein Shahangian
Dr. Kimon Divaris

James B. Congleton III Fellowship (Pediatrics)
Dr. Stephanie Blumenshine
Dr. Elizabeth Kelly
Dr. Jossein Shahangian
Dr. Kimon Divaris

Sandy C. Marks Fellowship (Pediatrics)
Dr. Antonio Braithwaite
Dr. Jonelle Grant
Dr. Liz Prada

Jacob Freedland Scholarship
(Endodontics)
Dr. Peter Tawil
Dr. Derek Duggan

Freedland Advanced Dental Education Fellowships
Dr. Anna Kirakozova
Dr. Waleerate Sukarawan
Dr. Phimon Atsawasuwan
Dr. Song Hung
Dr. Dan Grauer
Scholarship Established to Honor Memory of Markie Wicker Thomas, DH ’73

By Kelly Almond ’94

It was a Wednesday that should have been routine—a day like so many others over the course of 34 years of working together. It should have started with coffee and the chatter of morning greetings, the daily team meeting, the reading of a devotional and the run-through of the day’s patients. Tragically, at 7 a.m. on Nov. 7, 2007, an automobile accident forever changed the morning routine for the dentists and staff of Kuhn and Associates in Aberdeen, N.C., by taking the life of their beloved team member, Markie Wicker Thomas, DH ’73.

Thomas went to work for David Kuhn, DDS, in July 1973 after something of an ironic start. Thomas, known for being the soul of reliability, had failed to show up for her scheduled interview with Kuhn. When Kuhn called to make sure everything was all right, he found Thomas mowing her parents’ lawn. She had forgotten their meeting.

Despite the somewhat inauspicious start, the young dentist and hygienist turned out to be a perfect team. One that lasted more than three decades.

“We grew up together,” explains Kuhn. “Markie came to work for me shortly after receiving her degree. She became our family and her family became our family. We experienced most of our lives working side by side and we watched each other’s children grow up.”

For Kuhn, those children include his practice associates, Ritt Kuhn, DDS, and Mandy Kuhn Grimshaw, DDS ’05, both of whom share their father’s profound sense of loss. “We have never known life without Markie,” shares Grimshaw. “She was a dear friend to all of us and was a wonderful mentor to me.”

Indeed, Thomas possessed impeccable skills as a hygienist and served as mentor to many of her co-workers, making them better by her example. She had a knack for nursing patients with the most serious periodontal cases back to good health. “By her kindness and thoroughness, she would make these patients disciples of good hygiene. It was really incredible,” says Grimshaw.

One can imagine, then, that her loss is felt by those patients, as well. “Our patients still cry over the void she has left,” remarks David Kuhn.

It is, in part, because of this void that the Kuhn family decided to honor Thomas’ memory in a tangible way. Wanting to establish a scholarship for aspiring dental hygienists, the Kuhns sought input from Markie’s beloved husband, Jimmie, and daughters, Leigh and Katie, DH ’06, on where the scholarship should go—a local program or UNC?

Katie, who is currently working towards her master’s degree in dental hygiene at UNC, was the first to answer: Her mother would want the scholarship at UNC, the alma mater she loved and loved to cheer for.

Shortly thereafter, the Markie Wicker Thomas, DH ’73, Memorial Scholarship in Dental Hygiene was established in the Dental Foundation of North Carolina with substantial gifts from Drs. Kuhn, Kuhn and Grimshaw. More than 120 friends and patients of Thomas joined them in contributing, bringing the fund to more than $28,000, which will allow the first scholarship to be awarded this fall.

Ultimately, the Kuhn-Grimshaw family plan to grow the fund to $150,000, allowing for a full ride for an exceptional dental hygiene student. “We would like to create more Markies in the world,” says Grimshaw, “hygienists who are well-rounded, with rich, full lives and a dedication to the care of their patients.”

To contribute to the Markie Wicker Thomas, DH ’73, Memorial Scholarship in Dental Hygiene, please make your tax-deductible payment out to the Dental Foundation of North Carolina and designate “Markie Wicker Thomas Scholarship” on the “For” line of the check.

Please mail your check to:
Dental Foundation of NC, Inc.
UNC School of Dentistry
Campus Box 7451
Chapel Hill, NC 27599
WHY I GIVE

Michael, DDS, MS ’02, and Diane Kretchmer
COPPE PLEDGES $50,000 TO NAME SEMINAR ROOM IN PERIODONTOLOGY

By Kelly Almond ’94

It’s time to give back,” says Michael Kretchmer, DDS, MS ’02, matter-of-factly. “It’s time.” It is his characteristically uncluttered explanation for why he and his wife, Diane, recently chose to pledge $50,000 to name a seminar room in the newly remodeled Department of Periodontology.

For many of the Kretchmers’ peers, now might seem the least likely time to give back, much less to give back at so princely a sum. After all, Michael and Diane are young — in their early thirties — and have two small daughters. Michael, a graduate of the periodontology program at UNC, opened his own practice in Raleigh a mere five years ago.

For most young alumni, this time of life is the most financially challenging. Debts acquired during school must be paid off, practices are becoming established, homes are purchased and families are started. While many do what they can to support the causes they care most about, significant philanthropy must wait its turn.

The Kretchmers aren’t waiting. “We are very appreciative of the training I received at UNC and the relationships we have built with the people here,” says Michael. Their gift, structured to be paid in installments over five years, is the couple’s way of showing their appreciation.

The Kretchmers came to North Carolina by way of New York. The pair first met as undergraduate students at Binghamton University in upstate New York. Michael went on to receive his doctor of dental surgery degree from the University of Buffalo before pursuing his postdoctoral degree at UNC.

“I apply many of the principles I learned at UNC in my practice. Coming to the UNC perio program was like being welcomed into a family. Not just for me, but for Diane, as well,” says Michael. “I want my patients to feel that same kind of welcome when they come to my practice.”

The couple has had many conversations, some even in the middle of the night, about how to solve a patient’s particular problem, shares Diane, who left her career in marketing to assist Michael in his practice in 2003. “He was really meant to be a periodontist,” she adds.

“I find this profession very rewarding,” says Michael. “The work is interesting, and it is good to be able to help people.”

Through their gift, the Kretchmers are also helping people at the School. The seminar room that will bear their name is a favorite spot for students who use it between classes and seeing patients. They check e-mail, work out their clinic schedules or grab a few minutes of rest there. “We love this room,” says one student. “It’s our favorite hide-out.”

Diane and Michael Kretchmer, DDS, MS ’02, in the seminar room that will bear their name.
Third-year DDS students Ashley Blacktree, Zach Harrison, Mit Patel, Veeral Saraiya and Ashley Weekes were selected to receive the 2007–2008 Dental Alumni Association scholarships. The five students received a total of $12,000 in aid from the association.

Dental Alumni Association scholarships are awarded annually based on a combination of academic merit, financial need, a written application and an interview with the Dental Alumni Association’s Scholarship Selection Committee.

This year’s selection committee was made up of Dr. John Buchanan, Dr. Bryan Cobb, Dr. Phyllis Cook, Dr. Ben Smith and Dr. Lyn Smith.

Dental Hygiene Alumni Honor Former Directors at Event

Close to 100 UNC dental hygiene alumni, faculty, staff and current students attended an Oct. 13, 2007, UNC Dental Hygiene Alumni Association breakfast.

The event honored two former program directors: Eleanor A. Forbes, who was director from 1969 to 1980; and Kathleen E. Longbrake (formerly Morr), who was director from 1980 to 1985.

Both served as faculty members for many years.

During their tenure as directors, Forbes and Longbrake shaped the curriculum to address professional and community issues through specialty tracks, making the UNC Dental Hygiene Program one of the first to use this approach, said Dr. Sally Mauriello, director of the Dental Hygiene Programs.

“Both have also influenced the lives of many individuals by imparting their strong ethical values, providing unwavering support and inspiring each person to strive to reach their maximum potential,” Mauriello said.

Both Forbes and Longbrake received a standing ovation as portraits of them were unveiled at the event.
Your news is very important to us—and to your fellow classmates, colleagues and friends. Please let us know what is new with you by sending an e-mail to alumni@dentistry.unc.edu or sending a note in the enclosed envelope. We’ll be delighted to include your news in the next issue of the *North Carolina Dental Review*.

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**1968**

**Frank P. Stout**, DDS, a retired orthodontist and owner of Stout Properties Inc. (a real estate, hospitality and management company), of Fayetteville, received the 2007 Business Person of the Year Award. The honor was presented at the Methodist University Center for Entrepreneurship’s 34th Annual Economic Outlook Symposium. The award recognizes an individual who has contributed to the success of a company and the well-being of a community. Stout also received the March of Dimes’ 2007 Real Estate Visionary Award, which recognizes an individual in the real estate industry who has demonstrated service, leadership, philanthropy, vision and contribution to the community's quality of life.

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**1975**

**Hal Smith**, DDS, sold his Chapel Hill practice in 2007 and has started a new career; he has become qualified and registered as a financial adviser. He started working for Merrill Lynch in October. “I am going to continue to be involved in organized dentistry by volunteering my time wherever I may be of help,” he writes.

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H. John Tempest, a portrait artist and art history graduate of UNC, has created a portrait of Roger L. Gause, DDS ’77, one of the first African-American graduates of the UNC School of Dentistry. Gause, who commissioned the work, has a dental practice in Wilmington, N.C. Tempest has studied under two prominent American portrait artists: Nelson Shanks and John Howard Sanden.
1981

Patricia London, DDS, of Concord was honored by the Concord Business and Professional Women’s Association as Employer of the Year for 2007. This year’s theme was “women helping women.”

1983

G. Bennett Smith, DDS, and Lynette Laylon Smith, DDS, were awarded Fellowship in the American College of Dentists in September 2007. Dr. Ben Smith is currently president of the UNC Dental Alumni Association, a member of the Board of Trustees of the N.C. Dental Society and a regent of the Academy of Dentistry International. Dr. Lyn Smith is a past president of the N.C. Academy of General Dentistry and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the UNC Dental Alumni Association. They have practiced general dentistry in Mount Airy for 17 years.

1988

Steven Andreaus, DDS, bicycled from Murphy to Manteo, N.C., in October 2007 to raise awareness of oral cancer. His six-day journey covered nearly 800 miles and took him through Asheville, Winston-Salem, High Point, Chapel Hill, Raleigh, Wilson, Washington and numerous other towns and cities statewide. Among the many people he met was Butch Davis, cancer survivor and UNC’s head football coach. “Oral cancer is a very curable disease if caught early,” Andreaus said before his trek. “It’s important, especially for adults over 40, to have a cancer screening as part of an annual dental checkup.”

1986

Mark Meyer, DDS, of Winston-Salem is president-elect of the Southeastern Society of Pediatric Dentistry and will be installed as president at the organization’s annual meeting Labor Day weekend in Orlando.

2004

Eric N. Kerr, DDS, was named the American Academy of Periodontology Foundation’s 2007 Dr. and Mrs. Gerald M. Kramer Scholar Award for Excellence. The award was established to honor the outstanding contributions of Dr. Gerald Kramer and his wife, Sylvia, to the periodontal profession. Students in their third year of an accredited periodontal program are eligible to be nominated for the $10,000 award; periodontal postgraduate program directors make the nominations. Kerr, who currently practices in Charlotte, received his certificate in periodontology and master of science degree in biomedical sciences from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in 2007.

2005

Marsha A. Black, DA ’98, BSDH ’03, MSDH ’05, took a position as assistant professor within the University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Dentistry’s Division of Dental Hygiene in July. She also was published in the fall 2007 Journal of Dental Hygiene on her thesis research titled “Effect of Power Toothbrushing on Simulated Wear of Dental Cement Margins.”

Mandy Kuhn Grimshaw, DDS, has furthered her skills in aesthetic dentistry by completing advanced training that included a patient’s extensive smile makeover. Conducted in two stages, the 48-hour course was held at the Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies, one of the nation’s most prestigious training facilities in advanced dentistry.
**DENTAL OPPS**

**Online Professional Posting Service**

Visit [www.dent.unc.edu/alumni/opps](http://www.dent.unc.edu/alumni/opps) to use this helpful service to members of the UNC Dental Alumni Association. As a DAA member you can list the sale of your practice, available office space for lease, or post an ad for an associate or staff member. This service is **free** for members of the UNC Dental Alumni Association.

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**Send Us Your News!**

Share your news with classmates and friends through “Alumni Notes.”

What to send? We’d love to hear about:

- Changes in Your Practice
- Family Events
- Leadership in Dentistry
- Community Leadership
- Travels and Hobbies

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**Join the UNC Dental Alumni Association Today.**

Your membership dues make a difference! DAA membership supports important alumni activities including:

- Class Reunions
- Online Professional Posting Services (Dental OPPS)
- Associates Day
- The North Carolina Dental Review
- The Online Alumni Directory
- Annual Meeting and Breakfast at the Beach
- The annual DDS Alumni Scholarship

Register online at [www.dent.unc.edu/alumni/dds](http://www.dent.unc.edu/alumni/dds), click on Membership.

Or mail your $60 check today to the Dental Alumni Association.

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**Change of Address?**

Be sure to send us your name, address and e-mail changes.

Dental Alumni Association  
UNC School of Dentistry  
Campus Box 7451  
101-A Market Street  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599  
phone: 919-966-4563 / fax: 919-966-5870  
e-mail: alumni@dentistry.unc.edu  
web site: [www.dent.unc.edu/alumni](http://www.dent.unc.edu/alumni)

We look forward to hearing from you!
Memories Made, Shared Among Mountain Vistas

In May 2007, the UNC dental hygiene Class of 1957 held a 50th reunion at High Hampton Inn in Cashiers, N.C. Of the 14 graduates, 11 attended and are pictured. Seated, left to right, are Sandra Wallace Martin, Jo Carpenter Patishall and Jane Pierce Whitfield. Standing, left to right, are Isabel Holbrook Dunlap, Estelle McClure Scott, Sheila Angstadt Wilson, Jane Darnell Creadick, Sylvia McArthur Anderson, Carol Liner Martin, Linda Cleveland Wilson and Janet Johnson Johnson. Ann Elizabeth Mitchell and Betty Ann McGinnis Starnes were unable to attend. Angeline Papazisis is deceased.

The UNC Dental Alumni Association is ready to help you plan your next reunion. Please call (919) 966-4363 for additional information.