The Apollonian Society *News*

for Alumni & Friends of the UCLA School of Dentistry

Winter/Spring 2010

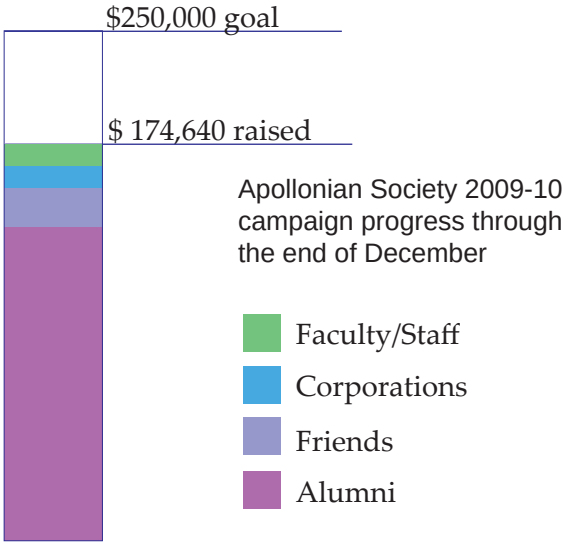
Dean's Welcome

No-Hee Park, DMD, PhD

As you explore this fourth edition of *The Apollonian Society News*, I know that you will share with me a feeling of enormous pride. While these are challenging economic times for our country, our state, and the University of California, I am profoundly impressed by the enduring support of our alumni and friends who make possible the extraordinary advancement of this institution.

Over the past several months, I have had the enjoyable opportunity to meet with numerous stakeholders during our new *Dinner with the Dean* regional event series. Alumni from Orange County to Calabasas have opened their homes to my wife, Yuly, fellow friends of the school and me to discuss the school's strategic plan, achievements and challenges, and how we are preparing for the future as we approach our 50th anniversary in 2014.

I hope to see you at a future dinner event — perhaps in the South Bay, Northern California, Palm Springs or San Diego. Please also join us on May 15 for our annual Alumni Luncheon & Dean's Reception at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel (see page 9 for more details). As always, I remain grateful for your dedication to and support of the UCLA School of Dentistry.



In This Issue...

The Apollonian Society 2-7

Message from the Co-Chairs 2

Money Matters 2

Student Perspectives 3

The Silver Circle 4

Honor Roll of Donors (July-December '09) 5

School Notes 8

In Memoriam: Ann Carver Beech

Annual Research Day

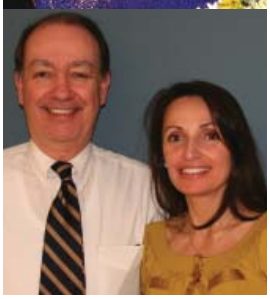
Alumni Affairs 9-12

Upcoming Events 9

New Alumni President 10

Class Notes 11

Host a Dental Student 12



The Apollonian Society News is published twice a year by the UCLA School of Dentistry. For more information on the school or the Apollonian Society, please contact us at (310) 206-6079 or visit www.dentistry.ucla.edu.

UCLA School of Dentistry
10833 LeConte Avenue
Room 53-038 CHS, Box 951668
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1668

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Message from the Co-Chairs

Ronald S. Mito, DDS '76 & Thomas J. Rauth, DDS '73

The first half of this publication focuses on the impressive impact our donors can make when they join together in support of the Apollonian Society. We extend our deepest thanks to those who have contributed to our mission of enhancing the student experience at the UCLA School of Dentistry, and hope you will reflect with pride on all that we have accomplished.

From recent graduates to those giving for a quarter-century, and from white coats to scholarship support, your generosity truly makes the difference between a good educational experience and an exceptional one. In uncertain times, the school continues to thrive and is stronger than ever before because of you and your commitment to the next generation of dental professionals.

If you have not yet become a member of the Apollonian Society, now is the perfect time to join. Let the stories on these pages inspire you, and know that your support — in any way and at any level — is essential to maintaining the school's reputation that we all enjoy. As co-chairs for the past five years, we are confident that all donations to the Apollonian Society are used wisely. After all, there is no better investment than the one made in education. The school and its faculty and students will continue to honor your generosity with their accomplishments.

Money Matters: Securing the Maximum Benefit For You and The School

Now more than ever, donors are seeking creative ways to fulfill their philanthropic goals while maximizing personal financial benefits and minimizing taxes. The UCLA School of Dentistry offers several planned giving options to help donors do just that, including those listed below. For more information, please contact the dental school's development office at (310) 206-6079 or (310) 206-0215, or email tmitchell@support.ucla.edu.

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Donors Make the Difference

Student Perspectives

The Apollonian Society was established to enhance the dental student experience and, due to the extraordinary generosity of alumni and friends, it is actively funding innovative projects, programs and improvements for the next generation. But do students know what role our donors play in their daily lives? To find out, guest editor Sophia Hsu asked one simple question: What does the Apollonian Society mean to you?

Being president of the Student Apollonian Group has allowed Chris Chau '10 to see what a difference alumni can make. "From getting a new refrigerator in the student lounge to developing a mentorship program with alumni in private practice, the Apollonian Society has been vital in helping us improve student morale and making our educational experience better," he says.

"Every dental student appreciates the Apollonian Society," explains Erica Hsiao '11 (right), citing the patient care subsidy of $150,000 per year as one key reason why. "The clinic subsidy fund helps us to provide graduation-required procedures for patients who might not otherwise be able to afford them."

Amy Yen '10 agrees: "Many of my patients struggle financially to afford the treatment that they desperately need, but with the subsidy, I am able to help them." Amy and her classmates are also among the first students to enjoy Isolite systems in each predoctoral cubicle, a recent Apollonian Society-sponsored installation that has "made a huge difference since we don't have dental assistants to help us."

Other students find increased opportunities to interact with alumni and faculty members meaningful. While representing the student body at the annual student leadership dinner hosted by Apollonian Society co-chair Dr. Thomas Rauth '73, Chris Chen '11 had an "a-ha moment." "For the first time in dental school, I noticed that the administration wanted to discuss student issues rather than to simply field suggestions."

Konita Wilks '11 (left) agrees: "I found the dinner to be a valuable opportunity for us to vocalize our concerns and our praises before an attentive group of school administrators and alumni, all who seemed genuinely dedicated to ensuring we get the most out of our dental school experience."

Of course, a good-old fashioned free meal doesn't hurt either. "Dental school is challenging enough, so social gatherings like Apollonian Society-sponsored luncheons can be great stress-relievers," says Amy. "These show us that alumni remember what it felt like to be a dental student, when something as simple as a free meal makes your day."

To contribute to the Apollonian Society, simply call (310) 206-6079 or visit us online at www.dentistry.ucla.edu.

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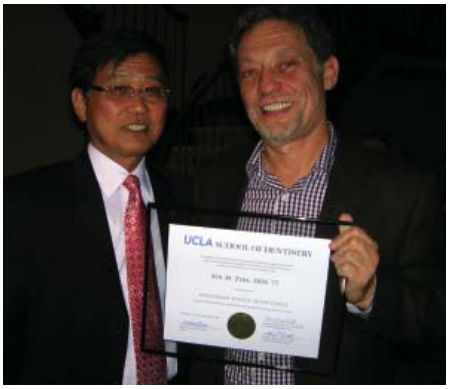
The Apollonian Society Silver Circle

The UCLA School of Dentistry has evolved to be a world leader in dental education and the Apollonian Society has grown along with it, attracting hundreds of donors and raising millions of dollars to enhance the student experience. While the 2004-05 Founding Member campaign was instrumental in helping to build a strong financial base for the newly reconstituted Apollonian Society, loyalty and prolonged engagement have also served as solid foundations of our success. For this reason, beginning in December of 2009, the school began recognizing the profound philanthropic legacy of donors who have contributed to the Apollonian Society and its predecessor, the Apollonians, for 25 years or more.

When conceptualizing the new recognition program, Dean No-Hee Park and the two co-chairs were amazed by the number of alumni, faculty, and friends who have given for ten years or more — nearly 350 people. "We were especially moved," says Dean Park, "by a special group of fifty donors who have participated in the Apollonians and the Apollonian Society for an astounding quarter of a century. This level of commitment should certainly be celebrated."



Dean Park presents a Silver Circle certificate to Dr. Sol Zira '77.

In the coming months, Dean Park and members of the development and alumni relations teams will be presenting awards to members of the Silver Circle in appreciation for their long-term dedication to dental students and the school. Dr. Joseph L. Dautremont III '82, who helped develop the Silver Circle concept, received his award in early January. "This will be proudly displayed at my office," he said. "Of the honors received throughout the years, this one holds a special place in my heart."

To learn more about the Apollonian Society Silver Circle, or to find out how many years you have been giving to the school, please contact the dentistry development office at (310) 206-6079 or send an email to tmitchell@support.ucla.edu.

Honor Roll of Apollonian Society Donors: July 1 - December 31, 2009

It is our pleasure to recognize the generosity of those who made gifts or pledges to the Apollonian Society of the UCLA School of Dentistry in the first half of the 2009-10 fiscal year.

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Continued from page 5

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Sol M. Zira, DDS '77

This honor roll lists all financial commitments to the Apollonian Society (funds 5121, 3679 and 5640) received by the UCLA School of Dentistry between July 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009. Apollonian Society Founding Members are indicated by boldface font. Donors' academic degrees (at the master's level and above) are noted as recorded in the UCLA External Affairs database. Donors' UCLA School of Dentistry degrees (DDS, MS in Oral Biology, PhD in Oral Biology, and certificates (Ct.)) are recognized by the inclusion of the specific class year in which they were conferred. We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of this report. If you note an error or omission, please notify us by writing to the Development Office, UCLA School of Dentistry, 53-038 CHS, Box 951668, Los Angeles, CA 90095, calling (310) 206-6079, or sending email to tmitchell@support.ucla.edu. A complete list of Apollonian Society donors for the entire fiscal year (through June 30, 2010) will appear in the dental school's 2009-10 annual report.

Certificate (Ct.) Abbreviations:
(A) Dental Anesthesiology
(AP) Advanced Prosthodontics
(E) Endodontics
(GP) General Practice
(M) Maxillofacial Prosthodontics
(O) Orthodontics
(OS) Oral Surgery
(PD) Pediatric Dentistry
(PO) Pedo-Orthodontics

** Recent graduates attain the status of Member with a gift of $100 or more.*

Join us! Call (310) 206-6079 or give to the Apollonian Society online at *www.dentistry.ucla.edu.*

All gifts, regardless of size, are greatly appreciated and used to enhance the dental student experience.

Thank You

School Notes

Did You Know...

Support from the State of California funds only 1/4 of School of Dentistry operations?

In fiscal year 2009-10, in-state tuition for a first-year dental student was $31,000; out-of-state tuition was $41,000?

The dental school's alumni giving rate is approximately 14%?

In Memoriam

The UCLA School of Dentistry community was deeply saddened by the news that Ann Carver Beech passed away on January 6, 2010.

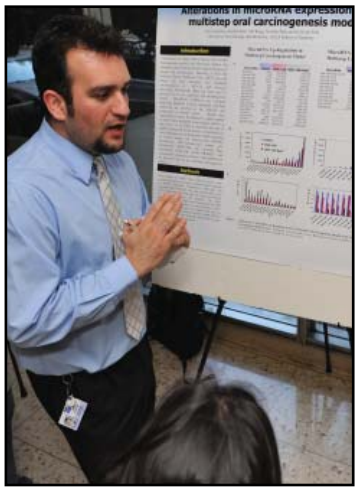
Ann's many years of dedicated service to the dental school began in 1970. Most notably, she served as Assistant Dean for Student and Alumni Affairs from July 1994 until her retirement in December 2004. Ann earned the highest respect from students, alumni, faculty and co-workers for her gracious demeanor, her contributions to the quality of student life, and her capacity to nurture lifelong friendships. Her exemplary service to the school and the dental profession was recognized by her selection as the 1996 Honorary Alumnus of the Year as well as her election to honorary membership in Omicron Kappa Upsilon, the national dental honor society, also in 1996.

Ann's commitment to UCLA's dental students was evidenced by many acts, including her thoughtful philanthropy. In 2002, she established *The Richard T. Beech Scholarship* to honor the memory of her late husband, who is remembered as an entrepreneur and raconteur. Each year, an award is made from this fund to assist a dental student who demonstrates a commitment to serving the community. At Ann's family's request, the scholarship fund was renamed *The Ann and Richard Beech Scholarship* following her death.

The Dental Alumni Association is planning to honor Ann's memory at the alumni luncheon on May 15. Those interested in contributing to the scholarship fund may do so during the event or by contacting the School of Dentistry development office at (310) 206-6079.

Research Day

The school's second annual Research Day was held on Monday, February 22. The event began with a keynote presentation on reparative and regenerative medicine by Dr. Michael Longaker, MD, MBA, FACS, Deane P. and Louise Mitchell Professor of Plastic/Reconstructive Surgery, Stanford School of Medicine, and Professor of Bioengineering, Stanford School of Engineering and Medicine. The keynote address was followed by a faculty symposium and a research poster competition in which 35 predoctoral students, master's and PhD candidates, and postdoctoral fellows presented the results of original projects, ranging from salivary biosensor research to an evaluation of the relationship between undergraduate experience and dental school performance.



Alumni Affairs

Upcoming Events

Annual Alumni Day Celebration
Saturday, May 15, 2010
Anaheim Marriott Hotel

Join your fellow alumni, dental school faculty and staff, and current UCLA students during the CDA Spring Scientific Session in Anaheim.

Alumni Reunion and Awards Luncheon *11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.*
Honoring the reunion-year classes of '70, '75, '80, '85, '90, '95, '00 and '05, as well as our Alumnus of the Year, **Dr. Edmond Hewlett '80** and our Honorary Alumnus of the Year, **Dr. Hal C. Millstone**. We will also celebrate the life of Ann Carver Beech and introduce the new alumni association president, **Dr. Afsaneh Malaekeh '93.** The luncheon is free for alumni, faculty, staff and students; the cost for guests is $35 per person. RSVP by April 26 to Tina Cody at (310) 825-6238 or tcody@dentistry.ucla.edu.

Silent Auction *Noon - 6:00 p.m.*
To donate an item for inclusion in the auction, please contact Dr. David Altman '78 at (310) 206-1022.

Mentorship Mixer *2:30 - 4:00 p.m.*
Alumni and students interested in forming mentorship pairs are welcome to attend this kick-off event at Degrees Wine & Patio Bar at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel. RSVP to tmitchell@support.ucla.edu.

Dean's Reception *5:00 - 7:30 p.m.*
Join Dean No-Hee Park and your fellow alums for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at this event, which is free and open to all UCLA alumni, faculty, students, staff and guests; no RSVP required.

Alumni Dance *7:30 - 10:00 p.m.*
As in years past, the dance is generously sponsored by XDR Radiology. Live music will be provided by the 38th Cav Recon band. No-host bar; no RSVP required.

UCLA Pediatric Dentistry Alumni Day
Friday, July 30, 2010, 1:00 p.m.
Olympic Collection

Save the date! All alumni and friends of the UCLA pediatric dentistry residency program are invited to attend our annual celebratation of residents and alumni. This year's event is sponsored by the UCLA Friends of Pediatric Dentistry support group and the section of pediatric dentistry.

A Changing of the Guard

On May 15, the Dental Alumni Association's presidential torch will pass from Dr. Bill Morgan '73 to Dr. Afsaneh Malaekeh '93. Twenty class years may separate these two volunteers, but they share a similar passion for the school which made their professional careers possible. Here, *The Apollonian Society News* learns what motivated them to become leaders, and what dental school alumni can expect in the future.

Apollonian Society News (ASN): The Dental Alumni Association has existed since the 1970s. How did each of you originally become involved?

William "Bill" Morgan (WM): A classmate took me to my first alumni board meeting more than thirty years ago. At that time, the school was less than ten years old, and we recognized the need to pass our good fortune on to future students.

Afsaneh Malaekeh (AM): About six years ago, I attended a dinner with Drs. Ron Mito and Tom Rauth, along with Dr. Rosenblum from USC. We were discussing ways to revamp the Apollonian Society and engage a new generation of alumni in dental school activities. The next thing I knew, I was volunteering to be vice president of the alumni association!

ASN: What are the challenges facing the Dental Alumni Association? The opportunities?

WM: Our biggest challenge is expanding alumni involvement, especially among younger generations, and raising awareness of the ways in which alums can reconnect with the school.

AM: I think that's also our greatest opportunity, because of the prevalence of information technology. There are now more ways than ever to communicate with alumni and to connect with younger generations.

WM: That's true. The access is there, but you still have to be motivated to get involved.

ASN: So, what motivates you?

AM: I am so proud of my UCLA degree, but I think sometimes we lose sight of the weight it carries in our profession. UCLA is one of the most competitive and respected dental schools in the country.

WM: Add to that the value of the education we received. I feel a responsibility to ensure that future students enjoy the same access and affordability that we did, and the alumni association and Apollonian Society play a big part in that.

ASN: Alumni presidents serve for two years. As you prepare to pass the baton, Dr. Morgan, what accomplishments are you most proud of from your term?

WM: I won't take all the credit for it, but I am glad that the alumni reunion activities continue to grow each year. We have also opened the door for residency program graduates to become involved in the association. More alums are finding reasons to reconnect with us. Now we must ensure we remain relevant to them.

ASN: Dr. Malaekeh, beyond remaining relevant, what are your goals for your two-year presidential term?

AM: Fostering a deeper alumni engagement, increasing membership, and creating a prominent web-based network for our graduates. I also want to ensure that student morale remains as high as it has been in recent years. When students come to the board meetings, their satisfaction proves to me that our commitment — of both time and money — is making a positive difference.

ASN: Words of wisdom from one president to the next?

WM: Don't give up. Keep your great enthusiasm and remember why you took the job.

Class Notes

1960s & 1970s

Jay A. Gershen, DDS, Ct. '75 (PD), PhD '76 became the Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy's (NEOUCOM) sixth president in January. Prior to his new appointment, Dr. Gershen served as vice chancellor for external affairs for the University of Colorado, where he had been a professor at the UC Denver School of Dental Medicine since 1997.

1980s

Oariona Lowe, DDS, Ct. '84 (PD) was appointed as vice president of the California Society of Pediatric Dentistry for 2009-10.

Arthur Nimmo, DDS, Ct. '83 (AP), professor of prosthodontics and director of predoctoral implant dentistry at the University of Florida College of Dentistry, was elected as an examining member of the American Board of Prosthodontics and will serve a seven-year term.

Sean Sunghwa Lee, DDS '88, an associate professor at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry, has published a book called *BREATH: Causes, Diagnosis and Treatment of Oral Malodor*.

Are you a UCLA School of Dentistry alum with news to share? Contact us at (310) 206-0835 or news@dentistry.ucla.edu.

Richard G. Stevenson III '86 has received the Academy of Operative Dentistry Award of Excellence, which was established in 1986 to recognize outstanding contributions to the discipline. Over the last ten years, Dr. Stevenson has served as a councilor, vice president, president and assistant secretary of the Academy; he currently holds the position of secretary.

1990s

Afsaneh Malaekeh DDS '93 will become president of the UCLA Dental Alumni Association in May (see previous page). After graduating from UCLA, Dr. Malaekeh returned to her hometown of Sacramento where she was an associate in a private practice until relocating to Los Angeles in 2001. She joined WLA Dental Center in 2003 and, though she is a busy mom of two young children, has been actively learning advances in dentistry for the past fifteen years.

2000s

Eunha Cho, DDS '03, Ct. '05 (PD) became a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry in September 2009.

Cristen Dismuke, DDS '08 is engaged to Andre Lindal, a Los Angeles music producer. They are planning a June 2010 wedding in Camarillo, where Dr. Dismuke currently works as a partner with **Michael Czubiak, DDS '88**.

Natalie Nguyen, DDS '08 is in her second year of residency in the Harvard Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery program. She finished her challenging (yet fun) internship last year, and is now a third-year medical student.

The Apollonian Society *News*

UCLA School of Dentistry
405 Hilgard Avenue
Room 53-038 CHS
Box 951668
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1668

Host a UCLA Dental Student

Years ago, the UCLA School of Dentistry added a new dimension to the summer practice management curriculum: a site visit that gives students the opportunity to visit a private practice to observe, learn and evaluate different aspects of its daily management. The goal is for students to gain an appreciation for the operation and business sides of running a practice.

Part of the two-quarter practice management course offered at UCLA, these site visits have been extremely successful for dental students and participating alumni alike. Accomplished in pairs during August and September, fourth-year students are randomly assigned offices in which they are asked to spend one day to see how the practice is run. Students are assigned an outline of management topics and interact with practitioners and office staff. After the visit, students meet in groups to discuss their reflections about the day, and present a paper about their experiences to the course director, Dr. Jeffrey Goldstein.

We are always in need of general practitioners – especially alumni in the Los Angeles area – to participate in this innovative course. Given that most interaction occurs outside of the clinical area, your duties are minimal unless you choose to spend more time with the students. To participate in the course, or if you have further questions, please contact Dr. Jeffrey Goldstein at (310) 794-5565 or jgoldstein@dentistry.ucla.edu.