Dear Students, Residents, Faculty, Staff, Alumni, and Friends,

It was another busy spring quarter at the UCLA School of Dentistry, with many noteworthy activities to highlight. Most important, we are quickly approaching our 46th Commencement Ceremony, where 100 DDS degrees, one PhD degree in oral biology, and 15 Master of Science degrees in oral biology will be conferred. I am very proud of the Class of 2013 and all their many accomplishments. I wish them well as they progress in their careers.

At the beginning of March, the School was the fortunate recipient of a $5 million pledge from Dr. Mick and Mrs. Mary Dragoo. The gift establishes the UCLA Mick and Mary Dragoo Periodontal and Implant Clinical Research and Patient Care Center; a place where our faculty will conduct independently funded clinical research to advance scientific knowledge in periodontal and implant dentistry. We are very excited about the new Center and are extremely grateful for the generosity of the Dragoos and their commitment to improving dental patient care worldwide.

In April, the School announced that First 5 LA, the Los Angeles–based child advocacy and grant-making organization, awarded the School an additional $11 million, bringing the total funding to nearly $21 million. The partnership establishes the UCLA–First 5 LA Children's Dental Care Program, which will support the delivery of dental care to children, from birth to age 5 and pregnant women in LA County.

The UCLA campus has embarked on a $4.2 billion Centennial Campaign, a landmark fundraising initiative in celebration of its 100-year anniversary. During the next six years, ending in 2019, the School will work towards raising support for our students through scholarships, endowment funds for pipeline programs, and recruiting and retaining world-class faculty through endowed chairs. The School will also seek to establish two new centers for patient care: the Center for Craniofacial Reconstruction Research and Special Patient Care and the Center for Geriatric Dentistry.

There are several other exciting newsworthy activities occurring throughout the School, including several student awards, cutting edge research studies, and faculty achievements. I encourage you to read this newsletter in its entirety, and I wish everyone well for the remainder of the spring quarter.

Sincerely,

No-Hee Park, D.M.D., Ph.D.
Dean & Distinguished Professor

Research News >>>
Research News

First 5 LA Helps to Expand Dental Care in LA County

The School of Dentistry was awarded funding of more than $11 million from the Los Angeles–based child advocacy and grant-making organization, First 5 LA, to expand access to dental care in Los Angeles.

The funding established the UCLA–First 5 LA Children's Dental Care Program, which will support the delivery of care to children, from birth to age 5, and pregnant women over the next five years. The new funding came eight months after First 5 LA awarded the dental school $9.23 million, bringing the total amount the School has received from the organization to nearly $21 million over the past 12 months. For more details, please read the entire press release here.

Researchers discover possible trigger for spread of head and neck cancer cells

Dr. Cun-Yu Wang, Professor and Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, is the lead author of a research paper, published online April 30 in Science Signaling. The paper details his team’s discovery toward understanding the process that activates head and neck cancer cells known as squamous cell carcinoma. This type of cancer is known for being one of the most deadly and debilitating types and their findings may lead to better therapies. For more details, please read the entire research alert here.

Nanodiamonds Prove Effective in Cancer Treatment

A research team, led by Dr. Dean Ho, Professor and Co-Chair of the Weintraub Center, developed a new drug delivery system using nanodiamonds. In mice models with triple negative breast cancer, the nanodiamonds were able to precisely deliver cancer drugs to tumors, significantly improving the drugs' desired effect. Findings from the study were published online April 15 in the peer-reviewed journal Advanced Materials. For more details, please read the entire press release here.

Photo: Nanodiamonds bound to a chemotherapy drug.

Dean’s Seed Grants

The following faculty members received a Dean’s Seed Grant of $21,000 each:

Xuesong He  Dean Ho  Christine Hong
Shen Hu  Reuben Kim  Yong Kim
Min Lee  Yi-Ling Lin  Renate Lux
Sanjay Mallya  Won Moon  Ichiro Nishimura
Flavia Pirih  Ki-Hyuk Shin  Sotirios Tetradius
Fang Wei  Zhong Zheng

<<< Dean’s Message

New & Ongoing Grants >>>

Share |
New & Ongoing Grants


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PI Name</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Total Budget</th>
<th>Project Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tara Aghaloo</td>
<td>Orapharma, Inc.</td>
<td>Multi-center phase 3 trial of minocycline HCl1MG microspheres for the use in subjects with peri-implants</td>
<td>$61,045</td>
<td>03/01/13 - 06/30/14</td>
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<td>Jim Crall</td>
<td>LA County Children &amp; Families First (First 5 LA)</td>
<td>First 5 LA Children's Dental Care Program</td>
<td>$11,154,616</td>
<td>03/01/13 - 06/30/18</td>
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<td>Dean Ho</td>
<td>Wallace H. Coulter Foundation</td>
<td>Nanodiamond-based chemotherapeutic drug delivery</td>
<td>$43,902</td>
<td>03/01/13 - 02/28/14</td>
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<td>Cun-Yu Wang</td>
<td>NIH/Natl Institute of Arthritis &amp; Musculoskeletal &amp; Skin Diseases</td>
<td>Molecular Control of MSC Differentiation and Bone Formation by KDM4B</td>
<td>$1,636,250</td>
<td>04/01/13 - 03/31/18</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Continuing Grants between January 28, 2013 through May 10, 2013 (Download PDF List)

<<< Research News
Faculty News >>>
Faculty News

Remembering Dr. Douglas Junge

Dr. Douglas Junge, a Professor Emeritus, passed away on May 5 at the age of 75. Dr. Junge was not only an excellent faculty member but also a supportive mentor and teacher, innovative researcher, and friend to many.

Dr. Junge received his Bachelor of Science degree at the California Institute of Technology and earned his PhD degree in Physiology here at UCLA in 1965. He worked the next two years as an Assistant Research Zoologist in the laboratory of Dr. Hagawari at the Scripps Institute affiliated with UCSD. He then joined the Section of Oral Biology at the School of Dentistry in 1967 as an Assistant Professor, where he devoted the next forty-one years to Oral Biology and UCLA. He officially retired on June 30\textsuperscript{th}, 2008.

Dr. Junge’s research spanned many topics in the field of health sciences, including the areas of taste, ionic single neurons, and mathematical models of neuron behavior. In addition, he studied the neurophysiology of the human jaw muscle system – correlation of small tremor movements of the jaw and associated muscle EMG signals. Towards the end of his academic career, he was working on developing a model of dorsal root ganglion neurons that can account for ion channel properties in neuropathic pain conditions.

In addition to being an excellent academic, Dr. Junge was also a devoted husband and father. He is survived by his loving wife, Janice, and two children, Benjamin and Alexa.

Dr. Wang Recognized as a Distinguished Scientist

The International Association for Dental Research (IADR) recognized Dr. Cun-Yu Wang as the recipient of the 2013 IADR Distinguished Scientist Award in Basic Research in Biological Mineralization. Dr. Wang is noted as having broadly contributed to the mineralized tissues field, having made major discoveries, including the effects of inflammation on bone formation, elucidation of basic mechanisms governing stem cell renewal, and identification of critical epigenetic signals controlling the differentiation of...
mesenchymal stem cells to bone cells.

Dr. Wang is Chair of the Division of Oral Biology and Medicine, the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, and the Dr. No-Hee Park Endowed Chair. He was honored at the Association’s 91st General Session and Exhibition in Seattle on March 20. Congratulations Dr. Wang on this honorable recognition.

Retirement of Karen Lefever

Karen Lefever, the School of Dentistry’s Academic Coordinator, announced her retirement from UCLA, effective June 27. Dr. Lefever has been with UCLA for nearly 30 years, initially working for the UCLA Higher Education Research Institute as a Staff Research Associate from 1981 to 1985. In 1985, she took a break to work on her PhD in Education at UCLA, completing this program in 1990. Following her PhD program, she was hired by the School of Dentistry as an Evaluation Consultant, a position she held until 1995 when she became the Academic Coordinator.

As Academic Coordinator, Dr. Lefever has provided valuable input on curriculum management and education pedagogy. In addition, she played a significant role in the highly successful accreditation reviews in 1997, 2004 and 2011, and has been a consistent resource for faculty seeking advice for course development, classroom innovation, and effective assessment of educational outcomes. In 2004, she was appointed a lecturer in the Division of Public Health and Community Dentistry, and she has been a welcome participant in many courses in the pre-doctoral curriculum. She has been an active member of numerous School of Dentistry committees, and her value has been particularly apparent for the Curriculum and Outcomes Committees. Another significant contribution has been her service as a faculty mentor for students interested in academic dentistry and educational research.

In addition to her PhD from UCLA, Dr. Lefever holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Moravian College, a Master of Arts degree in English from Lehigh University, and a Master of Science degree from Villanova University in Counseling and Human Relations.

Students, staff, and faculty will miss her cheerful support and she will be dearly missed by her colleagues. We wish her the best in her retirement.

Dr. Shah Elected to the Academy of Prosthodontics

Dr. Kumar Shah, a Clinical Associate Professor in the Division of Advanced Prosthodontics, was elected as an Associate Fellow by the Academy of Prosthodontics. The Academy of Prosthodontics was founded in 1918 and is the oldest and most elite specialty organization in prosthetic dentistry. Its membership is comprised of about 70 distinguished clinicians, educators, and leaders of the profession from around the world. Dr. Shah is most deserving of this rare honor due to his excellent technical skills, clinical insights, mentorship abilities, and leadership qualities.

Dr. Shah’s colleagues and the rest of the School of Dentistry, congratulate him on this election.

Dr. Messadi Recognized for her Mentoring Skills
Dr. Diana Messadi, Professor and Chair of the Section of Oral Medicine and Orofacial Pain, was a finalist for the UCLA Postdoctoral Mentorship award at the UCLA Postdoctoral Scholars Reception. Dr. Messadi was nominated by her geriatric fellows and was one of 16 other UCLA faculty members to make the nomination list. Congratulations to Dr. Messadi on your nomination.

Dr. Chiappelli Addresses Dentists in Brazil

Dr. Francesco Chiappelli, Professor in the Division of Oral Biology and Medicine, was named the editor-in-chief of *Translational Dental Science* and was appointed to the editorial boards of the *Brazilian Journal of Oral Sciences* as well as the journal *Oral Diseases*. He will travel to Brazil later this month to give a keynote address on evidence-based endodontics.

### Academic Personnel Actions (New Hires) - Feb. 1 to May 7, 2013

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Hire Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Cerceo</td>
<td>Restorative Dentistry</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>Feb. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vera Stewart</td>
<td>Restorative Dentistry</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>Feb. 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kati Asgarifar</td>
<td>Orthodontics</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>Feb. 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregory Thurston</td>
<td>Restorative Dentistry</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>Feb. 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feridey Carr</td>
<td>Orofacial Pain</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>March 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talia Shainhouse</td>
<td>Periodontics</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>April 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam Geach</td>
<td>Adv. Prosthodontics</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>April 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marc Hayashi</td>
<td>Adv. Prosthodontics</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>April 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anahita Tajbakhsh</td>
<td>Adv. Prosthodontics</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>April 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
School News

Providing Oral Health to the Community

Pre-doctoral students from the UCLA chapter of the Student National Dental Association participated in the KJLH 13th Annual Women’s Health Forum. KJLH is the no. 1 black owned and operated radio station in Los Angeles. The health forum was held on Saturday, April 27 at the Los Angeles Convention Center with roughly 9,000 people in attendance. School of Dentistry pre-doctoral student’s provided oral health/oral cancer screenings and general oral hygiene instruction to hundreds of Los Angeles women.

From left to right: Lourdes Moreno ’14, Dr. Ed Hewlett, Loliya-Bob Manuel ’15, Brandi Lewis ’14, Ann Lee ’15, and Alicia Schexnayder ’15.

Forging Bonds Between Students

In February, five Japanese dental students, from the Asahi University School of Dentistry, visited Los Angeles for a week to spend time with UCLA DDS students. The two groups of students met the previous summer when they were all part of the Asahi-UCLA-Meikai (AUM) Program.

The whirlwind visit consisted of dinner at LA Live, a Lakers game, and lunch and shopping in Newport Beach. Several faculty members involved with the AUM program took time out of their busy schedules to have breakfast with and host a dinner for the group. Additionally, third year pre-doctoral students, who were about to experience the AUM program themselves, got a chance to
meet the Japanese students and learn more about what to expect when they traveled to Japan in March.

The special visit was the first time in the history of the program, which is more than 10 years old, that students from Asahi University came to Los Angeles independently outside of the AUM program. Despite being from different countries, both groups of students have forged strong international friendships and bonds, as evidenced by the special visit.

**Students Show Their Appreciation**

To show their appreciation for the School of Dentistry’s staff and faculty, the Student Apollonian Society and ASB held a luncheon on Friday, Feb. 22 in the outside Volunteer Patio. After a delicious spread of sandwiches and wraps, the hosts held a drawing for various prizes and gift cards. More than 150 people attended the outside event. **Thank you to the students for your hospitality.**

**Advocating for Oral Health**

Eight pediatric dentistry residents had the opportunity to travel to Washington D.C. to participate in the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) Legislative Advocacy Days. The goal of the visit was to advocate for children’s dental health. The residents were joined by faculty members, Dr. Francisco Ramos-Gomez and Dr. Jim Crall. President of UCLA Friends of Pediatric Dentistry, a support group for the Section of Pediatric Dentistry, Dr. Mark Lisagor also joined the group.

**ASDA Golf Tournament**

The School of Dentistry’s American Student Dental Association Chapter held their golf tournament at the City of Industry Golf Club. A total of 80 golfers, consisting of students, faculty, alumni, and friends participated in the annual tradition. Congratulations to the following winners:

- **1st** Place: Dr. Paul Campbell (Periodontics Lecturer) & Team
- **2nd** Place: Dr. Tony Kuo ’98, Will Chen, Kevin Chen & Eddie Lee
- **3rd** Place: Dr. Cooney, Dr. Jim Callahan, Dr. Bob Dent & Dr. Brad Kane

**Most Honest Team:** Dr. Mark Ozaki (Restorative Dentistry Lecturer), Denise Robles ’15, Kiki Moriguchi ’15 & Brittany Ko ’15

**Closest to the Pin:** Jeremy Barrett (Orthodontics Resident)

**Longest Drive:** Edwin Chang ’14
Longest Drive: Favian Cheong ’16

Most Accurate Drive: Jeff Rafalski ’13

Putting Contest: Dr. Tony Kuo ’98

Thank you to committee members; Grant Burgdorf ’15, Mark Ortega ’15, Anthony Fioretti ’16, and Steven Petritz ’16 for organizing the event.

Thank you for the support of the following faculty, who generously sponsored a student golfer:

Dr. Bibb  Dr. Christensen  Dr. Duell  Dr. Garrett
Dr. Goldstein  Dr. Longhurst  Dr. Messadi

2013 UCLA Grad Games

Nearly 25 pre-doctoral students from the School of Dentistry competed in the annual UCLA Grad Games, which is an annual 4-day event that the School of Medicine organizes. The School of Dentistry group showed their athletic prowess and placed 1st and 2nd place in soccer, 1st and 3rd in dodge ball, 1st place in racquetball, went to the semi-finals in basketball, placed 2nd and went to the semi-finals in football, and went to the finals in Ping-Pong. The games’ popularity increased from 2012 and this year participants from every class were represented. Thanks to Eric Mejia and Erik Balinghasay for coordinated the School of Dentistry’s participation.

<<< Faculty News  Student Awards >>>
Student Awards

DDS Student Recognized for Excellence

Brittany Hazard ’13 was recognized with the Delta Dental Student Leadership Award for the outstanding leadership, service and scholarship she exhibited over the last four years at dental school. As she was nominated by the School’s administration, the award came as a complete surprise. In addition to the acknowledgement, she received a monetary award, which she plans to use for moving across the country, purchasing supplies, and paying summer tuition to the University of Michigan where she will begin a Master of Science program in orthodontics in the Fall. Congratulations Brittany on your award.

DDS Student Seeks to Improve the Community

Nidhi Taneja ’14, was selected as a 2013 Paul Ambrose Scholar by the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research and the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. The award acknowledges health professions students interested in prevention and public health and exposes them to influential public health professionals. The program also prepares them to be leaders in addressing population health challenges at the national and community levels.

As part of the award, Nidhi will travel to Washington D.C. in June with 40 other health professions students from across the country for the Paul Ambrose Scholars Program Symposium. In addition to her trip to D.C., she will receive funding for a community-based health education project. With her funding, she hopes to educate mothers of infants about the importance of oral health. She plans to continue her education by attending a pediatric residency program. Congratulations Nidhi on your scholar award.

DDS Student Receives Outstanding Leader Award
Michelle Okamoto ‘13, was given the Outstanding Leader Award by the American College of Dentists. The award recognizes a senior dental student, who demonstrated leadership and outstanding scholastic performance. Michelle was recognized along with three other dental students from the Los Angeles area. Congratulations to Michelle on being acknowledged for your hard work as a student. Michelle wishes to express her gratitude for all the opportunities UCLA has provided her during the last four years.

DDS Student Awarded for Ethics

The American Society for Dental Ethics (ASDE) acknowledged Eric Chen ‘16, with the Ozar-Hasegawa Ethics Award for his essay submission of “Ethical Considerations of Randomized Control Trials with Human Participants in Dentistry: A Reflective Analysis.” The annual award is given to two individuals who have contributed to the scholarship, discussion, and application of dental ethics. Eric received a cash prize, a 1-year membership in ASDE, and publication of his essay in the May issue of the Society’s newsletter. Congratulations Eric on your award.

DDS Students Score Big at the ASDA Annual Session

Twenty-two DDS students from the School of Dentistry attended the American Student Dental Association’s (ASDA) annual session. The School of Dentistry had the highest attendance out of any school represented at the session. The following awards were given to the School’s ASDA chapter:

- **Most Outstanding Activities** – 1st Place
  Events that helped win this award included a beach clean-up, Thanksgiving health fair, Dental Olympics, and three dental mission trips to Honduras.

- **Crest/Oral-B Community Dentistry Award** – 2nd Place

- **Pre-dental Recruitment Incentive** – 2nd Place
  Credit to David Lindsey ’15 and Alex McMahon ’15 who did a phenomenal job recruiting 75 pre-dental students to join ASDA.
- **Student Research Poster Session** – 2nd place

Thank you to the UCLA ASDA cabinet, committee chairs, committee members, and previous cabinet for all of their hard work this past year.
Honoring Our Alumni

In April, the annual Alumni Luncheon and Dean’s Reception took place at the Hilton Anaheim Hotel in conjunction with the California Dental Association’s yearly meeting. Highlights from the event include recognizing our Alumnus of the Year, Greg Prince ’73, our Honorary Alumnus of the Year, Fermin Carranza, and the reunion classes of 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 2003 and 2008.

Wrapping up the weekend was the Dental Alumni Dance where guests danced the night away, listening to 60’s, 70s, and 80’s music played by the band, Root Kanals.
Former Pediatric Resident Ranks in the Top 3 Percent

Pediatric resident alumnus, Breanne Reid Ct. ’12, was one of 15 residents to receive the Richard Pugh Achievement Award. The award is presented annually by the American Board of Pediatric Dentists (ABPD) to the top 3 percent of all candidates who complete the qualifying examination. The award was created in honor of Dr. Pugh, who was the ABPD Educational Measurement Consultant for 28 years before he retired in 1998. Congratulations to Breanne on the recognition!

Breanne’s future plans include publishing her research paper on the topic of incorporating oral health risk assessments on special needs patients using occupational therapists.

Alumnus Shares Her Wisdom

At the beginning of March, Dr. Emily Letran ’93, was featured on the web-based talk show, “Money for Lunch.” Dr. Letran spoke about her best seller book, Out Front, Business Building Strategies from Front Line Entrepreneurs, and shared how dentistry can actually change people’s lives. Dr. Letran is the School’s Alumni Board President and is a founding member of the Apollonian Society.

Alumnus Elected to Board Vice President

Alumnus and Professor Emeritus, Dr. Russell Nishimura, was appointed the Vice President of the Academy of Osseointegration (AO). Dr. Nishimura currently maintains a private practice limited to prosthodontics and implant dentistry, in Westlake Village. At UCLA, he taught removable prosthodontics, immediate denture, and implant courses. He was elected to the AO Board in 2005 and previously served as secretary. He received both his BS and DDS degrees from UCLA. He also completed postgraduate programs in hospital dentistry, prosthodontics, and maxillofacial prosthetics at the UCLA Medical Center and School of Dentistry.

Helping Those in Need

Alumnus, Dr. Manual "Chip" Carin ’89 Ct. 90 (Gen. Practice) recently finished his second mission in Uxmal, Mexico, with the Flying Doctors of America. The not-for-profit organization pulls together a medical team of volunteer physicians and dentists and travels to poor and needy populations to provide much-needed medical treatment. In three days, he extracted 91 teeth that were periodontally hopeless. Dr. Carin is in private practice in Watsonville, Calif.
periodontally hopeless. Dr. Cann has a private practice in Watsonville, Calif.
Wishing Dr. William Yancey Well in His Retirement

At the end of April, Dr. William (Bill) Yancey announced his retirement from UCLA. He served the School of Dentistry for more than 30 years since he was first hired as a lecturer in 1981. In 1994, he began his tenure as the Assistant Dean and Director of Continuing Education and Alumni Affairs and stayed in that role for the rest of his service.

Dr. Yancey received his DDS degree from the University of Southern California and received his undergraduate degree from Ohio State University. He was instrumental in growing the Office of Continuing Education and its course offerings into the program it is today.

Stepping into Dr. Yancey’s role is Dr. Todd Schoenbaum, who is now the Acting Director of Continuing Education. Dr. Schoenbaum was previously the Assistant Director of Continuing Education. He is also the Assistant Director of the UCLA Center for Esthetic Dentistry, and an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Division of Restorative Dentistry. Good luck to Drs. Yancey and Schoenbaum on their new endeavors.

Staff Personnel Actions for the period February 1, 2013 through May 10, 2013

New Hires to Campus

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<tr>
<td>Aldo Becerra</td>
<td>Dental Asst.</td>
<td>Advanced Education in General Dentistry</td>
<td>May 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Corona</td>
<td>Care Coordinator</td>
<td>Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery</td>
<td>March 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marlene Lozano</td>
<td>Admin. Asst.</td>
<td>Restorative</td>
<td>April 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kimberly Mataalli</td>
<td>Dental Hygienist</td>
<td>Periodontics</td>
<td>March 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lizette Perez</td>
<td>Clinic Asst.</td>
<td>Endodontics</td>
<td>March 26</td>
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Transferred from Other Dept./University

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<tr>
<td>Peter Cabezas</td>
<td>Staff Research Assoc.</td>
<td>Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery</td>
<td>March 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachel Fintzy</td>
<td>Staff Research Assoc., Supervisor</td>
<td>Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery</td>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geneva Rangel</td>
<td>Info. Officer &amp; Receptionist</td>
<td>Student Affairs and Outreach</td>
<td>April 1</td>
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Retirements

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<tr>
<td>William Yancey</td>
<td>Assistant Dean</td>
<td>Continuing, Educ. Program &amp; Alumni Affairs</td>
<td>April 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Medellin</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Oral Biology &amp; Medicine</td>
<td>June 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Yi</td>
<td>Clinic Administrator</td>
<td>Oral Radiology</td>
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Babies born to:

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<td>Annette</td>
<td>Admin. Specialist</td>
<td>Business and Clinical Services</td>
<td>April 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<td>Department</td>
<td>Date</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Annette Haratunian</td>
<td>Supervisor</td>
<td>Business and Clinical Services</td>
<td>April 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Perez</td>
<td>Patient Biller</td>
<td>Business and Clinical Services</td>
<td>Jan. 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cinthia Wagner</td>
<td>Group Practice Administrator</td>
<td>Business and Clinical Services</td>
<td>April 10</td>
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Development News >>>

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Development News

Clinical Research Gets a Boost from Donors

At the beginning of March, the School’s clinical research initiatives received a $5 million boost from philanthropists, Dr. Mick and Mrs. Mary Dragoo. The couple’s landmark gift, the largest private gift in the School’s history, will establish the UCLA Mick and Mary Dragoo Periodontal and Implant Clinical Research and Patient Care Center. The Dragoo Center will become a leading site for clinical research, patient care, and education in periodontology and implantology. For more details, please read the entire press release here.

Longtime Supporter Passes

Loyal supporter of the School of Dentistry, Ms. Peggy Bloomfield, passed away on May 1. Peggy and her late husband, Bill Bloomfield, Sr., along with fellow UCLA alumni and Board of Counselor Members, Bob Wilson and Gerald Jennings, contributed and raised the funds necessary to purchase and renovate the Venice Dental Center building. In 2008, the Bloomfield and Wilson families joined efforts once again to fund and manage the creation of a dedicated seven-chair pediatric dentistry wing. This wing now serves as the home of a new community-based pediatric dentistry residency program, and provides much-needed care to the children of Venice and surrounding neighborhoods. Today, the Wilson-Jennings-Bloomfield UCLA Venice Dental Center conducts more than 15,000 patient visits per year, providing services in general dentistry, restorative dentistry, oral surgery, pediatrics, orthodontics, endodontics, and more.

In 2010, Peggy created the Bloomfield Family Geriatric Patient Care Fund to provide senior patients with assistance towards the cost of oral health care services provided by the School of Dentistry. In addition, Peggy was committed to supporting the Apollonian Society annually and was a Founding Member. Her passing is a profound loss to all of us at the School of Dentistry.

Promoting the Dental Student Experience

Since 2004, the Apollonian Society has worked tirelessly to enhance the dental student experience. The philanthropic group has collectively raised more than $2 million and has supported many major projects, including the White Coat Ceremony, “home cubicles,” computers and Isolite systems in every operatory, and patient care subsidy funds. At this year’s Alumni events, Gabriela Dimitrakopoulos, Class of 2013, was the selected student speaker. She reflected on how supportive the Apollonian Society has been for students like herself.
"I have personally witnessed how the Apollonian Society directly enhances our everyday student lives. The clinic subsidy fund, donated by the Apollonians, was the reason my patient was able to afford dentures, regain her self-confidence, and I was able to graduate on time! These donations completely changed my patient’s life, and this is just one example of how the continued support from our alumni can and does impact many people’s lives." - Gabriela Dimitrakopoulos

For more information on the Apollonian Society, please click here or contact Andrea Parada in the Office of Development at (310) 206-0215 or aparada@support.ucla.edu.

Alumni & Friends Campaign

At the Alumni Association Luncheon at the California Dental Association Conference this past April, we were proud to launch our plans to celebrate the School’s 50th anniversary. Various planning committees composed of faculty, administrators, and the Board of Counselors have recognized that the next challenge that our School must undertake, in order to maintain our stature and level of excellence, is to further support a strong faculty recruitment and retention plan. To that end, one year ago the School decided that the centerpiece campaign at our 50th Anniversary Celebration would be the establishment of an Alumni and Friends Endowed Chair Campaign.

This campaign has strong momentum and we are confident that with the support of our alumni, Board of Counselors and everyone else who makes up the School of Dentistry community, we will make the 50th Anniversary Celebration a year to remember.

To learn more and support the 50th Anniversary Celebration, contact the Office of Development at (310) 206-6079 or mgompert@support.ucla.edu.