“PREGNANT” was what I read on the pregnancy test my wife handed me, and I was ecstatic. To be honest, we kind of knew we were pregnant a few days earlier... But, it was a pregnancy test that was supposed to have a “+” if you are pregnant and a “-” if you are not. However, the “+” looked more like a “-” with a really, almost impossibly, faint vertical line through the middle, so I shelled out the $22 for the Clearblue Digital test. Regardless, my wife was with child.

Continued on page 10.
A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Although 2014 has just begun, Winter Quarter was quite eventful for UCLA ASDA. The quarter began with a bang with the 2014 Vendor Fair. With 69 vendors participating and a total of $37,975 raised from vendors’ support and outside donations, making this years’ vendor fair the largest of any ASDA chapter in the nation! I would like to specifically acknowledge 2nd year students, Bobby Lee and Linda Phi, for their phenomenal job organizing the event that shattered the previous school records for number of vendors and funds raised. In addition to the the 2014 Vendor Fair, UCLA ASDA had a strong showing in this year’s 2014 ASDA Annual Session in Anaheim, CA. Our school was very well represented and received substantial recognition for our accomplishments and endeavors. You will be able to hear about all the details regarding UCLA SOD at Annual Session in our Annual Session recap featured in the next issue, but what I will tell you now is that you should certainly be proud of yourselves and our school—UCLA SOD undoubtedly has one of the strongest student voice and initiative in the nation.

For each accomplishment our chapter reaches lies the foundation for greater success to follow. I look forward to hearing about all UCLA ASDA’s successes following ASDA Annual Session 2015 in Boston, MA!

Respectfully,

David Lindsey
UCLA ASDA President
UCLA School of Dentistry, Class of 2015

Recognizing the stresses of academic rigor at UCLA, PDSOP strives to create a balance between work and relaxation through multiple social events, including game nights, dinners in Westwood, and barbecues. We desire to provide a platform for our members to get to know each other, our board members, and UCLA dental students outside the realm of dentistry. One of our newest social installation events includes an exchange program with the UC Berkeley pre-dental society, in which we will host their members for one weekend, and they will host ours for the upcoming SNDA conference at UCSF.

We recognize exceptionally involved members each year by awarding them with Active and Gold Membership statuses. These achievements can only be earned by outstanding participation, both inside and outside our typical meeting times, and exemplary community service attendance. These awards highlight the dedication our members give to PDSOP and to our community.

To explore the opportunities described here and create new ones, you’re invited to attend our meetings held on Tuesday nights of weeks 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 9 of every quarter in CHS 13-041 at 6:00PM. We look forward to seeing you there!

Contact us at pdsop.ucla@gmail.com, check out our website at www.uclapdsop.org, or find us on Facebook at www.facebook/PDSOP.
Group Practice Administrators, also known as GPAs, are essential to keeping UCLA’s Dental Clinic running efficiently and effectively. From booking an endless flood of patients to personally blocking out everyone’s block schedules, twice, the GPAs provide an invaluable service to us. Busy with our own agendas and clinical responsibilities, many of us interact with them through GSD without stopping by and saying, “Hi.” Before we rush on to finish our graduation requirements, let’s take a moment and reflect on the individuals who have been silently assisting us every step of the way.

GPAs are able to provide us with tips for success, as they have seen it all when it comes to student concerns and problematic patients. Through the years, they have had a chance to get to know each of our personalities and habits while helping us bring in our patients. They have witnessed us stress over graduation requirements, only to see each one of us eventually overcome our struggles and succeed. The next time you scramble to set up after class, be sure to acknowledge the individuals who reserved that cubicle just for you. Thank you, GPAs, for all you have done and continue to do for us. See you in clinic!

Lidia Balanos  
2nd floor clinic

Sha’Ron Boots  
2nd floor clinic

Ritesh Salvi  
3rd floor clinic

Cinthia Wagner  
3rd floor clinic

Blanca Ballesteros  
3rd floor clinic

How long have you been working here at UCLA School of Dentistry?

1 year.

32 years.

About 6 months.

11 years.

2.5 years.

What job did you have before you became a Group Practice Administrator (GPA)?

Patient Services Coordinator in the Oral Diagnosis Clinic.

Chair-side assistant at the faculty group practice back when it was still in the basement.

Office manager of a private office in Huntington Park.

I worked in the AEGD back office.

Orthodontic Registered Dental Assistant for 23 years.

How long have you been working here at UCLA School of Dentistry?

1 year.

32 years.

About 6 months.

11 years.

2.5 years.

What is your favorite thing about being a GPA?

The student interaction that comes with being able to help them.

Student interaction – they always make me laugh.

Student interaction. It’s fun to see everyone’s personality.

The interactions with students, patients, and faculty on a daily basis.

Being able to help the students and the interaction that comes with it.

What is the funniest thing you’ve seen a patient do?

An older patient asked me if I would like to have lunch, but told him I couldn’t because I was married. The patient replied, “Is it because you’re married or because I have a tooth?”

A frustrated patient called and was ready to file a complaint over being unable to contact her student. It turns out that the student was at USC!

Watching a patient “sample” Smessodyne toothpaste by coming back 2-3x. She must’ve taken more than 10 tubes!

“There’s no chemistry between me and my student!”

A woman came in and dumped the entire basket of toothpaste samples into her purse, said “Thank you,” and walked away.

What is the best gift you’ve received as a GPA?

An assortment of baked goods from Porto’s bakery.

Souvenirs from countries that my students have traveled to for vacation.

Flower boutique delivery from a group of students for my birthday.

In your experience, what is the best advice you could give to a dental student?

In your experience, what is the best advice you could give to a dental student?

Remember to relax and never give up.

Sometimes it gets hard, and dental students want to quit. Never give up. I’ve been here a long time and seen many students in the same shoes, but they all manage to make it through.

Remember to establish great communications with your patients, your GPA, and GDP.

What is your biggest pet peeve?

If patients don’t show up, they won’t get booked.

When students book appointments and walk over late and don’t even show up.

When patients reschedule on the day of their appointment.

When students ask, “Why is my appointment not booked?” when it turns out they forgot to pick a subcategory.

What is your favorite hobby?

I love to watch football; my favorite team is the Cowboys.

As director for a children’s church group, I enjoy spending time with my son and other children.

I enjoy playing tennis and watching movies on Netflix.

Spending time with my baby Kamila, biking, and salsa dancing.

Biking riding along the beach.

Ritesh will be attending the UCLA School of Dentistry this fall as a member of the Class of 2018! Congratulations Ritesh!
Say Hello to the Class of 2017

Written by Rachel Lim ('17)

First year— that rollercoaster of events that throws your brain, social life and sleep schedule into one of the craziest times of your life. Where you discover Chicken Tortilla Soup Wednesdays, anatomy quizzes, and that dental school’s not so different from high school when you’re in a class of 88 students. You begin to understand the strangely paradoxical flow of time that exists within the dental school bubble – where you think, “I’ve only been here for three weeks??” and then pause to say, “I’ve been here for only three weeks?!” And no matter how long it’s been since your first year at dental school, maybe you remember the first time you opened the cadaver tanks in anatomy lab, or the first time your classmates started drilling – the smell of campfires and marshmallows which could only be the smell of burning typodont teeth. Maybe you remember getting your loupes for the first time, and thinking, “Wow, this is really happening – I’m going to be a dentist.” It’s amazing how much we’ve learned since that white coat ceremony, only 6 months ago – both in terms of how much information we’ve been able to store away in our brains, and how much we’ve learned about each other as a class. Here’s to the next 14 quarters!

D1 Class Cabinet

Young Chung | Historian
Known for: not wanting to be hipster...because that’s too mainstream

Daniel Gold | ASDA 1st Year Representative
Known for: large amounts of hair

Ryan Evans | Treasurer
Known for: hiking every trail in Santa Barbara

Matt Stephens | CDA Representative
Known for: looking really angry when studying

Ryan Wong | President
Known for: rolling the R in my name...Rrrryan!

Ouzhan Kalantari | Vice President
Known for: being the Prince of Persia...of Kansas

Alan Nguyen | ADEA Representative
Known for: sporadic sleep schedules

Shyam Indrakanti | Curriculum Comm. Rep
Known for: audio technology

Joseph Behjat | Social Chair
Known for: wrestling

Elle Weiss | Student Performance Comm. Rep
Known for: being “Dad of the Year”

Sara Kwong | Secretary
Known for: recycling and repurposing everything...and coffee in glass jars

Leena Zurayk | Webmaster
Known for: my melanin-rich smile

Johnny Huynh | Vice President
Known for: being the guy with nice hair

Randy Ewing | Student Equipment & Supplies
Known for: my vast and all-encompassing collection of colorful beanies

Jean Kang | Social Chair
Known for: my eye smile

Michael Bohn | Intramural Sports
Known for: epic Snapchats

Kyle Low | Patient Care Representative
Known for: my wedding video

Naikka Fareid | ASDA Representative
Known for: my curly hair!

Rachel Lim | Apollonian 1st Year Rep.
Known for: singing and humming everywhere I go
**Jimmy Nguyen**

How do you take your coffee? Black, for the highest caffeine concentration.
Describe yourself in three words. Quiet, silly, sleepy.
Are you a dog or a cat? Dog: cats are too mean and sassy.
What’s in your fridge right now? Lots of fruits and veggies.
Favorite study snack? PB&J
Name one dental school necessity. Classical music and headphones.

**Erin Hong**

Are you a dog or a cat? Cat: too many dogs are mean and sassy.
What’s in your fridge right now? 3 words to describe yourself. Driven, reliable, honest.
Favorite study snack? PB&J
Name one dental school necessity. My No. 4.

**Ogo Olele**

What’s your jam? Mary Mary - God in Me
Three words to describe yourself. Passionate, loyal, diplomatic.
If you could be any character from a movie. Mufasa, for his wisdom, strength, and heroic abilities.
Are you a wizard or a time traveler? Time traveler.
Favorite study snack? String cheese.

**Jeffrey Olson**

How do you take your coffee? I don’t drink coffee. I’m Mormon. :)
What’s your jam? Disney music! Yes, my wife sometimes thinks she married a 10-year-old...
Three words to describe yourself. Silly, optimistic, father.
Name one dental school necessity. Having breaks to go play basketball.

**Vidao**

3 words to describe yourself. Understanding, gentle, and easily embarrassed.
If you could be any character from a movie. Violet from The Incredibles. Being invisible, I could go anywhere I want and travel for free.
Are you a wizard or a time traveler? Definitely wizard.
Favorite study snack? Jalapeno Kettle Chips.

**Nikole Ankrom**

How do you take your coffee? Very seriously!
Are you a dog or a cat, why? A dog, because if you give me food I’ll love you forever.
3 words to describe yourself. Loyal, shy, athletic.
Favorite study snack? Dark chocolate.
Name one of your dental school necessities. Reddy or extra teeth for drilling, depending on the day.

**Travis Steinberg**

How do you take your coffee? I like my coffee like I like my teeth staining - straight BLACK!
Wizard or time traveler? I’m a wizard; still waiting for my Hogwarts letter.
Favorite study snack? Cheetos; you will find a thin layer of cheeto dust on my keyboard at all times.
Name one of your dental school necessities. My classmates and the older students are the best resource.

**Rebecca Ortega**

How do you take your coffee? Heavy cream and a LOT of Splenda.
What’s in your fridge? Leftover Crock Pot Kung Pao Chicken, probably about five different salad dressings, homemade salsa...
3 words to describe yourself. Friendly, food enthusiast, easily entertained.

---

**A Word From the D1 Class President**

“The first year of dental school is exciting and challenging, and it is certainly providing us with a solid foundation for our upcoming years at UCLA. The learning curve has been exponential, and it is amazing how much we have grown each day with all the information and knowledge presented to us. Furthermore, the Class of 2017 has great camaraderie, and I feel very fortunate to be able to represent its interests as the first year Class President. I believe that being able to say that I am a student of dentistry at UCLA is a great privilege, and I will take pride in everything I learn from this incredible institution.”

Ryan Wong
President, Class of 2017
Wisdom from the Wizard of Westwood
An Interview with Dr. Edmond Hewlett
By Anthony Fioretti ('16)

John Wooden was not a dentist. He probably could not have prepared a Class II. He probably did not care about the minimum alveolar concentration of nitrous oxide or the structure of the WREB exam. So why dedicate space in the Diastema to a former basketball coach? First of all, he is a Bruin, which is reason enough. More impressively, John Wooden is a legend who perfected his craft and guided others to success—something we should all strive for in our future profession.

From 1948-1975 he guided the UCLA men’s basketball program with his innovative basketball mind and charismatic leadership. The “Wizard of Westwood” won 10 national championships over a 12-year period. Over one stretch, his teams rattled off 88 consecutive victories. He developed the Pyramid of Success to summarize his philosophies on leadership and success. This column is dedicated to highlighting Wooden’s philosophies as they relate to dentistry. In this issue, I sat down with a true Bruin, long-time Wooden fan, and Associate Dean of Outreach and Diversity, Dr. Edmond Hewlett, to examine the second layer of the Pyramid of Success.

The focus of our previous column was on completing the foundation of the Pyramid of Success by exploring Wooden’s tenets of friendship, loyalty, and cooperation. These characteristics combine with the cornerstones of industriousness and enthusiasm to give us the structure to build ourselves personally and professionally.

The next layer of Wooden’s Pyramid of Success begins with self-control. Wooden noted, “Control of your organization begins with control of yourself. Be disciplined.” Self-control requires incredible strength and focus but yields great rewards: organization, efficiency, and reliability. Dr. Hewlett agrees that self-control is woven tightly with success for a dental professional and that one key result of discipline is that it allows us to stay the course when challenges arise. However, Dr. Hewlett also stressed that self-control does not and should not necessarily travel with a commonly associated robotic nature. We must learn the right way and right time to have fun, relax, and unwind.

Alertness is the next tenet of Wooden’s pyramid, and, like self-control, requires significant strength and focus. Wooden encourages us to “...constantly be aware and observing. Always seek to improve yourself and the team.” Similarly, Dr. Hewlett related a quote from the founder and father of modern dentistry, G.V. Black: “The professional man has no right to be other than a continuous student.” We can appreciate that Black’s demand for lifelong learning matches Wooden’s request for introspection and constant improvement. Dr. Hewlett has modeled this to perfection. An undergraduate at UCLA from 1972-1976, he majored in Biology with a minor in Bruin basketball. He received his D.D.S. degree from the UCLA School of Dentistry in 1980 and then completed a General Practice Residency at the University of Illinois Medical Center, Chicago. In 1982, Dr. Hewlett returned to UCLA and for the next 20+ years continued his quest for learning. He challenged himself with conducting research, integrating academics, and leading students while continuing to practice dentistry. Most amazingly, Dr. Hewlett was neither satisfied nor finished, so he decided to complete postdoctoral training in Prosthodontics at UCLA in 2003. This is an amazing record of lifelong learning: one that would make both John Wooden and G.V. Black proud.

Continuing across the second layer of Wooden’s Pyramid of Success brings us to “Initiative.” Wooden believed that “...failure to act is often the biggest failure of all.” This has a clear connection to self-control and alertness: difficult decisions can be made much more quickly with a solid underpinning of discipline and a keen awareness of self and others. Dr. Hewlett related several key examples in dentistry where quick decision-making and initiative are crucial. The first is the classic old-school phrase used in caries management: “Watch and wait.” Dr. Hewlett believes this is insufficient initiative. You must have a clear plan and take action. “Watch and wait” results in watching a lesion progress. Initiative is important on a management level as well. According to Dr. Hewlett, a dental professional should be alert and recognize when a relationship with an employee or a patient is no longer mutually beneficial. Although this results in difficult conversations, this action taken is vital for continued success, and we must not be afraid to sever unhealthy relationships.

Finishing off the second layer of the Pyramid of Success is “Intenness.” In Wooden’s words: “Stay the course. When thwarted try again harder and smarter. Persevere relentlessly.” Intenness closely follows Industriousness from the foundational layer of the pyramid—sometimes there is no replacement for hard work. However, Dr. Hewlett believes that intenness is limited—it can only take you so far without a proper foundation and the other tenets on the pyramid. This is what makes John Wooden’s Pyramid of Success so impressive. The interwoven themes rely on each other and provide a tool to help us grow as leaders. Dr. Hewlett noted the simultaneous simplicity of the pyramid and the endless depth of the themes explored. If you have a moment, ask Dr. Hewlett about his admiration for John Wooden and challenge yourself to build self-control, alertness, initiative, and intenness into your daily routine.
Without a doubt, implantology is the rising star in the ever-expanding field of dentistry. There is, however, a facet of implant technology that is new and unfamiliar to most in the US implant scene. When I was an intern at Cairo University Dental Educational Hospital, I had an interesting case of bilateral congenitally missing maxillary laterals with ectopically erupted canines occupying the laterals’ space. The treatment plan, based on the patient’s money and time, was to restore the canines by reshaping laminates, transform them into laterals, and place 2 implants to replace the canines.

Due to the zirconia implant’s appearance (white), metal-free implants can now be utilized in highly aesthetic zones. You no longer have to worry about the darker gum appearance that can occur with traditional implants. [http://www.maxillofacialcostarica.com/zirconia-implants]

With a two-surgery protocol, I placed regular titanium implants. While the results were good, a display of metal at the gingival margin bilaterally, called “grey-show through,” was evident upon further investigation. It was satisfactory for the patient, as it did not appear when she smiled or spoke, and the overall final result was nice; but for me, the esthetics were not sufficiently satisfactory. The grey-show through is a common problem for titanium implants, especially those placed in the anterior region, which has thinner bone and gingival tissue. There are ways to avoid it—having more than 1.8 mm of facial cortical bone with a thick blunt gingival biotype, cementing the final restoration using an opaque, white colored cement, or placing a white zirconia abutment—but even these approaches do not guarantee satisfactory results. My motto when restoring a tooth, especially in the anterior region, is to Think White. Wouldn’t it be most beneficial to use an implant that is entirely white? In the past, this was not an option; fortunately, now, we have access to such technology in the form of the all-white zirconia implant!

After zirconia’s successful use in orthopedic surgeries in the 70s, it began to be used as a dental implant material instead of titanium in the 90s in Europe. In 2008, it was finally approved by the US FDA. In this article, I will focus on a few physical and mechanical properties that make zirconia implants an ideal choice for superior esthetics, and even the only choice in some cases.

The most essential factors to consider when selecting an implant material are osseointegration and biocompatibility. With a well-roughened implant surface, the osseointegration of the ceramic implant, and the soft tissue response, are superior to that of the titanium implant. In May 2012, a dual-processed sand blasted and laser-etched surface that allowed for a higher shear strength was made available in the US market. In an interesting experiment testing the osseointegration of the zirconium oxide, the implant was put under high torque, and surprisingly, the result was bone fracture with no separation at the interface. This result is indicative of a high level of osseointegration. Additionally, in a recent experimental study comparing both zirconium oxide and titanium, the zirconium oxide showed lower bacterial colonization potential than titanium, which ultimately makes it more resistant to failure by infection. Even with regards to hygiene, the zirconium implants are more advantageous because they are easier to clean at the gingival margin than are the titanium implants. Finally, in addition to its high corrosion resistance compared to metals, prepping a zirconia one-piece implant carries no risk of overheating due to the low thermal conductivity of the material, which in turn lowers the risk of bone over-heating, preserving its vitality and favoring the prognosis of the implant. Considering that titanium sensitivity occurs in about 4% of the US population, the ascent of zirconium oxide implants is especially good for patients in this demographic. These are just a few of the many advantages boasted by zirconium oxide implants.

While these initial findings are exciting, we still lack studies of the long-term outcome of the material. And though zirconia implants boast numerous advantages, they require removal of more bone structure than do Titanium implants (4mm as compared to Titanium’s 3.35mm requirement). In spite of these minor limitations, the 98% success rate of zirconia implants demonstrates that it can be a viable alternative to titanium implants that is most useful in restoring the anterior dentition.
"No one is perfect." Even though we tell this to ourselves over and over again, many of us still hold ourselves to standards of perfection. Such unrealistic expectations leave us disappointed, bitter, and scarred.

We come from accomplished backgrounds — graduating from top colleges, receiving top scores on national exams, winning accolades, leading successful projects — such that expecting success has become second-nature.

But dental school poses seemingly insurmountable challenges that have the potential to make us question our abilities, our choices to enter dental school, and ultimately ourselves. If there's one thing all of us share in common, it's that sinking feeling of despair when we get our first IP (or NP) in lab, when we are told that we have to re-do our pinindexing, when the denture we have invested months on turns out to fail, when our crowns have open margins, when we perforate a tooth, and when we give an IAN block that leads to a hematoma.

But there's also another thing that binds us together: our resilience. Disappointments are not failures; they are obstacles that humble us and ultimately help us realize that we are not defined by our performance or by what others think of us. Although we should always strive for excellence, we should not let that striving undermine us. Yes, the aforementioned disappointments will gnaw at our hearts in the moment, but rest assured that even the most highly-esteem professors have grown stronger because of them. Here is another one of our professors' stories of disappointments:

“I entered dental school with what I thought were excellent time management and fine motor skills. However, I soon learned how stressful it was to be chronically behind with my lab course assignments and to be informed frequently that my projects needed additional work or to be done over. The last straw that broke was when I received the results of our first waxing practical just before winter break. I remember that the project was a full crown on tooth #19, and for some reason we were asked to use red wax. I received a barely passing score with a note from my bench instructor: “The only reason you passed is that I am feeling like Santa Claus today — ho, ho, ho.” It would be an understatement to say that I was devastated, and I seriously considered dropping out of dental school after that first quarter. Obviously, I decided to stay. Not only did I learn to do excellent wax-ups, but my first faculty teaching assignment was in the first year waxing course! By sharing this story I hope that you will learn from my experience: Do not assume that you are the only person in your class who is feeling challenged; keep in mind that resources are available, no matter what the problem is; and learn to be comfortable asking for help.”

Dr. Carol A. Bibb is Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Clinical Professor of Oral Biology and Medicine at the UCLA School of Dentistry. She received her Ph.D. in Developmental and Cell Biology from UC Irvine in 1971 and her D.D.S. from UCLA in 1978. She joined UCLA’s faculty in 1979, initially on a part-time basis in combination with the private practice of general dentistry, and received a full-time faculty appointment in 2000. She served as General Clinic Director for five years prior to her current appointment as Associate Dean in January, 2005.

Dr. Bibb is an experienced and dedicated dental educator who has taught numerous basic science courses at the pre- and post-doctoral levels. She currently chairs the first year course in Dental Morphology and Occlusion and co-chairs the Introduction to the Dental Profession course, as well as teaching in Foundations of Basic Science and Growth, Development, and Aging. Dr. Bibb has a special interest in mentoring future dental educators through innovative teaching apprenticeships, such as Basic Dental Principles, and serving as a co-director of the UCLA Academic Track program for future academic dentists. Her contributions to dental education at the national level include serving as an ADA National Board test constructor for the case-based component of the Part I National Board Dental Examination. Dr. Bibb has been honored with the 2008 UCLA School of Dentistry Alumni of the Year Award and the 2010-11 Distinguished Faculty Member of the Year Award.

- Saturday, April 26, 2014 -

GOLF TOURNAMENT

FORE! The annual ASDA Golf Tournament has been scheduled for Saturday, April 26th, 2014, at the majestic Eisenhower Course at the Laguna Hills Golf Club at Pacific Prairie Resort. For tournament player sign-up and details contact Steven Pietz or Anthony Fioretti.
This year, the 19th Annual Vendor Fair took place in Ackerman Grand Ballroom. UCLA ASDA saw a record-breaking number of vendors attend the fair: 69 vendors were represented (11 platinum sponsors and 58 gold sponsors). Additionally, a combined total of $37,975 was raised from vendors' support and outside donations, making this the highest amount of money raised at a vendor fair by any ASDA chapter in the nation! The night closed with a raffle, distributing over $4,000 worth of prizes, including 3 iPads. The purpose of the annual vendor fair is to not only raise money for our UCLA ASDA chapter, but to bring professors, clinicians, residents, and dental and pre-dental students together to see all of the new and innovative advancements in dentistry.
I already had a cat, so I had a pretty good idea about what it was going to be like to have a child. I felt prepared. However, after talking to the student-parents at the UCLA School of Dentistry, I came to realize that I will have a lot more on my plate when my son, Connor Jeffrey, arrives in early June.

I wouldn’t say that UCLA School of Dentistry is filled with student-parents, but there are a proud few who have taken on the task of simultaneously raising a family and attaining a D.D.S. degree. I had the chance to sit down with some of these parents to discuss the ups and downs of parenthood while attending dental school. Here are some of the things that I have heard:

What has been the best part about being a parent (in general)?

“It’s fun. That’s the biggest thing for me; [my son] is hilarious and we laugh at... with... him all the time!” – Anthony Fioretti (Son turned one on January 25th)

[About her pregnancy] “Feeling baby movements!” – Angela Hsu (Son born on January 22nd)

What has been the most difficult part about being a parent (in general)?

“The uncertainty of being a parent and decision-making requires that you HAVE to be on the same page. Communication.” – Anthony Fioretti

“There is no time for yourself. You are always thinking, instead of doing something for me, I need to do something with [my child].” – Nathan Beck

“Yeah. You can’t be selfish. Which is hard.” – Anthony Fioretti

What has been the most difficult part about being a parent (in dental school specifically)?

“My son was born about halfway through winter quarter of my first year. So, the grade Dr. Shin gave me had to be the most difficult thing.” – Anthony Fioretti

What is the most common comment you hear about being a parent in dental school?

“How are you going to manage school work with a baby?!” – Angela Hsu

“Does your baby sleep a WHOLE night long?” – Eile Weiss (Daughter born on December 17th)

“How old are you?” – Anthony Fioretti

Who do you think is the next person in the UCLA School of Dentistry to be a parent?

After speaking with parents and non-parents within the UCLA School of Dentistry, the most voted for future parent was Cody Snow of the second year class.

Anthony Fioretti voted for himself.
What knowledge would you impart on all future dental school parents?

“There’s no good time to have a baby.” – Angela Hsu

“It is true that it may be tough [having a baby] while in school, but as long as you recognize and appreciate the special gift of having a child, you will enjoy every moment, even the diaper changing.” – Elle Weiss

“Having a baby made dental school a better experience for me. It’s a lot of work but worth every second!” – Nathan Beck

I have to admit, I was a little stressed after my conversations with these moms and dads. Not only was it made clear to me that “cat” does not equal “baby,” I started to understand the immense responsibility that awaits me in early June. I look forward to welcoming my son into the world, but I hope he wants to become a dentist because I will be looking to retire and sell my practice in about 24 years.

OH! And, if you are the type of person that loves that “new baby” smell, worry your little head no more; a gaggle of babies is on the way. We have Daniella Orner, Clark Knowlton, Jeffrey Olson, Nathan Beck, Christian Hagge, Jared Kenny, and yours truly, and I am sure there are plenty to follow. Get ready for a rush of baby showers, registries, and some really awesome UCLA School of Dentistry onesies.

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DENTAL SCHOOL PROBLEMS

ILLUSTRATED BY ELAINE LU ('16)

![Warning: Danger Below!](image1)

![Warning: Danger Below!](image2)

And that is basically what endo is like... D:
The Diastema
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Dr. Carol A. Bibb is Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Clinical Professor in the Division of Oral Biology and Medicine at UCLA School of Dentistry. She has served as faculty advisor to UCLA ASDA newsletter since 2005.

Submissions
If you would like to submit an article and/or photos for The Diastema or have any suggestions, please email the editors at ucladiastema@gmail.com.

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