

Word of MOUTH

Delta Dental Clinic Dedicated

The College and its Department of Pediatric Dentistry had a dedication of their new Delta Dental of Illinois Predoctoral Pediatric Dentistry Clinic on Dec. 3.

"A unique partnership allowed the Delta Dental of Illinois Predoctoral Pediatric Dentistry Clinic to become a reality," said **Dean Bruce Graham**. "That partnership includes Delta Dental

of Illinois, which provided the funding needed to construct the new clinic; the Danaher Corp. companies of Pelton & Crane and KaVo, who have made significant gift-in-kind donations of dental equipment and technology; and the State of Illinois which, through the work of Governor **Patrick Quinn** and Representative **David Miller**, provided funding for infrastructure improvements."

Representative Miller is a 1988 DDS graduate of the College.

The Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation made a gift to the *Brilliant Futures: Educating a New Dentist for America*

campaign in the amount of \$250,000.

The 2,500 square-foot, 14-chair clinic features innovations such as the capability for digital radiography units built into the cabinetry; new sedation areas and operatories with new dental chairs, cabinetry, and piped-in nitrous oxide at every unit; advanced imaging equipment; educational tools; facilities for special-needs patients; more

privacy; and quiet areas that provide a serene setting for patient care.

Helios 3000 Lights by Pelton & Crane are of the light-emitting diode (LED) variety. They generate no heat, have 15 times the bulb life of standard halogen lights and, with a simple adjustment of wave length, provide excellent operator vision without contributing to resin-com-

posite curing.

The clinic also features a water filtration system from the Vista Research Group. The system delivers superior quality water to the units through significant particulate and organism



Dedicating the Delta Dental Predoctoral Pediatric Dentistry Clinic were (left to right) Dean Bruce Graham; Clinic Director Dr. Larry Salzman; Delta CEO Tom Colgan; Chancellor Paula-Allen Meares; Department Head Dr. Indru Punwani; and Pelton & Crane President Vicente Reynal.

In This Issue

Dean Justmann Takes Charge of Finances

New Room Reservation System Enacted

Wound Healing Symposium Set

reduction without the labor-intensive bottle and chemical insert system previously in use. Like the operating lights, this system will be part of every clinical renovation in the College.

"We are committed to increasing access to oral health care for the people of Illinois," said **Tom Colgan**, President and CEO of Delta Dental of Illinois. "The need in Illinois is great and our support of the clinic helps provide faculty, students, and patients with a completely modern facility in which they can deliver and receive high quality dental care and oral health education."

Vicente Reynal, President of Pelton & Crane, said, "We're very honored to be part of this great endeavor; we work very well together. Our mission is to bring new technology to the dental profession, and we couldn't do that without an institution like UIC."

"It is one of the finest pediatric dentistry clinics in the United States," Dr. Graham said.

"In the State of Illinois there are only 140 pediatric dentists, who clearly are not and will never be able to deal with the oral health of all the children of Illinois," said **Dr. Indru Punwani**, Head of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry.

"Hence, enhanced training for general dentists to partner with pediatric dentists is essential and we at UIC are committed to providing the best training possible to our dental graduates so that this workforce can meet this urgent need.

"This state-of-the-art facility will enable us to provide our students an optimal setting with the chairside availability of technologically advanced digital radiography to minimize radiation exposure, nitrous oxide inhalation anxiety to reduce the anxiety of these children, electronic charting, a quiet room for our infant oral health clinic, and the necessary privacy to be in compliance with HIPAA requirements," Dr. Punwani said.

The new configuration provides sound containment, "which will reduce the anxiety burden on both the parent and child," Dr. Punwani said.

The Department of Pediatric Dentistry, Dr. Punwani noted, is "the only place in the building that trains dental students for the use of nitrous oxide relaxation techniques, and we had only three units. We now have built-in units at every workstation. Before, they had to move patients from one chair to another where there was a nitrous unit.

"It's one-stop shopping so you don't have to take the patient to an x-ray or sedation room. It's all in one unit," he said.

Other dignitaries on hand for the event were UIC Chancellor **Paula Allen-Meares**; **Dr. Kapil Vij**, '99, Pedro '01, MS Oral Sci '04, then President of the UIC Dental Alumni Association Board of Directors; and officials from Delta Dental of Illinois and from Danaher Corp.

Delta Dental of Illinois is a not-for-profit dental service corporation specializing in providing benefits to 1.6 million people in more than 3,600 employee groups throughout Illinois.

The College hopes to raise funds to do a similar renovation of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry Postgradu-

ate Clinic.

"We will be looking for support from our alumni and corporate friends to help keep us the best Department of Pediatric Dentistry in the country," Dr. Punwani concluded.

To contribute to the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, contact Assistant Dean **Mark J. Valentino** at (312) 413-7702 or mjv@uic.edu.

Mothers' Room Opened in College

The College recently opened a Mothers' Room in Room 512, which allows new mothers who are employees, students, or postgrads at the College to return to their activities at the College and keep a healthy breast milk supply by expressing their breast milk comfortably and in private. This is a forward-thinking project, and one of the first of its kind on campus.

Under the supervision of **Dr. Melisa Burton**, Director of Clinical Utilization in the Office for Patient Services, the room features a refrigerator; sink; two comfortable chairs, so the room can be used by two women at once; supplies for moms, such as cleaning wipes, nursing pads, hand lotion, and tissues; books and magazines; and art by **Ann Geddes**.

The room will remain locked at all times, but keys will be managed by **Stephanie Clarke** at the Office for Patient Services and will be issued to users as needed for their specified period.

The College's Diversity Committee first researched and conceived the need and requirements of a Mothers' Room. Most of the funding was obtained from donations by staff and faculty. Working incredibly economically, the total cost was only \$700. Remodeling of the room was supervised by **Fred Chapa**, Director of Facilities.

Formerly, the room had been used as a Department of Restorative Dentistry laboratory. **Dr. David Clark**, Associate Dean for Patient Services Administration, suggested that it be used for the new Mothers' Room. "We are grateful to **Dr. Stephen Campbell** for giving his permission to transfer the use of this room from his department for this purpose," Dr. Burton said.

"We first looked at another room that would have cost \$63,000 to convert," said **Dean Bruce Graham**.

The room is so cutting edge that at its grand opening, personnel from several other areas of campus that



Dean Bruce Graham and Drs. Ana Bedran-Russo and Melisa Burton cut the ribbon on the College's new Mothers' Room.

are contemplating similar rooms, and representatives of the Office of Access and Equity, the Subcommittee on Grounds and Buildings, and the Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Women, attended to get tips on creating similar facilities.

To contact Stephanie Clarke call (312) 996-1036 or e-mail clarkes@uic.edu.

Dr. Bill Knight Named Executive Associate Dean

Subject to University of Illinois Board of Trustees approval, **Dr. G.W. (Bill) Knight** has been named Executive Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. The Search Committee, chaired by **Dr. Stephen D. Campbell**, Professor and Head, Restorative Dentistry, unanimously recommended the appointment of Dr. Knight.

"The search process was very valuable to the College, because it was a broad discussion of academic affairs issues," said **Dean Bruce Graham**. "The process provided Dr. Knight and me with important advice from faculty, students, and staff about the future agenda for new curriculum implementation and evaluation, teaching technology enhancements, faculty teaching development needs, and communication and decision-making protocols."

"It is necessary for leadership and faculty to examine educational practices, faculty recruitment, development, and retention, and most importantly fiscal management" at the College, Dr. Knight said. "It is incumbent on leaders in dental education to examine student and faculty skill sets necessary for the 21st century and to design effective and efficient strategies to develop those skill sets.

"Dental education must also assume responsibility for fiscal integrity, assuring revenue without excluding potential students for fear of debt burden. The College must also be an active and successful participant in the University's research mission.

"These issues require innovative and dedicated leadership from administration and an enthusiastic commitment and participation from faculty. I am prepared to collaborate with our leadership and faculty to address these critical issues in dental education," he concluded.

Dr. Knight has begun the Commission On Dental Accreditation self study in anticipation of

the CODA site visit in 2013. The self study will focus on program outcomes assessment so the College can con-



Dr. Bill Knight, presenting an award to Sandy Murad at Honors Day.

tinue planning for implementation of the new DMD degree and other programmatic innovations. It also will include a review of academic policies and procedures, with wide faculty, student, and staff participation.

Dr. Knight previously was Assistant Dean for Clinical Education. He has been with the College since 2002.

Dr. Knight has assumed administrative responsibility for the academic and didactic classroom aspects of the College's DDS, IDDP, Advanced Standing DDS, and post-graduate specialty programs. **Dr. David Clark**, Associate Dean for Patient Services, also has assumed administrative responsibility for the clinical education aspects of the previously mentioned programs. The Directors of the Group Practice Clinics now will work with and report to Dr. Clark. While Dr. Clark also has assumed administrative responsibility for the pre-patient care (preclinical) components of the DDS and IDDP programs, Dr. Knight will continue to offer advice to the course directors and faculty in these curricular components.

Dean Justmann Hire is Music to College's Ears

The path from member of the faculty in the School of Music at Northwestern University to Executive Director for Administration is an unusual one, but the fact that **Dr. Dean R. Justmann's** career journey has brought him to the College of Dentistry strikes a note of hope during the University's current financial crisis.

With an interest in the organ and in choir conducting,

Dentist Opportunity

An exciting full-time employment opportunity in Southern Illinois!

- ◆ Excellent salary plus bonus opportunities
- ◆ Comprehensive benefits includes group health, dental, life and disability insurance, pension plan, paid leave
- ◆ Malpractice insurance and continuing education
- ◆ Loan repayment opportunity
- ◆ Small town living with metropolitan amenities.



To learn more, please see our website at www.shsdc.org or contact:

Human Resources
Shawnee Health Service
109 California Street
Carterville, IL 62918

Telephone: 618-956-9531
Email: JMconnaughy@shsdc.org



Dr. Dean Justmann.

Dr. Justmann earned a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Rochester and a Master's and PhD in music from Northwestern University. He became a Public Services Operations Manager at Northwestern's Music Library while on the music faculty there, and discovered he liked administration. So he decided on a career change.

"I enrolled in UIC to get an MBA in finance and accounting—after I had earned my PhD, which was unusual," Dr. Justmann said. He worked part-time at UIC while pursuing his MBA, and ended up staying for ten years full-time in the Office of the Associate Vice Chancellor for Administration, culminating in being Director of Business and Financial Affairs.

Recruited by Chicago State University, Dr. Justmann worked there for eight years, serving as Vice President for Budget, Facilities, and Risk Management and later as Vice President for Administration.

"I worked on budgeting and planning, and was the

liaison for Chicago State on budget matters," Dr. Justmann recalled. "I got statewide experience working with the Illinois Board of Higher Education, the Illinois Public Higher Education Cooperative, the State Legislature, and the Governor's Office of Management and Budget."

In 2009, he returned to UIC as Associate Director of Finance for the College of Dentistry, and was promoted to Executive Director for Administration upon the retirement of **Annette Paciga**.

Dr. Justmann is in charge of "financial planning and budgeting; the business side of the College, which also includes clinic receivables; and human resources," he noted. "I also represent the College at University-wide meetings related to those areas and their compliance with established policies and procedures."

Dr. Justmann appears to be the right person at the right time.

"I was at Chicago State when the last great Illinois budget crush happened," he explained. "There were cash rescissions in 2002 and budget cuts and rescissions in 2003 and 2004. It was baptism by fire."

"Here at the College, on my second day, we had the announcement of the freeze and furloughs. But I learned a lot during those Chicago State years and was instrumental

www.procaidentalgroup.com



Caring for your business, so YOU can do the business of Caring.

Generous Compensation
Professional Camaraderie **Autonomy**
Contemporary Facilities **Flexibility**
Continuing Education **Premier Locations**

Part-time and full-time positions available.

Now Accepting Applications for Prime Chicago Offices. New Grads Welcome. Suburban Locations Available.

Call ProCare Dental Group at 847-621-7229

Kathy Hammers, Professional Relations Manager
Irwin Chaiken, DDS, Chief Clinical Officer

in guiding the university through turbulent budget times. Now at the College we're in turbulent budget times as well.

"I'm experienced in this situation, and I'm eager to do anything I can to help the College advance in terms of greater quality and success in the educational, clinical, research, and public service missions—even in the face of difficult economic times," Dr. Justmann concluded.

To contact Dr. Justmann, call (312) 413-1103 or e-mail deanj@uic.edu.

Dr. Thomas C. Hart Named Head of Periodontics

As a periodontist and genetics researcher—as well as a historian and sports fan—**Dr. Thomas C. Hart**, newly appointed as Professor and Head of the Department of Periodontics, and Director of Clinical Research for the College, is happy to be in Chicago and at UIC.

"I'm excited to be here," he said. "Going through the interview process, I was really impressed by the faculty—they're an accomplished group of friendly people. As a human geneticist and periodontist, I think my research interests mesh really well with the wound healing research going on here with **Dr. Phil Marucha** and **Dr. Lu DiPietro**."



Dr. Thomas C. Hart.

Dr. Hart also is pleased to again work with **Dr. Joseph Califano**, Program Director, Periodontics. "Joe and I both earned our periodontal certificates and PhDs together at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU)/Medical College of Virginia, so I'm looking forward to renewing our collaboration. He's a good friend and told me good things about UIC when I decided to apply here."

Dr. Hart is an internationally recognized expert in the genetics of oral and craniofacial diseases. He also is a clinician,

who provided active patient care in his most recent post as Chief, Human Craniofacial Genetics Section and from 2003 until 2008 also held the position of Clinical Director of the Clinical Research Core at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR). He previously was Associate Professor and Director of Clinical Research at the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine, and Associate Professor of Medical Genetics at Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

"As chair of the department, I expect to support the development of the faculty and staff, so I really see this as a service position," he noted. "There are three main aspects to focus my attention: teaching and didactic aspects; clinical aspects of undergraduate and postgraduate periodontics; and research. My goal is to support not only the full-time but the part-time faculty, as well as the students and staff, to help us all achieve excellence."

Dr. Hart earned his DDS at Emory University, and a Certificate of Periodontology and PhD degree in Human Genetics at VCU.

A history and culture buff, Dr. Hart said he "grew up in Europe and I really enjoy traveling and learning more about both ancient and modern history and culture. As a researcher I've had the privilege of spending time with research collaborators abroad, such as in Turkey and Brazil, and I am looking forward to inviting them to visit Chicago."

He also describes himself as a sports fan, noting his favorite football team is the Pittsburgh Steelers. "I don't have a baseball team yet, so I've got to decide between the Cubs and the White Sox," he said, laughing.

Dr. Hart and his family—wife Suzanne; daughters Rachel, 19, and Rebecca, 17; and son Andrew, 15, are enjoying their new life in Chicago.

"I've visited Chicago many times and always loved it—even in winter," Dr. Hart said. "There's so much to do, and the people here are so friendly—both in the city and at the College."

Two Join Pediatric Dentistry

Dr. Adrienne C.A. Barnes and **Dr. Nicola Hill-Cordell** have joined the faculty of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. Both are Clinical Assistant Professors.

Dr. Barnes was conferred her DDS from Georgetown, and then earned a Certificate in Pediatric Dentistry from the UIC College of Dentistry in 1991. She taught in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry in the early 1990s, left

ACCOUNTING, TAX and FINANCIAL PLANNING

PESAVENTO
&
PESAVENTO
LTD. • CPAs

Focused on the dental industry
since 1976, providing quality
accounting, tax planning, practice
management and financial
planning.

We are
The Professional's Professional.
Call us at **(708) 447-8399**
to arrange a consultation.

Member: Academy of Dental CPAs (ADCPA) in Illinois and Northwest Indiana, American Institute of CPAs, Illinois CPA Society.



Dr. Adrienne C.A. Barnes.

for several years, and then rejoined the faculty last year. She is in private practice at 714 W. Maxwell St., and is married to **Eric Barnes**.

Dr. Hill-Cordell grew up in England and came to the United States in 1980. She



Dr. Nicola Hill-Cordell.

earned her DDS from the College in 1989 and her Certificate in Pediatric Dentistry here in 1991. She also completed a Pediatric Dentistry Fellowship at the College. Dr. Hill-Cordell met her husband, **Dr. John Cordell**, '89, when both were students here.

She noted she "is excited to be back at the University working with residents."

Dr. Hill-Cordell practices in Schaumburg, IL. She has five children; two attend the University, and one is in kindergarten. When not working, she said she enjoys attending her children's "many sporting events, traveling, and cooking."

New Room Reservation System for College

The College has streamlined the process for reserving rooms.

The old system, using UICalendar, has a separate calendar for each room. If you want to reserve a room, you have to check each schedule to see which rooms are available.

With the new system – Virtual EMS (Event Management System) – you can see all of the rooms on one screen. The days of checking multiple calendars to find space are over – now you can look for open space, submit a reservation request, or locate an event all in one place.

The College plans to roll out the new room reservation system in May. The Office of Academic Affairs will send out e-mail at the end of April with "how-to" guides for using the new system.

Benefits are:

- A single, convenient, centralized go-to application to search for available space, reviewing information on existing events, and requesting space for your meeting or event.
- Find available space instantly with powerful search Wizards.
- Step-by-step Wizards simplify making, changing, or cancelling reservations.
- Faculty and staff who login to dentistry computers

(Exchange users) can use the same account name and password to make reservations.

- Add events to your personal calendar using standard .ical.
- Make room requests and view/cancel bookings using the internet on newer generation mobile devices.
- The user-friendly interface eliminates the need for training.

For further information contact Lea Alexander at (312) 996-1891, Room202D, or LeaAlex@uic.edu.

College to Increase Collections Diligence

With the State in a budget crisis, the College is increasing its collections efforts from privately paying and privately insured patients, **Dean Bruce Graham** announced at the March 10 faculty meeting.

"We want to diligently do three things," he said.

"First, we want to make sure all treatments we do for patients are recorded in the AxiUm database. If everything is in the records, then we can bill for treatments. Second, we want to do the actual billing. And third, we want to collect what is due," Dr. Graham explained.

He noted that the College now, for example, has \$1.5 million in uncollected patient bills that are over 120 days old. "When fees are older than 120 days, the likelihood of collecting them is small," he said.

In May, Dean Graham explained, any patient who has made no effort to pay bills more than 120 days old will be spoken to and will have treatment suspended until some effort to pay is demonstrated on his or her part. By July, that number will be reduced to 90 days.

"There is nothing harsh about this – these are people who owe us money and know they are expected to pay," Dean Graham stated. "We still will continue to provide about \$2 million per year of free dental care so students can get the experience they need. This new collection strategy is one thing we can do to offset continually shrinking State support.

"If we collected more fees, we could buy more instruments, meaning students could treat more patients and generate more revenue," Dr. Graham explained. "Non-collections have a direct impact on student tuition, because, if we collect more clinic revenue, we will have it to offset reductions in State funding, rather than increasing student tuition."

The College has grown its clinic revenue production from \$5.5 million in 2000 to \$13.5 million in 2009. "This increased clinic revenue production is a reflection of our students getting more clinical experience than they did in the past," Dean Graham said.

For more information, contact **Dr. David Clark**, Associate Dean for Patient Services Administration, at (312) 996-3544 or clarkdm@uic.edu.

College Part of Team Studying Oral Cancer Costs

Experts in dental health and health economic research are

teaming up to determine the true cost burden of oral cancer, which affects more than 34,000 people each year in the United States alone. The UIC College of Dentistry, the business information firm Thomson Reuters, Delta Dental of Michigan, and Delta Dental of Wisconsin are coordinating the study and necessary funding.

“Most oral cancers require costly and disfiguring medical intervention, and even then the five-year survival rate is approximately just 50%,” said **Dr. Jed Jacobson**, chief science officer and senior vice president at Delta Dental of Michigan, “We need to get a handle on the impact of these diseases and how we can combat them better.”

The study will be tapping into Thomson Reuters MarketScan® research databases, which contain information on millions of claims, to evaluate the cost of oral cancers among patients with employer-sponsored insurance, Medicare, or Medicaid. The study also will use information available through Delta Dental of Michigan’s Research and Data Institute.



Dr. Joel Epstein is part of a team studying oral cancer costs.

The project will examine the direct and indirect costs associated with oral cancers. Direct costs are associated with diagnosis, treatment, and recovery from oral cancers. Indirect costs include absenteeism and worker productivity, as well as the disabling and disfiguring side effects of treatment. It also will look at the cost burden of oral cancer on taxpayers who are funding Medicaid and Medicare. In addition, researchers will examine

the comparative value of preventive care for oral cancers versus treatment.

“The study of the social, psychological and economic effects of oral health is a relatively under-developed area of research,” said **Dr. Joel Epstein**, Professor, Department of Oral Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences at the College. “That’s why the U.S. Centers for Disease Control have called for increased collaboration among healthcare providers, healthcare financiers, educators, researchers and policymakers.”

For more information, contact Dr. Epstein at (312) 355-3767 or jepstein@uic.edu.

Faculty Member Shares in Chancellor’s Discovery Fund Grant

Dr. Ana Bedran-Russo, Assistant Professor, Restorative Dentistry, is part of a team that includes **Dr. Carmen Lilley**, Assistant Professor of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, and **Dr. Karen Troy**, Assistant Professor of Kinesiology and Nutrition, which was one of the first five recipients of a \$40,000 UIC Chancellor’s Discovery Fund for Multidisciplinary Pilot Research Projects (CDFMPRP).

The Bedran-Russo team’s project is “A fundamental study of nanoscale material properties of dental composite-tooth interfaces.”

“The inter-disciplinary approach focuses on the understanding and modeling of the mechanism of degradation of the tooth-composite resin components that will aid in the development of novel biomaterials or techniques to improve the durability of dental restoration,” Dr. Bedran-Russo said.

“Consequently this research may have the possibility to benefit millions of people that need dental restorative therapies. The grant will provide pilot data to submit a larger grant to federal agencies such as National Institutes of Health or National Science Foundation.”

Dr. Lilley will be responsible for the theoretical study and experimental procedure of the nanoindentation experiments. Dr. Bedran-Russo will contribute her expertise in restorative dentistry to help design the experimental research plan and model validation. Dr. Troy will supervise the viscoelastic modeling and will contribute her expertise in multiscale finite element modeling of the dental composite-tooth interface.

The CDFMPRP is “intended to support up to five new multidisciplinary collaborations led by emerging researchers at UIC,” said Chancellor **Paula Allen-Meares**. “The goal is to foster academic inquiry that draws upon the expertise of varied disciplines, to nurture the research career trajectories of promising early-stage investigators, and to help awardees leverage extramural funding.”

There will be a second round of the grant program intended to support up to five new multidisciplinary collaborations. The primary investigator eligibility will be expanded for the second round. More information can be found on the website of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research (<http://tigger.uic.edu/depts/ovcr/research/>).

“This program is a great initiative to foster interdisciplinary research in UIC,” Dr. Bedran-Russo concluded. “It encourages us to work in teams with unique and essential expertise and consequently increases the impact of our research. Very few universities offer such opportunities and funds. I have known Dr. Lilley and Dr. Troy for a couple of years, and we have talked about possible collaborations several times, but the Discovery Funds program allowed us to sit together, plan a research project, develop it, and expand our collaboration even further.”



Dr. Ana Bedran-Russo.

College Holds PreDental Conference at CDS Midwinter Meeting

A conference held by the Illinois PreDental Consortium (IPDC), through the College’s Office of Student and Diversity Affairs, on Feb. 26 at the Chicago Dental Society (CDS), Midwinter Meeting was attended by approximately



Dr. Michael J. Stablein, CDS President, with Illinois Institute of Technology and U of I Champaign-Urbana pre dental students.

170 pre dental students, advisors, and mentors. Members of six PreDental clubs participated in the conference including UIC, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Northwestern University, Benedictine University, Loyola University Chicago, and the Illinois Institute of Technology. This is the third year that office organized this event for pre dental students.

The day began with a welcome by CDS President **Dr. Michael J. Stablein**, a College alum.

This year's topic was, "Pre dental Students Today, Leaders of Tomorrow."

The highlight of the program was the session "Train the Trainer." The goal was to teach pre dental students how to present oral health education information and to increase their comfort level in presenting. Among the presenters was **Dr. Sara Gordon**, Associate Professor and Director of the Oral Pathology Biopsy Service, who talked about the negative effects of smoking and oral piercing. **Anne Clancy**, Community Outreach Coordinator with the Kennedy-King Dental Hygiene Program, gave a presentation on Oral Hygiene and **Khatija Noorullah**, Clinical Community Academic Manager, discussed pros the College has to lend pre dental students for their community outreach experiences.

Dr. Thomas Sullivan, American Dental Association (ADA) First Vice-President, began the afternoon by sharing some insights on the role of leadership in dentistry.

Another session that students enjoyed featured the Question-and-Answer Dental Student Panel represented by the UIC Student Chapters of the American Student Dental Association, Student National Dental Association, Hispanic Student Dental Association, American Association of Women Dentists, and the UIC Student Chapter of the Association of Public Health Dentists. **Dr. Rhonna Cohen**, Associate Professor, and Director and Advisor, Pre dental Undergraduate Programs, moderated the panel. The forum provided pre dental students an opportunity to connect with current dental students and to learn about student organizations.

Additionally, **Dr. Caswell Evans**, Associate Dean for Prevention and Public Health Sciences, talked about healthcare reform and its impact on dentistry.

Through a partnership with the Illinois Children's

Healthcare Foundation, IDPC was excited to once again host this event. The mission of the IPDC is to increase the recruitment and admissions of dental students who possess a special interest in community-based practice and the provision of care to children and the underserved in Illinois.

Wound Healing Symposium Set

Registration now is open for the third annual Symposium for Wound Healing Research, "Clinical and Scientific Advances in the Treatment of Poorly Healing Wounds."

The meeting will be held on Friday, May 14, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the College. The annual symposium is sponsored by the UIC Center for Wound Healing and Tissue Regeneration, under the direction of **Dr. Luisa DiPietro**, Director of the Center for Wound Healing and Tissue Regeneration (CWHTR) and Professor of Periodontics.

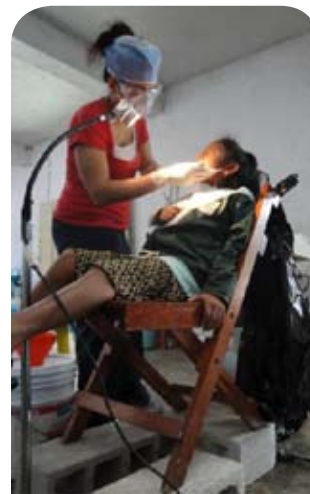
This year's symposium will have a clinical focus and features a panel of outstanding speakers: **Drs. William Ennis** (UIC; treatment of chronic wounds), **Richard Gamelli** (Loyola University Chicago; treatment of burn injury), **Gayle Gordillo** (The Ohio State University; oxygen and healing), **Geoffrey Gurtner** (Stanford University; stem cells and healing), **Nicole Gibran** (University of Washington; neuroimmune modulation of repair), and **Steven Boyce** (University of Cincinnati; tissue constructs in burn wound treatments). A "Meet the Experts" roundtable will be held during the lunch break, giving participants the opportunity to interact directly with the speakers.

The symposium is open to all; register at: www.regionline.com/whsymp10. Additional information is available on the CWHTR website, <http://dentistry.uic.edu/depts/wound/>, or contact Center Coordinator **Wendy Cerny** at cernyw@uic.edu or (312) 355-2662.

Students Provide Oral Healthcare in Mayan Village

By Rana Shahi

One of the most memorable experiences of my life was when I decided to join 30 strangers and travel to Mexico Dec. 27 to Jan. 8 to help the underserved Mayan community. Along with **Elisa Ochoa** (D-3), hygiene students **Kasia Mateja** (H-2) and **Shamika White** (H2), and hygiene instructor **Ann Clancy**, I traveled from Chicago, IL, to Kuxeb, Mexico, a Mayan village in the Yucatan. There, we joined the other volunteers where we were introduced to the family we lived with for eight days during our stay.



Rana Shahi, D-3, providing free dental treatment to Mayans living in Mexico.

The group of volunteers consisted of physicians, den-

tal students, hygienists, pharmacists, nurses, contractors, undergrad students, and retired men and women. Together we provided medical and dental treatment, medication, vitamins, and health education to the community, and built an addition to the village health clinic.



Chicago dental volunteers, along with dental students from Mexico.

The dental team consisted of dental students (two from the U.S. and four from Mexico), two dental hygiene students, and one hygienist/instructor. Together, we built the dental clinic from the ground up, converting a police station into a fully functional dental clinic. We were able to achieve this in approximately two hours by assembling holding chairs and mobile hand pieces, and we created a sterilization/instrument center.

Once our dental team opened the doors, we were excited—but overwhelmed—by the number of patients who flocked to the clinic. A total of 240 patients came in for treatments over the course of a week. Treatments included oral hygiene instructions, prophylaxis, scaling/root planing, direct restorations, and extractions.

All the patients would initially request cleanings, but after thorough examination we determined multiple extractions and scaling and root planning were deemed necessary for the majority. Children as young as four years old would require multiple extractions. Other patients would have rampant caries, root tips, and infections which re-

quired immediate treatment. Some patients who were in their 30s had never had any dental treatment.

All dental instruments and materials were donated by generous dentists and dental



Dental hygiene students Shamika White and Kasia Mateja providing oral hygiene instruction to a local Mayan man.

supply companies. Although we had supplies, we lacked many more which were needed and even ran out shortly after opening our doors. There were many times we had to improvise with what we had. Sadly, we even had to turn patients away. Even so, we were able to provide much needed services and relieve patients of infections, pain, and disease.

In between helping and working, we still managed to enjoy our stay and developed a special bond with the people of the community. We played soccer every night, braided the girls' hair and painted their nails, played cards, and exchanged stories of one another's lives. The entire community was very hospitable and selfless. They were warm and welcoming, taking us in and treating us as their own.

I think I speak for the entire group of volunteers when I say that this was one of the most rewarding and gratifying experiences of my life and I feel blessed that I was given the opportunity to be able to donate my time and services to the less fortunate. While I got relevant experience in the dental field, this trip also humbled me in a way that I will always remember.

Reach of Dr. Wu's Research Extends to Florida High School

Two Florida high school students won their institution's science fair and moved on to the area's regional competition after being mentored by **Dr. Christine Wu**, Director of Cariology, Department of Pediatric Dentistry.

Meera Nagarsheth and **Gracie Willert** of Jensen Beach High School in Jensen Beach, FL, "did a science fair project in which we compared different flavorings and brands of gum to see which killed the most bacteria," Nagarsheth said. "Through our research, we found that Dr. Wu had completed a similar project."

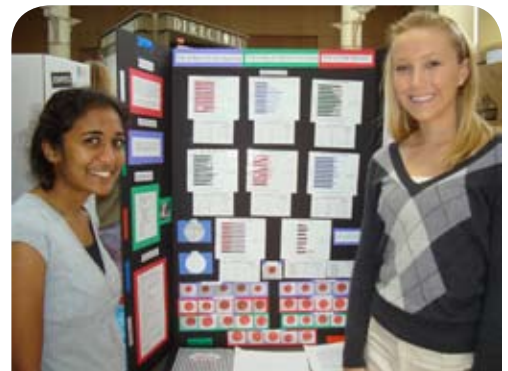
The students e-mailed Dr. Wu, telling her "what we were doing and that we needed some guidance," Nagarsheth said.

Nagarsheth later called Dr. Wu, "and she helped me outline the project in its entirety. She specified methods for the procedure and helped us to decide our hypothesis.

"During the project, I would call her and she would answer all of my questions," Nagarsheth continued. "After completing the project, I sent her all of our data and type-up of the project, and she proofread the entire thing. She also called

me and we discussed the project and its results for over two hours."

The students tested cinnamon, peppermint, and spearmint in Orbit, Five, and Big Red gums, plating saliva before and after chewing the gum. After performing "a colony count to see which flavoring killed the most and why," Nagarsheth said, the students found that "cinnamon and spearmint performed



Meera Nagarsheth and Gracie Willert of Jensen Beach High School with their award-winning science project, for which they were mentored by Dr. Christine Wu.

the best, supporting our hypothesis that they would due to their respective cinnamic aldehyde and carvone (plant essential oils) contents.”

“Our project’s success goes to Dr. Wu,” Nagarsheth said.

“How exciting these young students can be,” said Dr. Wu. “I’ve really enjoyed working with these two high school students. Usually it is difficult to work with students on science projects over the phone. But their persistence and enthusiasm really motivated me and kept me going.

“I was quite impressed with their quest for scientific knowledge and their willingness to go the extra mile to accomplish what they set forth to do,” Dr. Wu concluded. “I think I might even have got them interested in pursuing a career in dentistry!”

Volunteers Needed for ISDS Mission of Mercy

The Illinois State Dental Society (ISDS) and its Foundation will host their first Mission of Mercy event at the Interstate Center in Bloomington, IL, Friday and Saturday, June 11 and 12, utilizing 90 portable dental units. The ISDS expects to deliver approximately \$900,000 in free care to 1,500 children and adults. Volunteer dentists, dental students, hygienists, and assistants are needed. Call (800) 475-4737, e-mail MOM@isds.org, or log on to <http://www.isds.org/ISDSFoundation/imom.asp>.

Main Character in Novel is College Alum

“Spare any change?” and “I don’t know nothing” were the



College of Dentistry benefactor Charlene Wexler wrote “Murder on Skid Row.”

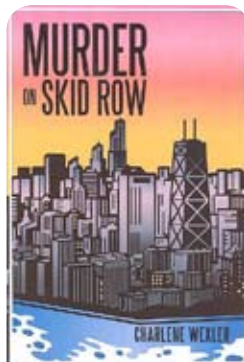
watchwords on Chicago’s Skid Row in the 1960s. Located on Madison Street, only a few blocks north of the College of Dentistry, Skid Row was home to hustlers, winos, addicts, bums, lost souls, ripoffs, and kickbacks. Everyone, it seemed, had a secret.

Into this shady society steps

Dr. Mel Greenberg, a new

graduate of the UIC College of Dentistry, who describes himself as “fresh out of dental school, very ide-

alistic, and very poor.” He opens his new dental office “to help the downtrodden,” he says. Instead, he finds himself in a world where a day might bring anything from a philosophy-quoting patient to a



“Murder on Skid Row” features a College of Dentistry alum as its main character.

knife held at his neck. Eventually, he finds himself a suspect in a murder.

Based on a true story, *Murder on Skid Row* is the first novel by **Charlene Wexler**, wife of **Dr. Sam Wexler**, ’64. Told from Dr. Greenberg’s point of view and set predominantly in his dental office, *Murder on Skid Row* also features a scene at the College.

Murder on Skid Row is available through Amazon.com and bookstores everywhere. Published by Author House, the book sells for \$21.49 hardcover and \$10.99 paperback.

The Wexlers are longtime benefactors to the College. They donated all the tables and chairs in the fourth and fifth floor vending areas, and paid for reupholstering the couches and chairs in the fourth and fifth floor student lounges in recent years. They also are longtime benefactors and consultants to the College’s fifth floor Kottemann Gallery.

For more information, log on to www.charlenewexler.com.

People Accomplishments

The College’s Oral Pathology Biopsy Service had a great response to the Oral Path Challenge at Clinic and Research Day. A total of 78 people took the challenge and submitted their diagnoses of the three cases. All entries, regardless of whether or not their diagnoses were correct, were entered in a drawing, and the lucky winner was Maha Almusa. If you would like to look at the cases and see the diagnoses that were given by the original clinicians in these cases, log on to <http://www.uicoralpath.com/oralpathchallenge>.

William S. Bike, Director of Advancement and Alumni Affairs communications, was nominated and confirmed for another three-year term as one of three Senators representing Academic Professionals on the University Senate. His term runs through April 2013.

Paul Doodles won the Most Outstanding Presentation Award at the Hinman Dental Research Conference in Memphis, TN, in October. His research looks at the inflammatory pathways of rheumatoid arthritis (RA). Data shows around 17% of patients with severe RA have TMJ involvement. Furthermore, RA has some common elements with the inflammation seen in gingivitis and periodontal disease. His work found a redundancy between two key CD4+T-cell inflammation pathways. The results may explain why some patients are refractory to some lines of immunotherapy and suggest that common upstream cytokine intervention may offer superior modulation of disease.



Paul Doodles (center), being presented his Most Outstanding Presentation Award at the Hinman Dental Research Conference in Memphis.

Dr. Suchada “Ning” Kongkiatkamon, a post-doctoral student in Prosthodontics, won the first place American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Dentsply International Award at the ADEA meeting in March for her poster presentation entitled “Gender Disparities in Prosthodontics: Authorship and Leadership, 13 Years of Observation.”



Dr. Suchada “Ning” Kongkiatkamon with the President of ADEA, Dr. Ronald J. Hunt.

Classifieds

Financial and Legal Services

Pesavento & Pesavento Ltd., certified public accountants, offer accounting, tax, and financial planning focused on the dental industry. They have more than 25 years of experience in providing quality accounting, tax planning, practice management, and financial planning. Pesavento & Pesavento Ltd., 3401 S. Harlem Ave., Suite 200, Berwyn, IL 60402, (708) 447-8399, elainep@pesaventocpas.com. (FA)

Insurance

Choose The Dentists Insurance Company for your professional liability, employment practices liability, and office property insurance needs. For your no-obligation premium quote, please call ISDS-member dentist Rennie Holmes, DMD, at (866) 834.2487. (FDT)

Miscellaneous

Murder on Skid Row, a new novel by Charlene Wexler, wife of Dr. Sam Wexler, '64, has just been published. It's the story of a recent graduate of the UIC College of Dentistry in the 1960s who opens a dental office on Chicago's Madison Street Skid Row. See www.amazon.com for more information.

Positions/Practices Available

Come join the professionals at ProCare Dental Group PC. Generous compensation, contemporary facilities, flexibility, autonomy, premier locations, continuing education, professional camaraderie. Part-time and full-time positions available. (847) 621-7229 or (847) 621-7225. (FDT)

Associate-general practice in LaSalle/Peru, Illinois, experienced team, excellent growth potential. Looking for a motivated dentist to practice quality dentistry, in our fun, friendly, atmosphere. Income potential \$200,000. No PPO/HMO. Send resume to edmonroe@comcast.net. (B30)

Franklin Park dentists needed.

Full-time and part-time. Our associates earn \$200,000. We love to teach comprehensive pedo, surgical extractions, fillings, etc, to the right person. If you are confident, willing to learn, and not afraid to work, we will keep you busy. Malpractice paid. Recent grads welcomed too. Visit www.allstardentalclinic.com. Email resume or questions to dimitri_h@hotmail.com. (FA)



GIVE KIDS A SMILE—The Tooth Fairy (dental student Maria Sanchez) and Flossie the Beaver (dental hygiene student Eric Zemanovic) visited with youngsters from St. Malachy School on Give Kids a Smile Day. The day is run by the Department of Pediatric Dentistry to provide free dental education and screenings to children.

General dentist: Family Dental Care. Full or part-time. Several of our associates have become partners. Come and talk to them. Very high income potential. Specialists on staff. Currently four locations and growing. 95% fee for service. No Public Aid. (773) 978-7801 (ask for Tony or Niko) or e-mail: fdc92@hotmail.com. <http://www.familydentalcare.com> (FA)

Central Care Inc., a provider of contract staffing services in the Federal government healthcare sector, is seeking an Endodontist to support services at Ft. Sill Army Base, Oklahoma, and Ft. Leonard Wood Army Base, Missouri. Call (571) 499-5013 or e-mail jgamble@centralcareinc.com. (FN)

Belmont and California Dental Clinic is pleased to offer immediate opportunities for General Dentists and a Dental Hygienist. We trust that the University of Illinois at Chicago has instilled in you the knowledge, skills, and necessary experience that we are looking for in candidates to join our team. Our office seeks dentists to diagnose and treat patients and provide all kinds of preventive and corrective services and treatment. We are looking to hire two College of Dentistry graduates and a Dental Hygienist. These are permanent positions and our business days are Monday through Saturday. Our office has a large volume of English and Spanish speaking patients and a friendly bilingual environment. Please fax your resume to (773) 267-9662. (B30)

Word of Mouth

**University of Illinois at Chicago
College of Dentistry (MC 621)
Room 404-A
801 South Paulina Street
Chicago, Illinois 60612-7211**

**Phone (312) 996-8495
Fax (312) 413-2927
billbike@uic.edu**



**Dean
Bruce S. Graham, DDS,
MS, ME
bgraham@uic.edu**

**Assistant Dean for
Advancement
Mark J. Valentino
mjv@uic.edu**

**Editor-in-Chief
William S. Bike
billbike@uic.edu**

**Staff
Ana Lisa Ogbac,
aogbac1@uic.edu; Irwin
B. Robinson, DDS, MS,
irobby822@aol.com; May
Stern, maysie@uic.edu**

**Design
Kim Burde-Ekkert**

**Production
UIC Office of
Publications Services**

ISSN 1555-1520

protection

a clear future



support

Providing everything you expect
All in one place



Professional Liability | Employment Practices Liability | Office Property

thedentists.com | A dentist-owned company | TDIC is endorsed by 
For a quote, call ISDS-member dentist, Rennie Holmes, DMD, at 866.834.2487.