

Primus

Columbia University
College of Dental Medicine

Winter 2012-13

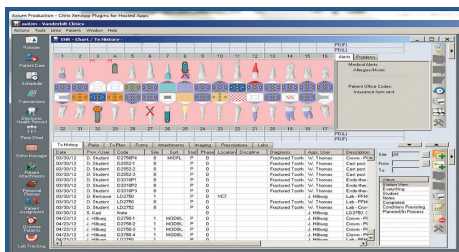
African Village Welcomes CDM Dentists



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
College of Dental Medicine

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*Many thanks to the faculty, students and
friends who have shared their personal
photographs for this issue.*

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Cover: In May, 2012, CDM sent four doctors to
Burundi, one of Africa's tiniest and most beautiful
countries. The Columbia doctors made their journey
to help establish a path to oral health in a country
that has almost no dental care at all. Their short time
in the village of Kigitu brought relief from pain to
many and offered all who visited them a broad and
basic education in the simple but effective ways
they could prevent oral disease in their own lives.

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Primus Notable



Ronnie Myers '79, Peds '80 NAMED INTERIM DEAN

Following the resignation of Dean Ira B. Lamster at the end of the 2012 academic year, Ronnie Myers '79, Peds '80 was appointed Interim Dean of the College of Dental Medicine. Dean Myers will hold the position during the ongoing national search for a successor to Dr. Lamster, now dean emeritus, who stepped down from his position after leading CDM for eleven years.

When announcing the appointment, Columbia University President Lee Bollinger and Dean of the Faculties of Health Sciences and Medicine Lee Goldman, MD, cited the "wealth of academic, clinical and administrative experience," and "deep familiarity with the Columbia University Medical Center" that Dean Myers brings to the responsibilities of the interim deanship. After completing his doctoral degree and training in pediatric dentistry at SDOS (now CDM), Dean Myers undertook a fellowship at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine before entering private practice, in which he is still active. In 1982, he became a full-time faculty member at Columbia, directing the dental school's General Practice Residency Program at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, where he introduced an oral health screening program for pre-cardiac transplant patients. In the same period, Dr. Myers developed a two-year oncology program for dental residents through an affiliation with Memorial Sloan-Kettering.

In 1991, Dr. Myers was made Assistant Dean of Clinical Affairs, and named Associate Dean in 2002. In 2011, he was appointed Vice Dean for Administrative Affairs. He has previously served as a consultant to the Commission on Dental Accreditation and is currently Vice Chair of the New York State Board of Dentistry. Dean Myers oversaw the renovation and reprogramming of the patient intake and emergency areas within the CDM Vanderbilt Clinics in 2010, and has also served as chair of the American Dental Education Association Section on Clinic Administration. He is often invited to lecture on clinical infection control and the relationship between systemic disease and oral health.

Now, having spent several months in this demanding but stimulating position, Dean Myers sums up his experience, saying, "the ideas that present themselves are endless and within every challenge lies opportunity."



Martin J. Davis '74, Peds '75 Retires

Dean Martin Davis retired as Senior Associate Dean as of December 31, 2012, ending 42 years at CDM. Holding a BA from Yale, Dr. Davis earned his DDS in 1974, and his postdoctoral certificate in pediatrics the following year, both at Columbia, where he spent his entire career. After accepting a junior faculty position in Pediatric Dentistry in 1975, he soon rose to become Division Director, a position he held for more than two decades. His subsequent leadership responsibilities in the Office of Student and Alumni Affairs included overseeing admissions, financial aid, career counseling, academic advising and alumni affairs.

A past president of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and a diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD), he serves as a trustee and is a past-president of the American Society of Dentistry for Children (ASDC), the AAPD Education Foundation, and the William J. Gies Foundation of the American Dental

Education Association. He is a Fellow of the American College of Dentists, AAPD, and ASDC, and a past chair of the American Dental Education Association Section for Development, Alumni Affairs, and Public Relations. Dr. Davis has published more than 65 articles and textbook chapters, and has presented papers at numerous national and international symposia.

In announcing the retirement, Interim Dean Ronnie Myers said that CDM has had "no greater or more dedicated individual. During the course of his tenure here at CDM, whenever asked, Dr. Davis delivered. There are not many hats that he hasn't worn. Most importantly, I believe every student over the past four decades can honestly say that Dr. Martin Davis has been there for them whenever they needed him, and was a person who advocated for their needs in the fairest possible way."



Colleagues Honor Dean Ira B. Lamster at June Dinner

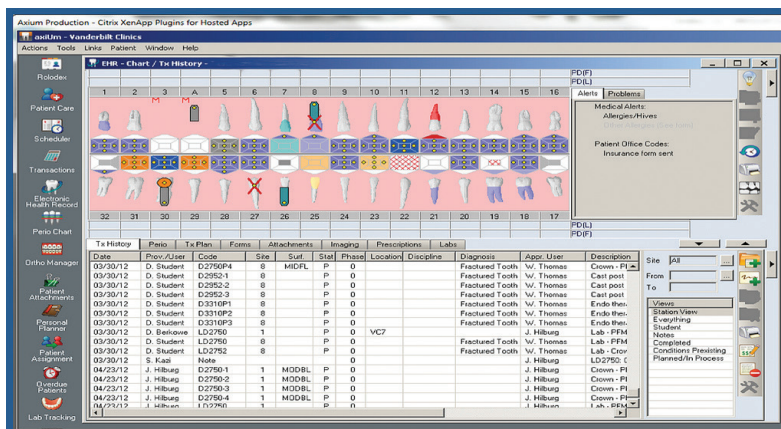
Colleagues and friends honored Dean Ira B. Lamster with a dinner at the Columbia University Faculty House on June 19. Executive Vice President for Health and Biomedical Sciences Lee Goldman welcomed a gathering of 180 guests for the occasion.

Ronnie Myers, DDS, vice dean for Administrative Affairs, now CDM Interim Dean; Leslie Seldin, DDS, chairman of the Board of Visitors, and a member of the search committee for the new Dean; and Letty Moss-Salentijn, DDS, vice dean for Academic Affairs, were the evening's speakers. Dr. Seldin summed up CDM's many advances under Dean Lamster's guidance, saying, "[our] graduates have gained pride in this institution as one of the premier dental schools in the country. You have attracted outstanding new faculty members ... guided us through ... strategic planning, accreditation and a new, cutting edge curriculum. We have seen expansion of our physical plant, technology [and] international exchange programs. You have forged valuable relationships with ... the den-

tal industry, foundations and organized dentistry." [Note: Under Dean Lamster's guidance, CDM's sponsored research rose to more than \$6 million.]

Dr. Lamster has joined the Department of Health Policy and Management in the Mailman School of Public Health, where he is working to increase the focus on dental public health. Since arriving in his new offices, he has:

- edited the October 2012 issue of the *Dental Clinics of North America*, containing the monograph, "Primary Health Care in the Dental Office";
- been elected, as ADA nominee, to the World Dental Federation (FDI) Science Committee; and,
- been appointed to the NYS Department of Health Medicaid Evidence Based Benefit Review Work Group advising which health services are to be covered by Medicaid.



The axiUm electronic record screen presents a full history of all medical/dental documentation necessary for comprehensive treatment of each dental patient.

CDM Expects Multiple Advantages From New Electronic Data System

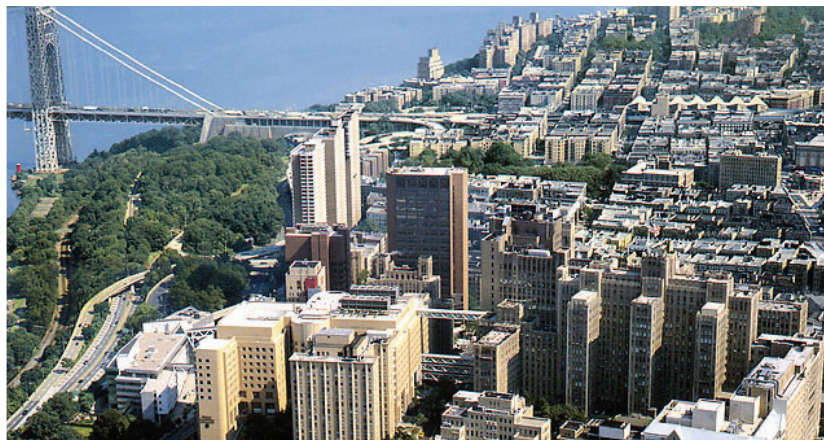
Since June 2011, when the College of Dental Medicine replaced its conventional paper health care charts with digital data, recording, retrieving and managing patient records have never been more secure.

This is only one of multiple advantages expected from CDM's implementation of its new axiUm electronic patient record system. When the system was being launched under his supervision, CDM Interim Dean Ronnie Myers said his biggest worry was "that it wouldn't work when we went live" but adds that those fears vanished with the very first trial of the hardware because "it really works!" While offering high praise for axiUm's "searchable documentation capabilities in quality assurance assessments and patient care evaluation," Dean Myers admits that constructing best practices for gaining maximum productivity from the software has been both rewarding and challenging. He predicts that it will be that way for a while.

According to axiUm, more than 50% of academic dental schools across the United States and Canada use their system because it offers multiple modules that are specific to institutional needs, including the capacity to handle large numbers of patients and providers. The software was created to document extensive treatment plans that may be shared among clinicians to record and evaluate student work and to help plan and introduce educational augmentation that takes a major role for digital data gathering into account. This efficient and accurate electronic medical record program has also been labeled certified by the federal Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act of 2009 because of its meaningful use capabilities.

HITECH hopes to transform health care delivery in the United States with the widespread electronic exchange of meaningful health care information. The use of HITECH-approved digital technology is expected to generate savings throughout the health sector by improving quality and coordination of treatment through better communication, and by reducing medical error and duplicative care. The Act provides financial compensation to professional users of approved data systems for activities like training to assure maximum efficiency in gaining the most beneficial data for advancing the process by which health care evolves.

Macy Foundation Funds Symposium on Interprofessional Education and Practice



On June 14 and 15, the College of Dental Medicine hosted *Integrating Oral and Overall Health Care: On the Road to Interprofessional Education and Practice*, a symposium funded by the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation. Dean Ira Lamster, Division of Periodontics Professor, Evanthia Lalla, and New York Academy of Medicine President Jo Ivey Boufford, MD, welcomed approximately 40 invited guests and speakers for the two-day session at the Columbia University Faculty House. Executive Director of the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) and President of the ADEAGies Foundation Richard Valachovic, DMD, MPH, gave the keynote address: "Building a foundation for interprofessional education and practice." Dr. Valachovic has led ADEA's work in integrating dentistry with interprofessional education and practice, and represents ADEA on IPEC, the Interprofessional Education Collaborative.

Mounting Evidence of Oral and Overall Health Link.

Symposium participants from education and research, professional associations, government agencies, and the insurance industry heard discussions on the role of oral health care professionals in managing patients with complex chronic conditions, including HIV, pre-diabetes and diabetes, as well as existing or potential problems arising from tobacco use. Other topics covered the prevention and recognition of oral disease in non-dental care settings, including the application of topical fluoride for children, and treatment of adults with dry mouth.

CDM Looks Ahead to New Cooperative Strategies in Education and Practice.

On the second day of the symposium, small groups met to consider steps for introducing and promoting the symposium's overall objective of increasing interprofessional practice. An advisory board is preparing a report

on their findings and a plan for bringing them into education and practice. A publication date has not yet been set.

With the Macy Foundation's support as a springboard, CDM hopes to sponsor activities that will move beyond a stereotypical division of the health care professions and the culture of hierarchy.

CDM and Teachers College Grant DDS/MA and PhD in Science Education



Drs. Laureen Zubiaurre and Roseanna Graham, who have both studied in the Science Education program, are helping to introduce innovations in academic teaching throughout CUMC.

Pedagogical training, stressing the theory and practice of education, has not often been a major consideration in teaching sciences fundamental to medicine and dentistry.

In 2005 Vice Dean Letty Moss-Salentijn and Special Research Scientist Dr. Marlene Klyvert in the College of Dental Medicine joined Dr. O. Roger Anderson, chair of the Mathematics, Science and Technology Department at the Graduate School of Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, to establish an integrated program in Science Education, granting the DDS/MA for students and the PhD for faculty. Columbia's advanced degrees in the study of current and innovative methods for educating dental students appear to be the first granted at an institution of higher learning in the United States.

Nine CDM students have completed the joint degree program, six are currently enrolled, and an additional three have taken courses at Teachers College without pursuing a degree. Dr. Roseanna Graham, an associate professor in the Division of Operative Dentistry, earned both the first DDS/MA and PhD degrees granted under this program. Her colleague, Associate Dean Laureen Zubiaurre, is a current PhD candidate in the program. Both Dr. Graham and Dr. Zubiaurre work with the CUMC Institute for Teaching and Learning to foster discussion about best practices and innovations in pedagogy across the Medical Center campus.

A major addition to CDM's preclinical training is case-based instruction, built around evidence taken from patients treated by third and fourth-year students in CDM clinics. These cases demonstrate the positive effect

of presenting an integrated introduction to dentistry's various disciplines which, in the past, have been addressed separately in the curriculum. This approach shows by example that, in the real world of clinical treatment, it may be necessary to apply knowledge from a spectrum of disciplines rather than relying on a single area of expertise.

With this inclusive approach, small, faculty-led student groups gain a unified armamentarium of diagnostic and treatment planning skills before beginning to train on patients in the clinical setting. Analysis of complex cases and simulation of dental procedures relating to their (manikin) patients augments learning through preparation and restoration of specially fabricated acrylic teeth that simulate the pathology of each case. Simultaneously, students learn to use the Electronic Health Record and interpret digital radiographs, making the transition into clinical patient care smoother and less stressful, so that students are more comfortable treating their first patients. Their practical skills, clinical preparedness, and competence are assessed through Comprehensive Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs), Portfolios, and Case Presentations. During an OSCE, students may need to evaluate radiographs and models, interview a standardized patient, or demonstrate the use of an instrument to an examiner. Student case presentations made in a group setting allow faculty and students to interact and discuss various clinical situations, which, as Dr. Zubiaurre says, "helps our students learn the important steps in documenting and presenting cases clearly and concisely—a skill essential to the postdoctoral training that many of them choose."

A Celebration of Research Excellence

The following excerpt is from an introductory message given by Senior Associate Dean for Research Jeremy Mao, DDS, PhD, on September 27 at the first ceremony honoring faculty and students at the College of Dental Medicine for achieving distinction in research and scholarship.

Columbia University has a long-standing, rich history in dental education and research.

Dr. William John Gies (1872-1956), a professor of Biochemistry in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University, is recognized as a pioneer by dental education and research communities worldwide. Professor Gies received his PhD in biochemistry from Yale in 1897 and spent his lifelong career at Columbia. Dr. Gies became interested in dental caries and periodontal disease when he was invited to join members of the New York Institute of Oral Pathology in studies of oral illness.

In 1919, Professor Gies became the founding Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Dental Research*, which remains a preeminent scientific journal in dentistry today. He was a co-founder of the American Association for Dental Research (AADR) in 1920, which continues to be the lead dental research organization with a mission to advance oral health care through discovery and innovation.

The [typewritten] 1926 Gies Report, "Dental Education in the United States and Canada," [is] broadly acknowledged as the first comprehensive portrait of dental education. The Gies Report not only described the weaknesses of North American dental schools, which were mostly trade schools unaffiliated with universities, but also advocated the need to instill rigorous medical and scientific instruction in dental education.

Almost a century later, faculty and students at Columbia University College of Dental Medicine (CDM) aspire to follow Professor Gies' exemplary act, and continuously accomplish remarkable milestones in dental and craniofacial research.

There is an active Student Research Program with students working in laboratories of dentistry, medicine, public health and engineering at Columbia, and external institutions including the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR). A number of predoctoral and postdoctoral students have received national and international recognition for their research work, ranging from osteonecrosis, orthodontic tooth movement, sociobehavioral science and stem cell biology/tissue engineering. Recently, two CDM trainees received AADR Hatton Awards (out of 6 awarded nationally) the highest recognition by the AADR for student research.

The depth and breadth of research awards and grants that have been obtained by CDM faculty members continue to grow, leading to publication in high impact scientific journals and intellectual properties.

In this age of real-time communication via Wi-Fi, laptops and smart phones, we are inspired by what Dr. Gies accomplished with a typewriter, and strive to continue innovations and knowledge discovery indispensable to the vitality of any profession, including dentistry.

2012 Research Awards & Honors Celebrated at Research Reception

Faculty Grants, Awards & Honors

Kavita Ahluwalia, DDS, MPH: \$478,000 over 4 years from the NYS Department of Health for "Identifying Best Practices for Maintenance of Oral Health in Nursing Home Residents."

David Albert, DDS, MPH: \$116,000 from Aetna Life & Casualty toward a grant of \$667,000 for Aetna Dental Web Content Development and Research.

Nurit Bittner, DDS, MS: \$195,000 over three years from Astra-Tech for An Open, Prospective, Randomized, Multicenter Study Comparing Osseospeed™ Plus With Osseospeed™ Tx In Partially Edentulous Maxillae And Mandibles: A 5-Year Follow-Up Study.

Courtney Chinn, DDS, MPH: \$5,000 from the ADA Foundation for Developing Interactive Oral Health Videos to Update Parent/Staff Training in Children's Oral Health.

Burton Edelstein, DDS, MPH: from HRSA \$1.3 million over 5 years for Pre-doctoral Training in General, Pediatric and Public Health Dentistry; \$1.7 million over 5 years for Postdoctoral Training in General, Pediatric and Public Health Dentistry; \$1.3 million over 8 years for Leadership Training in Pediatric Dentistry; \$3.7 million over 11 years for Ryan White Community Based Dental Partnership Program; \$2.5 million over 5 years for Faculty Develop-



l. to r.: Drs. Panos Papapanou, Carol Kunzel, and David Albert at CDM's 2012 Research Reception.

ment in General, Pediatric and Public Health Dentistry, and \$630,000 over 3 years from NIH/NCMH&HD for Bio-behavioral Disease Management of Young Children; **Shils Entrepreneurial Award**, recognizing outstanding initiatives to educate the community on oral health; and honored as president of Children's Dental Health Project for securing pediatric dental benefits in CHIP.

Mildred Embree, DMD, PhD: \$1.5 million K99/R00 award over 7 years from NIH/National Institute of Dental Research for NIDCR Dentist Scientist K99: Improve TMJ Regeneration Strategies; a **New Investigator Award** at the First International Conference on Dental and Craniofacial Stem Cells, New York, NY; **1st place Hatton Award Senior Basic Science Category** at the International Association for Dental Research, Iguacu Falls, Brazil; and **1st place Hatton Award Postdoctoral Category**, American Association

for Dental Research, Tampa, FL, for her presentation: *TMJ Stem/Progenitor Cells: Properties, Clonal Characteristics, and Regeneration Potential.*

John Grbic, DMD, MS, MMSc: contract for \$414,000 with Dentsply International, Inc., for "'One abutment – one time.' An animal study."

Carol Kunzel, PhD, MA: \$1.3 million over 5 years from NIDCR, Office of the Director, NIH, for *Integrating Social and Systems Science Approaches to Promote Oral Health Equity.*

Shantanu Lal, DDS: 2012 International Association Lion Dental Research Award from IADR Oral Health Research Group, Iguacu Falls, Brazil, for *Increased Gingival Bleeding Reported by Mothers At-Risk for Cardiovascular Disease.*

Evanthia Lalla, DDS, MS, Carol Kunzel, PhD, MA, and Ira Lamster, DDS, MMSc: Sunstar Foundation Award for Identification of

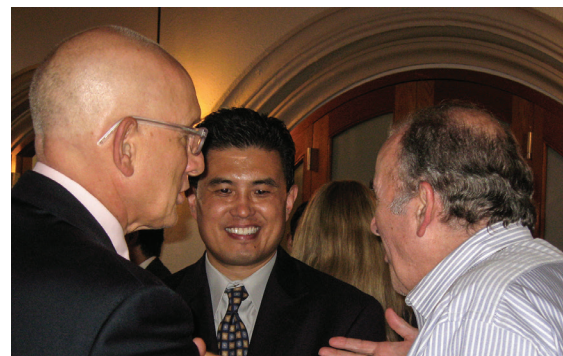
unrecognized diabetes and pre-diabetes in a dental setting, with co-authors S. Burkett and B. Cheng, *Journal of Dental Research*, July 2011; \$660,000 over 4 years from Colgate-Palmolive for *Screening for undiagnosed diabetes in a dental setting: a new paradigm for dental practice*; \$200,000 over 2 years from the New York State Health Foundation for *Integrating diabetes screening in dental care settings*. **Dr. Lalla elected secretary of the IADR Periodontal Research Scientific group** at 2012 annual meeting – to become president in 2 years.

Stephen Marshall, DDS, MPH: from the Samuels Foundation, with Mount Sinai School of Medicine: \$30,000 subaward through CDCP, for *Improving Health of Older Adults: Diabetes Prevention & Screening as Part of the Eldersmile Program*; \$200,000 grant over two years for *Improving Health of Older Adults: Pri-*

mary Health Care Interventions as Part of ElderSmile.

Dennis Mitchell, DDS, MPH, with Ira Lamster, DDS, MMSc: named to **New York State Medicaid Redesign Team: Basic Benefit Review Work Group** to develop recommendations to reduce costs and increase quality and efficiency in New York's Medicaid Program. (Co-PI); **\$300,000 award** from Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for *Summer Medical and Dental Education Program*; **\$3.7 million** from CDCP for *Summer Public Health Scholars Program*. (Co-PI)

Panos Papapanou, DDS, PhD: \$432,000 over two years from NIH/NIDCR for *MicroRNAs in Gingival Tissues: Differential Expression and Potential Function*; **\$349,000** over two years from Colgate Palmolive for *A study of the gingival transcriptome during the course of bacterially-induced inflammation*. **Dr. Papapanou named vice chair, Gordon**



Drs. Burton Edelstein and Jeremy Mao chat with Dr. Henry Ginsberg, Herbert and Florence Irving Professor of Medicine and Director, Irving Institute for Clinical & Translational Research.

Research Conference in Periodontal Diseases, 2013; and chair, 2015 Gordon Research Conference in Periodontal Disease in recognition of his contributions to periodontal research.

Dr. Athanasios Zavras, DMD, MS, DrMSc: \$340,000 over 2 years from NIH/NIDCR for *Whole Genome Association Study of Oral Cancer*; \$270,000 over 3 years from NIH/NIDCR for *Oral Cancer Detection Methods in a Community Setting*; \$121,000 from Merck for *An observational case-control study to validate the association between RBMS3 and risk of osteonecrosis of the jaw in subjects receiving anti-resorptive agents*.

Ulrike Schulze-Späte, DMD, PhD: K08 for \$693,942 over 5 years from NIH/NIDC for *BRN3 Transcription Factor Family in Osteoclastogenesis*; contract for \$462,000 from Dentium for *Histological Analysis of Bone Formation and Remodeling after Maxillary Sinus Augmentation with Different Biomaterials*.

Sunil Wadhwa, DDS, PhD: \$1.5 million over five years from NIH/NIDCR for *Estrogen Receptor Beta Regulation of Mandibular Condylar Growth*.

Angela Yoon, DDS, MPH, MA: \$91,000 over 3 years, with the

Shah, Jeffrey Gimble, Mandi Lopez, Sidney Eisig, Gordana Vunjak-Novakovic: **Best Abstract Award**, 2012 AAOMS annual meeting, for *Anatomically-Shaped Autogenous Engineered Bone Graft for TMJ Condyle Reconstruction*.

Fransiskus Andrianto, DDS, prosthodontics postdoctoral student: **Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics Grant** for *Retentive Strength Evaluation of a Bioceramic Luting Cement*.

Adham Azim, DDS, endodontics postdoctoral student: **First Place Award**, Pan Arab Endodontics Conference, Dubai.

Fotini Chrisopoulos, DDS, prosthodontics postdoctoral student: **Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics Grant** for *Evaluation of Fracture Resistance of Monolithic Lithium Disilicate (LD) Custom Implant Abutments*.

Caitlin Magraw, DDS '12, with co-authors **Din Lam, Aaron Park, Michael Perrino, Sidney Eisig:** **Best Poster Award**, Cleft and Craniofacial Surgery Section, 2012 AAOMS annu-

al meeting, for *Computer Simulated Neonatal Mandibular Distraction Osteogenesis*.

Predoctoral Awards & Honors

Tracy Shen, DDS, orthodontics postdoctoral student: **First Place Award**, basic science section of Resident Scholar Research, AAO meeting.

Jose Castillo, DDS/MA'14: Colgate-Palmolive HDA Scholarship for Post Graduate Dentistry Related Program.

Matthew Cozin, DDS '13, Stephen Dadaian, DDS '13, and Jeremy Zuniga, DDS '10, orthodontics postdoctoral student **OMS Foundation Daniel M. Laskin Award** for most outstanding article, "Novel therapy to reverse the cellular effects of bisphosphonates on primary human oral fibroblasts," with co-authors, **BM Pinker, K. Solemani, S. Cremers, R. Landesberg, Srikala Raghavan** (CDM faculty mentor), published

Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, October, 2011.

Kayleigh Eaves, DDS/MA'12: 2012 ADEA/Crest Oral-B Scholarship for Predoctoral Students Pursuing Academic Careers, ADEA Annual Session & Exhibition.

Andrew Ferraro, DDS '14: New York Academy of Dentistry's Summer Research Grant for *Identifying Undiagnosed Diabetic Patients in the Dental Setting*. The College of Dental Medicine will receive \$4,000 to offset the costs of the research.

Jiafeng Gu, DDS '13: New Investigator Award, First International Conference on Dental and Craniofacial Stem Cells, New York, NY, 2011.

Jeffrey Hajibandeh, DDS '14: finalist **Hatton Award**, predoctoral category for "Multiphase Bioscaffold for Integrated Regeneration of Root-Periodontium Complex, 2012 American Association of Dental Research meeting.

Kimberli Loraine Leal, DDS '14 and Omonlegbo Briana Ovbude, DDS '14: \$2,500 each for 2011-2012 academic year, Predoctoral Underrepresented Minority Dental Student Scholarship from the ADA Foundation.

Annia-Beatrice Le Goff, DDS/MPH'13: Colgate-Palmolive HAD Scholarship for Postgraduate Dentistry Related Program.

Jenny Yijie Sun, DDS '13: 2nd place **Hatton Award**, predoctoral category from the American Association for Dental Research for *Fibrochondrocytes Derived from Human Mesenchymal Stem/Progenitor Cells*.

Postdoctoral Awards & Honors

University of Texas, through the NIH/NCI for *Phase IIB Randomized, Placebo Controlled Trial of Pioglitazone for Oral Premalignant Lesions*.

David Alfi, DDS '06, MD '12, and co-authors **Sarindr Bhumiratana, Keith Yeager, Ryan Eton, Jonathan Bernhard, Jonathan Bova**, Forum



Dr. Mildred Embree discusses a research question with Dr. Guoming Sun.

CDM Brings Oral Health Care to Remote Burundi Village



Kigitu villagers and community workers at the health center eagerly sought the Columbia doctors' recommendation for everyday habits to insure good oral health.

Last March, four CDM faculty, accompanied by eight large boxes, arrived in Burundi, one of Africa's tiniest countries and one of the poorest in the world. The four dentists were Dr. Steven Chussid, chairman, Section of Growth and Development, and director, Division of Pediatric Dentistry; Dr. David Koslovsky, assistant professor, Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery; Dr. Doron Ringler, chief resident in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and Dr. Steven Syrop, associate professor, Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. The boxes were filled with all the instruments and supplies* needed to set up an entire oral surgery clinic in the Burundi village of Kigitu.

The first visit by dentists with modern equipment to visit this beautiful but impoverished spot originated with the amazing story of Deogratias Niyizonkiza, an escapee from the genocide resulting from 1990s conflict between Hutu and Tutsi tribes in Burundi. Deo's determination to complete his education brought him first to New York and Columbia University. Later, while earning a public health degree at Harvard, he met Dr. Paul Farmer, found-

er of Partners in Health, a community-based public health organization. Working with Dr. Farmer in Haiti and Rwanda inspired Deo to establish a health cooperative for Kigitu, the village where his parents now lived. In only nine months, his community partnership, called Village Health Works, (VHW) was successfully treating more than 16,000 patients—for everything but dental disease. Burundi, a country of approximately ten million people has an astonishingly small number

of dentists, making even substandard dental care rare. Dental emergencies are often brought to traditional "healers" who typically break off the crown of the tooth, leaving the root in the gums. As a result, Burundians can experience both great pain and the prospect of oral disease that could lead to even more severe health problems.

* Dental instruments and medical supplies were generously provided by Henry Schein, KLS Martin, and the Stryker company.

To solve this serious deficit in Burundian health care, Deo returned to Columbia, where he sought help from University President Lee Bollinger, who sent him to Dean Ira Lamster at the College of Dental Medicine. The College was already experienced in working with impoverished third-world dental health needs through the United Nations Millennium Villages Project. Dean Lamster agreed to send a team to treat as many Kigitu patients as possible during a one-week stay, while also helping to lay the foundation for future dental care in Burundi.

The team extracted 201 teeth from 141 surgical patients, mostly adults. Since there is limited access to candy, sugary drinks and snack food in Burundi, the dentists saw fewer children in need of dental work. But one eight-year-old had been suffering for months with a growing abscess following a traumatic injury to a lower incisor. Dr. Chussid was able to give him almost immediate relief by removing the tooth.

Although the VHW will face difficulty in developing and sustaining an ongoing dental presence, the staff was eager to assist and learn about how they could carry on once the Columbia doctors had completed their tour. The CDM team examined 282 patients and collected a great deal of data using a modified World Health Organization dental assessment form that will be a basic tool for moving forward in both prevention and treatment.

In preparing for the community's improved oral health, the four doctors also took on several other tasks: teaching the Kigitu villagers about preventive measures against dental disease; teaching and training community health workers in basic dental care and procedures, such as giving dental injections and performing extractions; and lecturing on correct procedures for advanced treatments. In addition, they provided thousands of dollars in donated dental equipment and supplies.

Each member of CDM's team has expressed the hope that circumstances will allow their group to return to Kigitu to offer further guidance in bringing the best oral health care possible to the region.



Outside the Kigitu community school, an attentive audience listens to Dr. Chussid's daily lecture on the basics of dental health and preventive measures against oral disease.



Dr. Ringler operating on a Burundian dental patient with the aid of a community worker being trained in dental procedures at the Village Health Works in Kigitu.

Groundbreaking Implant Symposium Held in Venice, Italy



(top) Dr. Tarnow arrives by water taxi at the Dean's reception and dinner, held at the Hotel Regina on the Grand Canal.

(bottom) Keynote Speaker Dr. Salama presents on Esthetic Considerations.

Last May, Dr. Dennis Tarnow led an international group of speakers in a two-day continuing education symposium, "A New Era of Knowledge and Technology in Implant Dentistry," held in Venice, Italy. Attended by 200 dental practitioners from 27 countries, who presented a uniquely global perspective of knowledge and ideas, the program was organized by Tarnow Alumni Executive Committee members Elizabeth Moreno '89, Dr. Sergio Buda, and Dr. Donal Blackwell. It was generously supported by Biomet 3i, the meeting's Platinum sponsor.

During the event, which featured renowned lecturer Dr. Henry Salama as keynote speaker, Dr. Tarnow conducted an interactive literature review, and CDM faculty, members including Dean Ira Lamster, Senior Associate Dean Jeremy Mao, Associate Clinical Professor Stephen Chu, Clinical Professor Gary Greenstein, Implant Fellowship Program Director John Cavallaro, and Associate Clinical Professor Richard Smith participated as speakers. Several of Dr. Tarnow's former students from Korea, Spain, Japan and Italy shared their clinical expertise, and three distinguished moderators, including CDM Clinical Professor Robert Eskow, conducted stimulating Q&A sessions. Additional conference support was provided by Keystone Dental and Zimmer Dental.

CDM Offers Fellowship and International Program in Advanced Implantology



John C. Cavallaro, DDS (above), is Clinical Director of the Implant Fellowship Program and Daewon Haam, DDS (below), is Clinical Director of the International Implant Program.

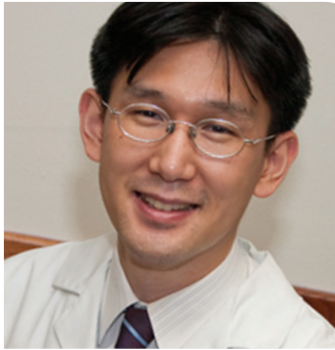


CDM's Section of Oral and Diagnostic Sciences has introduced two new postgraduate programs in Advanced Implant Dentistry, a two-year, part-time Fellowship Program for US dentists, and a two-year full-time International Program for dental professionals from abroad. The Fellowship Program, directed by Associate Clinical Professor John Cavallaro, requires participants to be educationally qualified specialists in endodontics, periodontics or prosthodontics. The International Program is designed for dentists who are graduates of accredited international dental institutions and have demonstrated the highest level of knowledge and skill related to the placement and restoration of dental implants. A Certificate of Professional Achievement is issued on completion of the programs.

Formed under the leadership of Dennis P. Tarnow, DDS, Director of Implant Education at the College, each program is designed to provide dentists with the highest level of knowledge and skill related to the placement and restoration of dental implants. The curriculum is based on the biologic and clinical principles that are the basis of the discipline. Practitioners are trained through basic and advanced didactic lectures, seminars, and literature review sessions.

In September, Dr. Daewon Haam was appointed as assistant professor in the Division of Prosthodontics and Director of the International Program. Dr. Haam, who received his DDS from Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea in 1994, earned an MS in Orthodontics from the Catholic University Graduate School of Clinical Dental Science, Seoul, in 2004. He completed a one-year fellowship in periodontology and implantology at NYU in 2008, and received his MS degree in prosthodontics from Columbia in 2011.

Sahng-Gyoon (Martin) Kim '12 New Director for Postdoctoral Endodontics Program



Interim Dean Ronnie Myers appointed Dr. Sahng-Gyoon (Martin) Kim '12 as Director of the Postdoctoral Program in Endodontics, effective July 1, 2012. Dr. Kim follows Dr. Gunnar Hasselgren, who held the position for the previous 20 years.

Before joining the Columbia faculty as Assistant Professor of Clinical Dental Medicine in 2009, Dr. Kim earned a DDS from Seoul National University in 2001. He also holds a Certificate in Endodontics (2008) and an MS in Oral Biology (2009) from the University of Pennsylvania.

A Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics, Dr. Kim currently serves on the Scientific Advisory Board of the Journal of Endodontics and the Research and Scientific Affairs Committee of the American Association of Endodontics. His professional memberships include: the American Dental Association, the American Dental Education Association, the Korean Dental Association, and the International Association of Dental Traumatology.

2012 Tenenbaum Lecture in Periodontics



On May 25th, Dr. Mark Reynolds (left above), professor, chair, and director of Postgraduate Periodontics, University of Maryland, was guest speaker for the 23rd Annual Benjamin Tenenbaum Memorial Lecture in Periodontics. Dr. Panos N. Papapanou, chairman, Section of Oral and Diagnostic Sciences and director, Division of Periodontics, presented Dr. Reynolds with a plaque commemorating the occasion.

Academic Exchange with Osaka Dental University

In July, 25 dental practitioners and faculty from Osaka Dental University attended a four-day continuing education program at CDM as part of the school's academic affiliation program. Professor Takayosi Kawazoe, Chairman and President of Osaka Dental University participated as an Honorary Visiting Professor.



(ABOVE) Vice Dean for Academic Affairs Letty Moss-Salentijn and Dr. Korenori Arai of the Osaka Dental University's Implant Department bow to one another, according to Japanese custom, after exchanging business cards.

International Students Visit CDM

Dental students from Kings College, London; the University of Göteborg, Sweden; Seoul University, Korea; and the National Taiwan University, Taipei, posed with Alma Mater on the steps of Columbia University's Low Library in July. Their visit was arranged through CDM's global academic affiliation program, administered by the office of Vice Dean for Academic Affairs Letty Moss-Salentijn.



Alumni Honor Louis Rubins '60 at May Reunion



Louis I. Rubins '60 was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Service Award during the CDM Reunion Day program on Friday, May 4, citing his service as a volunteer faculty member for more than 42 years in the Senior Clinic and Preclinical Lab, as a facilitator in the Ethics program, and as a member of the Admissions Committee. Accepting the award, Dr. Rubins thanked his wife, Zel, (who chaired CDM's 75th and 90th Anniversary Galas,) and his sons, Scott and Mark, for supporting his commitment to CDM. He noted that his incentives for volunteering have included: an excellent Dean who is responsive to the needs of the faculty; inquisitive students, who appreciate all they are taught, and the enthusiastic fellow faculty members who teach with him on Thursdays. Dr. Rubins also remarked that, because his service on the Admissions committee had made him realize how many excellent students were unable to attend CDM due to finances, he now makes annual donations of appreciated securities—with only a 40% out-of-pocket cost to him—to support scholarships at CDM. In closing, Dr. Rubins commented on how rewarding teaching is, and encouraged reunion attendees to join him in volunteering at the school.

Alumni President Renee Litvak '02, Endo '04, and Senior Associate Dean Martin Davis '74, Peds '75, present Dr. Rubins with the Distinguished Alumni Service Award at Reunion Day.

Class Reunion Day 2012



Class of '57

Dr. Herbert Frommer with Dean Ira B. Lamster.

Class of '52

Monroe Gliedman, Robert Steiner, (front row) Norman Leefer, Stephen Berger.

Class Reunion Day, held on Friday, May 4, honored the classes of 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, and 2007. A record-breaking number of alumni, faculty and friends gathered at the Malcolm X & Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Cultural Center next to the Columbia Medical Center campus.

Thanks to the efforts of Reunion Class Representatives, listed below, who sent letters and made calls encouraging their classmates to attend the program and to donate to their class reunion fund, Class Reunion Day donations in support of CDM scholarship programs, surpassed \$69,000.

1952: Monroe Gliedman

1957: Herbert Frommer

1962: Richard Lichtenthal, Philip Terman, Mark Tenner, Robert Tauber

1967: Robert Miner, Brian Alpert, Joseph D'Onofrio, Donald Stammer

1972: Nick Vero

1977: Michelle Mirsky, Thomas Connolly

1982: Karen Lewkowitz, Allan Kucine

1987: John Toumanios

1992: Mark Webster, Jacqueline Simons, Fariba Kalantari

1997: Jennifer Yue

2002: Renee Litvak, Michelle Lieberman

2007: Michael Castagna

Class Reunion Day 2012



Class of '62

(front row, l. to r.) Roy Wilko, Maurice Cohen, George Lacovara; Morton Schoenberg; (back row, l. to r.): Richard Lichtenthal, E. Ross Bassett, Frank Mellana, Dean Ira Lamster, Robert Tauber, Harold Herbst, and John Schilling.



Class of '67

(l. to r.) Melvyn Aronoff, Arthur Wein, Stephen Kaplan, Stanley Kaplan, Donald Stammer, Richard Smith, Michael Barnett, Dean Ira Lamster, John Donovan, Robert Miner, Brian Alpert, Joel Miller, Joseph D'Onofrio.



Class of '72

Samuel Masyr, Richard Bollon,
Edward Sonnenberg.



Class of '77

(l. to r.) John Salamone, Karen Hammer,
Joe Caruso, Terry Blank, Arnold Cochin,
Michelle Mirsky, Tom Connolly.

Class Reunion Day 2012



Class of '82

Matthew Sorkin, Karen Lewkowitz.



Class of '87

(l. to r.) Barry Mitchel, John Yee, Virginia Mitchell, Emily Sabbagh, John Toumanios, Dave Weedon, Alex Costantino, Leslie Roth, Dena Lieblich, Eileen Morrissey, Sal Palazzolo, Suzy Harrison-Press.



Class of '92

(Back row l. to r.) Chris Bonacci, Joe Arcuri, Robert Hwang, Joe Goldberg, Jacqui Simons, Mark Webster, (Front row l. to r.) Jenny Kanganis, Sue Gehm Francis, Rosemary Ryan, Fariba Kalantari.



Class of '97

(l. to r.) Maria Shin, Cindy Chisun Han, Jean Kang, Dean Martin Davis, In Kim, and Haesin Jung.

These classmates have remained good friends since graduation. They meet regularly for dinner and take vacations together with their families.

Class Reunion Day 2012



Class of '02

(Back row l. to r.) Anna Simonis Grubelic, Angela Boudounis, Michael Kalimian, Stacy Tunney Piedad, Christine Dowling, Jonathan Mender, Gabriela Hricko, Renee Kunen Litvak, Michelle Kreiner Lieberman, Michael Duong; (front row, l. to r.) Erin Witek Cohen, Nicole Litizzette-Witzel, Roula Kapetanos Panas.



Class of '07

(l. to r.) Michael Perrino, Suzy Chatzopoulos, Erica Coe, Amy Tam, Carmel Dudley Doran, Andrew Paek, Suzan Ly.

June Reception at Kurpis Home



On June 8th Albert Kurpis '74, Judy Kurpis and their daughter, Lauren Kurpis Welch '09, welcomed more than 50 CDM alumni, faculty and friends to a cocktail reception at their home in Saddle River, New Jersey.

(l. to r.) Dr. Kurpis-Welch, Dean Ira B. Lamster, Mrs. Lamster, Mrs. Kurpis, and Dr. Kurpis.

Summer Sunset Sail

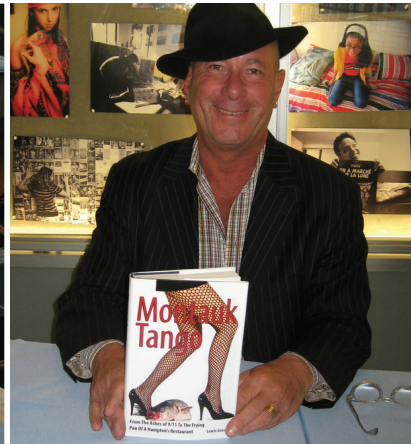
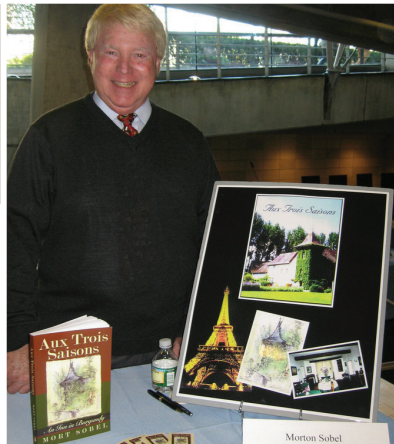
Eighty alumni, faculty, residents and students gathered aboard the New York Health & Racquet Club private yacht on July 9th to wish Dean Ira Lamster bon voyage. The cruise was generously donated by Alumni President Renee Litvak '02.

(l. to r.) Ronniette Garcia, Ortho '03, AEGD '07 (Ortho faculty), Sarah Goldin, Ed Goldin '01, Renee Litvak '02, Endo '04, Michelle Lieberman '02, Michael Leifert Ortho, '04 (Ortho faculty). Standing in stern: Benn Lieberman (OMFS faculty) and Joel Friedman '68 (OMFS faculty).



Alumni Book Fair

(l. to r.) Morton Sobel '63,
and Lewis Gross '79.



Three CDM Alumni authors exhibited at the first CAA Alumni Book Fair, held October 13 in Lerner Hall, during Columbia Alumni Leaders weekend:

Lewis Gross '79: Montauk Tango, a novel about the trials and tribulations of opening a restaurant in Montauk, Long Island, after 9/11;

Morton Sobel '63: Aux Trois Saisons, the story of the inn Dr. Sobel created in Burgundy wine country, and the adjustments to European ideas and habits he was required to make.

Donald Tanenbaum '82: Doctor, Why Does My Face Still Ache?, information and solutions for the 75 million Americans who suffer intense ear, tooth and jaw pain.

Note From Dr. Davis:

EXTRACTED TEETH NEEDED FOR PREDOCTORAL STUDENTS:

The predoctoral students are continuously in need of extracted teeth to use in their preclinical laboratory exercises. These are used in the Endodontic preclinical activities and in Operative Dentistry for excavation of caries, cast restorations and composite acid etching exercises. It has become increasingly difficult to accumulate extracted teeth in quantities sufficient to satisfy the needs of our predoctoral students' education.

Please consider donating extracted teeth from your practice (in a sealed, appropriately labeled container with 10% sodium hypochlorite). Your help will mean a great deal to enhance preclinical education at CDM.

To donate, contact Melissa Welsh at mmw7@columbia.edu or 212-305-6881.

A Vintage Evening



Fifty alumni, faculty and students gathered at Vintry Fine Wines in lower Manhattan on October 2nd to taste Italian vintages at the CDM Connects Fall Wine Tasting reception.

(l. to r.) Stephanie Doumanian '11, Gordon Weir '12, Jacqueline Haker '11. Seen in rear is Jeff Cloidt '82 with his guest.



Houston Study Club Holds First Meeting

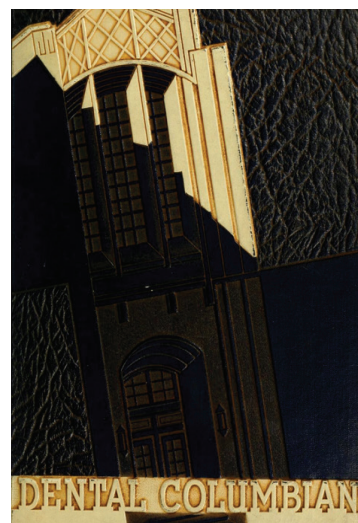
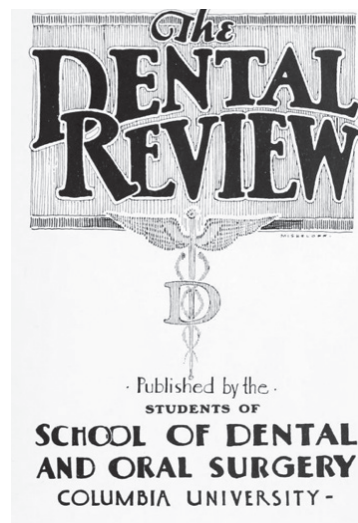
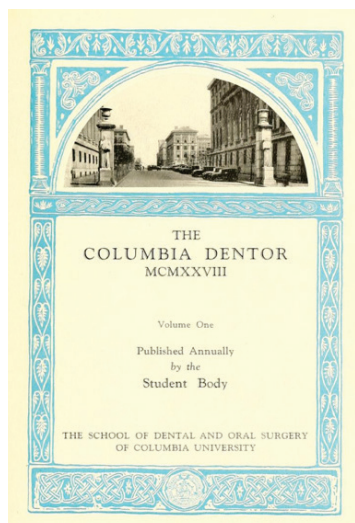
(far right) Dr. Alfi speaks with fellow alumni at the first Houston Study Club Meeting in October.

The Houston Alumni Study Club held its inaugural meeting on October 10th at Churrascos restaurant. Attended by 15 area alumni, the club was organized by David Alfi, DDS '06, OMFS'12, who has just joined the faculty at Methodist Hospital in Houston. Dr. Alfi spoke to the group on "Bone Grafting: Present and Future." Susan Yang '92 was enthusiastic about the meeting, saying "It was so wonderful to see all the Columbia alumni in the Houston area; I never knew there were so many of us in my hometown." The next meeting is planned for March 6, 2013.

Historic Range of Dental School Yearbooks Now Available Online

Recently, the Archives & Special Collections of the A.C. Long Health Sciences Library at CUMC announced that 84 years of the Columbia dental school's bulletins and yearbooks, from 1908 to 1992, have been digitized and are now online. The first 14 years of these publications come from the College of Dental & Oral Surgery of New York, which became the School of Dental and Oral Surgery at Columbia in 1922. The variety of cover design alone is worth taking the trip back through time, but photos and commentary of past professors and students, as well as decades of advertisements for the dental armamentarium, will entertain all readers. The digitization was made possible with the assistance of a generous grant from the Metropolitan Library Council of New York.

These digital issues can be accessed through CDM's website: www.dental.columbia.edu.



Pages from Columbia's dental yearbooks, ranging from the '20s to the '50s.

WW II Memories From Leonard B. Shapiro '38



News of Leonard Benjamin Shapiro '38 from his granddaughter recounts her ninety-nine-year-old grandfather's memories of serving in World War II. While stationed in England, Dr. Shapiro recalled that he had been responsible for checking the teeth of all troops preparing for the Normandy invasion. He also remembers challenging the refusal of others in his unit to integrate the mess hall so that African-American and white soldiers could share their meals

Dr. Joseph Shapiro, from his 1938 Dental Columbian yearbook.

CDM Centenarian: Nathan Sheckman '38

A belated Happy Birthday and heartiest congratulations to Nate Sheckman '38, who celebrated his 100th birthday on August 9. Dr. Sheckman, who practiced in Manhattan before retiring to Sanibel Island in Florida, was for many years an active member of the Alumni Association and always ready to help with the work of organizing his class reunions.

(l. to r.) Dr. Sheckman, with his son, great-grandson, and grandson, at his 100th birthday party.



Charles M. Chayes '41

Ninety-eight-year-old Charles M. Chayes '41, now retired in Florida, recently wrote to the editors of Primus recalling the school's former Temporomandibular Joint Clinic, directed by Dr. Laslo Schwartz from the 1950s until his death in 1966. Dr. Chayes, who worked with Dr. Schwartz, is listed as second author on their significant early contribution to TMJ studies, Facial Pain and Mandibular Dysfunction, published in 1968.

Donald Olsen '57 lives in DeLand, Florida with his wife of 57 years, Ruth. Dr. Olsen keeps busy playing the cello in two orchestras and enjoying his 13 grandchildren.

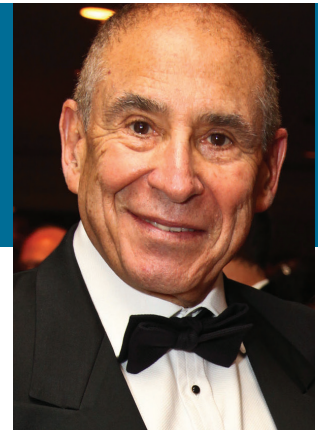
Robert Tauber '62 is the 2012 recipient of the Ninth District Dental Association's highest award, the D. Austin Sniffen Medal of Honor. Dr. Tauber, an assistant clinical professor in the Section of Adult Dentistry at CDM, was joined at the August ceremony by friends and Columbia classmates.

(RIGHT, l. to r.) NYSDA Past President Michael Breault; Interim Dean Ronnie Myers '79, Peds '80; Assistant Professor, Operative Dentistry, Mark Tenner '62; Past President, CT Dental Association, George Lacovara '62; Dr. Tauber; Director, AEGD Program, Philip Terman '62; and Chair, Section of Adult Dentistry, Richard Lichtenthal '62.



Joel Friedman '68: 2013 NYSDA President

Joel Friedman '68 is President-Elect of the New York State Dental Association, one of the largest state constituencies of the ADA, representing more than 13,000 of the state's dentists, and will become the association's president in 2013. Dr. Friedman has also served as president of the New York State Dental Society of Anesthesiology and the Bronx County Dental Society. He has been an active member of the New York State Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, holding a number of positions, including membership on the Board of Trustees, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and President. An associate clinical professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at CDM since 1994, Dr. Friedman is currently a full-time associate professor of Clinical Surgery at NYPH-Weill Cornell Medical School. From 1976 to 1992, he was also Director of OMFS at Jacobi Medical Center Albert Einstein College of Medicine.



ALUMNI *notes*

Jeffrey Senzer '73, Endo '75 was installed as President of the New York County Dental Society in January 2012. Dr. Senzer, a former New York Academy Fellow, has been an assistant clinical professor at CDM, where he currently serves as an ethics facilitator. He maintains an endodontics practice in Manhattan.

Alan Winter '76 has launched two innovative ventures dedicated to the needs of dental professionals: xpAPce (www.xpapce.com) provides CE courses that are procedurally specific to improving patient outcomes and reducing risk; and XPsquared (www.xpsquared.com) is an online environment that aggregates a 24/7/365 tradeshow with lectures, white papers, demonstrations, a networking café, and more. Several CDM faculty members are involved in these projects.

Thomas Connolly '77, Perio '80 is a member of the American College of Dentists Board of Regents. He is in private practice with his daughter **Julie Connolly '01 DDS/MPH, Perio '04**.

In May, **Nathan Hershkowitz '86 MPH '86**, received the 2012 Meritorious Service Award from the New York State Academy of General Dentistry in a ceremony held at the Carltun Hotel in East Meadow, NY.

Albert L. Granger '93 was installed in January as the 65th President of the Nassau County Dental Society which he previously served as chairman of the Government Affairs and Public Relations Committees.

Jonathan Shenkin '96 and CDM Students Host ADA "Stop Zombie Mouth" Event

In October, Jonathan Shenkin '96, an ADA spokesperson for Pediatric Dentistry and Past President of the Maine Dental Association, invited CDM students, Jiwon Lee '13, Briana Ovbude '13, and Austin Carr '13, to join him at Madame Tussauds Wax Museum in Times Square, for the launch of "Stop Zombie Mouth," an ADA campaign "encouraging good oral health among the nation's children and their parents." To create and promote the new program, the ADA teamed up with PopCap Games, makers of the family-friendly hit video game, Plants vs. Zombies, which each guest at the event received as a gift.



Jiwon Lee '13 shares a corner of Madame Tussaud's wax works with a young guest and a zombie at the ADA launch of a new oral health program for parents and their children.

Paul Cosgrove '98 Subway Celebrity

During October, Paul Cosgrove '98 (RIGHT) was one of nine faces appearing in a poster campaign for his alma mater, St. Francis College in Brooklyn Heights. The posters hanging in Brooklyn's busy Atlantic Terminal station showed a student or alumnus of the college, with a quote describing the benefits each had gained at St. Francis, where Dr. Cosgrove, earned his BA in 1993.



Shahrzad Sami '02 and her husband, Dr. Habib Sadeghi, have received the True Originals Award from the Virginia Avenue Project for mentoring children, in Santa Monica, California.

Adam Schulhof, Ortho '03 is a board-certified orthodontist and co-founder of KinderSmiles in Oradell, New Jersey, specializing in cosmetic solutions for orthodontic cases. He is the creator of Incognito Lite-braces, which remain fitted behind the teeth for six months and cost less than traditional braces.

Amy Bryer '04, currently department head and Assistant GPR Director at Camp Pendleton Naval Hospital in San Diego, has been named 2013 dental team lead on the Pacific Partnership, a multi-disciplinary effort addressing health needs in Tonga, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Republic of Marshall Islands, Kiribati, and Papua New Guinea. Dr. Bryer envisions deploying a joint multidisciplinary healthcare and support team to shift the current paradigm from providing care to one that will build and strengthen the healthcare infrastructure in third-world nations through self-supporting sustainment.

Dr. Bryer previously served a 14-month assignment on Diego Garcia, a tropical atoll in the Indian Ocean.

Congratulations to **Michael Leifert, Ortho '04** and **Ronnette Garcia, Ortho '03, AEGD '07** on the August 17th birth of their daughter Isabella Victoria Leifert. Both parents are assistant clinical professors in CDM's Division of Orthodontics and officers of the Orthodontic Alumni Society.



Profile: Dominick Ambroise '14

As a youngster, Dominick Ambroise was shy because he was so tall for his age, but it was the prominent gaps in his teeth that really embarrassed him. Dominick's confidence finally began to grow when he received good orthodontic treatment and, at last, he could smile without being self-conscious. The turning point had such an immense effect on his life that Dominick decided to become a dentist himself, even though his Haitian family wanted him to be a physician.

Encouraged by his mother, a talented computer scientist, to believe he could achieve any goal he desired, Dominick graduated from high school with an average in the 90s and high honors. Accepted by several of the best universities in the country, he chose Rutgers, where he received the James Dickson Carr Scholarship for minority applicants with outstanding academic promise. Determination and natural abilities soon placed him on the dean's list, followed by academic successes throughout his undergraduate years. Dominick also played cymbals in the university band, was a consultant in the computer lab, and a science tutor for other students. As a senior, he coached eight students preparing for the Dental Admission Test (DAT), and oversaw a student seeking to do graduate work in optometry.

Because he ranked in the 98th DAT percentile, Dominick could have entered top programs in dentistry throughout the country. Nevertheless, he turned them down, including Harvard's School of Dentistry, to study at Columbia's College of Dental Medicine, where he saw a heterogeneous student body creating a place of vibrant culture. A leader in diversity affairs programs at Rutgers, Dominick continues to invest his time at CDM in helping underrepresented minorities realize their academic goals. He is vice president of the University's SNDA chapter for minority students, and last summer taught organic chemistry and biology to a group of dental-directed students in Columbia's introductory Summer Minority Dental Education Program (SMDEP).

Dominick believes that science "is a way of learning about people. It [research] is my passion," he says, but adds, "I feel in many ways I'm really more of a social scientist."

Transitional and Traditional Ceremonies Held for First and Third-Year Classes



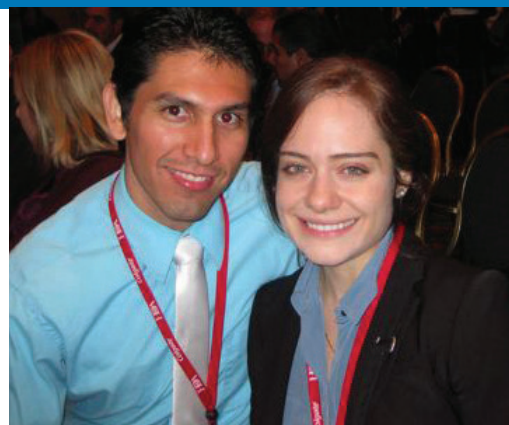
On June 25, the Class of 2014 was welcomed into the "practice" of oral health care at CDM's annual Clinician Ceremony. Marking their completion of the biomedical core curriculum and preclinical laboratory work, the ceremony celebrates the students' transition into the clinic, where they will learn the responsibilities of providing comprehensive care for their patients.

On August 13, members of the entering Class of 2016 were greeted at the College's annual White Coat Ceremony where clinical faculty assisted them in donning the white coats they will wear during their years at CDM. The coats symbolize entry into the profession and represent a contract of trust between doctor and patient. The students were reminded of Hippocrates' ancient charge to those delivering medical services: "Primum non nocere" - "First, do no harm."

Interim Dean Ronnie Myers helps Jessica Hsu don her professional white coat.

HDA Colgate-Palmolive Scholarships Awarded to Dual Degree Candidates

(RIGHT) Jose Castillo '14 and Annia-Beatrice Le Goff '13 have been awarded Hispanic Dental Association (HDA) scholarships from the Colgate-Palmolive Company. The company has joined the HDA to build continuous improvement in the development of dental professionals by presenting scholarships of up to \$10,000 to help students complete training for an advanced degree in an area of dentistry committed to aiding and supporting the Hispanic community. Annia is currently in the dual MPH/DDS program shared by CDM and the Mailman School of Public Health, while Jose is working on both his Columbia DDS and an MA in science education at Teachers College.



SDNA wins chapter award

Terrahney Wilson '15 (RIGHT) was elected National Secretary of the Student National Dental Association (SNDA) during the annual National Dental Association (NDA) Conference in July.

The College of Dental Medicine's SNDA chapter won second place as Chapter of the Year.

ASDA Students Volunteer at Columbia Alumni Picnic

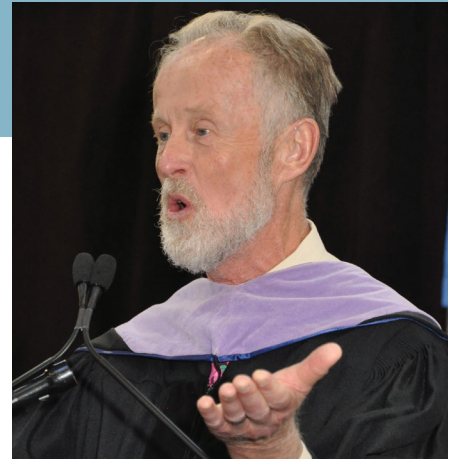
Several of CDM's American Student Dental Association (ASDA) members volunteered at the dental school booth during the 7th Annual Columbia Alumni Association Picnic (CAA), held in July on the Morningside campus. They ran a fun activity for children to brush germ balls off a giant tooth with an oversized toothbrush. Students reported having a great time and are looking forward to taking part in future CAA picnics.

(RIGHT) CDM's ASDA members show children how to rid a tooth of germ balls.



Graduation 2012

On May 17, the class of 2012 received their diplomas from Dean Ira Lamster during a ceremony held at the New Balance Track and Field Center. Guest speaker Robert Renner '68, Prosth '71, founder of Kids International Dental Service (KIDS), spoke of the joy he finds in treating and teaching underprivileged children all over the world. The Edward Zegarelli Teaching Award was presented to Dr. Candice Zemnick, Associate Professor in the Division of Prosthodontics.



Robert Renner '68 speaks about the work of KIDS to the Class of 2012.



(ABOVE) Dr. Jake Mann and Class Day 2012 faculty speaker, Dr. Mark Tenner.

Class Day

Class Day was held on May 16th to celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2012. Student Government President Jacob Mann addressed his "amazing, focused, dynamic...and fun" classmates, and congratulated them on having "won awards...matched at top residencies...and for winning the fall BBQ softball trophy four years in a row!" After presentations of many honors and prizes, faculty speaker Dr. Mark Tenner '62, gave a warm salutation to the prize winners and their fellow graduates with advice based on the flying formation of geese and the protection it provides for each of them, saying, "Stay close to your school; it's your flock!"



Postdoctoral Graduation

On June 13 sixty-three students received certificates and master's degrees from one of the nine postdoctoral and residency programs offered by CDM. The keynote address was given by Dr. Henry Ginsberg, Director of the Irving Institute for Clinical & Translational Research, and the Allan Formicola Teaching Award was presented to Mary Beth Giacona, Assistant Clinical Professor in the Division of Pediatric Dentistry

(l. to r.) Jung Kim, Deborah Weng, Anthony Nguyen, Laura Sotomayor, Kristen Lowe, Nimesh Patel and Gregory Ohanian celebrate the successful completion of their postdoctoral studies in Orthodontics.



A Bequest Can Be Your Promise Benefitting CDM's Future



A Bequest...

is an eduring gift that costs you nothing today. Its advantages allow you to retain control of your assets for life while making a gift for the future that may relieve your heirs of some tax burden.

Its versatility...

means the gift can be unrestricted or directed to specific purposes, and may specify an amount or a percent of your estate.

Its convenience...

makes it easy to establish using a wide range of assets, and can be changed or modified as needed.

Interested?...

Contact Director of Development
Geri Connors at:

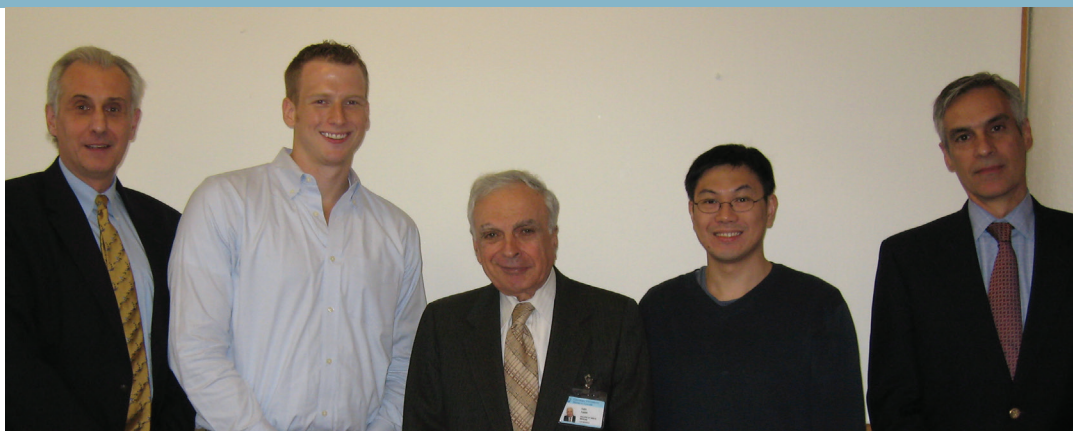
gc2399@columbia.edu or 212-342-5612.



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

College of Dental Medicine

Kaslick Scholarship Funds Future Academicians



(l. to r.) Associate Dean for Postdoctoral Programs James Fine; Matthew Hickin '12, Perio '15; Ralph Kaslick '59, Perio '62; Walter Chen '09, Perio '14; and Chairman Section of Oral and Diagnostic Sciences, Panos Papapanou at the luncheon given for the first two Kaslick awardees.

Retired Columbian **Ralph Kaslick, '56 (CC), DDS '59, Perio '62** calls himself 'a perennial student,' enrolled in many liberal arts and science courses for Columbia College alumni. Also an enthusiastic participant in CDM's academic and alumni functions, he has been chair of the CDM (formerly Percy T. Phillips) Visiting Professorship Committee since 2007.

A former dean of Fairleigh Dickinson College of Dental Medicine, and chief of Dentistry and Medical Consultative Services, as well as president of the Medical Staff at Roosevelt Island Goldwater Memorial Hospital, Dr. Kaslick is deeply interested in the future of dental academics. In 2011, he and his wife, Jessica, established the **Dr. Ralph S. Kaslick and Jessica H. Kaslick Scholarship** to be awarded yearly to one or more graduates

accepted in CDM's postdoctoral program in periodontics, whom they hope will pursue an academic career in dentistry. He adds, "We would like this award to be considered an interest-free grant, which sometime in the future—at his or her discretion and convenience—the recipient will consider giving back as a way to augment the scholarship fund, so that it may serve a growing number of awardees in the future."

Walter Chen '09, Perio '14 received the first Kaslick scholarship in 2011. A chemistry major from UC Berkeley, who completed an AEGD residency at VA Hudson Valley Healthcare System in Montrose, NY, Dr. Chen, belongs to the Chinese-American Dentist Association and the William Jarvie Research Society.

He has worked in pharmaceutical labs, practices dentistry part-time in Connecticut, and helps with Give Kids a Smile and oral cancer screenings for the Chinese community and the homeless.

Matthew Hickin '12, Perio '15, the second Kaslick recipient, holds a BS in chemical engineering, with a bio-molecular concentration, from Johns Hopkins. As a summer assistant in biomedical engineering at CU, he helped design a biological scaffold for dental pulp cell regrowth. Dr. Hickin belongs to the American Student Dental Association and the American Dental Political Action Committee, has participated in Early Head Start Screenings, and in oral health screenings and instruction in Northern Manhattan. He is focused on a future in dental education.

Seldin/Winslow Scholarship Rewards Academic Merit and Professional Service



Dr. Winslow and Dr. Seldin.

In 2007, Dr. Leslie W. Seldin '66 and his wife, Dr. Constance P. Winslow, established a scholarship fund intended to support one student annually at CDM. To be eligible for ***The Dr. Leslie W. Seldin and Dr. Constance P. Winslow Scholarship Award***, a recipient must demonstrate clear financial need, academic merit, and a strong interest in promoting organized dentistry and providing service to the profession.

Drs. Seldin and Winslow have both been active in their professional organizations at state, local and national levels for many years. Dr. Seldin who is the long-time Chairman of the CDM Board of Visitors, also serves on the search committee for CDM's next dean. He is a former president of the Dental Society of the State of New York; chaired the ADA Future of Dentistry Project is a past First Vice President of the American Dental Association; and, in 2008, was chosen to receive the ADA's Distinguished Service Award, its highest honor. He and Dr. Winslow, an orthodontist, have both held faculty positions at CDM.

The first award of the Seldin and Winslow Scholarship was made this year to Kimberli Leal '14. Kimberli, who majored in biology at New Jersey City University, has an excellent academic history and achieved a DAT score in the highest percentile. She has worked throughout her college years to support her studies. Kimberli was a teaching assistant in the Summer Minority Dental Education Program (SMDEP) at Columbia. She has also been a chairside dental assistant at a Smile Dental Center in Newark and in the office of a Manhattan prosthodontist. Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, Kimberli plays an active role in the Hispanic Dental Association chapter at CDM and is a member of its SNDA and ASDA chapters.

Connolly Scholarship Fund To Benefit Young Families

In 2009, **Thomas J. Connolly '77, Perio '80**, established a scholarship expressly for the purpose of supporting Columbia dental students with young families. As a "struggling young dental student," the birth of his daughter meant new financial responsibilities, which made him fear he would have to give up his dental studies to support his family. Happily, Columbia recognized his dilemma and provided aid, which made it possible to complete his studies and, later, to build a successful career.

The importance of that vital help in shaping his life inspired his establishment of the ***Dr. Thomas and Arlene Connolly & Family Scholarship Fund*** to support an annual scholarship for a predoctoral student with children. In a year when there is no student who meets the criteria, the endowment will be allowed to accumulate funds until the next year in which there is an eligible recipient.

Dr. Connolly now has a full-time Manhattan-based practice in periodontal and implant therapy with his daughter, Julie Connolly, DDS/MPH '01, Perio '05, whose birth led to the scholarship he and his family have endowed. He is also an assistant clinical professor in the Division of Periodontics at CDM and a visiting lecturer at New York University. In addition, Dr. Connolly chaired the recent successfully completed capital campaign for



Dr. Connolly.

CDM, currently serves on the College's Board of Visitors, is a mentor to Columbia's dental students, and gives his time as an ethics facilitator for third- and fourth-year students. As a member of the Board of Regents for the prestigious American College of Dentists, he serves on the National Board and represents the Northeastern United States and Eastern Canada.

This scholarship fund is now fully endowed and will be awarded in fiscal year 2013.

Victoria Constantinescu '82 Grateful and Generous

Columbia University has received a generous gift of \$500,000 from Victoria Constantinescu '82 and her husband Serban Constantinescu, MSME '77, which they wish to be divided evenly between the College of Dental Medicine and the School of Engineering and Applied Science. The Constantinescu's gift was made in "deep gratitude" for Columbia's "flexibility and open mindedness."

When the Constantinescu's emigrated to this country from Romania in the last quarter of the 20th century, both held postgraduate degrees in their chosen fields, dentistry and physics. But, to begin practicing dentistry, Dr. Constantinescu needed a license from the state of Ohio, where they had settled. Unfortunately, Ohio, which was not one of the few states then granting foreign graduates the right to take the dental license examination, required applicants to be graduates of an American dental college. To earn the necessary second degree Dr. Constantinescu applied to several Ohio universities where she was told, however, that she must undertake the expensive four-year process in its entirety again.

Because her husband had great appreciation for Columbia University where he had already completed a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering, she decided to approach the University's dental school. Taking her previously earned credentials into account, SDOS (now CDM) offered her a curriculum composed of the specific studies needed for her to qualify as an American graduate in dentistry. As a result of many fortunate occurrences, but not least the dental school's willingness to make special arrangements for her, Dr. Constantinescu has enjoyed a successful general practice in Cleveland, Ohio, for the past 25 years.

She and her husband, now both retired, feel that without Columbia's willingness to make the academic accommodations necessary for earning their American degrees, they could not have realized their professional success, making it much more difficult to "crack the door" to a happy life in their adopted country. Dr. Constantinescu hopes her ability to "contribute a little to Columbia's good deeds" will remind fellow alumni how much they all owe to the education and training received at CDM.



Dr. Victoria Constantinescu '82 and her husband, Serban Constantinescu.

USING YOUR IRA TO MAKE A GIFT TO CDM

In January 2013, Congress and the President will enact the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 and included the IRA Charitable Rollover provision that allows individuals to distribute up to \$100,000 directly from their IRA to charities, without including that amount in their gross income for tax purposes. This gift opportunity is available to individuals who are age 70 ½ at the time of the distribution, and it is available through the end of 2013. The distribution must be received directly from the administrator of your IRA. The process is simple and direct:

- When you are ready to take a distribution, you should contact your plan administrator to ask if it has a specific form for you to use.
- To make a gift to CDM, you will need to tell the plan administrator the following information:
 - the official name of the University: The Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York,
 - the Federal Tax Identification Number of the University: 13-5598093 and
 - the address to mail the check. Please direct the plan administrator to mail the check to:

Columbia University College of Dental Medicine
630 West 168th Street, New York, NY 10032
Attn: Geri Connors

For questions, please contact the Development Office
at 212-342-5612.

Class of '14 Seeks Alumni Donors for Student Lounge Renovations

CDM's Student Lounge on the 8th floor of Vanderbilt Clinic provides a space where students can relax for a brief time during their daily round of lectures, labs and clinics. But, the area is in need of renovation to make it more useful. New furnishings, including computer equipment, as well as repairs to walls and floors, will insure a safe, functional, and beneficial area for CDM's students. To raise funds for this work, students from the class of 2014 are calling alumni, especially recent graduates who are familiar with the lounge's needs, to ask for their support.

Alumni wishing to contribute to this student initiative should contact Geri Connors, Director of Development, at gc2399@columbia.edu or 212-342-5612.



Avi Ansalem '14 speaks with a recent grad about donating to refurbishing the lounge.

CDM Alumni Rise to the Challenge in First CU-Wide "Giving Day"

On October 24th Columbia University held its first Giving Day, a 24-hour, University-wide online fundraising initiative reaching out to faculty, staff, alumni and volunteers. Interim Dean Ronnie Myers announced that CDM's "amazing team effort" raised more than \$50,000 from alumni and friends, and an additional \$28,000 in matching funds from the Trustees of the University, placing the College third among University schools in the "Alumni Participation Challenge" and eighth in the "Main

Match Challenge." Billed as "a unique opportunity to boost visibility, participation, and revenue" for schools and programs among Columbians around the world, it attracted widespread generosity and was a clear success. Abraham Chahine '09 and Eleni Michailidis '06, Ortho '09 were volunteer leaders for CDM, working tirelessly to spread the word among their classmates and colleagues to support CDM.

The College of Dental Medicine

gratefully acknowledges the generosity of our alumni, faculty and friends. This report includes gifts received between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012.

Lifetime Giving:

The James Jarvie Circle \$100,000 or Greater

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Annual Giving:

1852 Donor Recognition Society

Annual contributors of \$2,000 and above receive membership in the prestigious 1852 Donor Recognition Society. The Society honors the contributions of the College's most loyal and generous donors. Membership signifies a tradition in leadership, generosity, and commitment to excellence in scholarship, research, and teaching.

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Helene Richards

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The Society honors alumni and friends who have included the College of Dental Medicine in their estate plans by making a life income gift or by naming the College as a beneficiary of a will, trust, retirement plan, or insurance plan.

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Geraldine Connors

Director of Development

Columbia University College of Dental Medicine

630 West 168th Street, Box 20

New York, NY 10032

gc2399@columbia.edu

212.342.5612

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James E. McIntosh, DDS

Dr. James E. McIntosh a dedicated, long-time faculty member at the Columbia University College of Dental Medicine, passed away on July 27, 2012. Dr. McIntosh first joined Harlem Hospital Center (HHC) in 1984 when the department of dentistry was a division under General Surgery. Under his leadership and direction, he brought dentistry to departmental status at HHC, where he was Director of Dentistry for many years. A proposal has been submitted to name the HHC Department of Dentistry and Oral Surgery as the "Dr. James E. McIntosh Department of Dentistry and Oral Surgery" in recognition of his dedication for over 40 years on behalf of the Harlem community. During the late 1980s, in cooperation with Dean Emeritus Allan J. Formicola of the School of Dental & Oral Surgery (now the College of Dental Medicine), Dr. McIntosh established a program that trained more than 30 dental professionals as minority specialists. During his career, he was mentor to more than a hundred minority general dentists, most of whom returned to practice in underserved areas of the country.

Dr. Kenneth C. Deesen, Associate Clinical Professor in the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery for over 50 years, passed away on September 12, 2012. A graduate of MIT, Dr. Deesen earned his DDS in 1948 at Columbia's School of Dental and Oral Surgery, later serving in the Korean War. Dr. Deesen was also an inventor who patented a computer-assisted method for coaching students and designed specialty dental cameras for magnified photography. The latter revolutionized clinical teaching and evaluation of both tooth preparation in operative dentistry and lesions in oral medicine.

Dr. Georgina Zabos, former Assistant Professor of the Division of Community Health and the Director of the Advanced Education in General Dentistry Program, passed away on March 11, 2012, in her native country, Hungary, where she had retired. In addition to her academic services, she made a notable contribution to the care of those living with HIV/AIDS in New York City. Early in the epidemic, when little was known of the disease, or risks for those treating it, Dr. Zabos recognized the importance of providing oral health care to patients with the virus. She trained a cadre of young dentists to do this work, helping them to understand compassion and dedication, the deepest meaning of serving as a health care professional.

Dr. McIntosh, Dr. Deesen, and Dr. Zabos will be remembered by colleagues and students for their significant contributions to Columbia and to the profession.

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Continuing Dental Education

Course Schedule: Spring 2013

Essentials of Esthetic Dentistry Series

COURSE DIRECTORS: Dr. Mark Pitel and Dr. Stephen Chu
Saturdays 9am-5pm; Sundays 9am-Noon. Attend the entire series,
or individual weekend sessions. 10 CE credits per weekend.

JAN. 19-20, SAT.: **Esthetic Mgmt. of Single and Multiple Anterior Implants**

Dr. Dennis Tarnow

SUN.: **Perio Plastic Surgery**

Dr. Daniel Royzman

FEB. 16-17, SAT./SUN.: **The Art & Science of Direct Anterior and Posterior Restorations**

Dr. Mark Pitel

MAR. 23-24, SAT.: **Current Concepts in Comprehensive Esthetic Dentistry**

Dr. Michael Apa

SUN.: **Porcelain Laminate Veneers**

Adrian Jurim, MDT

APR. 20-21, SAT.: **Advanced Implant Esthetics; Differential Diagnosis of Short Teeth, Biometric Crown Lengthening**

Dr. Stephen Chu

SUN.: **Color Theory & Shade Management**

Adam Mieleszko, CDT

MAY 18-19, SAT.: **Digital Dentistry and its Increasing Role in Quality Patient Care**

Dr. Peter Gardell

SUN.: **Hands-on session will include steps involved in fabrication of a CAD/CAM restoration**

Dr. Peter Gardell

Additional Courses

FEB. 8, FRI. 9AM-NOON: **Practical Infection Control for the Dental Office**

Dr. Ronnie Myers,
3 CE Credits

This course meets the re-licensure requirements of the New York State Board of Dentistry.

1-4PM **CPR Recertification**

Mike Caffrey, EMT
3 CE Credits

MAR. 2, SAT. 9 AM-3PM: **Annual Patricia McLean Symposium for the Dental Hygienist:**

The Dental Hygienist-A Valuable Partner

Christine Hovliaras, RDH, BS, MBA, CDE;
Tim Brieding; Colleen Rutledge, RDH
5 CE Credits

This course is generously co-sponsored with Colgate-Palmolive, Procter & Gamble Oral Health and Johnson & Johnson.

MAR. 13, WED. 6-8PM **Implant Study Club**

Dr. James Fine
Interactive discussions and case review. Held every 6 weeks.
2 CE Credits.

APR. 13, WED. 6-8PM **Esthetic Dentistry Study Club**

Dr. Michelle Mirsky
Interactive discussions and case review. Held every 6 weeks.
2 CE Credits

MAY 10, FRI. 9AM-1PM: **Emerging Technology and Products in Pediatric Dentistry**

Dr. Shantanu Lal
4 CE credits

JUNE 7, FRI. 9AM-4PM: **The Art & Science of CAMBRA:**

Dr. Douglas Young
A Team Approach Using Chemical Treatments and Minimally Invasive Dentistry,
6 CE Credits

This course is generously co-sponsored with GC America and Delta Dental.

Inquiries: Continuing Education Department 212-305-7124 or dentalce@columbia.edu.

Spring Events Calendar

MARCH

MAR. 9, SAT. ► 12:00-2:00PM/BRASSERIE BECK
Washington, DC

Alumni Luncheon

Nation's Capital Dental Meeting

MAR. 15, FRI. ► 9AM-5PM | Columbia Club

Orthodontic Alumni Society

Annual Spring Meeting

Dr. Robert Boyd

5 CE Credits

APRIL

APRIL 9, WED. ► 2:00PM-5:00PM | CUMC

Birnberg Research Program

Poster Presentations

APRIL 10, THURS. ► 12:00PM-2:30PM | CUMC

Birnberg Research Program

Lecture + Luncheon

Dr. Peter Polverini

1 CE Credit

APRIL 10, THURS. ► 2:45PM-4:00PM | CUMC

Dedication of Dr. Irwin D. Mandel

Conference Room

APRIL 16, TUE. ► 6:30-9PM | Sotheby's NYC

CDM Connects: Alumni Social

Networking Reception

MAY

MAY 3, FRI. ► 11:00AM-4:30PM. CUMC

Class Reunion Day

Honoring classes ending in 3's & 8's.

MAY 3, FRI. ► 4:30-7:00PM | CUMC

Reception Honoring

Dr. Martin J. Davis '74, Peds '75

MAY 4, SAT. ► 4:00-6:00PM | Philadelphia, PA

Orthodontic Alumni Reception at

AAO Annual Session

MAY 22, WED. ► 4:30-6:30PM | CUMC

CDM Class Day Awards Ceremony

MAY 23, THURS. ► 10:30AM-12PM | CUMC

CDM Graduation Ceremony

MAY 25, SAT. ► 6:00-7:30PM | Orlando, FL

Pediatric Dentistry Alumni Reception at

AAPD Annual Session

JUNE

JUNE 14, FRI. ► 10AM-12NOON | CUMC

Postdoctoral Graduation Ceremony

**Alumni Office: 212-342-2964
or mmw7@columbia.edu**

Old Friends –Together Again on Class Reunion Day





Roy Stevens '76, MS

Primus *notable*

Q. Dr. Stevens, you hold a Columbia DDS and graduated from UPenn's endodontics program, but your title at Temple is Associate Dean for Research. How did that happen?

A. My career has been bifurcated between dentistry and basic science. I received my MS in microbiology and virology at Rutgers, but evidence for my research often had a strong connection to oral cavity diseases treated by dentists and I wanted the clinical experience provided by dental school.

Q. Was Columbia a good choice?

A. Oh, yes. Many talented, interesting people—faculty and students—created a fertile environment in which I could leverage knowledge I brought with me. Also, Drs. Irwin Mandel, Dan Fine and Irving Naidorf gave me the opportunity to continue doing meaningful research.

Q. What did you contribute?

A. I knew electrophoresis techniques from my graduate research and applied them to identify a unique anionic protein molecule in saliva. For Dr. Fine's studies on microorganisms related to periodontal disease, I grew and purified a bacteria that produced antibodies to detect this microorganism.

Q. What was your next career step?

A. After receiving my DDS, a clinical residency at Beth Israel Hospital took me back to the lab. Then, Dr. Mandel helped me obtain a postdoctoral position at UPenn, studying periodontal pathogenic bacteria with Dr. Benjamin Hammond. Our lab was able to identify bacteria from a severe periodontal disease case in a child as *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans* (Aa), an organism now widely studied. It is the only known oral bacteria producing a toxin that

specifically kills white blood cells. Knowing many bacteria were latently infected by viruses, I discovered one infecting Aa, and published "Characterization of an inducible bacteriophage from a leukotoxic strain of *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans*," the first report of temperate bacterial virus infecting a suspected periodontal pathogen. Scientists from several countries have since confirmed my findings.

Q. Does your work with this bacteria continue?

A. Yes. Recently, we isolated a virus-infected bacteria (*Enterococcus* species) from a root canal-infected tooth. They can cause several serious systemic diseases, like infective endocarditis, and hospital-borne infections. We hope to combat them with a synthetic version of the virus's genome.

Q. When did you acquire your subspecialty in endodontics?

A. While I was a full-time faculty member at UPenn, I met and worked with Dr. Louis Grossman, "the father of all endodontists," who influenced my decision to specialize in endodontics. I then worked with Dr. Mandel in his Clinical Research Center, until 1993, when Temple invited me to become chair of Endodontics. Two years ago, I became Associate Dean for Research here.

Q. So full circle, back to microbiology?

A. Exactly. I think I became interested in this field originally in order to study an entity that could be entirely knowable. Humans, animals, even insects are all extremely complicated. So I moved down to the bacterial cell—still very complex—and, finally, to the virus—still complex, but certainly more knowable.

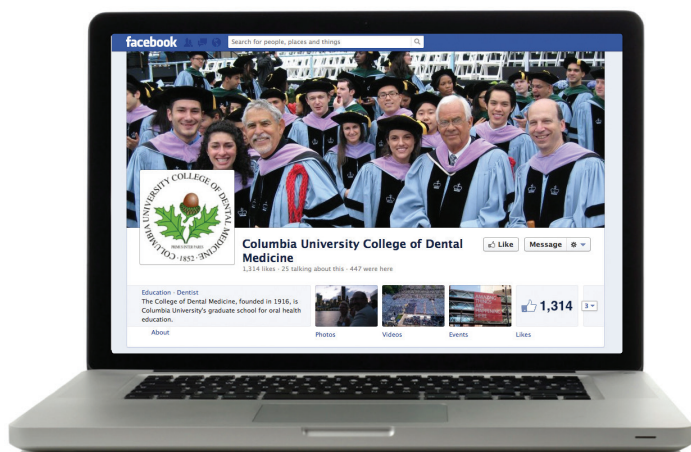


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