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University of the Pacific

Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry

San Francisco CA August 2005

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**About the Cover:** Moving up the ladder can mean different things to different people. Find out how five individuals found opportunity at the dental school to improve their careers and step up to their futures. Neil Kingston, from Building Operations gets huge thanks for lugging the twelve foot step ladder up to the roof of 2155 Webster Street. Photo by Jon Draper.



## Departments

- 2 FYI
- 4 Update
- 11 Editorial
- 13 Ethics
- 15 Campaign
- 16 PDEF
- 29 Alumni
- 32 Memorial Gifts

## 18 Encouraged to Climb Ladders

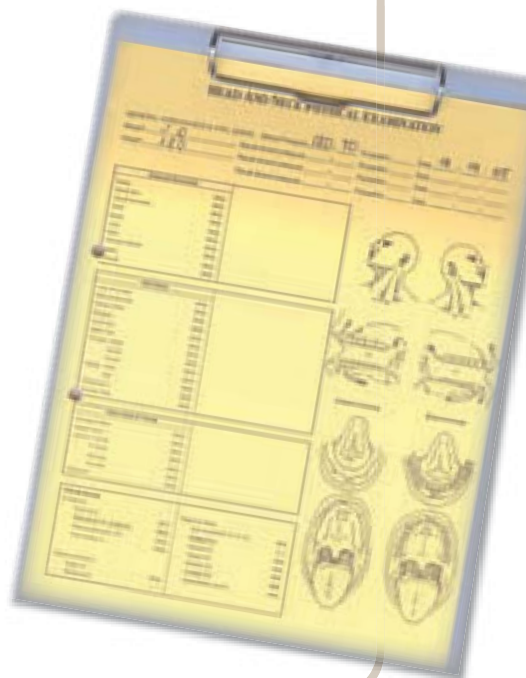
As Dean Dugoni so often reminds us, at Pacific we grow people and along the way they become dentists. Freelancer Kathleen Barrows shares the stories of a special group that exemplify this vision—those who were employees of the dental school before earning their DDS degrees here.

## 22 AEGD Explained

Program Director Dr. Paul Glassman describes Pacific's Advanced Education in General Dentistry program, including its three-campus configuration, the use of technology, and the high proportion of patients with special needs.

## 25 On the Edges

Pacific's influence on standards of professional practice is significant, even in areas where we have no graduate programs. Department Chairs Drs. Alan Budenz, Alan Gluskin, William Lundergan, and Jeff Wood hold positions on national committees that are defining future practice.



University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry San Francisco, California Vol. 85 Number 2 2005

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## CALENDAR

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### **Asilomar Retreat**

February 10 - 12, 2006  
Pacific Grove  
(415) 929-6447

### **38th Annual P&S Ball**

Saturday, March 4, 2006  
Giftcenter Pavilion, SF  
(415) 946-6434

### **Alumni Reception, CDA**

Friday, April 28, 2006  
Anaheim Marriott Hotel  
(415) 946-6423

### **107th Annual Alumni Association Meeting**

A Tribute to Arthur A. Dugoni  
March 3 - 4, 2006  
Fairmont Hotel  
and Moscone Center, SF  
(415) 929-6423

### **Pacific Pride Day**

Saturday, April 8, 2006  
School of Dentistry, SF  
(415) 929-6434

### **Camapign Celebration**

Friday, May 12, 2006  
School of Dentistry, SF  
(415) 929-6431

## CONTACTPOINTS

### **Alumni Association**

Membership includes complimentary admission to the annual Alumni Association Meeting, invitation to association-sponsored events, and an alumni directory.

*Dues: \$145 per year*

#### *Alumni Association Coordinator*

Joanne Fox  
(415) 929-6423  
[jfox@pacific.edu](mailto:jfox@pacific.edu)

#### *Alumni Association President*

Dr. Foroud Hakim '91

#### *Executive Director*

Dr. David Nielsen '67  
(415) 929-6489

### **Pacific Dental Education Foundation (PDEF)**

The 25-member PDEF Board assists the School of Dentistry in its fund raising efforts. Alumni and friends contribute to the dental school in many ways, including:

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#### *President*

Dr. John Feaster '74A

#### *Campaign Chair*

Dr. Ronald Redmond '66

#### *Executive Director*

Dr. Craig Yarborough '80

### **Practice Listings and Dental Opportunities**

The Dental Opportunities Program is a complimentary Web-based service of the School of Dentistry and the Alumni Association. Listings are accepted from solo private practitioners who are looking for associates or to sell their own practices. Listings are not accepted from third parties including:

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#### *Dental Practice Coordinator*

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(415) 929-6426  
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### **Continuing Education**

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(800) 922-4UOP in California or  
(415) 929-6486 outside California

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## Pacific **#1** Clinical School

## REPORTCARD

The 2003-04 ADA Survey of Dental Education has just been released. The University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry once again ranks first in the nation in hours of clinical instruction. It will also come as no surprise to students and faculty members that the average instructional week at Pacific is 47.1 hours in length, compared to the national average of 30.6.

Pacific students receive 1.4 times the national average of clinical experience. Some other schools stand out as having unique characteristics: Harvard students clock 2.6 times the national average in biomedical sciences classes. Colorado, with its mandatory community payback program, shows 7.3 times the national average in public health. Pennsylvania stresses hospital dentistry, about five times as much as other schools, and Tennessee students spend twice as much time in oral surgery.

**Details of Pacific's curriculum are shown below:**

Topic	Pacific	Natl	Topic	Pacific	Natl
<b>Clinical Sciences</b>	5356	3895	Fixed prosthodontics	780	454
Anesthesia	100	48	Removal prosthodontics	645	428
Nutrition	2	13	Radiography	130	130
Public health	6	150	<b>Biomedical Sciences</b>	684	800
DAU	107	66	Anatomy	125	184
Materials	60	73	Histology	78	122
Emergencies	95	96	Biochemistry	65	83
Occlusion	80	97	Microbiology	102	104
Physical evaluation	28	82	Pathology	197	199
Tooth morphology	87	83	Pharmacology	81	81
Endodontics	458	184	Physiology	102	103
Hospital dentistry	8	40	Genetics	0	15
Operative dentistry	748	626	<b>Behavioral Sciences</b>	178	158
Oral diagnosis	955	231	Patient management	92	88
Surgery	196	155	Practice management	66	60
Orthodontics	49	116	Ethics	20	10
Pediatric dentistry	123	181			
Periodontics	486	312			
Prevention	62	69			

# GRADUATION

- 1 Drs. Jennie '05 and Winnie Lee '01.
- 2 Class valedictorian Dr. Megan Olson '05.
- 3 The Pride family accepts an honorary degree for the late Dr. James Pride.
- 4 Dr. Saad Salahuddin IDS '05 and family.
- 5 Members of the Class of 2005.
- 6 California Senator Jackie Speier.
- 7 Graduating AEGD residents.

## Graduation Ceremony

California State Senator Jackie Speier was the commencement speaker for the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry's 111<sup>th</sup> Commencement Ceremony on June 12, 2005 at the Nob Hill Masonic Center in San Francisco. Senator Speier, a patient at the dental school as a child, challenged the 500 graduates and 2,500 family members, friends, faculty, staff, and administrators with her address "Imagine Being Told Your Future is Not in the Budget."

President Donald DeRosa and Dean Arthur A. Dugoni conferred degrees upon graduates in the DDS, International Dental Studies, AEGD, Graduate Orthodontics, OMFS, and Dental Hygiene programs, while parents who are dentists proudly "hooded" their sons or daughters during the ceremony. Pacific made history by graduating its first class of dental hygiene students, who received a bachelor's degree in dental hygiene. For the DDS class, Dr. Megan Olson was named valedictorian for her scholastic achievements and became the second consecutive woman to be named valedictorian at the School of Dentistry.

During the ceremony, President DeRosa bestowed a degree of doctor of laws, honoris causa, posthumously to Dr. James R. Pride, former associate dean at the dental school, founder of the Pride Institute, and owner of Pride Mountain Vineyards. "Dr. Pride embodied the intellectual acumen, creativity, entrepreneurial spirit, talent, and passion to distinguish him as a leader in the profession of dentistry," stated President DeRosa. Ms. Suzanne Pride Bryan and Dr. Steven R. Pride accepted the degree on behalf of their father.

PHOTOS BY JON DRAPER, BRUCE COOK, CHRIST ANDERSON





- 1 Dr. Jennie Lee '05 presents PhTs to her parents and sister Dr. Winnie Lee '01.
- 2 Dr. Oscar Ventanilla IDS '05, daughter Celina, and wife Jocelyn.
- 3 Dr. Thomas Scarfe '05 with his family during the reception.
- 4 Dr. Dan Martin '05 thanks his family and fiancée Sonja Hodges.
- 5 Dr. Jenny Turek '05 and family at The Fairmont Hotel's rooftop garden.
- 6 Dr. Michi Bittner '05 joins her family of Pacific alumni, parents Dr. Susan '74A and Gerald '72 Bittner.
- 7 Student Body President Dr. Matt Hutchinson '05 and his father Dr. Jim Hutchinson.
- 8 Dr. Minko Bach IDS '05 honors his family and Dr. F. Gene and Rosemary Dixon.

## Thanks A Bunch Brunch

It was a picturesque day in San Francisco for the annual Thanks a Bunch Brunch, a garden reception, brunch, and emotional ceremony at the Fairmont Hotel on June 11. This event gave graduates the unique opportunity to publicly pay tribute to their family and friends by presenting them with Pacific's own PhT (Putting Him or Her Through) certificates. Personal notes of thanks were read aloud by group practice administrators, Drs. Russell Woodson and Terry Hoover, to the audience of 350 guests.

PHOTOS BY CHRIST. ANDERSON





New OKU Inductees

PHOTO BY CHRIST ANDERSON

## INDUCTIONS WITH HONOR

More than 75 students from the School of Dentistry added another accomplishment to their list of achievements as they were inducted into esteemed honor societies for their exceptional leadership, scholarship, and character.

### Phi Kappa Phi

Presented with a gold key and certificate, seven students from the Class of 2005 adopted the Greek motto, *Philosophia Karateito Photon*, or "Let the Love of Learning Rule Humanity," as they received membership in the prestigious Phi Kappa Phi national honor society at an initiation ceremony held April 29 at Morris Chapel on the Stockton campus.

Following an initiation address by Dr. David Chambers (see editorial in this issue), associate dean for academic affairs, Drs. Gustavo Assatourians, Minko Bach, Matthew Davis, Jamie Marvel, Kate Nguyen, Megan Olson, and Ryan Savage were the dental school graduates honored during an initiation ceremony led by PKP Chapter President Ray Sylvester, Provost Dr. Philip Gilbertson, and Vice President for Student Life, Julie Sina.

Inductees to PKP, the oldest and largest interdisciplinary honor society in existence, were chosen from all academic disciplines within the University. PKP recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others.

### Omicron Kappa Upsilon

Eighteen DDS and two IDS students from the Class of 2005 were recognized for their outstanding leadership, scholarship, and character with an induction into the Delta Delta Chapter of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honor Society the evening of June 11 at the Concordia Argonaut Club in San Francisco.

Dean Arthur A. Dugoni and OKU Chapter President Nader Naderahahi '94 inducted the following graduates into OKU during the ceremony: Drs. Gustavo Assatourians, Brian Barker, Angelina Cardinali, Tyler Clark, Keith Coombs, Matthew Davis, Ryan Gibson, Philip Kaiser, Babak Khayatan, Jamie Marvel, Kristina Merriman, John Miller, Thao Nguyen, Megan Olson, Marcus Palermo, Seth Reder, Ryan Savage, and David Walton (DDS); Minko Bach and Svetlana Huggins (IDS). This year's honorary inductee was Dr. Colin C. Wong

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'65, past president of the Pacific Dental Education Foundation and the Alumni Association.

### **Tau Kappa Omega**

In celebration of scholastic excellence, achievement, and dedication to the dental school, distinguished students from the Class of 2005 and 2006, along with several faculty and staff members, became members of the School of Dentistry's own honor society, Tau Kappa Omega, during its annual convocation at The Green Room on May 10.

TKO inductees are chosen during their second or third year of dental school. Students must rank in the top 20% of their respective classes in their seventh quarter or in the next 10% during their eleventh quarter.

New class of 2005 honorees were: Drs. Babak Khayatan, Caton State, David Campbell, Jeremy West, Joel Shumway, Keith Bradburn, Matthew Hutchinson, Nicholas Tennison, Phillip Johnson, Ryan Tennant, Angel Sun, Emi Eno, Erin Flanagan, Galinna Lin, Monica Sal-

dana, and Tia Dennis (DDS); Minko Bach, Svetlana Huggins, Amitesh Patel, Ana Rajkovic, and Mustafa Yamani (IDS).

The following Class of 2006 students received TKO membership: Adam Barr, Nathan Baxter, Ryan Bott, Jesse Cole, Sabrina Dhanjal, Zachary Dodson, Jernell Escobar, David Forester, Steven Gajda, Travis Hammons, Roger Harding, Spencer Hinckley, Ryan Kerr, Quyen Lee, James Mann, Elizabeth Manov, Nicholas Mooberry, Goli Najafzadeh, Richard Nelson, Gregory Olsen, Aurora Patino, Austin Schellinck, Ruth Tan-Chi, Jared Theurer, Jeffrey Thomas, Johnny Tran, Stephen Wat, and Mark Young.

Select faculty and staff members were granted honorary memberships for their service and dedication to the dental school. Honorees included: Drs. Paul Glassman, associate dean for information and educational technology; Terry Hoover, group practice administrator; Joseph Zingale, associate professor in the Department of Periodontics; and Ms. Rowena O'Connor, clinic manager for the Oral & Maxillofacial Clinic.

### **Maria Murtagh Receives Aspen Award**

The National Association of College Stores (NACS) selected Ms. Maria Murtagh, director of the Student Store at the dental school and a certified College Store Professional (CSP), to be the first recipient of the new NACS Aspen Award. This inaugural award recognizes a professional in the collegiate retailing industry who has made continuous, notable contributions to the education and professional development efforts of the association and advanced the industry

through learning activities.

"I'm just so grateful that I've had the opportunity to share my love and passion for this industry," said Ms. Murtagh when she received the award during the Opening Super Session of the NACS annual conference and trade show held in New Orleans in February. She received a bronze aspen tree leaf hanging inside a wooden shadow box from the outgoing NACS President and the association



further honored her with a personalized brick laid at the NACS headquarters in Oberlin, Ohio.

This lifetime contribution award is named for the aspen tree as it symbolizes growth, perseverance, continuity, and strength in the face of adversity. Ms. Murtagh was nominated by other NACS members and then selected by the Education Committee because she is not only a leader in the industry but has gone beyond the call of duty

to make contributions to the professional development of others.

Ms. Murtagh is a former member of the NACS Board of Trustees and has served on countless committees. She is also former president of the California Association of College Stores.

"Maria is such a perfect inaugural recipient of the Aspen Award," stated Ms. Mary Ellen Martin, chair of the NACS Education Committee. "It gives us great pride to recognize her many years of committed service and passionate involvement."

### **Pacific Honors First Dental Hygiene Class**

Gathered together at a recognition luncheon on April 24 held in Raymond Great Hall on Pacific's main campus in Stockton, more than 250 people honored the first graduating class of the dental hygiene program. Among the attendees were President Donald DeRosa, Provost Philip Gilbertson and his wife Carole, development research analyst for Advancement Services and Research, and Vice President of Finance Patrick Cavanaugh.

In addition, Dr. Bruce Toy, past president of the Alumni Association, and Dr. Denis Meerdink, dean of Research and Graduate Studies, attended to honor their daughters, both graduates of the program.

A total of 24 students were presented with a plaque by Dean Arthur A. Dugoni and Executive Associate Dean Robert Christoffer, recognizing them as the first graduating class. Additionally, Dr. Cindy Lyon, dental hygiene program director, presented five awards: American Association of Public Health Dentistry Award for Achievement in Community Dentistry and Dental Public Health Award to Melissa Kitajima; Outstanding Clinical Achievement Award to Re-



*Dental Hygiene Class of 2005 with Dr. Cindy Lyon, dental hygiene program director, and Dean Arthur A. Dugoni.*

becca Kastorsky; California Dental Hygiene Student Leadership Award to Claire Scarisbrik; Outstanding Academic Achievement Award to Ashley Birkey; and Dental Hygiene Student Total Achievement Award to Sarah Meerdink.

"What a terrific celebration of this first class of DH students, which included their families, the dental school, the University, and community supporters. It was a great event to congratulate all who pioneered this new program," stated Dr. Lyon.



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Above: McGeorge School of Law's award-winning viewbook.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF BILLY HOWARD

Award recipients, Ms. Sharon Hudson (second from left) and Ms. Kara Sanchez (center), with CASE officials in Miami.

### Pacific Strikes Gold

It was a first for Pacific. All three campuses—San Francisco, Stockton, and Sacramento—received a gold medal in the 2005 Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) International Circle of Excellence Awards. Each year, CASE recognizes universities and colleges from across the United States, Canada, Mexico, and 43 other countries for innovative and effective programs in alumni relations, advancement services, communications and marketing, and fund raising.

Judges in the Individual Special Events category selected the dental school's "University Naming Celebration," held in honor of Dean Arthur A. Dugoni in August 2004, to receive a gold medal among the 59 entries received in this category. The Stockton campus' "I am Pacific" campaign received a gold medal in the Student

Recruitment Packages category and a silver medal for Visual Design in Print. Pacific's McGeorge School of Law garnered a gold medal for their "Explore" viewbook in the Individual Student Recruitment Publications category.

Ms. Kara Sanchez, director of public relations for the dental school and chair of the "University Naming Celebration," and Ms. Sharon Hudson, former marketing communications director for the Stockton campus, traveled to Miami Beach, Florida, to attend the CASE Annual Assembly.

This year, CASE received more than 2,800 entries in 39 categories of competition and a total of 315 awards were presented. "We 'knocked their socks off' with one spectacular event and the dental school's gold medal recognition by CASE 2005 Circle of Excellence Award is a testimony to that," stated Dean Dugoni.

### Pacific Participates in ASDA National Student Lobby Day

At the 2005 American Student Dental Association (ASDA) National Dental Student Lobby Day, Pacific represented one of the largest groups in attendance with 16 students.

In addition to receiving training on legislative issues pertaining to student loans and meeting with congressional members from their house districts, Pacific dental students had the unique opportunity to visit the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in Washington, D.C. Rich McKeown, chief of staff to the Secretary of HHS and father of Sean McKeown, Class of 2007, hosted the event, arranging meetings with key officers and a tour of the building.

During the meetings, students discussed health care issues

with U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona, MD. He stated that dentists are models for other health care providers because of their emphasis on preventative, as opposed to reactive care. Assistant Secretary for Health, Howard Zucker, MD, whom the television show "Doogie Howser MD" was based upon, spoke of his path to Washington and encouraged involvement in public health and policy. To prepare the students for Capitol Hill, Assistant Secretary for Budget and Science, Craig Burton gave a basic explanation of the legislative process and offered strategies to use when lobbying for bills in the interest of dental students. The day concluded with a photo opportunity with Secretary of HHS Michael Leavitt, who discussed his vision of the future of health care after returning from a live ex-



ercise involving a plague attack.

"While we were there, they were in the middle of a live exercise. The process showed us how on top of everything the Secretary of HHS was in the event of an unexpected attack or disease outbreak," stated Craig Worsley, Class of 2007.

"It was the privilege of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to host the

Lobby Day contingent of dental students from Pacific," stated Mr. McKeown. "I hope the chance to talk with a number of Public Officials, including the Surgeon General and Secretary Leavitt of Health and Human Services, broadened their perspective of public health and gave the students a glimpse of the health challenges we face presently and in the future."

PHOTOS BY JON DRAPER



Dr. Nagashree Prakash, IDS Class of 2006, presented a clinical case on ceramic veneers.

Dr. Phil Kaiser '05 won first place in the supportive therapy category.

Dr. Randy Tran '05 with his volunteer patient and mentor Dr. Lola Giusti following his case presentation.

### Students Shine During Clinical Excellence & Research Day

Showcasing the School of Dentistry's most extensive display of first-rate and complex clinical cases and research abstracts, almost 200 students and faculty participated in Pacific's Clinical Excellence/Research Day on May 25 in the main clinic. Previously separate annual events, Clinical Excellence Day and Research Day were held in conjunction this year.

"Clinical Excellence/Research Day was another outstanding event initiated by Pacific and being copied by other dental schools," stated Dean Arthur A. Dugoni. "Judges and colleagues were amazed with not only the quality of our students' projects but the use of cutting-edge procedures, which other dental schools haven't even touched."

In the research competition, five out of 43 abstract presentations received judges' top scores. Mark Young, Class of 2006, was awarded first place in the ADA/DENTSPLY Student Research Competition for his presentation, "Gene Delivery to Murine Oral Cancer Cells in the Presence of Mouse Serum: Application to HSV-TK/Ganciclovir Suicide Gene Therapy." He represented Pacific at the national ADA/DENTSPLY Student Clinician Program at the ADA Annual Scientific Session in October.

Class of 2006 students Spencer Hinckley, who placed second, along with third place winner Katherine Bracy, also represented Pacific at the Hinman Student Research Symposium in Tennessee in October.

"This year's Pacific Research Day had the largest number of presentations since the event started seven years ago," stated Dr. Nejat Duzgunes, event coordinator and chair of the Department of Microbiology. "According to the judges, the quality of the research presented by our students was of very high quality, which made the judging very difficult."

During the clinical excellence day recognition, more than 65 students prepared with informative poster displays, digital presentations on laptop computers, and volunteer patients, competed in nine different categories. The following first place winners in their respective categories were rewarded with cash prizes and donated products from various vendors: Aesthetic Dentistry, Randy Tran '05; Implant Dentistry, Phil Fletcher '05; Removable Prosthodontics, Dan Martin '05; Restorative Dentistry, Babak Khayatan '05; Supportive Therapy, Phil Kaiser '05; Second-Year, Jernell Escobar, Class of 2006; First-Year, Micah Porter, Class of 2007; Case Presentations, Babak Khayatan '05; AEGD Resident, Dr. Anagha Joshi.

"It was a remarkable success," remarked Dr. Marc Geissberger '91, Clinical Excellence Day founder and chair of the Department of Restorative Dentistry. "There were more participants and spectators than the year before. The added displays from our residents and first-year students made this a truly inclusive and impressive school-wide event."

### Dr. Richard Burns (1932—2005)

Dr. Richard Burns, retired professor of endodontics, made lasting impressions throughout his life, both artistically and professionally. On May 1, Dr. Burns passed away from hepatitis C. He was 73.

"I was a student at the dental school when I first met Dick. He had been my mentor and friend who took me under his wing," said Dr. Alan Gluskin, professor and chair of endodontics. "When he retired, he left me the majority of his teaching material. I still use many of his illustrations and clinical cases in my teaching. He was a consummate mentor."



For nearly 30 years, Dr. Burns taught at Pacific and was actively involved in organized dentistry throughout his career. His professional involvement included memberships with the American Dental Association, the California Dental Association, and the San Mateo County Dental Society,

where he served as president, treasurer, secretary, and editor. He served as co-chair of the ADA's Annual Session in 1983 and president of the American Association of Endodontics, which cited him in 2002 with its highest honor, the Edgar D. Collidge Award. In 1972, he was awarded the first ADA Preventive Dentistry Award for helping create the Brushmobile, a remodeled school bus that traveled throughout San Mateo County educating children about dental hygiene.

Dr. Burns graduated from Marquette University School of Dentistry in 1957 and later became a captain in the U.S. Dental Corps. He received his board certifica-

tion in endodontics in 1965 and started a dental practice in San Mateo in 1967.

In addition to his professional endodontic work, Dr. Burns wrote and illustrated "Rufus and His Dad," a cartoon that ran in the *Journal of the California Dental Association* and served as principal illustrator and co-editor of the endodontic text *Pathways of the Pulp*. His love for art didn't stop him from working despite his retirement in 2000. He became a watercolor painter, whose works were in exhibits throughout California.

He is survived by his wife, Susan, five children, and six grandchildren.



# Fellowship of Educated Men and Women

*This is the Phi Kappa Phi national honor society convocation address delivered on April 29 in Morris Chapel at the university in Stockton.*

**By David W. Chambers**

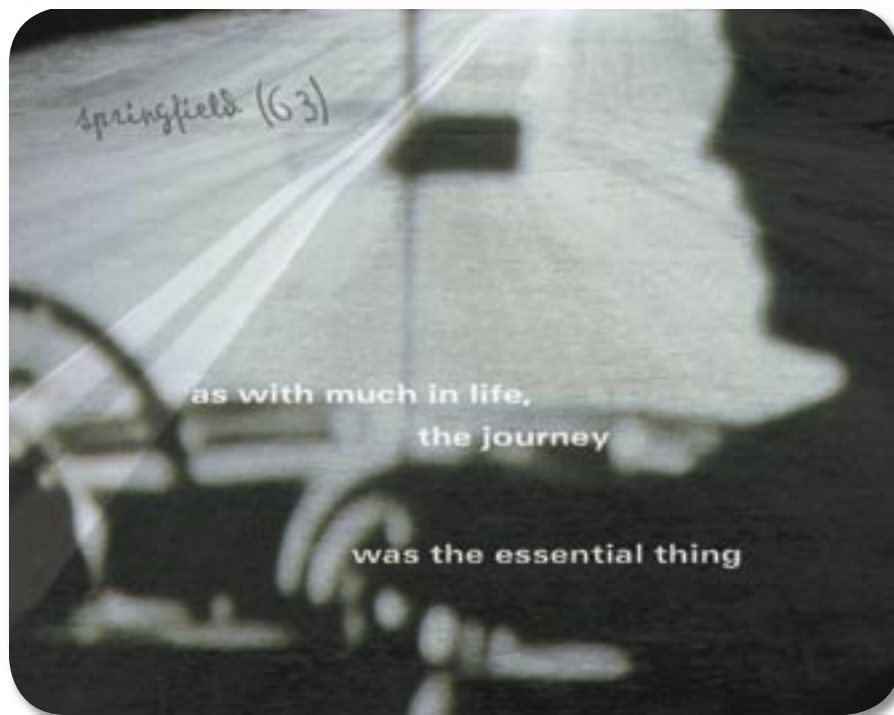
It is customary on these occasions for the speaker to reflect on his or her career and draw forth a few general insights about one's discipline. I intend to do nothing of the sort. I'm not that old; and today is about you. You are called out from the larger community because of your accomplishments and your potential.

There are two things I remember very clearly about my own graduation. First is the joke our commencement speaker told—and that's all I remember about Adlai Stevenson to this day. But I remember exactly the words the president of Harvard pronounced. Perhaps he said something about conferring the degrees to which we were entitled, but he certainly and distinctly said, "I welcome you to the fellowship of educated men."

Most of us were pretty bright pennies and we had already figured out that our education was worth a lot more than our degrees. And over the years, we have also come to realize that being part of a fellowship that values reason, beauty, and the potential of humankind—and does so as a supportive, collective community—is indeed a cherished gift. Reflect on the alternatives: greed, small dreams, ugliness, using people as means to our ends, or, worst of all, being alone.

The Pacific experience takes place in a community that passionately pursues personal potential and dignity. We certainly hope you took your exams unassisted, but that was only one small measure of your growth as a person. Two or three names on a paper were often appropriate, and working in teams was expected. If you talked with your professors over coffee or beer; if you argued late into the night over abortion rights or whether punk rock or baroque is better; if you walked hand in hand with someone who will forever change your life—so much the better for you and for us. That's how you get into the fellowship.

Pacific does not offer a point and click education. I believe that is why President DeRosa insisted we stop referring to ourselves by



an ambiguous abbreviation and start using a word, Pacific, that denotes a desirable state of mind. In the world as we find it today, individuals do not assemble an education, we participate in it. The same is true of life.

Those of you who are scientists know the problems that were simple enough for individuals to address have all been solved and collaboration is as important as rigor. Those in the professional schools such as pharmacy, engineering, education, business, and dentistry absorbed a professional code of conduct and you realize that the public's assessment of your worth depends as much on your colleagues' ethics as it does on your technical skills. Those of you in the School of International Studies have much to teach us about building communities, especially ones that include folks who are different from us. For the poet, and I hope there are poets among you, you know that self-expression is the short road to small audiences and communication means playing someone else's spirit.

Provost Gilbertson frequently mentions experiential learning and distinctiveness. Dean Oppenheimer in pharmacy is fond of talking about partnerships. Dean Miller of COP and Dean Jain of Engineering are exploring collaboration in programs and research. Vice

President Sina promotes residential learning centers. In the dental school, we call it the "community of reflective practitioners." Do you see a pattern here? If you wanted to get into the fellowship of educated men and women, you came to the right place when you came to Pacific.

Let me tell you one story before I finish. Stories are meant to entertain only in a secondary sense. Their primary purpose is to provide alternative models for how we might live segments of our lives.

My story is from a time when I was roughly your age. I was a graduate student at Harvard and had been invited to give a paper at the New England Psychological Association meeting in Springfield, Massachusetts, about three hours drive from Boston. As with much in life, the journey was the essential thing. I rode in a bus that Jerome Bruner had converted to a mobile psychology lab. Roger Brown and a technician were in the bus as well, and we stopped in Waverlytown to pick up Abraham Maslow. I gloried in listening to the informal conversation among these giants.

As twilight came on, conversation waned and I felt strangely compelled to blurt out, "So tell me, Dr. Maslow, how does it feel to

be self-actualized all the time?" Maslow was one of the only American academics recognized by the public in the 1960s and '70s for the part of his theory of motivation that emphasized people fulfilling their potential and to this day a textbook cannot be written in organizational behavior or management that doesn't mention his hierarchy of needs beginning with physiological needs, then safety needs, followed by need to belong to a community that cares about you, then self-esteem, and finally, at the pentacle, the prize of self-fulfillment.

Dr. Maslow made my blood run cold when he answered very slowly to the effect that he wasn't sure, he hadn't been self-actualized much himself. I thought, "Oh no, I have him confused with McGregor or McClelland." But he went on gently and asked what I knew about his theory of motivation. I said, "A satisfied need is no longer motivating, but kicks the focus of energy to the next highest level in the hierarchy." "Good answer," Maslow said. "There have only been a few generally self-actualized individuals—Moses, Gandhi, Albert Sweitzer, and maybe Abraham Lincoln, in the latter part of his life. But I noticed," he

continued, "that individuals who have their basic needs met continue to be motivated, sometimes impressively so. I had to invent self-actualization to keep the system going. It explains why some people are vigorously engaged in life even though they have everything they need."

There isn't any more important lesson than the one I learned on that bus trip. If we want people to reach their potential, we must help them fulfill their needs and, on their own, they will move to the next level. And if you have been listening carefully, you heard me say that being part of a community is a prerequisite to both a positive personal self-image and to fulfilling one's purpose in life. Being part of the fellowship of educated men and women will become for you the foundation of what you accomplish. And we have it on Abraham Maslow's authority that this fellowship will never cloy, but will energize you relentlessly toward justifying the reason for which you were created.

At this point I have to confess that I was not entirely truthful with you at the beginning when I said I would forego talking about my own career. I am an academic administrator,

which means that my job is to create communities where people can reach their potential—together. It's like coaching a team. In my introduction, Ray Sylvester did not summarize my accomplishments; he identified a few of the communities I participate in and efforts, through writing, to build communities.

I hope that many of you reach the point in your development where you realize it is no longer enough to be a member in good standing of the fellowship of educated men and women. Join us in building community. I can think of nothing better to do with your gifts than to reinvest them.

It is not my place to welcome you to the fellowship of educated men and women. (Perhaps President DeRosa will add that to Pacific's graduation litany.) I have pointed out to you the meaningfulness, the promise, the very essential nature of this community. I also recognize each of you as being worthy of that honor.

I salute you. I stand in respect for what you have accomplished and in awe at the potential that lies before you. Although you will go on after I have to stop, I consider it an honor to walk with you on our common journey.

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**By Lisa Itaya and Bruce Peltier**

**Scenario:** You are a dentist and, sadly, your elderly mother has developed Alzheimer's disease. She now uses a wheelchair to move around and she can no longer reliably take care of herself. You are not able to look after her on an ongoing basis, so you hire a live-in assistant. Your mother does not have dental insurance, but is covered by Denti-Cal. Her previous dentist retired six years ago, and she has not sought a replacement. She is taking nine different medications (for hypertension, prior heart bypass surgery, and diabetes, as well as some for her dementia); she has xerostomia and now has developed root caries on half of her teeth, many of which need root canal therapy and crowns. Some should be extracted. You are unsure about how to treat your mother because you are not very familiar with the medications she takes. You are not a Denti-Cal provider and you have patients booked out for the next two months. So, you try to find a provider who understands the attendant medical issues, medications, dental issues, and psychological issues, and who takes Denti-Cal, as well. Somehow, it is no surprise that it is nearly impossible to find such a dentist and that the one you find has a four-month waiting list.

**Question:** Why can't the provider be you? Why can't you provide her dental treatment? **Bigger question:** Why don't you treat other patients like her in your practice already?

**Description of the Problem:** This situation could easily describe you or someone close to you. Your mother has become a "special needs" patient. The spectrum of special needs patients is broad, and it includes people with complex physical, mental, and medical situations, even the frail elderly. Here is the Commission on Dental Accreditation's definition of special needs patients: "patients whose medical, physical, psychological, or social situations may make it necessary to modify normal dental routines in order to provide dental treatment for that individual. These individuals include, but are not limited to, people with developmental disabilities, complex medical problems, and significant physical limitations."

There are many such patients in our communities. In fact, the U. S. Census Bureau reports that the number of non-institutionalized people with disabilities over age five years is approximately 50 million—that's



## Somebody Else's Problem

about 20% of the population!

These patients often have complex dental problems. They sometimes find it difficult to brush and floss, they take medications that dry out the oral cavity, and they go without professional care for extended periods.

Many practitioners view people with complex medical conditions or developmental disabilities as a mystery. They think that treatment is difficult and that it takes more time. The real challenge your hypothetical mother faces is the pervasive perception that "special needs" patients are really someone else's problem. Dentists learn their skills on a pretty wide range of patients at dental school, but precious few dentists have any significant exposure to special needs patients. Here at Pacific most of those patients are well-treated in our Advanced Education in General Dentistry residency program. Most dental students across the United States do not get a chance to work with special needs patients in their training. This results in the following :

1. The vast majority of students graduate from dental school with little or no understanding of how to care for special needs patients. They are not aware that difficulties and differences related to the dental treatment of such patients are surprisingly minimal. In fact, many of their teachers lack adequate expertise in this area themselves. The medical diagnoses for these populations can be frightening to those who are not lifelong learners of medicine and dentistry. However, a modest amount of additional training helps doctors realize that most special patients are relatively easy to treat and do not require sig-

nificantly more time than other patients.

2. Many assume that dental students should treat the "regular" or underserved patient in the main clinic, but that special needs patients are to be treated by residents in a special clinic. These assumptions leave special needs patients out in the cold. There are staggering numbers of people who do not have access to adequate dental care, yet there is resistance in American dental schools to the notion that all dental students should become competent to treat people with special needs.

Students therefore graduate with the idea that the treatment of such patients is unimportant. Since it wasn't emphasized in their curriculum, it's probably not a big deal. Students do not graduate from dental school with the notion that they (collectively or individually) have a responsibility to treat all patients with dental needs. In fact, some students leave dental school with the clear impression that their future success depends upon their ability to carefully "select" patients who will allow their work to be easy and lucrative. Such "patient selection" certainly does not include people with autism or multiple sclerosis.

3. Students graduate with a fear of special needs patients. The thought of trying to extract a tooth from an individual who uses a wheelchair and who has cerebral palsy can be intimidating for someone with limited knowledge in this area, and the notion of treating mentally retarded patients seems completely out of the question. Doctors share the stereotypes that most people possess about people with mental or physical disabilities,

PHOTO: JON DRAPER

and the most common response is to pity them, put them out of mind, and hope that someone else will handle the situation.

4. Money also plays a role in the problem of lack of treatment, as many special needs patients are not fully employed and do not have dental plans other than Denti-Cal. The vast majority of dentists in California simply do not treat Denti-Cal patients due to Denti-Cal's low reimbursement rates.

**Possible Solutions.** Exposing dental students to public health issues and the delivery of care in a community-based system as early as possible in the dental curriculum will teach students that public health is an integral part of dentistry as a profession, not something left to a specialist or do-gooder. Encouraging students to participate in outreach programs, to pursue a year of residency training, to practice in underserved areas, and to become lifelong learners in medicine and dentistry will help to eliminate the mystery of treating special populations.

Increasing the capacity of allied dental providers to serve the general population could help alleviate shortages. Why not let others provide care for those whom dentists do not treat? Some states, includ-

ing California, have laws that reduce the restrictions on dental hygienists. Competence for allied dental professionals is maintained through accredited programs, nationally recognized certification for dental assistants and licensure for dental hygienists. Integrating nontraditional providers of oral health care, such as physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants, would also improve the access to oral health care in many areas. If dentists are not willing to embrace the expansion of the roles of various health care professionals, then the question still begs to be answered: "Why aren't more dentists providing care to the underserved and special needs populations?"

Society grants the dental profession a significant degree of autonomy and self-regulation. In return, there is an implicit obligation to serve the public good. All people, including those among us who are vulnerable, are entitled to the human dignity associated with basic dental care, especially when solutions are within reach. At some point, the use of the term "neglect" becomes appropriate, and the neglect hits home when special needs patients turn up in your own

family. The profession must work to increase access to care for the public good or risk the possibility of a continuing loss of self-regulation. A time may come when frustrated outsiders step in to force a change if dentists themselves don't find a way to serve these underserved groups.

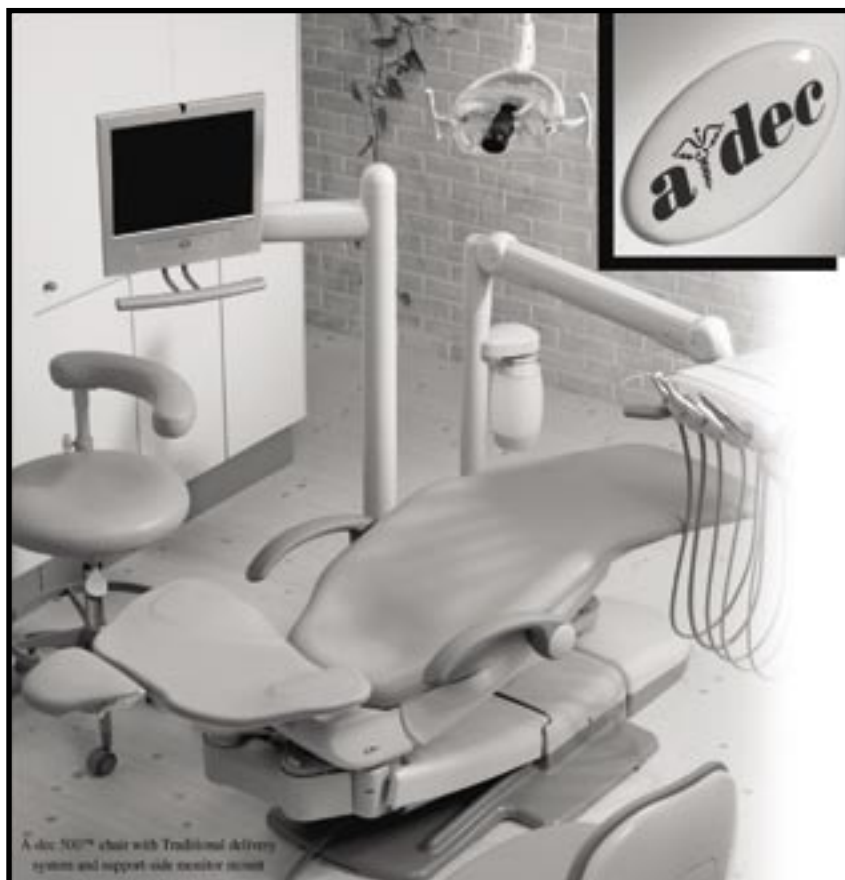
*Lisa Itaya, DDS is an assistant professor in the Department of Dental Practice at the dental school. She served as an AEGD resident at Pacific in 1999 and chief resident in 2000. She is currently the chair of the Dental Faculty Council. Bruce Peltier, PhD, MBA is professor of clinical psychology, and director of ethics education at the dental school.*

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## GOAL

\$60 million  
6-30-06

\$54.7 million  
as of 7-1-05

\$50 million  
Phase I Goal

COMMITMENT  
TO EXCELLENCE II

BUILDING ON SUCCESS

# ART DUGONI AND OUR LEGACY OF GREATNESS

### By Ron Redmond

Twenty-seven years. That's how long it takes the sun to complete a cycle in which the calendar dates fall once again on the exact same days of the week as they did at the beginning of this cycle ... that's how long Crusoe was on the island ... and that's how long Art Dugoni has been dean at Pacific—a long and amazing tenure. My wife, Margaret, would tell you that's how long the Commitment to Excellence campaign has been in progress, too.

We launched this extraordinary campaign, at Art's urging, in the fall of 2000. And just as this will be Art's final year as our dean, so it will mark the final year of the largest campaign in dental school history. We'll conclude both of these amazingly successful terms on the same day, but first we'll raise a little money and then celebrate all that's been accomplished as only Pacific knows how to celebrate. Stay tuned!

At our last board planning session we asked, "What more can Art do? What additional legacy can flow from his illustrious career? What can we do for Art?" Two things jumped out.

First, strengthen the P&S Annual Fund. It provides "quick response" dollars meeting opportunities as they occur. Consistent annual gifts really matter. Our goal: \$1 million per year. Think of the impact—\$1 million is equivalent to the proceeds from a twenty \$20 million endowment! This might make possible a special scholarship or research grant, a critical piece of equipment, or travel to a scientific conference for a student researcher. What a difference these dollars make to the excellence that is Pacific. My dream: Every alum makes Pacific a part of his or her annual giving plan. What a legacy!

Second, Art has always championed endowments. Starting at almost nothing when he became dean, our dental school endowment is approaching \$30 million—a million dollars for each year of Art's tenure.

"Great universities have great endowments," he has told us over and over. We have heard him. Almost half of the campaign commitments so far are for endowments. Over 200 individuals and families have established a named endowment. Today our endowments generate over one million dollars each year for scholarships, faculty support, research, facilities, etc. What a legacy!

A vibrant P&S Annual Fund and a growing endowment are what we can do this year in expressing our appreciation for the legacy of greatness that Dean Arthur A. Dugoni is leaving us, our children, and grandchildren.

# KIDS IN THE KLINIC ENDOWMENT SURPASSES

## \$1 MILLION MILESTONE

When the campaign began, creating a million dollar endowment for the Hutto Patterson Pediatric Clinic at University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry seemed a long way off. Thanks to the passion and persistence of some key individuals, a support team of hundreds, and countless generous donors, that endowment fund is now past \$1 million and on its way to more.

Four events over the past year have combined to raise over \$380,000. These include the Sacramento Golf & Tennis Tournament, chaired by Dr. Ken Fat; the Spring Fashion Show, chaired by Ms. Bonnie Kwong; a wine auction, Vino de Mayo, co-chaired by Dr. Michael Fox, '82, and Dr. Ron Redmond, '66; and, most recently, the Olympic Club Golf & Tennis Tournament, chaired by Dr. Susan Bittner '74A.

"This is a testament to what caring people with generous hearts can accomplish when coming together in support of a wonderful cause," said Dr. Craig Yarborough '80, associate dean for institutional advancement.

While this journey to a million dollars and beyond has involved a lot of hard work, it has also been a lot of fun. But we'll let the pictures shown here tell that part of the story.



Vino de Mayo Wine Auction

PHOTO BY JON DRAPER



Sacramento Golf and Tennis Classic

# Klinik Endowment celebrate enormous success!

## CAMPAIGN SNAPSHOT

TEN MILLION DOLLARS OVER THE TOP!

	TOTAL COMMITTED	GOAL
<b>Facilities</b>	<b>\$11,234,661</b>	<b>\$11,500,000</b>
Hygiene Clinic		
Ortho Clinic		
AEGD Clinic		
Smart Classrooms		
<b>Endowments</b>	<b>\$23,987,793</b>	<b>\$27,500,000</b>
General		
Chairs & Professorships		
Scholarships		
Patient Care		
<b>P &amp; S Annual Fund</b>	<b>\$ 5,795,592</b>	<b>\$ 7,000,000</b>
<b>Other Gifts</b>	<b>\$13,700,804</b>	<b>\$14,000,000</b>



PHOTO BY BRUCE COOK



PHOTO BY CHRIS T. ANDERSON

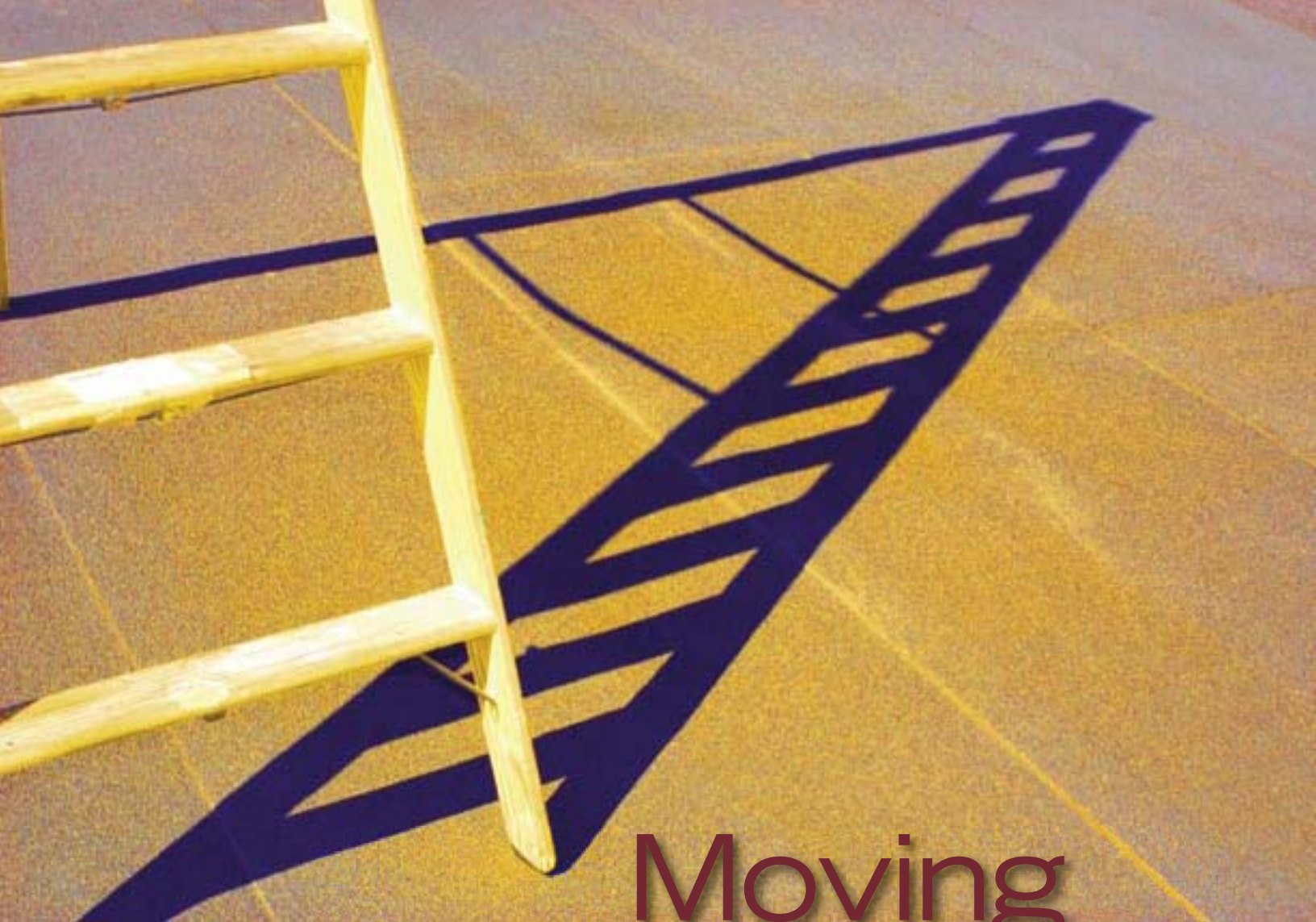
## San Francisco Golf and Tennis Classic

## "Best Dressed Smiles" Fashion Show



PHOTO BY BRUCE COOK





# Moving up the Ladder at Pacific

**By Kathleen Barrows**

Scrubbing, cleaning, and sterilizing instruments or skillfully crafting plastics and metal into comfortable bridges and dentures for patients are tasks many dentists prefer to leave to someone else. But for a number of alumni and faculty, these tasks have formed a vital part in their climb up the ladder of success at the University of Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry.

The stories of people like Dr. Eric Skinner, Ms. Eve Cuny, Dr. Rene Bagus, Dr. Allan Pineda, and Dr. Shahram Nabipour are a testimony to these individuals' abilities to find opportunity. But they are also a testimony to the heart of the faculty and staff who encouraged and inspired them to expand their horizons at the dental school.

What enabled them to transform themselves from teaching technicians, production lab assistants, and computer analysts to become dentists, orthodontists, and experts in their fields? Here are their answers.

*Dr. Eric Skinner*

PHOTO BY LANA HUGGINS, DDS

### **Dr. Eric Skinner '87** **Helping and Being Helped**

Dr. Eric Skinner's long association with the School of Dentistry began even before his friend of 25 years—Dean Arthur Dugoni—had become dean. He first started working at the dental school in 1972, and his life, before and since, has been a tale of recognizing opportunities and taking advantage of them.

When Dr. Skinner left the college after three years in the '60s, two options awaited him: be drafted or join the Air Force. He did the latter in 1967, and at the age of 21 was sent to the medical corps, where he opted for a six-month course in dental assisting. "I was handy with tools," he recalls, and graduated first in his class.

Following a job teaching dental technology at a vocational school, he joined the production lab at Pacific. For six years, he says, "I essentially made crowns and bridges," and then jumped at a job as a teaching technician. "He has a personality to go and get 'em," says one of his mentors, Dr. Arthur M. LaVere, Professor Emeritus of Removable Prosthodontics (1968-1998). "Eric was always right there," he says of his assistant, who was always eager to do table clinics at Dr. LaVere's seminar talks and lectures.

But ten years as a teaching technician, "taking the heat for the kids who were doing the work (primarily metal partial dentures)," was enough for Dr. Skinner. It was time to become a dentist. From 1981-1984, he returned to school part-time to fulfill the pre-requisites for dental school.

With the help of faculty and colleagues and time off for exams that Dr. LaVere offered him, Dr. Skinner entered the dental school in 1984 at the age of 38, the oldest person in class. But "Pacific was always there to help you," he says. For six months he even taught his own class one day a week—pre-clinical removable prosthodontics. But, he emphasizes, "I didn't get a break... I paid my own dues, like everyone else." He graduated OKU, ranking twelfth in his class.

Dr. Skinner served as an adjunct faculty member for a number of years, while working in a Castro Valley practice part time and eventually starting his own practice in Auburn. Life and old classmates in Las Vegas called him to Nevada in 1996, where he got licensed, worked in private practice, and became active in the Southern Nevada Dental Society. Today, he works at the managing end of dentistry in Reno, where he owns a management and business company, serving as clinical director for ten Nevada practices and owning the practice entity of eight dental offices.

Through all the phases of his association with the School of Dentistry, perhaps his most gratifying experience was seeing someone follow in his footsteps. Mr. Roger Courpet—a ten-year "compadre" of Dr. Skinner's in the lab, as well as a dear friend and hunting companion—made the move to go to dental school. He died unexpectedly in his second year of at the age of 39. "I still feel honored that I had been inspirational to him."

Dr. Skinner says of Pacific: "They treat you like real people. If you're accepted and willing to put in time, they're willing to help you." It's obvious that he has continued in the tradition.

### **Ms. Eve Cuny** **The Jobs Just Kept Emerging**

A 21 year veteran of the School of Dentistry, the name Eve Cuny is a household word around Pacific. She's not only the one who makes sure that the dental school keeps its house clean, but has remade herself into a worldwide expert in infection control.

It was back in 1984 when she saw the ad for a dental assistant (DAU) to help teach in the pediatric dentistry clinic. She still remembers the day she was hired—March 5, 1984. In the back of her mind, she figured that being at the school meant more opportunities for her in the future. And she was right.

Prior to her arrival at Pacific, Ms. Cuny had studied education in college, completed a one-year dental assisting program and worked for eight years as a dental assistant in a private practice. The DAU position would let her to try out her rusty teaching skills in a new venue.

In 1989, she moved on to become a surgical technician in the oral surgery clinic and began teaching classes on infection control. She later assumed the role of infection control coordinator. This was a time, explains Ms. Cuny, when OSHA was just

*Ms. Eve Cuny*

PHOTO BY JON DRAPER

getting involved in infection control, changing its focus on industrial occupations to include healthcare settings and regulations related to bloodborne pathogens.

Ms. Cuny returned to school at various times, completing her B.A. in business, UC Berkeley's program in environmental hazard



management, and an M.S. degree in health services administration. "For five years," she says, "I had no Saturdays to myself," and she spent a lot of evenings after the kids went to bed writing papers. The jobs just kept emerging. In 1993, she became director of environmental health and safety.

But Ms. Cuny's contributions go far beyond the halls of the School of Dentistry. "Once I got interested in dental safety and infection control, I found it was a highly specialized area," Ms. Cuny explains. She regularly lectures on infection control for professional organizations. As a board member of the Organization for Safety and Asepsis Procedures (OSAP), a non-profit global organization that is funded through the CDC, she has traveled around the world, including trips to Mexico, Brazil, and India, doing training in modern infection control techniques.

She has worked with the CDC to develop their infection control guidelines for dentists, written numerous textbooks and journal articles and is editor in chief of *Contemporary Dental Assisting*—all this while overseeing risk management at the dental school and teaching as assistant professor of Pathology and Medicine.

Ms. Cuny laughingly attributes the secret to her success to "a well-directed case of adult ADD," but admits, "I always like to look out for things new and different." Her original hunch about the opportunities at Pacific was on target. "The dental school encourages growth of its staff and supports things that might be of value not just to the school," Ms. Cuny recognizes. "I wouldn't have had the same opportunities at any other place."

### ***Dr. Rene Bagus IDS '01—Wearing All the Gowns***

Dr. Rene Bagus can boast two unusual achievements at the School of Dentistry in his thirteen years here. As he puts it, "I'm the only one who has worn all the gowns: the blue lab coat of the dental technician, the green and brown gowns of the dental auxiliary, and the white gown as doctor." He's also probably made more dentures than any single person at the school.

A native of the Philippines, Dr. Bagus arrived in the U.S. after only one year of practicing dentistry in his homeland. Faced with the challenges of California licensing exams, in 1992 he opted to use his skills as a dental technician at Pacific, making dentures, crowns and bridges. At the time, explains chair and associate professor of removable prosthodontics Eugene LaBarre, the school's in-house lab made thousands of dentures a year. The lab's closing in 1998 represented a real hardship to the father of four, who then took a job as a dental auxiliary, scrubbing, cleaning and sterilizing instruments in the AEGD Clinic. "I was washing dishes," he laughs.

The decision to exchange his brown gown for a white one came the day one of his daughters declared her desire to attend private school. At that point, says Dr. Bagus, "we were living from paycheck to paycheck." He responded to her request saying, "Give me a couple of years." And that was all he needed.

When interviewing for the IDS program, Dr. Bagus expressed his concern that he might be too old to return to school. Dean Dugoni replied, "In education, there is no such thing as being old." Now, at 46, Dr. Bagus recognizes the wisdom of the dean's statement.

Returning to study wasn't easy. But his kids pitched in with the family chores, his wife helped even more, while he "had one eye reading a book

and the other doing the work at home." He helped finance his return to dental school by working part time as a dental technician in the small lab at his home in Alameda, where he still makes dentures for three doctors. "I make them for fun," he admits. "It's my hobby."

Dr. Bagus is modest when he talks about his hobby. "I'm pretty good with my hands," he says. "I can be proud of that." But he's more than "pretty good." Dr. LaBarre first paid real attention to the talents of the skilled technician in an IDS lab class, where he took Dr. Bagus under his wing. "In the classroom he did everything so fast and so perfectly that his creations were better than the models. He immediately started helping his classmates."

He's still doing that today. He works in a general dentistry office in Oakland four days a week, but on Fridays he's at the dental school in his white gown, as an instructor in the Department of Removable Prosthodontics. Says Dr. LaBarre, "He is much more hands-on than the typical teacher... Dr. Bagus has been like having a scabbard that you have no idea what's inside. And you pull out an Excalibur sword, sharp on both sides."

### ***Dr. Allan Pineda IDS '02 Supported by His Pacific Family***

It seemed only natural that Dr. Allan Pineda would be taking part in the interview for this story at the Pediatric Dentistry Clinic, while on a lunch break. After all, he says, "Since 1994, the pediatric department of the dental school has been my home." It was there too that he and all his colleagues recently celebrated the joyful news that he had passed the Western Regional Boards.

Dr. Pineda graduated from dental school in the Philippines in 1985, where he had taught in a dental college, with a primary interest in endodontics. After immigrating to Chicago with his family in 1992, he moved on to California—the only state where foreign graduates of dental schools could take the licensure exams. He began his career at the School of Dentistry in 1994, as a temporary dental auxiliary utilization (DAU) teaching assistant in the pediatric dentistry clinic, substituting for one of several DAUs who were pregnant at the time. "At first it was hard being the only male," he admits, "but as I went along, it was OK for me."

The experience became much more

PHOTO BY JON DRAPER



*Dr. Rene Bagus*





PHOTO BY JON DRAPER

than OK. "The dental school will always be part of my heart. I'm a member of a family here, the Pacific family," Dr. Pineda says. Though his original interest in his native country had been endodontics, through his work as a DAU he came to love working with children. After several years, Dr. Pineda also realized he wanted to "learn more and stand side by side with American dentists." His motivation to apply for the IDS program, he admits, was "50% encouragement from the pediatric staff and 50% from me."

It's veteran DAU Maria DeGunto who filled in the details about Dr. Pineda's life at the clinic. He overcame many obstacles: a new culture and language, English exam (TOEFL) and entrance exams. "He was on his own here," she explains, "no brothers and sisters, so he needed support"—support which he received wholeheartedly from all the staff. "By our help and caring concern for him, we planted a little seed, and it's finally been able to take root."

"Allan knew it wasn't going to be an easy task," says Ms. DeGunto. He paid his own way through dental school with student loans. With the high cost of living in the Bay Area, friends offered him places to live. But his "constant drive and genuine heart" helped get him through. Of course a good sense of humor came in handy too. Some of his creative language inventions became the "sayings of the week" in the pediatric dentistry clinic, where Dr. Pineda and his colleagues laughed together about his unusual expressions.

Right now Dr. Pineda continues at the pediatric dentistry clinic and works on Fridays in a children's hygiene clinic in Pleasanton. But eventually he will be returning to Chicago to be near his family—his other family. "My urban family, my friends are here; but my real home base is Chicago," he explains. "Chicago is my kind of town, but I think I left my heart in San Francisco."

### **Dr. Shahram Nabipour '03, Ortho '05—Appreciative of the Little Things**

Dr. Nabipour didn't know anything about dentistry when he first came to the School of Dentistry in 1997. A native of Iran, he held a degree in molecular biology from San Francisco State and had worked as a technical writer before applying for a job as a tutor in pharmacology to help first-year students. But the unexpected help of a few Pacific people paved his way from computer data clerk to orthodontist in just eight short years.

Dr. Nabipour was turned down for the tutoring job, but Ms. Marnie Urbach, who worked in human resources at the time, promised to keep his resume on record. "I never really

expected her to call," he admits, but within a week she phoned to encourage him to apply for a data analyst position in the Cranial Facial Research Instrumentation Laboratory (CRIL). When Dr. Nabipour hesitated, Marnie just "put my feet to the fire," he says, asking if he really wanted the job. With that question, Dr. Nabipour "took the leap of faith" and went for the interview—a decision he's never regretted.

The job—what he describes as "keeping track of the paper work and nitty gritty details of research"—was not a "career thing." The faculty "wants you to come in to contribute, learn things, and go on to bigger and better things," he recognizes. Encouraged by his supervisor and mentor, Dr. Sheldon Baumrind, professor of Orthodontics and CRIL Chief, Dr. Nabipour has done just that.

"I had no clue whether I'd like dentistry or not," he admits, but with the encouragement of his colleagues, he made it into dental school on his second try. Over his eight years at Pacific, much of Dr. Nabipour's research talents have been directed at calibrating a new three-dimensional cone-beam system, with Drs. Baumrind and Sean Curry. He has made oral presentations to the International Association for Dental Research (IADR), and published an abstract in the *Journal of Dental Research*.

When he's not calibrating a cone beam, he may be reading T.S. Eliot or Harold Bloom—feeding his passion for literature and letters in general, and writing poetry. "We all know him as a person of such integrity, sensitivity, and knowledge—an utterly honorable guy," says Dr. Baumrind.

After graduation, he plans to join the Rocklin, California, practice of his brother-in-law Dr. Shahryar Sefidpour Ortho '02. But he promises he'll be back, donating one day a week to working in the lab. "Orthodontics is what I love to do, but I want to stay afloat in the whole field and have a chance to contribute to learning."

Besides his two dental degrees, what stays with him, he says, are "the little things that people do at Pacific. It happens so many times a day, it becomes the norm."

The School of Dentistry plans to keep it that way. □

PHOTO BY JON DRAPER



Dr. Shahram Nabipour

*Kathleen Barrows is a Berkeley-based freelance writer who is pleased to be back writing for Contact Point.*

# Advanced Education in General Dentistry

## A PROGRAM OF DISTINCTION

**By Paul Glassman DDS, MA, MBA**

In June 2006, the Advanced Education Program in General Dentistry (AEGD) at the University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry will celebrate its fifteenth year of operation. Since its inception in 1990, 135 residents have completed this distinctive program. The program has grown from one resident, initially completing an unaccredited experience, to three sites, connected by advanced communications technology, with 18 residents per year, and a national reputation for excellence.

Dr. Paul Glassman, associate dean for information and educational technology, spent 16 years in a hospital dental department before coming to Pacific to found its AEGD Program. He served as director of the General Practice Residency (GPR) at Mount Zion Hospital in San Francisco and had many years of experience in hospital dentistry working with people with complex medical, physical, and psychological problems. "When I started at Pacific, my first assignment was to obtain federal funding and start an AEGD program," says Dr. Glassman. "Given my background in hospital dentistry and providing care for people with complex needs, I wanted this program to be a blend of the best aspects of traditional AEGD and GPR programs. I wanted to have our graduates be able to care for complex patients using all the means open to dentists including treatment under general anesthesia in a hospital operating room. I also wanted our graduates to expand their knowledge and skills in complex dental treatment procedures including the surgical disciplines and advanced restorative care. Finally, and most importantly, I wanted our graduates to be masters at treatment planning complex cases and integrating all the disciplines of dentistry into the best treatment plan to meet the needs of each individual patient."

### Structure of the Program

In 1990, the first class of residents was enrolled in an accredited program at Pacific. The program has maintained full accreditation since that time and has, in fact, received many commendations and no recommendations for improvement during multiple accreditation site visits. In 2002, the AEGD program was expanded by converting the previously unaccredited Advanced Clinical Experience program at the school's Union City Dental Care Center to a site for Pacific's accredited AEGD program and enrolling four residents. In 2004, the number of residents in Union City was increased to six and two additional residents were added at the new Pacific Dental Care Clinic in the Health Sciences Learning Center and Clinics in Stockton. In 2005, the number of residents in Stockton was increased to four to make up the



current total of 18 AEGD residents in the Pacific AEGD program.

The three-site program is managed by a site director and clinic manager at each location. Dr. Allen Wong, assistant director of the program, is responsible for coordinating the overall curriculum and the complex resident recruitment and selection process. Dr. Lisa Itaya is the clinic director at the San Francisco site and responsible for operations and dental student rotations in San Francisco as well as the resident rotation schedules at all three sites. Dr. Howard Chi is the director of the Pacific Dental Care Clinic in the Health Sciences Learning Center and Clinics in Stockton. He directs the AEGD residency program at that site, as well as the overall operations of the center which combines the AEGD residency, Pacific's Dental Hygiene Program and dental student rotations. The newest site director is Dr. Michael Magtoto who directs the Union City Dental Care Center. Dr. Magtoto is responsible for overall operations of this clinic, the residency program, and dental student rotations.

The three sites of Pacific's AEGD program span the state from west to east. Union City is over 30 miles south east of San Francisco over the San Francisco Bay Bridge, and the Stockton site is 90 miles to the east and up to two hours by car to reach. Pacific has turned to technology in the form of a distinctive modern communications system to connect these sites. The three sites are connected by a high-speed, wide-area data network. Most of the lectures and seminars presented to the residents are attended by residents in all three sites simultaneously. This is made possible by a sophisticated videoconferencing system which allows a faculty presenter in San Francisco to be seen and heard by residents in Union City and Stockton simultaneously and to switch between a camera view of the presenter and any audiovisual materials that are being used during the seminar. Residents at all three sites can ask and answer questions and be heard and seen by residents and faculty at the other sites. The seminar program presented in this fashion is comprised of advanced concepts in all the dental disciplines including implantology and esthetics, as well as discussion of practice and patient management skills.

Each year, this videoconferencing network is used to introduce residents from programs across the country to the fundamentals of hospital dentistry. In the last few years Drs. Glassman and Wong have presented this course on hospital dentistry simultaneously to residents in San Francisco; Brooklyn and Albany; New York; Boston, Massachusetts; Providence, Rhode Island; Madison, Wisconsin; Tucson, Arizona; Anchorage, Alaska; and Honolulu, Hawaii.

AEGD residents also function as a part of multi-disciplinary teams and seminars. They work with Orthodontic residents and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery residents in work-up of complex patients and multi-disciplinary seminars.

### The Patients We Serve

Another distinctive aspect of Pacific's AEGD program is the hospital dentistry service provided in San Francisco. Dr. Allen Wong, assistant director of the AEGD Program directs the hospital dentistry activities. Between Drs. Jun Park and Wong, they treat over 150 patients per year who needed to have dental care in a hospital operating room. The program receives referrals from people all over Northern California and has developed a long waiting list for treatment. This year, Dr. Paul Subar has been recruited to provide additional hospital services to address this growing need. These hospital activities have provided Pacific with a state-wide reputation for really "caring" about people who need specialized services like this and cannot get them anywhere else.

Pacific's AEGD program emphasizes teaching advanced treatment and treatment planning skills for residents. The faculty members of the AEGD program have expressed the feeling that "students who graduate from dental school may have a good grasp of basic procedures, but they are often over their heads when it comes to planning treatment for someone with complex dental needs. Add in medical complications and you really need

the experience of a postgraduate residency such as Pacific's AEGD program in order to manage these patients." The AEGD residents in all three sites of Pacific's program manage patients who need complicated endodontic, restorative, and surgical procedures, and they learn how to combine these treatments into a realistic treatment plan for the patient.

In addition to managing complex treatment, residents also gain experience in managing complex patients. The 2000 U. S. Census report showed that over one in five Americans has a disability that interferes with one or more activities of daily living. The number of people with physical, medical, and psychological problems that have to be considered in delivering dental care is much larger than that. For example, it has been estimated that 75% of people in our society have at least some fear of having dental procedures and many people have fear to the point where it prevents them from seeking or completing dental treatment. Pacific's AEGD residents learn how to blend dental treatment with considerations necessary to provide health care for the whole person. They receive instruction and experience working with people who are fearful of dental procedures and learn techniques to help them reduce their fear. People who have had the benefit of this type of care become the most loyal patients in a dental practice.

Another important aspect of Pacific's AEGD programs is the opportunity for residents to work in a multi-professional team. Most dental school graduates have little experience in working in a team with dental hygienists, dental assistants, receptionists, insurance processors, and laboratory technicians. Participating in a team comprised of these individuals provides valuable experience for residents that makes the transition to private practice much easier.

The AEGD program, particularly the San Francisco site, has worked closely with the school's Pacific Center for Special Care. This program, co-directed by Dr. Glassman and Ms. Christine Miller has received over \$7



million in grants and contracts to improve oral health for people with special needs in California. The AEGD program has provided patient treatment for populations served by these grants and has been a site for training dentists and other dental professionals in care for people with special needs. The dentists and oral health professionals who have received this training have been able to return to their practice communities better able to care for underserved people in those communities.

In 2003, the Pacific Center held a press conference to celebrate the completion of a \$2 million grant from The California Endowment. The state legislators, government officials, agency directors, and others who attended heard about the integral role of the residency program in supporting the improvement in oral health seen by over 8,000 people served by this program. The AEGD program has become an important centerpiece of Pacific's ability to fulfill its community service mission. In fact, recently an "earmark" was included in the federal budget to provide funds for Pacific to remodel the AEGD clinic in San Francisco. These funds were provided because of the important community services provided by this program.

Community service is also provided by the AEGD program residents and faculty in other ways. They regularly forms teams to volunteer at Special Olympics events and help staff other programs such as a cleft palate clinic and athletic screenings in Stockton.

Pacific's AEGD program has gained a national reputation since it started 15 years ago. It is known across the country for its distinctive three-site network and the high quality and blend of teaching and diverse experiences provided to residents. Pacific receives 90 applicants a year for its 18 positions. This is one of the highest ratios of applicants to positions for advanced general dentistry residencies in the country. Pacific was also a leader in the application of competency-based evaluation to dental education programs. With the guidance of Dr. David Chambers, associate dean for academic affairs and scholarship, Dr. Glassman led the postdoctoral general dentistry (PGD) community in developing competencies and portfolio evaluation systems. These concepts were instrumental in influencing the 2000 revision of the accreditation standards for AEGD and GPR programs. Program directors from across the country seek advice from Pacific about these educational innovations. Residents now complete the program with a portfolio of cases and documentation which provides an impressive record of their accomplishments during their education.

Besides providing desperately needed dental services and returning important publicity for the school of dentistry and the University, the AEGD program provides other specific services for the school. The residents cover night and weekend emergency call for patients of the school. In the San Francisco site, they answer 10-15 phone calls per week and see about five patients per month with significant after-hours dental problems. In addition there are, on occasion, patients with dental emergencies or post-operative complications severe enough that they require a visit to the hospital emergency room or even hospital admission. The AEGD residents provide initial triage and work-up in those situations and work with AEGD faculty specialists to manage these patients.

The AEGD program also acts as a referral source for patients whose care may be beyond the abilities of pre-doctoral students. The AEGD program is able to provide more timely care and more complex care than can be provided in the student clinics. Many of the patients being treated as a part of the school's Ryan White program have complex medical and dental needs that can best be met in the AEGD clinics.

Graduates of Pacific's AEGD program have contributed to the school in numerous ways. Many of them have become faculty members at the school. In fact 25 of the 135 graduates of this program, or approximately 18%, have been faculty members at the school of dentistry. This is a far higher percent than faculty members from any other source. AEGD graduates are course directors, general dentistry faculty, specialty faculty, and some regularly present post-graduate programs.

### Alternative Path to Licensure

A growing trend in dental licensure is also having an impact on the AEGD program. In 2003 the American Dental Association adopted two resolutions regarding licensure. Resolution 5H stated that "clinical examination requirement may also be met by successful comple-

tion of a postgraduate program in general dentistry that contains competency assessments or in an ADA recognized dental specialty, at least one year in length, which is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation." Resolution 6H amended the previous ADA policy on licensure by adding a new item that read "that each state continue to require of all candidates for initial licensure satisfactory performance on an individual state or regional clinical examination, or successful completion of a post-graduate program in general dentistry that contains competency assessments or in an ADA recognized dental specialty at least one year in length that is accredited by the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation."

There are now several states that have adopted laws or regulations that allow completion of an accredited residency program as an "alternate path" to licensure. These states include New York, Washington, Minnesota, and this year Connecticut. Delaware requires completion of an accredited residency in order to take the state license examination and New York, in 2006, will require completion of an accredited residency in order to be granted a New York dental license. The California Dental Association convened a Task Force on Licensure which made recommendations to the 2004 House of Delegates. The house adopted these recommendations. Senate Bill 683, currently working its way through the California legislature, will enact this alternate path to licensure in California. This trend in licensure has raised the visibility of accredited residency programs nationally. Pacific is in a great position to offer this opportunity to dental graduates though its AEGD program.

Pacific's three-site AEGD residency program has achieved statewide and national distinction through its unique blend of traditional AEGD and GPR educational opportunities, its service to the community and its innovative educational technology and methodology. The school is looking forward to celebrating the fifteenth year of success of this exceptional program next June. □

2155 Webster Street, San Francisco, California 94115  
Phone (415) 929-6675

Patient \_\_\_\_\_ has an appointment  
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PHOTOS: JON DRAPER

# AT THE GROWING EDGES OF THEIR DISCIPLINES

**By David W. Chambers**

If you want to know about the long-term, viable growing edges of disciplines such as periodontics, endodontics, or pediatric dentistry, by all means try the journals, the CE courses, and even evidence-based dentistry. But keep in mind that the article on locally-delivered antibiotics is sandwiched between ads for this product. Your expert on new obturation techniques is supported by its manufacturer. The EBD literature in pediatric dentistry is so thin it has so far remained invisible to practitioners.

A more productive approach would be to get to know Drs. William Lundergan, Alan Gluskin, Alan Budenz, and Jeff Wood. These are Pacific's chairs in the Departments of Periodontics, Endodontics, Diagnostic and Emergency Services, and Pediatric Dentistry. Despite the fact that Pacific has no graduate programs in these specialties, these four chairs each serve on the national committee of their disciplines with responsibility for monitoring emerging trends and building appropriate responses for the future of the field. They are helping define the leading edge.

## ***The Contacts***

Dr. Lundergan is finishing his third year on the Education Committee of the American Academy of Periodontology. As councilor of the Section on Periodontics of the American Dental Education Association, he also serves in a liaison role between these organizations representing practitioners and educators. The American Academy of Periodontology has a vision statement for the year 2020 that includes, in part, the aspiration that "periodontology will be a central component of all predoctoral and hygiene education."



A portrait of Dr. Alan Gluskin, a middle-aged man with a mustache, wearing a dark suit, light blue shirt, and patterned tie. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred office setting with other people and computer monitors.

**Dr. Alan Gluskin**

"I am fortunate to be able to serve at a time when our specialty is emphasizing the importance of predoctoral education," says Dr. Lundergan. "In past years, the Academy was focused more on the concerns of practitioners and the specialty postgraduate programs. The predoctoral programs now have their attention as well."

"To remain viable," Dr. Gluskin believes, "we must anticipate the trends and set the standards. That must be done at the national level, pulling together the very best minds; and then it can be brought back to individual programs and applied in ways that make sense locally but ensure that the discipline moves forward."

Dr. Gluskin has been involved at the top level in the American Association of Endodontics since the early 1990s. He began with a three-year term on the Educational Affairs Committee and followed that with a tour on the Research and Scientific Affairs Committee. He is now back on the Educational Affairs Committee. "From the perspectives of these two committees, I have interpreted my job as working with the brightest minds in the field to see what emerging materials, techniques, biological advances, and delivery and practice systems are most tenable," Dr. Gluskin reports. "Then we have the additional challenge of working these into the educational programs at the undergraduate, graduate, and professional development levels."

The American Dental Education Association has recently formed a Task Force on Competencies and Foundation Knowledge. As councilor for the Section on Compre-

hensive Care and General Dentistry, Dr. Budenz was asked to join this group as it explores what knowledge should be in the dental curriculum in support of competencies. Our chair of Diagnostic and Emergency Services is well suited to this assignment as a tireless champion of the generalist model as well as a trained anatomist and teacher in Pacific's Gross Anatomy course. Dr. Budenz previously served the ADEA in the offices of the Section on Anatomical Sciences.


Dr. Wood is currently chair of the Council on Predoctoral Education of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. "The timing couldn't be better," according to Dr. Wood. "In the past, education was not a major player in the Academy. But circumstances have changed, and the demographics of shortages of both pediatric practitioners and educators have given educators a greater voice." Dr. Wood is also an officer in the California and West Coast Societies of Pediatric Dentistry.

### ***Specialty Concerns***

Periodontics differs from other specialties by virtue of using less dramatic interventions and depending on long-term care. It depends more on diagnosis and prognostic categories based on understanding of chronic (and often under-recognized) disease processes than do other specialties. As such, periodontists are heavy users of the consensus conference, where experts share their understanding of emerging science and treatment options and attempt to frame treatment recommendations.

Dr. Lundergan says, "It is invaluable to participate in these conferences. In a discipline as complex as periodontics, we would be surprised to see major breakthroughs and no one person can understand all the emerging science and technology. The combined wisdom of practitioners, educators, and researchers is important to our field." The 2020 vision statement for the specialty signals out for concern such emerging approaches as implants and plastic surgery, systemic health, and tissue regeneration and engineering.

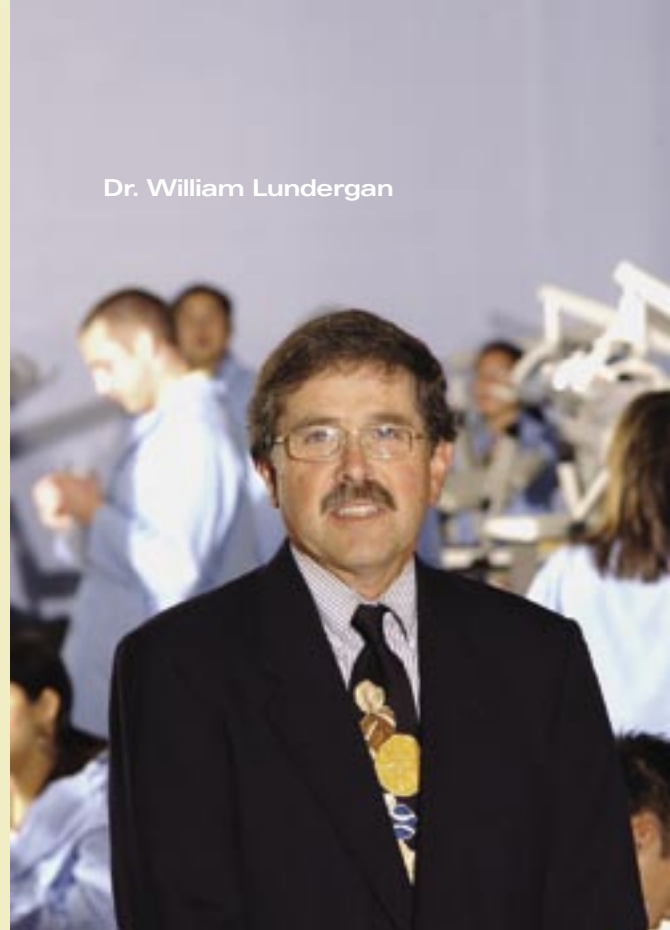
"Endodontics holds a special place among the specialties because it combines the highest levels of technology with the highest understanding of biological foundations." This is the view of Dr. Gluskin. "What we are doing in rotary procedures, metallurgy, magnification, and digital and 3-D imaging is light years in advance of the state-of-the-art just a few years ago and is impressive even to engineers. On the

A portrait of Dr. Jeffrey Wood, an older man with a balding head, wearing a dark suit, light blue shirt, and patterned tie. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred office setting with a window and some plants.

**Dr. Jeffrey Wood**



Dr. William Lundergan



other hand, what we are learning about the microbiologic foundations for care brings us into constant contact with basic scientists." Dr. Gluskin cites work being done now in Israel using pulpal assays to drive alternative treatment modalities and research in Italy on radiographic diagnosis. He wonders, with a gleam in his eye, which dentists will play a central role in the future therapeutic program of implanting and growing tooth buds.

"Pediatric dentistry is not a specialty that depends on 'silver bullets,'" says Dr. Wood. "We mostly provide comprehensive care to a specific population, so we are influenced by demographics." Dr. Wood attributes the current and significant shortage of pediatric dentists to factors such as population growth, including immigration, and changes in parenting habits. Broken homes, both parents working, and fast foods promote childhood caries. At the same time, American society has embraced the "professional care of children" through day care, coaching, and health care. Recognition of caries as a transmissible disease has led to policies calling for earlier first dental visits. General dentists are doing very well economically and seem willing to refer patients that require more time.

Dr. Wood reports, "All of this has caused a shortage of pediatric dentists. Education, of course, plays a key role in the future of the specialty, and we are concerned about graduating enough specialists to maintain the continuity of the discipline and about finding enough educators to teach the field. We are all concerned with educating generalists to a level where they can appropriately address the needs of many of the children in their communities."

Competency-based education began at Pacific in the mid-1980s and became national a decade later when ADEA adopted a template of competencies for the new practitioner and the Commission on Dental Accreditation required that each dental school develop its own set of statements that describe the skills, understanding, and values expected of graduates. (Pacific has 59 such statements that include "assess the results of periodontal therapy" and "oversee long-term care for patients with dental prostheses" for example.) The

predoctoral educational program includes much essential learning that is not expected at graduation—preclinical technique skills, basic biochemistry, and other material that is acquired on the way to becoming a dentist are examples. The task force Dr. Budenz sits on is charged with enumerating the knowledge only (leaving aside skills and values) that should be common across schools.

### ***The Specialties Respond***

Why is education at the table now when it wasn't especially welcome a generation ago? It has to do with the future of the profession. Currently practicing specialists are concerned that their successors may not be in the pipeline. The attractiveness of practice today is drawing specialists away from education, in some cases leaving the education of predoctoral students to generalists with an interest in, but no advanced training in, the discipline. Dental schools have been forced out of the CE business by organized dentistry and self-proclaimed experts are offering "all you need to know" quickie courses, sometimes with uncertain science. The plain truth is that strong dental education is essential to the future of a strong profession. The specialties have seen this before organized dentistry has.

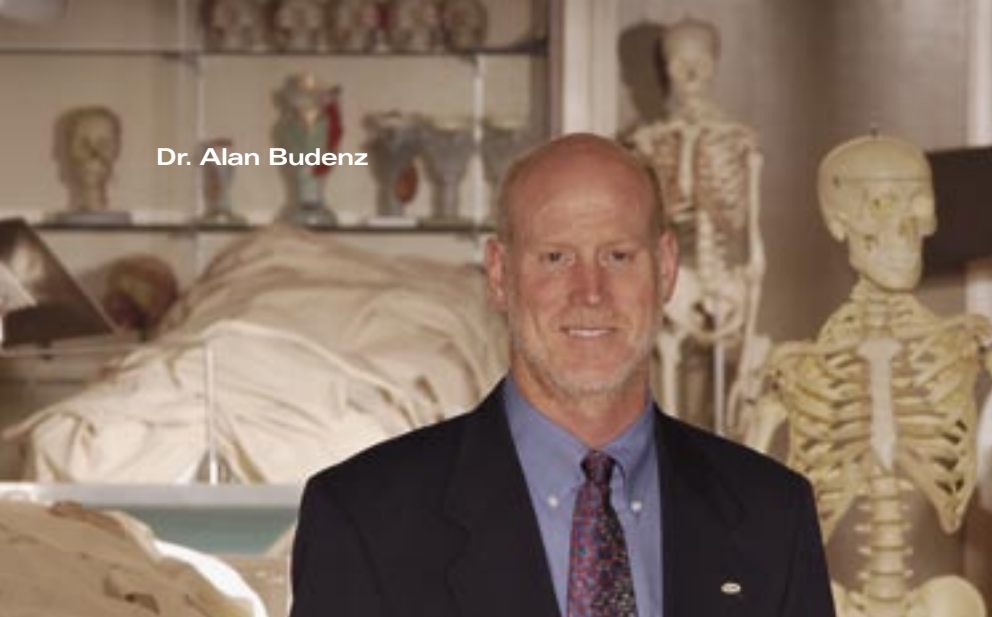
Each of the specialties of periodontics, endodontics, and pediatric dentistry established foundations for education before the ADA did. The ADA has responded recently and will be a substantial investor in dental education with the \$1 billion campaign headed by Dean Arthur A. Dugoni. As of today, the specialties have a combined fund for dental education of approximately \$60 million. The foundations support faculty research (necessary for promotion and tenure) and assist with loan repayment for specialists that choose to forego the greater financial reward of private practice by entering teaching.

"In the past," says Dr. Lundergan, AAP concentrated on post-doctoral education. Now the attention is more comprehensive." Some of the initiatives managed by Dr. Lundergan's committee and the

Academy generally include: programs for recruiting and retaining periodontists as part-time faculty members; resources to assist in calibration of faculty members for evaluation of student work (standard setting); awards in recognition of faculty members; lunch and learn sessions at national meetings; a speakers bureau for schools on topics that particular schools may not be able to cover; a survey of curriculum in the area of implants; a mentoring program; on-line competency assessment tools; and a newsletter—*Probing Perio News*—for faculty and students.

In July of this year, the AAP hosted a Predoctoral Periodontal Congress in Chicago. Predoctoral periodontal directors from 48 U. S. dental schools and six Canadian schools were in attendance. Dr. Lundergan led discussion sessions on motivation and resources for faculty members, the predoctoral clinic, and curriculum content and delivery. The end product was the development of an extensive list of action items for the AAP and the educational system. Another initiative of Dr. Lundergan's com-

Dr. Alan Budenz



mittee has been to strengthen ties with the American Dental Education Association through overlapping committee members and sharing of minutes and announcements and debriefings on current issues.

The American Association of Endodontists now supports 14 specialists who are beginning their careers as dental educators, according to Dr. Gluskin. The program resembles the military model where the amount of the stipend support is related to the length of commitment. "We want to maintain teaching and research at the highest level possible," Dr. Gluskin continues. This can only be done by attracting the best into the field and training them well. And then the cycle has to be completed by the best of these trained endodontists teaching the field to predoctoral students." Currently there are about 3,000 endodontists in the United States and under 100 in full-time dental education. There are graduate education positions for about 150 endodontists.

During his sabbatical, Dr. Gluskin spent a year in England, where endodontics has just become a recognized specialty. "The most significant work of the Educational Affairs Committee," he reports, "is to share materials and establish standards. We leave no endodontics educator isolated. They have access to instructional materials, curriculum guidelines, and colleague support from all the schools in the country."

"I hope to bring to the Task Force on Foundation Knowledge my general dentistry perspective," says Dr. Budenz. "Pacific is vulnerable to creating discipline-based silos just as other schools are, but I feel we do a good job of keeping these short." If the

goal is to educate a general practitioner, there should be an advantage in identifying the essential core knowledge. It is the expectation of ADEA to disseminate such a list among schools. Each school may then choose how it will teach the essential core knowledge.

One of the signature programs of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, according to Dr. Wood, is called Backtrack. "Our goal is to take advantage of the expertise and experiences of seasoned specialists who are transitioning out of practice but still have so much to give. We are developing guidelines, training materials, and support so they will feel at home quickly in dental schools. This is a rich pool of master clinicians."

Other activities of the AAPD and Dr. Wood's committee include: assembling and publishing a current literature reading list for predoctoral students; guidelines for suggested didactic and clinical experiences; developing infant oriented health care materials; placing teaching materials on the Internet; organizing conferences for predoctoral educators; conducting a survey of faculty members; and supporting an exchange of digital instructional material. The AAPD has recently established a staff position of educational coordinator at its national headquarters.

### ***Pacific Plays Its Part***

We can all be proud that Pacific's faculty members are tapped for national leadership positions, and doubly so when our chairs are recognized in fields where we do not have graduate programs. One of the strengths of this school has always been the capacity to educate practice-ready general dentists of the highest caliber. That

includes practitioners who understand emerging trends in fields such as diagnosis, periodontics, endodontics, and pediatric dentistry.

What are the rewards for our chairs in these extra hours of reports, transcontinental flights, and committee meetings? There is strong consensus among our chairs who are involved at the national level that they enjoy meeting other professionals who are at the top of their fields. "There is an excitement," says Dr. Wood, "whenever you fill a room with colleagues who are dedicated to being the best they can be at what they do and who want to advance the profession. We bring out the best in each other; we pull each other along." Dr. Lundergan agrees, "We are all the richer for pooling our experience."

"There's also something to be said for letting others around the country know about Pacific," says Dr. Budenz. "We are well known among our alumni for the quality of our educational program, but because we are not a research school, we may not be as well known in other parts of the country. I see this changing. When we share our experiences, others listen. We have much of value to share."

Another obvious reward for Pacific is what our nationally-active department chairs bring back to our students. Participating in the identification and the sharing of emerging trends in various disciplines is a guaranteed means of ensuring a curriculum that is current in content and delivered in a contemporary fashion. In the words of Dr. Gluskin, "I have no doubt when I lecture to Pacific students, when our faculty members supervise clinical care, and when we present continuing education courses that we are presenting the most up-to-date ideas and those procedures that are known to work best in my discipline. That is the job of the faculty in any good dental school."

In case you're wondering where the evidence is, Pacific outperforms every dental school in the country in clinical endodontics accomplished by predoctoral students and ranks among the top ten schools in the country on National Boards. Similar bragging rights can be claimed by other Pacific departments. □



# Alumni/Graduate Banquet

ALUMNI



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Nearly 440 guests, dressed in tuxedos and gowns, arrived at The Ritz-Carlton Hotel in San Francisco on June 10 to pay tribute to the School of Dentistry's graduating Class of 2005 at the 68th Annual Alumni/Graduate Banquet. Sponsored by the Alumni Association, this year's event drew the largest turnout in banquet history.

During the dinner, Dr. Foroud Hakim '91, Alumni Association president, welcomed the Class of 2005 as new association members. Dean Arthur A. Dugoni presented more than 100 awards to graduating students among all programs.

"You have worked hard to complete your dental education. You should be proud of yourselves. We are certainly proud of you," remarked Dean Dugoni, as he addressed graduating students. "We hope that you will leave the university with a sense of the contributions that others have made to the school, and of your responsibility, as future alumni, to ensure that the school is here for future generations."

Drs. Matt Hutchinson '05, student body president, and Dan Martin '05, senior class president, presented teaching awards to the following faculty members: Drs. Sheldon Baumrind, Paul Subar, Todd Yerondopolous, Howard Chi, Gabriela Pitigoi-Aron, Leigh Anderson, Lola Giusti, Philip Buchanan, and Alan Budenz, and to staff member Ms. Eleanore Gubisch. Apart from the teaching awards, Dean Dugoni also honored Dr. Ai B. Streaker with the Dr. Mark S. Hagge Faculty Endowment Award.



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**1** Class of 2005 graduates Drs. Andrea Delurgio, Keith Coombs, Brian Barker, and Upen Patel celebrate with leis.

**2** The Chenin family of dentists: Drs. Doug '05, David '00, Stephen, and Joseph Chenin.

**3** Mr. Roger and Dr. Sabina Wiederkehr '05, along with Dr. Robert and Mrs. Sachs enjoy dinner at the banquet.

**4** Dr. Ai B. Streaker (second from left) honored with the Dr. Mark S. Hagge Faculty Endowment Award.

**5** Dean Arthur A. Dugoni congratulates Class of 2005 valedictorian Dr. Megan Olson.

**6** Drs. Lindsay Barry '05, Neetal Jivan '05, and Jamie Sahouria '04, '05 AEGD, socialize at The Ritz-Carlton Hotel.

**7** Former regent Herbert Yee '48 poses with graduates who received his name-sake scholarship award.

PHOTOS: BRUCE COOK



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ALUMNI

PHOTO: JON DRAPER



### Dr. Geissberger Heads Restorative Department

Dean Arthur A. Dugoni officially appointed Dr. Marc J. Geissberger '91 as chair of the Department of Restorative Dentistry on March 1, 2005.

In his 14-year career at Pacific, Dr. Geissberger is credited for initiating innovative programs, instituting curricular changes, both academically and clinically, as well as helping to create a group practice mentor model in the clinic. He established the School of Dentistry's Clinical Excellence Day, an annual event that showcases students' clinical cases; Future Educators' Night, a program for current students considering a career in dental education; and Pacific's aesthetic dentistry clinic to enhance the educational experience of dental students. In addition, he is director of CANVAS, a

hands-on aesthetic dentistry program for professionals offered by Pacific's Division of Postgraduate Studies.

"I am indebted to Dr. Geissberger for his outstanding contributions to the School of Dentistry's educational program," stated Dean Dugoni. "I am deeply appreciative of his outstanding leadership role and continuing commitment to make sure that our students become the best they can be."

Currently, Dr. Geissberger serves as president-elect of Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Supreme Chapter, treasurer of the School of Dentistry's Alumni Association, and a board member of University Council for the American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry. The Pierre Fauchard Academy honored Dr. Geissberger with both its Excellence in Student Leadership and Faculty Recognition Awards. In 2001, he received Pacific's Lucian Szmyd Memorial Award for excellence in clinical instruction and commitment to student education.

Following his graduation from the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in 1991, he began teaching at Pacific as a clinical instructor in the Department of Fixed Prosthodontics. Three years later, he was appointed course director for dental anatomy and also received his master's degree from Pacific's Benerd School of Education.



Left to right: Dr. Michael T. Nietzel, former provost at the University of Kentucky, Dr. Tom McConnell '77, "Great Teacher Award" recipient, and Dr. Ann Brand Haney, past president of the UK Alumni Association.

### Kentucky Honors McConnell

The University of Kentucky (UK) College of Dentistry honored Dr. Thomas A. McConnell '77, UK's assistant dean of clinical affairs, with its Alumni Association's 2005 Great Teacher Award. He was presented an engraved plaque and a \$2,000 cash award. One of six UK professors awarded for their outstanding work in the classroom, Dr. McConnell became only the sixth College of Dentistry faculty member to receive the honor throughout the

award's 40-year history.

"I am very honored, flattered, and surprised to receive the award. When a small group of people from the main campus Alumni Affairs Office came to one of my lectures to present the award to me, I thought it was a joke at first. I am rarely at a loss for words, but this was one of the few times that I could not come up with a lot to say," stated Dr. McConnell. "There were many nice events associated with the award, which made it even

more memorable. It is gratifying that the University of Kentucky Alumni Association values and rewards teaching."

Dr. McConnell, former emergency clinic director and group practice administrator at Pacific, is involved in numerous student-initiated programs at Kentucky, such as Saturday Morning Clinics and the Nathaniel Mission. His adamant support of and work with students have been continually recognized. In 1996 and 2001, he was bestowed the Favorite Faculty Award.

"I always tried to treat students with respect, compassion, and patience. I think that students might appreciate the fact that I try to keep a good sense

of humor about the various situations that can arise during patient care," added Dr. McConnell. "I try to take an interest in my students' lives outside of dentistry and participate in as many student events as I can."

Although his dental career has led him to the Midwest, Dr. McConnell cannot say enough about his experience at Pacific as a student and educator. "I still consider some of my former classmates among my best friends," Dr. McConnell said. "I worked and learned from a great group of faculty at Pacific. It was an exceptional place to work and helped me develop my teaching skills. There were always colleagues to go to for advice and help."

### Nevada Alumni BBQ & Rodeo

Clad in cowboy hats and boots, approximately 70 people rounded up for "A BBQ Supper & Rodeo Performance," hosted by the Alumni Association's Reno chapter, on June 24.

Dr. Jade Miller '81, president-elect of the Alumni Association, hosted a flavor-filled, home-cooked barbeque dinner. Following dinner, attendees were shuttled to Rodeo Arena at the Reno Livestock Center for The Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association's ProRodeo performance.

"Art wanted to enter the bull riding event but just missed the age cut off. Not really, but we sincerely appreciate Art 'taking the bull by the horns' these past 26 years," stated Dr. Miller.





### Dental School Alum Leads USF Golf Team

Mill Valley prosthodontist Dr. Gary Nelson '68 is embarking on a new challenge, but it's not in the dental office; it's on the golf course. He was recently named the men's head golf coach for University of San Francisco.

"We are very pleased to have Gary lead our men's golf program," stated Bill Hogan, USF athletic director. "He is very passionate about the sport, has great contacts all over the world, and knows what it takes to succeed at the top level of NCAA competition."

After beginning the sport at age 11, Dr. Nelson went on to captain the California Maritime Academy Golf Team as an undergraduate and was a member of USF's Golf Team during the 1963-64 season when he took classes on campus. Dr. Nelson has had an accomplished amateur golf career, with appearances in the U.S. and British Senior Opens and British Senior Amateur Tournament. For the past six years, Dr. Nelson served as a member of the University of California Executive Golf Committee which helped build Cal's golf program, the 2004 NCAA Champions.

Like many others, Dr. Nelson is a fan of the golden age of golf course design. He is the founder and a board member of the Alister MacKenzie Golf Society, an international historical organization started by Dr. Nelson in 1987 based upon the life and works of Alister MacKenzie, a British physician that designed some of the world's top golf courses, including Cypress Point and Augusta National. The society promotes Dr. MacKenzie's precepts in golf course design, maintains a library of his works, holds a contest in course design for aspiring architects, and funds three scholarships in architecture.

Dr. Nelson also has strong ties to his dental school. He served as a faculty member at Pacific for 20 years in the Department of Fixed Prosthodontics and is a former president of the Alumni Association. He now splits his time between his Mill Valley prosthodontics practice and USF.

"I am very excited to be back at USF; it's a world-class university. We have the courses, we have the academics, we have the location, and we have all of the scholarships," said Dr. Nelson. "Two years from now, when everyone is talking collegiate golf in Northern California, I want them to say, 'Cal, Stanford, and USF, but not necessarily in that order.'"

### Dr. Miller Chairs Nevada Board of Health

The Nevada State Board of Health elected Dr. Jade Miller '81 as its chairman in February 2005. Dr. Miller became the first non-physician ever to be named chair of the Nevada State Board of Health.

"I have enjoyed being a member of the Board of Health and it is a pleasure working with the members of the board in my new role as chair," stated Dr. Miller. "The board is dedicated to assuring both residents and visitors that our state is safe and healthy; a commitment I take very seriously."

Dr. Miller is past president of the Nevada Dental Association and served on Washoe Medical Center's executive board as immediate past chief of dental staff. Currently, he is president elect for School of Dentistry Alumni Association; State of Nevada's delegate to the American Dental Association; and a member of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry's leadership institute.

In addition to his involvement in organized dentistry, Dr. Miller plays an active role in dental education. He is a faculty member of the pediatric dental residency program at University of Nevada, Reno, School of Medicine, and is also a member of the Dean's Advisory Council at the University's School of Dental Medicine in Las Vegas.

Dr. Miller, a native Nevadan, graduated with a bachelor of science degree from the University of Nevada, Reno, and later received his DDS degree from Pacific in 1981. He operates a private pediatric dentistry practice in Reno, Nevada, which he began after completing his residency at the Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati, Ohio.



### 107<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ALUMNI MEETING— A TRIBUTE TO DR. ARTHUR A. DUGONI

March 3-4, 2006

Friday, March 3 at the Fairmont Hotel

Saturday, March 4 at the Nob Hill Masonic Center

Recognition Luncheon, Alumni Reception,  
and Reunion Dinners on Friday  
Breakfast, Lunch, and a Reception will be included  
with all Saturday registrations

For information:

Call the Alumni Association 415-929-6423

### 38<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL P&S DONOR BALL

Dedicated to the Dugoni Family

Saturday, March 4, 2006

Giftcenter Pavilion

Advance Tickets Required

For information: Call Public Relations  
415-929-6434

[www.dental.pacific.edu](http://www.dental.pacific.edu)—News & Events



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*12th Annual Pacific/UCSF  
Island Dental Colloquium  
The Big Island*



**Certification in Radiation Safety**

Friday & Saturday, Sept 30, Oct 28, 2005  
Pacific Dental Care Clinic, Stockton, CA  
Cindy J. Lyon, RDH, DDS- Program Director  
John S. Muller, DDS

**Certification in Radiation Safety**

Saturdays & Sunday, Oct 1, 2, 15, 2005  
or Oct 15, 16; Nov 19, 2005  
Thomas Schiff, DMD - Program Director:

Thursday Evening, Oct 13, 2005  
McGeorge School of Law, Sacramento, CA  
Jeff Huston, DDS, MS  
Thursday Evening, Nov 17, 2005  
Pacific Dental Care Clinic, Stockton, CA  
Doug Young, DDS, MBA, MS  
Saturday, Dec 3, 2005  
Pacific School of Dentistry, San Francisco, CA  
Andrea B. Azevedo, DDS, MPH

**Occlusion Plus: A Clinic Oriented Hands-On Workshop**

Fridays: Oct 21; Nov 4, 18; Dec 2, 2005;  
Jan 27, Feb 24; Mar 17, 31, 2006  
Noelle Fanucci, DDS, MA  
Michael Jacobs, DDS, BS, MS  
Eugene T. Santucci, DDS, MA – Course Director

**Overcoming Difficulties in Local Anesthesia**

Saturdays: Oct 29, 2005,  
or, Dec 3, 2005  
James S Dower, Jr., DDS, MA– Course Director

**New Diagnostics in Dentistry: Making Your Patients Comfortable**

Saturday, Nov 5, 2005  
St. Mary's Conference Center, San Francisco, CA  
Peter Jacobsen, PhD, DDS;  
Lisa A. Harpenau, DDS, MS, MBA;  
Alan Budenz, MS, DDS, MBA;  
Thomas Schiff, DMD

Saturdays: Nov 19, 2005  
Pacific School of Dentistry, San Francisco, CA  
or, Dec 10, 2005  
Pacific Dental Care Clinic, Stockton, CA  
or, Feb 4, 2006  
Pacific School of Dentistry, San Francisco, CA  
or, May 13, 2006  
Pacific Dental Care Clinic, Stockton, CA  
Peter Karsant, DDS  
Eugene LaBarre, DMD, MS – Course Director  
Alex McDonald, PhD, DDS

**Infection Control & Dental Law and Ethics**

Wednesday Evening, Nov 30, 2005  
Eve Cuny, BA, MS; Bruce Peltier, PhD, MBA

\* Course locations are at the dental school in San Francisco unless mentioned otherwise.

To register or for further information, please contact the Division of Postgraduate Studies at:

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All programs held at University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry unless otherwise noted.



**I wanted to give something back.**



PHOTO: JON DRAPER

One of the most wonderful experiences we can have in life is to make a special and lasting connection with an educator, a mentor, and a friend. Dr. Julia McGary '02 found all those qualities in one very special person: Dr. Mark Hagge, full-time faculty member in the Department of Restorative Dentistry. After Dr. Hagge's death in 2003, Julia gave a lot of thought as to how to best honor the memory of her very dear friend and mentor. Her choice was to establish an endowment in his memory.

Julia says: "A great educator should never be forgotten. His endowment will help other faculty members accomplish research and special needs. It's something I know he would have been pleased and proud to have done in his name."