Please Join Us For
Our 17th Annual
Seminar at Sea
February 19 - 26, 2012

Dr. Ernest Lam, DMD, MSc, PhD, FRCD(C)

Dr. Ernest Lam is an Associate Professor, Head of the Discipline of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology and Program Director of the Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Graduate Program at the University of Toronto.

Current Concepts in
Two-and Three-Dimensional Digital Radiographic Imaging

A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED

TOPICS TO BE COVERED IN LECTURE:

- Develop an understanding of the basic concepts of 2D and 3D imaging: imaging acquisition and display, imaging physics, image processing and image data management.
- Understand current radiation dose and risk considerations related to 2D and 3D imaging.
- Understand the potential uses of 3D imaging in dentistry in the context of the established imaging modalities with consideration given to a risk vs. benefit approach to modality selection.
- Understand the major limitations of 3D technology in the context of the established imaging modalities

For further information please contact Dr. Barry Chapnick at 1-416-979-4900 ext. 6087 or cde@dentistry.utoronto.ca

For more information or to sign up, contact:
Dr. Barry Chapnick:
1-416-979-4900 ext. 6087 / cde@dentistry.utoronto.ca
or
The Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Manitoba
204.789.3267 / Email: dent_events@umanitoba.ca

A glorious tropical escape awaits!

The Faculty of Dentistry at The University of Toronto, invites you to join your fellow Alumni at the 17th Annual Seminar at Sea, departing from Fort Lauderdale on February 19, 2012.

You will receive two four-hour sessions of the most current and relevant dentistry education, seven days of sun and fun aboard the Celebrity Solstice cruise ship and fabulous optional all day excursions to Grand Cayman, Mexico and Honduras.

Program Itinerary

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Enjoy some of the world's most visually stunning beaches, explore villages for unique treasures, or excite your inner adventurer with tours both on land and sea. Finish the perfect day with a refreshing cocktail and sumptuous seafood fare, as you watch the sun melt into the blue horizon.

Aboard the Celebrity Solstice walk barefoot on the half-acre Lawn Club with real grass, enjoy the fascinating Hot Glass Show, dine at chic venues offering trendsetting cuisine, and experience extraordinary programming including wildly entertaining theatrical productions.

Tee it Up in the Western Caribbean! Diehard golfers looking to tee-off at golf courses amongst the Caribbean’s most beautiful, will be able to do so as an add on to our 17th Annual Seminar at Sea. Golf is offered by Celebrity Cruises in Roatan (Black Pearl Course) & The Cozumel Country Club

Ship itinerary, golf course & golf excursions pricing is subject to change.

Get on board! We set sail February 19, 2012
What’s Inside

The Next Logical Step
This summer marked an historic occasion with the opening of a new graduate programme in Paediatric Dentistry. It’s a logical step forward for the Faculty of Dentistry that has long been the champion of children’s oral health through myriad outreach initiatives over the years.

With A Little Help From Our Friends
From the near ashes of extinction, Graduate Orthodontics has survived and prospered over recent years to realize a gem of a milestone anniversary at the University of Manitoba.

Quiet Commitment
The path to success is often a lonely one, taken by those who quietly toil for the benefit of a greater good. Such was the journey for Signe Jewett, the 2011 Alumni of Distinction awardee for the School of Dental Hygiene.

Departments
In the Loupe 6
All About Alumni 15
Dental Hygiene 18

Messages From
The Dean of Dentistry 11
Director, Dental Hygiene 20

On the Cover:
The Men in Black: Drs. Tony Krawat (94), Peter Kowal (84) and Anthony Iacopino are three fine fellows and were so named at the annual International College of Dentists annual meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia this August. For more on the event, see Dr. Christie’s column on page 16.

Looking good: Drs. Kardy Solmundson (79) and Blaine Clegborn (76) are two sharp dressed fellows at the annual International College of Dentists meeting in Halifax this past August. See page 16.

Talk about a green thumb! Dr. Wally Mah has his hands full with a very hungry herb in Little Shop of Horrors. The show drew great crowds through its four-day run. See page 17.

The Alumni-Faculty Bulletin (AFB) is published quarterly by the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Dentistry. Writing, photography editing and design by Faculty of Dentistry Public Affairs. Editor-in-chief, Grant Warren, editorial advisors Dr. William Christie and Dr. Colin Dawes. The AFB reserves the right to edit material as appropriate and makes all attempts to ensure the accuracy of information but cannot be held responsible for any inadvertent misrepresentations. Contributions, story ideas and photos welcome. Please send to dent_events@umanitoba.ca.
The Next Step In A Legacy of Caring

University of Manitoba to offer graduate programme in Paediatric Dentistry

It’s an idea whose time has come. Long a highly regarded centre for child-centred oral health-care in the province, the Faculty of Dentistry has announced the creation of a Master of Paediatric Dentistry graduate programme at the University of Manitoba.

Applications are now being accepted for the first cohorts of this unique and diverse, 36-month discipline that will feature an emphasis on prevention and public health in underserved and disadvantaged communities. Dr. Charles Lekic will serve as Acting Director until a formal search for a permanent director is complete.

“I’m happy to announce yet another milestone for the Faculty of Dentistry as our new graduate programme in Paediatric Dentistry has now received formal Provost approval for launch on July 1,” noted Dr. Anthony Iacopino, Dean of Dentistry. “Special thanks to all those who worked so hard to make this day possible. This includes Dr. Lekic who helped develop the programme and has been instrumental in implementing a financial and construction plan for hospital facility renovations as well as securing community support, attending specialists to supervise the clinics, and funding.”

Patient care will be delivered in a modern, five-chair, paediatric dentistry graduate clinic with state-of-the-art computerized diagnostic equipment once renovations to the programme’s permanent space are complete.

“This is only the fourth paediatric dentistry graduate program in Canada.”

— Dr. Charles Lekic

Residents will also have the opportunity to treat paediatric dental patients in hospital settings and through local community outreach clinics.

“To start a new graduate programme in a school of our size is a rare event. This is the only fourth paediatric dentistry graduate programme in Canada,” Dr. Lekic said. “The other three are in cities and universities much larger than ours. Now we have to make it as good if not a better programme than the other three.”

In addition to first-rate technical training, the graduate programme will emphasize understanding and effective communication in rural and Aboriginal communities with the entire third year of the programme completed in these communities. Course work in Aboriginal and rural cultures will also be involved as well as intensive research programming in prevention and community dentistry.

Foci of research presently include: Public health paediatric dentistry; Preventive and interceptive orthodontics; Preventive programmes for under-served communities.

Since its inception, the Faculty of Dentistry has helped thousands of children through various outreach efforts, most recently through its Centre for Community Oral Health and the Variety Children’s Dental Outreach programme.

“For years, our Faculty has been actively involved in treatment, prevention and outreach, targeting thousands of children in our province,” Dean Iacopino notes. “A graduate paediatric programme is a logical extension for the Faculty and we are confident of its success.”

Further details are available through the Dean’s Office at the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Manitoba.

New Team Taking Shape

Changing the guard in dental hygiene, research

The Faculty of Dentistry is shuffling its administrative deck as terms come to a close and the time for new leadership arrives.

In late July, the Dean of Dentistry confirmed two new appointments, the first coming into effect on August 1. Professor Joanna Asadoorian (inset) is now the new Director for the School of Dental Hygiene. Dr. J. Elliott Scott will assume the headship of the Oral Biology Department as of January 1, 2012.

“Prof. Asadoorian Joanna has proven she is up to the task through her excellent performance as Acting Director and enjoys wide support throughout the Faculty,” Dr. Anthony Iacopino said in confirming the appointments. “Dr. Scott has done an excellent job as our Associate Dean, Research and has an active agenda planned for continuing to move the department forward. Please join me in wishing them much success in their new roles.”

The Dean also took time to acknowledge the efforts of outgoing director Professor Salme Lavigne for her years of service and the progress that took place during her tenure culminating with the launch of the degree completion programme.

The Dean also commended the long-time head of Oral Biology.

“Dr. Raj Bhullar ably guided the Oral Biology department through a rebuilding period that has reached a true renaissance, recapturing the proud traditions of research and teaching excellence,” the Dean said.

The Faculty is now conducting an internal search to identify individuals interested in the Associate Dean, Research position as Dr. Scott will not be continuing on in that role when he begins his new assignment as of the New Year.

“We continue to be ‘on the move’ regarding the Drive for Top Five and progress is very good on all fronts,” the Dean said. “Thanks to all for their support and efforts to be the best we can be.”
It was the best of times; it was the worst of times. Against the usually pleasant backdrop of spring convocation and subsequent summer break, the Faculty of Dentistry community was saddened with the arrival of news on the passing of two members of its alumni fraternity.

On July 5, alumnus and former Faculty instructor Dr. Taras Snihurowycz passed peacefully at the Maples Personal Care Home in Winnipeg.

Shortly thereafter, the Faculty received more sad news upon learning of the sudden passing of alumna Dr. Hester Rumberg on June 26.

Both were recipients of the Alumni of Distinction award; Dr. Snihurowycz was dentistry’s inaugural recipient in 1998; Dr. Rumberg was named the School of Dental Hygiene’s recipient in 2009.

“Our entire community is deeply saddened at the loss of such prominent members of our respective fraternities and disciplines,” said Dr. Anthony Iacopino, Dean of Dentistry. “These individuals had a pronounced and profound impact during their time at the Faculty and throughout their subsequent careers in the local and broader community.”

The life and career of Dr. Taras Yuri Snihurowycz (pictured top and centre with Dr. Rumberg) is irrevocably tied to the Faculty of Dentistry, dating back to the very first class of the school in 1958. Shortly after graduation, Dr. Snihurowycz began teaching at the institution, in addition to running a private practice in the North End of Winnipeg, where he lived for most of his life after emigrating from Europe.

He quickly established a reputation as a dedicated instructor and unparalleled clinician who was always there to help a student through a difficult or challenging portion of the programme.

“He was small in stature but a giant of a man,” said Dr. Basil Zmiyiwsky of the Class of 1971. “He made a point of helping out all students.”

The alumnus of the Class of 1971 said Dr. Snihurowycz constantly challenged his students, not only in dentistry but through other avenues of life as well. He vividly remembers how his instructor would incorporate so many other areas of schooling and thought into his lessons, which often caught students by surprise.

“He was such a diversified man,” said Dr. Zmiyiwsky, who also delivered the eulogy at the memorial service. “He was so well read and had an interest in so many fields that he would ambush students and it was a very peculiar habit of his. Everything from Latin root words that pertain to medical terminology, to history, to geography. He would always tell people not to be so narrow minded or narrow in their education. Expand your horizons.”

Following his retirement from teaching, Dr. Sni (as he was fondly referred to) began a second career as an iconographer where he quickly gained critical and popular acclaim for his stunning works of art. Many of these still proudly adorn the hallways and offices of the Faculty at 780 Bannatyne.

Even after his professional teaching career passed, Dr. Sni remained a passionate member of the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association, of which he was a charter member.

An ardent supporter and frequent visitor to the Faculty in his retirement years, his last appearance at 780 Bannatyne came during the second Friends of the Faculty event last February.

“He was exuberant,” Dr. Zmiyiwsky said. “He was always accomplishing something. He was lively; it was infectious because you got into that same mode. He could inspire anybody.”

A mass was held on July 16 in St. Volodymyr and Olga church in Winnipeg’s North End. In memory of his life, and as a tribute to his vast and significant contributions to the University of Manitoba, the Faculty of Dentistry has established the Taras Snihurowycz Memorial Fund.

The Faculty hopes to honour his memory with a significant naming tribute. Those wishing to contribute to the fund are asked to contact the Faculty of Dentistry at 204.789.3631 or via email at creighto@cc.umanitoba.ca.

Continued on page 25. See Farewell.

The late Dr. Rumberg was an ardent mariner, logging thousands of nautical miles.
Traditions Come Together
Fun event proceeds directed to support of Japan

Among the most storied, if not risqué traditions of the Faculty of Dentistry is the annual Beer and Skits evening. Each year, students get to have a little fun and blow off a little dental school steam with a series of parodies of life at 780 Bannatyne.

Another long-standing tradition is the fund-raising activities undertaken by the Manitoba Dental Students Association in support of humanitarian causes.

This year the two traditions met as the MDSA coordinated the event as a fund-raiser for disaster relief in Japan where an earthquake and subsequent tsunami hit this past March.

“I’m pleased to report that $2,000 in donations was collected,” said Dr. Nathan Jeal, who stepped down as association president after convocation this spring. “Alpha Omega is generously contributing an additional $1,000 to enable MDSA and AO to jointly give $3,000 to the Canadian Red Cross for Japan relief.”

The humanitarian relief effort coordinated by Canadian Red Cross began shortly after the March 11 disaster and is likely to continue for some time because of the severity of the damage involved.

“Official estimates indicated that 13,000 people were dead, over 14,000 were missing, and 174,000 people were displaced,” said Jennifer Montebruno, humanitarian issues coordinator for the Red Cross. “The Japan government estimates it will take over three years to clear the debris. One area alone has over 18,000,000 tons of disaster debris, which is the equivalent of 23 years of waste.”

The Manitoba Division of the Red Cross reports that there have been more than 2,000 individual donors who have contributed over $480,000 to the appeal in the first three months after the disaster.

First Class Gesture
Former staff member offers thanks to Manitoba dental students

By Dr. Colin Dawes, Professor Emeritus.

Dr. Shigeru Watanabe, now Professor of Pedodontics at Meikei University, in Japan, worked as a postdoctoral fellow as my colleague in the Department of Oral Biology from 1985-87.

After the recent tsunami hit the north-eastern area of Japan near Sendai, Dr. Watanabe was seconded to that region for two weeks to provide urgent dental care for children from the affected areas.

He and a team of assistants worked out of a bus which had been converted into a dental clinic which could travel to several small communities.

During a recent meeting, I let him know that the Class of 2013 and the Manitoba Dental Students Association were raising funds to support the affected people of Japan.

Professor Watanabe (pictured top group, left), asked me to thank our students most sincerely for their fund-raising efforts, which helped to support the dental care that he and his team provided.
The Right Thing to Do
Faculty steps in to help foreign professionals

It’s a little known secret that is finally coming to light, thanks to the efforts of clinical academics at the Faculty of Dentistry. Few may be aware that there exists in Manitoba today a good number of foreign trained oral health practitioners who are not currently active in the field as they are not licensed to practice in Canada.

As with many disciplines, it is the nature of the profession that practitioners must be licensed by a regulatory authority. Those with foreign degrees seeking to practice dentistry in Canada must successfully complete the three-part examination administered by the National Dental Examining Board of Canada (NDEB).

The process can be long, cumbersome and expensive. But the biggest stumbling block is the lack of practice time candidates have before undergoing the exam, which could be a severe handicap to their chance at success. To address this, the Faculty of Dentistry is working with the Manitoba Fairness Commission to help give candidates a fighting chance through the Equivalency Preparation Programme.

“It’s a new opportunity for offshore dentists to be able to practice dentistry in Canada, so we are providing the facility, the same heads and dentforms that they will be using during their assessment,” said Dr. Lawrence Stockton, who recently stepped down as Associate Dean, Clinical at the Faculty. “So it’s a good opportunity for them to practice, to get a sense of what they’re going to have to go through during the exam and just be better prepared physically and mentally.”

Getting valuable clinical time came as welcome news to Anastania Gorobtsova, one of the candidates who spent hours at the clinic this past spring honing her skills in hopes of making the grade.

“It’s just great experience. The staff is great, very helpful,” said Anastania, who immigrated to Canada from her native Russia three years ago. “I feel much better, thank you.”

Dr. Stockton said current protocols severely limit the number of international who could potentially practice in Canada. He noted most are compelled to find work as assistants or in dental labs or even outside the field entirely.

“The International Dental Degree Programme that we have here is only able to accept between four and seven candidates each year. So it’s only a trickle it gets through the IDDP route,” he said. “So this is opening up another avenue for these people to be able to obtain their license to practice in Canada.”

Board exams are held each year in June.

Putting Talent to Work
Faculty academics flag foreign accreditation process

Canada could well be missing out on a valuable human resource through its stringent protocols on foreign-trained practitioners. In recent years, the oral health community has become aware of a large pool of talent that is largely sitting idle due to the difficulties and challenges they encounter through the accreditation process.

This spring, the Faculty of Dentistry participated in a programme designed to speed the process for those trained outside the country to get their certification. But it’s not the first time University of Manitoba academics have tried to lend a hand on this matter.

In 2009, a trio of academics from the University of Manitoba examined the issue. In the report that now appears on the PubMed web site and is published in the Journal of Dental Education Faculty of Dentistry Drs. Noriko Boorberg, Dieter Schönwetter and Vanessa Swain noted that post secondary institutions in the U.S. and Canada may be falling behind in meeting the demand for oral health practitioners.

“Canadian and U.S. universities are faced with the challenge that they are not graduating enough dentists to meet the future needs of the Canadian and U.S. populations,” the authors write. “Foreign-trained dentists represent a valuable resource to society and the economy.”

The trio investigated the various types of advanced placement, qualifying, or degree programmes available to foreign-trained dentists wishing to practice in either Canada or the United States and the differences among them. The study — Advanced placement, qualifying, and degree completion programmes for internationally trained dentists in Canada and the United States: an overview — can be viewed online at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19289729.
If there is any truth to the idea of how much can change within one year, imagine how different things might be after four such rotations around the sun.

The Faculty of Dentistry and School of Dental Hygiene once again feted the latest group of graduates from their respective programmes during the annual spring convocation and celebration this past June 2. In many ways, this year’s event was very similar to those of years past; in others, it was most unique.

A host of formal and informal events were held, leading to the convocation ceremony at Fort Garry Campus on an overcast but no less temperate Thursday afternoon. The 35 recipients of their credentials in dentistry and the 25 from the School of Dental Hygiene all stood proudly with their peers as they marked the end of this phase of their academic experience at the University of Manitoba.

“You have worked very hard and you’ve been successful in your accomplishment. Now it’s important to take the time to recognize and celebrate your achievement. That’s really what this whole week is all about,” noted Prof. Joanna Asadoorian, newly-appointed Director of the School of Dental Hygiene in her remarks to the group at the annual graduation breakfast. “So we are thrilled to be here to help share in your celebration.”

The Class of 2011 featured seven students who received their Bachelor of Science in Dentistry — BSc (Dent) — in addition to their DMD. There were also three graduands who would step up to receive the freshly minted Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene.

Many graduates have already gone on to join private practices in and around the province while others look to further their careers through specialization in oral health graduate programming.

Regardless of their chosen path, the president of the provincial dental association noted that each of these new professionals may well be on the fast track to success in their careers and in the community.

“As University of Manitoba graduates, you are amongst the best trained in the country. This positions you to be leaders in your profession, at home and nationally,” said Dr. Joel Antel, a member of the Class of 1979. “So build on the strong start you have been given to help guide your profession’s future for your best interests, your patient’s and your profession’s.”

So while this incarnation of ascendance into the ‘real world’ was in many ways typical of those before, the 2011 exercise did carry a larger meaning for both the Faculty and students along with a message for the entire oral health community in the province.

“When faced with the choice between accepting an unsatisfactory status quo and striving for positive change, this is the class that stepped forward and made good things happen for students,” said Nathan Jeal, senior stick of the Class of 2011. “I encourage students who follow us to maintain the course that we have begun and to push for changes that will make this Faculty of Dentistry one that we can all donate to without reservation.”

The Class of 2011 began their journey in the fall of 2007, only three months after the Faculty welcomed a new Dean of Dentistry. And on this day of graduation, Dr. Anthony Iacopino confessed to some angst over how the past four years of near constant change may have been received by the group that served as its primary catalyst.

“I felt very comfortable coming into the Faculty with you as agents for change; as a student advocate,” the Dean explained during his remarks to the group. “Yet even I would have to admit that at times, as you continued to push, to continue to ask for things, even I felt at times out of my comfort zone; in a new place, an uncomfortable place simply because I was forced to make some really tough decisions, some hard decisions.”

(Continued on next page.)
A Family Tradition

Gold Medal winner shows how good can get better

Armed with a seemingly unstoppable, bright smile and friendly disposition, Adam Agpalza seems as down-to-earth and approachable as anyone you would wish to meet, professionally or personally.

However, those looking for a good dentist may want to keep his name in mind as Dr. Agpalza was named the 2011 Gold Medal winner for dentistry at the University of Manitoba. And that’s not all.

The top achievement in the programme was one of a total of nine awards earned by the young man who came to the U of M from Sisler High School in Winnipeg. Yet when asked, Adam speaks of his accomplishments almost as though they were incidental, rather than the result of a tremendous amount of effort and focus that are requisite to Gold Medal results earned through the often grueling four year challenge of dental school.

“I always try my best at everything,” he said. “In dentistry, though it’s a little bit different. I try my best and motivate myself to help someone else. You’re not just doing your best for yourself anymore; you’re trying your best for someone else: It’s for the benefit of the patient.”

Following in the steps of family members who have been practitioners in the field for some time, Adam seems focused on carrying on a family tradition.

“I was inspired by my cousins and uncles who are all dentists. I have a lot of family members who are involved in the profession,” he said.

Included in that number are Dr. Michelle Agpalza-Santos (cousin), practicing in Winnipeg; Dr. Ezra Agpalza (uncle), who formerly practiced in the Philippines; Dr. Eugenio Colobong Jr. (uncle), in Vancouver; and Dr. Gabriel Joshua Sangalang (cousin), working in Chicago.

“Part of it stems from the fact that I wanted to find something that combined science with something in the artistic field, because I’m good with my hands, all in a profession where you can help people,” Adam said. “So dentistry was a perfect match for me.”

Throughout his four years at the University of Manitoba, Dr. Agpalza consistently demonstrated his mantra of helping others. He was one of the first Faculty students to join the volunteer-ran Winnipeg Inter-professional Student-run Health (WISH) clinic and has also looked into oral health care for the city’s aboriginal and Métis population.

As for the immediate future, Adam has joined his cousin’s practice in Winnipeg to build his skill set while pondering further professional options and directions. One problem he won’t have will be struggling to get up and go to work as a practitioner in the field.

“When you find the right motivation you tend to be more positive,” he said, “and by finding the right balance, like helping out in the community, you tend to excel more.”

“When I was a dental student and I was in a dental class, we would never have dared to question anything. Just get through, don’t ask any questions, do as you’re told, don’t ask. Times have changed. And that’s okay; that’s a good thing. And because times have changed, and because our students today are challenging us, in a respectful way hopefully, improvements are happening faster than ever before.”

In many ways, the Dean continued, the Class of 2011 is symbolic of the commitment to positive change that began just over four years ago. The Dean noted that while there was much work to be done on so many fronts, the Class of 2011 served as a constant driver behind finding a new way.

“More than any other class I think in the history of this Faculty, you have shown us what the future can look like,” the Dean said. “You have shown us a productive path to change.”

(Continued on page 26. See Graduation 2011)
Exploring New Frontiers

Strong student contingent rounds out Faculty team at ADEA annual meeting

It should come as no surprise that a focus on better teaching methods and increased student involvement were among the highlights for the Faculty of Dentistry at the 2011 American Dental Education Association annual conference earlier this year.

The two themes have been playing large at the Bannatyne campus this year, so it seems only logical that this would be reflected at one of North America’s largest and most prestigious oral health events.

For the first time, the Faculty of Dentistry delegation was joined by a group of three students: Elena Ferrer, Dawn Lakshman, Ben Rogolla appeared under the University of Manitoba banner, along with the nine member Faculty contingent who presented during the conference held this past spring in San Diego, CA.

The students enjoyed a full slate of activities that ran throughout the conference including meetings with groups such as the Council of Students, Residents, and Fellows. They were also part of the Welcome to Manitoba reception, hosted by the Faculty.

This year’s event was billed as a unique opportunity for dental and other health care educators to share ideas and information and build networks to strengthen collective abilities to promote change. The trip was made possible through the Dean’s fund to support student travel to attend scientific conference, established last year.

“We are pleased to be able to offer our students the chance to meet students from schools in the U.S., and to see a part of academic life that many never get to experience,” Dean of Dentistry, Anthony Iacopino said.

Faculty team members presented on an array of topics, with a number focusing on new and better teaching methodologies. Others were consistent with inter-professional education, which was the central theme of the 2011 version of the ADEA annual event.

Dr. Dieter Schönwetter was among the busiest of the team, participating in four separate presentation groups. Joining Dr. Schönwetter were Drs. Doug Brothwell, Cecilia Dong, Anthony Iacopino, Wellington Rody, and Sylvia Todescan.

Appearing on behalf of the School of Dental Hygiene were Profs. Joanna Asadoorian, Laura MacDonald, former director Salme Lavigne and alumnus Kyle Conrad.

As always, the annual meeting was packed with various events and activities, including an interactive demonstration by Dr. Cecilia Dong, on the MedEdPortal web site. For the first time, site authors had the opportunity to demonstrate their resources live on large TV monitors in the main exhibit hall.

Come to our session (above): Drs. Sylvia Todescan, Dieter Schönwetter and Wellington Rody have some fun in advance of their joint presentation at the ADEA annual meetings in California.

Student body: (at left) Dent III student Ben Rogolla, alumnus Kyle Conrad (DE 10) and recent graduate Elena Ferrer enjoy the University of Manitoba reception that ran in conjunction with the conference.

Seminar at Sea

Sign up today for an exotic February voyage

Looking for something new, different and exciting for a winter escape while racking up Continuing Dental Education points at the same time?

The Faculty of Dentistry is pleased to offer all practitioners a brand new opportunity to do both. The Seminar at Sea is ready to set sail February 19-26, 2012 departing from Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

All participants will receive two, four-hour sessions of the most current and relevant dental education, plus seven days of sun and fun aboard the Celebrity Solstice cruise ship complete with fabulous, optional, all-day excursions to Grand Cayman, Mexico and Honduras.

Topics will focus on Current Concepts in Two-and Three-Dimensional Digital Radiographic Imaging. Sessions will be led by Dr. Ernest Lam, Associate Professor, Head of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology at the University of Toronto.

Come aboard and get set to enjoy an unparalleled experience that combines the best in oral health education with some beautiful destination adventures.

For more information or to sign up, contact Dr. Barry Chapnick at 1-416-979-4900 ext. 6087 or by email at: cde@dentistry.utoronto.ca.

You can also contact the Faculty of Dentistry at 204.789.3267 or via email to: dent_events@umanitoba.ca

A glorious tropical escape awaits!
Many would certainly consider this one of the ‘perks’ of serving in an institute of higher learning. Each and every year, we in the Faculty of Dentistry and School of Dental Hygiene are afforded the opportunity to witness and participate in the always impressive spectacle of convocation. This milestone event in our students’ lives is indeed a much anticipated day, punctuated by a spirit of celebration that is certainly palpable to all who surround it. This is totally understandable, especially for those in a professional programme.

For the students in our field, graduation marks the end of a long and arduous process, traversing their way through one of the most demanding programmes within the institution. In truth, for many if not most, the journey was even longer than this as each participant was required to meet high and demanding standards to even gain admission to our group.

So it is a time of celebration, one made even sweeter through the sweat of sacrifice and the years of diligent focus that each and every one of our students was compelled to put forward to achieve this new reality. Yet there is more involved here than just the marking of a milestone.

The designation that was officially imparted by the university this past June is one that also comes with significant entitlements: Membership in an exclusive order that is afforded a unique position in our society; one of respect, one of trust, one of responsibility. All of this holds true for the Class of 2011. But there is more.

The Class of 2011 is probably the most unique graduating class that I will ever see. Among other things, it was the first class to fall completely under my stewardship as Dean of Dentistry at this university, as I had started the post just three months prior to their arrival. We began our journey and grew together as we got to know each other.

Yet as it turns out, it was those early, formative days that may well have created the conditions for what I have called ‘The Perfect Storm’ for change at the Faculty. Through thought, word and deed, the Class of 2011 challenged us all at the dental school; challenged us to reconsider what we were doing; to look outside the mould of past practice and do things differently.

So much so in fact, that it has become apparent that the Faculty of Dentistry has indeed “Crossed the Rubicon.” We have gone beyond to a place from which there is no turning back. Just as Julius Caesar of ancient Rome led his army across the river in northern Italy to establish a new order, we too have moved forward in unison. And in the process, we have discovered and achieved things that would have seemed totally impossible only a short time ago.

This is not to say that the trek has been easy. As one might expect, such a radical departure from the status quo carries with it certain terms and conditions that must be reckoned with. By definition, change means something different, outside of the norm.

I remember one day during a meeting, a student standing up and saying: “Dean, the buck stops with you. What are you going to do about this?” And he’s right. I thought a lot about that for days afterwards and I had to make some very hard decisions about some things.

But again, pushing ourselves, challenging ourselves to do more and making change is what it’s all about.

And at the end of the day, I think that our Faculty is now in a place that we could never have expected. The education that our students are getting and the skill sets of our faculty members today are better than ever.

During the graduation breakfast, I acknowledged the Class of 2011 for leading this, our own version of the “Quiet Revolution,” a productive path to change. Yet there were other players who came forward and helped us along on our way.

Over the years, the Faculty has forged new and better relationships with all of its stakeholder groups, starting with our alumni. The University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association has been both a partner and a driver of our new agenda. So too have they been a confidant, a teacher, and when required, a task master.

Our professional organization has been another source of encouragement and leadership for positive change. The Taskforce on Better Relations, which united the Faculty and Alumni Association like never before, was a critical factor in our recent success.

Even industry groups, and our institutional partners, like the Asper School of Business, came to the fore and joined our ranks, offering various forms of support as we marched towards what we know is a better place.

All of these groups have contributed to showing us a productive path to change which would have been near impossible to find on our own. And to our stakeholder partners, I put to you the same challenge I left with the Class of 2011.

I challenge you all to follow through; to feel obligated and to remain engaged with the Faculty in some way, and to help us finish what has been started. Your engagement can take all kinds of forms.

You can simply follow us and wish us well in the Alumni-Faculty Bulletin; you can perhaps come back to us and join the ranks in some fashion, either part-time or full-time as an instructor; put some time into teaching the next generation and be part of the instructor cohort that you want us to be; or you can provide financial assistance if you wish; there are any number of ways.

Whatever you decide, I welcome and thank you for your continued guidance, support and participation.

Grazie.
While it seems like a bit of stretch, both figuratively and literally, one has to go to the other side of the world to find one of the most dedicated supporters of the Department of Orthodontics at the University of Manitoba.

For many years now, Dr. Grant Duncan has been unwavering in his support for the school where he earned his credentials as the starting point for what has turned into a most successful career. The long-time benefactor of the department also makes a point of crossing the great divide to undertake the 15,000 km journey to Winnipeg from his home in Adelaide, Australia on a near-annual basis. And, he says, it’s always worth the trip.

“I really felt like I had a fantastic education so I do wear that University of Manitoba badge with great honor,” he said on his most recent visit to the Faculty this past spring. “I do feel like I had an excellent orthodontic education with Arthur Storey who was a world renowned neurophysiologist and researcher. There were instructors like Ken McLaughlin who just had a unique way of teaching biomechanics and people like Frank Hechter and many others.”

In tribute to this long-standing support, Dr. Duncan was invited back to the University this spring for a dedication ceremony in the orthodontics clinic. Dr. Duncan was one of three department benefactors — along with Faculty instructors Drs. Charles Lekic and William Wiltshire — who were acknowledged for their long-standing and significant contributions. Each placed a plaque bearing their name on one of the operatories in the clinic as a testament to their long-standing support.

“Thanks to Grant and (spouse) Margaret for their continual support of our programme,” Dr. Wiltshire said. “Really you are an inspiration as an alumnus, because you are probably about as far away as anyone can get from Winnipeg. So your continued support is really very much appreciated.”

Dr. Duncan noted that the department’s effort to stay in touch with its alumni goes a long way to keeping a strong bond.

“I would just like to personally thank you, Dr. Wiltshire, for the way you reach out to us internationals, to the mob down under who are so far away,” Dr. Duncan said, “and when you embrace us, and try to include us, it is something I really treasure.”

During the ceremony, Dr. Wiltshire also commended his colleague Dr. Lekic for supporting a department that is outside his professional designation, pretty much since day one.

“We arrived here 15 years ago at the same time and looked out at the longest and coldest winter in living memory and perhaps wondered what the heck we were doing here,” Dr. Wiltshire joked. “What is important here is that Charles is in paediatric dentistry, not orthodontics, but Charles and his family have very kindly supported the programme and continue to do so.”

For his part, Dr. Lekic noted how the department has flourished in recent years in spite of fairly humble beginnings. As Dr. Wiltshire dedicated his gift and plaque to his parents, Dr. Lekic added it was only fitting that such an occasion would place on May 19.

“This day is the birthday of his late father, and I’m sure that up in heaven, Mr. Wiltshire is looking down upon what a great moment this is to see,” Dr. Lekic said. “Billy has given so much to this programme.”

*Wise men: (from left) Dr. William Wiltshire welcomes Drs. Vittorio Cacciafesta, Nick Karaiskos and James Noble who presented at the department’s CDE event this past spring.*
To say it’s been a long and wayward ride might be something of an understatement. The year 2011 marks the 45-year anniversary of the Graduate Orthodontics programme at the University of Manitoba’s Faculty of Dentistry. And in what has become somewhat typical of how this department operates, the event was marked more with substance than with style.

The department staged a number of events in May to mark the occasion. Celebratory events included a dedication ceremony to mark the significant contributions directed towards the programme and its clinic. On May 19, department staff welcomed back alumnus Grant Duncan, who paid a visit from his native Australia, for a dedication ceremony in the orthodontics clinical area.

Later that month, the department hosted a two-day continuing education programme celebrating the Sapphire Anniversary.

The event included presentations from several practitioners plus a keynote lecture and hands-on session on Lingual Orthodontics with Dr. Vittorio Cacciafesta, assistant professor of orthodontics at the University of Pavia, Italy. Participants were also welcomed to a celebration luncheon hosted by the department, in addition to earning their CDE points.

During the proceedings, Dr. William Wiltshire offered a retrospective of the department that he has led for the past 15 years.

“As of this year we have the largest number of teaching faculty in the 45 year history of the programme,” Dr. Wiltshire said. “We have 19 full and part-time clinically based instructors teaching in the orthodontic programme, which includes a dedicated oral surgeon and periodontist. We have a lot of part-timers who help us out and the nine orthodontic residents are also involved in teaching undergraduate students. We certainly appreciate everything the part-timers do for us and we have the wall of honour on the third-floor to recognize our dedicated and valued part-timers.”

The robust teaching staff of today outshines by far that of years past when the department was teetering on a less certain future. Dr. Wiltshire noted that staff recruitment was priority one, even before he had officially arrived to assume his current post.

“As I was recruited here, there were four, full-time academic positions in orthodontics,” he said. “As I was crossing the Atlantic Ocean to get here, one position was axed. When I arrived my welcoming present was being down to three positions.”

Dr. Wiltshire cited the contributions from a lengthy list of practitioners who have stepped forward in recent years to help out in various capacities. Among them is the Damon Group.

“Under the able leadership of Dr. Jeff Bales, we have Terry Carlisle, Warren Cohen, Ivan Huccal, Chung Yue and Duncan Brown. They fly in on a rotating basis every month at their own expense to teach with Dr. Bales,” he said. “Then there are our part-timers who come and teach every month who are the backbone of our programme. They are the epitome of what it really means to give back,” Dr. Wiltshire added.

(continued on next page)
By Special Invitation
Maritime event open to all
Submitted by Ms. Cathy Watt

This is the year that Graduate Orthodontics celebrates another milestone. It was 45 years ago when the Graduate Orthodontic programme began. Over 115 residents have graduated since that first class began in September, 1966.

To celebrate these accomplishments, and our Sapphire Anniversary, we are planning a number of events that we hope all can attend.

The first event will be held in conjunction with the Canadian Association of Orthodontists beginning September 24, in Halifax.

Drs. Wiltshire and Solomon will be attending the Educator’s meeting. There will also be three resident scientific presentations including one from Dr. Vivek Cheba, one of our third-year residents, who will lead a breakfast table session. Our clinical support staff are leading two auxiliary breakfast sessions.

The reception will take place on Saturday, September 24 at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel, beginning at 5 p.m.

The second event is being planned for the first weekend in November. So mark your calendars. Further details to follow:

We hope you may take time to join one or both events. These opportunities will allow you to celebrate and re-connect with classmates, instructors, staff and colleagues.

Please RSVP to Cathy Watt via email at: cathy_watt@umanitoba.ca.

One Gem of a Milestone
(from previous page)

Orthodontics in Manitoba is very closely tied with its development at the University of Manitoba. The profession in the province expanded largely in lockstep with the division.

While a handful of practitioners were active in Manitoba during the first half of the last century, it wasn’t until the creation of the dental school in 1958 and subsequent arrival of orthodontics in 1966 that this branch of the profession began to thrive at the University and within the province.

One the more remarkable aspects about the department’s progress through the years has been the strong sense of loyalty and devotion displayed by its alumni.

Recently, the department received what appeared to be a favourable listing from a web site that purports to rank dental schools and their various graduate programmes. And while there may be some debate as to the methodology of the ranking process, supporters were loud and clear in their endorsement of orthodontics at the University of Manitoba.

“I am so proud to be an alumnus of what, in my opinion, is the number one orthodontics programme in the world,” said Dr. James Noble, now practicing in Toronto.

“Congratulations to the great faculty and staff that make the U of M such a great place to study and learn,” said Dr. Nicholas Karaiskos from Ottawa.

“A very impressive accomplishment, all the while having a tonne of fun,” said Dr. Randeep Chana from Calgary, now in his first year of residency.

“This is a tribute to the leadership and foresight of John Cleal, Arthur Storey, Ed Yen, and Billy Wiltshire, our dedicated, enthusiastic, and accomplished clinical and laboratory support, and administrative team,” noted Dr. Frank Hechter. “Our graduates have been marvelous ambassadors for the integrity, academic and clinical excellence of our programme.”

“The leadership of Dr. Wiltshire made it possible for us to start a department and make this one of the best orthodontic programmes in North America,” said Dr. Charles Lekic. “This programme, from a tiny, hard-to-find school in Winnipeg, shines with the star of excellence.”

“Seriously though, we really are the best because of our residents, support staff, instructors and most of all (Dr. Wiltshire),” said Milos Lekic, a Winnipeg orthodontist and part-time instructor in both the graduate and undergraduate programmes.

Immediate department priorities will centre on maintaining current momentum: Ensuring a full complement of teaching staff, expanding research opportunities for graduate students and staff along with improvements to infrastructure and orthodontic technology.

A number of special events are also planned that will take place later this year.

Supporting Research
MMSF backs important oral health project

On April 20, the Manitoba Medical Service Foundation (MMSF) and Manitoba Blue Cross honoured 19 recipients of the 2010 research grants competition. Included on that list was Dr. Robert Schroth, who received the MMSF/MHRC Clinical Research Professorship in Population Medicine (2010-2013). This provides support for three years and additional grant funding from both MMSF and MHRC towards the project “Health Sciences Centre Prenatal Vitamin D Supplementation Project” Dr. Schroth (pictured above centre with Dr. Elliott Scott and MMSF Executive Director Dr. Greg Hammond) is looking to evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness of high dose vitamin D supplementation prenatally on newborn vitamin D status and infant health, including the incidence of dental caries.

The MMSF encourages applications from oral health researchers and is particularly interested in young scientists early in their careers. Visit the MMSF web site for more details.
Few would argue that the times, they are a changing for oral health professionals in Manitoba and everywhere else in North America, for that matter.

New techniques, new technologies, new approaches in response to changing demographics are all having a noticeable and in some cases pronounced impact on oral health practices today.

Keeping up with these ever-changing times presents an ongoing challenge for practitioners, but also one that can open new avenues and options for treatment plans, according to a Faculty alumnus.

Over the past year, Dr. Gerald Niznick of the Class of 1965 authored a series of articles for an industry publication, each focusing on the changing landscape of implant dentistry.

“The evolution of dental implants to the state-of-the-art of today, which is very sophisticated, predictable, easy to place and reasonably priced, opens up the avenue for general dentists a lot more and a lot more treatment for patients,” Dr. Niznick said just prior to a lecture he delivered at the University of Manitoba earlier this past summer. “Keep it simple keep it economical, keep it accessible.”

In one of the installments, Dr. Niznick discusses the changing dynamic between general practitioners and specialists and how it can impact upon both practices. The team approach, he says, while still the most common and functional arrangement, now requires careful stewardship to ensure a positive outcome for all involved. This is especially true as more practitioners begin to undertake procedures that were once the exclusive domain of the specialist.

“Specialists need to pay particular attention as to how to make it easier and more profitable for your referring doctors if you want them to continue to refer rather than start placing implants,” he said. “If the patient is referred to a surgeon and the surgical fees of the procedure are so high that the patient has no money left to pay for the restorative end, the teeth they actually want, the referring dentist may ask why he should continue sending cases when they come back and can’t afford to undergo the treatment.”

Similar to other branches of the profession, Dr. Niznick notes that advances in the implant field have been large and significant over a short period of time. One might suggest that the alumnus of the Class of 1965 has been a driving force behind the many advances in the field, if only based on his track record as an implant entrepreneur.

After securing his DMD from the U of M, Dr. Niznick then earned a Masters degree in Prosthodontics at Indiana University in 1968.

Throughout the 1980s and 90s he is said to have trained thousands of dentists on the placement and restoration of dental implants via lectures and live surgical demonstrations. By the end of 2000, he had 23 dental implant U.S. patents issued to him while carving out a space for a pair of firms within the highly competitive implant marketplace.

Dr. Niznick’s recent development of two, one-piece implant systems (GoDirect™ and ScrewIndirect™) are said to greatly simplify the surgical and prosthetic procedures for treating edentulous jaws. With lower price points, the products also reduce the cost of treatment, making implant-retained and/or supported overdentures affordable to a greater segment of the population.

Dr. Niznick adds that the products have been endorsed by independent research that verifies their success rate at near 100 per cent.

“This is not that surprising since most implant systems can achieve that type of success when properly inserted,” he said. “But the fact that you can achieve that success, have simplified surgery so it’s not complicated, so that general dentist can do it, be economical and tie that altogether, this will have an impact on the industry globally.”

Most recently, Dr. Niznick’s Implant Direct firm was acquired by Sybron Dental Solutions, division of Kandahar, a $15 billion company that is among the largest in the industry.
Grads Through the Years

By Bill Christie (64)

Cliff Swanlund (76) of Calgary AB, was inducted as a Fellow in the American College of Dentists in September, 2010.

Bruce McFarlane (84) is again packing supplies for a trip to do dental and health services in Cite Soleil, Haiti for a week in March. The group went to the Dominican Republic the past two years and hope to make similar visits an annual event.

As Sandy Mutchmore (83) becomes Past-president, Joel Antel (79) takes the reins and becomes the President of the Manitoba Dental Association; Allan Cogan (90) becomes the Vice-president, as of January 27, 2011.

Four alumni members received special recognition by way of a President’s award of merit at the annual Manitoba Mid-winter Dental meeting on January 27, 2011: Tony Krawat (94) as past-president of the Winnipeg Dental Society, also a founder of a sedation study club; Robert Kaufmann (80) for work on the communications committee; Rob McIntosh (02) who was co-chair of the annual convention; and John Perry (75) for aiding the Regulatory and Licensing committee.

Alumni who have reached the magic number and been rewarded as Life Members of the Manitoba Dental Association were: Donald Bomback (71), Zoltan Horvath (74), Gary Hyman (70), Jack Stockton (68) and Larry Zoerb (69).

Tim Dumore (91) is in his second year as Convention chair for the annual MDA Midwinter meeting, but says he would be lost without the help of classmate Carla Cohen (91) as social convener, among others.

Gene Solmundson (66) is recovering well after serious eye surgery in April. He is back to practice at Assiniboine Dental Group, and was even able to travel to Florida and to Halifax recently. Gene stepped down as past-President of the Canadian Section of the International College of Dentists (ICD) in 2010, but becomes International Councilor in 2012, taking over from Mike Suzuki (69).

Blaine Cleghorn (79) is assistant dean of Clinical Affairs and associate professor in the Department of Dental Clinical Sciences at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He is also chief Written Examiner for National Dental Education Board and is chair of the Clinical Affairs committee of the association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry, so has to make many trips away to Ottawa. Blaine and Joan have recently moved to a home on the shores of a small, serene lake just outside of Halifax.

Peter Kowal (84) was invested as a Fellow of the International College of Dentists in Halifax in August, 2011. Peter practices in Selkirk, Manitoba with brother-in-law Heinz Scherle (76) who is also a Fellow of ICD. As well as serving as part-time instructor in the Oral Surgery clinic and various committees in the MDA, Peter volunteers in minor hockey and volleyball.

Tony Krawat (94) also received a Fellowship in ICD in Halifax in August, 2011. Tony has just stepped down from the executive of the WDS and Outreach Dental Programme in Pediatrics in Churchill, but keeps busy as part-time instructor in the Paediatric Dentistry clinic. He and spouse Roberta Krawat (94) (pictured centre with Paul McNab (94) and Marcel Van Woensel (94)) are raising two very active little girls.

Dean Tony Iacopino also received a Fellowship in ICD in Halifax, which was held at the same time as the Canadian Dental Association convention. There to support the new Fellows were 26 alumni of the Faculty of Dentistry, perhaps the largest contingent of Fellows and alumni guests, and with spouses at the evening Banquet in the Prince George hotel (pictured left).
Big Bang from Little Shop
Novice thespians stage big-time performance

Oh, the drama! Players (from left) Kristin Cuthbert, Kelly Regula, Randall Warkentin, Angela Thomas and Natalia Ksiazkiewicz (also below inset) get into the act during Little Shop of Horrors. Below, Drs. Wally Mah and Tricia Magasino Barnabé.

A full house throughout the four night run, solid reviews from those in attendance, booming box office receipts: All the mark of a successful campaign for any theatre company. For a group of first-time performers, it’s an achievement that could almost be considered astonishing.

When the final curtain fell for the Little Shop of Horrors at the Prairie Theatre Exchange this spring, it marked something of a triumph for the cast of 15 dentists who proved their theatrical mettle outside the familiar confines of the practice office.

“Yes, it definitely exceeded my expectations,” said Tricia Magasino Barnabé, who led the cast and was also the driving force behind the production. “My original vision was for us to just get together and do a simple show: Minimal sets, minimal choreography, minimal direction. And what we got was a full out musical that equaled a professional theatre show.”

The four-night run capped months of effort from the group who rehearsed tirelessly in preparation for opening night. And despite the almost total lack of any previous experience, the entire cast committed to the project and embraced the challenge of mounting the popular play.

“I think what I was impressed with most was the enthusiasm of the cast and how much fun they had,” Dr. Magasino Barnabé said. “I knew they would have a good time but I didn’t expect that they would deeply enjoy themselves.”

Although they began with limited expectations, the production grew very quickly, almost like the ravenous plant that was its focal point. Immaculate set design, period costumes and a live band (that included dentists Joel Antel and Robert Malech) were like adrenaline shots for the show.

Director Kayla Gordon’s theatre savvy ensured production values measured up to professional standard, which included trucking in a new and better plant.

“We had originally thought we could rent one from a high school here in Winnipeg, but our director had a vision and she thought we should only have the best,” said Dr. Magasino Barnabé. “We ended up getting this one from Ontario, and we never looked back.”

The end result was a fast-paced, crisp production that both delighted and enthralled audience members while also delivering a significant chunk of change for PTE. The production raised about $29,000.

Dr. Magasino Barnabé said the performers seemed to catch everyone unaware, including their professional counterparts.

“They were surprised that their colleagues, and friends and family had such talent and were capable of doing something of this calibre,” she said. “From the general community, some people were surprised because they had come in thinking the dentists were just sponsoring it, not performing in it.”

The success of the show has given rise to talk of staging another production in May, 2013. In the meantime, Dr. Magasino Barnabé plans to spend a bit more time with her daughter Nina, who was born during rehearsals for the show.

“It was challenging,” she said, “I had wonderful support from my cast members and the directors. I also have an amazing husband who really supported me through the whole thing. I’m in the process of researching what musical we can put on next, that would be fun for the audience and cast. So we’ll see.”

Thanx for A Job Well Done!

The producers of Little Shop of Horrors would like to extend their thanks and gratitude to the cast who gave so much of their time and effort towards staging the production, including: Drs. Tom Colina, Chris Cotrick, Kristin Cuthbert, Tom Dobbs, Natalia Ksiazkiewicz, Milos Lekic, Wally Mah, Julie Maniate, Sandy Muchmor, Kelly Regula, Harvey Spiegel, Angela Thomas, Randall Warkentin, and Christopher Yue. Photos courtesy of Dr. Lloyd Louie.

Also, anyone interested in being involved in a short musical number for the next MDA conference in January 2012 is invited to contact Tricia Magsino Barnabé via email at: tmagsinobarnabe@shaw.ca.
A prominent and dedicated member of the dental hygiene community has been named to receive one of the highest honors of the profession in Manitoba. The School of Dental Hygiene at the University of Manitoba is pleased to announce that Ms. Signe Jewett will be the 2011 recipient of the Alumni of Distinction award.

An alumna of the Class of 1980, Ms. Jewett has served the profession for over 30 years as a professional, instructor, mentor and tireless advocate of dental hygiene in the Keystone province.

“Right from day one after graduation, Signe Jewett stepped forward and led by example through her active involvement as an instructor and mentor at the school, working in support of collaborative practice in Manitoba,” School of Dental Hygiene Director Prof. Joanna Asadoorian said in confirming the announcement. “Signe’s career is one that shows the impact an individual can have on their profession simply through hard work and honest effort.”

Soon after graduation at the University of Manitoba, Ms. Jewett took an active role in mentoring future professionals in the field while becoming a respected and dedicated clinical instructor at the School of Dental Hygiene.

“Signe has earned a reputation as being a quiet yet effective leader who speaks with courage and truth on behalf of her profession and many people in Manitoba we serve,” Prof. Asadoorian said. “Her work as an advocate for oral health-care in long-term care facilities in Winnipeg is only one of many examples of what is described by those in our community as her quiet yet effective dedication to collaborative practice.”

She has held many positions within organized dental hygiene, locally, provincially, and nationally. Her work with the MDHA Executive soon led to recognition with the Canadian Dental Hygienist Association where she then became an active member of numerous committees. Most recently, Signe has taken the responsibility of serving Manitoba dental hygienists as historian and archivist.

“It has been highlighted that Signe’s courage and strength of conviction were tempered by her gentle, caring nature,” Prof. Asadoorian said. “She became a role model more for what she did rather than what she said.”

The 2011 Alumni of Distinction awards will be presented at the Faculty of Dentistry’s annual awards banquet that will take place Friday, September 16 at the Fort Garry Hotel as part of Homecoming Weekend at the University of Manitoba.

Tickets for the event are now available and can be reserved by contacting the School of Dental Hygiene head office at 204.789.3062 or via email at dent_hygiene@umanitoba.ca.

Raising the Bar

Hygiene board scores set new mark

Members of the University of Manitoba’s School of Dental Hygiene like to consider their school among the top of any similar programme in Canada. Now, there would appear to be some tangible results to support that claim.

In July, the School of Dental Hygiene announced that the most recent national board scores for University of Manitoba students were exceptional. The students outperformed the national averages in every category and overall.

“Congratulations to our hygiene students, their instructors, and the School Director, Professor Joanna Asadoorian,” Faculty of Dentistry Dean Dr. Anthony Iacopino said. “This is another great example of the quality of our educational programs and students. The ‘Drive for Top Five’ remains alive!”

The news of the positive results for dental hygiene comes on the heels of similar results posted by Faculty of Dentistry students following National Dental Examination Board exams earlier this summer.

In both cases, administrators say the results were more a reflection of how a positive learning environment can impact on exam results for students.

Mentors Matter

While only two years in to its own mentorship programme, the School of Dental Hygiene has quickly come to learn a valuable lesson: mentors matter. Borrowing from the template established by the Faculty of Dentistry several years ago, the School of Dental Hygiene is aggressively developing its own mentorship programme for the benefit of its first and second-year students. The school would like to thank all of those who have and will take part in this valuable experience, including (from left) Patti Hawthorne, Joanne Kosowan and Cindy Isaak-Ploegman, who were part of the Graduation Breakfast for hygiene students this summer.
It may have been just pure coincidence, but the timing could not have been better. As most are abundantly aware, the National Hockey League is back in Winnipeg with the newly re-christened Jets franchise slated to begin play in the 2011-12 National Hockey League season.

That big league hockey would ever return to Manitoba was something few thought possible.

And the timing — the announcement took place during convocation ceremonies at the University of Manitoba — only added an extra sense of occasion to an already auspicious event.

“It has been quite a week of achievement in Manitoba. A lot of people had said Winnipeg would never get in a NHL team again; but they have,” said Prof. Joanna Asadoorian, Director of the School of Dental Hygiene during her remarks to the school’s Class of 2011. “Part of the reason that (team ownership) has been successful is because of an ongoing belief: That they could accomplish what they believed in. Belief always has to be there and putting in the effort to support that belief has to continue until the job is done.”

The School of Dental Hygiene officially said farewell to its 25 member Class of 2011 through a trio of events beginning with the annual breakfast and carrying through to convocation and the graduation banquet the following evening at the Greenwood Inn.

Nicole Leduc received the inaugural School of Dental Hygiene Programme Medal, one of four awards she earned through the year. The medal is awarded to the student with the highest grade point average (min. 3.8) over the two-year programme.

(Continued on next page. See Class of 2011)
Reflections on a Summer Past
Mid-year break provides ideal opportunity to re-tool, re-charge

As we transition from summer to the new school year, and I transition from acting director to my appointment as Director of the School of Dental Hygiene, one cannot help but reflect on the past while looking forward to the future.

Over the past year, the School of Dental Hygiene realized many accomplishments, but perhaps the most satisfying to us at the Faculty were the amazing National Dental Examination Board results that our students achieved. They scored above average in every category and overall!

The students and faculty should all take pride in these outstanding results, and our community of Alumni can feel confident in the academic strength that our new graduates will bring to your practices.

While many of you may think that spring and summer are ‘downtime’ for us at the Faculty, we consume this time to review what we offer at the School so that we are continuously renewing and improving.

Over the last couple of months, we have adopted the new National Dental Hygiene Competencies into our programme, revised our courses, begun the process to restructure our BScDH degree completion programme and continued to work on our research.

In addition, Alumni can look forward to new continuing education offerings such as a local anesthetic refresher workshop, the development of our school web site and continued work on formalizing our University of Manitoba Dental Hygiene Alumni Association.

In keeping with this, we are excited about, and congratulate our newest Alumni of Distinction inductee, Signe Jewett. As you may be aware, Ms. Jewett was named the 2011 recipient of the Alumni of Distinction award over the summer and will be formally feted with the honour at the annual awards banquet this Homecoming weekend.

We are also looking forward to seeing at least as many dental hygienists at the Gala this September as we did last year.

Not to be forgotten were the host of mentors who helped guide their charges through their two-year stay. Although the mentorship programme was only recently introduced to students at the School of Dental Hygiene, it has quickly made a lasting impact on those who have participated. The president of the Manitoba Dental Hygienist’s Association said this wouldn’t have been possible without the dedicated support of its many volunteers.

“Through your time at the Faculty, and by attending mentorship and professional association events, our graduates have gained knowledge and established important personal connections. These connections will provide you with guidance and support for you to best serve the oral health needs of the public,” said Kathi Griffiths to the graduates. “The MDHA hopes that the relationship that you have established with your mentor to the mentorship programme continue as you transition into the field.”

And while graduations are often considered a destination, Prof. Asadoorian noted that this occasion may be better thought of as the start of something special.

“It’s just the beginning for Manitoba’s NHL team and it will be for you as well,” she said. “You will have to follow up this major achievement of graduating with more hard work, more commitment, ongoing adaptation to the changing oral health and environment with an openness and willingness to continue to learn. You are all prepared for this and you will go on to join us as colleagues and alumni of the Faculty of Dentistry and School of Dental Hygiene.”

For a complete list of graduates, see page 22.

A time to celebrate: The staff of the School of Dental Hygiene share a moment together during the graduation banquet this past June.
Making Their Presence Felt
Periodontic academics, staff keep a busy schedule

Academics and staff in the Periodontics department were anything but idle over the last few months of the school year through a series of events both on and off-the-Bannatyne Campus.

Department academics pooled their resources and talents in support of Diagnosis Symposium 2011, held May 28 at the Basic Medical Sciences building. The event featured a full industry trade show in addition to lectures from department academics Drs. Stephen Ahing, Anastasia Cholakis, John Perry, and Adnan Shah.

The Continuing Dental Education programme drew a full house of participants in addition to a full complement of vendors who lined the Joe Doupe Concourse for the Saturday morning event.

The symposium coordinators would like to acknowledge and thank all their industry partners who participated in supporting the event, including Citagenix, Germiphene, Nobel Biocare, Osteohealth and Zimmer Dental.

Shortly thereafter, a pair of part-time Faculty instructors headed to the ancient land of Greece for the 23rd International Association of Paediatric Dentistry Congress, June 15-18.

Alumni members Drs. Ernest Cholakis and Carla Cohn each presented at the International Academy of Pediatric Dentistry their model for caries prevention in a private practice setting.

Drs. Cholakis and Cohn offered discussions on Previsatat® a model of care that integrates risk profiling, advanced prevention, educational programmes, nutritional counseling and clinical research with the goal of eliminating tooth decay. Both practitioners are active in paediatric practice in addition to their service at the Faculty.

The congress was coordinated by Hellenic Society of Paediatric Dentistry, a group dedicated to the promotion of scientific knowledge and expertise for the oral health of children, under the auspices of Athens University School of Dentistry.

Dr. Anastasia Cholakis in turn chaired a session on periodontal issues in the paediatric patient at that same conference.

Later that month, practitioners, specialists and presenters from around the globe converged on the Ritz-Carlton Key Biscayne, Florida to participate in the North American Summit by the Sea hosted by DENTSPLY Tulsa Dental Specialties, June 23 – 26. This was a ‘by invitation only’ conference and some of the most prestigious international presenters and academics were invited to attend.

Summit participants focused on tissue wellness in implant dentistry and the long-term esthetic effects. Much of the focus was to address evolving technologies that facilitate “site development” as well as strategic precision computer-directed implant placement, and then the long-term stability of the components and surrounding peri-implant tissues.

Presenters included Dr. Anastasia Cholakis who discussed peri-implantitis, an apparently increasing phenomenon with its aesthetic sequelae. Dr. Cholakis provided insightful, new evidence regarding the methods of preventing and managing implant mucositis and peri-implantitis.
Graduation 2011
—THE CLASS OF 2011—
Faculty of Dentistry, University of Manitoba

Adam Agpalza, DMD, BSc (Dent)
- University Gold Medal
- Graduation with Honours
- Dean's Honour List
- Dr. John W. Clay Medal & Prize
  (Western Canada Dental Society)
- Alpha Omega Fraternity Award
- Academy of General Dentistry Award
- Alpha Omega Fixed Partial Denture Prosthesis Award
- Dr. John Earl Abra Scholarship
- The Purnoy Award
- Dr. Daniel Tai Humanitarian Award
- American Academy of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology Award

Nawfal Al-Hashimi, DMD

Christopher Bolt, DMD
- Certificate of Merit AAPD Predoctoral Student Award

Darci Bonar, DMD
- American Academy of Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology Award

Asha Chahal, DMD
- Mary Jane Ego Trophy *

David Chen, DMD

Tiffany Cheung, DMD, BSc (Dent)

Ryan Cormack, DMD

Leslie Dalton, DMD
- Canadian Academy of Periodontology Book Award

Mark Dolyniuk, DMD, BSc (Dent)
- Dean's Honour List
- Graduation with Honours
- Canadian Dental Association
- Student Leadership Award
- The Mary Jane Ego Scholarship
- American Association of Oral Biologists Award

Lamiaa El Ghandour, DMD

Elena Ferrer, DMD, BSc (Dent)
- Dean's Honour List
- American Association of Endodontists Award
- Dr. M.H. Garvin Prize in Periodontology
- American Academy of Oral Medicine Award

Michael Greene, DMD
- Graduation with Honours
- Dean's Honour List
- Endowment Fund Award
- Dr. F.W.L. Hamilton Scholarship
- Sophie Kane Memorial Prize in Dental Jurisprudence

Sunayna Gupta, DMD

Kevin Head, DMD
- American Academy of Periodontology Award
- Golden Scaler Award

Nathan Jeal, DMD, BSc (Dent)
- Wyeth Consumer Healthcare Leadership Award

Hee Jeong Kong, DMD

My Le, DMD

Carol Lee, DMD
- Graduation with Honours
- Dean's Honour List
- American Academy of Operative Dentistry Award

Brian Maddaford, DMD

Ross McMartin, DMD

Stephan Michaluk, DMD
- American Association of Public Health Dentistry Award

Hooman Mohandesan, DMD
- Dean's Honour List
- Dr. H.H. Sauderdson Award in Dentistry
- The Maclachlan-Hart Medal for Complete Denture Prosthesis

Robert Ward, DMD
- American Association of Orthodontics Award

Hooman Mohandesan, DMD
- Dr. H.H. Sauderdson Award in Dentistry

Jordyn Vong, DMD
- The Martin Neville Award

Kevin Vong, DMD
- Dean's Honour List
- American Association of Orthodontics Award

Myong Yom, DMD

Jenna Yusishen, DMD
- Dr. Frances Matiowsky Memorial Award
  * Indicates tie in voting for award.

Nicole Leduc
School of Dental Hygiene Programme Medal
Dean's Honours
Manitoba Dental Association Gold Medal
Manitoba Dental Association Prize /
Maria Araceli Pacheco Memorial Award

Melanie Arnal
MDHA Award
Hu-Friedy Golden Scaler Award

Amy Cartman

Jennifer Currie

Chauna Everson

Stephenie Fung

Sheena Gee

Brittany Hiebert

Lindsay Koop

Jennifer Kowal

Carolyn Matthews

Lindsay McConnell

Shauna McGregor

Kayla Mowat

Valerie Olivier

Chelsey Pachkowski
Margaret E. Miller Award in Community Health

Stephan Pescador

Erin Radford

Angela Senenko

Sherry Sidhu

Nicole Smith
Dental Faculty Women's Association Prize
Endowment Fund Award in Dental Hygiene

Danielle Sykes

Jamille Tamayo

Jamie Toews

Agnes Wawrzynczak

Faculty Facts
Establishing a Presence

Big turnout at Midwest SRG conference in Minneapolis caps great year

Any botanist will tell you that a deep root system is the key to a long healthy life. And extending their roots could well be an apt summary of the past year’s activities for the Student Research Group at the Faculty of Dentistry.

The group wrapped up its fourth year just prior to graduation ceremonies this past May with the annual Lunch and Learn event that provided the opportunity to reflect on the activities and achievements of the months past. Furthermore, a lecture about the principles of Biostatistics was given that day by Dr. Depeng Jiang.

Among the highlights was an impressive showing at the Midwest Regional Dental Student Research Conference. The University of Manitoba group had the second largest contingent of participants of the many Midwestern American universities that participate in the annual event.

The group had five posters accepted for the event that included delegations from universities in Minnesota, Kentucky, Iowa, Marquette and Chicago.

“This is very important for the students doing research because they have the opportunity to present their research to other schools of dentistry and more importantly, to create contacts and to see what undergraduate students are doing in research at other institutions,” said Dr. German Ramirez, Faculty advisor for the SRG. “This exposes them to the quality of research that other institutions are developing and to give them confidence in the research they are doing here.”

It was another boost for the ever-expanding group that has set new benchmarks consecutively for membership over its four years of existence. Dr. Ramirez said the success of the group in previous years serves as a great incentive for new students to join.

“This year, we got a lot of dent one students. We received 12 applications from 29 students. I think that is reflective of how the SRG is growing in our faculty and all the support that we have from the Dean’s office and Dr. Scott as the Associate Dean, Research in terms of making things happen in student research at the Faculty,” he said. “That’s a motivator for the students because they see the advantage of interchanging experiences with students from other dental schools in research, the curriculum, all of the experiences they have as students.”

The group will reconvene under the presidency of Bola Famuyide this fall to welcome new members and select a new executive.

Leading By Example

Students recognize inspiring educators

Most will agree that there are many qualities that are requisite to becoming an effective educator, regardless of the level of instruction.

Yet throughout a person’s academic voyage, there always seems to be one or two that always stand out from the rest. And the commonality is not that the instructor knows the subject well. It’s that the instructor has inspired the pupil; has changed the student’s perspective and opened their eyes to a new way of thinking and doing.

Each year, the University of Manitoba offers students the opportunity to single out those who made such a difference. This past year, graduating students Michael Greene and Nicole Leduc recognized Faculty of Dentistry instructors Dr. Charles Lekic and Diane Girardin respectively, as their most influential educators.

“Dr. Lekic has taught us how to work with paediatric patients, but has also shown us how to conduct ourselves in life,” said Michael (pictured right with Dr Lekic). “He has taught us all to love our patients and show them how much we love our profession. This was the first time in my 23 years of education that a teacher was not simply making us stronger students, but was encouraging us to become better people.”

Each year, Fort Garry Campus provides outstanding graduating students an opportunity to honour teachers who have made important contributions to their education. Students are asked to recognize two teachers: one from their Kindergarten to Grade 12 years and one from their years at the University of Manitoba. During the awards ceremony, the students each come forward with their honoured teachers to tell about the contribution of their honoured teachers.
With the end of summer upon us, the halls are buzzing with the start of the new academic year. Students and faculty have returned from the break and all appear well rested. To kick off the fall season, the university will hold its annual Homecoming weekend September 16-18. The Faculty of Dentistry and School of Dental Hygiene will host an Open House on September 17 and encourage all students and alumni to come by for a tour.

September 17 will also be the official opening of Ross McIntyre Digital Imaging Centre. All donors have been invited and we look forward to having lunch and seeing each of you there. Mr. McIntyre will also be joining us for the afternoon.

Thanks to all of those who have supported the sedation room renovations that are ongoing in the Graduate Pediatric Dentistry Clinic. With work slated for completion early this fall, we look forward to welcoming you to an opening event in the coming months. Details on the grand opening will be sent out as soon as they are confirmed.

Sadly, this summer saw the passing of two great friends of the Faculty: Dr. Taras Snihurowycz and Dr. Hester Rumberg. Memorial funds have been established in each of their names at the Faculty. If you are interested in making a gift to either fund, please contact me at 204-789-3537.

As always, we’re making plans to visit Faculty alumni across the country. If you would like the Dean to visit you in your city please let me know and we will check his schedule for any upcoming trips to your area. I can be reached via email at denisuik@cc.umanitoba.ca or by telephone at 204-789-3537.

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Alumnus Spurs Another Faculty First

Implant programme to feature new, innovative technology

Canada’s First Nations populations currently suffer from many unmet oral health needs that significantly affect their quality of life. One common problem is a very high rate of tooth loss, resulting in the need for full dentures. Now, thanks to a gift of $500,000 from dental implant industry leader, Dr. Gerald Niznick, the University of Manitoba will lead an innovative programme that will see the potential for dramatic improvements to the oral health of First Nations communities across the country.

The Gerald Niznick First Nations Implant Dentistry programme will see Manitoba’s dental school take the lead in a national implant programme that is planned to include three schools, with potential to expand further. This will position the Faculty of Dentistry as an international leader in the area of implant dentistry and will ensure that its graduating students are among the best prepared for patient care in this important developing area of dental practice.

“Dr. Niznick is known for his philanthropy in dentistry and implant dentistry in particular. However, this is a unique gift as it targets a critical unmet need for an underserved population and it will dramatically improve quality of life for these patients. We are thankful that Dr. Niznick has given our school the opportunity to participate in his community service vision,” said Dean of Dentistry, Dr. Anthony Iacopino.

The problem with traditional complete lower dentures is that they are inherently unstable. Patients may experience difficulty in chewing function, leading to poor nutrition and overall health. Dr. Niznick first introduced the solution to this problem in 1982 and since that time, his treatment of placing 2 free-standing implants in the edentulous lower jaw for retention of an overdenture, has become the minimum recommended standard of care by the American College of Prosthodontists. Two years ago, Dr. Niznick filed a patent on a new 1-piece implant, called GoDirect, that dramatically simplifies and reduces the cost for this life-changing procedure.

This desire to innovate dental education led Dr. Niznick to partner with Manitoba’s dental school to establish a novel programme that will serve the dual purpose of improving the oral health and quality of life of First Nations populations in addition to demonstrating that implant overdentures should be part of conventional dental therapy available and affordable to all endentulous patients.

“I am pleased my implant innovations will serve such a worthy cause and proud that the University of Manitoba is taking a leading role in this project” said Dr. Niznick. “It will provide dental students and faculty with a rewarding experience that will positively influence dental implant therapy across Canada.”

Dr. Niznick graduated from the Faculty of Dentistry in 1966 and received a Master’s Degree in Prosthetics, the specialty of replacing missing teeth, from Indiana University in 1968. He has received an Honorary Doctorate degree from U. of M. in 2004, for his leadership in the field of implant dentistry, as evidenced by receiving 35 US Patents. He is one of the Faculty’s most successful oral health entrepreneurs, having founded several implant companies over the last 30 years and is now President and CEO of Implant Direct Sybron Int’l. This success has allowed him to become one of the greatest supporters of dental education, particularly in the field of implant dentistry, helping to foster innovation and excellence.

Farewell to a Friend
(from page five)

A graduate of the School of Dental Hygiene in 1967, Dr. Hester Rumberg enjoyed a varied and successful career, in and out of health care. As a hygienist, she practiced in several locations and also toured as a speaker on various subjects in the field.

Dr. Rumberg began her dental hygiene career in periodontics, later teaching at the University of British Columbia’s Faculty of Dentistry. She would earn her DMD at the University of Washington specializing in oral and maxillofacial radiology. From there, she became a sought-after speaker on oral health issues, particularly in dental hygiene.

An avid mariner, Dr. Rumberg logged thousands of nautical miles sailing to various destinations including a voyage from Seattle to New Zealand in a 26-foot boat. In 2008, Dr. Rumberg published 10 Degrees of Reckoning, her first novel - the true story of a tragic loss at sea - that led to her creation of the Sleavin Family Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting maritime safety throughout the world.

In 2009, Dr. Rumberg was named the recipient of the Alumni of Distinction honour for the School of Dental Hygiene. She was presented with the award by Dr. Marnie Forgay, the Director of the school at the time, who offered these thoughts: “This accomplishment has many of the characteristics that Hester has displayed for a long time,” Dr. Forgay said. “Her intelligence, determination, perseverance skill in communication, her appreciation of excellence and her desire to strive for excellence, her devotion to family and friends and ability to confront whatever challenges life presents in a fair and equitable manner. And underlying all of this is her irrepressible sense of humour.”

In tribute, the School of Dental Hygiene intends to establish a memorial fund in Dr. Rumberg’s name. Those wishing to contribute to the fund are asked to contact the Faculty of Dentistry at 204.789.3631 or via email at creighot@cumanitoba.ca.
Dr. Hester Rumberg,

graduation 2011
(from page nine)

“I think that all of our faculty and support staff that are here to support you are here because they are serious about their profession and about teaching the next generation of professionals. It’s been a perfect storm: Relationships with the professional community and our alumni pushing us to change, our students asking for positive change, and the technology is changing and evolving and forcing us to do things differently.”

Seemingly on cue, the senior stick of the class acknowledged the amount of effort put forth by those who demonstrated their support for the class throughout their time at the Faculty.

“There are so many members of faculty and staff who have impacted us over the years and we are grateful to them all,” Dr. Jeal said. “I’m optimistic that with the combination of fantastic support staff and empowered committed administration and cooperation from the departments, this faculty will continue its transition to a place that we can someday all feel happy to support.”

The transition from the old ways to a new order is very often a difficult process, fraught with road blocks, hardships and unexpected turns. And while the journey wasn’t always smooth, the Dean noted that it still made for a most memorable ride.

“It’s something we’ve gone through together, which will probably forever link us. And I’m going to be very interested to see how our relationship continues to develop in the future; what you do and how you remember us,” he said. “I hope that we have served you well. I hope you had a good experience with us. We will continue to work on things that you have shown us that we need to work on. We will remember you. Thank you for everything you have done for us.”

In memoriam —

Dr. Hester Rumberg, University of Manitoba as the recipient of the Alumni of Distinction honour for the School of Dental Hygiene. The Hester Rumberg Scholarship has since been established by the family. Services were held at the Beth Tikvah Synagogue in Toronto, June 29, 2011.

In tribute to her life and career, the School of Dental Hygiene has established a memorial fund in Dr. Rumberg’s name. Those wishing to contribute to the fund are asked to contact the Faculty of Dentistry at 204.789.3631 or via email at creighto@cc.umanitoba.ca.

The Faculty of Dentistry and School of Dental Hygiene at the University of Manitoba offer sincere condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of Dr. Rumberg.

Mabel Koch

It is with sadness we announce the passing of Mabel Koch on Monday, June 11, 2011 at Concordia Place Care Centre at the age of 79 years. Left to cherish Mabel’s memory are sisters, Paulien (Don) Bainbridge of Atikokan, ON, Hetty Walker of Pembina, ND; nephews and nieces. She was predeceased by her parents, Jan and Mabel Koch; sister Yvonne Silver and brother in laws Ron Silver and Charles Walker.

Mabel was born in Tilburg Holland in 1932 and saw much of the Second World War. In 1949, the family moved to Fort Frances Ontario. She enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force and worked in the dental trade. Mabel later worked at the Faculty of Dentistry at University of Manitoba. Upon retirement she enjoyed summers at the Lake by Petersfield. She enjoyed curling and darts at the Legion and was a proud Life Member. When her health failed she moved to Concordia Place until her death.

A Funeral Service was held at the Royal Canadian Legion, Transcona Branch # 7 on July 21, 2011. Donations in Mabel’s name may be made to a charity of one’s choice.

Graduation 2011

“She enrolls in the University of Washington, specializing in oral and maxillofacial radiology, and would later become a sought-after speaker on oral health issues, particularly for dental hygiene groups.

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It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Dr. Taras Yuri Snihurowycz, beloved father, grandfather and uncle, mentor, teacher and artist. He died peacefully on the morning of July 5, 2011 after a lengthy illness. Taras Snihurowycz was born in Stanyslawiw, present-day Ivano-Frankivsk, on June 5, 1918 and arrived in Canada in 1950.

He earned a doctorate in dental medicine in Munich, Germany, and attained a second doctorate as a member of the first graduating class of the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Manitoba in 1962. As one of the original faculty instructors, Taras Snihurowycz was a dedicated educator and an innovator who pioneered the wax-added technique and advocated the use of stereoscopy in the fabrication of fixed denture prostheses.

After Dr. Snihurowycz retired from full-time teaching in 1993, he continued to maintain close ties with the Faculty of Dentistry as a senior scholar and part-time instructor.

He was a life member of the Manitoba Dental Association and a charter member of the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association. In 1998 he became the inaugural recipient of the Faculty of Dentistry’s Alumni of Distinction Award.

Taras Snihurowycz was an ardent tennis player; as a retiree and senior player he consistently won matches against much younger opponents. Supported and guided by his wife Daria, a former ballerina, he evolved into a passionate art collector, filling their Winnipeg home with diverse works by Ukrainian artists.

In 1975, his passion for collecting transmutted into a passion for creating. Without previous formal training, he began painting sacred icons, and embarked upon a second career as an artist and iconographer. Taras Snihurowycz’s body of work encompasses over 1,000 pieces, mainly icons with Eastern Christian motifs, many of which are housed in public and private collections around the world.

The Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg’s Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural Centre and Millennium Library, the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull, the Canadian Dental Association in Ottawa, and the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Manitoba are all home to his art.

Throughout his life, Taras Snihurowycz pursued his goals and interests with unremitting fervor. An engaging, animated and forthright human being, his energy, curiosity and sense of humour were always in evidence. He will be missed by all who loved and admired him.

Taras Snihurowycz is survived by his daughter Genia Snihurowycz Blum, son-in-law Joerg Blum and grandchildren Daria and Julian of Lucerne, Switzerland; his niece/daughter Daria Nyzankiwsy of New York and her son Yaroslav Strohyj of Toronto; the families Snihurowycz, Shulakewych, Radlowskyj; and his extended family around the world.

He was predeceased by his wife Daria Nyzankiwska, his siblings Luba, Myroslaw, Natalia and Wolodymyr, and by his parents Severin and Helena.

Sincere thanks are extended to the staff at Maples Personal Care Home for their compassion and care during his stay.

In compliance with Dr. Snihurowycz’s wishes, a funeral mass was held at St. Volodymyr and Olga Cathedral, 115 McGregor Street, Winnipeg, on July 16.

In memory of his life, and as a tribute to his vast contributions to the University of Manitoba, the Faculty of Dentistry is establishing the Taras Snihurowycz Memorial Fund, to honour his memory with a significant naming tribute. Those wishing to contribute to the fund are asked to contact the Faculty of Dentistry at 204.789.3631 or via email at creighto@cc.umanitoba.ca or to dent_events@umanitoba.ca.

ALEX DOMOKOS
1921-2011

Alex passed away at his Winnipeg home in July. He was born in Hungary but in 1957 chose to emigrate to Canada. His artistic skills soon led to a position as Head of Art and Photography at the newly opened Faculty of Dentistry in Winnipeg.

This was the pre-digital age where personal skills alone produced fine work. Under his leadership, Alex provided faculty members with visual aids for teaching and well-designed posters for conference presentations. His contribution was key in establishing the Faculty’s reputation as a centre for scientific research.

Alex retired after 26 years at the University only to pursue a career as a writer and artist. Numerous published works, poetry and novels followed. He and his wife, Elizabeth, travelled extensively during these years, visiting South America for volunteer work and spending time with old friends in Europe.

A memorial service to celebrate Alex’s life was held August 3 at St. Michaels Church.
The University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association in partnership with the Faculty of Dentistry is pleased to present our annual celebration of alumni and relationships.

The 2011 Alumni of Distinction Dinner

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE: $125 EA.

SEATING IS LIMITED SO RESERVE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2011
FORT GARRY HOTEL
PROVENCHER BALLROOM
COCKTAILS: 6PM • DINNER 7PM

For more information or to reserve your tickets:
CALL: 204.789.3249
EMAIL: DENT_EVENTS@UMANITOA.CA

Seating is limited so reserve your tickets today!