CANADA'S ORAL HEALTH SYSTEM
NATIONAL CHECK-UP

SCHOOL OF DENTAL HYGIENE TURNS 50!

CLASS OF '77 IN SIN CITY
Join Us!
FOR OUR FACULTY OF DENTISTRY
AND SCHOOL OF DENTAL HYGIENE

ANNUAL ALUMNI RECEPTION
MARCH 7, 2013 (THURSDAY)
6 PM, CYPRESS SUITE, PAN PACIFIC HOTEL
VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

REUNION UPDATE!
THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA’S FACULTY OF DENTISTRY
CLASS OF 1997 IS HAVING A BELATED 15 YEAR
REUNION AT THE PDC!

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The University of Manitoba School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association
IS PLEASED TO WELCOME
ALL ORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TO OUR
INAUGURAL
CONTINUING DENTAL
EDUCATION EVENT
LOCATION:
FREDRIC GASPARD THEATRE
FORMERLY THEATER A
BASIC MEDICAL SCIENCES
BUILDING
BANNATYNE CAMPUS
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

FUTURE ORAL HEALTH ISSUES FACING
BABY BOOMERS
SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2013
11 AM – 12:00 & 1 PM – 2:00 PM
$15 REGISTRATION FEE
FOR UMSDHAAN MEMBERS
$40 FOR NON-MEMBERS

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA, FACULTY OF DENTISTRY
WELCOME RECEPTION
MARCH 17, 2013
6 – 8 PM SUNDAY
ISSAQAH ROOM
SHERATON SEATTLE HOTEL

Future Oral Health Issues Facing Baby Boomers
Saturday, April 13, 2013
11 am – 12:00 & 1 pm – 2:00 pm
$15 registration fee
for umsdhaan members
$40 for non-members

For more information to or register contact: Cindy IsaaK Ploegman: cindy.isaaK-ploegman@ad.umanitoba.ca
Umshdaa Annual membership dues are available for $20 ($10 for students)
Cheques for membership dues and/or registration fees can be made out to umshdaa with your registration form mailed to:
Lorraine Glassford, umshdaa treasurer D212-780 bannatyne WPG, MB. R3E OW2

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Drop Us a Line!
What’s Inside

Happy Birthday to Us!
School of Dental Hygiene marks its 50th birthday in 2013. One of the oldest professional institutions of its kind in the country, the School of Dental Hygiene at the University of Manitoba is rich with history and tradition, as well as boasting a large and loyal alumni following. Learn more about what’s in store on page five.

Leading the Charge for Change
The quality of the oral health care system in Canada is among the best in the world but there are still gaps leaving many with barriers to accessing care. Faculty of Dentistry alumnus Dr. Carlos Quiñonez was back at the university to discuss how practitioners could help change things for the better.

Another Growth Spurt
This past winter saw another successful membership drive undertaken by the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association. The spike in membership has also brought added influence to the group as it looks to take a more active role in Faculty affairs.

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On the Cover:
Canada’s oral health care system is good, but can it be better? This is the topic of conversation now being discussed by many in the profession including Dr. Carlos R. Quiñonez, Program Director of Dental Public Health at the University of Toronto. He is also a member of the Faculty of Dentistry’s Class of 1998 at University of Manitoba. See page 10.

Sweet! Chris Cottick enjoys some ‘pop’ after the dental alumni team prevailed in the Alumni-Student Hockey Challenge. It was the first victory in three years for the veteran squad who were again hard-pressed by a talented student team. See page 13.
DANCING TO THE BEAT

FACULTY, STAFF GETS IN SYNCH AND IN THE GROOVE AT THE DRUM CAFÉ

n many African nations, the sound of the drums is akin to a community calling; a signal of significance, that something good or important is about to or has just taken place.

It is at this sound that members of the local settlement and the surrounding area will gather together, drawn by the beat of the drum, and engage in a collective exercise designed to benefit and enrich the entire community.

This past December, Faculty of Dentistry staff, instructors, and administrators got a taste of how to “drum to a different beat” as part of the Dean’s new Outstanding Workplace Initiative. The day featured a special appearance by a group known as The Drum Café, featuring a trio of percussionists, for an exercise in cooperation and team building.

The day began with Dr. Doug Brothwell providing a brief overview of some of the achievements realized as part of the Outstanding Workplace Initiative. The day featured a special appearance by a group known as The Drum Café, featuring a trio of percussionists, for an exercise in cooperation and team building.

The day began with Dr. Doug Brothwell providing a brief overview of some of the achievements realized as part of the Outstanding Workplace Initiative. After applauding the 35 recent accomplishments presented by the Associate Dean (academic), the packed house on hand heard from Ms. Ros Howard who offered a review of the OWI survey that focused on issues of communication. A member of the OWI committee, Ms. Howard is the Director of Learning and Development Services.

After that, the audience was invited to drum in syncopation with the Drum Café’s team of percussionists. Everyone in attendance was provided with a drum in order to play along with the group. Metaphors of working together, of drumming in rhythm with each other, guided the theme of the retreat Building Teams: An Outstanding Workplace Priority.

The Drum Café motivational sessions are designed to help remove barriers to create a more open organization while improving communications and accelerate productivity in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. The Faculty’s Director of Educational Resources and Faculty Development said the group’s performance and message were totally appropriate and consistent with the OWI initiative.

“We do have a beat that is common; there is something that we share at the bottom of what we do together here,” Dr. Dieter Schönwetter said following the group’s session.

The afternoon portion of the retreat further illustrated the importance of team building as Ms. Howard was joined by her colleague Mr. Mark O’Reilly to outline and explain the tricycle model of workplace efficiency.

A video on teamwork concluded the session. It re-enacted the story of the race to the South Pole undertaken between explorers from Britain and Norway and how teamwork contributed to winning team’s success.

“The echoes of the drumming and the various presentations on building teams continue to linger on in the Faculty of Dentistry,” Dr. Schönwetter said. “Sessions such as these are foundational as we continue to build the outstanding workplace for faculty and staff alike.”
Kool and The Gang may have just the right idea: The School of Dental Hygiene is marking its 50th anniversary year and is hoping that everyone will join in the celebration.

It was back in 1963 that the first 12 students began classes at the brand-new Faculty of Dentistry building at the University of Manitoba’s Bannatyne Campus. Under the guidance and tutelage of the legendary Dr. Marnie Forgay, the School of Dental Hygiene soon became the destination of choice for those looking to pursue a career in the then-budding field of oral health.

Much has changed since those days and the school has grown and prospered throughout that time. Now, faculty, staff, administrators are in the throes of making plans to mark this most auspicious occasion.

“We are delighted to have this opportunity to mark this very rare and special occasion,” said Dr. Joanna Asadoorian, director of the school. “The School of Dental Hygiene hopes that all of our alumni and friends will join us in celebrating this wonderful milestone.”

September 20 and 21 are the tentative dates for what the planning committee believes will be a great weekend of events to showcase Manitoba’s only institute of higher learning for dental hygiene.

“This will be a great time to showcase our school and its history over the years,” planning committee member Cindy Isaak-Ploegman said. “It will also be a great opportunity for friends and former classmates to get together, do some networking, renew acquaintances and just have a good time.”

Although no plans are finalized as of yet, it was thought that the weekend may coincide with the 2013 Alumni of Distinction banquet and celebration. This annual event, that takes place in conjunction with the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association, is scheduled for September 20 at the Fort Garry Hotel.

Planning is also underway for another as of yet unspecified event that will ideally take place sometime during the weekend most likely on the Bannatyne Campus.

Although the members of the planning committee have yet to confirm the details, the event will ideally be customer tailored for dental hygiene alumni and associate members of this fraternity.

“The bonds forged by students at the school have always been very strong and often last many, many years,” Dr. Asadoorian said. “Every year we host class reunions and this year we have the opportunity to host the biggest reunion of them all. So we hope everyone will make a point of coming out and joining us this September.”

A series of special communications to advise and update alumni on the events ahead is already underway.

Dental hygiene alumni are invited and encouraged to contact the School or the University of Manitoba School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association to find out the latest developments and to get involved in what promises to be a fun-filled and nostalgic weekend.
It’s official! The Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association now has its first office space! Effective February 1, 2013, we are now located at 200E-1215 Henderson Highway. This move has been months, if not years, in the making and we are so happy to call our new space home! As we grow and evolve as an association our requirements and demands have grown as well. It has become increasingly necessary to have a permanent space to continue to meet the needs of our members and the community at large.

National Dental Hygienists Week is just around the corner, April 7-13, 2013. What are you doing to help make a difference in the community this year? Last year MDHA worked alongside the Healthy Start for Mom and Me parenting program where we provided oral screenings and oral health education to new and expectant mothers and their children.

As part of our efforts to reach a variety of different target groups, the MDHA has decided to switch our focus again and target one of the most underserved populations with the highest need in our province - Aboriginals in Manitoba. Please visit our website, www.mdha.ca, for more information and to see how you can get involved!

MDHA will also be sponsoring our second annual blood drive in partnership with Canadian Blood Services. The drive will run during National Dental Hygienists Week with our big drive day on Friday, April 12, 2013. We encourage all member of the dental community to get involved as well! Bring your family, bring your friends, bring your entire office! We would love to see you all there in support of this great cause. Remember, your donation alone can save up to three lives.

This is a great opportunity to show our community that dental professionals care about more than just our patient’s mouths; we care about their overall health and well-being as well! For more information email info@mdha.ca or to register to donate call 1-888-2-DONATE.

New Digs for MDHA

HYGIENE GROUP HEADQUARTERS NOW ON HENDERSON HWY.

Moving in: Shauna McGregor (left) and Stephanie Champagne show off the new MDHA office space on Henderson Highway.

Submitted by Kaleigh Warden, MDHA executive

To mark the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II’s accession to the Throne as Queen of Canada, Canadians have been celebrating individuals who have made valuable contributions to the country, province or community.

Throughout the year, the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal was awarded to deserving Canadians across the land, including of course, those here in Manitoba. And at least two recipients of this honour are members of the Faculty of Dentistry community including Drs. Frank Hechter (71) and Ernest Cholakis (82).

Both were named as recipients of the award after being nominated by those in their community as worthy candidates due to their efforts within the local area. Dr. Hechter received his award in late December while Dr. Cholakis was awarded his medal earlier in the year.

“This is the absolute best part of the job; being able to recognize people who make a huge difference in our community,” said Joyce Bateman, Member of Parliament for Winnipeg South Centre at the presentation ceremony involving Dr. Hechter and at least four other residents of the constituency.

“They don’t ask ‘what’s in it for me?’ They make it happen because they care.”

The two Faculty of Dentistry alumni were among at least 14 other recipients from the University of Manitoba who were so acknowledged over the year.

“I would like to congratulate these remarkable individuals who have earned this prestigious honour,” said Dr. David Barnard, President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Manitoba and himself a Diamond Jubilee Award recipient. “This speaks to the outstanding calibre of individuals who make up the University of Manitoba community.”

Diamond Jubilee Celebrates Alumni

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS ACKNOWLEDGED

Drs. Frank Hechter (left with MP Joyce Bateman) and Ernest Cholakis were recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012.
International College Award

STUDENT FETED IN ANNUAL SALUTE TO UNDERGRADUATE ACHIEVEMENT

It is considered one of the more prestigious awards offered by one of Canada’s most respected oral health bodies. The International College of Dentists Student Awards were first offered in 1956 and have been an important component of the venerable and august body ever since.

This year’s recipient from the University of Manitoba is Joanna McQuarrie, pictured here receiving the award from ICD Regent Dr. William Christie (left) and Dr. Ken Skinner, Deputy Regent.

Selection for the honour comes from the recommendation of the Faculty, and is based on the nominee’s character, participation in extracurricular activities, and academic record in penultimate year of his or her studies.

Established in 1956, the award now consists of a $1,000 bursary and a plaqued certificate presented to one student in each of the 10 schools of dentistry in Canada.

The ICD is a world-wide, honorary organization established in 1927. Fellowship in the College is by invitation only, granted in recognition of an individual’s outstanding professional achievement and meritorious service.

The Faculty of Dentistry wished congratulations to this year’s recipient.

Coming Home, Helping Out

DISTANCE NO BARRIER FOR ALUMNI INSTRUCTORS

You can count two more members of the Faculty of Dentistry’s alumni fraternity who have not forgotten where they came from. Drs. Ron Wolk and Jeff Bales both live and work in communities well removed from the Bannatyne campus. But that hasn’t stopped either alumnus from heading back to their alma mater to lend a hand in guiding the practitioners of tomorrow in the graduate orthodontics programme.

A member of the Class of 1974, Dr. Wolk has spent the majority of his practice career in Calgary. Shortly after earning his credentials at the University of Manitoba, Dr. Wolk spent a short time here as an instructor before moving on to graduate school at the University of Minnesota.

From there, he moved onto Alberta where he has also taken an active role in organized orthodontics, serving as president of both the national body and the Pacific Coast Orthodontics Society.

Born and raised in Winnipeg, Dr. Wolk said it is a pleasure to be able to be involved and return to help out today’s residents. “One of the other faculty members who decided to change their pathway, invited me to join the team and I was happy to do that,” he said. “I love visiting with the students and I love watching how they are learning and being a part of that.”

Dr. Bales completed his Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) degree in 1992 and returned to graduate school at the University of Manitoba in 1996 where he specialized in orthodontics.

Dr. Bales is presently located in Brandon where he oversees a busy orthodontics practice in a new and modern facility he shares with his spouse and alumnus Trudy Corbett.

Dr. Corbett is an alumnus of graduate periodontics at the University of Manitoba.

Pitching in: Graduate orthodontics got a boost thanks to the helping hands of (front, from left) Drs. Ron Wolk and Jeff Bales, pictured here with director Dr. William Wiltshire and first-year orthodontic resident, Dr. Laura Duncan.

A long-time supporter of the Faculty, part-time Assistant Professor Dr. Bales also finds time to lend a hand in graduate orthodontics, volunteering his time in support of the programme and is the lead orthodontist teaching the Damon self-ligation philosophy in the programme.

The head of graduate orthodontics, Dr. Billy Wiltshire said it is very gratifying to see such tremendous support from former students of the institution. Giving back in this way is a tremendous boost to the diversity of the teaching philosophies in Graduate Orthodontics, he said.

“The contributions from our alumni community are a major reason why orthodontics at the University of Manitoba has thrived and prospered through the years,” Dr. Wiltshire adds. “We owe a great debt of gratitude to Drs. Wolk and Bales and of course to all our volunteer instructors who step forward on our behalf.”
Sounding the Call!

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA
DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni alert! It is that time of year once again. The University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association is pleased to announce that nominations are now open for the Alumni of Distinction award for 2013.

Members of the Faculty of Dentistry’s alumni community are welcome and encouraged to send in their nominations for the annual honour, one of the highest distinctions in Manitoba oral health.

“We are calling on the members of our fraternity to consider some worthwhile candidates and to bring them to our attention through the nomination process,” said Dr. Kyle Gauthier, UMDAA president. “Each and every year, it seems, we get a great response with plenty of high calibre nominees and we expect this year to be no different.”

As with years past, the criteria for the annual award remain much the same: Nominees must be a graduate of the DMD or a postgraduate program of the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Manitoba. The person must also have served the profession or community in such a way as to have distinguished themselves, and directly or indirectly brought distinction and honour to the Faculty and the Profession.

Past awardees include Drs. Gerald Niznick, Frank Hechter, Jan Brown and Gene Solmundson.

“There is no question that each of our past recipients has been more than worthy of this award,” Dr. Gauthier said. “It sometimes poses a real challenge for our selection committee because so many of the nominees have enjoyed long and distinguished careers.”

Dr. Gauthier said the group is hoping for an early rush of nominations, which will help with the selection process. That will certainly be possible this year as the process is easier than ever with an online system for nominations now in place.

Anyone interested in submitting a nomination can now do so on the Faculty of Dentistry website located at www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/dentistry. A click on the link located on the events tab will lead to the Alumni of Distinction nominations page that contains an automated form that can be submitted directly online. The forms can also be printed off and sent via Canada Post to the Alumni of Distinction selection committee at the Faculty of Dentistry.

Nominations close April 30, 2013. The selection committee will then make an announcement in the summer months with the awards banquet to follow on Friday, September 20, 2013 in Winnipeg.

It’s ICING
ON THE CAKE
ALUMNUS OF CLASS OF ‘69 CALLS IT A CAREER

Few would argue that 40 years is a long period of time in a person’s life, especially when dedicated to a single calling and career. So it may not come as much of a surprise that after spending all that time dedicated to his patients and his profession that the time for change might have arrived for Dr. Paul Beesley.

And so it was that on December 15, 2012, the staff of Ominica Dental Group officially helped the alumnus of the Class 1969 call it a career. The staff of the long-standing practice located in Dr. Beesley’s hometown of Moose Jaw Saskatchewan gathered together to offer best wishes on a long and successful career and an equally long and enjoyable retirement.

Dr. Beesley (pictured right with spouse Linda) has maintained and enjoyed a long and successful practice in the community of roughly 35,000 located just west of Regina. Through the years, he realized several highlights and accomplishments, among them a six-year term with the College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan including a stint as the group’s president in 1999. He is also a member of the International College of Dentists and the Pierre Fauchard Academy.

His dedicated staff was on hand to present a variety of tributes including a cake handsomely adorned by the graduation photo of the good doctor courtesy of the Explorer yearbook of 1969.

As it turns out, while securing his credentials at the university, Dr. Beesley also found time to serve as manager of the Faculty football team that would go on to capture the Senior Eight-man Inter-faculty championship. He would later fulfill his commitment to returning home and, following in the footsteps of his father, open a dental practice that has stood the test of time through these many years.

All of the staff at the Faculty of Dentistry and School of Dental Hygiene would like to offer most sincere congratulations to Dr. Beesley for a long and successful career and wish him an equally lengthy and healthy retirement.
A Beacon from the West

ALUMNI BOLSTERS FACULTY TECH INVENTORY

Keeping up with the technological times is an ongoing challenge for any institute of higher learning and the Faculty of Dentistry is no exception. Fortunately, there are those who are willing to come forward and lend a hand where possible. That list now includes Dr. Michael Popp who has bolstered the Faculty’s technical inventory with its first ever VELScope, the Canadian made adjunctive mucosal examination system.

“I was inspired by the great work (Dean of Dentistry) Dr. Iacopino was doing at the Faculty and hearing about it first-hand on the many alumni visits he has made to Calgary,” said the member of the Class of 1992, “and I decided to donate my first generation VELSscope to the Faculty to enhance the learning experience of both the dental students and dental hygiene students.”

As most oral health practitioners are likely aware, the VELSscope (Visually Enhanced Lesion Scope) is a hand-held device (pictured inset) designed to provide dentists and hygienists with an examination system for the early detection of a wide variety of oral diseases, including pre-cancer and cancer. It was developed by LED Dental Inc., White Rock, B.C. and was introduced to the practicing community about 20 years ago.

Dr. Popp said he has used the system for some time and will be acquiring a newer version of the technology to incorporate into his Calgary-based office. Soon after, he made the decision to donate the first-generation unit to the Faculty.

“I was very excited by all the new developments Dr. Iacopino has spearheaded and felt compelled to contribute,” he said. “I thought we could benefit the school by doing this and give the students the exposure to this so they could see the new technology that is out there.”

Dr. Popp delivered the system late last fall and held a brief demonstration for Faculty instructors. And although it was his first visit back to the Faculty in some time, there is still a healthy Manitoba presence with him in Alberta, courtesy of Drs. Jasminder Gill of the Class of 2005 and Dr. Kamal Virk Class of 2008 who both are practice associates.

“I enjoy working with Manitoba graduates. We have similar mind sets and similar experiences,” he said. “When I first moved out to Alberta we found that some of the educational backgrounds were different from ours. They didn’t have quite as strong a background in orthodontics and periodontics. So I do have a preference of looking for Manitoba graduates when looking for associates.”

The Faculty of Dentistry and School of Dental Hygiene wish to acknowledge and thank Dr. Popp for this gracious and generous donation.

We Be Jammin’

ALUMNI GROUP BackS CHARITY EFFORT

Members of the all-dentist band Mandibular Black performed a short set of songs at the Fort Garry Hotel for a Virtuosi Concert Series fund-raiser in November. The group includes (l-r) Amarjit Rihal (guitar), Drew Brueckner (drums), Tricia Magsino-Barnabé (vocals), Joel Antel (bass) and Mel Sawyer (keys). These days, Dr. Magsino-Barnabé is busy as co-producer of Guys and Dolls, the all-dentist musical that will hit the PTE stage later this spring. Watch for news on ticket sales!
Among many voices, one

Dr. Carlos R. Quiñonez is Assistant Professor and Program Director of Dental Public Health in the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Toronto. He is also a member of the Faculty of Dentistry’s Class of 1998 at the University of Manitoba. Recently, Dr. Quiñonez returned to deliver the presentation Public Policy and Dental Care: A Tale of Two Cities and Loose Ends. Here he discussed the state of oral health care delivery in Canada.

One Voice, Among Many

ALUMNUS LEADS DISCUSSIONS ON SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

It is generally accepted that Canadians enjoy some of the best oral health care in the world. The combination of outstanding education and research institutions, access to the latest in science and technology, and a fairly good level of access to dental care across the country have made the national oral health-care model among the best on the planet.

This was largely confirmed by the results contained in the 2007/09 Canadian Health Measures Survey, which noted that the oral health of the population has substantially improved over the past 40 years. The survey noted that compared with the 1970/72 Nutrition Canada Survey, dental caries in the population had essentially been cut in half, while the percentage of Canadians with no natural teeth had plummeted.

In 1970/72, about 40 per cent of the population had also reported visiting a dentist in the previous 12 months; while today, that number is close to 75 per cent. It is no surprise then that today approximately eight out 10 Canadians report their oral health as good or excellent.

Yet there were some troubling undercurrents in this sea of good news. The report also revealed evidence of inequalities in oral health and issues with access to care. Overall, just over 17 per cent of those surveyed said that they avoided dental visits because of the costs, while 16.5 per cent of those that did go to the dentist declined recommended care because of the costs.

This is an alarming finding and one that the profession must take seriously, according to Dr. Carlos Quiñonez, an assistant professor and director of dental public health at the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Dentistry.

“The single biggest issue facing the profession right now is that of access to care for a variety of groups,” says the graduate of the University of Manitoba’s Class of 1998. “It’s everything from low-income children to working poor families, to the long term care sector where we know that we have very little service provision.”

Access to care has been an ongoing issue for years, decades perhaps, particularly within certain segments of the population. Low income children, the elderly, aboriginal Canadians, and those in remote areas are the most often cited groups.

In recent years, however, that landscape has shifted even further, thanks to a substantive increase—perhaps even boom—in the number of working poor Canadians. That is, working people whose incomes barely meet their daily needs; most often, it is those who hold down low wage, insecure jobs that carry with them virtually no health care benefits—benefits that would most often include dental coverage for the worker and his or her family.

“Private insurance, sometimes called non-wage benefits, grew from the late 1960s up to the late 1980s,” Dr. Quiñonez explains. “But with globalization and two recessions, large corporations started feeling the pinch and looked to cost containment. One way was to cut employee benefit plans; not just cutting them directly, but also by changing the nature of employment, meaning they were not going to hire full-time people, instead hiring on contract in order to limit unionization, thereby limiting access to health care benefits. This has left a lot of middle-income folks in a real bind because before they would have discretionary dollars for other things. Now those monies must be put towards things like dental care. So we’ve seen self-reported cost barriers to dental care consistently rise among all income groups over the last 25 years.”

Working poor families are further hampered, as the oral health care system has not adapted to the changing environment, leaving a huge segment of the population in a virtual no-man’s-land, Dr. Quiñonez adds.

“These are the ones that really got the short end of the stick because they can’t get access to public programs because they’re not unemployed and not on social assistance,” he says. “But they also don’t have the types of jobs that provide you with these types of non-wage benefits. So now they’re really stuck in the middle.”

Dr. Quiñonez notes that even those who do have non-wage benefits are facing increased barriers due to extended lifespans and the ever-present issue of providing service in locations that have traditionally suffered from a lack of service providers.

(continued on next page)
“With retirement comes a loss of income but also the loss of your employment-based insurance because you’re retired,” he said. “So if you look at historical trends, it is seniors that are reporting the most significant cost barriers to care. And by the time you get into the long-term care sector, then you’re really stuck because that’s an area where there’s just not a lot of service provided whether you’re rich or poor.”

Through the past several years, Dr. Quiñonez has devoted vast amounts of time and energy researching these issues. His Masters thesis focused on the politics and economics of delivering dental care to aboriginal communities.

He then earned his PhD on the politics and economics of the profession itself. That led to his current appointment in Toronto where he continues to advocate for reform.

“We are doing an excellent job in a great many populations,” he said. “I did one study that showed that 70 to 75 per cent of Canadians had never needed dental care that they could not afford. That bodes well for us, but what about the other 25 per cent? That’s still one in four people.”

This past fall, he returned to the University of Manitoba’s Bannatyne Campus to recap some of his findings as a guest speaker of the Division of Community Dentistry.

In his address – Public Policy and Dental Care: A Tale of Two Cities and Loose Ends – Dr. Quiñonez calls for a re-shaping of public policy and also encourages the profession itself to take a look at what might be done to address and ideally reverse these areas of increasing concern.

The profession, he says, is in a strong position to effect meaningful change, as it always has been.

“What can you do as an individual provider? You could be what I would term a responsible professional citizen: Trying to promote the policies that help the issues at the organized professional level. And we are,” he says. “Organized dentistry is very concerned.”

In addition to directing public policy through professional channels, Dr. Quiñonez also notes that the profession itself has the ability, if not the obligation, to look at how to address these key issues effectively.

“We need to provide alternative models of service provision so that we can meet the variety of needs that are out there,” he says. “That is the challenge to us professionally because the social contract we have with society is based on the fact that we get to self-regulate because we promise to look after the best interests of the public at large.”

For the past number of years now, Dr. Quiñonez has been speaking nationally and internationally, discussing these issues with academics, students and front-line practitioners. These efforts, he says, appear to be picking up traction.

“I get a good response, and I think the profession is listening increasingly,” he says. “There are a lot of people involved in all levels of government, at all levels of the profession, who are actively engaged in this area. I’m just one voice among many. I think we’re all starting to be on the same page. So I think that’s a positive thing.”

“Disadvantaged populations appear to be growing in Canada, forcing more to turn to outreach centres such as the dental clinic at Siloam Mission, staffed here by Janielee Woo a School of Dental Hygiene graduate.

Leading the Charge to Change

ALUMNUS BLENDS PROFESSION AND POLITICS WITH PASSION

It’s been a long and winding road for Dr. Carlos Quiñonez, one that has been filled with a variety of twists and turns, both figuratively and literally. And it’s something the graduate of the Faculty of Dentistry’s Class of 1998 wouldn’t have any other way.

From the University of Manitoba via El Salvador to his current post as an assistant professor at the University of Toronto, Dr. Quiñonez has spent the last several years as one of the leading advocates for reform in Canada’s oral health care system.

“Anybody that remembers my time in Manitoba will remember me as a young guy who had a lot of ideas about the profession, about what dentistry was all about,” he recalled, shortly after appearing back at the school to discuss the issues facing this branch of the profession. “I learned that I was wrong in a lot of areas. I learned that I was correct in other areas as well.”

Shortly after graduation, he accepted an internship and would go on to earn his Master of Science in community health. That internship, at what was then the newly created Centre for Community Oral Health, would play an important role in the future direction of his career.

I was given a tremendous opportunity in terms of delivering care across the Arctic and through various community programs,” he said. “So I got to do a lot of clinical work in a variety of areas which in turn opened my eyes to a lot of the challenges that we face as a profession in terms of providing care to underprivileged and underserviced groups in general.”

From there, he would go on to earn his PhD and dental specialty in dental public health at the University of Toronto and follow that with a postdoctoral fellowship in 2009 focusing on the health of marginalized populations.

(continued on page 25. see change)
Strength in Numbers

UMDAA LOOKS TO EXPAND INFLUENCE FOLLOWING STRONG MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

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hat there is strength in numbers is inescapable logic as well as being a fact of life. The simple truth is that once you gather together enough like-minded individuals, you can achieve a great deal, often in a very short time. It’s also an idea that is becoming something of a slogan for the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association these days - that there is in fact strength in numbers.

“The one thing that we want to try to get across to our members, and all of our alumni, is the larger the membership the stronger our influence will be,” UMDAA president Dr. Kyle Gauthier said. “This is especially true in areas such as restructuring of the educational programme at the university. If there are any concerns from our alumni, having a strong membership will definitely help voice our concerns and have these concerns discussed more openly.”

The UMDAA is coming off its 2013 winter membership drive, one that again succeeded in not only renewing many current members but also attracting a healthy number of new recruits to the organization. Association members were very busy in late January, welcoming new and current members to their registration booth set up at the provincial MDA conference.

The association also delivered as promised by adding an electronic payment option for members to reconcile their annual dues more easily. Dr. Gauthier said the association was hoping to streamline the process to accommodate the many members of the alumni community interested in signing up, but were discouraged by an often cumbersome registration process.

“That was the big thing - our push to sign up new and previous members to join the alumni association - and we seemed to be pretty successful, especially with providing the opportunity for folks to use their credit cards,” Dr. Gauthier said. “That really seemed to increase the number of people who were interested and able to sign up at the convention centre site.”

Feedback from the membership had indicated that streamlining registrations would go a long way to boosting membership as many members of the alumni community were interested in joining. Moving forward, the association is now looking towards taking a more active role in Faculty affairs.

“We held a membership survey last spring and that was one of the top priorities of what our members view as the role of the alumni Association,” Dr. Gauthier said. “This is the direction that we want and need to go, so that we can have more influence at the Faculty.”

The opportunity to exercise that influence may come sooner than later as changes continue to take place within the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Manitoba. Faculty Dean, Dr. Anthony Iacopino recently launched a second five-year plan; this one targeting the educational experience for students. The Dean provided an outline of some of the activities ahead at the UMDAA’s annual hospitality night that ran in conjunction with the membership drive.

Dr. Gauthier said the Dean is receptive to input the alumni group has to share and is aware of some of their primary concerns in terms of the future direction of the educational experience at the Faculty.

“There have been quite a few changes over the last number of years and I’ve heard anecdotally from our members that perhaps some of the students aren’t getting adequate experience in some of the areas that they need,” Dr. Gauthier explains. “That’s been a concern of some of our members and the Dean is aware of this. We haven’t tabled any specific ideas on how to change that at this point, but those concerns have been raised.”

Dean Iacopino agreed that discussions on the matter were very productive and have resulted in some tangible improvements that have since been put in place.

“We are indeed very pleased with the engagement of our current Dean’s Community Council, comprised of alumni from the community, and charged with helping us to identify areas for improvement in our teaching programme. Fresh external perspectives and ideas are always helpful to ensure we are aware of the profile of our graduating dentists and that we continually evaluate the effectiveness of our teaching approaches,” the Dean of Dentistry said. “Based on discussions with this council, we have been working hard to ensure that our students have an adequate patient pool and are getting the required procedural experiences to be competent in all areas of general dentistry. We have already made several changes in our patient screening and intake process, emergency care delivery, patient assignment, protocols, along with diagnosis and treatment planning sequences to support this initiative. We have already seen significant improvements in this area.”

The next order of UMDAA business will be the 2013 Alumni of Distinction award. The UMDAA executive plans to meet sometime in May to begin deliberations on this year’s honoree.

Consistent with the theme of making things easier for the membership, nominations may also be made online this year via the home page of the Faculty of Dentistry web site: umanitoba.ca/faculties/dentistry/aod_2013.

The Challenges of Baby Boomers

CDE COURSE ON APRIL 13 TO ADDRESS IMPORTANT, GROWING ISSUE

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aby boomers make up the fastest growing segment of the population today and, as this group grows older, they will face a variety of changes and challenges to maintaining their oral health. Professionals in the field must be aware and prepared of what’s ahead and how best to deal with what will certainly be a new dynamic in practice.

Future oral health issues facing baby boomers is a continuing education session that will focus on exactly this topic. All oral health professionals are invited to attend this CDE session slated for Saturday, April 13 at the Fredric Gaspard Theatre on the Bannatyne Campus.

Speakers Dr. Anthony Iacopino and Prof. Salme Lavigne will focus on the current status of oral health for the baby boomer generation and predictions of future issues that may be faced by this population group.

Registration fees are $40, only $15 for members of the University of Manitoba School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association. A lunch buffet will be provided for all course participants. To register, contact Lorraine Glassford, at UMSDHAA treasurer at Lorraine.Glassford@ad.umanitoba.ca or Cindy Isaak Ploegman via email:@ cindy.isaak-ploegman@ad.umanitoba.ca.
The Sweet Taste of VICTORY!

PATIENCE, PERSISTENCE AND PUCK SAVVY PRODUCES AS TEAM ALUMNI RE-CLAIM COTTICK CUP

Submitted by Chris ‘Psy’ Cottick

Mark your calendars! Let the bells ring out and the banners fly! Saturday the second of February proudly marked the completion of a laborious three-year struggle on behalf of the alumni hockey team to overcome the student juggernaut that has held the Cottick Cup for consecutive years.

This year’s edition of the Alumni-Student Hockey Challenge saw the alumni start the best of three series with a 3-2 win in September, matching their productive first game efforts in the last two years. Those last two series ended with back to back losses to the student team, including last year’s game two overtime heartbreaker. This year, the alumni were determined to close out the series in the second game and thereby avoid being worn down by the student athletes.

The game, however, started poorly for the alumni: An early goal on a harmless looking play bounced in past UMDHAA member Kyle ‘auscultation’ Conrad who is now policing the alumni net after many years of brick wall service with the students. The students quickly added another on what some on the alumni side saw as a rather iffy penalty call to take an early 2-0 lead in the game.

I would like to say that alumni management had full confidence in what was sure to be eventual victory; but the cold shadow of the last two year’s game-two failures was darkening hearts all along the alumni bench.

The gloom was soon broken by the unlikely heroics of Kyle ‘The Joker’ Gauthier (2003) (and UMDAA president) as he slid a perfectly placed wrist shot from the point through the masses of feet in front of the student net to bring the alumni to life. ‘The Joker’ was without his classmate and good friend Chris ‘The Flash’ Donald who was learning some bone grafting techniques in Calgary and was unavailable for the game, missing the annual tussle for one of the very few times in his illustrious, 10 year alumni hockey career. Playing his natural position on defence, ‘The Joker’ dominated the defensive side of the game while also covering up for his aging (aged?) defence partner Chris ‘Pylon’ Cottick.

The game settled into an incredibly fast paced, end-to-end contest; with the students taking a 4-2 lead at one point. Not to be denied (again), the relentless fore-checking of the veteran alumni team resulted in a stirring comeback as well as a hat trick for Brian ‘Mad Dog’ Maddaford (2011) and the see-saw game ended in a 5-5 tie. This reporter has never been involved in a more tense or exciting game.

The students, led by newcomers Jeff Bassey and Shawn Corbett, pushed constantly and were always dangerous, holding their lead until late in the third period.

As regulation ended in a 5-5 tie, the sold-out crowd was assured of an exciting finish with overtime to come. Ten more action-packed, end-to-end, heart stopping minutes passed in sudden death overtime, forcing the two sides to turn to a shoot-out.

The student so called ‘brain trust’ Neal ‘I forgot to sign up the faculty for intramurals’ Wilson requested a three shooter format. The alumni, knowing the advantage of their experience and analytical ability would favour them, insisted on a five shooter format. This turned out as the best decision the alumni made since the introduction of local anaesthesia as the students scored on their first attempt and would hold that 1-0 lead after three shooters each.

This set up one of the most dramatic finishes in alumni hockey history.

(continued on page 27. see hockey)
UMDAA HOSTS ANNUAL Hospitality Night

Here’s an annual tradition that is sure to take some of the chill off a cold winter’s night. The University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association held its annual Alumni Reception this past January 25. And, once again, the event drew a big crowd to the VIP Lounge at the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

The crowd, comprised of graduates through the years heard an update on news from the association while catching up with friends, young and old. The reception is run each year in conjunction with the UMDAA membership drive. Members of the alumni body hope to see more members and potential members at the Faculty of Dentistry Alumni Reception at the Pacific Dental Conference taking place in Vancouver this spring. The reception will be held March 7, (Thursday) beginning at 6 pm, in the Cypress Suite of the Pan Pacific Hotel.

Good times: Dr. Andrew Maxwell (left) came all the way from Swan River to attend the UMDAA Alumni Reception where he enjoyed sharing some time with Dr. Ralph Crawford (64).

Colleagues (l-r) Drs. Anthony (Tony) Nowakowski (84), the UMDAA’s Faculty representative, enjoys some time with Drs. Robert Fraser (85) and MDA executive board member Mr. Wayne Nowak.

Young guns: (l-r) Drs. Kurt Scherle (09), Jeff Bergen (09), Brad Klus (09) and Chris Kiazyk (76) share a few laughs at the reception.

UMDAA board members (l-r) Drs. Elizabeth (Betty) Dunsmore (83), Kyle Gauthier (03), Jean Bodnar (87) enjoy some time with alumnus Dr. Chris Donald (03).

The gang: (l-r) Drs. Alexander (Sandy) Mutchmor (83), Mike Sullivan (83), Scott Leckie (90), Marcel Van Woensel (94) and Gene Solmundson (66) enjoy the fellowship of the evening.

Alumni members are reminded they are welcome to attend the Faculty of Dentistry Alumni Reception at the Pacific Dental Conference, March 7 in Vancouver.

Photos courtesy of Dr. William Christie (64).
Grads Through the Years

By Bill Christie (64)

Presented last fall in the Schwartz Lecture Theatre by the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association was a Continuing Dental Education credit course entitled “Cost-effective Treatment of Edentulous Jaws with 1-Piece Implants” by Gerald Niznick (66). Also on the half-day program were Marshall Hoffer (72), David Rusen (74) and Dr. Reynaldo Todescan from the faculty. The session drew a packed house to the lecture theatre at 780 Bannatyne, taking place the morning after Dr. Niznick accepted the 2012 honour at the Alumni of Distinction banquet and celebration.

The list of speakers appearing at the 129th annual mid-winter meeting of the Manitoba Dental Association was replete with presenters who are alumni of the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Manitoba. It started with Uche Odiatu (89) the well known wellness expert, author, lecturer and health care professional who was back again with a morning and afternoon presentation entitled “Keep Your Edge at any Age: Inspire your Team and your Patients” and “Take This Stress and Love It: Create Balance in Your Day!” respectively.

Home-town talent at MDA are represented by Amarjit Rihal (95) who spoke on “Digital Concepts in Dentistry,” Bruce McFarlane (84) who spoke on “The Carriere Distalizer: Class II to Class I; a Straight Line,” Gary Finkleman (04) who spoke on “Hard and Soft Tissue Grafting Techniques,” Howard Fogel (80) who spoke on “How to Avoid Endodontic Disasters,” H. Jack Stockton (68) who spoke on Dental Associateships, Buy-ins/Buy-outs & Related Financial Issues,” and Marcel Van Woensel (94) who co-presented on “Office Assessments, Infection Control & the Role of the Dental Assistant.”

After more than 40 years, Paul Beesley (69) has decided to step down from his private practice in Moose Jaw, SK. The member of the International College of Dentists and the Pierre Fauchard Academy also spent six years with the College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan including a term as president in 1999.

Once again, a series of Faculty Alumni were awarded life memberships in the provincial association at the event. Those who became Life Members of Manitoba Dental Association, and were presented plaques for same, at the annual general meeting of the MDA were: Ken Skinner (73) Garry Hyman (70), Marty Dveris (71), Tom Breneman (69) and Alan Schweid (70). Each was presented on January 24, 2013.

Kyle Gauthier (03) has been appointed to the position of President of the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association, taking over from Chris Cottick (90). He announced that due to the successful fund-raising efforts of the UMDDA at Alumni of Distinction dinners and other ventures, that the association’s John M. Grahame Award is being doubled in value.

The change-over in office of the MDA also occurred on January 24 with Amarjit Rihal (95) becoming President for 2013-14, replacing Allan Cogan (90) who is now serving as past-president.

Catherine Dale (92) and Mike Cuthbert (79) have joined the Board of the Manitoba Dental Association as new members in District I and III respectively.

Tom Breneman (69) was also recently awarded a Honourary Degree at Brandon University.

Mel Sawyer (77) will be receiving a College of Dental Surgeons of BC Special Group Award in recognition of his work on establishing the Infection and Prevention Control Guidelines for dental practice in B.C. His participation followed the publication as the principal investigator of the research paper “Preventing needle-stick injuries and the use of dental safety syringes.” funded by WorkSafe BC and the Workers Compensation Board of Nova Scotia. Dr. Sawyer also received an Award of Merit from the College in 2011 for his contributions to the profession.

Two alumni, Ernest Cholakis (82) and Frank Hechter (71) were recent recipients of the Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal in commemoration of their service to their local communities.

Set for life: Life memberships were bestowed upon several members of the Faculty of Dentistry alumni fraternity in January, including (from left) Drs. Jay Winburn (Brandon orthodontist) with Marty Dveris (71) and Ken Skinner (73).
From the Desk of the Dean

Here, There, Everywhere

FACULTY EXTENDS REACH NATION-WIDE TO KEEP YOU CONNECTED

DEAN ANTHONY M. IACOPINO
DMD, PHD

Through the years, we have tried to make something of a habit of celebrating the accomplishments of our alumni practitioners in the profession and in the community. We call attention to these achievements whenever and wherever possible, with a collective sense of pride; that one of us, one of our own has done something to earn the attention and the accolades of others.

It’s that made-in-Manitoba phenomenon that is so special and so unique. And you see it each and every time our alumni gather together, be it for professional development, community projects or simply for a time of fellowship and camaraderie.

It’s a true sense of community, one that transcends individual class years or generations; one that continues to flourish as we move forward. I see it almost everywhere I go: be it our office visit series, at conventions, meetings and symposia, the ties that bind our alumni are plain to see; in evidence at all times. Manitoba grads seem to gravitate towards one-another; they come together with a genuine warmth and sincerity framed by mutual respect because they know and understand where they came from.

It is with that in mind that I am pleased to announce that the Faculty of Dentistry is expanding its reach nation-wide with a number of new initiatives for our alumni community. Starting this spring, the Faculty will now be stepping up our schedule of alumni events, starting in Eastern Canada with an event in Toronto now confirmed.

We will be stopping at ‘The Big Smoke’ in congruence with the Ontario Dental Association annual meetings to touch base with alumni and keep them connected to the Faculty and all of the activities taking place herein.

And indeed, there is much to share. Here at the Faculty, we are making rapid progress on projects geared towards enhancing our educational programming and our workplace environment along with the many facility improvements that continue on.

The Sam Borden campaign, in support of the modernized graduate periodontics clinic, continues and is moving toward its goal with everything still on schedule. It is a fitting tribute to one of the remarkable leaders in our Faculty history.

The Taras Snihurowycz Memorial Fund has also garnered great support and continues to build. The support this campaign has garnered thus far stands as a clear reflection of the reverence and affection so many have for our wonderful Dr. Snih.

Our Office Visit Series, though largely complete, is still welcoming requests for new or return visits. This is particularly true for our colleagues in Vancouver, Calgary, Ottawa, and now Toronto. It is always great to meet and greet our graduates who have struck out for distant lands, keen to see what the future holds.

It is equally pleasing to see that the practitioners I encounter outside of Manitoba are all doing exceptionally well and all remain keenly interested in what’s going on back on Bannatyne.

I am also delighted to report a continuing strong relationship with the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association following their changing of the guard. On that note, I would like to congratulate Dr. Kyle Gauthier on assuming the presidency and would also thank and acknowledge Dr. Chris Cotick for his tremendous work as Kyle’s predecessor.

As it happens, we continue to be engaged in discussions with the UMMDAA executive on any variety of matters. This is thanks to our alumni’s willingness to engage and bring forward positive ideas and suggestions while offering guidance on how we can best prepare our charges - our student body - for their exciting careers as leaders in this ever-changing and dynamic profession.

I have often said that any and all input we receive from our practicing partners in the community - even things that may not always be positive - is both welcome and valuable, because it comes from the heart and it leads to improvements.

It is through these types of positive interactions that we remain cognizant of the concerns of our stakeholder groups and become motivated to address them. To that end, I am also pleased to share with you what I believe will be very exciting news for our alumni, near and far.

Our continuing education programme has been showing robust growth in recent times. The variety and quality of our programming is improving significantly and we are moving quickly to put things in place.

In fact, I am pleased to share with you that we are getting ready to launch an online portal which, in the coming years, will make some of our offerings to alumni available in distant sites through the world-wide web.

These are indeed exciting, heady times. The expansion of our alumni outreach, our internal improvements and a burgeoning continuing education platform getting set to launch, are all geared to one central purpose: to keep our alumni connected to the Faculty.

It is through these and our many other efforts that we are trying to build a sense of awareness and community that goes far beyond just getting together with friends.

It’s all part of our drive to build and strengthen our collective bonds, to foster the growth of the familial ties that make being part of this group so remarkable and so rare.

I invite anyone and everyone to join us; to call, write or send an email to discuss any of these great new initiatives we have in store, or any other idea you may have, bearing in mind that the more we do together, the stronger we all become.

Grazie.
CLASS OF 1977 LETS IT ALL RIDE
IN SIN CITY

Post-Mortem Report

Submitted by Dr. Alan Jeroff, Class of 1977

This is the final report of the Class of 1977 reunion held in Las Vegas, NV, May 31st - June 3, 2012. One word summarizes the event – OVERWHELMING!

The usual cast of characters included the following: Kenny Wolch, Dan Sullivan, George Lo, Harvey Frankel, Alan Jeroff, Barry Weinstein, Rick Minuk, Steve Weiss, Don Nield, and Dan Goldstein.

Mark Nepon had an urgent family matter to attend to at the last moment and had to cancel. We missed you Mark and hope that things are OK now.

The weather co-operated all weekend and the warm temperatures of Las Vegas 40°C (108°F) were exceeded only by the warmth of the group at the reunion.

It is easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of our everyday lives and routines and forget about how we got to the point where we are now in our careers. We all lead extremely busy lives with family and work and everyone took time out from their own personal lives and schedules to make this weekend happen.

It wouldn’t have happened if not for our own commitment to keep the connection alive among us. Some of us have been in constant contact with each other throughout the years, but others, such as myself, have not.

Unfortunately some classmates have passed on. George Lister and Dick Wu, and their memory was fondly remembered.

To those who didn’t make it, we hope that you will be able to attend a future meeting.

We had some very good laughs during the weekend together and new memories were made and we had a great time reminiscing about ‘the bad old days’ at 780 Bannatyne.

The weekend featured some intimate conversations among us, and we actually learned more about each other in 72 hours than we did in the four years of being stuck together in dental school.

We had countless conversations with each other and all got reacquainted and met our significant others.

Thursday featured arrivals and some of us hooked up until the wee hours of the morning having drinks in the bar.

Friday was packed with pool-side recovery and some of us went on a helicopter, airplane and boat tour of the Grand Canyon. Later in the evening, the Elvis show didn’t let us down. The Cirque de Soleil also performed some incredible acts. There were some death-defying acts that were absolutely breathtaking, done without any tethers. The dinner following the show was tasteful and the drinks continued to flow liberally. The after-dinner crowd then adjourned to the bar for serious post-meal discussions.

Saturday featured a Continuing Education session by George Lo and Alan Jeroff. The topics included endo, photography and oral surgery. Two guest speakers followed it up with a talk about Crowd Funding, the latest phenomenon in fund-raising.

The evening dinner was at a restaurant in the Encore Hotel, where the ceiling and walls switched every 20 minutes, like a billboard sign.

Congratulations to Dan Sullivan, Harvey Frankel and Rick Minuk for winning door prizes which included West Coast salmon and two prized photos by renowned photographer George Lo.

Sunday arrived too soon and the smart ones stayed an extra day. The rest of us were off to our homes and unfortunately back to reality later in the day.

We look forward to our next get-together, hopefully in the not-too-distant future.
**What a Difference A Year Makes!**

**LESS THAN A YEAR LATER, UMSDHAA NOW IN FULL FLIGHT**

UMSDHAA Presidents Message
By Cindy Isaak-Ploegman

Maybe there is something to the old saying, ‘time flies when you are having fun!’ What a remarkable year it has been for the University of Manitoba School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association.

To begin, we would like to thank all the participants at the Manitoba Dental Association Convention January 25, 2013 who visited our booth and joined our new association. It is exciting to think that only one year ago we were fund-raising to start the first University of Manitoba School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association (UMSDHAA) and now we are up and running. And we are a presence!

We have a dedicated core of executive committee members and we would like to introduce ourselves to you. Please see below for short introductions of our group. Even though we are all alumni of the SDH, we have varied backgrounds and skills that serve to make our association effective and sustainable. We would love to have you join our committees and volunteer your skill set and time.

Our plans are to make significant inroads in providing support to the School of Dental Hygiene and with your help that is possible. Our association is proud to be a collaborative effort with the support of the Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association and College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba.

*(Continued on page 31. See President)*

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**Getting to Know Us**

**SAY HELLO TO THE 2012 - 2013 EXECUTIVE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA SCHOOL OF DENTAL HYGIENE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Members of the UMSDHAA executive team offer a short introduction and welcome you to the organization. All members are listed alphabetically.

**Joanna Asadoorian**
RDH, PhD
Dr. Joanna Asadoorian is Director and Associate Professor at the School of Dental Hygiene, Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Manitoba.

Joanna has been a dental hygienist since she graduated in 1990 from Erie Community College in New York State. After graduation, Joanna began working in general clinical practice, working with two oral health teams in Ontario until she took a faculty position at the University of Manitoba in 2003.

While in clinical practice, Joanna completed her BSc in Dental Hygiene and MSc in Dentistry at the University of Toronto. Her Masters research was in the area of quality assurance programming for health care providers.

She completed her PhD here at the University of Manitoba in the area of clinical decision making. Her research program continues in this area with a focus on continuing competency strategies for health care practitioners. Joanna publishes and presents her research both nationally and internationally. In 2011, Joanna was appointed Director of the School of Dental Hygiene. Along with her administrative responsibilities for the School and her research work, Joanna currently teaches pathology to dental hygiene students and continues clinical practice in Winnipeg in a periodontal specialty practice.

**Joanna says:** “I strongly believe in supporting one’s alumni association. It serves as your educational and professional home; a place where one can re-connect with one’s foundational roots: old friends, classmates and academics and continually develop professionally.”

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**Larissa Bubnowicz**

Larissa is honoured to be a part of the UMSDHAA as the student representative of the third year dental hygiene Class of 2013.

Before being accepted into the Faculty of Dentistry, School of Dental Hygiene, Larissa earned her undergraduate Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Manitoba. It was during this time that she discovered a love and passion for the dental profession.

In addition to life as a student, Larissa says she truly enjoys dedicating time to being actively involved with the faculty and community. Besides the UMSDHAA, Larissa lists her foremost responsibilities as class president, volunteering with the research studies of Drs. Gelskey and Kelekis-Cholakis and with specialized programs FASD children at the Rehabilitation Centre for Children.

Most recently, she was a gracious recipient of the University of Manitoba Undergraduate Research Award, providing her with the opportunity to conduct dental research within the field of dental biomaterials, with Dr. Rodrigo França, Assistant Professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry.

**Larissa says:** “I am fortunate that my experience here at the School of Dental Hygiene has allowed me the opportunity to be mentored and guided by many brilliant, genuine and admirable instructors. My future aspirations are to contribute to further advancing the profession of dental hygiene, to be as dedicated and as influential, as so many of my colleagues and mentors before me.”

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*Continued on page 31. See President*
New Recruits

Dental hygienist Andrea Wiebe (right) prepares to sign on the dotted line and officially become a member of the University of Manitoba School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association. Helping Andrea through the registration process is Cindy Isaak-Ploegman an alumna of the school and president of the fledgling group (left) and Larissa Bubnowicz, one of the student representatives on the new body.

The U of M’s newest alumni group staged a membership blitz in January, complete with a booth set up at the Winnipeg Convention Centre to welcome new members. The drive was a resounding success, with the UMSDHAA nearly tripling their membership.

Prize Draw: Roxena Trembath, alumna of SDH and member of the Class of 2007 was the lucky winner of a gift basket and free massage during the UMSDHAA membership drive. The names of all new members were entered into a raffle for the prize.

Corinne Cutler
Corinne graduated in 2007 from the University of Manitoba and has loved working as a dental hygienist ever since.

In her so-called spare time, Corinne works on attaining her bachelor honours degree in philosophy at University of Winnipeg. She also spends time volunteering with her church and its youth group, and with her sorority Alpha Gamma Delta as an alumnae advisor. Corinne also keeps very active and loves running and camping.

Corinne says: “This past summer I spent almost two months backpacking around western Europe including some of my new favourite locations; Paris, Milan, Florence and Geneva. I hope to promote and represent dental hygiene as a growing and developing profession.”

Kyle Conrad
Vice President
As a proud alumnus of 2010, with a preceding BSc, Kyle is currently studying Medicine within the University of Manitoba.

Kyle has been able to gain experience in clinical research in the area of oral and systemic health. Additionally, Kyle continues his involvement in student-inspired endeavours such as the Winnipeg Interprofessional Student-run Health Clinic. Working toward innovation in health and social systems, which is reflected in curricula, is a focus of his as well.

Kyle says: “Membership in the dental hygiene alumni association aligns with this focus while allowing all of us to support and further the development of the profession of dental hygiene.”

David Forde
David is currently the student representative for dental hygiene second-year students on the alumni association committee.

David enrolled in the School of Dental Hygiene after being educated as a dental assistant. His future plans in dental hygiene will be to provide treatment in various settings, and to be involved in education and research. David is committed to life-long learning, and is excited about the possibilities that a career in dental hygiene can bring.

Among his hobbies are sports, yoga, music, and cooking. David is also involved with Baseball Canada as a national umpire, provincial supervisor and clinician.

David says: “I am interested to see how my skill set will be utilized as an oral health professional. I look forward to working on UMSDHAA to help build a stronger connection with my future alma mater and my profession.”

Diane Girardin
RDH, EP
Diane Girardin is a graduate of the School of Dental Hygiene, University of Manitoba and has over 35 years of private practice experience in preventive, orthodontic and restorative techniques.

She has 19 years of clinical teaching and is, at present, the clinic coordinator for the senior class and course coordinator for the pain management course and local anesthesia continuing education programme. In addition, Diane is the course facilitator and lecturer for the restorative module for dental hygienists.

On the UMSDHAA committee, she represents the graduates of the 1970’s decade. Diane was the recipient of the 2012 Alumni of Distinction award. She and her husband spend their summers at the lake, like to travel and spend as much time as possible enjoying their grandson.

(continued on page 22. See UMSDHAA)
Venturing Beyond Borders
SCHOOL OF DENTAL HYGIENE MAINTAINS A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

What strikes many people that are not from Winnipeg or the province of Manitoba, is the city’s relative isolation from other major centres in Canada or North America. As a person from Ontario, when I first moved here, I was astonished by the distinct margin separating the city from its surrounding. We wondered what would happen if we went beyond the perimeter?

It may sound funny, especially in times like these when we are all so connected by social media and the internet, but we actually make a conscious effort at the School of Dental Hygiene to keep our people connected to the dental hygiene world around us. Our efforts are focused on ensuring we do not operate within a bubble. We do this in two major ways—by sending people out and bringing people in.

This spring, we will be continuing our exchange programme by welcoming international students to come and stay with us for an extended period. Hosting international students helps us broaden our perspective and learn more about dental hygiene on a global level. Our students and faculty all benefit from this sharing.

This year will likely mark a record level of support for faculty, students (diploma and degree) and support staff who plan to travel to various national and international venues to disseminate their work and learn from others.

Faculty members are also heavily involved in IPE (inter-professional education) activities and will be traveling to various conferences to share the experience of our School and University in developing this kind of programming. This year all of our full-time faculty in the School will be attending the American Dental Education Association’s annual meeting. This will be a first for some faculty and they will appreciatively benefit from some of the best dental educational programming available. Some faculty members will also be attending the International Federation of Dental Hygiene’s 2013 Symposium, which only runs every three years and provides an opportunity to enhance our global perspective of our profession. Many of us are presenting at these venues also, so the value is both giving and taking.

In addition to our heavy investment in faculty development, we have a similar commitment to our students. Our diploma students will be supported in their outreach programming as some head to Churchill and Ontario along with various other activities. Our BScDH degree completion students have also been targeted to attend national conferences to present some of the unique projects they have been working on including DERCA.

Finally, our support staff will also benefit from outside learning activities and will be doing so locally and in other venues.

These are all investments in our people—the most important resource our School has. These investments endorse our commitment to our people to grow, share, teach, learn, build, cultivate, integrate with and reflect on the world around us.

Fasten your seatbelts... it’s going to be a wild ride!

Flying the Colours
SCHOOL OF DENTAL HYGIENE STUDENTS WEAR THEIR PRIDE ON THEIR SLEEVES... . . . AND FRONTS... . . . AND BACKS

What is the well-dressed dental hygiene student wearing these days? If you are the Class of 2013 or 2014, it can only be these custom-designed t-shirts rolled out by the students to mark the start of the academic year this past autumn.

Each article features a separate class year identifier and number along with a caricature on the back that identifies a future dental hygienist.

Spearheaded by students Larissa Bubnowicz, Kelly Semkowski and Joyce delaCruz, almost every student in the school now sports the new look, as displayed at left for school director Dr. Joanna Asadoorian and Dr. Anthony Iacopino, Dean of Dentistry.
Dianne proudly identified herself as “prairie born and raised.” Born in Winnipeg and raised in Portage La Prairie, she married Jim Dyer in 1962, with whom she had two daughters, Leanne and Leslie. Later in life, surmounting the challenges of being a single mother, she earned a Diploma in Dental Hygiene from the University of Manitoba in 1973, a Bachelor of General Studies from Brandon University in 1979, and a Masters of Education from the University of Regina in 1988. In 1975 Dianne moved to Regina where she established and was head of the dental assisting programme at the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences. While living in Regina she developed what would be a lifetime passion for ballroom dancing. She became a ballroom dance teacher and coach, offering her talents to other aspiring dancers and doing so for the rest of her life. In 1989 Dianne was invited to create, establish and direct the dental hygiene programme at Camosun College in Victoria BC. She remained on faculty at Camosun College as Director and then in a teaching capacity until her retirement in 2010. Dianne’s grace and love of dance paralleled her commitment to the dental hygiene profession. Dianne was a dental hygiene philosopher, a visionary pioneer in the advancement of the profession. Her colleagues knew her as one of the great ‘movers and shakers.’ She was a founder of key advancements in the dental hygiene profession. Her contributions to her profession were exceptional at the local, regional, national and international levels. Her initiative and perseverance over many years were major factors in the establishment of national certification for dental hygienists in Canada, including the National Dental Hygiene Certification Board and the National Dental Hygienist Certification Examination. Diane was also a past president of the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA), and instrumental in the establishment of Dental Hygiene Educators Canada, now known as the Dental Hygiene Educators Committee within the CDHA. She collaborated with colleagues in the establishment of practice standards, dental hygiene scope of practice, program accreditation standards, and baccalaureate degrees. Dianne served on many advisory boards and committees, among them the Dental Hygiene Research Advisory Committee of the CDHA. Her professional leadership will continue to contribute through the many colleagues for whom she provided mentorship, assistance and friendship. Dianne was an educator extraordinaire; caring, guiding, and encouraging. She had a gentle manner and excellent communication skills. Dianne’s expertise in ballroom dance gave her grace and sensory awareness of the needs of others; definite strengths of an educator.

Dianne shared her professional wisdom with multitudes of students and colleagues who have since expressed attribution of their professionalism to Dianne’s tutelage and mentorship. Dianne has left a monumental legacy behind in her work with the dental hygiene profession, educators, students and legislators. She loved her students and they loved her. The whole profession of dental hygiene mourns her loss. Her many professional contributions have been recognized by such awards as life memberships in the British Columbia Dental Hygiene Association and the CDHA; a Distinguished Alumna Award from the University of Manitoba; and College of Dental Hygienists of British Columbia Inspiration Award. Dianne will be greatly missed by her partner Peter, her loving daughters Leanne (John) and Leslie (Conrad), her grandchildren Alex, Maerin, Annie, Raine and Wolfgang, her brother Jim (Janis), and her nieces and nephews. An obituary appears at the end of this publication. A webpage obituary is available through Care Funeral, Victoria at http://carefuneral.com/obituaries.html. For those who wish, donations in her memory are now being accepted and can be made to: The Dianne Gallagher Fund, Attn: Camosun College Foundation, 4461 Interurban Road, Victoria, BC, V9E 2C1 or online at the Camosun College Foundation’s secure online donation form at http://camosun.ca/about/foundation/donations.html. Or: The Canadian Foundation for Dental Hygiene Research and Education at http://www.cfdhre.ca/default.asp.
Diane says: Being part of the alumni association for the school is a great way to ensure our former students stay connected and continue to move forward in their careers.

Lorraine Glassford, BA, RDH, EP
Lorraine is a graduate of the Faculty of Arts and the School of Dental Hygiene, University of Manitoba and has 25 years of practice experience in preventive, orthodontic and restorative techniques. She has 19 years of clinical teaching and is, at present, the clinic coordinator for the dental hygiene II students and course coordinator for oral and dental anatomy, radiology and preclinical dental hygiene. She also instructs in the pain management course, clinical dental hygiene III course and local anesthesia continuing education programs and serves as the class advisor to the dental hygiene II students.

Lorraine serves as the treasurer of the UMSDHAA and is involved with the CDHA Regulated Health Professions Acts working group. Lorraine has three children and in her spare time enjoys running and hot yoga.

Lorraine says: “Out of the same paper you can make a book, a ticket, a boat or a plane... your destiny is not what you get but what you make out of what you have.” - Source unknown.

Deanna Mackay:
As the Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association representative on the UMSDHAA, Deanna graduated in 2007 from the University of Manitoba, School of Dental Hygiene (SDH). Currently her time is divided between three practice settings; a periodontal practice, a pediatric practice, and with the Home Dental Program within the Centre for Community Oral Health at the U of M. Within these three practice settings, Deanna feels able to enjoy the full scope of dental hygiene practice. In 2009 Deanna was accepted to the dental hygiene degree completion program at the University of British Columbia and received her BScSc(DH) in 2012.

Deanna says: “Since acceptance within our SDH program I feel that I have grown both personally and professionally. I have met many lifelong friends and mentors. One of the most important lessons I have learnt in my journey in life and within my education thus far is ‘you do not know what you do not know until you know it!’ This thought, although scary at times, only fuels my passion to continue my studies and to make connections. Thus, I feel my future possibilities are endless!”

Cindy Isaak-Ploegman, RDH, BA, MED
Cindy’s role as the President of the UMSDHAA was borne out of an appreciation for her chosen profession of dental hygiene and a desire to give back to her alma mater as a member of the class of 1989.

Cindy’s Masters thesis explored the cognitive style dimension of field independence/dependence and the implications for adult distance education. Her eclectic work experience includes a variety of dental settings including: research coordinator for an implant study, clinical instructor and lecturer for dental hygiene (13 years) and dentistry students, director of continuing education for a professional organization, and 23 years of her favorite setting, clinical in a periodontal specialty practice. Her work experience includes lecturing to pre-professional University One students, serving as a learning skills specialist, and as a research coordinator for the Faculty of Social Work exploring curriculum and the sustainability of non-profit organizations to promote eye health, prevent blindness, and visual impairment in India. Cindy also serves as chair of the complaints committee for the College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba and volunteers at her church. She loves to spend time with her beloved husband and golden retriever and her hobbies include writing and baking.

Cindy says: “Our goals are to ensure the UMSDHAA can engage the student population, to ensure sustainability for the association long term and to ensure opportunities for financial support for the School of Dental Hygiene and its student body.”

Marcia Rushka, RDH, EP
Marcia Rushka is a graduate of the School of Dental Hygiene, University of Manitoba and has 18 years of practice experience in preventive techniques. She has four years of clinical teaching and is the acting clinic coordinator for the dental hygiene III students. She also instructs in the pain management course, pre-clinical and clinical dental hygiene II course, dental II comprehensive care course and local anaesthesia continuing education program and serves as acting class advisor to the dental hygiene III students.

Marcia serves as the baccalaureate student representative for the UMSDHAA. She was also involved with the College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba’s continuing competency program and is the MDHA representative for the Provincial Council of Manitoba Women. Marcia is currently studying in the BScDH degree completion program. She has two children, Joshua, 11 and Olivia, 9. She and her husband, David, have been married for 14 years. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time in the sun and playing with her dog, Esha and cat, Copper.

Marcia says: The alumni association is one more way to show our support and commitment to the profession by building strong ties that link us back to the School of Dental Hygiene.

Tara Szajkowsk:
Tara graduated from the Faculty of Dentistry, School of Dental Hygiene in 2008. Prior to that, she completed three years in the Faculty of Science.

While studying dental hygiene, Tara served as the Class President and Senior Stick. When approached by association president Cindy Isaak Ploegman to help set up an alumni association for the School of Dental Hygiene, Tara thought it would be a wonderful way to be involved with the profession outside the day-to-day clinical side of her career and also a way to give back to the profession. Tara currently works at two dental offices in Winnipeg and sits on the executive committee for the UMSDHAA, in the role of treasurer.

Tara says: “I’m originally from a small town in Northwestern Ontario called Atikokan. My husband and I get back there often to enjoy the outdoors in the way of fishing, camping, snowmobiling and much more.”
**Research Day Road Show**

**FIRST VENTURE OFF-SITE FOR LONG-STANDING FACULTY EVENT**

It might seem appropriate that a long-standing research event would be subject to something of an experiment in 2013. For the first time in at least the last five years, the Faculty of Dentistry's Research Day picked up its presenters, posters, and presentations and headed for downtown Winnipeg where the event was held this past January.

Student scientists, along with their academic counterparts, presented their latest achievements on January 25 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. The event was held as part of the provincial professional meetings.

“It is important that oral health professionals throughout the province have the opportunity to see, first-hand the outstanding quality of research underway at the Faculty of Dentistry,” Dr. Raj Bhullar, Associate Dean (Research) said.

As always, the day featured a full slate of academic and student speakers who presented a wide and impressive array of topics, ranging from pure clinical findings to those that had more of a sociological bent.

Included in the mix were presentations by several faculty academics, some of whom have achieved national acclaim for their work. This was on top of the discussions held by seven student presenters including some who are making their way through the BSc (Dent) programme.

In addition to sharing the results of their efforts, Dr. Bhullar said the day also offers student presenters the opportunity to hone their skills and develop more confidence in sharing their work with others outside of the institution.

“In this good for the students to present before their peers and to get a feel for sharing their work with others,” Dr. Bhullar said. “Many of them will go on to speak at other events, so this experience should certainly help them become more comfortable speaking before a group.”

In another new wrinkle, a competition for best presentation and poster was also added to the event, adjudicated by faculty academics and volunteer practitioners from the alumni community. Saba Naghipur (pictured above, right) was selected as best presenter for this presentation: Clinical outcomes following open versus closed treatment of mandibular condyle fracture: our experience in Manitoba. The topic also captured the attention of the oral media with at least one publication expected to feature it in a future edition.

The poster competition was also very competitive as adjudicators had to review and discuss the works of more than 20 student scientists in two divisions: best basic science and best clinical. The Research Day organizing committee wish to acknowledge and thank alumni members Drs. Jonathan Archer, Patricia Ling and Patricia Kmet along with Faculty academic Dr. Kangmin Duan for their volunteer efforts in the poster competition. Thanks go out as well to alumnus Dr. Robert Schroth and Dr. Rodrigo França who assisted during the oral presentations.

A number of the judges noted the impressive body of work assembled and thanked the students for appearing and discussing their research. The Dean of Dentistry said the high quality of research on display reflects well on the authors and bodes well for the profession in general.

“The student and faculty researchers that we have are the people who are taking the profession into the future,” Dr. Anthony Iacopino said in his remarks to those assembled. “So it’s very important that we not only recognize that but that we actually take the knowledge that they are generating to help find practical applications for patient care.”

Like most experiments, the day featured a few outcomes that were not anticipated, including a fairly modest turnout of attendees; but it was not enough to dampen the enthusiasm of the presenters and organizers, and it appears that a repeat performance is all but assured in 2014.

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**Best of the Bunch:**

The following presentations were the winning entries in the first competitions held during Research Day 2013.

**Oral presentation:**


**Basic Science (Tie):**


A Career of Change and Contribution
LONG-TIME FACULTY MEMBER CALLS IT A CAREER

In 1973, shortly after graduation from the University of Kentucky’s Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene ‘expanded functions’ program, Mickey Wener arrived in Manitoba with three of her classmates to work in the north with Medical Services as what would become known in Canada as a dental therapist. Following a one-year stint in a US dental school’s Training in Expanded Auxiliary Management (TEAM) program in the mid-70s, she returned to Medical Services and then settled in as a restorative dental hygienist in Winnipeg.

Mickey (pictured above, right) soon found her professional niche in 1978 as an academic at the University of Manitoba’s School of Dental Hygiene, where over the years she has taught throughout the curriculum. In 1986, with her master’s degree in Adult and Post-Secondary Education under her belt, she served as the educational program planner with the Faculty’s newly established Division of Continuing Dental Education. After adding adult ESL teacher to her resume, she returned in 1993 to the School of Dental Hygiene to coordinate courses in communication and community health. In the late 90’s, Mickey coordinated the production of Faculty-wide marketing materials and helped develop the Community Code that supported respectful relationships within the Faculty.

Opportunity knocked at the door with the creation of the Health Promotion Unit (HPU) of the Faculty’s Centre for Community Oral Health in 2000. As part of the HPU dental hygiene team, Mickey established health promotion programs for sites such as Churchill, Deer Lodge Health Centre, and the Manitoba Developmental Centre. Combining teaching with her HPU practice enabled Mickey to integrate authentic community outreach experiences into her classes and students’ externships. With a focus on the homeless, she launched Soup Up Your Smile (2002-2008), an oral health promotion outreach event at Winnipeg soup kitchens. This health event helped build awareness of the oral health issues faced by vulnerable populations and contributed to the establishment of Siloam Mission’s on-site health and dental clinic.

With a goal to increase the public’s access to oral health care, Mickey spearheaded the Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association’s legislative effort that led to passage of The Dental Hygienists Act (2005) and Regulations (2009). She served as the first Council Chair of the newly established regulatory body, the College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba (CDHM).

The last decade of Mickey’s career at the Faculty expanded to include teaching communication skills to dental students. To integrate these skills into the clinical experience, she was instrumental in the development of the Patient and Student Clinical Communication Assessment Instruments for dental and dental hygiene students.

The Importance of Oral Health
STUDENTS TAKE MESSAGE TO PRIMARY SCHOOL CLASSROOMS

Members of the University of Manitoba Dentistry Community Group (UM-DCG) recently visited Wellington Elementary School to deliver a series of oral health presentations to students in grades K-6.

The presentations were aimed at stressing the importance of oral health and helping students understand how the choices they make, including the foods they eat and their oral hygiene routines, could impact their oral health.

About 10 dental and dental hygiene students from the Faculty of Dentistry helped in delivering the seven presentations given to each grade. The group was also able to obtain donations of toothbrushes for the nearly 500 students at the school thanks to generous donations by Sunstar and Healthy Smile, Happy Child.

The UM-DCG was created by Shelley Halchuk (inset top) and Saba Naghipur (bottom), each of the Class of 2014, as a venue for dental students and dental hygiene students to organize and participate in volunteer activities related to dentistry.

This was the group’s first project and they have already begun planning upcoming projects to benefit the community.

Soaping Up Smiles: For several years, the Soup Up Your Smile event was one of the most successful outreach projects undertaken at the School of Dental Hygiene. It was one of many projects undertaken by Prof. Mickey Wener (front row, centre) during her time at the University of Manitoba.
Ortho Author

ALUMNUS JOINS LITERARY RANKS WITH RELEASE OF FIRST PUBLISHED WORK

Dr. Milos Lekic and his spouse Erin enjoy a successful launch of his new book, The Bridge Between, this past January. The work is now on sale at McNally Robinson.

Call it another example of finding creativity where you might least expect it. Dr. Milos Lekic has added his name to the list of creative oral health clinicians with the release of his first novel: The Bridge Between.

Officially released at a launch held in January at McNally Robinson Booksellers in Grant Park, the completion of the book marked the end of both a creative journey and a personal exercise in self-discovery for the two-time graduate of the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Manitoba.

“It was a long time coming,” Dr. Lekic said. “The book is me trying to understand where I come from and answer the other types of questions: what are the bridges in our lives, how do we cross the bridges in our lives.”

Set in the city of Mostar in the former Yugoslavia, The Bridge Between is a love story told against the backdrop of the civil war that decimated the region in the 1990’s. It revolves around the story’s main characters, a Christian boy and a Muslim girl, who live on opposite sides of the city that are connected by the Mostar Bridge.

A historical landmark dating back to the 1500’s, the renowned and historic structure would be destroyed as a casualty of the conflict.

It is a region very familiar to the new author as he was born and raised in Belgrade, Serbia, located about 500 km from Mostar. While Dr. Lekic described the work as an exercise in coming to terms with the two sides of his life - the one in Europe and the one in Canada - he added that the central theme is the loss of innocence suffered by so many affected by the conflict.

“This is really who the book is dedicated to: all of those whose destinies changed and dreams faded,” he said, “to those generations of kids who had a beautiful happy carefree childhood; who grew up innocent and then were hit with that. So we were all forced to grow up quickly.”

As time passed, the war spread with increasing severity. In 1993 the Lekic family immigrated to Canada to re-start their collective and individual lives.

The young Dr. Lekic would follow in the footsteps of his parents, Charles and Zivka, and pursue a career in oral health and is now a practicing orthodontist in the city.

Leaving the troubled region, he said, was the right thing to do as the war would soon cut a swath into Belgrade among many other cities, towns and villages.

“My professional life has afforded me the luxury and the privilege of being able to come up with this, so that I could have the time and the means to actually sit and ponder about the things that I wrote about in the book,” he said. “The bridge itself is a metaphor; it is something that spans the river, connects the two halves of the city and connects people who are the same but are divided by different religions, but with similar languages and similar backgrounds. It is also a metaphor for other bridges in our lives; bridge to love; bridge to faith.”

The release of the work officially makes Dr. Lekic the third author to come from the Faculty in recent years, joining Dr. Dan Green and the late Dr. Hester Rumberg who also published in recent years.

The title is also enjoying a nice run in the bookstore these days as it is listed on the Winnipeg Best Sellers list at McNally’s for three straight weeks since its release.

The Bridge Between is available as a paperback or in e-book form through the McNally Robinson bookstore website.

Alumnus Leads Charge for Change
(from page 11)

“He has since followed that with many published works and speaking engagements focusing on the major and growing issues of Canadian oral health care policy.

The time has come, he says, for a change in the way oral health care is seen by society in general and the profession in particular.

“If we concentrate on the historical things that we do, I think we are really missing the boat,” he said. “Our policy approach for the last 100 years has been to treat low income kids and to provide health education for the rest of the population. We have reached the limit of that. What about working poor adults? What about the long-term care sector? What about retirees, or middle income families that no longer have access to dental care benefits?”

Despite the challenges ahead, Dr. Quiñonez said he has been encouraged by the response he has received thus far.

He notes that historically, practitioners have always responded well to the challenges before the profession and he is confident they will do so again.

Appearing back at the Faculty to discuss new ideas, he says, was also a most enjoyable experience.

“It’s always a happy time to come back home, to visit my alma mater, to visit old friends, colleagues and mentors and to be given the opportunity to speak to people in the faculty and outside of the faculty,” he said. “It’s just a great opportunity and something I will always love to do.”
In Memory of Dr. Sni

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FORMER SENIOR SCHOLAR WITH NEW STUDENT CLINICIAN LAB

Dr. Taras Snihurowycz left an indelible mark on the Faculty of Dentistry. After almost forty years of teaching, his memory will live on with dentistry students by way of a memorial fund in his name. The money generated will be used for extensive renovations to create the Dr. Taras Snihurowycz Student Clinician Lab.

The late Dr. Taras Snihurowycz with former university president Dr. Emőke Szathmáry unveils a work of art, one of his many talents displayed through his long and varied career.

While things here might be in the midst of a cold snap, it is not slowing down the pace at the Faculty of Dentistry! With multiple campaigns ongoing and plans for 2013 reunions in full swing, there is a buzz of activity in the air.

The campaign to honour Dr. Taras Snihurowycz began shortly before the holidays and is well on the way to reaching the goal of $93,000. At the time of printing, $80,000 has already been raised. This is very exciting for the upgrades that are being planned for the student clinician lab. The Sam Borden Campaign is ongoing and details for the clinic renovations are being finalized.

The Dean and I will be at the Pacific Dental Conference in March. The Annual Alumni reception at the conference will also be held and proves every year to be a great venue to re-connect with classmates and see the new members of the alumni family.

There are a few reunions being planned throughout this year which is always exciting. We look forward to seeing photos and invite any reunion groups to come back to the faculty for a visit.

The year 2013 also marks the 50th Anniversary of the School of Dental Hygiene. Plans are being made to celebrate this milestone. Be sure to watch The Bulletin for updates of these activities as they become available.

As always, if you are interested in having the Dean visit your office please let me know. We are planning to be in the Toronto area in early May. I can be reached at Kyla.Denisuik@ad.umanitoba.ca or by phone at 204-789-3537.

“He was a brilliant and eccentric man. He was an icon in the school and he taught us all an incredible amount about dentistry and about life,” says Dr. Pat Kmet (Class of 1987), who is chairing the campaign. “He did most of his magic in the lab, and that’s why this is a fitting tribute.”

The current student clinician lab is essentially the original that Dr. Sni himself studied in to graduate in 1962. While fourth-year students perform their entire required lab, model, and restoration work in the space, it is outdated and in need of an overhaul to provide leading-edge facilities.

The new clinician lab is expected to be ready for September 2013 and will accommodate about 40 students. It will offer contemporary electronic technologies, such as an Omnicam, a Premium XL microscope, and an LCD microscope with video feed for teaching purposes.

“Giving our students the chance to study and learn with these gadgets allows for seamless integration into practice once they graduate. It’s a benefit for our students, our school and the industry,” says Dean Anthony Iacopino.

To further the offerings of the lab, the faculty will pitch in to provide funds for a technician, which will create more collaboration and guidance for students.

Dr. Sni retired from full-time teaching in 1993. Among his many accomplishments was his wax-added technique in restorations, which has become the norm in teaching. He also was the first to incorporate the use of a stereostopic microscope in lab work.

“It seems obvious to us now, but at the time, microscopes were only used to look at slides,” says Dean Iacopino. “He was the first to take the base off, hold it at a different angle, and use the microscope to see fine detail in his work.”

Dr. Sni was a life member of the Manitoba Dental Association and a charter member of the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association. He was recognized for his contributions as the inaugural recipient of the Alumni of Distinction Award in 1998.

“I think he’d be thrilled about this fund; that students will have top-notch guidance and equipment. He put his heart and soul into the school, and this was his home,” says Dr. Kmet.

The goal for Dr. Sni’s memorial fund is a fitting $93,000, as he passed away almost two years ago at the age of 93. So far the campaign has raised $80,000. Surplus funds will be reserved for future upgrades.

To contribute to the Dr. Taras Snihurowycz Student Clinician Lab Renovation please contact Kyla at Kyla.Denisuik@ad.umanitoba.ca or at 204-789-3537.
Alumni Settle Hockey Score
(from page 13)

The alumni tied the shoot out, thanks to a nice bit of work by Stephan ‘TNT’ Kosowski (2012), and went ahead with another timely goal: ‘Mad Dog’ Maddaford slipped a shot through the student goalie five-hole to bring it all down to the last student shot.

Newly renamed ‘Stonewall’ Conrad shut the door on the students to seal the win and receive the ecstatically joyous congratulations of the relieved alumni team.

The veteran alumni team was missing a few regulars like Herb ‘ageless wonder’ Howorth (1980), Tony ‘freight train’ Krawat (1994), and Andrew ‘lower body injury, but still bronze Adonis’ Chuchman (1985). This may have led to a younger average age for the alumni but the veterans’ leadership was still sorely missed. Despite (or perhaps because of) these missing veterans, the remaining alumni had to shine that much brighter, especially Kris ‘shot blocking wonder’ Coulter (2009).

Solid play was demonstrated throughout the alumni lines that included: Lee ‘plate this’ Darichuk (2009 OMFS), Gurpal ‘no one is’ Buttar (DMD 2007, perio 2013), Jordan ‘working hard with little result’ Pang (2011), Jon ‘the impaler’ Archer (2008), Jared ‘straight or bussed’ Rykiss (DMD 2008, ortho 2011), Mark ‘deceptively speedy’ Mollot (1997) and Kurt ‘the Lockport sharpshooter’ Scherle (DMD 2009,OMFS 2014).

The alumni will be gaining and the students losing some veteran players in Brett Luskoski and ‘Gentle’ Ben Rogala to hopeful graduation. As always, our alumni pool grows larger, but often greyer. It always remains a delicate balance.

A particularly joyous gathering was held afterwards with the appropriate alumni happiness and student calls for a change to a best of five format. But, as the saying goes: that boat has sailed! And so, the students will have to look forward to next year for their revenge.

A third game is being planned to round out the season with sides decided by either a player draft or an “every-stick-in-the-middle” style shinny format anticipated. Every effort will be made to ensure that alumni veterans are included, depending on their responsibilities in making the world safer for teeth of all kinds, and their ability to respond to simple emails.

The presence of the alumni association’s VISA swiper in the dressing room also ensured that yearly alumni dues for the team were up to date. Fun and camaraderie doesn’t just run on thanks alone!

Due to the good draft classes the dental school has been able to assemble it is becoming clear that by necessity the alumni will have to continue to get younger and faster. This will be a topic of serious discussion for the alumni management board during the off season.

Further news and reports will be brought by your loyal reporter as developments occur. Either way, there will be a renewal of this, much-anticipated and always great rivalry, in September.

Calling it a Career (from page 24)

Mickey’s career of student-centred teaching and public-focused service, including over 100 presentations to colleagues, the community, and other health professionals has been recognized with teaching awards from students, grants to support outreach projects, the Dental Hygiene Educators Canada Award for Teaching Excellence (2006) and the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association Distinguished Service Award (2009).

Although retired from our Faculty, Mickey continues to be professionally active with the CDHM and efforts to promote oral health in long-term care. She is enjoying home, cottage and travel time with her husband Jim, along with Sarah and Aaron, her daughter and son-in-law who live in Winnipeg.

“Looking back, I thought I would be in Canada for a year, and here I am almost 40 years later,” Mickey says. “I’m very glad I stayed as the University, Winnipeg, Manitoba and Canada have provided me with a rich professional and family life and lifelong friends that I certainly couldn’t have imagined as I crossed the border in 1973. Thank you all for the opportunities, the memories, and an incredibly rich and satisfying career.”
Invited Presentations:


Finkleman, Gary: Hard and soft tissue grafting techniques. Manitoba Dental Association conference; Winnipeg, Canada; January 2013.

Fogel, Howard: How to avoid endodontic disasters. Manitoba Dental Association conference; Winnipeg, Canada; January 2013.


McFarlane, Bruce: The Carriere Distalizer ®: Class II to Class I in a straight line. Manitoba Dental Association conference; Winnipeg, Canada; January, 2013.

McFarlane, Bruce: When clear aligners aren’t enough: What other aesthetic options are available? (one day course), February 22, Halifax, NS; February 23, Toronto, ON; March 1, Calgary AB, March 2, Vancouver, BC; March 3, Saskatoon, SK.


Odiatu, Uche: Keep your edge at any age: Inspire your team and your patients. Manitoba Dental Association conference; Winnipeg, Canada; January 2013.

Odiatu, Uche: Take this stress and love it: Create balance in your day! Manitoba Dental Association conference; Winnipeg, Canada; January, 2013.


Invited Presentations: Students, Faculty of Dentistry


Poster Presentations: Students, Faculty of Dentistry

Bubnowicz L, Gong V, França R: Physiochemical surface characterization of dental enamel: Nano-level effect of fluoridation with topical gel agents. (continued on next page)


Dental Practice Opportunity
Highland Park Professional Centre, East St. Paul

Excellent opportunity to locate your dental practice in an attractive and rapidly growing, new professional complex.

Phase 1 and 2 fully Leased with:
- Family Practice/Walk-in Clinic with 9 Physicians
- Rheumatoid and Skin Specialist
- Medical Lab
- X-ray Clinic and baby Ultra Sound
- Pharmacy
- Law Office
- Physiotherapy Clinic
- Real Estate Office

Situated approximately 1 mile North of the Perimeter on busy Henderson Highway, in the municipality of East St Paul. This new, highly visible and high calibre project is central to several prominent neighbourhoods such as Pritchard Farm Properties, Southlands, Highland Park and the town of Birds Hill, as well as ideally located to service the Kildonans and the rural areas of Lockport/St. Clements.

Phase 3 Now Leasing

Greg Michie
The Greg Michie Team
204-336-2800
gmichie@gregmichie.com
In Memoriam —
DIANNE GALLAGHER
May 11, 1945 — January 12, 2013

Dianne passed away peacefully at the Victoria Hospice in the early hours of Jan 12. Born May 11, 1945 and raised in Manitoba, Dianne was an independent prairie girl who loved figure skating and rescuing kittens.

In 1962 Dianne married Jim Dyer with whom she had two daughters: Leanne and Leslie. Raising her family on her own, Dianne received an undergraduate degree from the University of Brandon and a diploma in Dental Hygiene from the University of Manitoba.

In 1975 she moved to Regina where she coordinated the Dental Assisting Program at Wascana Institute (SIAST) and completed a graduate degree in Educational Administration.

While living in Regina she also began what would be a life time passionate interest in ball room dance.

Dianne moved to Victoria, British Columbia in 1989 to establish the Dental Hygiene Program at Camosun College. A devoted teacher and colleague, Dianne also served on the boards of both the CDHA (Canadian Dental Hygienists Association) and BCDHA (British Columbia Dental Hygienists' Association) for many years. Dianne’s commitment and dedication to teaching, to learning, to her students and to the development of her profession was an inspiration to everyone who knew her.

Dianne also leaves behind many students and friends within the vibrant Victoria ballroom dance community where she taught from 1995-2012. Dianne will be greatly missed by her loving daughters Leanne (John), Leslie (Conrad) and her grand children Alex (Anna), Maerin, Annie, Raine and Wolfgang.

Beloved sister to Jim (Janis), Auntie Dianne will also be sadly missed by Wesley, Richard, Lindsay and their families.

Leanne and Leslie would like to acknowledge Dianne’s lifelong friendships with Irene and Susan with whom she shared many good belly laughs.

The entire family would also like to extend their gratitude to the many friends who supported Dianne throughout her illness.

In particular, Dianne’s close friends Peter and Marnie were tireless in their devotion to her care, enabling her to stay at home as long as possible. Dianne’s determination, spirit and will to live was always remarkable.

She truly believed that everyone can learn how to dance (and floss)!

If people would like to donate to the Dianne Gallagher Fund, they can donate:

1. By mail: Attn: Camosun College Foundation, 4461 Interurban Road, Victoria, BC, V9E 2C1

Make the cheque out to Camosun College Foundation (specify the Dianne Gallagher Fund in the memo section).

2. In person: Drop by room 323, Campus Centre building, Interurban Campus Monday to Friday, 8:30am–4:30pm.

3. By phone: Call Dana Henly at the Foundation at (250) 370-4233 to pay by credit card.

4. Online: Go to the Camosun College Foundation’s secure online donation form.

President’s Message (from page 18)

We look forward to working together to offer alumni opportunities for input into the future development and progression of the dental hygiene profession.

UMSDHAA membership is open to alumni of the School of Dental Hygiene as well as affiliate members of the dental hygiene profession who have graduated from another program as well as supporting members who are not dental hygienists, but wish to provide our association with their support.

And lastly, but most importantly, are the student members who form the backbone of our association with their passion and creativity. Membership costs are $20 and $10 for students. With your membership we are able to contact you via email blasts and other communications about upcoming events at the SDH.

Several important dates are coming up including the Alumni of Distinction Award nominations that are due April 13. The winner will be announced in the next issue of the Alumni Bulletin.

Also, on April 13, we will be presenting our Professional Development Course featuring Dr. Iacopino and Prof. Salme Lavigne: The future oral health issues facing baby boomers. This event is only $35 for UMSDHAA members, $15 for student members and includes lunch. For registration forms and membership information contact: cindy.isaak-ploegman@ad.umanitoba.ca

Join us for an evening of fun at the UMSDHAA AGM on Thursday May 2, plus there is the Alumni of Distinction Gala on September 20, 2013. Plan to attend this formal event to celebrate our newest Alumni of Distinction.

Golden anniversary: Did you know that 2013 marks the 50th anniversary year of the School of Dental Hygiene at the University of Manitoba?

To celebrate, plans are also underway for a number of events to celebrate this golden anniversary and marvelous milestone. These events will prove to be a look into the history of the SDH, the formation of our new College, and developments in the Dental Hygiene profession. It will be a great opportunity to catch up with old friends, instructors, current students, and make new friends. It isn’t a proper celebration without you so please plan to come and join us and bring along your colleagues!

Watch for more communication and information through this publication and your email box.
Voice Your Choice!
Nominations Now Open
for the 2013
Alumni of Distinction Award

The University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association is now pleased to be accepting nominations for the 2013 Alumni of Distinction award. Nominations may be submitted online automatically, via your computer! Simply visit the Faculty of Dentistry website @: umanitoba.ca/faculties/dentistry

Nomination forms can also be printed and sent by fax: 204.789.3912 or via Canada Post to:
2013 Alumni of Distinction
c/o The University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association
D-113, 780 Bannatyne Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3E 0W2
— Please include CV of nominee if possible.

Deadline for nominations: April 30, 2013