“Even if you’re on the right track, you’ll get run over if you just sit there.”

That quotation from humorist Will Rogers aptly describes what it’s like to run a dental college.

It’s not enough for us to point ourselves in the direction of progress. We must continually drive forward to stay on the leading edge of innovation and improvement.

To avoid being “run over,” the U of M College of Dentistry must stay competitive with other dental schools and equip our graduates with the knowledge and experience to provide state-of-the-art oral care.

I am delighted to announce that the generous support of an alumnus has enabled us to take another trailblazing step this fall. Bobby Goldberg [B.Sc./83, DMD/87] and his wife Beth Goldberg [M.Ed./94] decided to celebrate two family milestones in 2017 by making a monetary gift to the college.

The two occasions were the 30th anniversary of Dr. Goldberg’s graduation from our dental school in 1987 and the recent graduation of the couple’s son, Zachary Goldberg [DMD/17], who has joined his father in practice at Windsor Park Dental.

The Goldbergs’ forward-looking donation has made it possible for the college to lease a chairside and laboratory CEREC system. This will make a significant impact by greatly increasing our students’ exposure to digital dentistry.

Acquiring this tool makes us a leader in digital dentistry education – one of the few dental schools in Canada equipped with two brands of CAD/CAM (computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing) technology.

With CAD/CAM, an intraoral camera wand eliminates the need to take a traditional impression. Once an “optical impression” is captured, the system’s 3D imaging software helps the dentist design a restoration on a computer screen within minutes.

Then an on-site milling machine fabricates a metal-free ceramic restoration in less than 20 minutes, ready for refining and placement in the patient’s mouth. Generally, the entire restoration is completed in a single appointment.

For about three years, the college has had a Planmeca CAD/CAM system that has been used by third- and fourth-year students to fabricate single-tooth restorations.

The new CEREC system greatly expands our capabilities. All students will learn digital techniques, not only for single-tooth restorations such as crowns, inlays and onlays, but for designing and fabricating prosthodontic devices such as bridges, night guards, removable dentures and surgical guides for implants.

We have introduced an undergraduate digital curriculum developed by the American College of Prosthodontists. Bobby Goldberg will be one of several new part-time instructors who will share their CEREC expertise with students.

I am also proud to announce a new three-year Master of Science degree program in prosthodontics, to be launched in August 2018 under the directorship of Igor Pesun [DMD/87], associate professor and division head of prosthodontics. The U of M will be one of only three universities in Canada to offer a graduate prosthodontics degree.

Dentists in the community will also benefit from our new CAD/CAM technology through our continuing professional development (CPD) program. Join us on Jan. 12 and 13, 2018, when Dr. Pesun and Anthony Nowakowski [B.Sc./80, DMD/84], assistant professor of restorative dentistry, will lead a CPD master class called Crown in a Day. It will cover digitized intraoral scanning, computer-aided design and in-office milling, with opportunities to compare the Planmeca, CEREC and other systems.

Having embarked on my final academic year as dean of the college – I’ll be staying on as a professor, have no fear – I’ve been thinking a great deal about institutional progress.

I am immensely grateful to alumni who support their alma mater by generously funding innovation. As long as the college has such champions, we’ll stay in the educational fast lane and propel our students onward to greater achievement.
Welcome to our penultimate issue of the Dentistry Bulletin. It has been a pleasure for College of Dentistry Dean Anthony Iacopino and School of Dental Hygiene Director Mary Bertone [Dip. D.Hyg./05, B.Sc.D.Hyg./11, MPH/15] to engage with University of Manitoba dentistry and dental hygiene alumni and friends over the last many years. We’ll pay homage to Dean Iacopino’s legacy in next summer’s final issue of the Dentistry Bulletin as he concludes his 11-year tenure as dean.

Celebrating the achievements of the College, our faculty members, students and alumni has been inspiring! And we will continue to connect with you on an even more regular basis, on various platforms.

Some of you already receive our monthly Rady Faculty of Health Sciences alumni e-newsletter. As well, we are now publishing an annual RadyUM magazine, in both hard-copy and online formats, showcasing all five colleges of the Rady Faculty. In each issue, we’ll update you on notable news, profile fascinating alumni and researchers, and highlight college and faculty-wide initiatives. Check out RadyUM at news.radyfhs.umanitoba.ca. You can also stay in touch by following us on Instagram and Twitter: @UM_RadyFHS.

As you know, the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences united the Colleges of Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, Rehabilitation Sciences and the Max Rady College of Medicine, reflecting multi-disciplinary models of care.

However, you may not realize the significance of this new landscape. The Rady Faculty of Health Sciences has 3,500 students (including over 300 graduate students and more than 500 residents) and more than 1,100 faculty members (as well as 1,300 nil-salaried academic physicians).

The Rady Faculty accounts for about 25 per cent of the overall U of M budget and has reached over $100 million in research funding held.

To help prepare our learners for team-based, collaborative delivery of care, first-year students from across all five colleges are now organized into multi-disciplinary groups of seven. Students remain in these small interprofessional cohorts for two years and participate in activities, learning and reflection on interprofessional collaboration (IPC).

Community engagement plays a key role in the IPC initiative. For dentistry and dental hygiene students, this will only enhance the outreach experience they obtain through programs such as Open Wide, Smiles for Miles, the Variety Children’s Dental Outreach Program and the Rady Faculty’s Biomedical Youth Program camp (see page 16).

I encourage you to send us story ideas. Through our many communication channels, we want to share news of accomplished alumni, award winners, trailblazers and trend-setters. As previously mentioned, we want to stay connected with you through our monthly alumni e-newsletter. Please update your email records (see back cover) so we can continue this conversation.

Ilana Simon
Ilana.Simon@umanitoba.ca

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“Tell me and I’ll forget, show me and I may remember, involve me and I will learn.”

This quotation, believed to originate in a Chinese proverb but often attributed to Benjamin Franklin, has been a motto at the School of Dental Hygiene since my student days. The sentiment of learning from hands-on involvement was truly on display when two recent graduates came to see me, representing the entire Class of 2017.

The members of this class were hard-working fundraisers, and after two years of intensive activities, they were left with a surplus. Rather than spending the money on something for themselves, they decided to selflessly donate it back to the school, and specifically to the Smiles for Miles program.

Smiles for Miles was established to address two key needs. It provides dental hygiene care to newcomers to Canada who are unable to obtain or pay for these services, and it increases students’ clinical experience with clients whose care poses a particular level of difficulty.

The program is funded by donations from the practising dental hygiene community, faculty and staff, industry, and through various creative fundraising efforts.

Smiles for Miles is in just its second year. The Class of 2017 valued the learning experience so much that they were prepared to pay it forward to future students so they, too, could provide valuable care to our newcomers and grow from the experience.

We teach and preach social responsibility to our students, but to see such a wonderful example of it is truly gratifying. Thank you and congratulations, Class of 2017. You are great ambassadors for our school and our profession.

The Smiles for Miles program is an example of the synergies you can create when you think beyond your own needs. When you walk down a path of service and social responsibility, sometimes you find yourself getting back more than you gave.

H. Jackson Brown Jr. once said that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more. “Giving more” perfectly describes this year’s focus for the Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association/School of Dental Hygiene mentorship program.

This well-established program supports the transition of students into the profession by partnering the students (mentees) with practising dental hygienists (mentors). In the past, the program has organized events and activities that focused on fostering the relationship between mentor and mentee. This year, the program will continue to build lifelong professional contacts, but through community service.

Service is an investment, helping to strengthen the community and those who live in it. By creating service opportunities and encouraging giving back within the mentorship program, we expect to see the mentors and mentees receiving much in return: knowledge, personal growth, teamwork skills, compassion, understanding, physical and mental health rewards and the opportunity to make a difference in people’s lives.

Mentors and mentees will be learning about, with, and from one another and the community we live in through service. Thank you to the mentorship committee and the volunteer mentors for their dedication to “giving more.”

I am grateful that ours is a community that takes care of each other, of our profession, and the public that it serves. This is wonderfully illustrated by this year’s recipient of the School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association’s Alumni of Distinction Award, Carol Yakiwchuk [Dip.D.Hyg./92, B.Sc.D.Hyg./10].

Carol, a member of the Class of 1992, was the School of Dental Hygiene’s first-ever graduate from the degree completion program in 2010. She exemplifies all the best qualities we strive to instil. On behalf of myself and my colleagues at the school, congratulations, Carol!
Dr. Doug Brothwell has gone runnin’ back to Saskatoon.

After 18 years as a professor, head of the division of community dentistry, and most recently associate dean (academic) of the U of M College of Dentistry, the energetic administrator has returned to his home province.

Brothwell, 57, has been appointed dean of the College of Dentistry at the University of Saskatchewan, the school where he earned his dental degree in 1984 after growing up in Melfort, Sask.

“It’s a homecoming,” he said. “I know the school, I know the people, I know the challenges. I’m looking forward to setting the approach and having others work with me in bringing change.”

Brothwell, a lifelong learner, holds a bachelor’s degree in education, a master’s in dental public health and a certificate in quality management.

In his seven years as associate dean at U of M, he said, he applied quality-management principles to driving aggressive change. “My approach has been one of finding solutions,” he said, cheerfully adding, “You don’t do it for the popularity.”

He led major initiatives such as revising the credit-hour system, overhauling the teaching of dental practice management, establishing policies on matters such as attendance and conflict of interest, introducing a peer tutor program and lengthening the academic year.

Dr. Anthony Iacopino, dean of dentistry, said Brothwell worked tirelessly on “enhancing the student experience, improving the workplace and modernizing the curriculum and calendar.”

We dropped by Brothwell’s office before his departure and asked him to reflect on his U of M tenure.

Q: What do you consider your key accomplishment as associate dean?

I’m most proud of improving the relationship between the dental school and the students. When I took over this job, a lot of students felt their voices were not always heard. We’ve established ways for them to raise concerns and ideas, and feel respected and listened to.

Q: Tell us about one of your initiatives that improved the student experience.

We used to require students to screen patients for the college clinics. It took far too much time, they didn’t necessarily accept appropriate patients, and it made diagnosis and treatment planning disjointed. Now faculty members conduct the screening. It has improved the diagnostic and treatment-planning ability of our grads.

Q: What is one of the challenges that all Canadian dental schools are facing?

Students today come in with the mentality that dentistry is primarily a business. They’ve seen all this advertising by dentists. We have to teach them about their responsibility as health-care professionals to help people and be of service. Having said that, the U of M has a high rate of participation in humanitarian dentistry, so we are transmitting those caring values.

Q: One of your foremost research interests has been in helping patients to quit smoking. Is there a personal angle to that?

Yes. My personal journey to give up smoking was a struggle. I finally quit for good when I was 32. It’s become a bit of a life passion for me to help others get rid of the curse of smoking more easily than I did.

Q: You seem driven and action-oriented. Do you have trouble relaxing?

There was a time when work followed me around constantly. I would get up in the middle of the night to write down ideas. But I’ve found good ways to separate professional life and home life. I have hobbies. I’m a woodworker, and I’ve taken up making knives, inspired by the TV show Forged in Fire.

Q: Speaking of forged in fire, did some of the initiatives you attempted at the College of Dentistry meet with a firestorm of opposition?

Oh, yeah! I tried to expand our school year and clinical operations from eight months to almost year-round. There was resistance from everybody. With our quality-management approach, we used the feedback and came up with a compromise: an extended academic year that starts in August and goes to mid-May.

Q: What are your priorities at the University of Saskatchewan?

I have a vision to make Saskatchewan a centre of excellence for treating dental patients with special needs. But the school might decide to go in a different direction. It will be a process of listening, and then leading the change.
The Dr. Sam Borden Graduate Periodontology Clinic in the College of Dentistry has been transformed into a state-of-the-art facility, thanks to a $750,000 renovation and equipment upgrade.

Residents in the three-year graduate periodontics program now have access to leading-edge tools and technologies for procedures such as bone grafting, gum surgery and implants. Patients are receiving more comfortable and efficient treatment.

The grand reopening of the third-floor teaching and treatment space, held in June, was a particularly special occasion because the 94-year-old Borden was in attendance.

“It was very emotional,” recalled Anastasia Kelekis-Cholakis [DMD/92, Dip. Perio/98], associate professor of dental diagnostic and surgical sciences and director of the graduate periodontics program.

“It was wonderful that Dr. Borden was able to come and see this. He said the difference in the clinic was amazing.”

Borden is fondly remembered by many alumni as an influential professor, and later professor emeritus. The Winnipeg-born dentist earned his DDS at the University of Toronto in 1944, in the era before the U of M had a dental school. He completed post-graduate training in periodontics in Chicago.

He served on the U of M dentistry faculty from the mid-1960s to the late 1980s in positions such as head of periodontology, associate dean of academic affairs and acting dean. He was instrumental in starting the graduate program in periodontology that Kelekis-Cholakis now leads.

Borden also held many elected positions, such as president of the Canadian Academy of Periodontology. A portrait of him is displayed in the clinic that bears his name.

“I am truly honoured and thrilled by this evening’s dedication of the refurbished Graduate Periodontology Clinic,” Borden said at the celebration. “I have been fortunate to receive a number of honours, but this dedication tonight exceeds them all.”

Borden retired in 1989, soon after Kelekis-Cholakis arrived as a dental student in 1988. But she knew him as a friend and mentor who encouraged her to become a periodontist.

“He is very well respected,” she said. “He has contributed a lot to the school and to the periodontal community at large.”

The clinic was named after Borden in 2013, when the first phase of the renovation – upgrading the administration area – was completed.

Ernest Cholakis [DMD/82] and Frank Hechter [DMD/71], former students of Borden, co-chaired a fundraising campaign in his honour that generated $108,000 in donations, helping to make the recent transformation possible.

The remainder of the $750,000 cost was covered by the College of Dentistry operating budget, which includes revenue generated by the Borden Clinic.

The enlarged clinic, which accepts patient referrals from the main university clinic and from dentists in the community, features six gleaming new dental operatories.

“We used to have only one chair for doing radiographs,” Kelekis-Cholakis said. “Now we can X-ray at every chair. We’re equipped for microsurgery. We have better facilities to do IV conscious sedation. We’re getting a state-of-the-art laser to treat aspects of gum infection.”

Two operatories still await upgrading when funds are available. A former lunchroom has been repurposed to create computer stations with updated hardware and software for the six residents (two in each year of the three-year program). A flat-screen TV will allow residents to view videotaped dental surgeries.

All the residents conduct clinical research on topics such as the relationship between periodontal disease and Vitamin D.

“This transformation of the space and the equipment has brought the clinic into the digital age and positioned our graduate program to achieve greater excellence in education, research and patient care,” Kelekis-Cholakis said. “It’s a fitting tribute to Dr. Borden – a visionary teacher with a passion for periodontics.”
## Year at a Glance

### FALL 2017

<table>
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<th>Date</th>
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| November 17-19 | Local Anesthetic Techniques for Dental Hygienists  
Diane Girardin and other faculty members of the School of Dental Hygiene  
(Lecture & hands-on) |
| December 2  | Local Anesthetic in the Oral Cavity for Physicians and Physician Assistants  
Dr. Rebecca Schindle, Diane Girardin  
(Lecture & hands-on) |

### WINTER/SPRING 2018

<table>
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<th>Date</th>
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| January 12-13 | Crown In A Day: Digitized Intraoral Scanning, Computer-Aided Design and In-Office Milling In Restorative Dentistry  
Drs. Igor Pesun and Anthony Nowakowski  
(Lecture & hands-on) |
| February 9-10 | Laser Dentistry From A To Z - A Standard Proficiency Certification Course  
Dr. Robert Convissar  
(Lecture & hands-on) |
| March 16-17  | The Un-Holy Trinity of Function: A New Approach to TMJ, Oro-Facial Pain & Functional Occlusion  
Drs. Jeffrey Horowitz, Reynaldo Todescan  
(Lecture & participation) |
| April 13-15  | Cone Beam Radiology Technique and Interpretation Certification  
Drs. Meredith Brownlee, Idris Elbakri, Ingvar Fife  
(Lecture & hands-on) |
| April 20-22  | Local Anesthetic Techniques for Dental Hygienists  
Diane Girardin and other faculty members of the School of Dental Hygiene  
(Lecture & hands-on) |
| May 5        | M*A*S*H Dentistry: Urgent and Acute Dental Care  
Drs. Igor Pesun, Reem Atout, Rene Chu, Trenna Reeve and Colin Reeve  
(Lecture ) |
| May 12       | In Pursuit Of Clinical Excellence: A Special Program for Dental Hygienists 2.0  
Mary Bertone and other faculty members of the School of Dental Hygiene  
(Lecture, group discussions & hands-on) |
| June (dates TBA) | Restorative Techniques For Dental Hygienists  
Kaleigh Warden, Dr. Asmaa Haimeur and other faculty members of the School of Dental Hygiene  
(Lecture & hands-on) |
This year’s top graduate in dentistry, Ryan Howard [B.Sc. (Dent.)/17, DMD/17], didn’t merely earn the University Gold Medal for the highest standing upon graduation, plus the John W. Clay Medal for the highest overall average in the four-year program.

The 26-year-old also won the Canadian Dental Association Student Leadership Award for “outstanding qualities of leadership and character” and five other prizes and awards. He served as class co-president for three years, as well as Senior Stick.

“Ryan, the dean’s position will be open if you’d like to apply,” Dean Anthony Iacopino quipped at the Class of 2017 Graduation Breakfast.

Howard’s next challenge is a general practice residency at Health Sciences Centre, which will allow him to further his interests in oral surgery and treating patients with special needs.

The Kelvin High School grad wasn’t always certain of his career path. While earning a science degree on the Fort Garry campus, “I was trying to decide between medicine and architecture,” he recalls. “Then I played volleyball with a couple of guys who were in dentistry. They convinced me to look into it.

“It’s a medical field, but it’s also very hands-on and precise – that’s what drew me to it. There’s a business side to it as well.”

A highlight of Howard’s student leadership work was organizing the men in the class to grow moustaches each November and pose for a fundraising calendar. The project raised more than $20,000 for the Movember Canada men’s health charity.

Between his third and fourth years of study, Howard arranged his own externships in oral and maxillofacial surgery, including two weeks at Bellevue Hospital in New York City. Assisting there at a clinic for oral cancer patients, he came face-to-face with how devastating the disease can be.

“That really struck me,” he says. “It’s something I hadn’t really seen before. I hadn’t fully realized the scope of how serious these conditions are, and how much people’s lives are affected.”

He views his Health Sciences Centre residency as a chance to refine his skills and evaluate whether oral surgery is the right path for him. “It’s also a great experience for any dentist,” he says. “The hospital deals a lot with dental trauma, for example – having teeth knocked out or jaw fractures, which you don’t get a lot of experience with in dental school.”

His four-year journey has left Howard with no regrets that he didn’t pursue architecture or medicine. “I’ve realized that dentistry can have a huge impact on people’s lives,” he says.

As he told his classmates in his grad speech as Senior Stick, “We have the skills and the knowledge … to make an incredible impact on a person’s feeling of well-being and happiness.”
For Laxmi (Lisha) Mehta, dental hygiene was a rewarding career. But its scope of practice left her wanting more.  

Mehta [Dip. D. Hyg./12, B.Sc. (Dent.)/17, DMD/17] graduated in dental hygiene in 2012. After practising for one year, she opted to return to U of M to become a dentist.  

“I wanted to be able to help my patients on more of a restorative level, not just preventative,” says the Class of 2017 graduate.  

Mehta, 27, is from Kamloops, B.C. She chose the U of M because her older brother, Rick Mehta [B.Sc./96, DMD/01], a dentistry alumnus who practises in Kamloops, recommended the university.  

It’s no longer unusual for hygienists to retrain as dentists, Mehta says, and she received nothing but support for her decision. “All my hygiene instructors were like, ‘We’re proud of you. This is where you’re meant to be.’ People could see that I had the passion for it.”  

Throughout her four years at dental school, Mehta continued to work as a hygienist in the summers. Ken Hamin [DMD/88, B.Sc./90] and Ryan Tsang [B.Sc. (Dent.)/00, DMD/00], dentists at the practice where she worked, encouraged her.  

“They would say, ‘Look at this X-ray. Look what you’re seeing here.’ Each summer, I could apply what I had learned at school.”  

Asked whether she’ll be a dentist who is especially considerate of hygienists, Mehta says respect for all members of the dental team should be a given. “I think it’s always a team atmosphere,” she says.  

Mehta received two prizes upon graduation: the Endowment Fund Award in Dentistry for high academic achievement and leadership in the fourth year, and the Dr. Frances Matiowsky Memorial Award for a senior dentistry student who demonstrates concern for patients, fellow students and the college.  

She also found time to earn her B.Sc. (Dent.) degree, doing a research project that showed how a crunchy diet increased rats’ jawbone density.  

On Convocation Day, she was raring to start work as a general practitioner in Winnipeg, which she now considers home. “I love dentistry,” she said. “I can’t wait to get in there.”  

Jasmine Bonenfant [Dip. D. Hyg./17] says her passion for oral health goes way back. She remembers being a “weird kid” who loved going to the dentist while growing up in Winnipeg’s North End.  

But she also has sad memories of being unable to afford orthodontic braces. Another difficult memory is of her mom losing a tooth because of a lack of financial resources or dental benefits.  

“Not everybody has access to dental care,” she says. “It made me want to do something about it.”  

By the time she finished high school, Bonenfant was qualified to work as a dental assistant, thanks to a vocational program for Grade 11 and 12 students at Tec Voc High School, offered in conjunction with Red River College.  

While working as a dental assistant for six years, she took summer and evening courses to earn the prerequisites for admission to the School of Dental Hygiene.  

Now the outstanding student has graduated at the top of her class, winning the Manitoba Dental Association Gold Medal for the highest average over the course of the program, the Manitoba Dental Association Prize for highest average in the graduating year, and two other prizes.  

As a hygienist, she believes in “letting my client tell me their story, and working in partnership with them to create a plan for their oral health.”  

Bonenfant, 27, says what she especially valued about the U of M hygiene program was its emphasis on community outreach at sites such as Mount Carmel Clinic.  

“It let us go out into the community and experience access-to-care issues,” she says. “The community health experience opened my eyes to a broader scope that I didn’t know existed.”  

Bonenfant served as the student representative on the Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association (MDHA) board. She is now working at a private practice and has been elected a full member of the MDHA board.  

“I hope to support my fellow hygienists and serve the community, especially people who need help to access the care they need,” she says.
CLASS OF 2017

COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY

RADY FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Dana Al Agbar  
Mentor: Dr. Bill Cooke

Andrew Benga  
Mentor: Dr. Brant Toy

Daniel Birchard  
Mentor: Dr. Bill Cooke  
- American Association of Endodontists Award

Angela Chen  
Mentor: Dr. Andrew Stoykewich

Stephanie Cooney  
Mentor: Dr. Elena Ferrer

Gurleen Dhaliwai  
Mentor: Dr. Rose Dhillion

Justin Diamond  
Mentor: Dr. Lanny Jacob

Jordan Dunlop  
Mentor: Dr. Darci Bonar

Amirali Ghodousi  
Mentor: Dr. Rose Dhillion

Rachel Goldberg  
Mentor: Dr. Susan Tsang  
- Graduation with Honours  
- Dean's Honours  
- Academy of General Dentistry Award  
- American Association of Orthodontics Award  
- Golden Scaler Award

Zach Goldberg  
Mentor: Dr. Jared Rykiss

Ryan Howard  
Mentor: Dr. Jared Rykiss  
- University Gold Medal  
- Graduation with Honours  
- Dean's Honours  
- Dr. John W. Clay Medal & Prize  
  (Western Canada Dental Society)  
- Alpha Omega Fraternity Award  
- Canadian Dental Association Student Leadership Award  
- Sophie Kanee Memorial Prize in Dental Jurisprudence  
- Mary Jane Ego Trophy  
  (4th year class nomination)  
- American Association of Oral Biologists Award  
- Canadian Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Undergraduate Dental Student Award

Julia Jarvis  
Mentor: Dr. Scott Mather  
- Dr. W. Walker Shorttill Practice Management Memorial Prize  
- American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons 2017 Dental Student Award

Alycia Klymkiw  
Mentor: Dr. Darci Bonar  
- 3M ESPE Canada Student Clinical Award  
- Canadian Academy of Restorative Dentistry & Prosthodontics Scholar Award

Artiom Margolin  
Mentor: Dr. Bill Cooke  
- Academy of General Dentistry Award

Jesse Marques  
Mentor: Dr. Mike McIntyre  
- Dean's Honours  
- Dr. Isadore Wolch Prize in Endodontics  
- American Academy of Periodontology Award  
- Dr. John Earl Abra Scholarship (Orthodontics)  
- The Portnoy Award  
- Pierre Fauchard Academy Award of Recognition

Laxmi (Lisha) Mehta  
Mentor: Dr. Susan Tsang  
- Endowment Fund Award in Dentistry  
- Dr. Frances Matiowsky Memorial Award

Maria Mikos  
Mentor: Dr. Rose Dhillion  
- Canadian Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Undergraduate Dental Student Award

Nicholas Motyka  
Mentor: Dr. Brant Toy

Urvi Patel  
Mentor: Dr. Lanny Jacob

Chad Pennington  
Mentor: Dr. Scott Mather

Mélissa Phaneuf  
Mentor: Dr. Elena Ferrer  
- Maclachlan-Hart Gold Medal  
  (Complete Denture Prosthesis)  
- American College of Prosthodontists Predoctoral Achievement Award

Nicole Richardson  
Mentor: Dr. Darci Bonar  
- Dr. M.H. Garvin Prize in Periodontology

Erin Roloff  
Mentor: Dr. Wendy Stasiuk  
- Graduation with Honours  
- Dean's Honours  
- Dr. F.W.L. Hamilton Scholarship  
- American Academy of Operative Dentistry Award  
- Dr. Biruta Anna Osins Medal and Award in Endodontics  
- American Academy of Periodontology Award  
- American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Award

Quin Rusnak  
Mentor: Dr. Andrew Stoykewich

Depinder Samra  
Mentor: Dr. David Kindrat

Ja Youn Seo  
Mentor: Dr. Huma Rohan

Navi Sidhu  
Mentor: Dr. Wendy Stasiuk

Zoe Siew  
Mentor: Dr. Mike McIntyre  
- Dr. M.H. Garvin Prize in Periodontology  
- Dr. Daniel Tai Humanitarian Award in Dentistry (4th year class nomination)

Maggie Wen  
Mentor: Dr. David Kindrat
CLASS OF 2017

SCHOOL OF DENTAL HYGIENE
COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY, RADY FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Ruhi Akther
Mentor: Wendy Reimer

Danielle Bolo
Mentor: Isering Nelson

Jasmine Bonenfant
Mentor: Laura Loewen
  - School of Dental Hygiene Medal in Dental Hygiene
  - MDA Prize
  - MDA Gold Medal
  - Dental Faculty Women’s Association Prize

Autumn Buchanan
Mentor: Kathy Girard

Alyssa Garcia
Mentor: Vicky Dela Cruz

Tara Hagob
Mentor: Taryn Greenberg

Sabrina Hofer
Mentor: Wendy Reimer

Vesna Kocoska
Mentor: Robyn Russell

Shu Hui (Stephanie) Li
Mentor: Anna McAlear

Hazel Manlapz
Mentor: Lorraine Kaserbauer

Veronica Mihic
Mentor: Lori DeVos

Yevgenia Moskalenko
Mentor: Margo Nohlgren

Rebecca Nikkel
Mentor: Linda Pharand

Danny Rivet
Mentor: Natalie Townsend

Minji Ryu
Mentor: Lidia Curtis

Pia Salazar
Mentor: Laura Loewen

Carissa Shaw
Mentor: Natalie Townsend

Connie Song
Mentor: Erin Robinson
  - Maria Araceli Pacheco Memorial Award

Melina Sturym
Mentor: Erin Robinson

Rebekka Tia
Mentor: Suzanne Morin

Lina Tran
Mentor: Isering Nelson

Natali Trpkoska
Mentor: Kathy Girard

Mark Uzon
Mentor: Vicky Dela Cruz

Alexa-Lynne Wolfe
Mentor: Taryn Greenberg
  - Endowment Fund Award in Dental Hygiene

Jason (Hao) Xie
Mentor: Rayneet Singh
  - Hu-Friedy Golden Scaler Award

Nicole Yusi
Mentor: Jessica Cable
  - M.D.H.A. Award

2017 SCHOOL OF DENTAL HYGIENE GRADUATES

2017 COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY GRADUATES
Two trailblazers were honored at this year’s Alumni of Distinction Awards for exemplary service to their communities and professions. **Jean Bodnar [DMD/87]**, recipient of the 2017 Alumni of Distinction Award from the U of M Dental Alumni Association (UMDAA), was the second woman – and first female U of M graduate – to be elected president of the Manitoba Dental Association.

“From its inception in 1883, there were no female presidents of the Manitoba Dental Association until Dr. Babette Cohen became the first in the year 2000,” the longtime St. Vital practitioner said in her remarks at the awards gala. “I followed Babette in 2001.”

There have now been eight female presidents. “It took us a while to catch on,” Bodnar said, “but ever since, we have been quietly taking over.”

The gala dinner and celebration drew nearly 200 alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends of the College of Dentistry and School of Dental Hygiene to the Fort Garry Hotel on Sept. 22. The elegant event marked the 20th year for the dentistry award, established in 1998.

Bodnar, a member of the 30th anniversary Class of 1987, grew up in Alberta and planned to practise in Edmonton after graduation. Instead, she put down roots in Winnipeg.

“I did not know a single person in Manitoba when I arrived here in 1983,” she said. “But today, looking around this room, I have to say… I have been most fortunate.”

Beyond her private practice, Norberry Dental Centre, Bodnar’s service has ranged from teaching oral diagnosis at the U of M and caring for clients with developmental disabilities at St. Amant Centre to her current role as deputy regent for Manitoba in the Canadian Section of the International College of Dentists. **Pat Kmet [B.Sc.(Maj.)/83, DMD/87]**, Bodnar’s classmate and award nominator, praised her ethics and integrity. Bodnar is lead investigator for the MDA’s peer review
committee – a role that requires sound ethical judgment and dedication to public protection.

Bodnar credited the U of M for giving her class a strong foundation. "Respect for tooth structure, for the patient attached to the tooth structure, and respect for the profession we all represent – these are some of the core values which were instilled and have served us well over the past 30 years."

Carol Yakiwchuk [Dip.D.Hyg./92, B.Sc.D.Hyg./10], a member of the 25th anniversary Dental Hygiene Class of 1992, was honoured with the 2017 Alumni of Distinction Award by the U of M School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association (UMSDHAA).

Yakiwchuk was the first-ever hygienist to augment her diploma with the U of M's bachelor of science degree in dental hygiene in 2010.

"Carol is an inspirational colleague, creative collaborator and strong advocate whose passion, genuine care and thoroughness benefit all those she serves," said Mickey Wener [M.Ed./86], a nominator along with Laura MacDonald [Dip.D.Hyg./81, M.Ed./87] and Cindy Isaak-Ploegman [Dip.D.Hyg./89, BA/90, M.Ed./03].

Yakiwchuk's career has included clinical practice, management, consulting and teaching. Now living in Vancouver, she is oral health manager of British Columbia's First Nations Health Authority. She has served as president of the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association.

She formerly managed the Health Promotion Unit of the U of M's Centre for Community Oral Health. She contributed to groundbreaking caregiver training programs and research focused on adults who depend on others for their oral care. She is an award-winning volunteer with the Special Olympics' Special Smiles health program.

“The University of Manitoba has given me the gift of endless possibilities and opportunities,” Yakiwchuk said. “It really helped me solidify my ‘reason for being’ as an oral health professional: to break down barriers to access to care and promote good oral health practices for vulnerable populations – essentially, to make a difference.”

The annual awards evening is held in support of the Dr. John M. Grahame Scholarship. Jeff Bergen [DMD/09], president of the UMDAA, presented Dr. Anthony Iacopino, dean of dentistry, with funds raised in support of the scholarship and the UMDAA Emergency Patient Oral Health Care Trust Fund.

Bergen also presented Iacopino, who is in his 11th and final year as dean of dentistry, with a gift of appreciation for his support of the UMDAA.

The gala paid special tribute to the Dentistry Class of 1967, of which nine members were present. The jovial Doug Fletcher [DMD/67], who is still practising in Alberta 50 years after graduation, spoke on behalf of his classmates.

“When you depart this planet, don’t forget to send a cheque to the University of Manitoba in thanks for the education you got,” Fletcher told the assembled alumni, prompting master of ceremonies Chris Cottick [DMD/90] to quip, "Just to clarify, sign the cheque before you die."

Regrettably, no member of the Dental Hygiene Class of 1967 was able to attend. But Florna Atienza [Dip.D.Hyg/15], president of the UMSDHAA, brought greetings from class member Iris Rountree (née Gold) [Dip.D.Hyg./67].

“Dental hygiene gave [Iris] the tools for a rewarding career, teaching dental hygienists and dental assistants, as well as serving as president of the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association,” Atienza said.

The Dentistry Class of 1967 joined Iacopino for a tour of the College of Dentistry as part of their reunion. Ed Hadway [B.Sc./56, DMD/67], the eldest member of the class at age 84, said it meant a great deal to him to revisit the campus for the first time since graduation.

The longtime Calgary resident, originally from Dauphin, Man., said he could hardly believe the improvements at the college.

“X-rays, crowns, periodontal problems – they’re all done digitally,” Hadway marvelled. “I was amazed at the technology.”
1. Dean Anthony Iacopino (left) accepts a gift of appreciation from Dr. Jeff Bergen, president of the U of M Dental Alumni Association.

2. Faculty, former faculty, staff, students and alumni of the School of Dental Hygiene enjoy the Alumni of Distinction celebration.

3. Honouree Dr. Jean Bodnar (left) with her husband, Rob Cunningham.

4. Honouree Carol Yakiwchuk (centre) with award nominators Laura MacDonald (left) and Mickey Wener (right).

5. Nine members of the Dentistry Class of 1967 celebrate their 50th anniversary reunion.


7. Dr. Chris Cottick, master of ceremonies for the awards evening.

To view more photos from the Alumni of Distinction Awards Evening, visit: umanitoba.ca/dentistry/alumni
Children with Type 2 diabetes should receive dental hygiene assessment and treatment as part of their overall health care, a project by a U of M student suggests.

The disease is on the rise among youth, and Manitoba has a particularly high rate. Yet little research has been done on the oral health of youth with Type 2 diabetes, says Terri Archibald, a second-year student in the bachelor’s degree program at the School of Dental Hygiene.

“There’s a real gap in knowledge,” she says. “There’s a lot of research on adults, diabetes and oral health, but not a lot on children.”

During the 2016-17 academic year, Archibald, a registered hygienist, performed oral assessments on 40 children and teens who have Type 2 diabetes. She led the project as part of her service-learning coursework, for which she spends one morning a week at the Diabetes Education Resource for Children and Adolescents (DER-CA) at Winnipeg’s Children’s Hospital.

Most of the children with Type 2 diabetes seen at the DER-CA are of Indigenous heritage. They’re brought to Winnipeg from small communities in Manitoba and northwestern Ontario every three months for health monitoring and diabetes education, care and support.

“What I found was that 100 per cent of the children had gingival inflammation in their mouths, and 83 per cent had severe inflammation,” Archibald says. “The inflammation was especially noted in the 75 per cent who had high three-month average blood glucose levels.

“We know that when your body has inflammation, it’s destructive, especially when you have a compromised immune system. There’s a systemic link between these children’s oral mucosa and their diabetes.”

“I grew up in a small town. There were no specialists there and we had to travel a lot. It hits home with me.”

Archibald received the U of M School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association student poster presentation award, enabling her to present her findings this fall at the 2017 Canadian Dental Hygienists Association conference in Ottawa.

Archibald, 48, has been a hygienist for 26 years and currently works at a St. Vital dental practice. She returned to the U of M part-time last year to pursue her degree. She is a clinical instructor at the School of Dental Hygiene and hopes to go on to complete a master’s degree, with a particular research interest in underserved populations.

Raising in Dryden in northwestern Ontario, Archibald earned her diploma in dental hygiene at Confederation College in Thunder Bay in 1991. She started her career doing oral health assessments and education in First Nations communities in northern Ontario.

“Having worked with these communities early on in my career, I know how tough it is for them to access care,” she says. “I grew up in a small town. There were no specialists there and we had to travel a lot. It hits home with me.”

The collaborative DER-CA team includes professionals such as pediatric endocrinologists, a clinical nurse specialist, nurse educators, dieticians, a social worker and psychologists. Since 2007, several students from the School of Dental Hygiene have rotated through, doing oral screening.

Oral health status is now included in DER-CA clients’ electronic records, and Archibald participates as part of the interprofessional team. But the centre is not equipped or funded to provide clinical treatment. Archibald and her faculty advisor, associate professor Laura MacDonald [Dip.D.Hyg./81, M.Ed/87], hope to see that change.

“Now the goal is to create either a dental hygiene independent practice or a referral program so these youth can receive dental hygiene treatment while they’re in Winnipeg,” Archibald says. “We also hope to do further research to see if reducing gingival inflammation can help reduce their blood glucose levels.

“We need to get something going for these children. We’ve been brainstorming and mapping out ideas.”
For **Maj. Richard Mansour [DMD/99]**, some of the greatest rewards of being a military dentist have come from guiding and mentoring others.

From teaching dentists in Afghanistan to overseeing new captains who are recent dentistry grads in Canada, the 1999 alumnus says he continues to draw upon the mentorship he received at the U of M.

“Because we had a small class size, the access we had to our professors and instructors was just unbelievable,” Mansour recalls. “I clearly remember sitting with Dr. Cleghorn in our wax-carving lab and having him spend 10 minutes saying, ‘If you try this, this will work a lot better.’

“I can remember Dr. Stockton, our clinical advisor in fourth year, taking the time to show me how to do a good complex silver amalgam filling. I think my concept of mentorship, and the ability to recognize what people need to get better at what they’re doing, is a byproduct of how I was taught in Manitoba.”

Mansour, 45, grew up in Brampton, Ont. He joined the Armed Forces soon after graduating from the U of M. Eighteen years later, the major has served on five Canadian bases. He is now posted to Ottawa as the chief dental informatics officer for the Royal Canadian Dental Corps.

In 2007, Mansour’s first deployment to Afghanistan was at Kandahar Airfield, where he mentored an Afghan army dentist while providing care to NATO and Allied troops and civilians.

In 2012, the father of two young sons went back for a five-month tour of duty to Kabul as a trainer. “We were helping the Afghan National Army to create emergency-type dental providers,” he says.

He was part of a three-person team that taught at the Afghan military medical academy. It meant leaving a heavily secured base, enclosed by barbed wire, for a campus that had been penetrated by the Taliban numerous times.

“Every time we would go ‘outside the wire,’ we had to wear full battle gear.”

Mansour soon learned that Afghan dentists had five years of medical education plus two years of dental school, but in some cases had no hands-on clinical training.

“One dentist told me that the first patient he’d ever worked on was when he opened his own dental clinic. And a lot of times, the only X-rays or radiographs they had seen were in textbooks.”

Mansour’s predecessor had started a monthly continuing education program for local dentists. As Mansour led these sessions, he learned about the lack of regulation of dental licensing in the war-torn country. He urged the continuing-education group to formalize and try to achieve self-regulation of the profession.

“I said, ‘Let’s form an executive.’ I encouraged two female dentists to become the president and vice-president, which is not common in Afghanistan. As the Kabul Dental Society became more organized, it started reaching out to other regions.”

From those beginnings, the group evolved into the Afghanistan Dental Association (ADA). The Royal Canadian Dental Corps and the Canadian Dental Association mentored the ADA and in 2013 sponsored its acceptance into the FDI World Dental Federation.

In 2016, Mansour was awarded a Meritorious Service Medal by the Governor General of Canada for his work leading to the founding of the ADA.

“It really was all about mentorship: dropping hints and coaching, but stepping back, so the people you’re mentoring take ownership of the work and carry it forward,” he says. “I’m really proud to have played a part in leaving that Canadian legacy.”
Liem Duong was about 12 years old when he participated in Career Trek, a hands-on program that introduces Manitoba youth to potential careers.

“We got to see the dental assisting program at Red River College,” he remembers. “That really sparked my curiosity for the field.”

Later, in Grade 12 at Daniel McIntyre Collegiate, Duong took part in a career internship program that let him job-shadow dentist Laurence Lau [B.Sc./03, DMD/02]. “I got to see a ton of procedures,” he recalls. “I really saw how a dentist works and interacts with patients.”

Duong, 22, is now a second-year dentistry student. This past summer, as a volunteer leader with the Biomedical Youth Program day camp offered by the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences, he had a chance to pay forward the mentorship that he received as a kid.

He compares the camp’s potential to the butterfly effect – the notion that a small action can have far-reaching impact.

“You can see how these programs serve as ripples,” he says. “The whole point is that we give kids a little push. Once they have that exposure, they have the choice on their own.”

“These programs are so crucial,” he adds. “They allow kids to see what's out there, get their feet wet and experiment.”

This was the 12th year for the five-day camp, offered free of charge to students from Grades 5 to 12. More than 180 students applied and 120 were accepted. A priority was placed on involving inner-city youth.

Participants rotate through hands-on learning activities in labs and classrooms. “It helps students see what we do here at the university, and understand that pursuing a career in science is a real possibility for their futures,” says Dr. James Gilchrist, director of the Rady Faculty Biomedical Youth Program and professor of oral biology in the College of Dentistry.

This year, 15 students from northern Manitoba attended the camp through the university's Health Careers Access Program for Indigenous students.

“It was an honour for us to have the Indigenous kids come such a long way,” says Natalie Rosenthal, a third-year dentistry student who was a lead volunteer in the College of Dentistry’s Brass Lab.

She and Duong enjoyed showing junior-high and high-school participants how to fill plastic teeth with composite material and use blue light to harden the fillings. The kids also had messy fun, learning to work with alginate impression material and plaster.

Rosenthal, 21, believes it's particularly important to introduce science-oriented youth to dentistry because it's less understood than other health professions. “Most kids, if they're interested in the health sciences, it's always doctor or nurse. That's their go-to,” she says.

The camp, she says, “shows dentistry in a fun light,” dispels the notion that the dental realm is scary, and empowers youth by showing them an attainable educational path and real-life dentistry students.

Rosenthal says she would have loved to be a biomedical camper. As far back as Grade 5, she did a science fair project on drinks that rotted teeth. Her grandfather had been a dentist in Hungary. Her mother saw similar traits in Rosenthal and fostered her interest.

“I shadowed my own dentist in Grade 9,” Rosenthal says. “I encourage people to do that, too.”

Both volunteers say it was enormously rewarding to see the students’ eagerness, curiosity and creativity.

“I had a kid who was probably 12 or 13,” says Duong. “He was already interested in dentistry. He was just engaged the whole time. He came up and said ‘Thank you’ and shook my hand. It was like a déjà vu.”

Brooke Knott from St. Theresa Point, Man., learns to fill teeth at the College of Dentistry as a participant in the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences' Biomedical Youth Program camp.
When Sharaheh (Sherry) Ghodousi [DMD/15] was a dental student at U of M, she was known for her ability to work with patients who had troubled backgrounds or behaved in challenging ways.

“I was famous for managing patients who needed understanding,” says the gregarious dentist.

The Iranian-born Ghodousi, 40, is a 2015 graduate of the U of M’s International Dentist Degree Program (IDDP). It prepares foreign-trained dentists for accreditation in Canada by adding them to an existing dental class for the final two years of the four-year degree program.

Anthony Iacopino, dean of dentistry, remembers Ghodousi’s warm, engaging chairside manner at the college. He confirms that she won the trust of the most challenging patients.

“It takes a special kind of student – often a mature student – to deal with difficult people,” Iacopino says. Students in the IDDP often bring an extra degree of empathy, he says, because of their life experiences and practice in other countries.

Now the Winnipeg dental community has gained another sunny-natured colleague: Sherry’s 32-year-old brother, Amirali (Amir) Ghodousi [DMD/17], who recently completed the IDDP after practising for seven years in Iran. “If the clinic was burning down around him, he’d still be smiling,” Iacopino says about Amir.

The siblings hope their 33-year-old sister, dentist Dr. Parisa Ghodousi, will be next to qualify for her Canadian licence via the IDDP. Each year, more than 270 applicants compete for six to nine spots in the program.

Yet another Ghodousi dentist sister lives in Ottawa, but is so far not seeking Canadian accreditation.

Sherry and her husband, fellow Iranian dentist Dr. Arash Foroughi, came to Winnipeg in 2012 because they had heard good things about the IDDP. The cosmopolitan couple had owned five clinics in Tehran and Dubai, but wanted to immigrate to a safer, more stable country. They initially planned to settle in Vancouver after Sherry’s studies, but fell in love with Winnipeg.

Foroughi took the direct path to licensure by passing the required exams and started practising, while Sherry took the university route, encouraging Amir to follow her. Both she and her brother praise the College of Dentistry for giving them vital knowledge of how to practise in Canada.

“When you go to a new country, you need to learn their attitudes, their laws, their systems, their paperwork,” Sherry says. “Dentistry is dentistry, but you need to understand the customs, beliefs and habits of the people.”

When Sherry graduated in 2015, she and Foroughi bought Redwood Dental Centre, a longstanding clinic in Winnipeg’s North End. The neighbourhood has high rates of poverty and crime, but that doesn’t faze the outgoing Sherry. The clientele and staff are growing.

“We’ve had some challenges, but my idea is everybody deserves to have good health and a good dentist,” she says. The area is ethnically diverse and the clinic welcomes refugees, adds the multilingual Sherry.

Amir has joined Matheson Dental Centre, located nearby on the same street. He’s also at ease with patients of all circumstances and backgrounds. “Most of the patients are lovely,” he says. “It’s a matter of communication.”

Sherry has become a part-time U of M instructor in pediatric dentistry. Amir would like to teach as well. “The university did lots of things for us,” he says. “Now it’s our turn to support the university.”

They say they’ve made valuable connections with their U of M instructors and classmates, as well as the Manitoba Dental Association (Sherry sang and danced in the recent MDA-sponsored All-Dentist Musical).

They’ve convinced their parents to move to Winnipeg next year. They’ve also persuaded several international dentists to relocate here. “Everybody jokes with me, ‘You should be the mayor!’” says Sherry.

The family’s long-term vision is to co-own a chain of Winnipeg clinics. “We’re very happy here,” Amir says. “The most important thing is to be in a friendly community.”
A Message from UMDAA President

JEF BERGEN [DMD/09]
President, University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association

On behalf of the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association (UMDAA), I congratulate Jean Bodnar [DMD/87] and Carol Yakiwchuk [Dip.D.Hyg./92, B.Sc.D.Hyg./10], this year’s deserving Alumni of Distinction Award recipients.

Knowing both honourees personally, I can attest to their professionalism and outstanding qualities as people.

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the awards gala on Sept. 22. Your support and participation help to keep our alumni community strong and vibrant.

At the gala, I was honoured to present the UMDAA’s gift of appreciation to Dr. Anthony Iacopino as he nears the end of his tenure as dean of dentistry. I was in dental school when Dr. Iacopino became dean in 2007. I was always impressed at how he respected and responded to students’ concerns. The UMDAA salutes him for his dedicated leadership of the college.

Back in May, the UMDAA sponsored the fourth biennial All-Dentist Musical, Lucky Stiff. It was a great success, with all four performances sold out. I caught the opening show and barely noticed the improvisation that was necessary after a minor prop malfunction.

In June, I had the pleasure of attending the college’s Graduation Breakfast. The first few years out of dental school can be challenging. I encourage recent grads to join the UMDAA and benefit from our supportive network.

The date for the 2018 awards gala has been set for Sept. 28 – the Friday night of the U of M Homecoming Weekend. If you know a U of M dentistry alumnus or alumna whose accomplishments merit an Alumni of Distinction Award, you can download the nomination form from our website, www.umdaa.ca.

Proceeds from the gala support the Dr. J.M. Grahame Scholarship fund. I urge you to make a personal donation to help maintain this fund.

Another significant project of the UMDAA is the Emergency Patient Oral Health Care Trust Fund, which helps patients who present to the College of Dentistry needing emergency care, but don’t have the resources to pay. Please consider contributing to this worthy initiative.

Visit www.umd.ca to join the UMDAA or renew your membership. To donate to the scholarship and emergency funds, visit give.umanitoba.ca, phone 204-474-9195 or 1-800-330-8066, or send mail to: University of Manitoba Alumni and Donor Relations, 200-137 Innovation Drive, Winnipeg, MB, Canada, R3T 6B6.

The University of Manitoba School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association (UMSDHAA) has had a great year. We would like to thank our loyal membership for their support.

We also appreciate the support of the Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association and the College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba, as well as faculty of the School of Dental Hygiene in the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences.

We held a Wine and Cheese Evening in March at CanadInns Polo Park to update members about our activities and provide an opportunity for networking and socializing. The sold-out event attracted 80 people, including alumni, the entire School of Dental Hygiene Classes of 2017 and 2018, instructors and faculty members.

The students contributed significant energy, as did our guest of honour, Marnie Forgay, the founding director of the School of Dental Hygiene. The graduating class presented their community health student poster boards. It was a special evening.

At our annual general meeting in May, we featured two guest speakers who inspired us with their research presentations, which serendipitously built upon each other.


Gayle Halas [PhD/16] shared her interdisciplinary PhD dissertation findings titled, “Are patients mentally engaged when you deliver your patient education?”

We look forward to next year’s research presentations on May 4, 2018 by Kathy Yerex [B.Sc./02, Dip.D.Hyg./04], assistant professor of dental hygiene, and Terri Archibald, a second-year student in the bachelor’s degree program in dental hygiene. Please plan to join us.

Warmest congratulations to Carol Yakiwchuk [Dip.D.Hyg./92, B.Sc.D.Hyg./10] and Jean Bodnar [DMD/87], our 2017 Alumni of Distinction Award recipients. Carol has contributed to the dental hygiene profession in many ways as an educator, consultant, researcher and oral health promoter. She is a worthy role model of reaching out to the underserved.

We look forward to another successful year and hope you’ll join us. Our membership fees are still only $30 annually. To renew, please visit our Facebook page or email us at umsdhaa@outlook.

A Message from UMSDHAA President

FLORNA ATIENZA [DIP.D.HYG./15]
President, University of Manitoba School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association
Tom Colina [DMD/89], who practises in Winnipeg, recently received his master of science degree in orofacial pain and oral medicine from the University of Southern California. Colina also co-authored a study in the Open Journal of Dentistry and Oral Medicine titled “Stabilization Splint as Treatment for Myogenous Temporomandibular Disorders: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis.”

Rocio Quinonez [BA (Adv.)/92, B.Sc. (Dent.)/96, DMD/96], associate professor of pediatric dentistry and pediatrics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, received the 2017 Oral Health Service Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics. The award honours Quinonez for her contributions to the advancement of pediatric oral health through interprofessional education, advocacy, and involvement in impactful oral health programs for children.

Cliff Swanlund [DMD/76] of Calgary was inducted in May as president of the International College of Dentists’ Canadian Section. He is finishing his term as president of the Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation. Swanlund also dedicates himself to painting and had a recent solo art exhibition in Winnipeg called “From Lake Louise to Lake of the Woods and Everything in Between.”

In May, the International College of Dentists inducted a number of U of M alumni, including Jack Bassey [DMD/85], Roberta Krawat [DMD/94], Laureta Lau [B.Sc./03, DMD/02], Jean-Pierre Picard [M. Dent (Perio)/03], Carlos Quinonez [M.Sc./04, DMD/98], Devinder Sehgal [DMD/89] and Tamara Wright [DMD/90].

The Pierre Fauchard Academy also inducted alumni from the U of M, including Noriko Boorberg [DMD/00, M.Ed./12], Margaret Choy [DMD/85], Anastasia Kelekis-Cholakis [DMD/92, Dip. Perio/98], William Kettner [DMD/71], Scott Leckie [DMD/90], Igor Pesun [DMD/87], Todd Plexman [DMD/92] and Terry Rebizant [B.Sc./84, DMD/89].

The Dentistry Class of 1987 held its 30-year reunion in September. Many from the class attended the Alumni of Distinction Awards, supporting classmate and honouree Jean Bodnar [DMD/87]. Faculty members Aaron Kim [B.Sc./82, DMD/87] and Igor Pesun [DMD/87] gave a college tour and Bobby Goldberg [B.Sc./83, DMD/87] shared videos from student days.

The U of M School of Dental Hygiene Alumni Association held a sold-out Wine and Cheese evening in March. Marnie Forgay (centre), founding director of the school, was the guest of honour.

The Dentistry Class of 1992 celebrated its 25th reunion in Toronto in May.
Dr. Baha Atout, assistant professor (preventive dental science), has successfully completed the National Dental Specialty Examination in orthodontics and is now a Fellow of the Royal College of Dentists of Canada.

Dr. Devi Atukorallaya, assistant professor (oral biology), received a three-year grant of $100,000 from the University of Manitoba Start-Up Fund for the project “Ectodermal organogenesis in health and disease.”

Mary Bertone [Dip. D.Hyg./05, B.Sc. D.Hyg./11, MPH/15] has been appointed director of the College of Dentistry’s Centre for Community Oral Health (CCOH) while continuing to serve as director of the School of Dental Hygiene. The Centre, formerly included in the department of preventive dental science, has been placed temporarily within the Dean’s Office until a Rady Faculty of Health Sciences “community service/outreach core” is established.

Prashen Chelikani [PhD/04], professor (oral biology), received a two-year grant with co-investigator Robert Schroth [DMD/96, M.Sc./03, PhD/11] of $40,000 from the Children’s Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba (CHRIM) for the project “The etiology of genes involved in taste signaling in determining young children’s susceptibility to severe early childhood caries.”

Chelikani also received a two-year grant of $40,000 from CHRIM as co-investigator on the project “Gene Expression Profile of Smooth Muscle Contraction and Relaxation Pathways in Hypoxic Persistent Pulmonary Hypertension of the Newborn.”

In addition, Chelikani received funding of $196,000 for two years from Cystic Fibrosis Canada for the study “Role of chemosensory bitter taste receptors (T2Rs) in cystic fibrosis.”

Cindy Isaak-Ploegman [Dip.D.Hyg./89, BA/90, M.Ed./03], instructor in the School of Dental Hygiene, received an Endowment Fund award of $1,790 for a certification course in infection prevention and control. She is preparing to assume responsibility for infection control/regulatory compliance at the College of Dentistry.

Nita Mazurat [M.Sc./06], associate professor (restorative dentistry), director of the International Dentist Degree Program (IDDP) and director of infection control/regulatory compliance, will retire at the end of 2018. Vanessa Swain [B.Sc./95, B.Sc. (Dent.)/99, DMD/99], current acting department head of restorative dentistry, will assume the role of IDDP director.

Dieter Schönwetter [BA (Hons.)/87, MA/89, PhD/96], formerly director of educational resources and faculty development, has been named associate dean (academic) of the College of Dentistry, with an initial appointment through Dec. 31, 2018. He replaces Dr. Doug Brothwell, who has been appointed dean of dentistry at the University of Saskatchewan.

Schönwetter has also been appointed academic lead of the new Rady Faculty of Health Sciences Integrated Accreditation Unit, providing academic support to educational programs undergoing accreditation across the Rady Faculty’s five colleges.

Robert Schroth [DMD/96, M.Sc./03, PhD/11], associate professor (preventive dental science) and clinician scientist, received the 2017 Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry’s Public Service Award.

Schroth is principal investigator on the study “Feasibility and acceptability of silver diamine fluoride to arrest early childhood caries in young children,” which received $5,000 from the College of Dentistry Research Fund.

Schroth is also co-investigator for the five-year Prairie Indigenous Knowledge Exchange Network (PIKE-Net) Indigenous Mentorship Network Program – Manitoba, which received $997,682 from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.
We extend our condolences to all family and friends of our University of Manitoba College of Dentistry, Rady Faculty of Health Sciences alumni and colleagues who have recently passed away.

LINDA CASEY  |  Nov. 7, 1955—May 15, 2017

Linda Casey [Dip.D.Hyg./89] passed away at the age of 61 at the family cottage in Clearwater Bay, Ont.

Linda grew up in St. James with her three younger sisters and parents, Diane and Bob Fraser. She started her career as a dental assistant and in 1989 graduated in dental hygiene from the U of M.

She was passionate about her profession. Her warm smile, concern for others and zest for life were contagious. She developed great friendships with her colleagues and patients.

Linda was an extremely hard worker, balancing the schedules of her busy husband, high-energy children, career and many friends. Her heart knew no bounds and she always had time to talk to both friends and strangers. She believed in helping others and volunteered at Siloam Mission.

One of Linda’s joys was sharing time with family and friends at the cottage. When she wasn’t at the lake, she loved to travel to destinations such as Thailand, the Caribbean, China and Africa. She is survived by her husband Michael, daughters Lauren (Cory) and Jennifer, and extended family.

JOSEPH FAST  |  Aug. 17, 1941—April 24, 2017

Joseph Arndt Fast [DMD/66], age 75, passed away peacefully on April 24 in White Rock, B.C. with his two daughters by his side. Born in Russia in 1941, he was the son of his beloved mother, Maria Toews.

Joe graduated from the University of Manitoba with a large group of dentistry classmates and ran a successful practice in Vancouver for over 46 years. He remained close with those classmates until his final days.

"Kokanee Joe," as he was known to his many pals on the golf course and ball field, was an avid sportsman from his earliest days. In his later years he became a stickler for recording stats on his favourite teams.

He is survived by his wife Sandy (née Smith) with whom he shared 51 years, daughters Robin and Kelly Jo, their partners Darren and Jason, and his large group of friends, who are considered honorary Fast family members.

Joe lived a large life full of laughter, sport, toasting with friends, and most importantly, love and loyalty. He has left a great mark on the world and his presence remains in the hearts of those who knew him best.

GLORIA JOAN KROEKER  |  April 5, 1963—Sept. 5, 2017

Gloria Kroeker (née Kehler) [Dip.D.Hyg./83] passed away on Sept. 5 in Winnipeg at the age of 54.

Gloria grew up on a farm in Altona as the youngest of five sisters. She graduated at the top of her class from the U of M School of Dental Hygiene. She worked as a hygienist at Winnipeg’s Hoffer and Lipkin Prosthodontists for 27 years before moving on to work at other dental offices, including Polo Park Dental Centre, Quarry Dental Centre in Stonewall and Dr. Mitch Vodrey’s practice.

Gloria was incredibly artistic and loved her flower garden, painting, quilting, singing and dancing. She loved being on the water in a sailboat or her kayak. She was active in her church and had an amazing gift of being able to walk alongside people in their greatest joys and their deepest sorrows.

Gloria will be deeply missed by her husband Peter Kroeker; daughter Amanda (Jordan) Jongstra; son Lauren (Stephanie) Kroeker; four sisters and extended family.

Donations in Gloria’s memory can be made to the U of M Smiles for Miles Program, online at give.umanitoba.ca/GloriaKroeker or by contacting Alumni and Donor Relations.
GORDON KEITH THOMPSON | May 8, 1939—Feb. 6, 2017

Keith Thompson [DMD/64] passed away at the age of 77 at his home in Regina.

Keith was born in Moose Jaw, Sask. in 1939 and attended Central Collegiate, where he met his future wife, Joan. He attended the University of Saskatchewan and then the University of Manitoba to pursue a career in dentistry, graduating from the Faculty of Dentistry in 1964.

In Winnipeg, Keith started a private practice, raised his family and served in the military reserves as a captain with the Royal Winnipeg Rifles. In the 1990s, he sold his practice and went on to teach the next generation of dentists at the U of M. He retired in 2002.

A lifelong football enthusiast, Keith excelled as a player in high school and later with the Saskatoon Hilltops. While living in Winnipeg, he took up coaching and won two provincial championships with the Maples Vikings and the North Winnipeg Nomads. Keith was also an assistant coach with the Maples Collegiate Marauders. He later became a volunteer with the Special Olympics.

Keith was a devoted husband to Joan, his wife of 55 years, and father to his three children. He is survived by family members including his children, Rob Thompson, Margot (Michael) Henson and Christian (Corinna) Thompson; sister Beverley (Robert) Searcy and brother Bryne (Verna) Thompson.

JAMES NELSON WRIGHT | Sept. 29, 1933—Feb. 14, 2017

After a prolonged battle with cancer and surrounded by his family, former Dean of Dentistry Dr. James Wright, CD, QHDS, DDS, M.Sc.D, NDC, MRCD(C), FICD, FACD, FIADS, passed away in Kingston, Ont. at the age of 83.

Jim was born in Lethbridge, Alta. Originally set on studying physics, he switched courses, completing his dental degree through the Canadian Armed Forces. Shortly afterwards, he met and married his wife Eliane, who was to share in every adventure his life had to offer.

A consummate leader in the Canadian Armed Forces Dental Corps for 33 years, Jim achieved the rank of Brigadier General. Upon retirement from the military in 1986, he became head of the department of stomatology, associate dean, and finally dean of the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Manitoba until his second retirement in 1996.

Jim was admired for his intelligence and diligence as well as his decisive, fair and pragmatic leadership. He was invested as Honorary Dental Surgeon to the Queen and left an indelible mark on military dentistry. His forward-thinking leadership at the U of M ensured success for the next generation of dental professionals.

Jim and Eliane embraced retirement, making Ajijic, Mexico their winter home for more than 20 years. He leaves behind family members including Eliane, daughters Tamara (Tammy), Michele and Lisa, and grandchildren Maxime and Jessica.
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