

NORTH CAROLINA

DENTAL REVIEW

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The North Carolina Dental Review is published semi-annually by the Dental Alumni Association and the Dental Foundation of North Carolina for alumni and friends of the UNC School of Dentistry.

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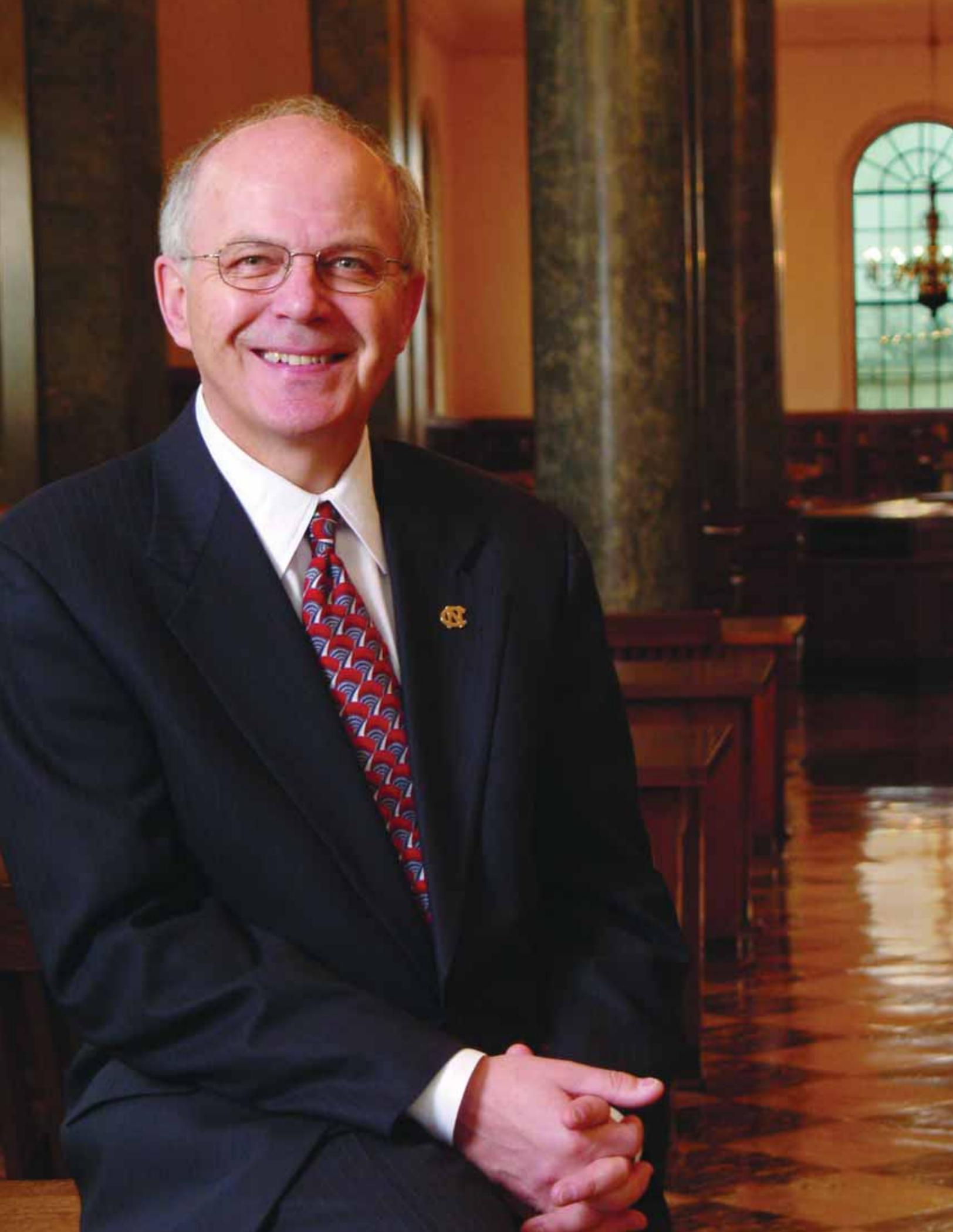
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We welcome your comments, opinions or questions. Please address correspondence to Kelly Almond at the UNC Dental Alumni Association using the address below, or by e-mail at alumni@dentistry.unc.edu.

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Dear Alumni and Friends:

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is in the process of choosing the sixth dean for the School of Dentistry. An outstanding search committee is hard at work, and I sense the faculty and staff are eager and ready to work with the new leader, whenever he or she arrives. The new dean will have a talented group of department chairs in place, and he/she can count on a superb administrative support team.

Also receptive will be the outstanding UNC dental faculty and staff. The faculty members are dedicated teachers, high quality clinicians and successful researchers, ready to lift the School to greater heights. Their only need is the electricity and spark that the right dean can provide.

Critical to the future dean's success will be the strong, continuing support of the North Carolina dental profession, and the School's amazing alumni and friends. Throughout my time as dean, their friendship, wise counsel and philanthropy toward the State's only dental school was generous and unconditional. Many of these friends included non-dental leaders in communities and businesses throughout

the world. It was this multitude of School supporters, aided by our talented development team, who did most of the heavy lifting to assemble the endowed scholarships, distinguished professorships, buildings and facilities that will ensure a

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brighter future for dental education excellence at Carolina.

Finally, I also hope the new dean will receive the guidance and unremitting support that I received at this great University from the three presidents, four Chancellors, and four provosts under whom I served. They were also great teachers, and they have my thanks!

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Stamm".

John Stamm, DDS
Professor and Dean



Stamm Takes His Leave

By Kelly Almond, a member of the Dean's Suite

At last, he has an office that is both permanent and pristine. And now he's going to leave it. For fourteen years of a fifteen year tenure, he played the nomadic dean. He worked out of boxes in artless rooms between the interruptions of five different moves to five different temporary office locations. Ordering stationery was a nightmare and settling in an impossibility.

To him it was a happy bother. It was his way of sharing in the necessary inconvenience of construction and renovation that comes with a School that is both growing, and growing older.

2003 promised the last of the nomad's life with the completion of a newly renovated and permanent site for the Dean's office at the UNC School of Dentistry. Stationery was ordered in bulk, paintings were hung, and settling in commenced.

Little more than a year has passed, but the boxes are back. Only this time, John Stamm is boxing up and stepping out of the Dean's Suite for good.

STAMM, the Statesman

"Statesmen create; ordinary leaders consume. The ordinary leader is satisfied with ameliorating the environment, not transforming it; a STATESMAN must be a visionary and an educator."

—HENRY KISSINGER

1989 didn't mark the best of times for dentistry and dental education in America. The 1980s brought a prevailing sense among the practicing dental community that the nation's schools had produced a glut of dentists—more than necessary to meet the needs of a population that, with the help of water fluoridation, better nutrition and education, was suffering noticeably less tooth decay.

Many dental professionals



began to feel at odds with dental education. Pressure to reduce the number of graduating dentists led some schools of dentistry to close their doors. Optimism in the profession was on the decline.

UNC wasn't entirely sheltered from the storm. By the mid 1980s, the number of students applying to the School began to

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drop off dramatically. 1989 saw the lowest number of applications to dentistry in North Carolina in decades.

Unhappily, this nadir in applicants coincided with the silent phase of the University's first large-scale fundraising effort—the Bicentennial Campaign.

All at once, the School found itself facing its smallest applicant pool in years, beleaguered relationships with its alumni and the dental community, and an unprecedented goal to raise \$6 million in private support.

Clearly there was work to do.

That work fell to John Stamm when he accepted the deanship in November 1989.

Then-Chancellor Paul Hardin gave Stamm a singular mandate upon his hire: work well with wet-fingered dentists, and raise some dimes.

To some on the outside, Stamm might have seemed a curious, even unlikely, choice to carry out this mandate. He was a Canadian in the American South who had not yet met the time requirement necessary to become a citizen of the United States. He'd been an associate dean of research but had no prior

fundraising experience. And by his own admission, "gregarious" isn't an apt description. In such taut professional times, one might reasonably conclude he'd been set up for failure.

But Stamm didn't conclude this.

After all, it wasn't the first time he'd embraced a challenge. Upon graduating from dental school in Alberta in 1967, Stamm packed up his DDS to "do his bit for his country" and headed east to serve as the first full-time dentist in the Arctic of northern Canada.

His practice demographic spanned a full 1,000 frigid miles.

Routine for those days included travel by two-seater plane, snowmobile or canoe to reach and treat Eskimos in tiny villages, many of whom had never seen a dentist before. With no medical centers or oral surgeons to refer complicated cases to, Stamm grappled alone with extreme cases of tooth decay, periodontal disease, and the occasional, inevitable, hunting injury.

While "ability to canoe" was absent from the job description here, the challenges facing the new dean of the School of

Dentistry nevertheless required something of a frontiersman's ethos: steadiness, evenness of temper, a propensity for innovation, practicality, and a thoroughly can-do spirit.

In this, Stamm provided the perfect fit. In a crisply reasoned and organized fashion, he assessed the School's areas of strength, uncovered the areas of need and laid out a plan to address the challenges of the day.

First item of business: Open the lines of communication. Despite the seemingly grim professional forecast and the shortage of applicants, the School of Dentistry at UNC remained in remarkably good shape. Boasting arguably the finest dental faculty assembled anywhere in the nation, the School's ranking among dental education institutions remained top-two.

This was information people needed to know. North Carolina had a gem—a profoundly useful gem—that provided a great good for its citizens and a fulfilling career for its alumni. It should instill pride. It was worthy of support.

To get this word out, Stamm hired Wendy McCorkle to serve

“John stressed that he really wanted to get out and meet the alumni — to meet dentists in their offices, see their practices, and tell them that the School was there for them... No town was too small...” — WENDY McCORKLE

as the full-time director of the School’s foundation, the Dental Foundation of North Carolina (DFNC). Having worked to raise money for both the School and the University in the past, McCorkle possessed valuable knowledge for a novice Dean facing a daunting capital campaign.

“When he hired me, he admitted that he had never raised money before and didn’t quite know how it was done. He was candid, didn’t have an ego and was very willing to learn,” McCorkle remembers, then adds with a wink, “It was refreshing.”

Together McCorkle and Stamm began to tour the State. “John stressed that he really wanted to get out and meet the alumni—to meet dentists in their offices, see their practices, and tell them that the School was there for them.”

She laughs, “No town was too small for us to go to.”

Stamm’s study of the face of North Carolina dentistry took him to countless dental practices across the state. It took him to some less likely places, too. Gamely touring farmlands, steel mills, every inch of redecorated houses, even NASCAR facilities, Stamm came to welcome some unexpected fillips in his ongoing education into the State’s dental community.

He attended meetings too. “He began right away to establish relationships with the profession’s organizations in North Carolina,” recalls Dr. Ken May, associate dean for administration and long-time member of the faculty. “He sought out the North Carolina Dental Society and the

NC State Board and made it clear that the School was interested in partnering with them to address the issues facing the profession in the State.”

Wherever he went, he listened.

“I think his sincerity is obvious to people,” McCorkle says. “It is clear he is interested in their thoughts and what they have to say.”

Margaret Raynor, former DFNC president, and daughter and wife of dentists, agrees. “The first time I met John, I remember being struck that he asked about me—not how I was related to dentistry, but who I was, what I did, what I thought was important—that so impressed me. He struck me as genuine. He is.”

“I think he surprises people who meet him for the first time,” adds Paul Gardner, who replaced McCorkle as director of the DFNC in 1998. “They expect to meet someone with an ego, or someone stuffy or intimidating.

They don’t expect him to be unassuming and interested in them, but he is.”

That interest, coupled with his earnest desire for the School to succeed and benefit the people of North Carolina, has garnered a decided response from both alumni and non-alumni alike.

Indeed, the response has been overwhelming.

Dr. Jim Harrell, Sr., co-chairman of the School’s Bicentennial Campaign and current chairman of its Carolina First campaign, shakes his head: “There is no question about it. The School owes much of the success it has had in fundraising to John Stamm. People give to the School because they believe in the work Stamm is doing there.”

McCorkle concurs: “John created a spirit of support and a feeling of family—that we could all support the School together and should work toward that goal *together*. Over time, donors—both alumni and non-alumni—

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became part of a family of people tied together by the School.”

How has that family done in their work on behalf of the School and its future?

Blew by the daunting \$6 million Bicentennial Campaign goal. Doubled it, in fact.

In 1989, the total endowment of the DFNC stood at \$3.3 million and offered roughly \$150,000 in annual support to the School. Two fellowships, one distinguished chair, and three scholarships had been established.

Harrell chuckles, “You know how we have that dinner each year to honor the donors and recipients of the scholarships and fellowships? We could’ve hosted that dinner in the men’s room

back then.”

Today that dinner requires every inch of a ballroom for the 36 endowed scholarships and 26 endowed fellowships that annually pay out more than a quarter of a million dollars in support to students.

Including the 10 endowed professorships for dentistry that are held in UNC’s Foundation—all but one of which came during Stamm’s tenure—the DFNC’s endowment stands at roughly \$25 million. That’s a staggering 833% increase in fifteen years; critical support for a School that has seen its annual budget fall from 52% State dollars to under 33% in the same period of time.

And then, of course, there’s

Tarrson Hall.

“We can thank John Stamm for that too,” Harrell stresses.

Raynor agrees: “Bud Tarrson wasn’t an alumnus. He gave the School the money for that building because he thought so much of John. That gift came from a genuine, personal relationship between the Stammers and the Tarrsons. Bud liked what John was doing at UNC.”

Today’s students at the School of Dentistry can’t imagine their academic experience without Tarrson Hall. The seven-year-old building with all of its space and modern equipment and shiny new clinics is simply a given.

Not so to the students and faculty who were here before the 89,000 sq. ft. structure added 43 percent more space to the School’s existing buildings. They remember all too well shimmying by equipment, patients and each other to get their work done in the ragtag, claustrophobic clinics and labs supplied by the 30-year-old Brauer Hall.

“So many good things have come together for the School over the last decade and a half—Tarrson Hall is just one of them,” adds McCorkle. “Of course, John isn’t the only one responsible for those things, but he’s responsible for a lot.”

“He’s also done tremendous things to increase the international profile of the School of Dentistry,” points out Harrell. “He’s put us on the world map.”

He’s done that by traveling a lot of it. Keeping a flight schedule that would weary a much younger person, Stamm’s international activities on behalf of the

“And of course I just love Carol!”

dental profession and the School have included stints as a visiting professor at the University of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 15 years on the expert advisory panel on Oral Health for the World Health Organization, and membership on the international advisory panel to the vice chancellor of the National University of Singapore.

In 2003, Stamm received Dentist of the Year Award, the Academy of Dentistry International's highest honor, for his global professional efforts. In typical fashion, no one at the School learned of the prestigious award from him.

“I believe somewhere there's a copy of his CV that includes all the honors and awards he's received on it,” recalls May, “but I think his assistant had to put it together and it's buried deep in a file somewhere. She'd have to dig to find it. He just doesn't bring that stuff up.”

Stamm is equally demure when asked what accomplishment at the School he's most proud of. “Well, it's not my accomplishment,” he

comes down here, we were in Montreal and had two small boys and I loved my job. I knew nothing about the South or what to expect living here. I wouldn't have believed then that I would feel about the School and North Carolina the way I do now.”

Her first impressions of the Tar Heel State? “I thought everyone had had their sweat glands removed,” she deadpans. “We went to a football game on our first visit here and it was incredibly hot. We dressed in shorts and golf shirts and still, we were melting. Everyone around us was dressed in suits and no one was panting—not even dabbing their brow!”

“Of course, I also remember that everyone was friendly. At the gas station, at the grocery store, everyone asked about our family and the boys. That's the character of the South, I guess.”

Today, North Carolina is simply home. “We raised our family here and we have such good friends here. I can't imagine leaving.”

“John and I have talked a lot about the School recently,” she confides. “We recognize what a privilege his being Dean has been for us personally. Our lives are fuller for the people we've come to know and the experiences we've had. It's been fulfilling work for John—a way to care for people broadly—and I've enjoyed so much being part of the dental and Carolina community. Going to graduation each year, visiting with friends at events and conferences,” she winks “and, of course, basketball games—it's all been fantastic.”

“After having the School at the center of our lives for so long, it will be hard to take a step back from it,” she admits upon considering the prospect of no longer being in the Dean's office. “It's been such a great experience, I don't want it to end.”

They do.

“I've loved being a part of this,” sighs Carol as she waves her hand expansively. “The School has given us—given me—so much. We've made so many wonderful friends, and we've had opportunities to do things and meet people that we never would have otherwise.”

Still, she concedes with a laugh that she needed a little coaxing to come here. “When John got the opportunity to

We know just how you feel.

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“I think in a lot of ways he’s brought dentistry back in this State. It’s prestigious again. People feel good about it and about the School, and it’s a profession a lot of students are interested in entering.” — MARGARET RAYNOR

clarifies, “but I’m proud that we’ve been able to maintain a strong balance across the curriculum at the School. We’re known for the strength of all of our units—not just one or two.”

He pauses for a moment and understates “I’m also pleased that the School fared well in two accreditation cycles,” and then its onto the next subject.

Others view his accomplishments with less modesty. “I think in a lot of ways he’s brought dentistry back in this State. It’s prestigious again. People feel good about it, and about the School, and it’s a profession a lot of students are interested in entering,” concludes Raynor.

Students are interested in entering it in record numbers, apparently. Last year saw the largest number of applicants to the School of Dentistry in decades.

At the same time, alumni and friends are returning to the School in record numbers, too. Participation has increased in a host of activities—many instituted under Stamm’s tenure—including the Best of Dentistry

Dinner, the DFNC Golf Tournament, and the Dean’s Club Dinner, not to mention the countless renowned continuing education programs the School offers.

The University regularly boasts the top-tier rankings of the School of Dentistry, acknowledging our success as a feather in Carolina’s cap. And it sends many of its luminaries to the School’s faculty practice for their dental care.

As for the status of the School’s current \$30 million Carolina First campaign? Goal met with three years to go.

STAMM, the Geek

“You on the cutting edge of TECHNOLOGY have already made yesterday’s impossibilities the commonplace realities of today.”

—RONALD REAGAN

A 1989 North Carolina Dental Review article introducing John Stamm as the School’s new

dean is accompanied by a small photo of him in his office. There’s something disconcerting about it. His desk is empty. Not thoroughly empty—there’s a stack of files and a framed photo, even a phone—but something’s still amiss.

Where are the wires? The monitor? The printer? The mouse? And surely that’s not a *dial* there on that phone.

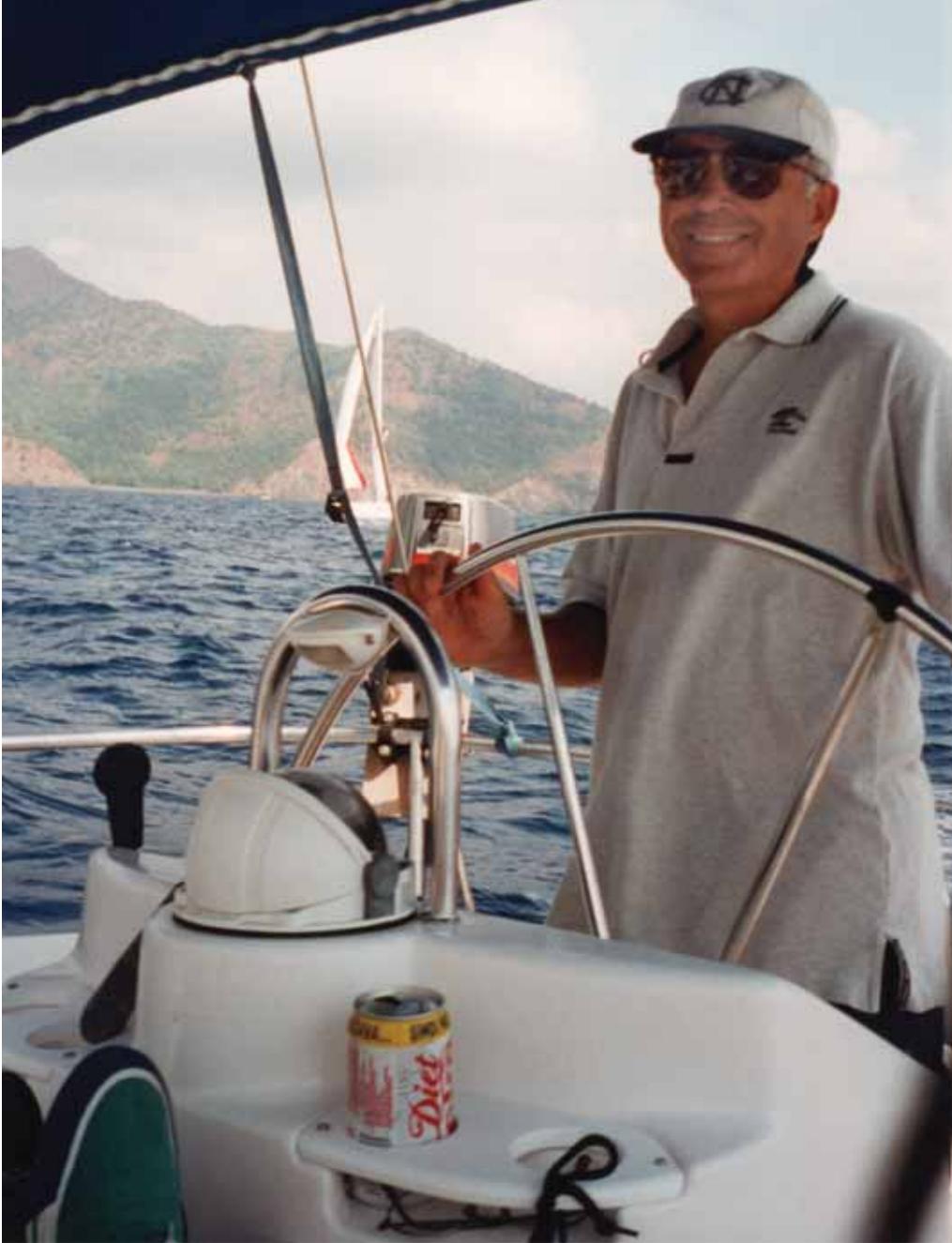
Indeed, a look down from the vertiginous technological heights of the year 2004 makes the beginning of Dean Stamm’s tenure seem much further back than a mere 15 years. But his prescience for the coming technological tidal wave was clear early on: he pointed to “UNC’s early application of computers to the patient care system” as among the key attractions that initially drew him to Tar Heel country.

It doesn’t come as much of a surprise, then, that faculty regularly point to the School’s leading-edge technological infrastructure as among Stamm’s greatest accomplishments.

“He was one of the first to recognize the need to keep ahead of pace in the area of technology,” says May. “He started early to put the structure in place to do that.”

Today, every school on UNC’s campus has an office devoted to the computers, networks and systems that comprise “information technology” (or IT). Not so a decade ago. The School of Dentistry was among the first on campus to hire staff and create a department—the Office of Communication and Information Systems—devoted entirely to IT and to up-fitting the School to





enter and thrive in the digital age.

As early as 1991, computer hardware in the School had been standardized, by 1992 e-mail was introduced on a large scale, and by 1994 computers were installed in student clinics to allow direct student entry of treatment procedures and direct faculty entry of grades. By early 1996, the School had launched its first Web site.

Meanwhile, careful plans were being laid for Tarrson Hall, the much-anticipated state-of-the-art clinical teaching facility that was to be thoroughly equipped to meet the technological demands

of the coming millennium.

At a time when the cell-phone was a novelty roughly the size and weight of a brick and "PDA" served only to abbreviate "Public Display of Affection", Stamm marshaled the knowledge of School faculty and technology experts to ensure that their 1994 Tarrson Hall planning sessions would not yield a building hopelessly out of date by 2004's technological standards.

In that, they succeeded. The now seven-year-old Tarrson Hall stands as a coveted bellwether for schools of dentistry across the

nation, gracefully accepting the demands of today's smaller, sleeker, faster technologies and ready for what comes tomorrow. A peek inside her walls reveals digital radiography as the standard, paper patient charts on their way to obsolescence, and patients having inlay impressions taken by optical robotic devices that fashion perfect ceramic restorations in only a matter of minutes.

That's a pretty fair piece from a Quonset Hut.

While Tarrson Hall is perhaps the shiniest example of the School's embrace of technology under Stamm, it's certainly not the only one. Over the past 15 years, advancements in technology have profoundly affected the learning environment for students.

Paper is going the way of the horse and buggy. Laptops have replaced spiral notebooks, the syllabus is digital, and the Web brings, well, a wide world of information to the fingertips. With e-mail and instant messaging, faculty and fellow students can be consulted almost anywhere at any time and lectures are accompanied by slick graphic aids.

Too, the research equipment and modalities practiced today in the School's renowned Dental Research Center (DRC) can hardly be compared to those of a decade and a half ago. To describe them only as sleeker, smaller and faster is to grossly understate both the advancements in medical research and in medical research technologies of recent years.

The work of the DRC over

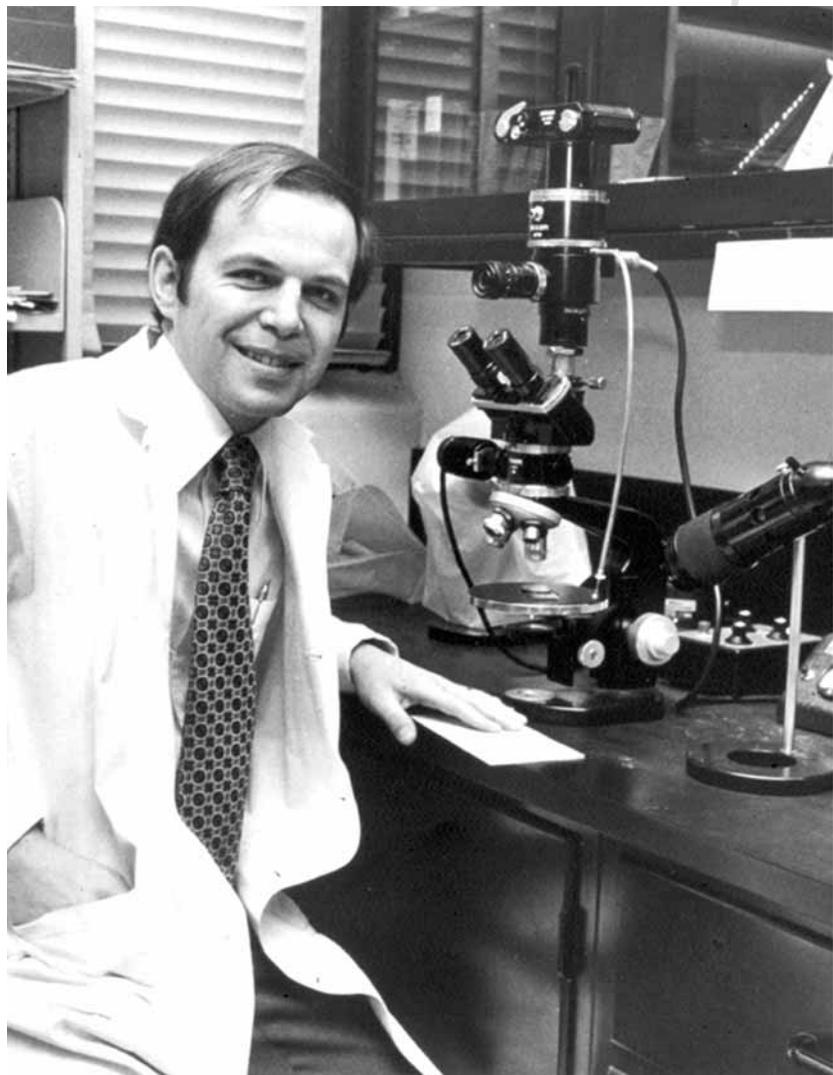
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the past decade has placed the School of Dentistry in the highest echelon of dental research institutions, boasting world class centers in the study of inflammation, oral and systemic disease, genomics and sensory-neurosciences. Generating roughly 10 million in research dollars annually and consistently ranking in the top five in research funding by the National Institutes for Health, the DRC is widely considered among the jewels in Carolina's crown.

Dr. Pat Flood, who replaced Stamm in 1990 as the School's associate dean for research, tips his hat to his predecessor: "Dean Stamm's consistent support of the DRC, his vision to recognize up and coming areas of importance in research, and his willingness to put resources and the weight of his office behind the work we do here has been vital to our success."

With so much emphasis on these latest technological implementations, you may be tempted to think Dean Stamm and the School a bit gadget-happy. On the contrary—Stamm is quick to point out that our emphasis on leading-edge technologies is a strategic one, steering clear of the "bleeding-edge" by carefully studying what are viable trends and tools, and what are simply the latest available technobables.

Access to leading-edge technology factored into Stamm's decision to come to UNC 20 years ago. It remains a principal ingredient in any success we have in recruiting and retaining the top faculty of today. With each passing day, it becomes more and



more a vital component in our ability to fulfill the four-fold mission to provide the best in dental education, research, service and patient care.

STAMM, the Man

He whistles while he works—whole songs, mostly '60s vintage, with clearly identifiable verses and choruses. Those who work near him aren't sure if he knows this. With his pressed white shirts, ever-present tie and his general businesslike reserve, his whistling Beatles' tunes seems unlikely. But to those who work

with him, it's not only familiar, it's nice.

Having served for 15 years as the Dean and public face of the School of Dentistry, it's easy to assume that that's what there is: a budget-battling, world-traveling, hand-shaking, letter-writing, meeting-holding, event-emceeing, CEO and full-time figurehead with no time to be or do other things.

But of course there are other things.

He is a son who makes weekly phone calls and regular trips to visit parents Helmuth and Gerda Stamm who still live in Canada. He's a husband and father who, to support his wife Carol during her doctoral studies, often rose

Thank you

early to fix breakfasts and pack lunches for his sons Michael and Eric, now ages 34 and 32.

He speaks two foreign languages: French and German. And “he has the best grasp of grammar and the biggest vocabulary of anyone I’ve ever met,” confides Ken May with the look of one who’s had one too many letters edited.

When there’s time to spare, he likes to cook. “We’re talking Julia Child’s cooking,” Carol Stamm clarifies. “And he’s always calm no matter how many people he cooks for. The kitchen is always clean. And the food always looks beautiful and tastes good.” There’s wonder in the statement, as well as a hint of disgust.

He likes to sail, though he seldom gets the chance to anymore. He used to play hockey when there were ice rinks to be found, but now he favors a good round of golf or the occasional game of tennis.

Though an avid fan of Carolina sports, he’s not one to fly into a rage over a referee’s bad call, and Carol (an avid fan who will fly into the rage *for* him) confirms this:

“With John, what you see is really what you get. He’s not somehow a different person at home or on vacation than he is at the office. The way he handles huge budget cuts at the School is the same way he handles other things. He doesn’t ‘carry on,’ he just comes up with a plan and deals with the problem.”

She illustrates this delightfully: They decided to go camping, a favorite pastime of theirs in years gone by. Unbeknownst to them, a hurricane was headed in the

direction of their campground. For once, Stamm’s gift for organization failed him. Though equipped down to the cinnamon sticks for his wife’s hot rye, somehow the tent poles did not make their way to the campsite.

“It was pouring and I was crying. John just quietly set about chopping tree limbs and gathering sticks until he had enough to set up the tent, get me out of the rain and boil the water for my hot rye. He grilled us pork chops in the torrents, so cheerful I could’ve hit him,” she laughs.

To his staff, this illustration describes well the dean whose manner seldom changes in the face of whatever crisis may pop up; the same dean who is so careful to take time to speak to each one of them before he leaves for a trip. Even-keeled in some of the most trying circumstances, his staff use characterizations like “fair,” “full of integrity,” “honest,” “supportive,” and “thoughtful.”

For his part, Stamm feels warmly about his time spent at UNC and looks forward to returning after a year’s sabbatical to serve on the faculty.

“It’s been fantastic, it really has. I’ve enjoyed a lot of unique opportunities and I’ve met some extraordinary people during my time here. It’s a profound honor to serve this School and to have a hand in taking care of the people in this State.

“It’s been a privilege,” he says and then decides it bears repeating: “It’s been my *privilege*.”

It’s been ours, too. ■

“It’s been fantastic, it really has. I’ve enjoyed a lot of unique opportunities and I’ve met some extraordinary people during my time here. It’s a profound honor to serve this School and to have a hand in taking care of the people in this State.”

— JOHN STAMM





Dr. Tim Wright Named Chairman of Pediatric Dentistry

The Department of Pediatric Dentistry welcomed Dr. J. Timothy "Tim" Wright as its new chairman on July 1. Dr. Wright, already a faculty member in the department, takes over the reins from Dr. Mike Roberts who has chaired the department since 1994.

Of this appointment, Dean Stamm remarked, "This is an extremely important appoint-

ment for the School of Dentistry and its Pediatric Dentistry Department. First, we ensure that the Department will be led by a nationally and internationally regarded pediatric dentist.

Dr. Wright has enormous stature in academic dentistry, the specialty of Pediatric Dentistry, as well as the research community. This appointment will ensure that we retain Dr. Wright for UNC, thereby reinforcing our reputation for excellence in Pediatric Dentistry, as well as in the area of state-of-the-art genetic and genomics research. Additionally, Dr. Wright is a

wonderful teacher and mentor, and his positive approach to guiding students and young faculty will be well received. He is also a strong and active clinician, who relates equally well to the Pediatric Residents as to the practicing community, including the Pediatric Dentistry alumni. In short, I cannot think the Department could be guided and directed by a better all around leader than Dr. Wright."

Dr. Mike Roberts remains on faculty as the Henson Distinguished Professor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry.

School Honors First Class at Commencement

Members of the Class of 1954 were invited to join in Commencement exercises on May 9, 2004.

Dr. L. P. Megginson, Jr. of High Point; Dr. Robert Daniel of Reidsville; Dr. Clyde McCall of Blowing Rock; Dr. Frank Fowler of King; Dr. Alec Biddell of Laurinburg; Dr. Kenneth Young of Greensboro; Dr. Charles Harless of Raleigh



Everything Old is New Again

In June 2004, nearly three years of hard work showed gleaming results as the School cut the ribbon on the newly renovated Old Dental Building. Higher Education Bonds, overwhelmingly approved by North Carolina taxpayers in 2000, funded the renovation which was the building's second in 52 years. Check out these results!



It's Time to Make a Carolina Comeback!

Don't miss Dental Alumni Weekend October 8-9 in Chapel Hill.

Join your classmates, colleagues and friends for a weekend full of activities!

Join us at the Friday Center for Vendor Day on Friday afternoon for an opportunity to review the latest dental materials and services as representatives

from various dental supply companies exhibit their newest products.

Saturday morning, join reunion class members and other alumni, as well as speakers Greg Essick, Janet Southerland and Sally Mauriello for the Roy B. Harrell Symposium and a lively discussion of current topics. The program will conclude in time

for you to suit up for our fall football tailgate party and a Carolina victory over the NC State Wolfpack!

You won't want to miss this chance to spend the day with your classmates, colleagues and friends for CE and TDs!

For details, see our web site: www.dent.unc.edu/ or call 919-966-4563.

Calendar

2004 CONTINUING DENTAL EDUCATION COURSE CALENDAR

■ SEPTEMBER 2004

Friday–Saturday, Sept. 10–11

Friday, Sept. 24

Saturday, Sept. 25

Dental Photography: A Hands-On Experience

State-of-the-Art Complete Denture Therapy

Case-Based Approach to Dental Implant Rehabilitation

■ OCTOBER 2004

Thursday–Saturday, Oct. 7–9

Friday, Oct. 8

Friday, Oct. 8

Saturday, Oct. 9

Friday, Oct. 15

Monday–Friday, Oct. 18–22

Friday, Oct. 22

Friday, Oct. 29

Immediate Placement of Dental Implants Hands-On Course

4th Annual Bone Regeneration & Dental Implant Therapy Symposium

Clinical Excellence in Dental Assisting

17th Annual Roy B. Harrell Symposium ~ Alumni Weekend

Prevention & Management of Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office featuring Dr. Stanley Malamed

Orthodontic Mini Residency

New Aspects in Dentistry 2004 featuring Dr. Gordon Christensen

Recent Advances in Periodontal Medicine & Research

■ NOVEMBER 2004

Friday, Nov. 5

Friday, Nov. 5

Friday, Nov. 12

Friday, Nov. 12

Saturday, Nov. 13

Friday, Nov. 19

OSHA and Bloodborne Pathogens Annual Training Program

OSHA: Are YOU in Compliance?

Spa Dentistry: Just Say Ahhhh

The Treatment and Management of Sleep Disorders

Coronal Tooth Polishing for the Dental Assistant IIs

50th Annual Dental Seminar Day: Dental Esthetics - Implants and Teeth featuring Dr. Frank Higginbottom

■ DECEMBER 2004

Friday, Dec. 3

Friday, Dec. 10

Restoration of the Endodontically Treated Tooth Hands-On course

An Interdisciplinary Approach to Restorative & Esthetic Dentistry

For Additional CE Course Information Please Contact:

Continuing Dental Education

UNC School of Dentistry, Brauer Hall, CB 7450, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7450

Phone: (919) 966-2729, Fax: (919) 966-8954

Email: cde@dentistry.unc.edu



Student Profile

ASHLEY PULEO

By Ning Zhou

At age 25, Ashley Puleo is looking to get the most out of life. Puleo, a first-year student at the UNC School of Dentistry, played varsity sports as an undergraduate at Emory, worked as an Emergency Response Specialist and a HAZMAT technician with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and educates children on oral healthcare. She is also Miss North Carolina USA.

Puleo, a Pinehurst native, was crowned Miss North Carolina USA in October and named second-runner up in the Miss USA competition this past April. For Puleo, her participation in



pageants does not define her any more than other things she has done; it is just another way she serves her community and discovers new experiences.

“Winning the title of Miss North Carolina USA is just one way I can have a positive impact on my community,” said Puleo. “I participated in the Special Olympics and spoke at numerous fund-raisers. It gave me the opportunity to travel across the state

and make a difference.”

Puleo got her start in pageants at an early age through the influence of her mother.

“My mother participated in pageants in her youth and placed second-runner up in a Miss New York pageant,” said Puleo. “She always believed her experience with pageants helped her develop more confidence and public speaking skills. Participating in pageants has played a big role in

*continued on
next page*

my life, but I've always tried to balance that with other activities and goals."

Although the first few competitions she participated in were nerve racking, Puleo eventually felt more comfortable on stage and in front of an audience as she got older.

"There's only one winner in these competitions, so you have to try to get more out of the experience than just money or a trophy," said Puleo. "I never did well in pageants as a child, but brushed it off and just enjoyed the experience. Pageants have helped build my confidence, but most importantly, it's taught me balance in life."

Part of that balance includes achieving both academic and professional success. Puleo completed her undergraduate and master's degrees at Emory University and is currently pursuing a DDS degree at the School of Dentistry.

"I definitely have an alter ego," said Puleo. "On one hand, I enjoy competing in pageants and being in the spotlight, but on the other hand, I like to balance that by spending a lot of time with family and friends. For now, I'm looking forward to getting back to class and continuing my research assistant position in the orthodontic department. I'm just trying to keep focused on graduating."

The oldest of six children, Puleo's family has always played a big role in her life.

"Both my parents are physicians, and seeing the positive influence they have in their patients' lives influenced me to pursue a profession in healthcare," said Puleo. "Although they have busy careers, they've always made family a top priority. My appearance on national television was just as important as my younger sibling's spelling test that week. We are incredibly supportive of

each other."

Eventually, Puleo hopes to channel her communications skills, her experience in front of the camera, and her interest in healthcare into a career as a health correspondent.

Meanwhile, Puleo continues to explore her options; she recently shadowed a doctor from ABC's "Extreme Makeover" to learn more about cosmetic dentistry.

"One of the most important aspects of being a physician or dentist is the ability to communicate with patients," said Puleo. "Making a personal connection with patients makes the biggest difference, and I think the combination of my personal, professional and academic experiences will allow me to relate to my patients in different ways." ■

Ruiz First Recipient of Harris Award Honoring Former UNC Dental Assistant

Rachel Ruiz, DA Class of 2004, received the inaugural Sheila Harris Award honoring former UNC School of Dentistry employee Sheila Harris at the Spurgeon Dental Awards Banquet in March. Dr. Bobby Elliott, '98 MS, established the annual award in recognition of Harris, who formerly served as a dental assistant in the department of pediatric dentistry, "for her contributions as an outstanding dental assistant and co-worker."

The award comes with a cash prize of \$500 and will be given each year to the DA student who best follows Harris' example.



UNC Student National Dental Association Receives Award



In May 2004, the Student National Dental Association received the Student Award for excellence in and commitment to the area of dentistry for persons with disabilities, sponsored by Special Care Dentistry and the Academy of Dentistry for Persons

with Disabilities. This honor recognized the group's participation in the Special Olympics Special Smiles® program at the Special Olympics 2003 Summer Games in Raleigh, NC.

Martha Taylor, BSDH '75, serves as Coordinator for Special

Smiles. Rhonda Kearney, SNDA immediate past president, served as the SNDA facilitator of the event. Special Olympics Special Smiles® is one of the core components of the Special Olympics Healthy Athletes initiative, created to focus attention on the overall health issues facing Special Olympics athletes. The mission of Special Smiles is to increase access to dental care for Special Olympics athletes, as well as all people with intellectual disabilities.

Participation in Special Smiles provides students an excellent way to increase exposure in patient management, instruction and treatment of individuals with disabilities. SNDA continued their relationship with Special Smiles by volunteering for a second straight year on June 5, 2004.

A World of Opportunities

Each year, the educational aspirations for a number of students in the DDS program take flight. This year has been no different with more than a dozen students doing "Dentistry in Service to Community" or "DISC" rotations on foreign soil.

Where on earth might you find these Tar Heel dentists-in-training?

- Jason Annan, Wesley Bridges, and Warthen Douglass are at Adelaide Hospital, Australia
- Sarah Beckham and Meredith Smith are at Somerton Park Hospital, Australia
- Harvey Harris and Joshua Millsaps are at the University of Melbourne, Australia
- McKenzie Steen and Julia Tyson are at Catholic University, Bolivia
- John Murdock and Sean Murdock are at Santa Catarina, Brazil
- Bich Duong Nguyen is at the Vietnam Dental Program, Danang
- Theodros Abraha is at Halibet Hospital, Eritrea
- Saeed Mehrabani is at the Madaen General Hospital, Iran
- David Kwon and Jae Lee are at the Korea University Medical Center

In addition to these international rotations, there are 34 students doing their DISC rotations in the Old North State in sites ranging from Asheville to Wilmington.



Student News Notes

Marsha Black, '03 BSDH, and **Jennifer Hamm** were recently awarded the American Dental Education Association (ADEA)/Oral-B Laboratories Scholarship for Dental Hygiene Students Pursuing Academic Careers at the ADEA annual meeting in Seattle in March. Oral-B sponsors the two \$2,500 scholarships each year, which are given to two registered dental hygienists enrolled in a bachelor degree completion program or a graduate degree program and who demonstrate commitment to a career in dental hygiene academia. Black and Hamm are rising second years in UNC's Master of Science degree program in Dental Hygiene Education. Black's minor is biological sciences and she is conducting her thesis research on power toothbrushing and dental cement abrasion/erosion. Hamm is an oral pathology minor and is researching periodontal therapy and metabolic control in diabetics.



Jessica R. Kiser, '04 BSDH, **Anna Kirakozova** and **Sean T. Murdock**, both members of the DDS Class of 2005, were awarded 2004 Hinman Scholarships at the 92nd Hinman Dental Meeting in Atlanta in March. The recipients are selected by the dean and must be junior student members of the American Dental Association as well as in the top 10 percent of their class.



Sajitha Kalathingal, a graduate student in Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology, received the

Sean Murdock (on left) and Anna Kirakozova (right)

prestigious Centennial Award for the most promising graduate student in oral and maxillofacial radiology in the second or third year of training in all radiology training programs in the US. The honor comes with a \$5,000 award. This award was conferred at the annual meeting for Oral and Maxillofacial Radiologists in Chicago.



Jin Yi Kwon, a graduate student, is one of five UNC Chapel Hill students who received the Carolina Center for Public Service's Robert E. Bryan Fellowship. The Fellowships, named in honor of UNC alumnus Robert E. Bryan, are given each summer to students to support public service projects addressing identifiable needs in the state. Kwon is working on a project providing oral health care to residents of the Beverly Healthcare-Starmount nursing home in Greensboro in an effort to educate the facility's caregivers on oral health issues and provide a new priority list for the resident dentist. Her faculty mentor is Dr. Eugene Sandler of the School of Dentistry's department of dental ecology, and her community partner is Dr. James Newman.



First and second year DDS students, **Sherry Caldwell**, **Alex Drake**, **Diana Dunleavy**, **Alecia Hardy**, **Jennifer Howard**, **Jason Jones**, **Crystal McCleary**, **Anna Sipe**, **David Slawinski**, and **Noz Yamauchi** participated in the 16th annual UNC Mexico Project in July. The goal of the project is to provide health education and to assist in the delivery of basic dental care to the nearly 1000 children who live in the Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos Orphanage in Miacatlan, Mexico. The trip provides information about oral health and preventive dental measures along with essential services to children who would otherwise not receive basic dental care.



Four UNC dental students, **Brad Picot**, **Christopher Durham**, **Archie Cook** and **Alkesh Sura** travelled to Malawi, Africa to engage in promoting oral health care and HIV/AIDS education and care in the capital city of Lilongwe. Malawi is a Sub-Saharan African nation with a population of 10 million with only six dentists in the entire country. One out of every three of the Malawi people is infected with HIV. The students spent three weeks in Malawi under the guidance of the University of Malawi's brand-new School of Dentistry, developed in collaboration with the UNC School of Dentistry. The faculty preceptor in Malawi is Dr.

Themba Nyirenda. Dr. Ronald P. Strauss is the UNC Faculty Advisor for the UNC Dental Malawi Project and the UNC Mexico Project.





More than 20 DDS students treated 17 patients during the 2004 Give Kids A Smile program on February 6.



Doing the Du

Team Shugars represents the USA during the Duathlon World Championship in Geel, Belgium



Dr. Dan Shugars (Professor, Operative Dentistry) and Dr. Diane Shugars (Associate Professor, Dental Ecology, '83, '88, '93) participated in the Duathlon World Championship race in Geel, Belgium, on May 31, 2004. The race, consisting of a 10k (6.2 mile) run, 42 k (25 mile) bike and 5 k (3.1 mile) run, drew more than 700 competitors from over 20 countries. Dan and Diane made the U.S.A.

team by finishing in the top of their 5-year age brackets at the Virginia Beach Duathlon, one of four qualifying races held earlier in the year in Virginia, Ohio, California and Alabama. "It was such an honor and privilege to represent the U.S. during this athletic event. It was a fantastic experience!" exclaimed Dan. "Being on the USA team together was a dream come true!" said Diane.

The event was held in the picturesque town of Geel (population of 10,000), located about a 1.5 hour drive northeast of Brussels. The multi-sport of duathlon is particularly popular in Belgium, which currently boasts the reigning champions in the elite male and U23 (under 23-year-old) male and female categories. The country is considered the birthplace of duathlon.

The town of Geel closed its doors to regular business to host the 3-day event, beginning with the Parade of Nations on May 29th. The athletes marched down the cobblestoned streets to the town square, rallying behind their respective flags and showing off their team uniforms. The groups ranged from a single young man from Argentina wearing a well-worn warm-up suit to the over 200-strong Great Britain team decked out in royal blue outfits complete with Aussie-style matching hats. The USA team, comprised of 122 duathletes,

sported matching red shirts emblazoned with "USA" and red, white and blue jackets. The American flag was carried by the five military duathletes on the team. Spectators and supporters from across the world lined the town center and shouted their support. After speeches from the town mayor, race director and the head of the international triathlon union, the event was officially opened. The festivities continued into the night with bands playing and people young and old dancing in the streets.

The elite men, elite women, junior and U23 groups raced on May 30th, while the age-group competitors raced on May 31st. The events were televised both locally on wide-screens and nationally on the local television channel. "Crowd support was awesome. Supporters lined the run and bike routes and were constantly cheering us on," Dan said. The spectator-friendly course consisted of a two-loop run route through the town, a three-loop bike route through the countryside, and a one-loop repeat of the run route. The technically challenging, flat route included several turns on each run and bike loop and included small segments over cobblestones.

Dan finished 3rd among the U.S. men and 23rd among the finishers in his 55-59 age group. This was Dan's second time on the USA duathlon team, having competed in the 2001 world championship race in Venray, the Netherlands.

Diane placed 6th among the U.S. women in the 45-

49 age group. "Since this was my first time on the team, my goals were modest: to finish the race, not be the last in my age group, and not be the last U.S. woman in my age group. I accomplished all of these and had a blast," Diane said.

Dan said that his most memorable time occurred on one of the group training rides held before the race. "On the sunny Saturday morning, hundreds of athletes from about 15 countries jumped in behind the 2-motorcycle police escort to ride the race course. As the peloton rolled out of town on the brick-paved road lined with cafes, flowers and watchful bystanders, several riders noted that 'it just doesn't get any better than this.' We cruised the course chatting with folks from distant lands. Although we all spoke different languages, we understood each other perfectly and shared the special moment. The race was our excuse for being there, but the true reason was to share special moments like that."

Diane's most vivid memories come from mingling with world-class athletes and enjoying the respect that drivers and cyclists showed to one another.

"Bikes and cars coexist marvelously on narrow, winding country roads." The experience was sweetened by the support from Captain Doug Pratt, a UNC SOD 2001 graduate now stationed in Germany, and his girlfriend Dr. Kristi Masterson, who traveled to Geel to watch Dan and Diane compete. Drs. Pratt and Masterson are members of the U.S. Army triathlon team and have competed in multisports events in the U.S. and Europe.

Diane, a top finisher in the NC Triathlon Series, and Dan, a two-time USA Triathlon All-American, share their knowledge of triathlon and duathlon with the local community as USA-Triathlon certified coaches and officials. They particularly enjoy working with novice triathletes in weekly triathlon training classes which they teach at the UNC Wellness Center at Meadowmont. "We are fortunate to be in an area that values an active, healthy lifestyle.

Multisport is quickly becoming popular among folks of all ages here," comments Diane.

In addition, the couple works with undergraduate students as faculty advisors for the UNC triathlon team. ■



Faculty Notes



Center for Educational Development and Informatics

Sharon Grayden, director, won the International Academy for Dental Research (IADR) Education Research Group's Faculty Award for 2004 for her paper "CDE Participation Levels for DDS/Course vs. Team/Course at Three Programs." This paper was presented at the 82nd General Session of the IADR held in Honolulu, HI in March. Her investigation revealed a need for more continuing education designed specifically for dental team members.



Department of Allied Dental Health



George

Mary George, associate professor and director, was honored at the American Dental Hygienists' Association

Annual Session in Dallas, TX as a 2004 recipient of the Pfizer/ADHA Award for Excellence in Dental Hygiene. The award program recognizes individual dental hygienists who have made a "significant impact on the practice and future of the dental hygiene profession." George was also awarded the 2004 American Dental Education Association (ADEA)/Sunstar/Harry W. Bruce Jr. Legislative Fellowship provid-

ing a unique three-month learning experience in Washington, D.C. While in Washington, the Fellow functions as an ADEA staff member in the Center for Public Policy and Advocacy (CPPA), working on issues on the legislative agenda.

Dr. Sally Mauriello, associate professor, completed the requirements for her doctoral degree which was conferred in August 2004 at NC State University. The degree is an EdD in Adult and Community College Education. Her dissertation title was Risk Modeling for Root Caries and Mortality in Older Adults.

Charlotte Peterson and **Deborah Fleming**, clinical associate professors of Dental Hygiene, have been selected to receive a 2004 Ueltschi Service-Learning Course Development Grant through the UNC Chapel Hill APPLES Service Learning program. Partnering with Durham Exchange Club Industries, a community-based rehabilitation program serving disabled adults in a sheltered workshop environment, second year dental hygiene students will be able to enroll in a newly developed course entitled "Community-Based Dental Hygiene Service Learning Facilitated Study." Course goals include assessment of basic dental health needs of clients including factors that limit access to dental care for this population and the development and implementation of educational programs to address dental care needs. Students will travel to the sheltered workshop facility to work

directly with clients and staff. **Rebecca Wilder**, associate professor and director of Graduate Dental Hygiene Education, has just completed a year as President of the Oral Health Research Group of the International Association of Dental Research. She also serves on the Council on Research for the American Dental Hygienists' Association.



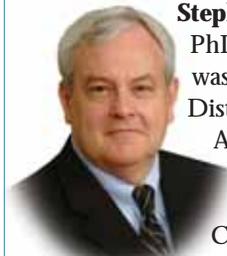
Department of Dental Ecology

Dr. Jennifer Webster-Cyriaque was promoted to associate professor on July 1, 2004.

Dr. Lauren Patton was promoted to full professor on July 1, 2004.



Department of Operative Dentistry



Bayne

Stephen Bayne, PhD, professor, was awarded the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year for the 1968 Class at Carleton College in June 2003. In January 2004,

Bayne was elected Vice President of the International Association for Dental Research and will serve as President in 2006-2007. In February, he became the first UNC School of Dentistry recipient of the UNC Professor of Teaching Excellence Award.

Dr. Harald Heymann, professor and director of graduate operative dentistry, was elected President of the American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry.

Dr. Theodore “Ted” Roberson,

professor, was elected President of the UNC Dental Alumni Association in April and served as the Class of 2004 Commencement speaker.



Roberson

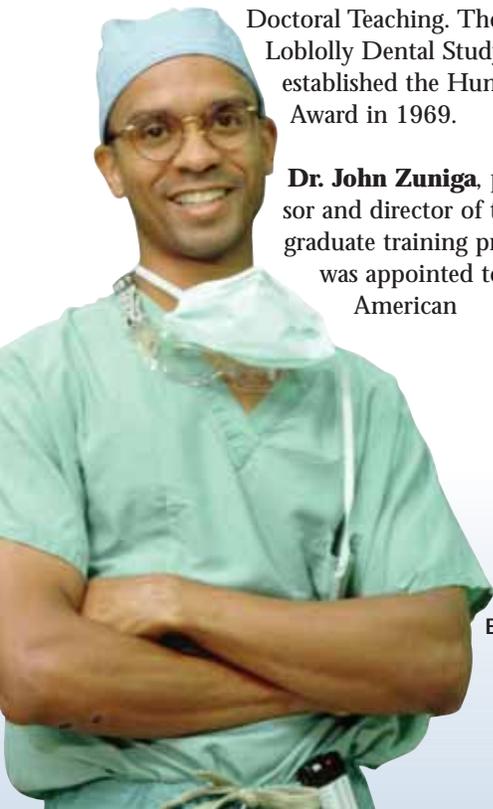
Dr. Jeff Thompson, associate professor, recently received funding for a three-year continuation of his National Institutes for Health grant entitled, “Thin Film Surface Coatings for Toughened Dental Ceramics.”



Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Dr. George Blakey, clinical assistant professor, was selected by the DDS student body to receive the 2004 Richard F. Hunt Memorial Award for Excellence in Pre-Doctoral Teaching. The Loblolly Dental Study Club established the Hunt Award in 1969.

Dr. John Zuniga, professor and director of the graduate training program, was appointed to the American



Blakey

Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Advisory Committee on Research and Technology Assessment.

Dr. Ramon Ruiz, clinical assistant professor, volunteered cleft lip and palate surgical services for AGAPE In Action in Oruiche, Guatemala.

Dr. Raymond P. White, professor, presented an update on “Third Molar Clinical Trials” to the Board of Trustees of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. A proposal for extending the study is pending.

Dr. Timothy A. Turvey, professor and chairman, was one of the U.S. representatives attending the Education Committee Meeting of the International Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Joint Committee Meeting in Chicago.



Department of Oral Pathology

Dr. Valerie Murrah has been elected by the American Dental Academy House of Delegates to serve as a member of the Council on Scientific Affairs.



Department of Pediatric Dentistry

Dr. Rocio Quinonez, adjunct assistant professor, won the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Foundation Research Award for her research, “Assessing Cost-Effectiveness of Sealant Placement in Children”.

Dr. Kristina Coffield, adjunct assistant professor, in May 2004 won the Ralph McDonald Award recognizing the best research by a graduate student. Dr. Coffield is



Coffield

a 2003 graduate of the UNC pediatric dentistry program. Her research was entitled “The Psychological Impact of Developmental Dental Defects in Amelogenesis Imperfecta.”

Dr. Michael Roberts, Henson Distinguished Professor, was elected Vice President and **Dr. Diane Dilley**, associate professor, was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer of the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry at the annual meeting hosted in San Francisco, CA in May.



Department of Prosthodontics

Dr. Greg Essick, professor, co-authored the second chapter in Clinical Oral Physiology with Dr. Mats Trulsson, associate professor of prosthetic dentistry at the Institute of Odontology, Karolinska Institute, Sweden. The recently published textbook for predoctoral dental students introduces current concepts in orofacial physiology and links basic and pathological mechanisms to commonly-encountered problems in dental practice. Dr. Essick teaches orofacial physiology and supervises students in the clinic. His research pertains to mechanisms underlying somatosensory perception and pain in healthy individuals and patients with sensory disorders.



Carolina First Campaign Update

Alumni and friends have helped our School of Dentistry top its \$30 million goal for the Carolina First Campaign: Building on Excellence. It's a nice early farewell gift for Dean John Stamm, who steps down from the deanship on December 31, 2004, and it gives us the opportunity to thank each donor and volunteer for making the campaign such a success. Thank you!

"We were a bit concerned about increasing our goal from \$20 million to \$25 million and then from \$25 million to \$30 million, but our alumni and friends have responded to our requests and helped us achieve each of those overall goals," Dr. Jim Harrell Sr., campaign chairman, says. "Even though we topped the \$30 million mark, we have unfinished business—\$3 million for a new building at the corner of Manning and Columbia Streets; \$2 million for student aid; \$1 million for endowed faculty support funds, and at least \$1 million for programs such as the craniofacial center and geriatric/special care dentistry."

THE NEW BUILDING

More than \$2 million has been committed to the construction of a new Oral Sciences Center on the corner of Manning and Columbia Streets. Currently in the early planning stages, the Center is expected to replace the old Dental Research Center, the Dental Office Building, and to provide additional teaching capacity for the future.

STUDENT AID

Almost 80% of School students require financial aid. While donors have committed to establish 30 new endowed student aid funds during the campaign and several more will be established through donors' estate plans, only about 11% of the School's DDS students currently earn Dental Foundation of North Carolina scholarships and fellowships each year.



FACULTY SUPPORT

There are more than 300 faculty openings at dental schools nationwide, fewer students are pursuing careers in dental education, and many faculty members are nearing retirement. Recruiting and retaining excellent faculty members is critical to the future of dental education in general and to the UNC School of Dentistry in particular.

PROGRAMS

The UNC Craniofacial Center, Geriatric Dental and Special Care Program, Oral and Maxillofacial Pain Program, the Advanced Education in General Dentistry Program, and others require private support to continue their work.

"We need to meet these individual goals, because private funds are critical to the School's operation and its continued excellence," Dr. Harrell says. "I'm confident we can top these goals, but there are still a good number of folks who haven't yet made a gift or five-year pledge. We need everyone to participate in some way, even if it's just \$100 a year.

"John Stamm and the entire faculty and staff have been working hard to keep us among the top dental schools," Harrell continues, "and the support from alumni and friends has reinforced all the good work that they have done."

"That philanthropic support to the Dental Foundation has already surpassed our campaign goal is fantastic, and I'm grateful to our alumni and friends for all they have done," Dean John Stamm says. "While we're proud that Dentistry is in a leadership position, we don't want to get caught up in the numbers. What's most important is that we take care of the very real needs we face in providing student assistance, faculty support, excellent facilities, and world-class programs. We are very encouraged by the successes, and we're not yet done." ■

For more information on how you can participate in the Dental Foundation of North Carolina and the School of Dentistry's Carolina First Campaign: Building on Excellence, contact Paul Gardner or Kelly Almond at (919) 966-2731 or by email at: paul_gardner@dentistry.unc.edu; kelly_almond@dentistry.unc.edu.

For Eldon Parks, DDS '63 and his wife, Zetta Parks, “giving back” is a family tradition

By Laura Ertel

When Eldon Parks was growing up in Elkin, NC, his parents worked in the mills. The family didn't have much money, but each Sunday they gave their son some coins to put in the collection plate at church.

Learning to give back was a lesson that stuck with Eldon Parks throughout his life, as he grew up, went to Guilford College, married his high school sweetheart, and did his duty in the military. It stayed with him through his years at the UNC School of Dentistry, and for nearly 40 years in private practice back in Elkin, where he and Zetta raised their two daughters.

Recently, Dr. and Mrs. Parks gave back to the dental school in a very special way when they established the Eldon and Zetta Parks Scholarship Fund. They have decided to contribute to the scholarship, which will be awarded to a UNC dental student based on academic performance and financial need, through annual payments, often from appreciated stock. In addition, they have designated a \$50,000 bequest in their wills that will ultimately go to an endowed scholarship fund with the Dental

Foundation of North Carolina (DFNC).

“Dentistry has been good to me and my family, and Zetta and I wanted to, in some small way, provide that opportunity for someone else,” Eldon Parks says. “I know the cost of a dental education rises each year, so we thought that a scholarship was a good way to do that. We wanted to go ahead and start giving back to the School of Dentistry now, and hopefully the bequest will come many, many years from now, after our needs are met.”

After graduating from the dental school in 1963, Dr. Parks started a dental practice in Jamestown, near High Point. But he and Mrs. Parks felt the pull of their hometown, and in 1965 they moved back to the place where they first met. Over the next four decades, Dr. Parks built a thriving general dentistry practice in Elkin. Eight years ago he brought in a partner, Dr. John

Wood—a fellow UNC dental school alumnus. Although Dr. Parks retired a year and a half ago, he still visits the office frequently, between meetings of the local hospital and bank boards on which he serves.

For Dr. Parks, the prospect of a career in dentistry was a dream early on in life, one that he was not sure would come true. Being accepted into the UNC School of Dentistry was also a dream fulfilled. Now, through the scholarship that Dr. and Mrs. Parks have generously created, they will help dreams come true for a new generation of students who wish to make a career, and a life, in dentistry. ■

Keith Macdonald, DDS '81 Practices the Art of Dentistry and the Spirit of Giving

By Laura Ertel

As an artist and a musician who also enjoys the sciences, Dr. Keith Macdonald was drawn to the field of dentistry.

"A dentist has to be an artist," he says. "I wanted to be in a medical field, and I'm good with my hands, so I chose dentistry. Plus, it's a career where you can be your own boss!"

After earning his B.S. in chemistry at Carolina in 1977, he enrolled at the School of Dentistry. In doing so, he continued a Macdonald family tradition of attaining multiple Carolina degrees. Between his brothers and sister, the family boasts advanced degrees in law, political science, pharmacology, and dentistry—all from UNC.

Dr. Macdonald graduated from the dental school in 1981 and started practices in Summerfield and Archdale, NC. He sold the Summerfield practice after a year, and has built the Archdale site into a thriving general and cosmetic dentistry practice that recently moved into a new, 4,000-square-foot office with nine operating stations. Within the next year, he will bring in a partner, also a graduate of UNC's dental school.

By gearing his practice toward cosmetic dentistry, Dr. Macdonald gets to apply his artistic bent. "In cosmetics, you have to visualize color, shape, and position, while also using technology and your knowledge of dentistry to help patients," Macdonald says.

It was at the School of Dentistry that Dr. Macdonald learned the skills to be a good restorative dentist, he says. "They're perfectionists over there, and they make you want to do things the right way."

In March, in appreciation for what he learned at the dental school, Dr. Macdonald made a \$25,000 gift to the Dental Foundation of North Carolina (DFNC) to establish the Dr. Keith T. Macdonald and Family Scholarship Endowment Fund. The fund, which he plans to add to over time, will benefit a UNC dental student based on financial need and academic performance.

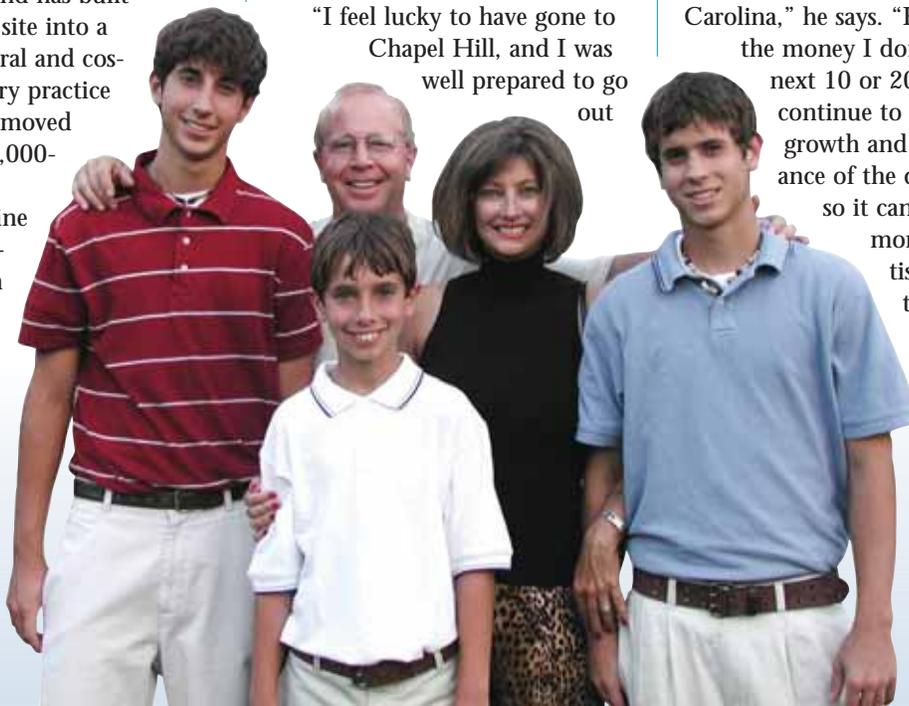
"I feel lucky to have gone to Chapel Hill, and I was well prepared to go out

into the world and do good quality dentistry," he says. "Chapel Hill allowed me to go there. Because of that, I've been able to fix millions of people's teeth for the last 23 years. I love my job. I love dentistry. I've been rewarded very well for being a dentist, so I wanted to give back—and will continue to give back—to help the school and the people there."

As it turns out, the best thing Dr. Macdonald got from dental school wasn't even his education. While on his public health rotation in Greensboro, he met a hygienist named Terri, who is now his wife. The Macdonalds have three sons; two are considering following their father's footsteps into dentistry. Their dad would love to see them at his alma mater someday.

If that happens, the younger Macdonalds will surely benefit from their father's vision.

"There's a need for dentists, especially in rural North Carolina," he says. "Hopefully, the money I donate over the next 10 or 20 years will continue to help the growth and performance of the dental school so it can turn out more good dentists to serve the community." ■



'90 Alumnus Establishes The Miguel and Carolina Hernandez Memorial Endowment

By Ning Zhou

The story of Dag Zapatero's journey to the United States from Cuba in the 1960s reads like an imaginary tale.

His exile from Cuba began when his grandparents, Miguel and Carolina Hernandez, brokered a deal with communist leaders in 1965 to gain safe passage of 13 family members out of Cuba. One of those family members was an uncle imprisoned by the communist government because of his political views. The story now continues with Zapatero's realization of his American dream 35 years later.

In January, Dr. Zapatero announced the establishment of the Miguel and Carolina Hernandez Memorial Endowment with a pledge to the Dental Foundation of North Carolina in memory of his grandparents. Miguel Hernandez was a Cuban businessman, whose success was vilified by the new communist government who had taken power in Cuba. Zapatero's grandmother Carolina was the principal influence in his life. The Hernandez Scholarship will be awarded for the first time this fall. It will provide a yearly stipend of at least \$1,000 to a DDS or dental hygiene student at the UNC School of Dentistry who is of Hispanic decent or a resident of Virginia.

"I established this endowment to keep the memory of my grandparents alive and to express my gratitude for their unselfish sacrifice," said Zapatero. "The joy and success I take pleasure in today is because of their desire to see their

family grow up in a free society. My hope is that the scholarship provides Hispanic students a little encouragement and support necessary to become successful dental professionals."

Today, Dr. Zapatero practices general dentistry from his solo practice in Virginia Beach, VA, a far cry from his immigrant roots in Madrid, Spain and subsequently on the southern shores of Long Island, NY.

In the years immediately following their arrival in America, Zapatero recalls sharing a house with 14 family members and helping his parents develop a family business out of their home. "My mother started working door-to-door with sales to other Hispanic families she'd discovered in the white pages of our local phonebook, and eventually the business evolved into Maria's Boutique, a small department store," said Zapatero. "It was always understood that everyone in the family would chip in and help out. I started helping out at the store at the age of 10."

As the first Hernandez grandchild to graduate from a U.S. college, Zapatero believes that the biggest lesson he has learned from his life experiences is the importance of education. As a dental student Zapatero was introduced to the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD), which encourages dentists to improve the quality of comprehensive dental care to patients through continuing dental education. This summer Zapatero will receive his mastership from



the AGD in Anaheim, CA.

"My family always stressed education and hard work," said Zapatero. "They knew education was my ticket to a better life. I grew up fully believing that achieving the American dream was possible, and it really motivated me to work hard and excel. I also think that the best part about reaching that success is being able to give back. With the rising cost of dental education, the endowment is a wonderful way to encourage Hispanic students interested in the profession, while honoring the memory of my grandparents."

"Carolina has greatly impacted my life in a positive way," said Zapatero. "The curriculum and training at the School of Dentistry gives its graduates an advantage in the practice. I am proud to be a graduate from the School of Dentistry and happy to help support students while providing a legacy for my grandparents and family." ■

Why We Give



RETIRED PROFESSOR JACK SOWTER AND HIS WIFE, JACKIE

“I have a soft spot in my heart for the dental school. It gave me the tools to be successful in private practice.”

JACK SOWTER, DDS

By Laura Ertel

The sign on their front door reads “One nice person and one grouch live here,” but anyone who knows Dr. Jack Sowter from his decades on the faculty of the UNC School of Dentistry knows that, beneath that sometimes gruff exterior, beats a heart of gold.

The most recent sign of his true warmth and generosity is a charitable remainder trust he and Mrs. Sowter created that will ultimately benefit the dental school.

Both of the Sowters have

strong ties to the school: they actually met here. Dr. Sowter, a prosthodontist, joined the faculty of the then-fledgling dental school in 1952 after earning his DDS at the University of Pennsylvania. From 1952 to 1972 he was director of clinics and built a reputation as an outstanding teacher. He left the School to go into private practice in Raleigh, then returned in 1996 to resume teaching and direct the dental laboratories until semi-retiring this year. Jackie Sowter started the school’s insurance office while working here for 20 years.

Both have fond feelings for Carolina, so when they sold some land that had appreciated considerably, they saw a win-win opportunity.

“We knew that when I retired, we would need some income,” he says. “So when we sold the land, rather than pay taxes on it, we put the proceeds into a charitable remainder trust and made the Dental Foundation of North Carolina the beneficiary. That way, we got a nice tax credit, we get an income while we’re still alive, and when we die the money can go to the DFNC, which provides critical private support for the School. Anybody who has

an asset that has increased in value should think about a trust, because there are a lot of individual benefits as well as the ultimate benefit that the school will have.”

Dr. Sowter admits “I have a soft spot in my heart for the dental school. It gave me the tools to be successful in private practice. Both from being on the faculty, and from my work with the NC Dental Society and the State Board of Dental Examiners, I have a great deal of admiration for the school, so it was a good place to contribute.”

The current chair and a longtime member of Wake County’s Health and Human Services Board, Dr. Sowter encourages his fellow dentists to contribute to their field and their communities. “It’s very important for all of us to be active in our Dental Society to preserve the profession, and to be involved in civic activities to improve the world we live in.”

Sounds like there are two “nice people” living in the Sowter home, after all! ■



Class Notes

We want to hear from you! Please keep your fellow classmates, colleagues and friends informed of your news. Drop us a note in the enclosed envelope or send us an email at alumni@dentistry.unc.edu and we'll include your news in the next issue of the *North Carolina Dental Review*.

... 1975 ...

John Lauten, DDS, was promoted to the rank of Captain in the U. S. Navy Dental Corps in the summer of 2003. He developed a comprehensive presentation in Emergency Care for Temporomandibular Disorders (TMD) and Prevention of Chronic Orofacial Pain for Independent Duty Corpsmen (IDC) that was included in the Navy-wide 2003 Dental Emergencies Compact Disc for IDCs and Medical and Dental Officers. In the summer of 2004, he and his wife, Sylvia, will return to North Carolina for his third tour at Camp Lejeune as Command Specialty Advisor in TMD and Orofacial Pain.

John Olmsted, DDS, (MS '78) was elected vice president of the American Association of Endodontists in May 2004.

... 1978 ...

Sandra Madison, DDS (BSDH '71, MS '81) is currently serving as the first woman president of the American Association of Endodontists.

... 1978 ...

Brent A. Larson, DDS, is currently in practice with his two brothers in Salt Lake City, UT. He serves on the State Board of Dental Examiners and is an examiner for the Western Regional Examiners Board. He and his wife, Mary, have four children, three of whom are currently in college. The fourth is in high school.

... 1982 ...

David Gordon Hipps, DDS, son Matthew recently accepted a scholarship to run track and cross country at UNC-Charlotte. His oldest son, Michael, is a junior at Dartmouth College and is a

member of the swim team competing in butterfly and backstroke events.

... 1983 ...

Bobby M. Collins, DDS, received the Faculty Appreciation Award from the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine Class of 2005. He is also expected to appear in the 2004 edition of "Best Dentists in America."

... 1987 ...

Nona I. Breeland, DDS (BSDH, '73, MS '90) is president-elect of the North Carolina Dental Society.

Sharon Nicholson Harrell, DDS, published her article entitled "Tips for the General Dentist in Managing Slightly Uncooperative Patients" in the Journal of the American Dental Association in the December 2003 issue.

*continued on
next page*

Class Notes, *continued*

Michelle Anderson Massie, DDS, and staff opened a dental office in Roanoke Rapids in partnership with Dr. James A. Harrold (Harrold & Associates, DDS, Dental Care Centers) in February. She and the staff are enjoying the small town atmosphere of Roanoke Rapids and the friendliness of the patients. Dr. Massie has three children: Victoria, age 14; Christina, 10; and Samuel 8. She and her children bought a house in Roanoke Rapids in 2002 which they are remodeling. They enjoy taking part in church activities at Oak Grove Baptist Church in Littleton.

■■■ 1989 ■■■

Terryl A. Propper, MS, was appointed to the Board of Directors of the American Association of Endodontists in May 2004.

■■■ 1992 ■■■

Carolyn Newman, CDA, was awarded her bachelor of science degree in Health Occupations Education from North Carolina State University in May '04 and has enrolled in their Masters in Education program for the fall '04. She is currently serving as president of the Durham-Orange Dental Assistants Association and as president-elect of the North Carolina Dental Assistants Association.

■■■ 1996 ■■■

Stephanie Hackney Bagley, DDS, recently underwent an

office expansion and hired an associate dentist. She has three children: Deuce (2 1/2 years old), Charleigh Gray (1) and a new baby born in May.

■■■ 1997 ■■■

Sandy M. Stovall, DDS, enjoys singing as a member of the Charlotte Contemporary Ensemble and recently performed in the Broadway opera "Porgy and Bess" to rave reviews in Charlotte and Winston-Salem.

■■■ 1999 ■■■

Kristina Coffield, DDS (MS '03) received the first James R. Roche Award of Excellence ever awarded by the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry. The award is presented to the individual who posts the highest score on the written section of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry Examination. Several hundred candidates took the exam. Dr. Coffield has recently joined the practice of Dr. LaRee Johnson (MS '99) and serves as an adjunct assistant professor in the UNC Department of Pediatric Dentistry.

F. LaRee Johnson, MS Pedo, is enjoying her pediatric dental practice more than ever and is pleased to announce that Dr. Kristina Coffield (DDS '99, MS '03) has joined her team as the second full-time doctor. Johnson's most challenging job, motherhood, is full of excitement with a two year-old, Mia, and a new baby boy, Jamie, born in May.

David Olson, DDS, was engaged to Shelley Barker (DDS Class of 2002) in the summer of 2003 and celebrated the opening of his practice, Raleigh Pediatric Dentistry, in June 2004.

■■■ 2000 ■■■

Sean Patrick, DDS, has entered private practice in Charlotte, NC. Sean, his wife, Kay, their daughter and two sons are excited to be back in the United States after three years in Japan with the U.S. Navy.

■■■ 2002 ■■■

Shelley Barker, DDS, was engaged to David Olson (DDS Class of 1999) in the summer of 2003.

Jeremy Fry, DDS, and his wife Nicki celebrated the birth of their first daughter, Caroline Wrenn, on February 26th.

■■■ 2004 ■■■

Wendy Negron, RDH, BS, a 2004 graduate of the Master of Science degree program in Dental Hygiene Education received the 2003-2004 American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) Corporate Student Internship. The internship included a two-week internship at ADHA headquarters in Chicago and an internship with OMNII in West Palm Beach, Fla.

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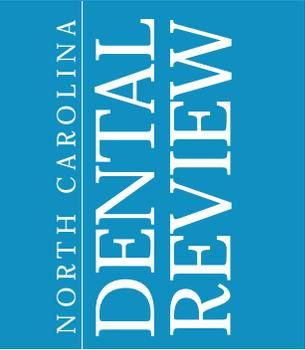
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