

# UMKC School of Dentistry Alumni News

# EXPLORER

Fall 2018

Vol. 75 No. 2



**Inspired  
giving,  
vital care**

Partnership provides  
life-changing help  
for head-and-neck  
cancer patients

Features



**8** **Learning proper positioning** in their pre-clinical training sets up students to provide better patient care and avoid their own repetitive-stress injuries throughout their careers. A fund-raising campaign is underway to refurbish the pre-clinical lab so that students will have realistic simulators and learn proper ergonomics from the outset of their training.



**12** **Cancer patients** who also need dental care have found a lifeline thanks to a collaboration between the UMKC School of Dentistry and the HNC Living Foundation. Groundbreaking research by Dr. Mary Walker led to the partnership, and a second round of funding will allow Dr. Eric Gottman to help an additional 200-plus patients.



**16** **It's hard to sum up** a 40-year career, but Dr. Pam Overman recalled many achievements and changes — along with lots of laughs — as she stepped down as associate dean for academic affairs. Others remembered her tenacity, intelligence and ability to inspire and advocate for all students in the dental field.

Departments

- 2** **Honor Roll of Donors**
- 18** **Class Notes**
- 20** **School News**
- 25** **Continuing Dental Education**
- 25** **Coming Alumni Events**

UMKC School of Dentistry Alumni News  
**EXPLORER**

*Explorer* is published twice each year for alumni and friends of the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry. UMKC is an equal opportunity, affirmative action, ADA institution.

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[www.umkchealthsciencesdistrict.org](http://www.umkchealthsciencesdistrict.org).

**INSPIRATION IS ALL** around us! I often find it in moments of reflection when I reassess my efforts and the direction of the School of Dentistry. These pauses give me the opportunity to reboot, focus and move forward with renewed energy.



I also recently asked some colleagues and students what inspires them, their hopes and dreams. I am surrounded by some of the most energetic, productive folks across health care, and I wanted to know what drives them in their daily lives.

Unsurprisingly, their responses gave me renewed hope and resolve. Most were immediate and declarative: “the innovation of scientific discovery,” “our impact on others,” “every day is something new,” “student success,” “curiosity,” “never-ending learning.” There was a strong theme of gratitude, including one student “grateful for the opportunity to have an education as a first generation graduate.” Appreciation for the strong efforts of others also was expressed. From these responses, it is clear that people and circumstances around us inspire us.

It also was crystal clear that many in the community of UMKC School of Dentistry have inspirational stories and in turn inspire others. We have highlighted in this issue of the Explorer several people whose stories encourage and motivate others: Dr. Mary Walker and Dr. Eric Gottman, with help from an area foundation, will be doubling the number of cancer patients receiving life-changing dental care through the school (page 12). Our Dental Alumni Association has stepped up to aid fundraising for a much-needed renovation of the school’s pre-clinical lab (page 8). And Dr. Pam Overman has capped a nearly 40-year career of amazing academic leadership and service (page 16).

These stories recognize faculty, staff and students and the accomplishments of our alumni and friends. Laced with determination, strength, adversity and positivity, the articles highlight the talented people who join our community and remain connected as alumni and friends.

We look in all directions in this issue celebrating our graduates whose careers and contributions lie ahead and celebrate the successes of our faculty, staff and alumni. Our efforts today represent the continuing work to always focus on improvement, growth and the pursuit of excellence. We also acknowledge the contributions of those who have made us better by their work every day. Enjoy!

With gratitude,

Marsha Pyle, DDS, MEd  
Dean, UMKC School of Dentistry



A Message from the Chair



**AS I SETTLE** into my new role as the chair of the Rinehart Foundation, I continue to learn new and terrific things about my classmates, fellow alumni and the school that has given us so much.

This school year my 1999 classmates and I will be celebrating our 20-year reunion. Since then, many things have changed. Thankfully, the Rinehart Foundation has continued to grow. With the ever rising cost of dental education, the Rinehart Foundation has never been more important, and I am honored that so many of my peers are choosing to give back to the school and trust Rinehart to help you do it.

The School of Dentistry gave us a solid foundation for our practice; it gave us some of our closest friends; it gave some of us our life partners; and it continues to give us opportunities to give back and have an impact on a new generation. I am inspired by how many of you have chosen to do so, how many of you give selflessly of your time and philanthropy to effect change, and how many of you work daily to help the school continue to grow and shine.

Dr. Andrew Moore (DDS '99)  
Chair, Rinehart Foundation

For all of these things I want to express my gratitude. Because of your efforts we continue to increase the amount of money we are able to award in scholarships; we can help the school recruit the best faculty; and we are helping to produce some of the best clinicians in the business. Thank you. Together we help our alma mater and its tradition of excellence. It's a tradition I, for one, am very proud of.

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Visit [dentistry.umkc.edu/foundation](http://dentistry.umkc.edu/foundation) to see a complete list of the school's donors.



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THESE DONORS HAVE indicated that the UMKC School of Dentistry is in their estate plan. We are grateful for the lasting legacy they are creating.

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Medallion and Pin Recipients

PHILANTHROPY MEDALLIONS

The Rinehart Medallion honors the memory of Dr. Roy J. Rinehart, longtime dean of the UMKC School of Dentistry. The Rinehart Medallion is bestowed on alumni and friends of the school who have distinguished themselves through philanthropy or service. Each year Rinehart Medallions are given to recognize lifetime donors of \$10,000 or more. Annual donations to the Rinehart Foundation provide the School of Dentistry invaluable support that enables it to improve the quality and expand the scope of its educational, research, clinical and outreach programs.

Sherry M. Burns (MSDH '83)  
Dean Elledge, (DDS '83, AEGD '13)  
Bernard W. Petkovich (DDS '79)  
Joel W. Pratt (DDS '77)  
Ricky D. Smith (DDS '83)  
Douglas A. Wyckoff (DDS '92)



Five of this year's Rinehart Medallion recipients at the 2018 Recognition Breakfast (from left): Bernard Petkovich, Ricky Smith, Doug Wyckoff, Joel Pratt and Dean Elledge.

RINEHART BENEFACTOR PINS

Many of our alumni have continued to give long after they received their Rinehart Medallion. We recognize their continued generosity and the impact of their gifts by awarding a lapel pin to donors at the \$25,000, \$50,000 and \$100,000 lifetime giving levels.

**\$25,000 - \$49,999**  
James Indiveri (DDS '90)

**\$50,000 - \$99,999**  
Michael Klein (DDS '84)  
Alan Brown, DDS



Looking like (almost) a million dollars

AT THE 2018 Scholarship Recognition dinner Oct. 1, the UMKC School of Dentistry distributed 349 awards to 188 students from 171 endowed scholarship funds, totaling more than \$993,000, an 8.17% increase over 2017. Additionally, 19 students received 25 awards from 15 regional and national scholarship funds. Assistant Dean Richard H. Bigham welcomed the audience, and Dean Marsha A. Pyle presided over the recognition of the scholarship donors and recipients. "The tradition of our robust scholarshiping began more than 50 years

ago with the establishment of our Roy J. Rinehart Foundation, honoring Dean Rinehart," Dean Pyle said at the event, held in the Student Union on the Volker Campus. "These scholarships help our students tremendously as they navigate the costs of their education. Because of this program, UMKC is able to remain an incredible value in dental education." This year's new scholarships also were announced: the Brown-Thompson Military Award Fund; the Dr. S.V. Hanna Scholarship Fund; the Jerome E. and Joan Holtzman DDS Scholarship; the Bert W.

Oettmeier, Jr., DDS and Mrs. Pamela G. Oettmeier Scholarship Fund; the Dr. Ralph E. Younger and Mrs. Lynda L. Younger Scholarship Fund; the UMKC Class of 2002 Heidi Garren Everley Scholarship Fund; and the UMKC Dental Hygiene Alumni Association Diamond Scholarship.

For more pictures from the Scholarship Dinner visit the UMKC Dental Alumni facebook page.





Dr. Bert Oettmeier and Mrs. Pamela Oettmeier with their scholarship recipient, Kelsey Lyden.

**Bert W. Oettmeier Jr., DDS, and Mrs. Pamela G. Oettmeier Scholarship**

Dr. Bert Oettmeier (DDS ’78) and Mrs. Pamela Oettmeier’s love of Kansas State University is well known, and establishing this scholarship gives them the chance to connect with students who have the same passions. With this scholarship they will help DDS students who are either Kansas residents or attended a Kansas university and participated in extra-curricular activities during their undergraduate education.

**Dr. S.V. Hanna Scholarship Fund**

Created by Mary Matson to honor her late father, the Hanna Scholarship rewards third- and fourth-year DDS students who have financial need. Although Mary lost her father early in life she never forgot his love for the dental profession and is pleased to have this opportunity to honor his memory and help worthy students find the same joy in promising dental careers.

**Jerome E. and Joan Holtzman DDS Scholarship Fund**

The Holtzman family came together to pay tribute to the full, unique lives of Susan’s parents, Jerome and Joan. Dental school is never easy, but it is even less so when you come to it as a second career. The Holtzmans know this first hand and hope to lessen the burden for DDS students who are married with children and come to dentistry after some time out of school.

**Class of 2002 – Heidi Garren Everley Scholarship**

The members of the Class of 2002 made the most of their time in dental school and hope to help others do the same by establishing this scholarship. The recipients will have to excel academically and clinically, and the alumni hope they will find time for a little fun as well. Honoring Heidi, a classmate taken far too soon, is their final gesture to a stellar class and the great bonds created during their time at the school.

**Dr. Ralph P. Younger and Mrs. Lynda L. Younger Scholarship Fund**

Dr. Ralph Younger (DDS ’67) had a wonderful career in public health service, private practice in Warrensburg and organized dentistry. His appreciation for his UMKC dental education and his family’s spirit of giving back have prompted him to offer this scholarship to third- or fourth-year DDS students who have no immediate family members already in medicine or dentistry. It is his hope to help those who are the first in their family to enter the profession through hard work and leadership.

**Brown-Thompson Military Award Fund**

Dick Brown considered Col. C.W. “Tommy” Thompson a mentor and was pleased to help students in this way and memorialize their shared service and dedication to the military. By providing assistance to fourth-year dental students who are entering active duty military service in the Army, Air Force, Navy or Marines, they recognize all those students who are giving to their country and to their patients. Dick and his wife, Patty, hope the award can focus on students entering a military oral and maxillofacial surgery residency as recognition of the rewarding lives they have found in such practice.



Angelika Skulavik-Brown (center) represented the Dental Hygiene Alumni Association with its scholarship recipients.

**UMKC Dental Hygiene Alumni Association Diamond Scholarship**

In 2014 the UMKC Dental Hygiene program celebrated its 60th year. To honor that milestone the Dental Hygiene Alumni Association initiated a scholarship for all dental hygiene students. Much like the program it honors, this scholarship will reward merit and recognize involvement in community projects and strong investment in giving back to others.

Class Scholarships — Giving That Grows

**Classes through 1965**

Class of 1943 Sept Scholarship	\$17,364.75
Class of 1947 Scholarship	\$21,590.34
Class of 1949 Scholarship	\$24,621.45
Class of 1950 Scholarship	\$20,002.81
Class of 1956 Scholarship	\$16,200.22
Class of 1957 Scholarship	\$26,767.86
Class of 1958 Scholarship	\$18,590.64
Class of 1959 Scholarship	\$41,762.95
Class of 1960 Scholarship	\$38,867.66
Class of 1962 Scholarship	\$62,589.58
Class of 1963 Scholarship	\$25,039.02
Class of 1964 Scholarship	\$22,510.32
Class of 1965- David L Moore Award	\$22,146.85
Class of 1965 - Steve Barber Fund	\$4,272.65
Class of 1965 Scholarship	\$55,379.04

**Classes 1966-1979**

Class of 1966 Scholarship	\$42,778.45
Class of 1967 Scholarship	\$74,170.24
Class of 1968 Scholarship	\$79,416.27
Class of 1969 Scholarship	\$29,428.18
Class of 1970 Scholarship	\$165,594.75
Class of 1972 Scholarship	\$79,900.99
Class of 1973 Scholarship	\$59,824.93
Class of 1974 Scholarship	\$18,490.84
Class of 1975 Scholarship	\$21,202.95
Class of 1976 Scholarship	\$28,682.37
Class of 1977 Scholarship	\$73,365.80
Class of 1978 Scholarship	\$19,898.89
Class of 1979 Scholarship	\$51,150.97

**Classes 1980-2014**

Class of 1980 Scholarship	\$26,630.09
Class of 1981 Scholarship	\$37,959.46
Class of 1982 Scholarship	\$19,622.93
Class of 1983 Scholarship	\$39,922.93
Class of 1984 Scholarship	\$48,361.93
Class of 1985 Scholarship	\$34,841.08
Class of 1986 Scholarship	\$33,198.53
Class of 1987: Dr. Daniel Cruz Memorial Scholarship	\$82,734.24
Class of 1988 Scholarship	\$23,656.62
Class of 1991 Scholarship	\$15,800.18
Class of 1992 Scholarship	\$25,531.78
Class of 1996 Scholarship	\$15,768.54
Class of 2000 Scholarship	\$22,960.67
Class of 2002: Heidi Garren Everley Scholarship	\$13,336.26
Class of 2014: Ji Blanchfield Scholarship	\$29,834.75

**Not yet endowed Scholarships \*\***

Class of 1948	\$5,000.00	Class of 1998	\$4,407.80
Class of 1951	\$1,000.00	Class of 1999	\$5,425.00
Class of 1952	\$5,530.00	Class of 2001	\$1,750.00
Class of 1953	\$2,220.00	Class of 2003	\$3,785.00
Class of 1954	\$7,093.56	Class of 2004	\$1,000.00
Class of 1955	\$7,100.00	Class of 2005	\$4,200.00
Class of 1961	\$4,925.00	Class of 2006	\$850.00
Class of 1971	\$8,826.00	Class of 2007	\$2,850.00
Class of 1989	\$4,310.00	Class of 2008	\$600.00
Class of 1990	\$1,100.00	Class of 2009	\$1,700.00
Class of 1993	\$6,050.00	Class of 2010	\$300.00
Class of 1994	\$8,300.00	Class of 2012	\$2,921.57
Class of 1995	\$8,150.00	Class of 2017	\$3,099.36
Class of 1997	\$1,200.00		

\*\* When your class fund reaches \$10,000, we look forward to making your first award.





# RIGHT FROM THE START

Pre-clinical lab upgrade would better simulate real practice,  
help students practice perfect posture from Day One

By GREG HACK

**O**n a recent Thursday afternoon, Brock Buzbee worked on practice dentures in his Operative Dentistry II Lab. He kept his back ramrod straight and his feet comfortably planted under his chair.

“The faculty really push you on proper positioning,” said Buzbee, a second-year student from Springfield, Missouri. Good ergonomics and the importance of posture are stressed from the outset of their training.

But as good as his own posture was, Buzbee was able to twist the partial “head on a stick” he was working on in unrealistic ways. His setup didn’t give him a simulation of the positioning he will need in actual practice.

Nearby, classmate Cassandra

Shannon from Omaha leaned over her lab bench and agreed, saying, “We can kind of cheat the system.” Students’ finished work has to be just right, she said, from crown preparations and partials to drillings and fillings, “but the ergonomics aren’t right.”

To change that, a campaign is underway to raise funds to overhaul the School of Dentistry’s pre-clinical lab, the vital training area where first- and second-year students spend hundreds of hours. The campaign will finance 110 ergonomically correct dental simulators, complete with head-and-torso simulated patients, and a much-needed refurbishment of the lab space and its air-handling system.

Dean Marsha Pyle, seeing the acute need for the upgrade and the reality of tight state financing, launched the fundraising drive. The campaign is halfway to its goal, and it got a big boost when Dean Pyle took her case to the UMKC Dental Alumni Association.

The association formed a committee to study the request, led by Dr. Jim Trotter, DDS ’76, treasurer of the association, and including Dr. Jack Nelson, DDS ’82, MPA ’78, past president of the Dental Alumni Association.

Dr. Trotter said, “When we did our due diligence, looking at the need and the costs, it wasn’t too difficult a decision — for the committee and then for the alumni board to approve matching the next \$125,000 in contributions.”

One of the first to answer the fundraising call was Dr. John Killip, who might know better than anyone the importance of the lab and the need for an upgrade.

“I was in charge of the lab for 25 years,” said Dr. Killip (DDS ’68), professor emeritus of restorative clinical sciences and retired associate dean of student programs. “Some of it still dates to when the current building

Left: Cassandra Shannon works on her “head on a stick” typodont in pre-clinical lab. A plan to upgrade the lab includes more realistic lab simulators.





Previous upgrades to the pre-clinical lab included adding proper dental lighting in the mid-1990s and large monitors in 2014.

opened in 1971. I was there for the lab's only renovation, in the mid-1990s," when dental lighting was installed and work surfaces were lowered to a realistic height for dentistry.

"When the school appealed for money for another upgrade," Dr. Killip said, "I responded very rapidly."

He hopes more alumni will follow him and be inspired by the alumni association's contribution. Though financing the new lab won't give the one-on-one connection that one gets from, say, financing a scholarship, Dr. Killip said the lab improvements will benefit every student directly in their training and throughout their careers.

Dr. Trotter and Dr. Nelson also are directly aware of the lab's needs. Dr. Trotter is clinical assistant professor in the Department of Restorative Clinical Sciences, and Dr. Nelson is clinical associate professor and vice chair of that department.

Dr. Nelson said alumni and other supporters of the School of Dentistry should not hesitate to contribute now, though discussions have begun on a possible new dental school

building some years down the road. The work stations could be moved to a new building, and the air-handler renovation is needed now.

### Ergonomics and more

Over the years, research has confirmed what too many dentists know first-hand: The stresses and repetitive motions of dentistry can lead to physical problems. A 2018 Journal of Occupational Health review of 49 studies found "health-related problems are still prevalent in current dentistry practice," and the reviewed studies highlight "a need to improve clinical practice aspects of dentistry curricula."

Dr. Nelson said with the new lab stations, "We will be able to teach them proper positioning and techniques from the outset. If you do not have bad habits, then it's a lot easier to teach you ideal habits. And most if not all of these students have never practiced these procedures before.

"You want students to know how to use their mirror and explorer while

sitting properly so they can have a longer, more productive dental career. With proper technique, they're much less likely to develop back problems and neck problems, and more likely to avoid carpal tunnel and other issues."

Dr. Nelson said he had been fortunate to avoid such issues, and wanted the same for the next generation of dentists. But his colleague, Dr. Trotter, said he was "very aware of the cost of poor ergonomics to a dentist over time. I've had four surgeries, two specifically related to poor ergonomics."

Dr. Trotter continued: "We can't show all the proper techniques that we want to show. Students really need to appreciate how easy it is to slip into bad habits. Ergonomics are critical to create long and rewarding careers.

"Reducing or eliminating these injuries also will reduce health care costs. Teaching proper technique from the outset also will improve the quality of patient care. We work better when we're not under physical stress."

Dr. Trotter also foresees another benefit from the upgrade:

more-inspired students.

"Having these realistic work stations also should give a motivational boost," he said. "I notice that the earlier I can give students a close-to-real-life experience, the more excited they get about their education. It's not just the technical piece; it's getting their juices flowing and seeing them put more energy into their learning."

"But in the past four or five years, we're concerned that we might have lost a few of those cream-of-the-crop recruits. Students now see new or refurbished labs at the surrounding dental schools, and some opt to go for the newer facilities. We want to keep getting those top students."

Dr. Lance Godley, DMD, M Ed, who this fall was in charge of the Operative Dentistry II Lab, saw one of those

bring advantages both granular and sweeping: "It would be helpful to have air and water and working vacuums at each station. We are limited in the procedures we can do. The students have to drill dry, for example, and it gets dusty. Wet drilling is also more realistic."

More broadly, the revamped lab will make it possible to integrate the use of patient records and biomedical science

*"I notice that the earlier I can give students a close-to-real-life experience, the more excited they get about their education."*

– DR. JIM TROTTER

### Staying competitive

In making her pitch for matching funds from the Dental Alumni Association, Dr. Trotter said Dean Pyle also emphasized "that we are falling behind some other dental schools in the four-state area that have new or remodeled pre-clinical labs."

"For as long as I can remember, UMKC has been regarded as a top clinical dental school, able to attract the highest quality students," he said.

competing labs at Creighton University in Omaha. He described the shiny new facilities as "almost over the top."

Dr. Godley was in Nebraska for a meeting of the Consortium of Operative Dentistry Educators, and he said several other Midwest members of the group also had new or upgraded labs, including the University of Iowa, Southern Illinois University and A.T. Still University in Kirksville, Missouri.

He said an upgrade at UMKC could

into the pre-clinical training.

"With work stations including computer screens," he said, "we could get students thinking about the whole person, and have them applying their skills in a setting that's more like evaluating and treating a real patient."

Dr. Nelson added, "I think dentistry is on the cusp of being dramatically changed by technology. Updating our lab will be a good step toward the future of teaching dentistry." ■

## How You Can Help

### DONATIONS FOR REFURBISHING

the pre-clinical lab can be sent to the Rinehart Foundation at 650 E. 25th St, KCMO 64108. Or give online through the Rinehart Foundation website at [dentistry.umkc.edu/foundation](http://dentistry.umkc.edu/foundation). Questions? Ask Hilary Wheat at 816-235-2173 or [wheat@umkc.edu](mailto:wheat@umkc.edu). The UMKC Dental Alumni Association is matching the first \$125,000 in contributions. When

you make a gift, the match from the alumni association will double its value and allow it to go even further. Don't miss the chance to double your impact.

Right: New patient simulators will include an ergonomically positioned torso form, air and water syringes, and hand-piece and suction brackets.





# EXTENDING *a* CULTURE *of* CARING

School of Dentistry,  
foundation collaborate  
to provide life-changing  
treatment for  
cancer patients

By  
KELLY EDWARDS



A recent phone call came to Dr. Mary P. Walker (Pros '99, PhD '01), associate dean for research and graduate programs at the UMKC School of Dentistry, with an urgent tone.

Just diagnosed with a form of head and neck cancer, the caller needed a dental examination and any required care before she could begin radiation treatments. Her regular dental clinic, however, couldn't immediately work her into its schedule.

Now, the woman was reaching out to Dr. Walker for help. She came to the right place.

Two years ago, Dr. Walker applied for a grant from the HNC Living Foundation, a local non-profit organization that provides support for head and neck cancer patients. A \$225,900 grant allows the School of Dentistry to serve Kansas City area head and neck cancer patients needing immediate dental care before starting their cancer therapy. The foundation recently renewed the grant for \$325,000 for another two years.

So Dr. Walker, realizing the urgency of her caller's need, made the necessary connections. Within a day, the woman was getting the necessary dental care.

"We know that until that happens, she's not getting the medical care she needs to move forward with treating the cancer," Dr. Walker said. "The timeliness, the urgency of the pre-radiation therapy dental care is what we truly understand here. That's a unique situation."

Her background includes NIDCR-funded research focused on understanding how radiotherapy can cause teeth to deteriorate, which led to updates in the U.S. Oncology Network's treatment guidelines to

Left: Dr. Mary P. Walker (left) has secured two grants from a foundation run by Tom and Teresa Walsh, allowing Dr. Eric Gottman (right) to help hundreds of cancer patients with dental care.

limit the therapeutic radiation dose to teeth during cancer treatment.

Besides her research, she has an expert's familiarity with oral and dental complications associated with head and neck cancer radiotherapy treatment. These complications are especially debilitating for patients' quality of life, as traditional medical insurance does not cover pre- and post-cancer dental treatment. For that reason, Dr. Walker said, HNC Living Foundation's financial assistance is life changing for patients who would normally not be able to afford dental treatment.

"Radiation oncologists and radiation physicists normally don't want to start radiation therapy until

see need extractions, fillings, root canals, things like that, and they need to be done very quickly so that we can maintain the teeth throughout the cancer treatment," Dr. Gottman said. "Our initial focus is to get those treatments completed as soon as possible."

In the first two years of the HNC Living Foundation grant, clinicians at the School of Dentistry treated 167 cancer patients. The new grant is expected to provide for service to 200 to 225 patients.

A Kansas City couple, Tom and Teresa Walsh, established the foundation after Teresa battled cancer in her jaw in 2013. Now, as Teresa celebrates her five-year

*"Radiation oncologists and radiation physicists normally don't want to start radiation therapy until the patient has had the dental care they need."*

- DR. MARY WALKER

the patient has had the dental care they need," she said.

Thanks to her efforts and the grants from the foundation, the specialty care program at the School of Dentistry is now a major referral center for cancer patients in urgent need of dental care from more than 30 radiation oncology treatment centers from as far away as St. Louis.

Years ago, the standard protocol was to remove a patient's teeth before radiation therapy, with the expectation that they would begin to decay anyway. Now, Dr. Eric Gottman (DDS '01, Pros '04), a prosthodontist and clinical associate professor, is a member of the team that works with cancer patients to preserve their teeth throughout the cancer treatment.

"A lot of times, the people we

anniversary of being cancer free, the Walshes are working with the dental school to see that others facing the same experience get the support and treatment they need.

"Through Teresa's personal experience, we understand how vital good care is to the recovery and quality of life of the patient going forward," Tom Walsh said. "Through our work, we've learned that dental care has proven to be one of the largest, if not the largest, unmet need for head and neck cancer patients. Together, with Dr. Walker's help, HNC Living Foundation and the UMKC School of Dentistry have created a unique model benefitting patients in the Kansas City region. We are thrilled with our association and the satisfaction it brings knowing we've contributed to a better life



for hundreds of patients in our own backyard.”

Dr. Walker points out that the funding and dental care don’t end with the pre-cancer treatments.

“Once a patient has had radiation therapy, their mouth is different and it’s different forever,” she said. “These are our post-radiation therapy patients.”

Those patients typically return for extended care to help them through the healing process and to maintain their oral health. That sometimes includes being fitted for dentures, as was the case during one patient’s recent appointment.

Dr. Gottman showed the patient how he was using heated compound to get an impression of the man’s mouth. Dr. Gottman also explained how the finished dentures would fit. By the end of the appointment, the man was at ease and joked about how he would have to be careful when he sneezed.

Dr. Gottman said his work was richly rewarding. “We see them at their lowest of lows and then, the majority of the time, we get the benefit of seeing them after they’ve completed (cancer) therapy and have the opportunity to help them rehab their oral healing.

“The majority of these patients come back on three-month recalls, making sure they aren’t getting cavities, that everything is good and healthy, and making sure they don’t have any recurrence of the cancer.”

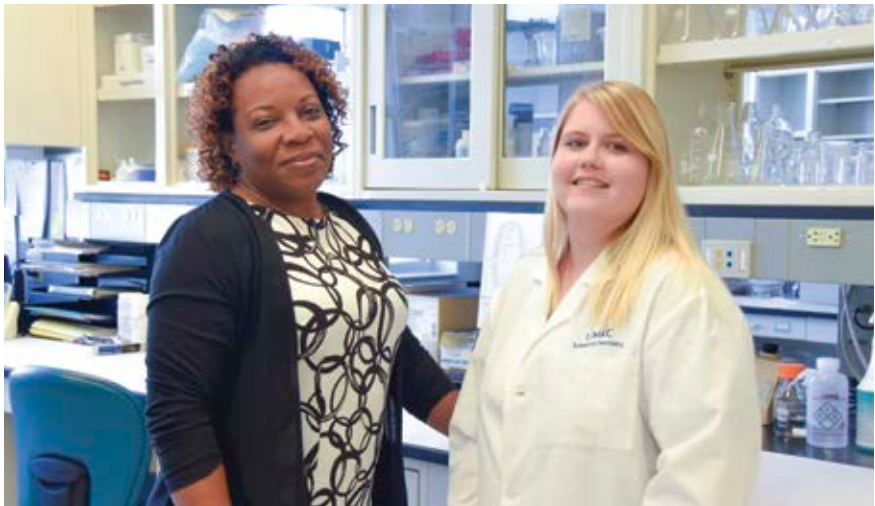
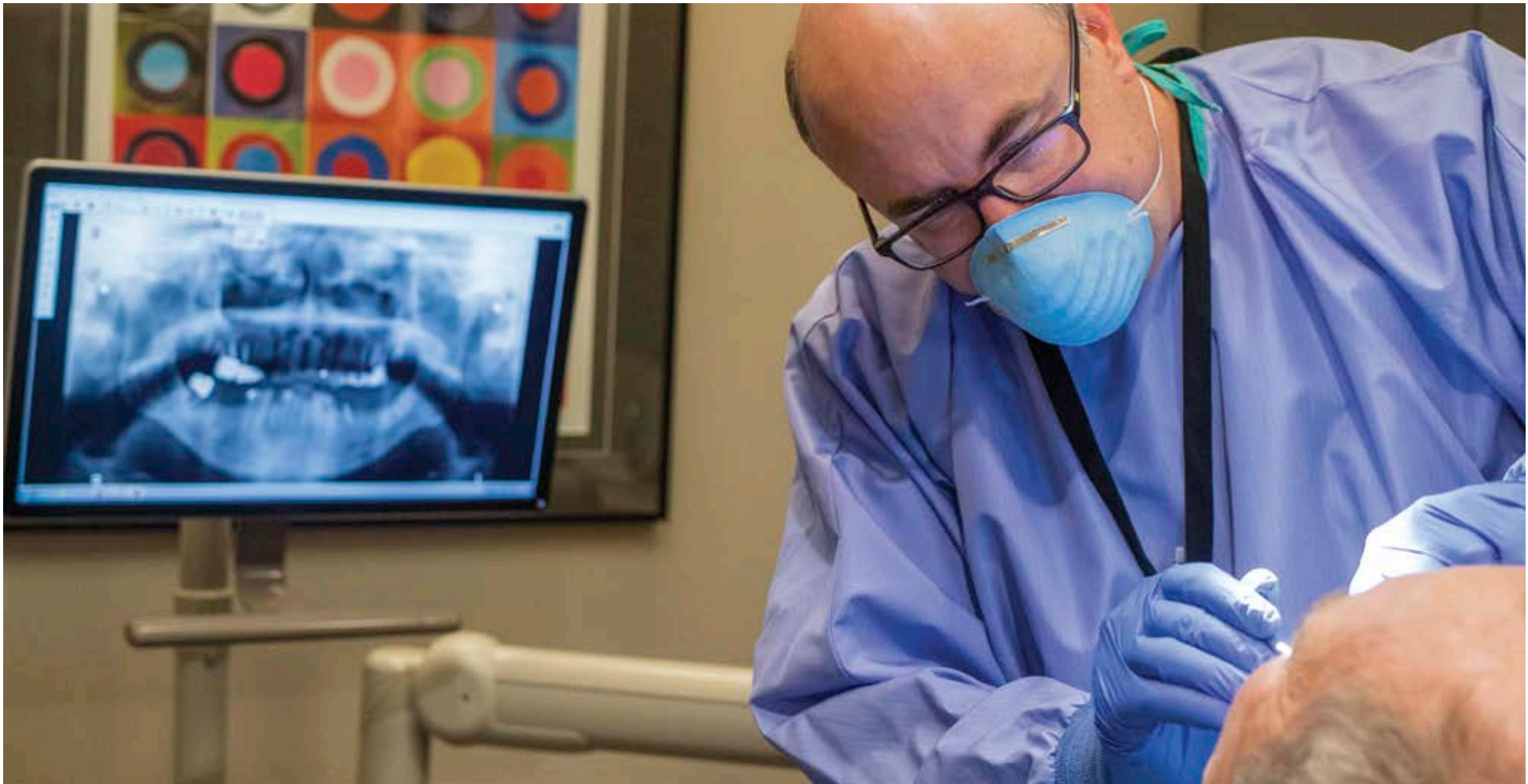
Dr. Walker said the greatest satisfaction for the team comes from the reaction of the patients.

One older patient who received aid from the foundation and care from the dental school wrote in a patient survey that she didn’t know what she would have done without them.

“At my age, coming up with the money would have been nearly impossible,” she said.

Another expressed gratitude for having received dentures that have improved her quality of life and self-esteem after cancer treatment.

“Now, I can smile,” the patient



Above: Dr. Eric Gottman (DDS '01, Pros '04) works with a cancer survivor to fit new dentures for the patient.

Left: Racquel Adams (left), who schedules dental appointments for cancer patients, and Jessica Moniz, research assistant, are important members of the School of Dentistry team that puts the grant money to work.

Right: Dr. Gottman prepares to treat another cancer patient.



shared. “The dentures help me eat healthier foods to give me needed nutrients, and they have increased my ability to speak and be understood.”

A growing number of head and neck cancer patients are living far better lives than before, in part because of the dental school’s collaboration with the foundation. They also have been helped by Dr. Walker’s research that has led to a change in how teeth are being protected and cared for during radiation therapy.

“If I never do anything else in my research career,” Dr. Walker said, “we have impacted how patients are treated by now having a recommendation and a protocol for how teeth should be included and spared in radiation therapy. I think we’ve made a difference.” ■

## PATIENTS GRATEFUL FOR VITAL CARE

*“I had no insurance at that time. My only insurance was through the VA from being a Vietnam veteran, but they do not offer dental assistance. I was in pretty much a hopeless situation.”*

*“Thank you so much for your help. I just lost my husband so I didn’t have a lot of money.”*

*“The grant helped me through my cancer in such a generous way. Without it I don’t know what I would have done for dental care. It took a lot off my mind. Thank you a thousand times over.”*

*“Dr. Gottman was excellent in his work and his patient empathy.”*

*“The costs associated with my cancer treatment were astronomical and exorbitant. Without the grant, my dental care would not have been possible. It was truly a godsend.”*

*“I felt a little bit taller, because I had my teeth and I had my smile.”*





# Recalling Decades of Service – and a Unique Service Animal

In a career spanning dental hygiene to academic dean, Pam Overman did it all with a smile

By BRYCE PUNTENNEY

During a 40-year career at the UMKC School of Dentistry, Dr. Pam Overman (BSDH '70, MSDH '80, EdD) always looked for unique ways to teach and lead, even if they came in the form of a squawking parrot.

Dr. Overman, who retired Sept. 1 as associate dean for academic affairs, recalled Dr. Harvey Eplee (DDS '71) coming to her to ask about the school's policy regarding service animals on the clinic floor — and not just service dogs.

Dr. Eplee was the clinic dean at the time and had fielded a question from a

colleague at another dental school that was dealing with a patient with serious rage issues. The patient could be calmed, however, by his service parrot, which would feel his tension rising and squawk at him, "Don't do it, Jim!"

The story made its way around, and Dr. Overman made good use of it, true to her sense of humor and creativity. She bought little toy parrots for the members of the school's leadership team and told them, "When you feel a bit of anger coming on, look at the parrot and squawk, 'Don't do it, Jim!'"

The start of her career wasn't so funny, Dr. Overman recalled, at least not at the time. When she had just finished earning her dental hygiene degree, she decided to follow a tradition among dental hygiene students and burn her books and notes in a particular trash bin behind her UMKC residence hall.

Above: Dr. Pam Overman delighted in humor, surprise and discovery — and appreciated when others did, too.

"That's how long ago it was," Dr. Overman joked. "We had to burn things because shredders didn't exist yet."

She was excited to be finished with school and ready to start work as a hygienist, so why not?

But the very next week, the director of the dental hygiene program called and offered her a part-time teaching position. She took the offer — and thought her books and all those class notes surely would have come in handy after all.

Undeterred, she did what she has done throughout her career: She drew inspiration from the challenge before her. She adapted, persevered and prospered, rising to become a leader at UMKC and in her entire field.

"There were three main things that stood out when I first hired Pam full time," said Dr. Marilyn Harrington (BSDH '69, MS '72, PhD '85), her longtime mentor. "The first was her intelligence. She was extremely bright. I think it's a hallmark of an intelligent person when she can take a difficult and abstract subject and break it down so you can wrap your hands around it. Secondly, her personal character and professional demeanor in all that she did were of the highest order. Lastly, her sense humor. Regardless of the situation, she always had a way of incorporating her sense of humor."

Those qualities came together in Dr. Overman's leadership abilities and fueled her rapid rise. After starting as an assistant professor of dental hygiene in 1980, within four years she was named director of the dental hygiene program, and was promoted to associate professor while continuing as director.

She earned a doctorate in education and, in 2001, was named the assistant dean and then associate dean of academic affairs.

Looking at Dr. Overman's career, Dean Marsha A. Pyle said, "Her leadership progress at UMKC is remarkable as she has left an indelible positive impact on our school and its program because of her tenacity, intelligence, emotional intelligence, diligence and grit."

Through the years, Dr. Overman built a reputation as a stalwart advocate for

all oral health professional students, hygienists and dentists alike, and their interests. She distinguished herself as an oral health researcher and as a leader in many national professional organizations. Her service has included chair of the American Dental Education Association's National Dental Hygiene Directors, chair of ADEA's Council of Allied Program Directors and chair of ADEA's Section on Academic Affairs. Last year, she received the UMKC Chancellor's Award for Career Contributions to the University, recognizing her for excellence in teaching and research.

Dr. Overman remembers being the only woman in a meeting with the school's department chairs early in her career. As a young faculty member, she



Dr. Overman's engaging approach went over well in the classroom.

found that room full of white coats and ties quite intimidating. Nearly 40 years later, she's proud of how the gender demographics of the field of dentistry have shifted to better represent society as a whole. Now, she noted, 52 percent of the school's faculty are female.

"I think it's awesome!" Dr. Overman said. "It reflects who dentistry and academic dentistry are now, and it brings different perspectives to the field." ■



## Kaz chosen to fill Overman's post

**DR. LIZ KAZ**, DH '86, MS DH '87, became associate dean for academic affairs on Oct. 1, after Dr. Pam Overman retired. Dr. Kaz came back to UMKC in 2015 and most recently served as director of continuing education and interim director of dental hygiene. She also brings experience from leadership positions at the A.T. Still Missouri School of Dentistry and Oral Health in Kirksville.

"As the saying goes, 'Those are some mighty big shoes to fill,' and all who have met Dr. Overman know exactly what I mean," Dr. Kaz said. "There will be an adjustment for the students, faculty and staff to be sure, but Pam's legacy of service, student-first and outright devotion to UMKC, the School of Dentistry and the dental field is one I intend to carry forward. I am excited by the future direction of education and the opportunities occurring in dentistry."

Reflecting on the appointment, Dean Marsha Pyle said, "Dr. Kaz brings significant experience as an academic dean. She has served in various roles on Commission on Dental Accreditation committees and has broad experience with curriculum design and administration. We are very excited about her taking on this critically important role in our program."





Members of the Dental Hygiene class of 1978 were out in force for their 40th reunion.

DH Class of '78 celebrates 40th anniversary

**THE DENTAL HYGIENE** class of 1978 held a reunion the weekend of July 13-15. Seventeen women from a class of 36 stayed at the Laura Nelson Mansion, a historic home across from the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. Highlights of the weekend included a tour of the UMKC School of Dentistry, a trolley ride tour and a visit from a former teacher, Sherry Burns (MSDH '83). The most noted memory

from the class is that back in 1976-1978, they treated all patients without wearing gloves, masks or safety glasses. Most from the class worked as clinical dental hygienists, but several have taken different paths. Two have become dentists, several are dental educators, and several have pursued pharmaceutical sales. Many have retired now and are enjoying travel

Alumni gather in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for reception

**SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY** graduates in Albuquerque, New Mexico, gathered for an alumni reception Aug. 16. They were treated to brews and bites from Steel Bender Brewery while catching up with classmates and colleagues. Dean Marsha Pyle and senior director of development Hilary Wheat visited with alumni and brought a little bit of Kansas City to Albuquerque. Through a special arrangement with Missouri, New Mexico is one of four states — along with Kansas, Arkansas and Hawaii — whose residents can get in-state tuition at the school. The UMKC School of Dentistry has graduated more than 185 alumni from the Land of Enchantment. We are so thankful for such a strong connection and welcome the chance to celebrate it at gatherings such as this one.

Class Notes

**Classes of the 1940s and '50s**  
**John Windle (DDS '49)** is retired. He was a member of the Missouri Dental Board for 8 years and the Central Region Dental Testing Service for 20 years. He has a periodontic scholarship at UMKC and is a co-founder of the Dental Hygiene School at Missouri Southern State University.

**Anton Pistotnik (DDS '54)** is retired.  
**Donald Reinhardt (DDS '54)** lost his wife Bonna in July 2004 after being married for 55 years. He married Helen Bentsen in 2005 and they recently celebrated their 13th anniversary. He is active in the First United Methodist Church of Mission, Texas. He has been involved in Scouting for more than 70 years and remains active. In 2016 he was selected "Mr. Mission" by the Mission Chamber of Commerce and the local newspaper. This

year he was selected to be on the Wall of Fame of the Mission Historical Museum.  
**Classes of the 1960s**  
**John Mike Allen (DDS '64)** retired from active dental practice this year.  
**Robert C. Beaver (DDS '64)** retired Aug. 30 at age 80 after 54 years of practice.  
**Richard Bennett (DDS '64)** lost his son **Brenton Bennett (DDS '88)** in a motorcycle accident two years ago. They practiced together more than 25 years. Richard said Brenton was an icon of Emporia, Kansas. At the son's visitation, more than 2,000 people lined up outside the church to pay their respects. His body was escorted to the burial by more than 100 motorcycle friends.  
**Michael D. Byers (DDS '64)** retired in 2004. He lives in Sun City West, Arizona, during the winters. His wife, Mary, passed

away in July 2010. Michael remarried in 2012. He enjoys playing golf socially and creating stained glass.  
**Bill Hoffman (DDS '64, Ortho '68)** says the beat goes on with his son, **Kurt Hoffman (DDS '94, Ortho '96)**, and his grandson, Henry Hoffman, a dental student.  
**Richard McKinney (DDS '64)** says he and his wife, Carol, love to travel and play golf. He played golf in the Dominican Republic in March at the Punta Cana Coralis Course.  
**Ron Grout (DDS '69)** proudly reports he is 75 years old and still practicing full time. He loves the profession and is so happy he chose it – especially after getting to practice with his son, Jeff, for 22 years. Ron says, "Here's to the veterans of the 1969 Class."  
**Larry F. Madsen (DDS '69)** is happily 10 years retired. He is enjoying traveling,

hiking, lifelong learning courses and spending time with close friends.

**Philip Ray (DDS '69)** retired after 46 years of dental practice. He is now serving as an Episcopal parish priest.

**Classes of the 1970s**  
**Chris Deister (DDS '74)** retired in July.

**Scott Roberson (DDS '79)** is serving on the Independence, Missouri, City Council. He has 4 grandchildren under 4 years old and still practices full time.

**David L. Vreeland (DDS '79)** retired in May 2018 after practicing for 34 years as an endodontist. He and his wife are thankful for their three children and five grandchildren.

**Rob Wilson (DDS '79)** has retired and moved to Texas after 27 years of private general practice and 11 years as a clinical instructor at UMKC School of Dentistry.

**Classes of the 1980s**  
**Kelly Burke Barnett (DDS '84)** and **Mark C. Barnett (DDS '84)** maintained separate solo practices for 17 years and then practiced together for 14 years in Ozark, Missouri, before retiring in 2014. Now married for 34 years, they are enjoying traveling the world, spending time at the lake and making lots of fun memories with family and friends.

**Steven Hechler's (DDS '84)** son **Paul (DDS '17)** will join his orthodontic practice in the summer of 2019 after completing his ortho residency at the University of Iowa. Paul's wife, **Liz (DDS '17)**, will complete her pediatric training there at the same time.

**Mark Helfand (DDS '84)** is a widower and disabled by Complex Regional Pain Syndrome. He is sad to have missed reunions and wants to say hello to his old friends.

**Steven Irwin's (DDS '84)** daughter, Peri, will graduate from UMKC Dental School in 2019.

**Mary Susan (Barnes) Krotzinger (DDS '84)** moved to Ocala, Florida, in 2012 and

is semi-retired, working two days a week at a large federally qualified health center. She volunteers at the University of Florida Natural History Museum in Gainesville, Florida, and is adjunct faculty at the University of Florida School of Dentistry.

**Crystal A. Obee (DDS '84)** has been in Kinsley, Kansas, since graduation. She is active in her community, church and local dental societies and still married to Bob.

**Todd Brower (DDS '89)** has a granddaughter, Kayce, who started kindergarten and a new grandson, Jude.

**Kevin Hallgarth (DDS '89)** has been practicing orthodontics in Hudson, Ohio, for 25 years. He and his wife, Sheryl, have three children in college, and they adopted a little girl from China eight years ago who is now in the 5th grade.

**Classes of the 1990s**  
**Junée Gardy (DDS '94)** is happily married to Dean Gardy. They will celebrate their 25th anniversary this year. She is a Rotarian and on the executive board of the Collier County Dental Association. Their daughter, Jessica, is a junior at Florida Gulf Coast University. Junée still has her own full time practice and loves it.

**Melanie Huckabee (DDS '94)** works in Kansas City with her husband, **Sam Huckabee (DDS '95)**. They have five children, with the oldest son playing college football and following a pre-dental path.

**Bryan Bonnet (DDS '99)** built a new office in 2015 between Glenpool and Jenks, Oklahoma. He has been married to his beautiful wife, April, for 25 years. Their children both attend the University of Oklahoma, where Bryce is a 4th year student and Brenan is a 2nd year.

**Classes of the 2000s**  
**Amanda Wood Fitzpatrick (DDS '09)** has two daughters: Morgan was born in 2011 and Emma was born in 2014.

**Tara Pool (DDS '09)** has been married

for 16 years and has three daughters: Madeline, 10; Lucy, 7; and Ella, 3. She is a solo private practice owner in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

**Barbara Schupp (DDS '09)** completed pediatric residency at Children's Hospital Colorado in 2014. She is practicing at Lawrence (Kansas) Pediatric Dentistry.

**Classes of the 2010s**  
**Ashley Asano (DDS '14)** will be starting residency in endodontics at the University of Minnesota in June 2019.

**Andrew Bruening (DDS '14)** and **Carissa Bruening (DDS '16)** had a baby girl, Renyn Marie, on Sept. 6, 2018.

**Nathan Schmidt (DDS '14)** recently bought his own solo practice in Goodland, Kansas, called Goodland Dental Arts. His wife, Sara, and he have two children. Kendrick is 15 and Bella is 16 months old.

**Carly Knewston Havner (MSDH '17)** has a publication in the October issue of the Journal of Dental Hygiene regarding her graduate research on dental hygiene education. Marsha Voelker, associate professor of dental hygiene, was her research chair. Carly lives in Hawaii.

In Memoriam

- Thomas G. Burris (DDS '47)
- James M. Callender III (DDS '56)
- Randall K. Hahn (DDS '74)
- W. Dale Hawley (DDS '61)
- Jimmy W. Hively (DDS '67)
- Marvin D. Hoffman (DDS '57)
- William J. Kemp (DDS '49)
- Henrik A. Knudsen (DDS '57)
- Roger C. Krase (DDS '68)
- Jacob McGuire (DDS '98, PhD '14)
- James W. Moore (DDS '64)
- Jay C. Nelson (DDS '64)
- Robert W. Oliver (DDS '53)
- Ross A. Padgham (DDS '61)
- Joseph C. Phillips (DDS '68)
- David Tebbenkamp (DDS '75)
- Billy Earl Wagner (DDS '74)
- Theodore P. Wiklund III (DDS '67)



# Showers give way to smiles at this fall's Welcome Game

**THE ANNUAL NEW STUDENT** Welcome Game on Aug. 28 at "The K," sponsored by the Dental Alumni Association, was a big success despite starting off with a downpour. The torrent quickly passed, its only bad effect being a batch of soggy cookies. Otherwise, the storm gave way to beautiful skies and a great night of baseball, including a Royals victory. The UMKC School of Dentistry DDS Class of 2022 and DH Class of 2020 really "soaked up" new memories with alumni, faculty, staff and friends.



## Serving the school in many ways

**IF YOU'VE HAD** any recent dealings with the School of Dentistry, there's a good chance you crossed paths with new staff member Audriana Bruno, administrative coordinator for alumni affairs and continuing education. Her title only hints at her varied duties, which also involve her in fundraising and the Midwest Dental Conference.

"I joined the school Jan. 1, and it has been interesting working in so many areas," she said at the beginning of the fall semester. "I've been busy lining up the exhibit hall and speakers for the dental conference. I do some of our social media, too."

To take the job at UMKC, Bruno moved to Kansas City from her native Florida, where she had returned to work after college. She earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Loyola-Chicago in new and digital media.

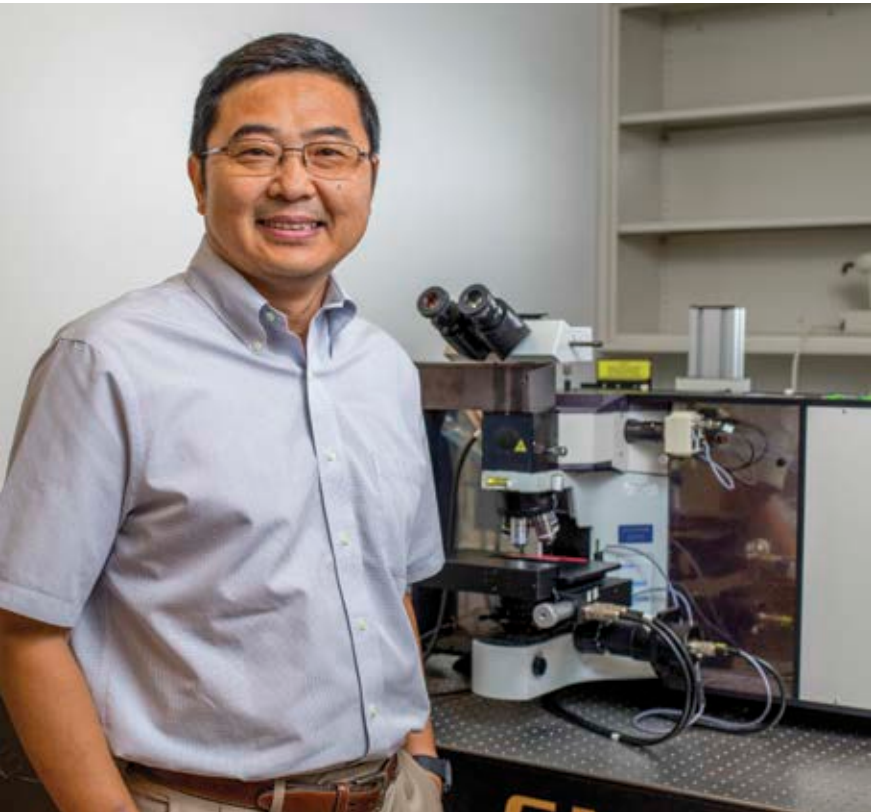
"I worked in higher education before, in alumni affairs and fundraising at the University of South Florida's medical school," she said. "And I knew something about living in the Midwest from college. So staying in health care and moving to Kansas City has worked well for me."



Audriana Bruno has joined the dental school's Office of Alumni and Development.

# TeamSmile makes smiles for kids

**ALMOST 300 CHILDREN** received free dental care from 30 local dentists and more than 100 students and other volunteers at a TeamSmile event Aug. 3. UMKC School of Dentistry third- and fourth-year dental students from the Students Take Action organization and the Pediatric Dentistry Club volunteered for the event. TeamSmile was founded by Dr. Bill Busch, an area dentist who has served as the Kansas City Chiefs team dentist. The TeamSmile partnership with area sports franchises provides free dental care to children whose families might not be able to provide it otherwise. This year's event was hosted by the Kansas City Royals at Kauffman Stadium, and Royals greats John Mayberry and Dennis Leonard were on hand.



Dr. Yong Wang will continue his research into better bonding materials.

## School of Dentistry wins \$1.84 million NIH grant

**THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE** of Dental and Craniofacial Research, part of the National Institutes of Health, has awarded UMKC School of Dentistry a five-year grant totaling \$1.84 million to develop the next generation of longer-lasting materials for restorative dentistry.

Current dental bonding — at the average cost of \$450 per tooth — doesn't last as long as it should because it eventually breaks down, causing sensitivity, cavities and the need for repair. Studies—including at the UMKC School of Dentistry—have shown this is caused by ineffective bonding between resin and collagen, poor-quality resin and the degradation of collagen fibers.

"We will develop novel materials for robust, durable bonding to address all of the issues," said Yong Wang, PhD, professor of oral and craniofacial sciences, who is the principal investigator on the grant.

"The approach is innovative since it represents the first systematic design with rationally engineered chemistry to simultaneously tackle all three critical challenges afflicting current bonding systems."

Wang and the UMKC School of Dentistry are internationally recognized for applying new technologies in dentistry.

"With this grant award, Dr. Wang and his colleagues will be able to continue exploring innovative solutions to some of the practical challenges of clinical restorative dentistry," said Marsha Pyle, dean of the UMKC School of Dentistry. "I congratulate him on his important work and this award."

Zhonghua Peng, PhD, curator's distinguished professor of chemistry, and Mary P. Walker (Pros '99, PhD '01), associate dean for research and graduate programs of dentistry, are co-investigators on this five-year grant.

## Student news



**CHANELLE ROBERTS, DDS** Class of 2020, has been appointed to serve as Region 6 coordinator for the Student National Dental Association. She will serve as part of the Regions Committee of the National Executive Board. Region 6 encompasses Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota and their associated dental schools' Student National Dental Association chapters.



**KAYLA HANNA, DDS** Class of 2019, won a 2018 Dental Trade Association Scholarship, awarded for her commitment to community service.



Chancellor Agrawal visits the School of Dentistry

AS PART OF his introduction to UMKC, Chancellor C. Mauli Agrawal is touring each school or academic department on each campus. He came to the UMKC Health Sciences District on Aug. 29 and toured the School of Dentistry. Agrawal came to UMKC from the University of Texas-San Antonio Health Science Center and has a passion for health services.



Chancellor C. Mauli Agrawal got a hands-on experience lasering an apple in the Innovation Clinic.

Retirements

FIFTEEN RETIRING FACULTY and staff members with 384 years of combined service were recognized in September. Their years of service are in parentheses.

Tamara Carson (16 years)

Office support staff  
Division of Dental Hygiene

Keyna Chertoff (8 years)

Senior research assistant and study coordinator  
Dental Public Health & Behavioral Science

Dana Dillon (44 years)

Certified dental assistant  
Dental Clinic

Connie Flaigle (46 years)

Programmer and database administrator  
Biomedical Communications

Dr. Jeff Gorski (30 years)

Professor  
Oral & Craniofacial Sciences

Dr. Laura Iwasaki (11 years)

Clinical associate professor, Leo A. Rogers Chair  
Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics

Dr. Jay Jones (24 years)

Clinical professor  
Restorative Clinical Sciences

Dr. Jeffrey Nicklel (11 years)

Advanced program director, Donald J. Thompson Associate Professor  
Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics

Dr. Pam Overman (38 years)

Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs  
Dean's Office

Patrick Punttenney (29 years)

Publications editor  
Biomedical Communications

Dr. John Purk (35 years)

Professor  
Restorative Clinical Sciences

Dr. Chris Rice (32 years)

Professor  
Dental Public Health & Behavioral Science

Mary Trayford (35 years)

Certified dental assistant, dental assisting supervisor  
Dental Clinic

Dr. Craig Whitt (14 years)

Rinehart Professor and chair  
Oral Pathology, Radiology & Medicine

Dr. Robert Wilson (11 years)

Clinical associate professor  
Restorative Clinical Sciences

Faculty News

Dr. Tim Cox was recognized at a recent dinner as the new Endowed Professor in Musculoskeletal Tissue Research in the Department of Oral and Craniofacial Sciences.

Dr. Shara Dunlap (DDS '94), clinical assistant professor in the Department of Restorative Clinical Sciences, received the Elmore F. Pierson Good Teaching Award, given annually to outstanding teachers in the Henry W. Bloch School of Management and the schools of dentistry, law and medicine.

Dr. Brett Ferguson (DDS '81), associate professor and chairman of the Department of Oral Surgery and Hospital Dentistry, has been named the 2018 Harrigan Award Honoree. The award will be presented at the society's annual meeting at the New York University College of Dentistry.

Dr. Rebeca Weisleder Urow, clinical associate professor in the Department of Endodontics, presented a poster, "Tooth Submersion – A Resort for Bone Maintenance After Trauma," Aug. 15-18 at the 20th World Congress in Dental Traumatology in San Diego. She collaborated with Dr. Gisela V. Bona of the UTHealth School of Dentistry at Houston.

Marsha Voelker, associate professor in the Division of Dental Hygiene, was recognized for 30 years of commitment to the American Legion Auxiliary Tar Heel Girls State program in North Carolina. She attended Tar Heel Girls State in 1989 and has been on the counseling staff ever since, the past three years as head counselor. Girls State programs across the country teach citizenship and leadership to girls before their senior year in high school by setting up mock city and state governments for a week.

Dr. Connie White (DDS '81), associate dean for community relations and communications, will be the president-elect of the National Academy of General Dentistry starting in November and president a year later.

New Faculty



Dr. Thikriat Al-Jewair has joined the faculty as an associate professor and director of the Advanced Education Program in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics. She served in a similar role at the State University of New York at Buffalo before joining UMKC. Dr. Al-Jewair earned a BDS degree ('03) from King Saud University, an MSc in dental public health ('09) from the University of Toronto and a certificate and MS in orthodontics ('12) from the University at Buffalo.



Dr. Ed Cantrell (DDS '89) has joined the faculty as a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Restorative Clinical Sciences. Dr. Cantrell graduated from Kansas Sate University, holds a DDS degree from UMKC and was in private practice in Olathe, Kansas, for nearly 30 years. He taught part time at the School of Dentistry several years before joining the faculty full time.



Dr. Timothy C. Cox has joined the faculty as a professor and the Endowed Chair in Mineralized Tissue Research in the Department of Oral and Craniofacial Sciences. Dr. Cox earned his BS ('89), BS [Honors] ('90) and PhD ('94) from the University of Adelaide, Australia. He was previously a professor and endowed chair at the University of Washington.



Dr. Paul Hansen has joined the faculty as a clinical professor and assistant director of the AEGD program. Dr. Hansen received his DDS ('75) from the University of Nebraska and a certificate in prosthodontics ('84) at Wilford Hall Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Hansen directed the Graduate Program in Prosthodontics at the UMKC School of Dentistry from 1995 to 2002. He spent the past 12 years teaching at the University of Nebraska.



Dr. Solon Kao has joined the faculty as a vice chair and associate professor in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Hospital Dentistry. Dr. Kao earned his BE in biomedical engineering from Vanderbilt University ('94) and his DDS degree from the University of Tennessee, Memphis ('98). He received his OMS training at Medical College of Georgia ('05) and earned American Board of OMS (ABOMS) certification ('07). He had been a pre-doctoral OMS director and fulltime faculty at Augusta University since 2005 before joining UMKC.



Dr. Stefan Lohfeld has joined the faculty as an assistant professor in the Department of Oral and Craniofacial Sciences. Dr. Lohfeld earned his MS in 1998 from the University of Bremen, Germany, and his PhD in 2004 from the RWTH Aachen University, Germany. He worked at the National University of Ireland Galway from 2002 until joining UMKC.



Dr. Aparna Naidu has joined the faculty as a clinical associate professor in the Department of Oral Pathology, Radiology and Medicine. Dr. Naidu earned her DDS ('01) from Northwestern University Dental School and her MS in biomedical sciences ('06) and certificate in oral and maxillofacial pathology ('06) from Baylor College of Dentistry – Texas A&M University.



Dr. Tiffany Tavares joined the faculty as a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Oral Pathology, Radiology and Medicine. She earned her DDS from the Universidade Federal Fluminense in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2013 and completed her oral medicine residency at Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard School of Dental Medicine this year. Tavares is a member of the American Academy of Oral Medicine and a diplomate of the American Board of Oral Medicine. Her academic interests are in oral mucosal diseases, oral potentially malignant disorders and oral oncology.



Legacy Students

THE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY is proud to have many multigenerational families and realizes its success comes in part from its rich history, with roots stretching back to 1881. Here are the legacy students from the DDS Class of 2022 and DH Class of 2020.

**Jumanah Behbehani:** cousin, Dr. Faraj Behbehani (DDS '96); cousin Mohammad Behbehani (DDS '20)

**Anna Bowden:** father, Dr. Scott K. Bowden (DDS '93)

**Marie Brancato:** great uncle, Dr. Joseph P. Spalitto (DDS '72)

**Garrett Craigmiles:** sister, Dr. Haylea Craigmiles (DDS '18)

**Emery Driskill:** stepmother, Becky Walden (BSDH '87)

**Ashley Eylar:** aunt, Julia Eylar (BSDH '84); grandfather, Walter Eylar (DDS '54)

**Anna Faulkner:** sister, Dr. Laura (DDS Faulkner) Moore (DDS '18, Ortho '19)

**Jackson Green:** father, Dr. Steven Green (DDS '93)

**Zaynab Hussam:** sister, Dr. Maice Scott (DDS '09); brother, Sainy Hussam (DDS '19)

**Justin Jirovec:** father, Dr. Donald Jirovec Jr. (DDS '85); grandfather, Dr. Donald Jirovec Sr. (DDS '42); uncle, Dr. John Zongker (DDS '76); aunt, Karen (Jirovec) Zongker (BSDH '73); aunt, Mary Shelby (BSDH '78)

**Stephanie Kubik:** father, Dr. Francis Kubik (DDS '81)

**Nicole Kurlbaum:** spouse, Dr. Scuyler Kurlbaum (DDS '17); cousin, Dr. Ian Kuklenski (DDS '17); aunt, Sally Kuklenski (BSDH '71)

**Gerald Lutz:** father, Dr. Mike A. Lutz (DDS '88)

**Samantha Mahaffey:** grandfather, Dr. Charles Mahaffey (DDS '72); uncle, Dr. Darren Mahaffey (DDS '05); aunt, Dr. Sarah (Brown) Mahaffey (DDS '05)

**Katherine Mattingly, Kevin Mattingly:** brother, Dr. David Mattingly (DDS '10); sister-in-law, Dr. Emily Mattingly (DDS '12)

**Idean Mohammadi:** brother, Dr. Sasha Mohammadi (DDS '18)

**Taylor Morgan:** cousin's spouse, Dr. Jerrod Crawford (DDS '09); cousin's spouse, Dr. Jake Kirby (DDS '12); uncle, Dr. James Kulild (DDS '73)

**Grant Oehler:** uncle, Dr. Ross Sethman (DDS '81); sister, Emily Oehler (DDS '19)

**Alex Prstojevich:** father, Dr. Steven Prstojevich (DDS '86); brother, Cole Prstojevich (DDS '20)

**Marvin Rice:** father, Dr. Elwood Rice (DDS '82)

**Mollie Siemens:** uncle, Dr. Andrew Hamilton (DDS '96); aunt, Dr. Rebecca Mathis (DDS '83)

**Bryan Smith:** cousin, Dr. David Britt (DDS '08)

**Mikayla Stevens:** father, Dr. Paul Stevens (DDS '95); sister, Dr. Nicole (Stevens) Vogel (DDS '11); brother-in-law, Dr. Christopher Vogel (DDS DDS '11, Oral Surgery '16)

**Glenn Teubner:** father, Dr. Daniel G. Teubner (DDS '85)

Plan your educational development with UMKC 2019 Continuing Education Courses

**Extended Care Permit III**  
Online/One-Day, In-Person Lab | 18 Credit Hours  
Online Portion: January – May 2019 | In-Person Lab: May 18, 2019  
Deadline to Enroll: January 30, 2019

**Nitrous Oxide for the Dentist, Dental Hygienist & Dental Assistant: Spring Session**  
Lecture/Hands-On | 16 Credit Hours  
February 15 – 16, 2019  
Deadline to Enroll: February 2, 2019

**\*NEW\* Digital Dentures Concepts and Techniques**  
Lecture/Hands-On | 5 Credit Hours  
April 12, 2019  
Deadline to Enroll: March 29, 2019

**\*NEW\* Radiology Refresher: Improving Diagnostic X-Rays**  
Lecture/Hands-On | 3 Credit Hours  
May 10, 2019  
Deadline to Enroll: April 19, 2019

**OSHA Training: Infection/Exposure Control in the Oral Healthcare Setting**  
Lecture | 3 Credit Hours  
June 7, 2019  
Deadline to Enroll: May 24, 2019

**Local Anesthesia for the Dental Hygienist**  
Lecture/Hands-On | 24 Credit Hours  
July 26 – 28, 2019  
Deadline to Enroll: July 12, 2019

**Practicing in the Dental Hygiene Public Health Safety Net: Online**  
Online | 30 Credit Hours  
August – December 2019  
Deadline to Enroll: August 30, 2019

**\*NEW\* Spanish for the Dental Professional: Introductory Course**  
Lecture | 3 Credit Hours  
August 9, 2019  
Deadline to Enroll: July 26, 2019

**\*NEW\* Spanish for the Dental Professional: Education and Dental Emergencies**  
Lecture | 3 Credit Hours  
August 9, 2019  
Deadline to Enroll: July 26, 2019

**\*NEW\* Pediatric Endodontic Therapy**  
Lecture/Hands-On | 6 Credit Hours  
September 14, 2019  
Deadline to Enroll: August 31, 2019

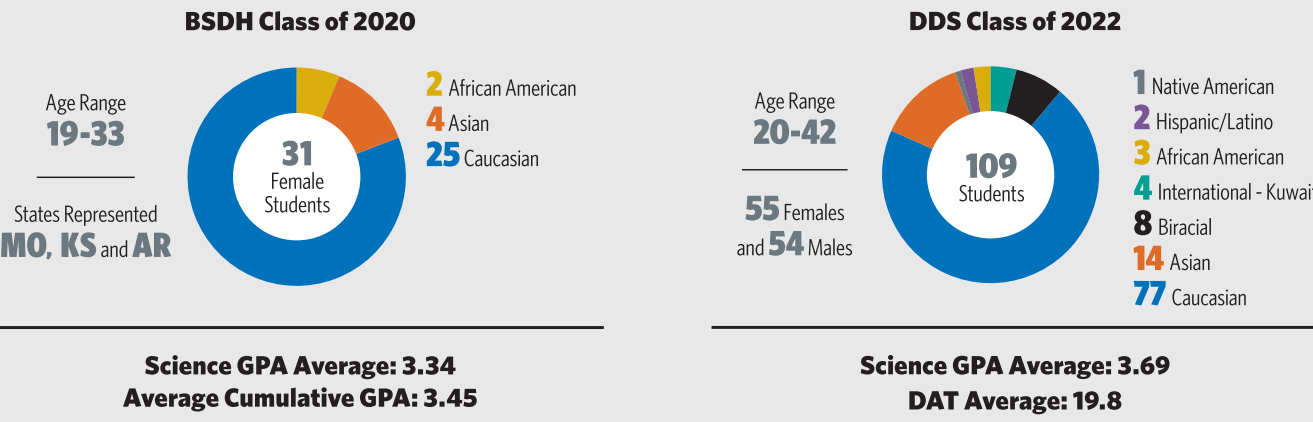
**Nitrous Oxide for the Dentist, Dental Hygienist & Dental Assistant: Fall Session**  
Lecture/Hands-On | 16 Credit Hours  
October 11 – 12, 2019  
Deadline to Enroll: September 27, 2019

**SBIRT: Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment for Substance Abuse Online**  
Online | 3.5 Credit Hours  
Ongoing  
Deadline to Enroll: Ongoing

Dates are subject to change. Please check individual course listing when registering.

For questions or to register:  
dentistry.umkc.edu/continuing-education or call UMKC Continuing Dental Education at 816-235-2142.

Impressive Numbers: How the Incoming Classes Stack Up



Save the Date: Alumni Events

**Pouring from the Heart**  
Thursday, March 21, 2019  
Join us for the 20th Pouring from the Heart as we raise money for patient care at The American!

**Rinehart and Dental Alumni Board meetings**  
Thursday, March 21, 2019

**Midwest Dental Conference**  
March 21-24, 2019

**Royals Opening Day**  
Thursday, March 28, 2019

**Annual Alumni Scholarship Golf Tournament**  
Friday, May 31, 2019





**University of Missouri-Kansas City**  
School of Dentistry  
Office of Alumni and Advancement  
650 E. 25th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64108-2784



# **MIDWEST DENTAL CONFERENCE**

**March 21 - 24, 2019**

**SAVE the DATE**

