

UMKC School of Dentistry Alumni News

EXPLORER

Fall 2019

Vol. 76 No. 2



Power of giving transforms learning

Pre-clinical Lab makeover is just the latest example

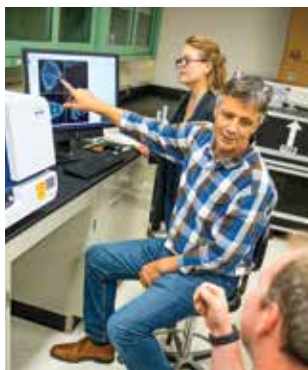
Features



- 8 Every gift counts**, and recently those gifts — from individual alumni, classes and foundations — impressively added up to fund the new Pre-clinical Lab. The successful giving campaign also brought alumni together, inspired faculty and students, and set the stage for the next round of improvements, focused on the school's important Study Commons area.



- 12 Alumni around the world** and in unusual career niches are making an impact on their communities and on the fields of dentistry and dental hygiene. Check out how some of your fellow alumni serve diverse roles and populations from Kuwait to Thailand, association executive suites to ships at sea, and small towns to disaster recovery scenes.



- 16 Three newer faculty members** are advancing the School of Dentistry's reputation for tackling serious challenges. Read how two researchers are working to prevent or lessen facial malformations and cleft palate, and how a biomedical and mechanical engineer uses 3D printing to help solve other research and surgical puzzles.

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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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UMKC School of Dentistry

UMKC HEALTH SCIENCES DISTRICT

The School of Dentistry is a vital partner of the UMKC Health Sciences District, a group of health care institutions collaborating on research, clinical care, community wellness and health sciences education.

www.umkchealthsciencesdistrict.org

MEANINGFUL EVENTS, experiences and pathways leave indelible imprints on each of us. The impact of these rich encounters and experiences propels us toward our goals, and even our toughest experiences can have a positive impact by leaving us stronger, smarter and more ready to face each new day and challenge.

This issue of Explorer celebrates the positive impact of the UMKC School of Dentistry's faculty, staff and students. We also honor our many donors who make our projects and achievements possible. We hope you accept our gratitude for your contributions and enjoy reading about the impact of our faculty's research endeavors, the impact of school renovations made possible by your substantial giving, and the impact of the care and accomplishments of our alumni around the world — often in unexpected roles and locations.



One notable outcome of your giving is our newly renovated Pre-clinical Lab space, which I hope you will have a chance to visit. It is the largest training space in the United States so well equipped with the latest technology. This significant project came together with commitments of support from our alumni associations, the Rinehart Foundation, friends of the school and the Sunderland Foundation. Working together, we have made a deep and lasting impact on learning.

Besides infrastructure improvements, your giving fuels the scholarships that ease the daily routine of students navigating the cost of their education. Hearing students' personal stories and their sincere gratitude completes a circle of positive impact.

Our students also bring us their enthusiasm and leadership abilities. We are proud of the student leaders who have helped us showcase the UMKC School of Dentistry this fall by playing host to an ASDA meeting and Student National Dental Association regional meeting at our school. The future of these committed individuals will continue to make our profession and school stronger!

We also give thanks for our many longtime faculty who recently have transitioned to retirement. Their impact touched thousands of students and peers over decades. Their work helped to develop competent beginning general dentists, specialists and dental hygienists, and their style will not be forgotten for years to come. These transitions opened new opportunities for the school to add other seasoned academics and practitioners. I am excited now to see how their contributions to the cycle of growth and renewal will advance the school, our curriculum and our culture in the years ahead.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marsha Pyle".

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

A Message From the Chair



WHAT AN IMPACT a year makes! In the past year, we've given out more than \$1 million in scholarships, we've finished renovating the Pre-clinical Lab, and we've completed phase one of the Study Commons renovation — just to name a few accomplishments. These are direct results of the generosity of our alumni and friends.

Think about this level of impact:

- 176 students have substantially less debt than they would have without your help, and they can be financially stable sooner and pay it forward.
- 250 students each year for the next two decades will have the opportunity to be better clinicians when they see a live patient for the first time.
- 140 of the best and brightest DDS and BSDH students will join our alma mater each year because we provided an engaging and dynamic learning opportunity.
- 500 students each year will have a quiet space to prepare to do their best work and set themselves up for success.

Thank you! This kind of impact is truly immeasurable, and the benefits will be seen in our school for years to come. I'm proud to be part of a group who values these kinds of commitments, wants to make our piece of the world a better place, wants the next generation to succeed and is willing to do the work to make it happen. I look forward to seeing what exciting things we do next — together — because that's how we make the biggest impact.

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

Thanks to Our Many Generous Donors

\$100,000 +

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Every effort has been made to accurately list each donor who has supported the UMKC School of Dentistry from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019. If your name is misspelled, omitted or incorrectly listed, we sincerely apologize and ask you to call the Office of Alumni and Development, 816-235-2060, so corrections can be made.

Visit dentistry.umkc.edu/foundation to see a complete list of the school's donors.

Estate Gifts

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.

Medallions:

Orville E. Brown (DDS '64)
 Andrew R. Bruening (DDS '14)
 Marilyn S. Harrington (BSDH '69)
 Steven D. Malmstrom (DDS '77, ORTH '80)
 Alan J. Martin (DDS '82)
 Charles C. McGinty (DDS '77)
 Addy Mohn (DDS '04)
 Charles Neale (DDS '57)
 Wendy D. Reynolds (DDS '95)
 Allan Y. Segawa (DDS '73)
 James B. Trotter (DDS '76)
 Bradley C. Wright (DDS '82)



Medallion and pin recipient Dr. Charles L. Mahaffey (DDS '72) was congratulated by Dr. Andrew Moore (DDS '99), Rinehart Foundation president.

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.

Pins:

\$25,000 - \$49,999

John D. Gardner (DDS '79)
 Charles L. Mahaffey (DDS '72)
 James S. Torchia (DDS '57, ORTH '59)

\$50,000 - \$99,999

W. Scott Robinson (DDS '86)
 P. Nick Rogers (DDS '78)
 John C. Windle (DDS '49)

\$100,000+

Mary J. Matson
 Clyde S. Umaki (DDS '68, PERIO '70)



Scholarships top a record \$1 million; banquet honors generous donors

AT THE 2019 Scholarship Recognition dinner Oct. 6, the UMKC School of Dentistry distributed 373 awards to 176 students totaling a record breaking \$1,009,315. During the program, student speaker Victoria Ratcliffe (DDS Class of 2021) shared how dentistry changed her life as she was born with a cleft lip and palate. She has undergone 22 surgeries to date. After graduation, she plans to continue on to an oral and maxillofacial surgery residency program with hopes to further specialize in craniofacial surgery to positively impact other cleft palate patients' lives. "I would like to express my gratitude to all of you donors for making these scholarships available to us," she said. "They are helping us tremendously lower our expenses so that we can pursue this incredible profession." It is these meaningful connections made that make this event so special each year.

For more pictures from the Scholarship Dinner visit the [UMKC Dental Alumni facebook page](#).



Dickson McGuire (DDS '99) and Luke McGuire flank scholarship recipient Samantha Ackerman (DDS Class of 2020).

Dr. Jake McGuire Memorial Scholarship Fund

Dr. Jake McGuire (DDS '98) was a proud graduate of the UMKC School of Dentistry and a beloved faculty member. After his passing, many people came together to create a scholarship in his honor. Dickson McGuire (his brother and fellow graduate), students in the 2019 graduating class and many others made this fund possible. He was known to have a benevolent spirit, was a true friend, and strove to provide care that was wholly based on the patient's well-being. Although he suffered with a life-altering medical condition, he didn't let that limit his distinguished clinical and academic achievement and always demonstrated the highest integrity and interpersonal connections with classmates, teachers and patients.

Dr. Glenn M. Masunaga Scholarship

Dr. Glenn Masunaga was able to attend Kansas City-Western Dental School (1954) with the combined financial resources of the G.I. Bill, working as a houseboy and the generosity of many scholarships. He credits his successful life to this opportunity and is forever grateful. He is a member of Omicron Kappa Upsilon, FACD and FICD, and a holder of two U.S. patents, one of which was awarded for an orthodontic bracket tweezer. All royalties from the sales of this instrument were donated to UMKC. He is one of possibly only two people who hold the distinction of receiving the highest civilian governmental awards from both the United States and Japan. He was a member of the Military Intelligence Service in WWII, a unit that received the Congressional Gold Medal in 2011. In 1999, an Imperial Medal, "The Order of the Rising Sun—Gold and Silver Rays," was awarded to him by the emperor of Japan for his role in advancing the science of orthodontics in Japan. This scholarship was established in his honor by his family to assist dental students with financial needs.



Christie Rogers and Nick Rogers (DDS '78) with their scholarship recipient, Trevor Harris (DDS Class of 2020).

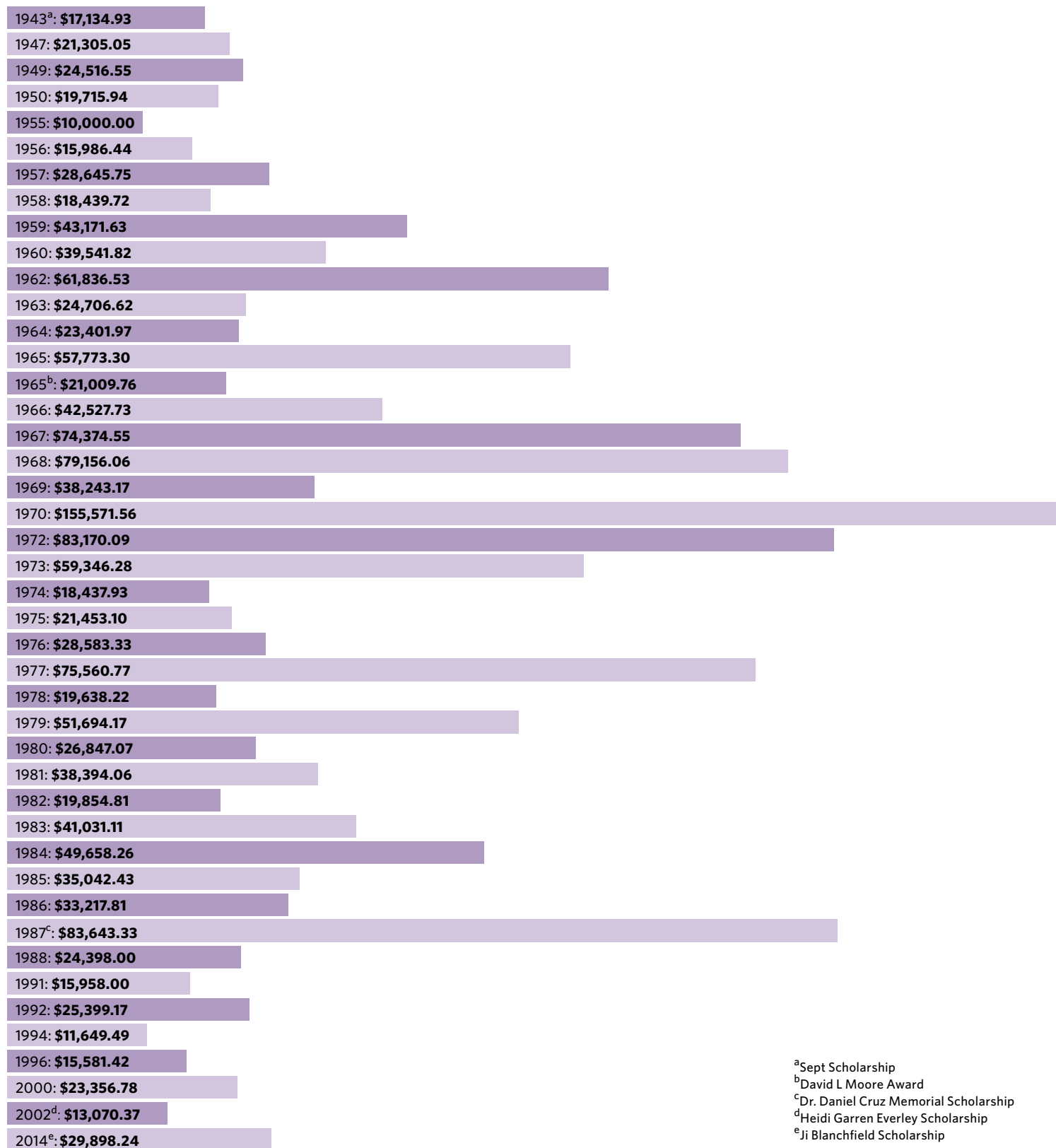
Dr. P. Nick Rogers Scholarship

Dr. Nick Rogers has called Arkansas City, Kansas, home for almost 40 years. During that time, he has been involved in a multitude of community and professional activities including valuable service to the Rinehart Foundation as a board member. His unsurpassed passion for the community is shown by his compassion for his patients and their care. He is an active member of many dental organizations, serving in a leadership capacity for most, and has been invaluable to many institutions in his community, including the Board of Education, Head Start, the Tiny Teeth Project, Rotary and the First United Methodist Church. His love for his community and his home state is evidenced by this fund, established to assist Kansas residents attending dental school.

Vivian Umaki Memorial Scholarship Fund

The tradition of love and support for our school from our alumni in Hawaii is continued with this fund to support students' dental education. Vivian, late wife of Dr. Clyde Umaki (DDS '68), was the backbone of his work in their home state. She tirelessly and competently helped establish and develop his successful periodontal practice, and she personally nurtured the growth of his entire staff. Through this fund, she will be celebrated for her strength of character, generosity of spirit, elegance, and beauty inside and out. Vivian was a warm, bright light who touched the lives of everyone she met. She was the epitome of grace. With the example she set, honored by this fund, countless dental students will have the opportunity to do the same for others as they begin their own dental professions.

ENDOWED CLASS SCHOLARSHIPS



^aSept Scholarship

^bDavid L Moore Award

^cDr. Daniel Cruz Memorial Scholarship

^dHeidi Garren Everley Scholarship

^eJi Blanchfield Scholarship

Not yet endowed scholarships**

1948: \$5,000.00	1961: \$4,925.00	1995: \$8,650.00	2003: \$3,785.00	2008: \$600.00
1951: \$1,000.00	1971: \$8,826.00	1997: \$1,200.00	2004: \$1,000.00	2009: \$1,700.00
1952: \$5,530.00	1989: \$6,310.00	1998: \$4,407.80	2005: \$4,200.00	2010: \$300.00
1953: \$2,220.00	1990: \$1,100.00	1999: \$7,625.00	2006: \$850.00	2012: \$2,921.57
1954: \$7,093.56	1993: \$6,050.00	2001: \$1,750.00	2007: \$3,550.00	2017: \$3,099.36

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

THE POWER OF GIVING

Generous support from scores of individuals, foundations and alumni combines to make a difference and improve educational programs

By PATRICIA O'DELL

Shanon Black first became interested in the UMKC School of Dentistry while attending Haskell Indian Nations University. She had considered pursuing a medical degree, but once she learned of the impact of dentistry on overall health, she changed direction.

"It just clicked," Black said. "I started doing more research and became interested in orthodontics, maxillofacial surgery or maybe a periodontal specialty. I make jewelry, so I was sensitive to working with the smallest things. And as I did more research into dental schools, I was drawn to UMKC."

Today, she is a second-year student, one of many excited about the school's recently opened Pre-clinical Lab, a project funded by the generosity of donor gifts large and small. During Black's research on the UMKC dental program, she was drawn in by the school's culture. That was more

important to her than having the newest training facility. Now she has both – and says the new clinical lab makes a significant difference.

"It's so shiny and clean and white and bright!" Black said. "Before, we actually practiced on a steel rod with teeth attached and had to imagine the head and shoulders. And there wasn't water."

The new lab is designed to better simulate a real clinical setting, with students being able to drill with water, and position properly around a patient's torso.

Dr. Andrew Moore (DDS '99), president of the Rinehart Foundation, which supports the dental school, reinforces the significance of these improvements. When the Rinehart board called a meeting asking alumni to fund individual work stations, they stepped up without hesitation.

"Every alumni understood what a difference the upgrades would make," Dr. Moore said. "The lab is such a



State-of-the-art work stations give students a more realistic pre-clinical experience.





May 17

Demolition begins. Lab spaces and a 3rd floor HVAC room gutted. Installation of the new air handler commences and runs through most of June.

June

More demolition, followed by installation of new duct work, electrical wiring and gas lines.

New lighting and wall finishes installed.

July

Construction continues with new ceiling grid and ceiling, floor coverings, painting and testing of new air handler.

August

Delivery of benches and sim units. Installation by crews from Dentsply Sirona manufacturing facilities in Germany with help from Dentsply Sirona USA service techs.

tangible aspect to every student's learning. No one understands that better than alumni."

The School of Dentistry is fortunate to have many supporters who realize their donations can change the lives of students and enhance their learning experience, far beyond the fundraising project at hand. Giving brings alumni closer together and strengthens their ties with the school, while showing their commitment to students' success. In addition, it models the act of giving back for future graduates, while enabling the school to better compete in recruiting.

It also creates momentum for future improvements such as the school's newest project, the Study Commons. Designed with feedback from students, this much-needed space will provide

areas for students to meet and study, offering them access to technology in quiet rooms and group sitting areas. It will be the only designated study space in the building.

The School of Dentistry recognizes that the act of giving, regardless of the donation's size or timing, always makes an impact. Each gift received, while greatly appreciated, truly offers value.

The efforts of fellow Rinehart board member Dr. Crystal Walker (DDS '04, PEDO '06) reflects this belief. When her class started planning for its 15th reunion, they decided to collectively support the Pre-clinical Lab as part of the celebration. The group understood the project would have a great immediate impact on improving the dental education for current and future students.

"I am grateful for all of the faculty, my fellow students, and the alumni that helped me to reach my dream of having a career in dentistry, and it is important to me to give back in a meaningful way," said Dr. Walker.

Over the years, community support for the dental school has been significant as well. The Sunderland Foundation, which was established by Lester T. Sunderland, who served as president of Ash Grove Cement Co. for 33 years, has been a stalwart supporter of UMKC. The foundation recently provided funds to be used toward the renovations of the Pre-clinic Lab, providing the final push needed to complete the project.

"We focus on capital funding because building was at the heart of our business when my family



■ August

Installation of multimedia presentation system by technicians from EBS, Munich, Germany. Final cleaning.

■ September

Final calibration and testing of air handler (HVAC system), final installation and subsequent calibration and testing of sim units and AV multimedia presentation system.

■ Sept. 4

First teaching labs held in the new spaces.

owned Ash Grove Cement,” said Kent Sunderland, president of the Sunderland Foundation. “We understand the value of buildings that

supporters to keep the school moving forward – this includes the financial support of individuals, alumni, foundations and friends. By coming

continue to enhance the School of Dentistry and prepare it for the future,” said Dean Marsha A. Pyle, DDS, MEd.

Now, Dean Pyle is working with designers and architects, as well as an internal team of students, faculty and staff, to develop phase two for the Study Commons project. The first phase — which included removing temporary walls and installing new carpet, paint and window shades — has wrapped up.

“Whether it’s the completed Pre-clinical Lab, the recently launched Study Commons or other future projects designed to help us educate and prepare the next generation of dental professionals, we are privileged to have such a strong team of supporters standing with us,” said Dean Pyle. ■

“The lab is such a tangible aspect to every student's learning. No one understands that better than alumni.”

— DR. ANDREW MOORE (DDS '99)

work for people. Providing resources for organizations that enhance Kansas City is integral to our family’s foundation mission.”

In many ways, it takes a village of

together, they make a difference, improving dental education for years to come.

“We know the combination of community and alumni support will

NEAR AND FAR... WE MAKE AN IMPACT

From Bangkok to Wiesbaden and academic halls to ships at sea, alumni from all of the school's programs make unique contributions

By GREG HACK

With thousands of alumni around the world and across the United States, the UMKC School of Dentistry continues to make a difference in dental health. Most graduates have made their mark in practices throughout the Midwest, but many others have landed in different places and unusual roles. Everywhere they go, our alumni are improving lives and finding success.

BANGKOK, THAILAND

DR. SAKCHAI SUKHUMPANTANASARN (DDS '91)

Pursuing the best care possible

When Sakchai Sukhumpantanasarn came to UMKC from his native Thailand, he confessed, he was “a kid who did not like studying at all. But the School of Dentistry showed me the right path, and I became a diligent student who loves learning.” After he graduated, he returned to his homeland, where many cannot afford adequate dental care. With his skills, he spent 13 years at a family dental clinic helping hundreds of patients who otherwise might have had to settle for lower-quality care. Today, he's committed to using the full potential of his UMKC education to lead the BNH Hospital's Dental Department. “We provide the highest standard of care for all ages, from infants to the elderly, and also serve international patients,” he said. His love for learning also passed to his daughter, who will graduate soon from dental school in Bangkok.



Dr. Sakchai Sukhumpantanasarn, his daughter, Melanie, and his wife, Santiya, at Melanie's dentistry white coat ceremony.

**"I'm the only dentist for
1,200 sailors, and up to an
additional 1,000 Marines
during a mission or exercise.
They call me the Floss Boss."**

**ABOARD THE U.S.S. BONHOMME RICHARD,
HOME PORT SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**

DR. AUDREY M. BUXTON (DDS '17)



CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ANN BATTRELL (MSDH '07)

By 2001, Ann Battrell already had a string of impressive accomplishments, including serving as the 1996 president of the American Dental Hygienists' Association. But she also wanted an advanced degree and became the first student in UMKC's online MSDH program. Battrell continued to break ground when she became the first dental hygienist to lead the hygienists' association as executive director and now as CEO. "Above all," Battrell said, "I hope I make an impact on future dental hygiene leaders, as they will continue to move the profession forward."



WIESBADEN, GERMANY

DR. GLENN R. CASEY (DDS '77, ORTHO '83)

In 22 years of service in the military, Glenn Casey cared for thousands of soldiers in the states and Germany, and after his orthodontics residency he trained 14 orthodontists in the Army. He retired in 1999 as commander of the dental activity at Fort Stewart, Georgia. The past 20 years, Dr. Casey has continued to care for military families and civilians connected to the military. "I've provided not only orthodontic care, but was involved in orthodontic education and leadership," said Dr. Casey, who plans to retire to Florida soon. "It's been rewarding."

OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS

HEATHER SAMUEL (RDH, MS '91, MPH)

Persistence, vision expand learning, patient care

After getting her master's in dental hygiene at UMKC, Heather Samuel enjoyed being a professor at nearby Johnson County Community College. But she felt something was missing — the chance for her dental hygiene students to work with special-needs and disadvantaged populations. Because she knew many of these would-be patients faced challenges in getting to a dental clinic, she thought, why not bring the clinic to them? “The school liked the idea, and with a lot of brainstorming, grant writing and other support, the funding for a mobile clinic came together,” said Samuel, who also got her commercial driver's license in the process. “After so much work and planning, it was something to actually have this clinic in a big truck,” she said, “and I was driving!” Samuel and her students rotate among serving residents who have physical or developmental limits, low-income pregnant women and residents taking English-as-a-second-language classes. “It's good for students and the patients,” Samuel said. “Any day we're heading out for clinic is a good day.”



“My UMKC background helped me shape Kuwait's only dental program and develop our young faculty at Kuwait University.”

KUWAIT CITY, KUWAIT

DR. JABER HUSSAIN AKBAR,
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, FACULTY OF
DENTISTRY, KUWAIT UNIVERSITY
(DDS '99, Pros '03)

A GRADUATE OF UMKC'S FIRST SPECIAL
KUWAIT DENTAL STUDENT PROGRAM





COLE CAMP AND SEDALIA, MISSOURI

DR. ERIC WILSON (DDS '91)

Answering the call in traumatic times

For a small-town Missouri dentist, Eric Wilson (above, right) gets around. A continuing education class sparked an interest in forensic dentistry, and in 1998 he got involved with a federal disaster response team. As a result, he has helped identify victims at Ground Zero after 9/11 and in Texas, Louisiana and Puerto Rico following hurricanes. In Missouri, his work has included helping after a plane crash in Kirksville and the Joplin tornado. He also has enjoyed decades of getting to know his patients in Sedalia and Cole Camp, which has a population of just 1,100. "I'm from St. Louis but prefer the outdoors, so I'm glad I took the leap to set up practice in mid-Missouri," he said.



LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO

DR. WENDY LARA (DDS '04)

Paying it back with interest

Wendy Lara served 13-plus years at the non-profit La Clinica De Familia and now makes a huge impact at the Ben Archer Health Center, where no one is turned away for inability to pay. "I couldn't have made it through dental school without my public service scholarship," she said, a scholarship her professor, Dr. Michael McCunniff, encouraged her to apply for. "He also showed me the value of serving others. Now I do general dentistry, mostly on an underserved population. I am one of the few dentists in the area who see special-needs patients regularly. This is my niche, so my patients know I'm here for the long term."

School of Dentistry alumni nationwide

ALABAMA	17	ILLINOIS	98	MISSOURI	2,754	PUERTO RICO	5
ALASKA	11	INDIANA	12	MONTANA	24	RHODE ISLAND	2
ARIZONA	152	IOWA	49	NEBRASKA	50	SOUTH CAROLINA	26
ARKANSAS	185	KANSAS	1,668	NEVADA	33	SOUTH DAKOTA	13
CALIFORNIA	292	KENTUCKY	14	NEW HAMPSHIRE	6	TENNESSEE	36
COLORADO	356	LOUISIANA	27	NEW JERSEY	16	TEXAS	291
CONNECTICUT	11	MAINE	9	NEW MEXICO	187	UTAH	48
DELAWARE	3	MARYLAND	20	NEW YORK	23	VERMONT	0
D.C.	3	MASSACHUSETTS	21	NORTH CAROLINA	56	VIRGIN ISLANDS	1
FLORIDA	205	MICHIGAN	30	NORTH DAKOTA	9	VIRGINIA	54
GEORGIA	48	MILITARY ASIA	3	OHIO	31	WASHINGTON	93
GUAM	3	MILITARY EUROPE	6	OKLAHOMA	270	WEST VIRGINIA	4
HAWAII	127	MINNESOTA	61	OREGON	61	WISCONSIN	40
IDAHO	35	MISSISSIPPI	14	PENNSYLVANIA	19	WYOMING	15



NEW RESEARCHERS, **NEW HOPE** FOR ALL AGES

Meet three new faculty on the UMKC School of Dentistry team who are making an impact

By
STACY DOWNS

The UMKC School of Dentistry has proven itself as an internationally known research powerhouse in the past decade, especially when it comes to studying bone and muscle deterioration as we all grow older, as well as possible remedies.

Three new researchers are studying what can make all ages heal — starting from in the womb — and treatments that could span the generations.

Correcting cleft palates

Timothy Cox's research focuses on craniofacial birth defects.

Cox, professor and endowed chair of mineralized tissue research, focuses mostly on cleft palates. Children often undergo multiple surgeries to alleviate them. By multiple, we're talking eight, nine or even 10 surgeries.

Cox was influenced to pursue this line of work while he was earning his doctorate. It was then he saw the severity of cleft palates in children.

The problem: it's largely a mystery about what causes cleft palates.

The work of Timothy Cox, PhD, often incorporates advanced quantitative 3D imaging.

Timothy Cox, PhD

Professor and endowed chair of Oral and Craniofacial Sciences

Research Interests:

Genetics, cell biology and developmental biology that incorporates advanced quantitative 3D imaging. Current projects are focused on genetic and developmental mechanisms causing cleft lip / palate, midface hypoplasia and craniofacial microsomia.

Joined UMKC: 2018

"Just because someone is genetically disposed to have one, doesn't mean they get them," Cox said.

Cox is investigating that there might be a link between cleft palates and maternal nutrition. Lacking vitamin A and consuming alcohol

clinical group.

"As excited as we may be to move everything to a population level as we get evidence in support of a risk factor, I think care must be taken not to rush into testing since we typically just test for positive effects on select

"We're looking for interventional strategies to prevent cleft palates, particularly through diet modification in the mother."

— TIMOTHY COX, PhD

are among the risk factors. "We're looking for interventional strategies to prevent cleft palates, particularly through diet modification in the mother," Cox said.

In his lab, he's training two undergraduates. He lectures dental students to provide insights into the latest data so they are aware of what's going on in research that could affect their practice.

Cox doesn't see patients directly — a pediatrician or clinical geneticist coordinates collections of samples and clinical summaries for his team to work with.

"That said, I find myself communicating with patients and families from time to time as they track me down and reach out with questions about their condition and wanting to volunteer for research studies," he said.

Cox uses test models to find risk factors. Some of the risk factors have been suggested from clinical studies, but are difficult to prove in human cases because everything is so variable from person to person. However, once he and his colleagues have strong evidence for a risk factor and understand the conditions in which it becomes a risk factor, then their goal becomes working on a way to validate this better in a controlled

groups in the first instance," Cox said. "There should always be testing for negative effects and knowing the contexts in which they occur."

Looking for less-invasive treatments for jaws

Erin Bumann is a licensed and board-certified pediatric dentist, but her research aims to solve problems far beyond what most children experience.

"Sometimes faces don't form correctly, and these children can have issues with breathing, eating and speaking," said Bumann, an assistant professor. "The only treatment currently available for these children is invasive surgery."

The primary goal of her lab: identify nonsurgical methods to change the size and shape of the bones in the face, so these children either do not need to undergo surgery or need less invasive surgery.

To come up with methods for redirecting how the jaw and other facial bones grow and develop, Bumann's laboratory works with test models. Her work already has indicated that the neural crest mesenchyme (NCM) cells control the activity of osteoclasts — other cells that resorb bone to shape the models' developing jaw structures.



Erin Bumann, PhD, DDS, MS
Assistant professor

Research Interests:

The role of neural crest mesenchyme (NCM) cells in regulating the formation of facial bones.

Joined UMKC: 2017

The hope is that Bumann's discoveries eventually lead to therapies to correct or greatly lessen potential craniofacial problems. Such problems often can be detected by ultrasound, so therapies might be possible even in utero, much as surgeons now can correct or mitigate heart or spinal defects before birth. Therapies also could be effective throughout childhood, Bumann said, as much jaw and facial development occurs through adolescence.

Craniofacial abnormalities are one of the most common birth defects requiring invasive surgery, so alternative therapies could help thousands of children each year. Being able to better grow or re-grow facial

Erin Bumann (left), PhD, DDS, MS, enjoys working with and mentoring student assistants in her lab.

bones also could help some accident victims and patients with cancer, Bumann said.

Bumann was drawn to UMKC by the School of Dentistry's research on bone mass and how bone and muscle cells "talk" with each other. A key part of that research involved osteocytes, once thought to be a relatively inactive part of bones.

"This department showed that osteocytes play a large role in bone formation, aging, a whole host of functions," Bumann said.

It's still widely believed that osteocytes aren't active in utero, Bumann said, and her group is challenging that assumption, along with seeing how the NCM cells may regulate how the osteocytes, which come from NCM, form facial bones.

Bumann also loves working with and mentoring her lab crew. "I started in a research lab in my undergraduate training and it is why I am in the position I am in today. I think it is very important to give back and mentor future generations of scientists and dental professionals."

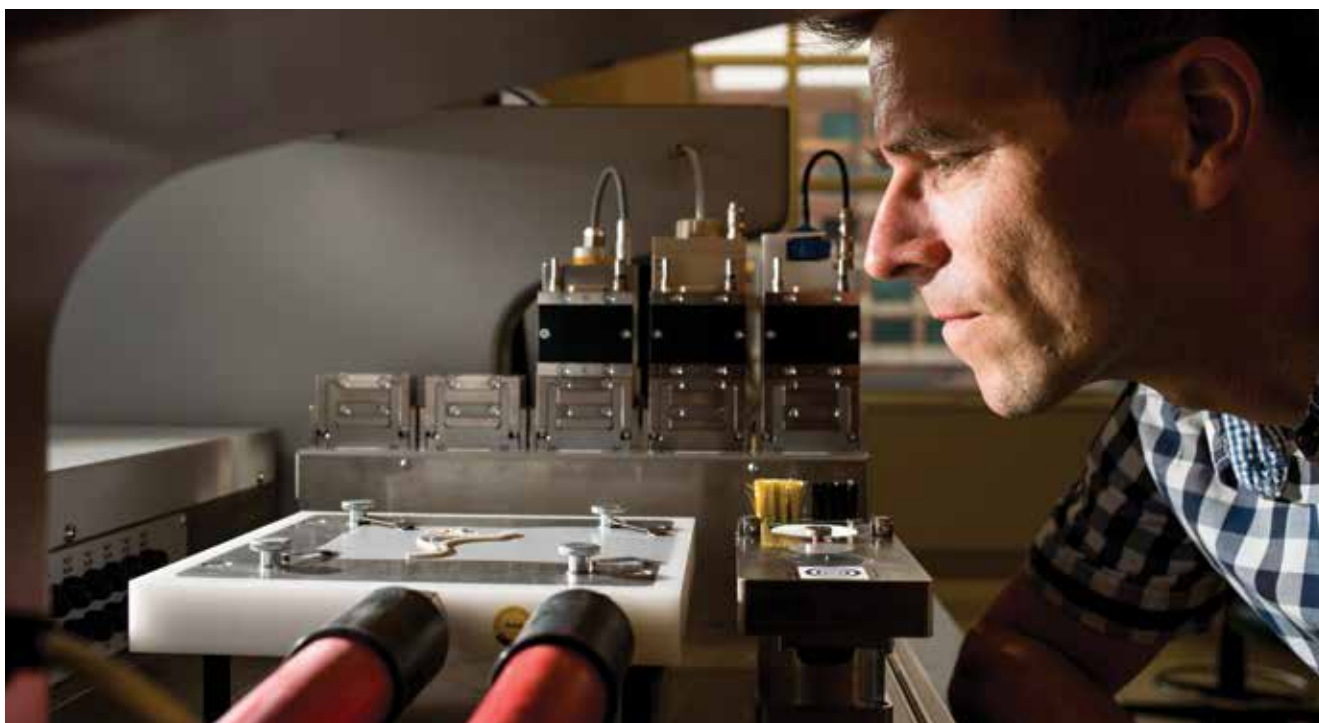
In her short time at the School of Dentistry, Bumann already has made a difference. This year, the Kansas City Musculoskeletal Diseases Consortium made a nearly \$50,000 grant for research Bumann will work on with a University of Kansas School of Medicine researcher. And she was selected for the 2019 Dr. David Whiston Leadership Award, established to provide formal leadership training for promising dentists early in their careers.

Engineering solutions

Other researchers covet the main tool in Stefan Lohfeld's lab: a \$250,000 top-notch 3D printer.

What Lohfeld makes with the printer can help people in many different ways. He creates scaffolds for tissue engineering at the Oral and Craniofacial Sciences Department at the School of Dentistry.

Scaffolds are being used in bone tissue engineering to provide a structure for the cells to grow on, to give them a direction and shape to grow into, and to provide temporary



Stefan Lohfeld, PhD, uses his 3D printer to make structures such as scaffolds useful in bone tissue engineering research at the School of Dentistry.

stability to the void where new bone needs to be generated. These scaffolds can be permanent — made of metal — or they can be biodegradable and be absorbed by the body as new bone is formed. The features of the scaffold, such as material, porosity and pore size, influence the tissue formation. Gradient scaffolds that provide various environments in different areas of the scaffold adapted to the several stages of tissue ingrowth can enhance the tissue formation dramatically.

With scaffolds, that's where the primo printer comes into play. Its cartridges can print up to five materials in a single printing. It extrudes material in paste form, and its digital camera allows Lohfeld's lab to document the printing of each layer. The printer has a sterile filter that allows for cell and organ printing.

Lohfeld concentrates on working with the acid PLGA, which is biodegradable and well-known for bone tissue engineering.

He eventually wants to enable delayed release of implanted drugs, he

said, and to make scaffolds for bone and bone-cartilage tissue engineering for the mandible and the jaw joint. "The idea is to place different materials in different areas of the scaffold to enhance tissue growth and formation," he said.

Using the same material and process as tissue-engineering scaffolds, he is collaborating with School of Medicine researchers on ophthalmological scaffold for the orbital floor.

Lohfeld also makes implants to help support the spine.

"The spine implant will make it easier for surgeons to implant large spinal instrumentation such as long rods along the spine to stabilize it, prevent movement for fusion or for shape corrections," he said.

In keyhole surgery, which spares the patient from large scars and longtime pain during the healing phase of muscle tissue, surgeons have difficulties inserting long rods.

"My solution would address this issue, and it may have applications in both static and dynamic

Stefan Lohfeld, PhD
Assistant professor

Research Interests:
Biomedical engineering,
mechanical engineering,
3D printing, scaffolds

Joined UMKC: 2018

instrumentation by choosing how much it is tightened after insertion," Lohfeld said.

Lohfeld also produces an access device for the carotid artery, enabling better instruments for stroke treatment — clot retrieval from the blood vessels in the brain — and for carotid-artery stenting. This makes the procedures faster, safer and likely cheaper by providing an in-built solution for protection from embolisms getting to the brain.

Lohfeld sees lots of potential solutions all around.

"I want to change materials, change the size, change the architecture and what it encapsulates," Lohfeld said. "I want to play around with what is possible." ■

A winning welcome, no matter the score

THE UMKC DENTAL ALUMNI

Association welcomed another incoming dental class and dental hygiene class by taking them out to the ballgame. The DDS Class of 2023 and the Dental Hygiene Class of 2021 — along with students, staff, faculty and alumni — were all invited to the Kansas City Royals versus Oakland A's game on Aug. 27. Everyone enjoyed a pre-game tailgate with burgers and brats before heading in to root, root, root for the home team. Even though the Oakland A's won 2-1, the New Student Welcome game continues to be a loved tradition to kick off the academic year at the School of Dentistry.



San Francisco reception

UMKC DENTAL AND Dental Hygiene alumni from all over met up for a School of Dentistry Alumni Reception during the American Dental Association Annual Meeting in San Francisco in September. Alumni at the meeting and those who lived near the Bay Area connected with each other and Dean Marsha Pyle. Hot topics included excitement for the Pre-clinical Lab renovation and Dr. Vince Rapini (DDS '80), who was elected and installed as second vice president of the ADA. The group will meet again at next year's ADA in Orlando.

St. Louis reception

FALL IS ALWAYS a fun time in the Alumni Office because it is full of alumni gatherings. This year, the annual UMKC School of Dentistry Alumni Reception in St. Louis was Nov. 14 in conjunction with the Mid-Continent Dental Congress meeting. Alumni from the St. Louis area gathered with food and drinks to reconnect and catch up on school news. It is always great to witness the school's strong alumni base in other parts of the region. Next year's meeting is in October, as the Mid-Continent Dental Congress moves to the St. Louis Union Station.

In memoriam

Charles V. Beesley (DDS '67)
 Gary D. Courtney (DDS '96)
 Norman D. Glasscock (DDS '57)
 Sharon Sue D. Harvey (BSDH '61)
 Joe L. Hathcote (DDS '54)
 James G. Pride (DDS '65)
 Jack Major Rudd (DDS '60)
 Jerry S. Thomsen (DDS '62)
 Gerald Walter Vidan (DDS '97)

Class Notes

Classes of the 1960s

James K. Hocott (DDS '60) is recovered after breaking a hip this summer.

Robert A. McPherson (DDS '60, Ortho '67) practiced orthodontics 47 years in Las Cruces, New Mexico. He sold his practice in 2004 and then ran a pecan farm till 2013. He and his wife of 64 years enjoy their four children, 10 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

George R. Myers (DDS '65) performs volunteer oral surgery in South Carolina and says he is "becoming adept at dodging hurricanes and alligators."

G.S. Roller (DDS '65) is a captain, retired, in the U.S. Navy Reserve and a colonel, active, in the California State Military Reserve.

Robert Simpson (DDS '65, Ortho, '68) retired in 2007 and golfs a lot. He mourns the loss of friend and classmate Jim Pride (DDS '65).

Herb Stanton (DDS '60) is "retired and enjoying it" in Springfield, Missouri.

Dale Eggleston (DDS '65) is busy with travel, grandkids, biking and maintaining rentals.

Granvil Hays (DDS '65) published his second historical novel.

Richard Ochs (DDS '65) still practices and enjoys time with family, teaching fifth- and sixth-graders in Sunday school, hunting and taking care of his yard.

Bill Smith (DDS '65) is enjoying his part-time practice limited to TMD and sleep problems, and is working on a research project with data from 73 self-diagnosed TMD patients. He published a book, *Growing a Healthy Child: Secrets From a Wise Old Doc*, and remains grateful for wonderful memories of the Class of 1965.

Carlton W. Walker (DDS '65) has been retired 10 years.

Classes of the 1970s

Dio L. Daily (DDS '70) is "still practicing two days a week and trying not to get too old."

Gerald Foley (DDS '70) retired in 2015.

Armand Giannini (DDS '70) enjoys family, hunting, fishing and gardening.

Ron Graves (DDS '70) retired after 44 years practicing oral and maxillofacial surgery.

James M. Hobbs II (DDS '70) is enjoying life.

Dan Brady (DDS '75) practiced in Lebanon, Missouri, and retired in 2012.

Donald Fuchs (DDS '75) practices playing the drums in case Tommy Tofflemire and the Matrix Band have a reunion tour.

Paul Hund (DDS '75) is retired.

W. David Rich (DDS '75) retired after practicing 44 years.

Classes of the 1980s

Greg Johnson (DDS '80) is practicing dentistry with his son **Eric Johnson (DDS '07)**. He and his wife, Kathy, have been married 42 years and have five grandchildren.

Michael LaBoube (DDS '80) retired from the military in 2011 and has been working for the Veterans Administration in Columbia, Missouri.

Jack Marincel (DDS '80) is teaching full time at the Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine.

Michael Price (DDS '80) retired in 2019.

Gary McCabe Ross (DDS '80) says he is working on patients "eight hours a day and trying to put away enough money to enjoy the fruits of my labors while I still am physically able."

Gary Henley (DDS '85) is a clinical

associate professor at Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine and nearing retirement.

Daniel Jones (DDS '85) says he enjoys "living at the lake!"

Daniel Kessler (DDS '85) is the current president of the Missouri Dental Association and has been practicing in Kimberling City, Missouri, for 34 years.

Classes of the 1990s

Susan K. Kessler (DDS '90) sold her practice in 2018 and is full-time faculty at the UMKC School of Dentistry.

Sean McReynolds (DDS '90) practices in Humboldt, Kansas, and has been chief of his local Volunteer Fire Department since 2015.

Sean Phelan (DDS '90) enjoys sailing.

Classes of the 2000s

Kaci Jensen (DDS '00) balances Continuing Education courses, work and fun with family.

Dave Suchman (DDS '00) is busy coaching, being a Scout leader, and serving with the Rinehart Foundation and the Midwest Dental Conference Programs Committee.

Brett Wilson (DDS '05) is busy with his pediatric dentistry practice and coaching baseball.

Courtney Beussink (DDS '10) says their three growing boys keep her and her husband "busy going here, there and everywhere!" In 2017, they built a brand new office for her practice and now are "just trying to soak as much time in between work, family, traveling and friends!"

Karen Urnise (DDS '10) is building a new practice location and enjoying the outdoors.

Jason Sparks (DDS '15) is enjoying not having to wear scrubs every day.

Faculty News

Dr. Cindy Amyot (BSDH '92, MSDH '93, ESD '00, EdD), professor emeritus and recently retired associate dean for Distance Education and Faculty Development, will contribute to the 2020 Surgeon General's Report on Oral Health, only the second time such a report will focus on oral health. Dr. Amyot will contribute to a section titled "Oral Health Integration, Workforce and Practice."

Dr. Timothy Cox, endowed professor in musculoskeletal tissues, and his group in the Department of Oral & Craniofacial Sciences published their latest work as part of an international cleft lip/palate consortium, describing the identification of two new genes causing cleft lip/palate in humans. The work adds to the four new genes the team reported last year. The current work also was highlighted in July in an oral presentation at the David W. Smith Workshop on Malformations and Morphogenesis.

Dr. Sarah Dallas, the Lee M. and William Lefkowitz endowed professor, under a grant from the Kansas City Musculoskeletal Diseases Consortium, will be collaborating

with Dr. Charlotte Phillips from UM-Columbia for the project "Compromised Mitochondrial Function in the Pathogenesis of Osteogenesis Imperfecta."

Dr. Kenneth J. Frick (DDS '86), clinical associate professor and director of the Advanced Program in Endodontics, wrote "Endodontic Considerations in the Management of Endodontic-Periodontal Lesions," a chapter in the textbook *Endodontic-Periodontal Lesions*, published this year. He also presented a poster session in September on a case study at the European Society of Endodontology in Vienna.

Dr. Jeffrey Gorski, professor emeritus in the Bone Biology Program, co-wrote "Secreted Noncollagenous Proteins of Bone," a chapter in the 4th Edition of *Principles of Bone Biology*. He also was invited to be part of the oral presentation of "Model of how ameloblasts and odontoblasts pre-engineer dentin-enamel junction's stability yet facilitate sensitivity to cancer radiotherapy and caries" at the 13th International Conference on the Chemistry and Biology of Mineralized Tissues.

Retirements

ELEVEN RETIRING FACULTY and staff members with more than 250 years of combined service were recognized in September. Their years of service are in parentheses.

Dr. Cindy Amyot (26 years)

Professor and associate dean
Distance Education and Faculty Development

Dr. Robert Blundell (9 years)

Associate clinical professor
Endodontics

Dr. Bonnie Branson (21 years)

Professor
Dental Public Health and Behavioral Science

Dr. Donna Deines (40 years)

Associate professor
Restorative Clinical Sciences

Patricia Webb (9 years)

Dental Clinic

Connie Jamison (20 years)

Adjunct professor, dental hygienist
Periodontics

Dr. Jerald Katz (32 years)

Professor
Oral Pathology, Radiology and Medicine

Addie Manlove (39 years)

Dental assistant
Oral Surgery and Hospital Dentistry

Dr. Carole McArthur (28 years)

Professor
Oral & Craniofacial Sciences

Dr. Michael McCuniff (28 years)

Associate professor and chair
Dental Public Health and Behavioral Science

Dr. Jack Nelson (7 years)

Associate clinical professor
Restorative Clinical Sciences



Retirement honorees included (front row, from left) Dr. Donna Deines, Connie Jamison, Dr. Bonnie Branson, Dr. Jerald Katz, (back row) Dr. Michael McCuniff and Dr. Jack Nelson.

New Faculty



Dr. Kenneth Abramovitch is the new chair of Oral Pathology, Radiology and Medicine. He received his DDS ('80) from McGill University in Montreal and a certificate in dental diagnostic sciences ('84) and master's in biomedical sciences ('86) from the University of Texas Health Science Center. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Oral Medicine ('88) and the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology ('89).



Dr. Moid Karwaa (DDS '16) has joined the faculty as a clinical assistant professor in restorative dentistry. He received a certificate in prosthodontics ('11) and a master's in biomaterial ('14) from the NYU College of Dentistry. At UMKC, as course director for Fundamentals of Occlusion and Fixed Prosthodontics, he was named Faculty of the Year by the DDS class 2017.

Dr. Amin Neishaboory has joined the faculty as a clinical assistant professor in orthodontics. He received his DDS ('02) from Shahed University in Tehran, Iran, and an Australian Dental Council Certificate ('08) from the Australian Dental Council. He was an orthodontic resident at the University of Manitoba ('19) in Winnipeg. He brings expertise in orthodontics and experience in research, publication, and teaching and mentoring.



Dr. Jean-Marc Retrouvey is the new chair of the Orthodontics Department. He received his DMD ('78) from the Université de Montréal and an MSc and certificate in orthodontics ('93) from Boston University. At McGill University, he was director of orthodontics and craniofacial orthodontics. He was principal investigator on the Brittle Bone Disease Consortium, RCDRN, NIH, and president of the International Foundation for Dental Education.



Dr. John Uhlenhake (DDS '78) has joined the faculty as a clinical assistant professor in restorative dentistry. He previously served as adjunct faculty in the UMKC School of Dentistry Clinic, a staff dentist for the United Methodist Mexican American Ministries Dental Clinic and a contractor for Homeland Security with FBI security clearance. He also has a long history of private practice.

Dr. Daniel Ben Yehuda is a new clinical assistant professor in restorative dentistry. He received his DDS ('16) from the Universidad Europea de Madrid-Centro Adscrito de Valencia, and a master's in dental research ('19) from Tufts University. His master's focus was "In Vitro Study of Accuracy of Static Guided Implant Surgery for Fully Edentulous Patients—Comparison of Planned Implant Positions Versus Actual Implant Positions."

Flossiraptors fight fiercely — and have intramural fun

LIKE EVERY DH AND DDS class at the UMKC School of Dentistry, the DDS Class of 2021 has built strong teamwork and camaraderie — and not just in classes and the dental labs. Almost half of the members of the class also have played on one of its Flossiraptors intramural teams.

"Intramural sports has been a fantastic way for our class to bond outside of class. I look forward to the games every week," said Chad Phillips, one of the teams' rotating captains along with Brock Buzbee and Vincent Markovitz. A team member came up with the Flossiraptors name, and Phillips and another classmate, Charlie Bakula, came up with the idea for team T-shirts. A graphic designer friend created the logo.

The first Flossiraptors team played flag football in fall 2017, and men's basketball, coed volleyball and coed soccer soon followed. All told, 49 members of the Class of 2021 have been on a Flossiraptors roster for at least one sport, and several have played multiple sports.

Most of the teams have had success on the field, often



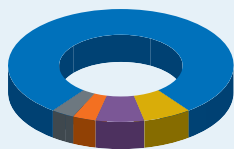
Coed soccer is just one sport the Flossiraptors enjoy.

placing first or second in UMKC-wide competition. The volleyball team has struggled but still has had great fun playing.

"I think my favorite aspect of the Flossiraptors is that every sport consists of a completely different team depending on who wants to play, but we can always put on our team shirts and come together to have fun," Phillips said.

Welcome Our Incoming Classes! And See How They Stack Up

BSDH Class of 2021



1 Native American
1 Asian
2 Hispanic/Latino
2 African American
23 Caucasian
0 Biracial

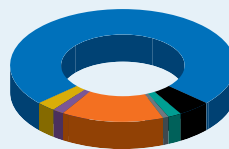
Age Range
19-25

29 Females

States Represented
MO, KS, AR and CA

Average SGPA: 3.43
Average Cum GPA: 3.51

DDS Class of 2023



1 Native American
16 Asian
2 Hispanic/Latino
3 African American
80 Caucasian
5 Biracial
2 International (Kuwait)

Age Range
21-38

58 Females and **51** Males

109 Students

Average SGPA: 3.66
DAT Average: 20 DAT

Legacy Students

THE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY is proud to have many multigenerational families and realizes success comes in part from its rich history, with roots stretching back to 1881. Here are the legacy students from the DDS Class of 2023 and DH Class of 2021.

Abdullah Akbar: uncle, Dr. Jaber Akbar (DDS '99, Pros '03)

Lane Anderson: father, Dr. Thomas L. Anderson (DDS '86)

Katie Baker: mother, Dr. Susan G. Hall (DDS '86)

Sarah Carney: cousins, Dr. Marc Barnett (DDS '84), Dr. Kelly Burke (DDS '84)

Bryce Childers: grandfather, Dr. Logan Childers (DDS '66)

Andrew Dierkes: cousin, Courtney Dierkes (BSDH '18)

Jake Findley: uncle, Dr. Brian Jenkins (DDS '97)

Nikol Flynn: brother, Dr. Eric Fayziev (DDS '11)

Carly Hill: uncle, Dr. Joseph L. Hernandez (DDS '63)

Zane Keller: cousin, Dr. Megan M. Dosch (DDS '11)

Christopher Knollman: father, Dr. Mark A. Knollman (DDS '87)

Elizabeth Kutina: father, Dr. Larry G. Kutina (DDS '88); grandfather, Dr. Loren F. Kutina (DDS '61); brother, Dr. Andrew R. Kutina ('18); great-grandfather, Dr. George F. Kutina ('25); great-grandfather, Dr. Harry L. Lacy (DDS '17)

Alexandra Lashley: father, Dr. Craig B. Lashley (DDS '98)

Cameron Long: grandfather, Dr. Richard "Dick" Radke (DDS '55); aunt, Dr. Janice Pishny (DDS '83); cousin, Dr. Richard Hannah (DDS '11)

Hannah Maleki: cousin, Dr. Mona Shadfar (DDS '07)

Edward McAllister: father, Dr. Edward L. McAllister (DDS '87)

Kiralyn Mosier: great-grandfather, Dr. Harry Mosier (DDS '22); great-uncle, Dr. Howard Mosier (DDS '22); grandfather, Dr. Richard Mosier (DDS '54); uncle, Dr. Mark Mosier (DDS '85)

Alan Muhammad: brother, Akam Muhammad (DDS '20)

Emily Murray: brother, Caleb Murray (DDS '22)

Ryan Poertner: cousin, Dr. Michelle Mooney (DDS '14)

Addison Quinlan: uncle, Dr. Steve Green (DDS '94)

Leila Seabaugh: mother, Dr. Linda Seabaugh (DDS '88); aunt, Dr. Ruth Anne Seabaugh (DDS '88)

Emily Stringer: cousin, James Oslica (DDS '20)

Alexandria Thomas: father, Dr. Daniel J. Thomas (DDS '90, Perio '92); mother, Dr. Donna K. Thomas (DDS '92); uncle, Dr. John M. Abraham (DDS '65); uncle, Dr. Joseph J. Thomas (DDS '89); cousin, Dr. Jonathan S. Thomas (DDS '04; Perio '06); cousin, Dr. Kevin G. Thomas (DDS '17); cousin, Dr. Kritika J. Thomas (DDS '15); cousin-in-law, Dr. Johanna D. Thomas (BSDH '10, DDS '19)

Parker Welch: aunt, Brooke Gonzales (BSDH '02)

STAY CONNECTED! ALUMNI EVENTS

ROYALS OPENING DAY

Thursday, April 2, 2020

MIDWEST DENTAL CONFERENCE AND ALUMNI CLASS REUNIONS

April 16-19, 2020

RINEHART AND DENTAL ALUMNI BOARD MEETINGS

Thursday, April 16, 2020

POURING FROM THE HEART

Thursday, April 16, 2020

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