UMKC School of Dentistry Alumni News

Summer 2022

EXPLORER

Vol. 79 No. 1

The comeback tour

UMKC School of Dentistry alumni got the band back together for the 2022 Midwest Dental Conference

Features

8 **The band was back together** after a long hiatus at the Midwest Dental Conference this year. Thousands of dental professionals came together to learn and catch up while reminiscing on their time at the School of Dentistry.

12 **Dental hygiene students** take us inside the Kansas City Zoo as part of a special elective course. The course gives them the chance to step away from the human mouth and practice their skills on lemurs, chimpanzees and even kangaroos.

24 **This year's commencement ceremony** was held at Kauffman Stadium and gave graduates and their families the opportunity to celebrate all their hard work as the class of 2022 joined the thousands who have been educated by the UMKC School of Dentistry.

ON THE COVER
Back and better than ever: It was all smiles for a good cause at the 2022 Pouring From the Heart gala, including Rita Burnett (D.D.S. '83), pictured center.

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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

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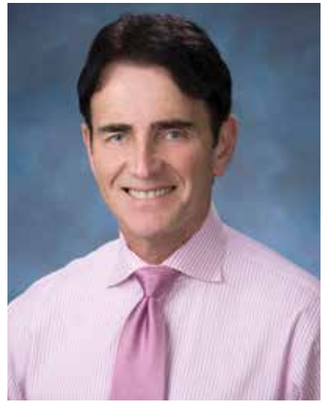
www.umkchealthsciencesdistrict.org



THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR always brings a flurry of events and joyous celebrations. This year, we have much to celebrate as a school. A new class of graduates walked across the stage, becoming our newest alumni and colleagues. We welcomed new dental and dental hygiene students into the clinic and patient care at the Transitioning into the Profession Ceremony. Read more about these events starting on page 24.

The Midwest Dental Conference was a tremendous success. It was truly a reunion, with so many alumni in person who enjoyed top-notch continuing education and the opportunity to see friends. I enjoyed meeting alumni and putting faces with names. Pouring From the Heart returned to its traditional format and was a rousing success. I'd heard a lot about the event, wasn't sure what I'd find, and it surpassed all expectations. The excitement of the evening was matched only by the overwhelming generosity of the donors in support of such an important cause. Next year is the 100th anniversary of the Alumni Meeting and Midwest Dental Conference. Join us to celebrate, April 13-16, 2023.

Another cause for celebration is the proposed expansion of UMKC's Health Science District and the School of Dentistry's involvement in the project. Thanks to the vision of our chancellor and support from the governor and Missouri legislature, the importance of expanding our footprint and improving health-care opportunities in the city is becoming a reality. Read more about this exciting news on page 23.

The school is on an exciting trajectory. In addition to the proposed new building, we are conducting key administrative searches, exploring next-generation patient care technology, looking at potential expansion of our programs and re-imagining existing programs. We are also excited about the promise of talented new classes joining our programs in the next month. All possible, in large measure, to your undying interest and support. Joyous celebrations, like those that take place at the Midwest Dental Conference, are as much yours as they are mine. I look forward to what the future of dentistry looks like at the UMKC School of Dentistry and am grateful to have you be a part of our foundation and future.

With gratitude,

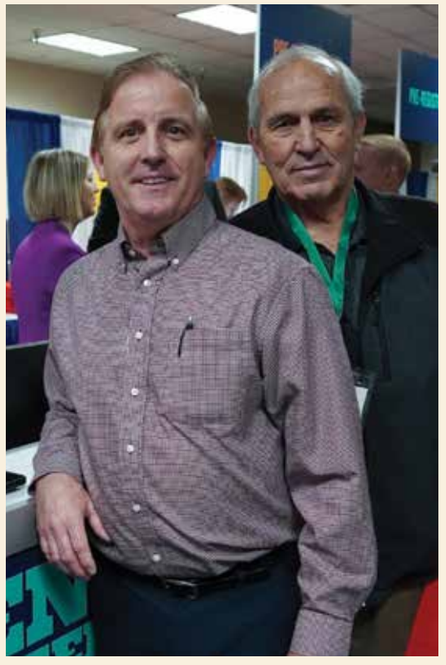
Steven E. Haas, D.M.D., J.D., M.B.A.
Dean, UMKC School of Dentistry

MDC 2022: Finally back together

UMKC SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY Alumni were ready to rock at this year's Midwest Dental Conference. After being canceled in 2020 and held virtually in 2021, alumni, students and professional partners were more than ready to reconnect in person. The conference was held from April 21-24 and was filled with 35 educational sessions and 13 class reunions.

It was truly a wonderful mix of learning and celebrations, beginning with the Pouring From the Heart fundraising dinner on Thursday night and continuing with 70 top-notch technical exhibits and a welcome party on Friday. Saturday kicked off with more educational courses before the Alumni and Friends Recognition Luncheon.The evening wrapped up with the annual Presidents' Reception, where donors were honored atop the Westin hotel. Sunday's encore was the Dental Alumni Trustees' and Alumni Past President's breakfast before the nearly 2,700 attendees from 37 different states said their farewells.

Be sure to visit the UMKC School of Dentistry Facebook page and the Dental Alumni page to relive all your favorite moments – or to see why you can't miss out on next year's big 100th celebration of the UMKC alumni meeting. Mark your calendars for April 13-16, 2023.



Pouring From the Heart

POURING FROM THE HEART was an incredible kickoff to a full weekend filled with connections and celebrations. In its 23rd year, the gala raised funds for both patients and students of the UMKC School of Dentistry. The money raised will be distributed between fourth-year dental and senior dental hygiene students to help cover the cost of care for patients. Not only does this assistance directly impact the community, but it powerfully affects our students by offering real-world experience, easing the burden of clinical requirements and fostering the cycle of giving.

UMKC Alumnus, Steven St. John – radio personality for local radio station 810 Sports – was the evening's emcee and led attendees in a fun-filled night that included a silent auction, an intense battle to be the nights' VIP table and a vacation-themed live auction, which was led by the Nigro Brothers. UMKC School of Dentistry students Roda Mena and Taylar Morgan illustrated why the event is so important by telling attendees about their experiences with some very special patients. On top of all that, attendees enjoyed a four-course meal, including a delectable dessert bar, along with chef paired wines to enhance each course of the meal.

Thank you to the steering committee, donors and especially Presenting Sponsors: the Jack F. and Glenna Y. Wylie Charitable Foundation, Midwest Trust and Thomas A. McDonnell. Without them, we would not have been able to raise more than $100,000 for such a special and important cause. Because of the generosity of Pouring From the Heart's attendees and donors, the School of Dentistry continues giving our patients essential treatment, creating healthy smiles and forming a community of gratitude.

Familiar faces

THIS YEAR'S Midwest Dental Conference provided the opportunity for 13 class reunions. The Class of 1972 celebrated their 50th, while the Classes of 1967 and 1962 came together for their 55th and 60th reunions respectively. It was a special memory for the Class of 2017 as well, as the conference marked their first ever class reunion. The celebrations included dinner at local restaurants like Lidia's, Pierpont's and Teocali. Gatherings were also hosted in hospitality suites at the Sheraton and there was even a reception held at an alum's home. The conference always provides a special time for UMKC School of Dentistry alumni to reconnect and reminisce.

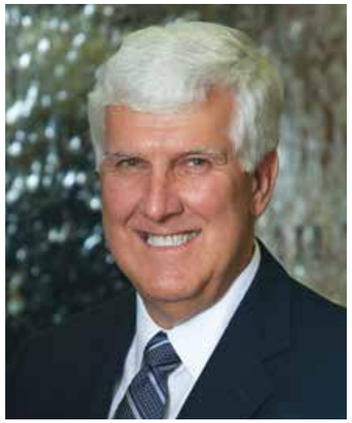
Be sure to visit the school's Facebook page and the Dental Alumni Facebook page to see more photos. And while you're at it, mark your calendar so you don't miss next year's conference, April 13-16, 2023.

Recognition Luncheon

THE ANNUAL ALUMNI AND FRIENDS Recognition Breakfast was turned into a luncheon for the first time this year. Although the menu changed, the reasons to celebrate did not. As always, a highlight of the event was seeing the 50th and 60th reunion classes take the spotlight as they introduced themselves and reveled in the celebration of such an amazing milestone. Also honored at the luncheon were those who have made substantial gifts to the Rinehart Foundation. Alumni with lifetime giving of $10,000+, $25,000+ and $50,000+ were recognized. These champions of the school are the reason the Rinehart Foundation can support so many projects that are important and vital to the students, faculty and school.

New Board Leadership

SPRING MARKS THE TIME for new leadership on the three alumni boards that serve the UMKC School of Dentistry – Roy J. Rinehart Memorial Foundation, Dental Alumni Association and the Dental Hygienist Alumni Association.



Roy J. Rinehart Memorial Foundation
Nick Rogers (D.D.S.), chair, 2022-2024

NICK ROGERS (D.D.S. '78) has practiced dentistry in Arkansas City, Kansas for more than 30 years. Along with dentistry, Rogers has a passion for people. It is shown not only through the care of his patients, but also his service to his community. He is an active member of many dental organizations and has served in a leadership capacity for most. These include the Kansas Dental Association, the Academy of General Dentistry, the Kansas Orthodontic Society for General Practitioners, the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and several state advisory boards. The UMKC School of Dentistry is also a passion for Rogers, which is why he will be a great leader for the Rinehart Foundation.

Dental Hygienist Alumni Association
Brittany Burns (B.S.D.H.), president, 2022-2023

BRITTANY BURNS graduated from the UMKC School of Dentistry in 2019 with a degree in Dental Hygiene. Since graduating, she has worked in a variety of dental offices. She is an active member of the American Dental Hygienist's Association. Recently, she took a leap and relocated to the sunny state of Arizona, but she continues to be an active UMKC alumnus who was recently elected president of the Dental Hygiene Alumni Association. Burns comes from a family of first responders. Her father, aunt and uncle all work for the Kansas City Police Department. Burns is a member of the Kansas Air National Guard.

Dental Alumni Association
Douglas Wyckoff (D.D.S.), president, 2022-2023

DOUG WYCKOFF (D.D.S. '92) has been in general dentistry private practice since 1992 in Cameron, Missouri. He has taken an active role in his community and with dental organizations. He's served in various leadership positions as MDA President, Northwest Missouri Dental Society President, Missouri Dental Insurance Services Board, MDA Committee on the New Dentist and many others. We look forward to having his leadership on the Dental Alumni Board.

GETTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER

Midwest Dental Conference returns to in-person activities

By BRYCE PUNTENNEY

The air was electric and the anticipation palpable among the nearly 2,700 dentists, hygienists and team members who descended on Kansas City for the first time since 2019 for the Midwest Dental Conference. The conference was canceled in 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic and conducted virtually in 2021, so this year's theme, "getting the band back together" provided a fitting way to celebrate being back live and in person.

The longtime fans returning included Patrick Hooper (D.D.S. '18), who has been coming to the conference since he was a child, when he tagged along with his mother, Jolynn Galvin (D.D.S. '81). They would travel all the way from Albuquerque, New Mexico, to attend the event annually. Now a proud alumnus in his own right, Hooper made the trip back to Kansas City for the first time since 2019.

"It's always great to come back to the Midwest Dental Conference," Hooper said. "It's been a couple of years, so I'm enjoying reconnecting with old friends, colleagues, faculty."

Presented by the UMKC Dental and Dental Hygienist's Alumni Associations, the conference kicked off with several specialty courses. This year's conference, held April 21-24, featured nearly 40 lectures and hands-on sessions spread across two hotels, just down the street from the dental school, in the heart of downtown Kansas City.

The conference's offerings are ever-evolving, just like the oral health-care profession it represents. This year's conference was no different, featuring speakers like Paul Feurstein, D.M.D.; Kevin Kwiecien, D.M.D.; Laci Phillips; Mary Ellen Psaltis, Tom Viola, RPh and Jamison Spencer, D.M.D. In total, the conference featured 22 speakers, covering topics such as 3D technology, predictability, team building, brain health and sleep apnea.

The student poster presentations were a highlight for attendees. Their hard work was on display in the exhibit hall. More than 75 dental and dental hygiene students, as well as residents, presented their cutting-edge research.

"We've worked on our posters for the last two semesters, so it's exciting to finally present them," Shannon Finneran (B.S.D.H. '22) said. "Seeing all the hard work pay off was a fun experience."

The conference isn't all business for attendees. Celebrations began with Pouring From the Heart on Thursday night. In its 23rd year, the fundraising event brought in more than $100,000, which will help cover the cost of care for patients who are treated by the fourth-year dental students and senior dental hygiene students.

UMKC School of Dentistry alumni were ready to play as they reunited in person for the first time in several years.

The Midwest Dental Conference provided many friends the opportunity to reconnect.

On Friday, the conference continued with educational sessions, but the learning gave way to more good times. The Welcome Party on Friday night provided an opportunity for many alumni to meet Dean Steven Haas and mingle with fellow party goers.

"As this was my very first MDC conference, it was wonderful experiencing the excitement in the air returning to in-person," Haas said. "But it was much more than that. I watched old friends connect, alumni come together at the Welcome Party and an electric atmosphere at Pouring From the Heart. It was remarkable to see so many people connect at a dental meeting on such a personal level."

Class reunions occurred in conjunction with the conference. This year, alumni from 13 class years gathered to reconnect and reminisce. Charles Mahaffey (D.D.S. '72) celebrated his 50th reunion with the Class of 1972 at the conference this year. He remembered attending the conference in the early part of his career, seeing older alumni celebrating their 50-year reunion, and thinking, "Gee, I'll never be that old."

Mahaffey said he knew, even back then, what a blessing it is to celebrate such a milestone.

"We were talking today, four years of dental school is very challenging, and it unifies you as a group," Mahaffey said. "Every time you can come back to this conference and see your classmates, it is just so special. It renews friendships. It renews a lot of memories and all the stories get magnified every year to the point where they're almost unbelievable."

The alumni celebrations continued into Saturday with the Alumni and Friends Recognition Luncheon. The school awarded medallions to those who reached $10,000 in lifetime giving to the school. Those who gifted $25,000 and $50,000 were recognized with ceremonial pins. The school also celebrated the Young Alumni of the Year, Mack Taylor (D.D.S. '14), as well as the school's alumni achievement winners, Brenda Bohaty (Ph.D. '09) and JoAnn Weatherwax (B.S.D.H. '06, M.S. '12). The event also provided a memorable moment for the Class of 1972, who celebrated 50 years since their graduation. Members of that class who were in attendance gathered on stage and were celebrated with a round of applause.

The reunion class composites are a hot spot for the dental school alumni to catch up and reminisce.

The Mahaffey family was well represented at Midwest Dental Conference.

For Mahaffey, the luncheon was extra special this year. He not only celebrated a milestone reunion with his fellow 1972 classmates, but also saw his son, Darren Mahaffey (D.D.S. '05), receive his medallion. The family ties to this year's conference didn't stop there. Charles' granddaughter, Samantha Mahaffey (D.D.S. '22), took in the conference as a student and all three generations would return to campus in May for Samantha's graduation, where she would be hooded by her grandfather.

Saturday's events wrapped up with the annual Presidents' Reception, where the school honored donors atop the Westin Hotel at Benton's Prime Steakhouse. UMKC Chancellor C. Mauli Agrawal also attended, where he outlined plans for the Health Sciences District expansion, which will have a large impact on the School of Dentistry.

The Midwest Dental Conference will be extra special next year, as the event will celebrate 100 years of the Alumni Meeting and the Conference. Although the event has only held the name Midwest Dental Conference since 1993, alumni have gathered for educational offerings dating back to at least 1923, when the UMKC Dental Alumni Association first met. In the decades following, the Dental Hygienists' Alumni Association continued to grow and eventually joined the conference. The event has continued to thrive, and the 2023 conference is sure to be quite a celebration.

"Next year will be our five-year reunion, so I hope we can get a big group from the Class of 2018," Nicole Long (D.D.S. '18) said. "UMKC will put on a great event for the 100th." ■

> "Every time you can come back to this conference and see your classmates, it is just so special. It renews friendships. It renews a lot of memories and all the stories get magnified every year to the point where they're almost unbelievable."
>
> – CHARLES MAHAFFEY (D.D.S. '72)

UMKC Chancellor Agrawal addressed alumni on expansion plans.

Where the Wild Things Are

UMKC dental hygiene program offers unique opportunity at the Kansas City Zoo

By BRYCE PUNTENNEY

Left: Lemurs need clean teeth too, and the UMKC dental hygiene students are here to help. Above: Dental hygiene student Marissa Kramer treats a red ruffed lemur.

As a dental hygiene student at UMKC, Alissa Sumpter (B.S.D.H. ’22) saw a variety of patients in the school’s dental clinics. But during her last semester, her patient pool expanded to include lemurs, chimpanzees, crocodiles and even her alma mater’s mascot animal, kangaroos. This year, Sumpter was one of the lucky students who took part in the Zoo practicum offered by the Division of Dental Hygiene through a partnership with the Kansas City Zoo.

“Who doesn’t want to work with animals at the zoo?” Sumpter said.

The Zoo practicum is an elective course offered in the spring semester for senior dental hygiene students. Dr. Lorie Holt (B.S.D.H. ’93, M.S.D.H. ’97, Ph.D. ‘20) can attest to the program’s popularity. She is an associate professor, director of the R.D.H. to B.S.D.H. degree program, and interim director of the DHE graduate degree program in the school’s Division of Dental Hygiene. She has also been overseeing been the Zoo practicum for more than 20 years.

“It’s really a wonderful and unique opportunity for our students to explore what it means to care for the oral health of exotic animals,” Holt said. “Just at this year’s Midwest Dental Conference, I had two alumni come up asking about the program, so it really leaves a lasting impression on the students who have the opportunity to participate.”

Sumpter was a natural fit for the program. She has a bachelor’s degree in biology and grew up on a farm with an

array of animals: goats, horses, chickens and more. Before she entered the dental hygiene program, she considered a career as a veterinarian.

"I grew up around animals, so I always had an interest in being a vet," Sumpter said, "but then I realized that I couldn't deal with the heartbreak of animals passing, so I moved on to dentistry."

A typical day at the Zoo for Sumpter and her fellow hygiene student, Marissa Kramer (B.S.D.H. '22), included sitting in on the animal health staff's morning meeting. Led by Dr. Kirk Suedmeyer, the Zoo's director of animal health and research, the group discusses the cases for the day. Sumpter and Kramer were

Alissa Sumpter (B.S.D.H. '22) (middle) in the animal care clinic at the KC Zoo.

key members of the team, discussing the best approaches for the oral health care needs of each day's patients.

"It was a little daunting at first, but it's been really great to apply what I'm learning on humans to the animals at the zoo," Sumpter said. "Although their teeth are different in things like tooth structure, their oral health treatment is very similar to ours."

Suedmeyer's idea for a partnership between a dental school and a zoo started in the late 1980s. He was working as a staff veterinarian at the Potawatomi Zoo in South Bend, Indiana, when he had an animal that needed dental care. Suedmeyer reached out to a local dentist who brought along his dental hygienist. It quickly became clear the hygienist didn't have experience with animals and was concerned about getting bitten.

"I thought, 'If I ever get the opportunity, I'd like to develop a program that gets students introduced to the field,'" he said. "It doesn't mean that they'll go into the veterinary field, but if they're working in a rural area and a small zoo needs help, they'll have experience."

From otters to bat-eared foxes, the animal patients the dental hygiene students see are usually under anesthesia during the exams. Before Sumpter and Kramer get to work on the cleaning, Suedmeyer and his team run through a number of standard procedures for each animal.

"We start the exam by checking to see if there is anything majorly wrong in the animal's mouth, like an abscess or anything like that, then we proceed with our cleaning," Sumpter said. "We typically use hand skills with instruments and avoid our waterpower instruments for the safety of the animals."

On a Wednesday last April, Sumpter and Kramer's patient was a red ruffed lemur named Molly, a critically endangered species native to Madagascar. Before they started to clean Molly's teeth, the two students discussed which explorer and scaler tools were the right fit for the formidable teeth of the lemur.

For this appointment, Kramer had the primary cleaning responsibilities, with Sumpter attentively assisting. After a thorough inspection of the animal's gums, Kramer diligently cleaned the tartar buildup and followed up by polishing with a hygiene handpiece.

All the while, Suedmeyer was a fountain of information about the animal, pointing out breeding habits, diet, preferred habitat and unique adaptations. For the red ruffed lemur, that included a surprise reveal of a second tongue, hidden under her primary tongue. The additional tongue helps the lemur get to their favorite delicacy, flower nectar.

According to Suedmeyer, animals in the wild encounter few problems with their teeth. A sore tooth can mean an animal could have trouble eating, and in the wild, that makes it susceptible to other carnivores.

"Animals get eaten as they age," he said. "When an animal doesn't eat, it becomes weaker, and they get picked off."

However, in captivity, there's no culling of the herd. Life expectancy is longer, and that means more time for oral health issues to crop up. Just like humans, the animals also have to watch what they eat.

"We stay away from sugary treats, so that helps our animals a lot," said Suedmeyer.

Although examinations typically occur at the Zoo's dedicated animal clinic, a few cases required them to perform their examinations inside of the animal's exhibit. One such case took them to the chimpanzee enclosure.

"While we were performing our examination, we can hear the rest of the chimpanzees screaming and banging on stuff," Sumpter said. "That was cool, but also a little bit scary."

For Sumpter, it's been special being a part of the team that Suedmeyer has cultivated. The importance of collaboration is a lesson she'll hold onto.

"I know as a hygienist we're more of an independent worker, but it's still very important to rely on teamwork within your dental office," Sumpter said. "I hope whatever dental office I end up practicing in has a team like the Kansas City Zoo staff, ready and willing to help everyone." ■

Golfing for a cause

GOLFERS GOT THE CHANCE to dust off their clubs for the annual UMKC Dental Alumni Scholarship Golf Tournament on June 24. This year's event was held at WinterStone Golf Course in Independence, Missouri. It was a stormy start to the day, but the sunshine and great weather prevailed by tee time.

Since its inception 22 years ago, the tournament has raised more than $270,000 for student scholarships. This year's event featured a scramble tournament, a putting contest and a wingspan raffle. Joe Spalitto (D.D.S. '72), who is chair of the Golf Tournament Committee, said a few words to kick things off, followed by Dean Steven Haas, who thanked everyone for coming out. The School of Dentistry also had several sponsored student golfers who joined in on the fun out on the green this year.

Thanks to all the players and the sponsors who made this great day of golf and comradery possible. Keep an eye out for news about next year's tournament.

STAY CONNECTED: Upcoming Alumni Events

New Student Welcome Game at "The K"
TBD

Rinehart/Alumni Board Meeting
Sunday, Oct. 2, 2022

UMKC School of Dentistry Scholarship Banquet
Monday, Oct. 3, 2022

Alumni Reception – Houston, TX
In conjunction with the ADA SmileCon
Thursday, Oct. 13, 2022

Alumni Reception – St. Louis, MO
In conjunction with Mid-Continent Dental Congress
Thursday, Oct. 27, 2022

For more information about alumni events and news, visit dentistry.umkc.edu/alumni.

You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

2022 School of Dentistry Alumni Achievement Award Winners Honored

Dr. Liz Kaz (left), Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, presented awards to Jo Ann Weatherwax (B.S.D.H. '06, M.S.D.H. '12) (middle) and Brenda Bohaty (Ph.D. '09) (right) at a celebration on April 29.

EACH YEAR, UMKC and the School of Dentistry recognize outstanding alumnus or alumna for lifelong commitment to the profession, the community and the school. We were privileged to recognize Brenda Bohaty (Ph.D. '09) and Jo Ann Weatherwax (B.S.D.H. '06, M.S.D.H '12) as this year's honorees.

Brenda Bohaty (Ph.D. '09) is Chair of the UMKC School of Dentistry's Department of Pediatric Dentistry and concurrently the Director of the Residency Program in Pediatric Dentistry at the Children's Mercy Hospital and Clinics in Kansas City, Missouri. During her nearly 35 years of service to the school, Bohaty has accomplished a long list of academic and research endeavors, including her instrumental role in initiating and running the Dental Clinic at Operation Breakthrough. This program allows children who attend day care at Operation Breakthrough to receive comprehensive dental care at no cost to their care providers. Bohaty also serves as an American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry representative on the Commission for Dental Accreditation Review Committee and has been appointed to the Review Committee for the National Commission on Dental Specialties. Bohaty is the Chair of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Graduate In-Service Examination Committee and is an expert consultant on the Council of Pre-Doctoral Education as well. She also serves on the Rinehart Foundation Board.

Jo Ann Weatherwax (B.S.D.H. '06, M.S.D.H. '12) served as the founding Dental Program Director for the Volusia County Health Department in Daytona Beach, Florida, and dedicated her career to helping solve the national issue of access to oral health-care services. Weatherwax, the first dental hygienist to serve as a dental director at a county health department in Florida, developed a clinical program, added an additional clinic to serve the western area of Volusia County and established a county-wide school sealant and oral health education program. Her dedication to the health department and safety net programs in Volusia County resulted in the delivery of oral health-care services to countless children and families. Along with her work in public health, Weatherwax has served in numerous leadership roles, including most recently as the president of the Florida Dental Hygiene Association.

Class Notes

Classes of the 1960s

Robert Griffin (D.D.S. '62) retired in 1995. His son, Doug (D.D.S. '92), took over the practice. Robert has traveled all around the world. The only place left on his bucket list is Antarctica.

Jon Harrison (D.D.S. '62) retired from dentistry and retired from much travel because of COVID. He is still on a couple of bank boards and active in church outreach ministries at 85.

James Ruble (D.D.S. '62) and his wife, Shirley, enjoy traveling, fishing, raising cattle and visiting their children and grandchildren.

William Rubright (D.D.S. '62) is now Professor Emeritus of Periodontics at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry after being a part of the school's faculty for 30 years.

Peter Spence (D.D.S. '62) retired after 50 years of general dentistry in 2008. He's been keeping busy ever since with traveling, Broncos games and enjoying the grandchildren.

Terry Williams's (D.D.S. '62) wife, Nancy, passed away in June 2014. He still has a home at the Lake of the Ozarks – Sunrise Beach.

Rodney Dubois (D.D.S. '67) keeps a current dental license, is on staff at Seattle Children's Hospital and is also a consultant for the Washington Health Care Authority. He sold his lifetime home on Lake Washington, and will spend more time at his Tucson house, but still calls Bellevue, Washington, home.

Jerry Nossaman (D.D.S. '67) finished his fourth screenplay – all are still unsold.

Ralph Younger (D.D.S. '67) retired in 2009, after 39 good years in Warrensburg, Missouri. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2018.

Classes of the 1970s

Ron Wright (D.D.S. '71) is retired and still flying WWII aircraft as a hobby.

Marc Abrams (D.D.S. '72) has been retired from Oral Surgery in St. Louis for five years. He has three children and six grandchildren spread out over Denver, Seattle and Idaho. Marc and his wife, Marilyn, spend the summers at their house in Breckenridge, Colorado, and the rest of the year at their home in St. Louis.

Gary Britton (D.D.S. '72) and Fran Kempster Britton (B.S.D.H. '71) have been together 51 years, after meeting in the X-ray darkroom. Gary and Fran celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in July 2021. Gary is retired from private practice in Yukon, Oklahoma. He and Fran have three daughters, five grandsons and two granddaughters, plus lots of pets.

William Brown (D.D.S. '72) celebrated his 40th wedding anniversary to his wife, Claudia, in May 2021 and retired from practice December 15, 2021.

Peter Loomis (D.D.S. '72) is past president of the American Board of Forensic Odontology. He's semi-retired, but still teaching as a clinical assistant professor at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine departments of pathology and pediatrics, along with consulting as the chief forensic odontologist for the State of New Mexico. Peter is married to his wonderful wife, Lu. Together, they have five children and eight grandchildren.

James R. Nelson (D.D.S. '72) retired as an endodontist. He now farms 750 acres in Iowa. He enjoys hunting, fishing and native prairie restoration.

Edward Schanda (D.D.S. '72) has been retired for seven years. He and his wife, Bonnie, still live in Forsyth, Missouri. They have two daughters, four grandkids and one great grandkid. Edward practiced more than 40 years.

James Schuette (D.D.S. '72) retired in May 2021. James has 20 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. His hobbies are gardening and fishing. He will be going back to missionary field soon, likely to Africa.

Jim Cocklin (D.D.S. '77) is enjoying retirement and his six grandchildren.

Tomas Duran (D.D.S. '77) officially retired in February 2022. His eldest grandson graduated from high school. Thomas is working part-time at a low-income clinic for seniors and is also still running and cycling.

Merlin Eaton (D.D.S. '77) retired in 2017.

Randall Hestir (D.D.S. '77) is still working with his son as one of the four other dentists in the practice. He jokes that he's now short, fat, ugly, old and bald!

Mark Milde (D.D.S. '77) retired with his lovely wife, Cheryl (married 50 years). He enjoys golf, travel, family, friends and the grandchildren. He says dentistry has allowed his family to travel the world. Most of all, he says, it has afforded them the opportunity to help, and ultimately, befriend wonderful patients.

Paul Miller (D.D.S. '77, ORTHO '80) is past president of COABO, received the Samir Bishara Award of Merit in 2019, is a Board Certified Orthodontist and was named UMKC Orthodontic Alumni Orthodontist of the Year in 2018. Paul is married to Kristy with two children, Solomon and Micah Miller.

Classes of the 1980s

Jeri Ross Bills (D.D.S. '82) and her husband, Chris, are retired to their beach house in coastal North Carolina. She sold her Endo practice after 35 years at the beginning of COVID.

Steven Cross (D.D.S. '82) retired from private practice in April of 2020.

Kevin Cummings (D.D.S. '82) has been retired for four years. His son, Matthew, is in practice in Lee's Summit. Kevin has 12 grandchildren and another on the way – 10 of those grandkids are boys! Cummings has also been an ordained member of clergy for the archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas since 2010. He's very involved with two non-profits: Gabriel Project KC and St. Mary's Home for Mothers.

Jonathan Majers (D.D.S. '82) is now retired.

Elwood Rice (D.D.S. '82) has been involved in organized dentistry for 40 years on local, state and national levels. He's been married for 45 years to his wife, Liz. They have four children and 12 grandchildren (10 girls and 2 boys). His son, Elliott, graduated from UMKC School of Dentistry in May 2022 and will be joining Elwood in his practice in Mexico, Missouri.

Jeff Rickabaugh (D.D.S. '82) was named North Carolina Association of Orthodontists President in 2013, North Carolina delegate to AAO House of Delegates from 2013-2017, Speaker of the House of Delegates from 2018-2021 and SAO winner of the Oren Oliver Distinguished Service Award in October 2021.

Richard Stein (D.D.S. '82) and wife, Peggy, are helping take care of their grandchildren in Davis, California. Richard is involved with Rotary (past president), serves as president of Sunflower Rail-Trails Conservancy and helps with grade school and gardening work in Davis' city park.

John Wildgen (D.D.S. '82) sold his practice to Forum Dental in October 2015. He worked two days a week until he retired in September 2019.

Greg Kelley (D.D.S. '87) retired from solo practice in August 2020. He has two grandsons, ages 4 and 1.

Edward McAllister's (D.D.S. '87) son will be graduating from UMKC School of Dentistry in 2023. This will be the third generation of dentists in the McAllister family.

Mark Scantlan (D.D.S. '87) was president of the Greater St. Louis Dental Society in 2020. He is a fellow of the American College of Dentists and International College of Dentists.

Randal Scott (D.D.S. '87) retired in 2017, celebrated his eighth anniversary in 2021, and his son, Griffin, graduated from UW Seattle in Biomedical Engineering.

Mary Jane Suppasansathorn (D.D.S. '87) has been married 46 years and has eight grandchildren.

Classes of the 1990s

Pamela Richardson (D.D.S. '92) completed a GPR at the naval Medical Center in San Diego in 1993. She then served three years with the Marines, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force at 29 Palms California. Pamela is in group practice now in the Kansas City area. She has a husband, Jeff, and three daughters.

M. Conrad Journée (D.D.S. '97) sold his practice in Kansas in 2021 and is currently a partner in a Missouri office. He's now working three days a week!

Roger Lee (D.D.S. '97) has a son (age 5) and a daughter (age 3). He and his family are moving to the suburbs of San Francisco.

Daniel Sanchez (D.D.S. '97) sold his practice in 2020 and is now the dental director of the public health clinic in El Rito, New Mexico.

Classes of the 2000s

Guy Gross (D.D.S. '02) opened a youth baseball/softball practice facility called The Yard, which houses both indoor practice areas for pitching and batting, and a covered regulation-sized infield turf field. His passion for coaching and the sport of baseball led him to develop this facility in November 2020. He worked with the city of Salina, Kansas, to develop a section of downtown into a thriving non-profit that connects children with excellent baseball/softball facilities, coaches and space for practices when weather is less than ideal.

Kate Gross (D.D.S. '02) was selected to be the Kansas dentist for Smiles for America, a charitable program that paired 50 dentists in each 50 states, with 50 American Heroes (first responders, police/fire/EMS). Each "hero" was selected by the dentist and received a new smile in appreciation for their service to their community.

Molly Frew Hodges (D.D.S. '02) is retired and happily married to Chester Frew.

Jessica Quint (D.D.S. '02) and her husband, Billy, live in Fayette, Missouri and are raising three kids: Murphy (age 19), Hannah (age 16) and Thaddeus (age 13).

Joy Brauer (D.D.S. '03) has earned the Accredited Member credential in the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry (AACD). Joy has been living in Arizona for the last 18 years. Since 2006, she's worked in a dental practice that she opened with her husband, Howie.

Justin Ebersole (D.D.S. '07) shifted from a partnership to a solo practice in July of 2020. He continues to own and operate Parsons Dental Care with his wife, Sadie Ebersole (D.H. '05). Justin continues to be an avid outdoorsman, spending as much time as possible outside with his two sons, Ace (age 12) and Asher (age 9).

Damon Jensen (D.D.S. '07) is still in the Navy and moved to Guam this summer. The family enjoys snorkeling, but is still adjusting to all the rain.

Jacob Krehbiel (D.D.S. '07) has three kids: Koen (age 12), Winston (age 9) and Isla (age 7). Jacob owns Hickman Family Dental in Urbandale, Iowa.

Rita Diana Philip (D.D.S. '07) has a 10-year-old son, has been married 25 years and enjoys helping children and adults move from hopeless teeth to beautiful ones. She loves to help people come out of poverty and hopelessness.

Classes of the 2010s

Emily Carter (D.D.S. '12) had her first daughter, Liv, shortly after graduating. She went on to have two sons, Rowan and Finn, and then a second daughter, Lael. Emily started her orthodontic practice in 2015, brought in a partner in 2018 and recently brought in a new associate.

Brianna Ganson (D.D.S '12) and her husband, Troy, have two children – Knox (age 9) and Brinkley (age 7). Brianna owns Happy Teeth Dentistry in Leawood, Kansas and works at KC Children's Surgery Center twice a month.

Amy Gensweider (D.D.S. '12) was married in 2016. Her first child, Leo, was born in 2019 and her little girl, Ada, was born in 2021.

Chelsea (Reutenauer) Fohey (D.D.S. '17) welcomed her son Owen to the world in February 2021. She also celebrated three years as owner of Fohey Dental. Chelsea married her high school sweetheart, Jordan, in 2017.

Erik Grant (D.D.S. '17) has four kids: Caris (age 5), Emma (age 4), Ezra (age 2) and Cooper (age 1). Erik's wife, Callie, is doing well and is busy with the kiddos. Erik works with the same dentist he had as a child.

Michael Greaves (D.D.S. '17) married Kori Page Rienbolt (D.D.S. '17) in September 2021.

Scuyler Kurlbaum (D.D.S. '17) and Nicole Kurlbaum (D.D.S. '22) had a baby girl, Ruthie, in 2021.

Joshua Prather (DDS '17) has three children and owns a private practice in Fulton, Missouri.

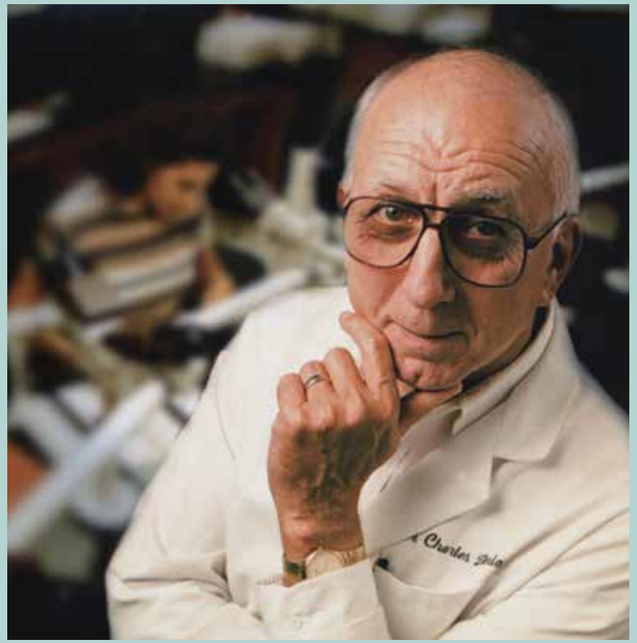
Justin Weststeyn (D.D.S. '17) married Edith (Wimsatt) Weststeyn (D.D.S. '17) in June 2018. Their son Bennett was born in September of 2019 and began his big brother duties in March 2022. They currently are living in Cincinnati, Ohio. Justin works for DSO and Edie is in Pedo Residency.

Benco Dental recognizes women in dentistry through its Lucy Hobbs Project in honor of the first female dentist. Jessica Sliger (D.D.S. '18) was the recipient of the Woman to Watch Award. She works for Rock Dental Brands at My Village Pediatric Dentistry out of Bentonville, Arkansas, where she spends much of her time creating instructional content in English and Spanish to inform families on oral hygiene and nutrition. Sliger also participates in Diversity in Dentistry and in UMKC's Explorer Post Program.

In memoriam

Ryan Austin (D.D.S. '13)
Richard L. Baker (D.D.S. '64)
Elmer C. Black, Jr. (D.D.S. '66)
James A. Burgess (D.D.S. '59)
Dr. Robert D. Cowan (Faculty)
William M. Croom (D.D.S. '67)
Lawrence W. Doerr (DDS '81)
Dennis Downey (D.D.S. '66)
Howard H. Dukes, Jr. (D.D.S. '73)
Charles L. Dunlap (D.D.S. '60)
Dean P. Dyer (D.D.S. '65, ORTHO '67)
Leroy E. Engle (D.D.S. '57)
Leslie C. Esquibel (D.D.S. '95)
Floyd J. Grimes, II (D.D.S. '56)
A. Edward Hall (D.D.S. '62)
David G. Hall (D.D.S. '85)
Ralph E. Hancock (D.D.S. '74)
Charles W. Harper (D.D.S. '49)
David S. Johnson (PEDO '76)
Michael G. Johnson (D.D.S. '63)
James C. Kulild (D.D.S. '73)
John James Lambert (D.D.S. '69)
Steve Latimer, IV (D.D.S. '72)
James W. Marshall (D.D.S. '62)
John R. Melland (D.D.S. '64)
Dr. Carole McArthur (Faculty)
Mrs. Carol Joyce Miller (B.S.D.H. '60)
Thomas J. Nidiffer (D.D.S. '57)
William G. Rose (D.D.S. '64)
Reverend Merle Edward Runck (DDS '62)
B. L. Schulz (D.D.S. '50)
Gregory L. Temple (D.D.S. '79)
Charles R. Tucker (D.D.S. '70)
Max Wagner (D.D.S. '57)
Larry H. West (PROSTH '73)

A legacy to remember



Charles L. Dunlap (D.D.S. '60) was from Stigler, a small town in Oklahoma. He often mentioned how shocked and proud he was to be admitted to the UMKC School of Dentistry. He went on to pursue a certificate in Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology in 1967 and was awarded Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Pathology in 1970. Later in his career, he served as President of the American Board of Oral Pathology in 1980 and in 1980-81, as President of the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology. Dunlap (Charlie, to his colleagues and friends) returned to UMKC and became a beloved faculty member for more than 40 years. With a regional and national reputation as a clinical pathologist, Dunlap formed a close partnership and friendship with longtime colleague, Dr. Bruce Barker. Together, they built the school's Oral Pathology Biopsy service into one of national prominence, serving as the referral center of choice for many alumni and physicians. With a command of oral pathology second to none, Dunlap loved diagnosing and discussing a case with a student or colleague and his door was always open. He generously donated to many community causes, scholarship funds and, in retirement, fully funded restorative care for patients with no other means to pay through the Charles Dunlap Indigent Care Fund, overseen by his daughter, Shara Dunlap (D.D.S. '94), and UMKC faculty. Always believing in the educational process and future of the profession, Dunlap also generously provided key funding for the construction of the *Dr. Charles Dunlap Center for Research and Education in Technology* (the school's "Innovation Clinic"), which was formally dedicated in September 2013. Dunlap, 87, died in his home in Lee's Summit, Missouri on Saturday, April 9, 2022.

New faculty

Prof. Hayley Ferris has joined the faculty as a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Dental Public Health and Behavioral Science. She received her B.S.D.H. from UMKC in 1994 and is ECP III certified.

Prof. Emma Kaz Frick joined the faculty as Director of Clinical Research. She received an Associate in Applied Science, Dental Hygiene, from Maricopa Community College in 2011, a bachelor's degree in Asian Languages with a concentration in Chinese from Arizona State University in 2015 and a master's degree in Education/ Adult Education and Training from University of Phoenix in 2021.

New assistant dean expands role

JEFF PRIMOS has accepted the role as the Assistant Dean of Business Affairs and Strategic Development at the UMKC School of Dentistry. Primos currently serves as the UMKC School of Dentistry's Director of Business Administration and is responsible for overseeing the financial operations and facilities of the school and has been involved in strategic development. Primos will continue to oversee the business operations of the school and will expand his role in developing and overseeing key strategic projects for the School of Dentistry.

Angela Emig and Jimi Sode have joined the School of Dentistry's admissions staff.

Office of Student Programs welcomes new staff

THE OFFICE OF STUDENT PROGRAMS is pleased to announce that Jimi Sode and Angela Emig have joined the school's admissions staff.

Sode will serve as the senior manager for dental admissions. He brings experience and a proven track record of success with more than nine years working in secondary and higher education. His varied experiences within admissions, recruitment and diversity will provide a strong foundation as a leader for the School of Dentistry.

Sode has a bachelor's degree in Biology from Pittsburg State University and a master's degree in Health Administration from Missouri State University. His most recent work experiences include working as the coordinator for equity and diversity with Springfield Public Schools and assistant director of admissions for diversity outreach and recruitment at Missouri State University.

Sode's passion for access to higher education and his strong ability to make connections will be invaluable in meeting our future goals.

Emig assumes the role of student service coordinator working with prospective dental hygiene students, STAHR students and the Kuwait program. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in Spanish from Truman State University with minors in business, international studies and art history.

She has diverse work experiences in the fields of insurance and higher education. She spent seven years as an enrollment services coordinator at UMKC's International Student Affairs Office and most recently, worked in event and floral design. Emig said she is excited to return to higher education.

Faculty News

DR. JEAN-MARC RETROUVEY, professor and chair, Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics, and Dr. Leo A. Rogers, endowed professor, Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics, recently co-authored the article Machine learning in orthodontics: Automated facial analysis of vertical dimension for increased precision and efficiency. The article is published in the American Journal of the Association of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics.

DR. TIM COX, endowed professor in dental and musculoskeletal tissue research, Department of Oral and Craniofacial Sciences, recently played host in his lab to Monica Parada-Sanchez, a member of the dentistry faculty at the University of Antioquia, Medellín, Colombia. Parada-Sanchez received a Fulbright Visiting Scientist Award that allowed her to spend several months learning new research techniques and extending her research work on understanding the contributions of innate immunity to oral lichen planus. Cox has co-authored several articles:

The E3 ligase TRIM1 ubiquitinates LRRK2 and controls its localization, degradation, and toxicity. Stormo, A.E.D., Shavarebi, F., FitzGibbon, M., Earley, E.M., Ahrendt, H., Lum, L.S., Verschueren, E., Swaney, D.L., Skibinski, G., Ravisankar, A., van Haren, J., Davis, E.J., Johnson, J.R., Von Dollen, J., Balen, C., Porath, J., Crosio, C., Mirescu, C., Iaccarino, C., Dauer, W.T., Nichols, R.J., Wittman, T., COX, T.C., Finkbeiner, S., Krogan, N.J., Oakes, S.A. & Hiniker, A. Journal of Cell Biology Accepted. (Dec 2021).

Altering calcium and phosphorus supplementation in pregnancy and lactation affects offspring craniofacial morphology in a sex-specific manner. Hassan, M.G., Chen, C., Ismail, H.A., Zaher, A.R., COX, T.C. & Jheon, A.H. American Journal of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics Accepted. (Jan 2022)

Auriculocondylar Syndrome 2 results from dominant negative action of PLCB4 variants. Kanai, S.M., Hefner, C., COX, T.C., Cunningham, M.L., Perez, F.A., Bauer, A., Reigan, P., Carter, C., Murray, S. & Clouthier, D.E. Disease, Models & Mechanisms Accepted (Feb 2022).

DR. YONG WANG, professor, Department of Oral and Craniofacial Sciences, has been selected to the 2022 class of the American Association of Dental and Oral and Cranofacial Research (AADOCR) Fellows. The program is designed to recognize leaders who have achieved research excellence and have served AADOCR throughout their careers.

DR. ERIN BUMANN, assistant professor, Department of Oral and Craniofacial Sciences, has a number of noteworthy achievements, including recent awards in excess of $750,000 and publications.

She has received the following four awards:

- A two year NIH/NIDCR R03 grant as primary investigator for Wnt5a/Ror2 Signaling in Jaw Bone Development: The NIDCR Small Grant Program for New Investigators (R03) supports research scientists in the early stage of their career.
- A Wood Johnson Foundation – Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program grant as primary investigator for Dynamic and Molecular Mechanisms of Mandibular Bone Development: This is a four-year award for junior researchers from historically disadvantaged backgrounds committed to academics and mentoring protogees.
- An American Dental Association Gold Medal Fellowship as a part of Dr. Martha Somerman's 2021 ADA Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Dental Research: The ADA has presented the award every three years since 1985 to recognize individuals who have contributed to the advancement of dentistry or major improvement in the oral health of the public through basic or clinical research. As part of the award, Somerman, a renowned scientist who served as director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) for eight years selected Bumann to receive funding to support her research.
- A College of Diplomates of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry – N. Sue Seale Pediatric Research Award as PI for Adverse Childhood Experiences and Tooth Eruption: The award is made to full-time pediatric dentist faculty in the first ten years of their career.

Baumann also serves on the advisory committee for a postdoctoral scholar at the Stowers Institute for Medical Research and has co-authored a publication that was the subject of an editorial:

Early Life Stress is Associated with Earlier Emergence of Permanent Molars. Cassidy L. McDermott, Katherine Hilton, Anne T. Park, Ursula A. Tooley, Austin L. Boroshok, Lourdes Delgado Reyes, Julia A. Leonard, Muralidhar Mupparapu, JoAnna M. Scott, Erin E. Bumann, Allyson P. Mackey. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America 118(24):e2105304118. 2021. PMID: 34103399

A dental hygiene student listens to her instructor as they care for a patient.

Good news for Dental Hygiene program

THE UNIVERSITY RECENTLY ANNOUNCED the entry level Bachelor of Science Dental Hygiene (B.S.D.H.) and the Registered Hygiene (R.D.H.) to B.S.D.H. degree completion programs will remain open. According to Dean Steven Haas, the School of Dentistry and Division of Dental Hygiene will confidently move forward knowing that key parts of the hygiene program will remain open and continue to graduate clinically advanced professionals, as it has for the past 70 years. The Dental Hygiene Education master's program will allow currently enrolled students to finish their degrees and then will no longer be offered. The university cited unfavorable business and education models in its decision to discontinue the education master's program.

UMKC students elected to national positions

ZANE KELLER (D.D.S. '23) was recently elected as American Student Dental Association (ASDA) District 8 Trustee. He will oversee six regional ASDA chapters and work alongside other national leaders. Three of the last four trustees have been from UMKC. Heather Moore (D.D.S. '23) and Dylan Weber (D.D.S. '20) were previously elected.

SHONTÉ REED (D.D.S. '24) was elected to serve as the '22-'23 National Vice President of the Student National Dental Association at the 50th Anniversary Convention held in Orlando, Florida. Shonté's leadership, dedication and passion for UMKC's SNDA chapter, our community and the underserved has contributed to her being selected for the position.

Remembering longtime UMKC faculty member

After retiring from 25 years in the United States Air Force in 1987 as Colonel and wanting to stay active, **Robert Cowan (D.D.S.)** accepted the position as the first Director of the Advanced Education in General Dentistry Program at UMKC School of Dentistry. Respected by patients and colleagues, Cowan was first and foremost a clinician. If you needed to locate him, you could be assured he was chairside with the residents, never leaving for the day until the last patient was seen. Cowan served in this position from 1987 until his retirement in September 1999. Upon his retirement, Cowan was acknowledged by his peers with an appointment as Associate Professor Emeritus. Cowan, 86, died in his home of Grand Rapids, Michigan on Sunday, March 6, 2022.

Robert D. Cowan (D.D.S.)

Above is a conceptual sketch of the UMKC Health Sciences District development. Final plans will be approved by the University of Missouri Board of Curators.

UMKC Plans $100 million investment in Health Sciences District

THE UNIVERSITY of Missouri-Kansas City is poised to begin work on a new interprofessional health sciences building in the UMKC Health Sciences District, housing state-of-the-art dental teaching clinics and expanded medical school teaching clinics.

The multi-story, $100 million project will also serve as home for the university's Data Science and Analytics Center and the Biomedical Engineering program.

This project will take the Health Sciences District to the next level, accelerating health care access and equity for the community and sparking development to turn the campus into a regional draw, igniting entrepreneurship and economic growth for the city and region.

The Missouri General Assembly appropriated $40 million for the building in the FY2023 budget. This comes with a challenge to the Kansas City community to raise $60 million to match the state funding to build the project. Civic leaders view the project as a next step toward the launch of a comprehensive development plan for the district.

"A united medical and dental building will be a signature facility, as there is only one such institution in the country with this combined learning and clinical environment," said Chancellor C. Mauli Agrawal. "The project will spark an expansion of the entire UMKC Health Sciences District that could dramatically expand health care in Kansas City, attract top faculty and researchers and new private investment that could create new jobs and eventually contribute billions to the Kansas City economy."

The expansion will attract some of the best dental students and faculty from the region. In addition, UMKC will have increased space to continue its important work serving the underserved – delivering almost $1 million in uncompensated care to those who otherwise may not get dental treatment. With a new interprofessional building, the next generation of dentists and dental hygienists can be taught to deliver better care at a lower cost. Another benefit will be the expansion of dental emergency services, which will lower the number of dental emergencies seen at hospital emergency rooms and continue to make first-rate dental care more accessible to the community.

Congratulations, 2022 graduates!

AFTER YEARS of caution and sacrifice, UMKC and the School of Dentistry celebrated the Class of 2022 with both in person and live-streamed events. Many graduates attended the live ceremony at Kauffman Stadium.

Graduation followed a hooding ceremony for the D.D.S. class in Swinney Recreation Center. The dental hygiene class had its own event as well, Senior Scholarship Day.

Doctor of Dental Surgery

Gabrielle T. Abney
Lena R. Adams
Meshal Basel Alborno
John David Allen
Kurt Michael Anderson
Will Burcham Argana
Umair Ashraf Bajwa
Faisal Nassar Ballam
Bradley Robert Barnes
Megan Ann Bearden
Jumanah Behbehani
Samuel Dean Bertholf
Shanon Jo Black
Ali Bo-Abbas
Richard Charles Boehm
Anna Elaine Bowden
Katherine Marie Boxdorfer
Bryce Laseter Boyd
Marie Irene Brancato
Alexandra Marie Bresnahan
Charles William Brinker
Jared Buescher
Katye Erin Butzirus
Andrew Michael Byrne
Baylie Jane Carroll
Nghi Khiet Chau
Megan Emi Ching
Sunghee Briana Choi
Taylor Christiansen
Olivia Ann Collins
Walter James Cook
Garrett Scott Craigmiles
Drew Chatters Dean
Jacob Thomas DeBeir
Samvid Saurabh Desai
Kelli Marie Dummerth
Oghenerukevwe Ololade Erhenede
Anna Colleen Everson
J. Reid Fawcett
Mitchell Paul Finder
Tiara Arianne Fry
Catelynn Raye Garde
Kyle David Gardner
Cassidy Brooke Garling
Mary Elizabeth Goedert
Jackson Tucker Green
Ryan Alexander Greenway
Jack Peng Guo
Joshua Gurnee
Mitchell Allen Hanson
Briar Makay Hartrup
Katherine Joyce Hayes
Jonah Sean Heitman
Riley Herr
Lauren Taylor Kanani Ho
Talisa Elizabeth Hughes
Zaynab Ali Hussam
Reem Rahem Hussein
Marise Ramy Ibrahim
Justin Michael Jirovec
Taylor Hildebrandt Johnson
Dallin M. Josephson
Luke Robert Komotos
James Tyler Krampe
Stephanie Kubik
Nicole Elizabeth McClure Kurlbaum
Thomas Jacob Lawlis
Esther Luo
Gerald Lutz
Samantha Kay Mahaffey
Ali Mahdi
Kevin M. Mattingly
Shannon Elizabeth McCaul
Roda Jean Mena
Dean Mohammadi
Felipe Jungblut Mohr
Gavin Paul Montalvo
Taylar Rae Morgan
Caleb Andrew Murray
Mollie Northern
Grant Franz Oehler
Dev Patel
Molly Ann Petrie
Anna Nicole Price
Daniel Harris Prywitch
Mahaam Qadeer
Namana Rao
Tevin Lee Renken
Marvin Elliott Rice
Scott Rommey Sloan
Bryan Alexander Smith
Nicholas Smith
Sun Young Song
Mikayla Nicole Stevens
Adnan Syed
Kathryn Sachiko Teruya
Glenn Charles Teubner
Brendan Thomeczek
Adam Michael Tiefenbrunn
Alexandria Delorus Webb
Devonshire Camberleigh Whyte
Kalei Wilson
Danielle Nicole Wolfe
Miranda Yip
Joseph Edward Zelasko
Sydney Lauren Zuraski

FACULTY D.D.S. CANDIDATE

Narayanan Sreenivasan

Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene

Madison M. Aarnes
Madison Taylor Broers
Maddilyn Joy Brusick
Yarely E. Corral
Alex Marie Davis
Jeanelle Finley
Shannon Lee Finneran
Ryann Christina Flax
Bella Isabel Gordillo
Hana Angelique Higgins
Nursyuhada Huq
Marissa Paige Kramer
Rheanna Nicole Lazzaro
Cinthia Iveth Martinez
Haleigh Marie McKenzie
Taylor Anne McQueen
Madison Asley Mitchell
Nina Morgan
Samantha Ann Murray
Faiza Kabir Promee
Emily Anne Ramsey
Shelby Rae Sellers
Cristal Silvestre-Castillo
Brandie Danielle Simonsen
Alissa Nicole Sumpter
Bailey Nicole Thom
Alexandria Brooke Tucker
Tilar Jalyn Wells
Grace Johanna Williams
Logan Christina Wilson

Senior Scholarship Day

THE ANNUAL SENIOR Scholarship Day celebrated the accomplishments of the Class of 2022 with awards and special presentations. Congratulations to this year's recipients!

Dean's Academic Distinction Award
Brandie Simonsen

Faculty Award
Julie Sutton

Academy of Dentistry for Persons with Disabilities Award
AlexMarie Davis

American Association of Public Health Dentistry Association of Public Health Dentistry Award
Grace Williams

Colgate Oral Pharmaceuticals Star Award
Alissa Sumpter

Hu-Friedy Golden Scaler Award
Madison Aarnes

Missouri Dental Hygienists' Association Award
Emily Ramsey

Dental Hygienists' Alumni Association Sherry Burns Outstanding Clinician Award
Alex Tucker

Proctor and Gamble Crest Oral B Preventive Dentistry Hygiene Award
Kara Collier

Graduate Degrees

ORAL AND CRANIOFACIAL SCIENCES INTERDISCIPLINARY PH.D.

Saleha Nisar, Ph.D.[3]

ORAL AND CRANIOFACIAL SCIENCES M.S. DEGREE

Patrick Grady, D.D.S., M.S.[1]
Grant Severs, D.D.S., M.S.[1]
Megan Welk, D.D.S., M.S.[1]

DENTAL HYGIENE EDUCATION M.S. DEGREE

Ashley Hobbs, M.S.[1]
Victoria Kishinevsky, M.S.[2]
Robin McNeil, M.S.[2]
Brandi Morey, M.S.[2]

Advanced Education Dental Certificates

ADVANCED EDUCATION IN GENERAL DENTISTRY

Hannah Lowe, D.M.D.[3]
Elaheh Salehi Oka, D.M.D.[3]
Amanda Tran, D.D.S.[3]

ENDODONTICS

James Byun, D.D.S.[3]

ORTHODONTICS AND DENTOFACIAL ORTHOPEDICS

Patrick Grady, D.D.S.[1]
Grant Severs, D.M.D.[1]
Megan Welk, D.D.S.[1]

PERIODONTICS

Jordan Dempsey, D.D.S.[2]
Christopher Sprott, D.M.D.[2]

1-Graduates-Fall 2021
2-Graduates-Spring 2022
3-Graduates-Summer 2022

The family legacy continues

FAMILY MEMBERS who are UMKC School of Dentistry alumni themselves served as Legacy Hooders at the school's Hooding Ceremony. The lasting memories were made inside Swinney Recreational Center on the UMKC Volker Campus.

NAME	FAMILY HOODER	RELATIONSHIP
Jumanah Behbehani	Raghad Behbehani (D.D.S. '21)	Sister
Anna Bowden	Scott Bowden (D.D.S. '93)	Father
Marie Brancato	Joseph Spalitto (D.D.S. '72)	Uncle
Megan Ching	Paul Ching (D.D.S.)	Father
Taylor Christiansen	Wes Christiansen (D.D.S. '21)	Husband
Garrett Craigmiles	Haylea Craigmiles (D.D.S. '18)	Sister
Anna Price	Laura Moore (D.D.S. '17)	Sister
Tiara Fry	Trinity Boszko (D.D.S.)	Sister
Jackson Green	Steven Greene (D.D.S. '94)	Father
Lauren Ho	Wilton Ho (D.D.S.)	Father
Zaynab Hussam	Sainy Adel (D.D.S. '19) Maice Scott (D.D.S. '19)	Brother Sister
Justin Jirovec	Donald Jirovec (D.D.S. '85)	Father
Stephanie Kubik	Francis Kubik (D.D.S. '81)	Father
Nicole Kurlbaum	Scuyler Kurlbaum (D.D.S. '17)	Husband
Gerald Lutz	Mike Lutz (D.D.S. '88)	Father
Samantha Mahaffey	Charles Mahaffey (D.D.S. '72)	Grandfather
Katherine Boxdorfer	David Mattingly (D.D.S. '10)	Brother
Kevin Mattingly	David Mattingly (D.D.S. '10)	Brother
Felipe Mohr	Luciana Jungblut Chiem (D.D.S.)	Mother
Mollie Northern	Andrew Hamilton (D.D.S. '96)	Uncle
Grant Oehler	Kurt Oehler Barbara Oehler	Father Mother
Grant Oehler	Emily Oehler (DDS '19)	Sister
Dev Patel	Neena Patel (DDS '13)	Sister
Marvin Rice	Marvin Rice (DDS '82)	Father
Katye Butzirus	Beau Butzirus	Husband
Mikayla Stevens	Paul Stevens (DDS '95) Nicole Vogel (DDS '11)	Father Sister
Adnan Syed	Afreena Khan	Sister
Kathryn Teruya	Luke Teruya	Father
Glenn Teubner	Daniel Teubner (DDS '85)	Father

Military Commissioning Ceremony

Thomas Lawlis, Captain, Army National Guard
Stationed at: Kansas Army National Guard, Lenexa, Kansas

Tevin Renken, Captain, U.S. Army
Stationed at: Fort Benning, Columbus, Georgia

Gerald Lutz, Lieutenant, U.S. Navy
Stationed at: Naval Branch Health Clinic,
Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California

Joseph Zelasko, Lieutenant, U.S. Navy
Stationed at: Norfolk Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia

Past AEP participants

FIVE 2022 GRADUATES of the UMKC School of Dentistry participated in the school's Admissions Enhancement Program, which has been expanded and renamed Students Training in Academia, Health, and Research, or STAHR. This year's graduates included Samvid Desai (2016), Rukevwe Erhenede (2017), Zaynab Hussam (2017), Taylor Johnson (2016) and Mahaam Qadeer (2017).

Visit the Dental Alumni and School of Dentistry Facebook pages and the school webpage at dentistry.umkc.edu to enjoy more photos from this event.

Where graduates are going

2022 Dental Graduates
(104 out of 107 students responding)

- 56 Private Practice
- 30 Specialty/Residency Program
- 13 Public Health
- 10 General Practice Residency
- 7 Advanced Education in General Dentistry Residency
- 7 Pediatric Dentistry
- 5 Military
- 3 Orthodontics
- 2 Oral Surgery Fellowship
- 1 Periodontics
- 1 Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

2022 Dental Hygiene Graduates
(27 out of 30 students responding)

- 13 Solo Practice
- 4 Corporate Dental Practice
- 4 Group Practice
- 4 Temp Work
- 1 Periodontic Specialty Practice
- 1 Public Health

Transitioning ceremony welcomes dentistry, dental hygiene classes to patient care

CARE. DEDICATION. TRUST. Integrity. Respect. Compassion. Responsibility. Self-Improvement. These were some of the words emphasized by the students and speakers at the annual Transitioning Into the Profession Ceremony.

The ceremony was held at the Unity Temple on the Plaza on Friday, June 3, and welcomed the dentistry Class of 2024 and dental hygiene Class of 2023 to the clinical phase of their educational programs.

Dr. Lance Godley, interim associate dean for clinical affairs, served as the master of ceremonies, along with Dean Steven Haas, who welcomed and shared remarks with the more than 1,000 participants in attendance.

Each class also chose influential faculty members to provide keynotes. The dental hygiene class chose Professor Julie Sutton, while the dental class selected Dr. Luke Wezeman. Following the remarks, each class rose in unison to read their respective Code of Ethics. Each class member signed the Code as they crossed the stage, after being presented with a white coat for dental students or scrubs for dental hygiene students.

The ceremony reaffirmed the students' dedication to their patients, education, each other and their profession. Family and friends witnessed their affirmation and celebrated the significant step.

UMKC School of Dentistry

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

SAVE THE DATE / APRIL 13-16, 2023

Celebrating 100 Years

ALUMNI MEETING AND MIDWEST DENTAL CONFERENCE

DENT 22036121