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UPCOMING EVENTS
Alumni Weekend in Birmingham, AL Feb. 4-7
Alumni Association Annual Meeting Feb. 4
AADR in Los Angeles, CA – Dean’s Reception Mar. 16
Hinman in Atlanta, GA – Dean’s Reception Mar. 18
Scholarship Luncheon in Birmingham, AL June 3
Graduation June 4
ALDA June 7-12

ON THE COVER:
On the Road – see page 16
Dear Alumni,

Greetings from the ivory towers of your University of Alabama School of Dentistry!

We are shifting gears and revving up for Alumni Weekend on February 4-7, 2016. It seems everything is seasonal, including dental care. Think about the ups and downs of patient flow in your own practice. The high demand just before school starts - the lower demand between Thanksgiving and Christmas. If it were not for third molars and college students, how boring would it be? Then the season jump-starts with New Year’s resolutions of catching up. It keeps rolling with cash gifts and tax refunds. Then spring fever hits and things slow a little to resume again just where we started above.

The UASOD Alumni Association is getting ready for high season too. Membership drives, closing out 2015, Alumni Weekend 2016, new officers and representatives/associates for the 2016 season. So goes the treadmill of life. We need to interrupt that treadmill with something unique, exciting and memory-stimulating. Perhaps volunteer. Step out of your comfort zone and physically contribute your time, services, gifts, and money. Do this all before we too are memories (if that) or unable to contribute, possibly forgotten forever.

Now that Debbie Downer is out of the picture review I just wrote of, where are you in the picture? Hopefully happy, smiling, fulfilled, enthusiastic, kind, supportive, loving, family-oriented. Make your list as long as you can. Then consider how your dental profession has emboldened all of the adjectives on your list. Sure we all reach a burnout plateau on occasion, but a break, a short respite will overcome most of those times. Give back accordingly. Tithing is only 10%. A smaller percentage to dentistry would mean huge support to our school or to the association if everyone did that. Larger would always be accepted as well!

Be sure to acknowledge our crew at the school and the volunteers that make it happen. Dr. Lori Gearhart has given timelessly to our school, seeking, contacting, contracting and arranging schedules to plan our meeting for hundreds of other busy professionals just as she is. Yet she always smiles and ends up with a spectacular meeting. Some of us have done it once and that was exhausting. She has done it dozens of times strictly VOLUNTEERING. Way out of most of our comfort zones to be sure. It doesn’t have to be that way. Pitch in!

Encouragingly,

Ray H. McLaughlin, D.M.D.
President, Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association
The University of Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association

2016 ALUMNI WEEKEND
FEBRUARY 4-7

Hyatt Regency Wynfrey Hotel
Birmingham, AL

Highlights Include:
- Continuing Education Courses
- Class Reunions
- Exhibitors
- President’s Reception on February 5th
- Student Talent Show on February 6th
- Hotel Accommodations start at $150/night
2016 ALUMNI WEEKEND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, February 4
3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Exhibitor Set-Up
4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Registration
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Alumni Budget Committee Meeting
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Alumni Executive Council Meeting & Annual Session
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Distinguished Dentist Reception

Friday, February 5
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Registration
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. The 5 Most Important Financial Planning Concepts Doctors Get Wrong
Jason Dyken, MD, MBA
8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Body on Fire: Understanding Inflammation’s Role in Oral/Systemic Connections
Kelli Swanson Jaecks, RDH, MA
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Successful Local Anesthesia for Restorative and Endodontic Treatment
John Nusstein, DDS, MS
The Alabama Association of Endodontists Lecture
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Updates in Direct Restorative Dentistry: Mastering Today’s Materials for Your Practice
Lou Graham, DDS
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Diagnosis & Treatment Planning Essentials for the Dental Implant Patient
Mark C. Nation, DMD
The Ansley Brown Lecture
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Changing Concepts in Dental Traumatology
Dennis J. McTigue, DDS, MS
The Pediatric Dentistry Lecture
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Do You Know Your Purpose In Life? If So, Are You Living It?
Drew Gearhart, CFP & Charlie Haines, CFP, HDP, MBA
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. AGD Student Lecture
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Crafting Your Future: Purpose and Insights Into True “Wealth”
Jonathan Millican, CFP & Patti Black, CFP
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Say What? Healthy Communication With Your Family and Staff
Diana Contorno
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Medallion Club Luncheon: Classes of 1952-1962
Reservations required
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. The 4 Steps Guaranteed to Optimize Production! How to Use Human Nature for Everyone’s Benefit
John Cotton

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Portal to Paunch: Dental/Medical Connections Between the Mouth, Esophagus and Stomach
Kelli Swanson Jaecks, RDH, MA
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Updates in Indirect Restorative Dentistry: Mastering Today’s Materials for Your Practice
Lou Graham, DDS
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Alabama Society of Periodontists Reception
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Senior Signing Day & New Dentist Reception
Everyone is invited
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. President’s Reception

Saturday, February 6
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. “Let’s Be Friends” – The World Where Everybody Knows Everybody Else
Will Axon, JD
7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. American College of Dentists & International College of Dentists Joint Breakfast Meeting
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Registration
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Exhibits
8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. TMD: Diagnosis, Management and Treatment
John P. Gobetti, DDS, MS
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Newest Techniques for Implants & Dentures - Part I
Joseph Massad, DDS
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. The Future is Now: Integration of Innovative Digital Technologies Into Tumor and Orthognathic Surgery
Rainer Schmelzeisen, MD, DDS, PhD, FRCS (London)
The Kitty Robinson Lecture
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. POPS: Practice Opportunity Placement Workshop
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Evaluation and Pharmacologic Control of Pain-P730
John P. Gobetti, DDS, MS
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Newest Techniques for Implants & Dentures - Part II
Joseph Massad, DDS
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. UAB Dentistry Leadership Council Meeting
7:00 p.m. Showcase Evening of Student Talent

Sunday, February 7
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Alabama Academy of General Dentistry Called General Assembly
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Alabama Dental Association Board of Trustees Meeting
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Alabama Academy of General Dentistry Board of Director’s Meeting

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DEAN’S MESSAGE

Strength in numbers

Have you ever tried to tear a phone book in half? Individually, the pages rip easily. But the more pages you put together the harder it is to tear them in two. I remember demonstrating an old eighth grade science experiment to my son a few years ago. We interlaced the pages of two phone books to reveal how, collectively, the pages are so strong the books can’t be pulled apart – not even in a good old-fashioned tug of war.

As electronic directories increasingly replace print ones, the phone book is relegated to a teaching tool. But it still proves there’s strength in numbers – a principle that applies to people too. When they come together, a group of people can have transformative powers. Our recent UAB Dentistry Cares Community Day, held annually, shows how a team of five hundred can change the lives of so many. In one day a volunteer crew of alumni, faculty, residents, students, staff, and friends provided our homeless and impoverished neighbors, who otherwise lack access to dentistry, with over $130,000 worth of care (not including the more than 4,000 workhours so graciously donated by the volunteers). It’s a worthwhile day and a valuable way to teach our students the power of collegiality and teamwork.

Through the Alumni Association, members have come together to support our school in other important ways. As an oral health leader, we must maintain top faculty and facilities to continue to attract the best and brightest students and prepare them well. The collective efforts of our Leadership Council and campaign team recently helped us accomplish three endowed scholars and a state-of-the-art student laboratory. But with a comprehensive care clinic renovation and other important projects on the horizon we have more to accomplish.

I urge you to renew your Alumni Association membership this year and encourage you to recruit one new or lapsed member as well. A robust association membership sends a positive message at the University of Alabama System level in support of our school. Let’s continue to build the momentum of our growing, vibrant, and impactful association. After all, amazing work is accomplished when people join together.

Until next time,

Michael S. Reddy, D.M.D., D.M.Sc
Although Dr. James C. Broome, Professor of Restorative Sciences, will oversee the Comprehensive Care Clinic, Limited Care & Treatment Planning Clinic, D1 Pre-clinical Dentistry, Operative Dentistry, and many other courses taught within the Division of General Dentistry.

Dr. Mia Geisinger, Associate Professor of Periodontology, has been appointed Program Director for the Advanced Education Program in Periodontology. She will be the first woman to serve in this role, and the eighth director of the program. Before joining our faculty in 2007, Mia received her dental degree from Columbia University School of Dental Medicine and completed her advanced training in periodontology, in addition to an MS in clinical dentistry, at UTHSC San Antonio. She has served as the pre-doctoral periodontal program director since 2008 and during this time has been an integral part of the advanced training program.

Dr. Nathanial Lawson, Assistant Professor in the Division of Biomaterials, received the American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Research Grant to study the fracture strength of zirconia crowns following artificial aging.

Dr. Chin-Chuan Fu, Assistant Professor in the Division of Prosthodontics, has become board certified by the American Board of Prosthodontics, earning the title of diplomate. James was recognized in October 2015 during the annual session of the American College of Prosthodontists in Orlando, FL where he become a Fellow of the college.

Dr. Fu also received the UAB Faculty Development Grant to study the clinical effects of short-term aging in full-contour zirconia crowns.

Dr. Wen-Chou “James” Wu, Assistant Professor in the Division of Prosthodontics, has become board certified by the American Board of Prosthodontics. She will be recognized at the annual session of the American College of Prosthodontists in San Diego, CA in 2016 where she will be inducted as a Fellow into the college.

Dr. Nathaniel Lawson, Assistant Professor in the Division of Biomaterials, received the American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Research Grant to study the fracture strength of zirconia crowns following artificial aging.

In addition, Dr. Mitchell completed her Master of Arts degree in Education with a concentration in Dental Education in September 2015 from the University of the Pacific, Benerd School of Education in San Francisco, California.
Mitra Adhami (D3) finished her PhD in Cell Biology in 2014 under her mentor Dr. Amjad Javed through the UAB DMD/PhD program. Mitra started the DMD/PhD program in 2009 and, as part of the dual degree program, was able to submit an F30 grant to the NIH/NIDCR, which helps pay tuition and living expenses. In her educational career thus far, she has had 22 abstracts selected for presentation at various conferences, and five peer-reviewed articles accepted, three of which were first-author publications. Currently, Mitra is the president of the National Student Research Group (NSRG), who is responsible for hosting student events and socials as well as a hands-on-workshop and student symposium at the AADR conference in March 2016, and has served on the Board of the AADR since 2014.

Janet Kim (D4) has been selected to serve a one-year appointment as representative for the “Southeast A” region of the National Student Research Group (NSRG). As a regional leader she will work to encourage networking and collaboration among student chapters, bridge communication between NSRG’s local and national levels, and engage student chapters in NSRG initiatives.

Bright Chang (D1) and Suruchi Lamba (MS in Clinical Dentistry) both received 2015 Ronald Goldstein Foundation Research Grants. The grants were received from Dr. Ronald Goldstein of Atlanta, GA through a research foundation established through Alpha Omega Dental Society. Bright’s project will explore the stability of silane used for e.max restorations. Suruchi’s project will examine the microleakage around composite restorations exposed to ultrasonic scaling and toothbrushing. The results of the project will be submitted for presentation at the 2016 annual session of the American Association of Dental Research in Los Angeles, CA.

Angi Gullard (D4) was accepted into the Advanced Prosthodontics Program and Master of Dental Science Program at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center at Memphis. With two residents accepted each year, Angi will be part of the first all-female class of residents at UTHSC, starting on July 1, 2016. In addition, Angi defended her PhD dissertation in October 2015. The title is “Functional Role of MEPE in Tooth Mineralization: Mediation by TGF-beta1.” This will be the culmination of her research experience in the eight-year DMD/PhD program at UAB. Angi has also submitted two manuscripts for publication, with a third one being completed, from her dissertation research: 1) “Reduced dentin matrix protein expression in Camurati-Engelmann Disease transgenic mouse model” to the Journal of Cellular Physiology and 2) “Mepe Deletion Fails to Disrupt Dentin Synthesis” to the Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry.

S. Michael Vaughan (D3) has completed an original research project under the direction of Dr. Chung H. Kau and the results have been accepted for publication in The Journal of Craniofacial Surgery. Michael has presented his research at UAB’s Scholar’s Symposium, the IADR General Session in Boston, and the AAO Annual Session in San Francisco. Anatomage, whose software was used in the research, also included Michael’s study on its website (http://dental.anatomage.com/dentalgallery). When asked about his experience, Michael explained, “Dr. Kau has been a wonderful mentor and resource for this project. I’m also grateful for UAB’s ‘Dean’s Travel Award’ which allowed me to travel to Boston to present my research. I have developed enormous respect for those who dedicate their life to advance our knowledge by producing original research.”

Janet Kim (D4) has been selected to serve a one-year appointment as representative for the “Southeast A” region of the National Student Research Group (NSRG). As a regional leader she will work to encourage networking and collaboration among student chapters, bridge communication between NSRG’s local and national levels, and engage student chapters in NSRG initiatives.
DENTALUMNI

UAB SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

D2 Students Create Custom Mouthguards for Local Football Team
Dr. Kevin Alexander ('89) and Dr. Ruth Penton Polson ('02) recruited a group of D2 students to make custom mouthguards for the Mountain Brook varsity football team as a community service effort and to help promote their practice, Over the Mountain Dentistry, in Mountain Brook Village. Over the course of the D2 summer break, these students arrived before football practice, as early as 5:45am, to consult with the players and take impressions. And, the majority of the lab work was facilitated solely by the students. The result was 125 custom mouth guards that will be used for the 2015 football season and great hands-on, clinical experience for several aspiring dentists!

Students Representing UAB Dentistry Around the Country
A group of UAB SOD ASDA representatives from the D2 class travelled to the ASDA National Leadership Conference in October. Students attended 2 ½ days of general meetings and breakout sessions that consisted of material regarding business skills, finance, and leadership skills. They had the opportunity to network with guest speakers, vendors and members of other dental school's ASDA chapters.

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White Coat Ceremony

The 2015 White Coat Ceremony was held on Thursday, August 20 at the Alys Stephens Performing Arts Center. Guest speakers included Dr. Ray McLaughlin, President of the University of Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association and Dr. Edward “Chip” Mohme, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Hinman Dental Society.

The Class of 2019 consists of 60 students and will be the first class in SOD history who has a female majority and who also elected a female class president.

The White Coat Ceremony has been partially sponsored since the ceremony’s inception in 1999 by the Alabama Dental Alumni Association. The purpose of the ceremony is to welcome the incoming class to the profession by presenting them with their white coats and a School of Dentistry lapel pin and to address the importance of ethics, leadership, and professionalism in the field of dentistry.
UAB SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

SCHOOL EVENTS

UAB SOD Homecoming

UAB’s 2015 Homecoming was a fun-filled week that tested the School of Dentistry’s creative and competitive spirit. SOD D1s took home 2nd place in the annual Building Decoration competition on Tuesday, October 6 due to their enthusiasm and creativity that coincided with the UAB Homecoming theme “BLAZER STRONG”. D1 students decorated the building in all-things “army” and outfitted themselves and participants with camouflage gear. Like the ARMY slogan, D1’s coined the phrase “There’s Enamel Strong. Then There’s Blazer Strong.” which was prominently displayed on a banner that covered the building atrium windows. Four D1 students also competed on Wednesday, October 7 in the Gurney Derby, UAB Homecoming’s oldest and most beloved competition, and came in 3rd place.
On October 21, 2015, UAB Dentistry Cares Community Day volunteers provided urgent dental care to low income and homeless adults and offered a platform for UAB faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends to join forces with the community in service to people in need. Throughout the day, UAB’s School of Dentistry served a total of 470 patients. With the help from two other event sites – Christ Health Center and The Foundry – a total of 550 patients were allowed access to dental care in the form of cleanings, extractions or fillings.

Dr. Conan Davis, Assistant Dean for Community Collaborations and Public Health and Chair of UAB Dentistry Cares, said the event not only provides dental care for adults in need – it also raises awareness of the lack of resources for low-income adults.

“Although there are a handful of clinics that provide low-cost dental care, there are not enough resources for adults who can’t afford dental care," Davis said. "We know there are associations between things like periodontal disease and heart disease," Davis said. "It can impact health in a lot of ways."

More than half of adults ages 20 to 64 below the federal poverty level report their teeth are either in “fair” or “poor” condition, according to the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. Less than 50 percent of these adults see a dentist regularly. Additionally, Alabama is one of just six states that provides no dental coverage for adults on Medicaid, according to the National Academy for State Health Policy, so low-income people have limited access to dental services in this state.

The event grows bigger each year, with more partners and sponsors and a growing number of patients. The School of Dentistry’s 2015 community partners and supporters included the Christ Health Center, The Foundry, Fortis School of Dental Hygiene, Cahaba Valley Health Care, The Alabama Dental Association and the Birmingham District Dental Society, Sarrell Dental and sponsors like the BlueCross BlueShield of Alabama Caring Foundation, Brasseler and Henry Schein. SOD Alumni such as Dr. James Sanderson and Dr. Roy Smith, both with practices in the Birmingham area have donated their time in all three years since Community Day started.

The UAB School of Dentistry is among very few dental schools in the country to host this type of benevolent event. Along with dental care, all participating patients received oral health counseling, blood pressure checks, and oral cancer screenings. The event helps raise awareness of the increasing difficulty low-income adults face in accessing critical dental care and challenges dental professionals to work together to improve the oral health of the citizens of Alabama and beyond – a mission we are passionate about at UAB Dentistry.
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CHARTING FOR SUCCESS

Coaches of most sports make decisions and call plays based on percentages and the success charts they painstakingly compile and analyze each week. Since we are located in the football capital of the universe, I will use football as an example. Tom Landry, the famous Dallas Cowboys coach, was a master of charting his and other team’s tendencies. Based on the percentage of the best outcome, he more often than not had the winning offensive or defensive game plan. Landry had twenty consecutive winning seasons as an NFL coach, a record that still stands.

As a Landry assistant, Gene Stallings learned to chart success rates. Stallings relied on playing the percentages to guide Alabama to the 1992 national championship. Of course, it takes great leadership and talent to win at the highest level. Nowadays, there are standards for how tall, how fast, or how big players should be to excel at the highest level of competition.

We can also chart the success of the UAB School of Dentistry and the Alumni Association. Our students have had a 100 percent pass rate on national exams the past several years. The students have a greater success rate on these exams because (1) when they enroll at UAB, they have stellar aptitude and grades, (2) the School has the most rigorous clinical requirements of any dental school, and (3) they learn from some of the best clinicians and researchers in dentistry.

For the past several years, 45 to 50 percent of our alumni have been members of the UASOD Alumni Association. Just a few years ago, the Alumni Association began offering membership to third and fourth year students. As we have seen student-alumni relationships strengthen, we can also predict that more young alumni will become more involved with the School and the Alumni Association. Alumni giving can also increase our success rate. Approximately 15 percent of our alumni make an annual financial contribution to the School. These gifts allow us to enhance the physical facilities, recruit and retain a high caliber faculty, enrich student experiences, and improve the services and care we provide. If a school has all these attributes, the success rate increases. Doesn’t it stand to reason the School will have an even higher success rate if more alumni are involved and more alumni make financial contributions?

You may have noticed increased contact from the School and the Alumni Association. Whether it’s a personal visit, mailings, social media, or phone calls, we have increased our efforts to reach our alumni. We ask for your support financially and otherwise. For fiscal year 2015 (ending September 30, 2015), we raised $3,970,847, taking our comprehensive campaign total to $16,385,088. These figures broke our previous fundraising records. We were fortunate to receive significant major and planned gifts, but the percentage of first time donors, young alumni, and even students helped us break these records.

Of course, there are other factors that account for a person’s or team’s success. Strong leadership, a positive attitude, and just plain luck come to mind. There’s no doubt the UAB School of Dentistry and your Alumni Association are charted for success.

Regards,

J. Scott Huffman, CFRE
Executive Director of Development & the UASOD Alumni Association
What’s In a Name?

Many of our UAB School of Dentistry donors want to make a gift that allows them to recognize someone close to them or receive recognition for themselves. In addition to changing the lives of our students or faculty, donors can choose to name scholarships, programs, faculty positions, and spaces after themselves or loved ones. To hear a name evokes memories and reminds us of special times. Below is a listing of some of our naming opportunities. We will work with you to develop a recognition opportunity that will be truly meaningful to you. For more information, contact J. Scott Huffman, CFRE, Executive Director of Development at shuffman@uab.edu or (205) 934-3601.

Joy White Fund Lifts Student Burdens

In 1988, the Alumni Association established the Joy B. White Benevolent Fund to assist students and their families who face crisis situations and emergencies. The Fund is named a memory of Joy White, who passed away while she was a student at the UAB School of Dentistry.

A student can receive a maximum of $2,500 with a lifetime cap of $5,000. He or she can apply to the Office of Student Affairs. A faculty or staff member or another student may also report a situation for consideration. The Fund helps ease and sometimes eliminate the burden of extra expenses related to a catastrophe or medical situation. “As insurance coverages have been reduced and co-pays and deductibles have increased, the Joy White Fund has become more helpful to some very needy students’, said Dr. Steve Filler, Associate Dean for Student Affairs.

Through generous alumni contributions, the fund has grown to $20,000. Individuals or organizations may make donations when they pay their Alumni Association annual dues or by making a check payable anytime to the UASOD Alumni Association. For more information please contact J. Scott Huffman, CFRE at (205) 934-3601.
Carestream Dental recently donated a CS 9300C system in honor of well-known orthodontist David Sarver, D.M.D., M.S. “We are deeply appreciative of Carestream Dental’s gift in honor of Dr. David Sarver, a UAB School of Dentistry alumnus,” said Dr. Michael Reddy, Dean, UAB School of Dentistry. “Staying at the forefront of technological advances is one of the School’s highest strategic priorities.”

The donation comes as part of a lifetime achievement award given to Sarver in recognition of almost twenty years consulting for Carestream Dental. During that time, he played an important role in designing and developing CS Orthodontic Imaging software. Sarver is also the designer of the Sarver Analysis Module for CS Orthodontic Imaging and CS OrthoTrac practice management software. In honor of his dedication to advancing the specialty of orthodontics, Carestream Dental donated the CS 9300C to the university of his choosing.

“I served at UAB as a clinical associate professor for 15 years and worked closely with many teachers at the university,” Sarver said. “I appreciate their dedication to both their students and the dental profession. I owe them a real debt personally and it was a simple choice for me to designate UAB as the recipient of Carestream Dental’s very generous gift.”

The CS 9300C is a four-in-one system that features panoramic, CBCT and the cephalometric imaging that is so vital to orthodontics, as well as the ability to scan PVS impressions and stone models. Students can familiarize themselves with seven selectable fields of view, from single/dual jaw to maxillofacial options. They can also practice the ALARA (As Low as Reasonably Achievable) principle with Low Dose and Fast Scan modes, which are particularly beneficial to the young patients the students will one day be treating.

“Carestream Dental and Dr. David Sarver are synonymous in digital dentistry innovations,” Chung How Kau, Ph.D., chairman of the UAB School of Dentistry Department of Orthodontics, said. “This gift in his honor not only will benefit the UAB Dentistry Department of Orthodontics but all of our residency programs and our D.M.D. students.”

Sarver compares the value of CBCT to that of keeping an eyeglass prescription up-to-date. Much like how putting on a new pair of glasses brings things that were once blurry into sharp focus, a CBCT scan provides “greater acuity to diagnostic vision.”

“Trying to visualize the location of impacted teeth or whether pathology is present has suddenly come into focus, as though—prior to this technology—I needed glasses but didn’t know it,” Sarver said.

Sarver received his Doctorate of Dental Medicine from UAB School of Dentistry in 1977 and his Master of Science in Orthodontics from the University of North Carolina. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics; a member of the Edwards H. Angle Society of Orthodontists; a Fellow of both the International and American Colleges of Dentists; and a Fellow in the American Association of Esthetic Dentists. Sarver also co-authored the fourth and fifth editions of “Contemporary Orthodontics,” the most widely used orthodontic text in the world. He currently practices in Vestavia Hills, Ala., outside of Birmingham.
DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Endowed Professorship Established in School of Dentistry

Thanks to generous donations since 2008, an endowed support fund becomes a professorship.

In 2008, friends and supporters came together to create the Dr. Tommy Weatherford/Dr. Kent Palcanis Endowed Support Fund in hopes that the fund would eventually become an endowed professorship. Thanks to initial funding of nearly $80,000 and additional gifts over the years that total more than $420,000, the project reached the minimum needed to create the Dr. Tommy Weatherford/Dr. Kent Palcanis Endowed Professorship in Dentistry. The new professorship was approved by the University of Alabama Board of Trustees, and will serve as a vital tool in recruiting the best and brightest to the School of Dentistry and supporting the work of the holder of the endowment.

“I think there have been donations from alumni from every decade from the 1960s to the current one,” said Tommy Weatherford, D.V.M., D.M.D. “It’s pleasing that people would donate who have been away so long. They are scattered across the country. A few have been international.”

Michael S. Reddy, D.M.D., D.M.Sc., dean of the School of Dentistry, said endowments are a vital resource for helping provide teaching, research and service. “Robust endowments are essential to preserving the future of our program and facilities, and these gifts will serve our school well for generations to come,” he said.

Weatherford, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Periodontology, served as director of advanced dental education programs from 1970 to 1984. He also led the Advanced Education Program in Periodontics from 1976 to 1996. He received the Moren Fuller Award in 2003 from the University of Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association. He also is the 2005 recipient of the American Academy of Periodontology’s Outstanding Periodontal Educator Award and the 2006 recipient of the Alabama Dental Association’s Most Excellent Fellow Award for outstanding service and commitment to the dental profession.

“I was particularly pleased to have my name connected with Kent because he’s an outstanding guy, the epitome of what a healthcare professional and a good friend should be,” Weatherford said.

Kent Palcanis, D.D.S., is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Periodontology and former Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. He developed the first-year course that is still used for today’s dental students. He served as president of the Alabama Dental Association from 2006 to 2007, and he has lectured nationally and internationally. He is the recipient of the Clinical Research Award in Periodontology, Special Citation, and Presidential and Fellowship awards from the American Academy of Periodontology, and he also was named a Most Excellent Fellow by the Alabama Dental Association. Palcanis received the 2014 Outstanding Periodontal Educator Award from the American Academy of Periodontology.

Weatherford has watched the progress of both the School of Dentistry and UAB over the years and said he’s happy that the professorship will help sustain continued growth. “When I came here as a freshman in 1957, Birmingham was a steel industry town,” he said. “The School of Dentistry was not air-conditioned so the windows were open, and I can remember soot seeping in under the windows.

“Those early leaders had a broad vision that they were going to do something really great and it was fun to be around as a student. I really think this professorship will help patients and students, residents, and researchers, and it is in line with what the school wants to do. What helps the School of Dentistry helps UAB.”

For more information about supporting UAB School of Dentistry, contact J. Scott Huffman at (205) 934-3601 or shuffman@uab.edu. Or visit http://www.uab.edu/dentistry/home/alumni-friends/donor-information.
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Washington, DC

On the Road pictured on the cover page (top to bottom):  
Hinman Dean’s Reception in Atlanta, GA; Young Alumni Baron’s Event in Birmingham, AL;  
Birmingham Dean’s Reception courtesy of Dr. Robin Pruitt; ALDA Dean’s Reception in Orange Beach, AL;  
ADA Dean’s Reception in Washington, DC; Florence Dinner courtesy of Dr. Joel Hearn
Dr. Staci N. Gaffos (’64) has come a long way. Born in Elizabeth City, North Carolina to Nicholas and Jeanette Gaffos, his family moved to Camden, South Carolina where his father, a first generation immigrant from Greece, opened a restaurant. “I received a lot of valuable lessons about a work ethic” Dr. Gaffos explains. “I learned how to meet the public and talk to people. That really helped me in college, dental school and private practice”.

Growing up, Dr. Gaffos remembers visiting a local dentist who did not use novocaine. When he went back to Greece to visit his grandmother, he visited a dentist that used a foot pedal drill. He laughed and said “I’m probably one of a few Americans who have been treated with that type of drill!” When he got back to the states he went to a young dentist, Dr. David Joseph, who used novocaine and was painless. This inspired him to become a dentist.

He attended the University of South Carolina where he was a cheerleader, Sigma Nu and in Who’s Who. He was president of the YMCA and was sent to New York City on a six week leadership conference and his group met Eleanor Roosevelt and the mayor of New York. “Those experiences really made an impression on me” Dr. Gaffos said. I wanted to reach for more and growing up I saw how the loss of teeth really affected someone. I wanted to do what I could to prevent that from happening”.

Since South Carolina had no dental school at the time, he was fortunate to be one of two students accepted by the University of Alabama School of Dentistry. “ Dr. Joe Volker was the Dean and he and the faculty wanted to make sure they gave us the best dental education possible. Dr. Scotty McCallum was our instructor in oral surgery and his orals were tough! The faculty had a great sense of humor and that made it fun.”

After graduation, he went into the military as Captain and was stationed in Japan at 249th General Hospital. “I really enjoyed my time there,” he says. “I met a lot of great friends there whom I’m still in touch with today.”

While in the Army he took up skiing in the Japanese Alps and became the U.S. Army Japan Tennis Champion. He kept playing competitively after leaving the service and won the National Dentist Tennis Tournament in Miami in 1973, 1974 and 1975.

After serving in the military, Dr. Gaffos returned to his private practice in Columbia, S.C. “Being a dentist is the best career you could want,” Dr. Gaffos said with obvious pride. If you join a corporation you work for thirty years, beat out one million people, and become C.E.O. The day you start practice you are a C.E.O. When you become competent it gives you confidence. I have been practicing for 51 years and I still love coming to work every day. I love caring for people and in return they hold you in high esteem. In addition, Dr. Gaffos feels it is important to give back to his schools and profession. “Both have given me a life that I love and I want to repay both in any way I can.”

Dr. Gaffos has been president of four local and regional dental societies and two state organizations including the Pierre Fauchard Academy. He was elected president of the American Academy of the History of Dentistry in Vienna, Austria and was recently the recipient of its highest award, the Hayden Harris Award.

He is a fellow in the American College of Dentists and the Academy of Dentistry International. He volunteered in the Children’s Dental Clinic in Columbia for 25 years and Give Back a Smile in the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry.

He has traveled worldwide visiting over fifty countries and forty states. He is a real estate investor and creator of the Dr. Staci Gaffos Museum of Dental History in Columbia, SC. With all of his professional success he is most proud of his three children Katherine, Electra and Nicholas and his four grandchildren! He is most appreciative of the fine education he received at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry.
Dr. J. Calvin McCulloh (’56) received The University of Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association 2015 H. Moren Fuller Award on June 12 during the Alabama Dental Association’s annual meeting in Orange Beach, Alabama.

After completing two years of military service with the U.S. Air Force, McCulloh opened a general dentistry practice in Vestavia Hills in 1958 and continued that practice until 2000. He then began teaching at the School of Dentistry and retired in 2010.

In 2000, McCulloh was the first recipient of the Birmingham Dentist of the Year award. He was also the first dentist to serve as Southeast regent for the American College of Dentists, from 2002 to 2006, and is a past president of the Alabama Dental Association and the Birmingham District Dental Society.

The Fuller Award is named for Dr. H. Moren Fuller, one of the first members of the school of dentistry advisory board.

Dr. Gordon R. Isbell, III (’81) received the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) Distinguished Service Award during the AGD 2015 annual meeting in June 2015. The Distinguished Service Award recognizes an AGD council, committee, or task force member who has exhibited outstanding leadership capabilities and whose contributions have resulted in significant and fundamental advances toward fulfilling the AGD’s overall mission. Since the award’s inception in 1986, only 31 of the AGD’s 39,000 members have received the honor.

Dr. Isbell has served the AGD in many capacities, including as an AGD trustee, a regional director, chair of the Group Benefits Council, and a member of the Credentials and Elections Committee. He served as a delegate in the AGD House of Delegates for 15 years and continues to serve on the Alabama AGD board. In 1995, Dr. Isbell earned his AGD Mastership Award, the association’s highest honor and one of the most respected designations within the profession. To accomplish this goal, he completed more than 1,100 hours of dental continuing education.

Dr. Charles Ray Graham (’75) retired on August 31, 2015 after serving as a dentist and orthodontist primarily in the Huntsville, Alabama area for 38 years. After receiving his DMD, Dr. Graham received his Certificate of Orthodontics and a Master of Science in Dentistry from the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry in 1977. He earned the title of Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics in 1987.

Dr. Graham has served on numerous dental society boards, councils and was president of the University of Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association in 1996. He received the Alumni Association Fuller Award in 1998 and the UAB School of Dentistry Distinguished Dentist award in 2005. His practice in Huntsville will now be managed full-time by his partner, Dr. Lindsay Limbaugh who received her DMD in 2003 and Certificate of Orthodontics in 2006 from the University of Alabama School of Dentistry.
Dr. John T. Nelson (‘81) would like to congratulate his daughter, Brittany, and his daughter-in-law, Anastasia for graduating UAB School of Medicine Class of 2015! His son, Thomas, and Brittany will complete their residencies in Diagnostic Radiology at UAB, and Anastasia will complete her residency in Pediatrics at Children’s Hospital of Alabama. Drs. John Thomas Nelson, Sr. and Jr. and Dr. Brittany Nelson Hermecz are natives of Weaver, Alabama. Dr. Anastasia Trenina Nelson is a native of Latvia.

Pictured from left to right: Dr. John T. Nelson, Dr. Brittany Nelson Hermecz, Dr. Anastasia Trenina Nelson, Dr. John Thomas Nelson, Jr.

During the International College of Dentists convocation during the annual session at the American Dental Association in Washington, DC on November 6, 2015, several University of Alabama School of Dentistry alumni and faculty were inducted as fellows.

Pictured with Executive Director Scott Huffman (center) from left to right: Dr. Conan Davis, Dr. Steven Gardner, Dr. Stacey Gardner, Dr. Daniel Pittman, Dr. Jennifer Hirsch Doobrow, Dr. Jerry Walker and Dr. Ken Tilashalski

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ALUMNI NEWS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALDA and SOD Award 2015 HRSA Grants to Three Alabama Dentists

The 2015 Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Grant Recipients are Drs. Emily Simpson Carter, Michael Miller and Jordan Taylor.

HRSA is the primary federal agency for improving access to health care services for people who are uninsured, isolated, or medically vulnerable. The HRSA grants given to dentists in Alabama are jointly administered by the University of Alabama School of Dentistry and the Alabama Dental Association under the Alabama Dental Workforce Enhancement Program (ADWEP). These grants are given to dentists in an effort to increase dental access for underserved Alabamians. One of the stipulations of the grant is that the applicant agrees to maintain a minimum of 30% Medicaid recipients in their total patient population.

Emily Simpson Carter (’15), a native of Fyffe, located on Sand Mountain in Northeast Alabama, earned a BS in Biomedical Science from Auburn University in 2011. When asked what the HRSA grant will mean to her practice, Dr. Carter stated, “With the ever increasing cost of education, I along with most of my colleagues graduated with a large amount of student debt. That debt for a lot of people factors into what job opportunities they are able to pursue. It has made some ventures cost prohibitive. The grant has afforded me the chance to go back to the area where I grew up and the grant allows me to help meet the need of the underserved Medicaid population in the area. Over the past few months, I have been an associate at a practice that sees a large number of Medicaid patients. We are adding more chairs to allow us to see even more of these patients. Without the grant, none of this would be possible. I am very grateful for the grant and honored that I was selected.” Dr. Carter practices pediatric dentistry in Rainsville.

Michael P. Miller (’08), a resident of Baldwin County, received a BS in Zoology from Auburn University in 2004. When asked how the HRSA grant will assist him in his practice, Dr. Miller said “This grant will allow me to let the larger surrounding community know that we are here near their hometown for their oral health care needs. Being able to reach out to a larger population will hopefully make an impact in treating the dental needs of my area. I also plan to use the grant funds to expand my practice by adding another hygiene treatment room which will allow me to better serve my patients. I would like to thank everyone involved with the HRSA grant and let them know that it means a great deal to me, my practice, and most importantly my community.” Dr. Miller practices general dentistry in Loxley, Alabama.

Jordan H. Taylor (’14), a resident of Madison, graduated Magna Cum Laude from Auburn University in 2010. Dr. Taylor applied for the HRSA grant on behalf of a new dental clinic. When asked how the grant will assist in his practice, Dr. Taylor stated, “Receiving the HRSA grant catalyzed the launch of our project, the Greene Country Dental Clinic, enabling us to bring dental care to an area of our state that needs it the most. In the past, many families in Greene County and surrounding areas have been forced to travel over an hour to visit a dental office, or look to local hospitals for dental-related pain relief. Because of the HRSA support, we will be able to bring quality dental care to their doorstep.” Dr. Taylor is a general dentist.

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IN MEMORIUM

(‘54) Paul L. Abbott was born on Aug. 10, 1930 in Birmingham, Alabama, and was called to be with the Lord on Friday, May 8, 2015. Paul graduated from Birmingham Southern and University of Alabama School of Dentistry. Paul was a veteran of the Vietnam War, and retired as a captain from the United States Navy after 30 years of service. Upon retirement from the Navy, Paul joined a dental practice in Foley in 1978 and made this community his home for the next 37 years.

(‘56) Joseph B. Rush, born in Mobile on May 27, 1921, died Sunday, September 13, 2009. Dr. Rush served with the U.S. Army in the South Pacific during WWII. He practiced dentistry for more than 45 years, retiring in 2001.

(‘56) John Floyd Dyar passed away November 10, 2013. Dr. Dyar was born near near Boaz, Alabama in 1931 and attended Snead Junior College in Boaz before graduating with honors from the University of Alabama School of Dentistry in 1956. After several internships around the country, he established his dental practice in Center Point, Alabama in 1959 and practiced for 45 years.

(‘57) Carl W. Rosebrough, 82, of Orange Park, FL, passed away at home on March 27, 2014 after a long illness. He was born January 1, 1932 in Birmingham, AL and was a longtime resident of Orange Park. He graduated from Birmingham Southern College and the University of Alabama, where he earned a Doctor of Medical Dentistry (DMD) degree. Carl was a dentist in Jacksonville and later worked as a dental consultant at Vocational Rehab. He was a member of both the ADA and FDA.


(‘58) Robert Melville Sutton, age 80 of Birmingham, AL died Sunday, January 22, 2012 in Birmingham, AL.

(‘61, Perio) Anatol Chari – no obituary available.

(‘64) George J. Cajoelas passed away May 28, 2015 after a courageous battle against lymphoma for 16 years. Dr. Cajoelas graduated from Florida State University in 1960 and from the University of Alabama School of Dentistry in 1964. He served as a Lt. Commander in the U.S. Navy as a dentist at Paris Island, SC and Key West, FL for two years. He opened his own practice in Bradenton in 1966.

(‘64) James Webster, age 74 of Fayette, passed away on Tuesday, February 14, 2012. Born, May 4, 1937, Dr. Webster graduated in 1955 from Winfield High School. Then graduated from University of Alabama School of Dentistry and served in the Dental Corp of United States Army during the Vietnam War before settling in Fayette to practice Dentistry and raise his family. He opened his Dental practice in 1966 where he worked for 46 years.

(‘65) Keri R. Kotwal – no obituary available.

(‘65) Mary Elizabeth Kirk, age 84 of Birmingham, passed away on June 22, 2011.

(‘65) Hampton E. “Sonny” Barker, Jr., age 79, of Arab passed away Sat. Aug. 8, 2015, at Huntsville Hospital. Dr. Barker was born on Sept. 21, 1935, in Union Springs, AL. Dr. Barker served in the US Army in the Signal Corp and the National Guard where he was a Warrant Officer. He graduated from the University of Alabama and then taught school for 2 years before he entered Dental School. He graduated from the University of Alabama School of Dentistry and began practice in 1965. Dr. Barker was a member of the American and Alabama Dental Associations.

(‘69) Theodore Ishmael Jockisch, age 72, of Atlanta, passed away on Thursday, August 13, 2015 at Emory University Hospital Hospice in Atlanta, Georgia. Ted was born on April 25, 1943 in Auburn, Alabama. He graduated from Auburn University and attended the University of Alabama School of Dentistry receiving his DMD. Ted was a veteran and served in the United States Air Force in Vietnam. After retiring from 25 years of dentistry, he turned his energy to Real Estate Development and owned several businesses.

(‘76) Hunter V. Pope, owner of Pope Family and Cosmetic Dentistry, died August, 2015 after an extended illness. Dr. Pope, a native of Montgomery, graduated from Sidney Lanier High School in 1963. He was a 1967 graduate of Auburn University and a 1976 graduate of the UAB School of Dentistry where he received his Doctoral Degree in Dental Medicine. He served honorably on the Alabama State Board of Dentistry and was actively involved for 35 years in the profession he loved. Captain Pope faithfully served his country as a combat medic with the US Army’s 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Valor.

(‘84) Michael Andrew Campbell died on Monday, July 13, 2015, as the result of an automobile accident. He was born in Fort Pierce, Florida, on August 13, 1959 and was an orthodontist in Mobile, Alabama, where he had practiced since 1986. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of South Alabama in 1980, and the University of Alabama School of Dentistry in 1986.

(‘04) Eric Jonathan Hughes of Vestavia Hills died August 8, 2015 at the age of 37. He graduated from Vestavia Hills High School and went to Birmingham Southern College. He received a D.M.D. from the University of Alabama School of Dentistry and a M.P.H. from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He was an Orthodontic Resident at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, where he received a M.S.D. He worked at Birmingham Orthodontics for two years before becoming owner of Tuscaloosa Orthodontics in 2009.

(‘61) Richard Gibbs Scholl died peacefully on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Birmingham, AL on June 19, 1934, attended Woodlawn High School and was a member of the Warblers. He attended the University of Alabama where he was a member of the Million Dollar Band before serving our country in the U.S. Army Dental Corps. He graduated from the University of Alabama School of Dentistry and then attended The Ohio State University for his Oral Surgery residency. He proudly practiced oral surgery for more than 45 years before retiring at the age of 70.

(‘81) James Edward Mills III, 66, of Fairhope, Alabama died suddenly on November 4, 2015. Dr. Mills was born September 25, 1949 and grew up in Birmingham, AL, attended Mountain Brook High School and graduated from the University of Alabama at Birmingham with a B.S. in History and a B.S. in Biology. He received his D.M.D from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 1981. Dr. Mills’ successful dental practice in Daphne, Alabama, was much admired by patients throughout Mobile & Baldwin Counties.
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