In this issue: Alumnus Endows Scholarship, 2017 “On the Road”
DBTLUMNI
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Mr. J. Scott Huffman, CFRE
Development & Alumni Relations Coordinator
Mrs. Charlene Phillips
Alumni Relations & Event Coordinator
Mrs. Abby Vinson

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UPCOMING EVENTS
Alumni Weekend in Birmingham, AL      Feb. 1-4
Alumni Association Annual Meeting      Feb. 1
AADR in Fort Lauderdale, FL - Dean’s Reception      Mar. 21
Hinman in Atlanta, GA - Dean’s Reception      Mar. 23
Scholarship Luncheon in Birmingham, AL  June 1
Graduation  June 2

ON THE COVER
2017 Graduation & White Coat Ceremonies
Fellow Alumni,

It has been a great year and my privilege to serve as your alumni president. As I am writing this it is already mid-October and we are finally experiencing some fall weather. The holidays and the new year are right around the corner.

Your alumni association is very active, growing and strong. However, we are only as strong as our membership and I encourage you to continue to renew your membership for 2018. Please encourage any of your non member friends to join.

This past summer the alumni association, along with the Birmingham District Dental Society, co-sponsored an evening with the Birmingham Barons. Approximately 200 students, residents and young alumni were in attendance. This has become an annual event to promote organized dentistry and get to know the students in a casual environment.

It was my privilege to address the D1 class at the White Coat Ceremony in August. Your alumni association is the main sponsor for this unique and special event. I had several students and their parents comment on how much they enjoyed the evening and what an impressive event it was. If you have never attended the White Coat Ceremony I encourage you do so. It will make you proud to be associated with the University of Alabama School of Dentistry.

Let me also plug the upcoming alumni weekend. As always Dr. Lori Gerhart does an outstanding job of securing top speakers. There will be more than 50 hours of C.E. offered, a sold out exhibit hall, reunions, and great opportunities to visit with classmates, friends and faculty.

Dr. Reddy continues to be a great leader for our school and has surrounded himself with an outstanding teaching and research faculty. He is so personable and truly loves this school, wanting only the best for students, faculty and alumni. We are so fortunate to have him as our dean.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our executive director Scott Huffman, Abby Vinson and Charlene Phillips for the fantastic job they do. Our alumni staff is the best and what a pleasure it has been to work with them.

A special thanks to Dr. Gary Myers (past president), Dr. Stanley Beard (president-elect), Dr. Ben Cumbus (vice president), Dr. Ben Ingram (secretary treasurer) and the executive council for their work and support. The leadership of the alumni association is in great hands.

Here’s to hoping everyone has a great holiday season. I look forward to seeing you at Alumni Weekend in February, if not sooner.

Sincerely,

Bob Jones
2016 UABSOD Alumni President
2018 ALUMNI WEEKEND
REGISTER ONLINE NOW!
www.uab.edu/dentistry
Register by January 22 and save $50!

Thursday, February 1
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. - 7:00 p.m.  Distinguished Dentist Program
Invitation only
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  Distinguished Dentist Reception
Invitation only

Friday, February 2
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Registration
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.  Time to Get Active
H. Todd Doobrow, CFP, RICP, MBA
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Exhibits
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  Crown and Bridge GPS - Navigating the
World of Indirect Dentistry Today - Part I
Parag Kachalia, DDS
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  Principle Based Biofilm Therapy &
Treatment Planning
Kimberly Miller, RDH, BSDH
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  State of the Art Topics and Techniques in
Implant Prosthetics for Private Practice - Part I
Robert C. Vogel, DDS
The Ansley Brown Lecture
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  Ankylosed Teeth, Impactions and White
Spot Lesions: What You May or May Not Know
Richard W. Ballard, DDS
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Dentistry for Children with Special
Healthcare Needs and Medically Complex
Conditions
JC Shirley, DMD, MS
The Pediatric Dentistry Lecture
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Luxation Injuries & Root Resorption:
Management and Long-term Prognosis
Frederic Barnett, DMD
The Alabama Association of Endodontists
Lecture
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  Medallion Club Luncheon:
Classes of 1952-1963
Reservations required
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Crown and Bridge GPS - Navigating the
World of Indirect Dentistry Today - Part II
Parag Kachalia, DDS
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  To Use or Not to Use, When is the
Question? Product & Technology
Integration for the Dental Hygienist
Kimberly Miller, RDH, BSDH
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  State of the Art Topics and Techniques in
Implant Prosthetics for Private Practice - Part II
Robert C. Vogel, DDS
The Ansley Brown Lecture
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  AGD Student Lecture

Friday Evening
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  Alabama Society of Periodontists
Reception
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  President’s Reception
Everyone is invited
Friday Evening  Class Reunions

Saturday, February 3
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.  Dental and Medical Liability in Alabama:
What You Need to Know
J. Bennett White
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
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  The History of the HIV Pandemic & Oral
Health Care of HIV/AIDS Patients
Michael S. Saag, MD &
Ramakiran V. Chavali, BDS, MS
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  Implications of Oral Medicine in Dentistry:
Medical, Legal and Oral Lesion Risk
Assessments - Part I
Craig S. Miller, DMD, MS
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  Establishing & Maintaining Periodontal
Health: What's Your Game Plan and
Tissue Issues
Marc Miller, DMD, MS
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  Barksdale Lab - 7 Hot Topics
Aaron Patterson & Jeff Hand
11:30am-1:00pm     Campaign Leadership Lunch
Invitation only
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Tongue-Tied: A Story NOT Silenced by
Oral Cancer
Eva Grayzel
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Implications of Oral Medicine in Dentistry:
Medical, Legal and Oral Lesion Risk
Assessments - Part II
Craig S. Miller, DMD, MS
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  UAB Dentistry Leadership Council
Meeting
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  Practice Opportunity Student Networking
Reception
7:30 p.m.  Showcase Evening of Student Talent
Saturday Evening

Sunday, February 4
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 Directors’ Meeting
DEAN’S MESSAGE

Making things happen

“It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things.” - Leonardo da Vinci

In 1723, Pierre Fauchard laid the groundwork for the development of our profession when he described a comprehensive system for the practice of dentistry. Willoughby Miller introduced modern biological principles to dentistry in the 1890s. In the 20th Century, William J. Gies transformed dental education, Charles Land devised the porcelain jacket crown, Oskar Hagger developed the first system of bonding acrylic resin to dentin, and John Borden set the stage for high-speed dentistry.

From its early years through modern high-tech dentistry, the résumé of the dental profession is rich in innovation, discovery, and leadership. It is filled with trailblazers like Lucy Beaman Hobbs, Robert Tanner Freeman, and Ida Gay who opened doors and helped our profession achieve new heights. These innovators and leaders are people who, as da Vinci put it, “went out and happened to things” -- and ended up paving the way for those to come.

If we were to write our own résumé, recent accomplishments certainly build on our strong foundation of excellence and innovation. Among those are our latest commencement and white coat ceremonies highlighted in this issue. With the Class of 2017, we celebrated 63 well-prepared and talented graduates who received their degrees and took the first steps into their careers in dentistry. Like all who came before them, we are extremely proud of these new alumni. We expect great things, from leadership and discovery to excellence in patient care, and we will take great pride in all they accomplish in their careers. In August, the new student doctors of the Class of 2021 donned their white coats and embarked on their own journeys through dentistry. Gifted and bright, we know they will continue the great UAB tradition.

Of course, none of these great things would be possible without our trailblazing alumni, whose leadership and generosity are making things happen for the next generation. Alumni, together with faculty, staff, and friends, have given over $20 million toward renovations, endowments, and other successful capital campaign initiatives. With projects like our Comprehensive Care Clinic still underway, we continue to shoot for the stars. In the words of former Supreme Court Associate Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, “if you always strive for excellence, you can and should have a substantial impact on the world in which you live.” Together, we are sowing the seeds of continued excellence as we lead oral health into the future.

Until next time,

Michael S. Reddy, D.M.D., D.M.Sc
Dr. Warren Arrasmith, Thomas W. Jones Endowed Professor in the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, has been selected to receive the UAB President's Award for Excellence in Teaching for his exceptional accomplishments. A shining example, Warren is known for his one-on-one teaching style and special ability to relate clinical problems to the future practice of dentistry.

Dr. Kyounga “Cecilia” Cheon, has been promoted to Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry after the completion of her residency training (UAB Pediatric Dentistry) and Post-Doctoral Fellowship (NIDCR, T32 DART Program). With extensive research experience in the fields of Molecular-, Oral- and Micro-Biology, Dr. Cheon is integrating Dentistry, Biomedical Engineering, and Stem Cell Biology through the development of an interdisciplinary research program focusing upon pulp-dentin revitalization. Her innovative and promising research effort was recognized by receiving the NIH/NIDCR K08, Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development (2017-2022). She is the first clinical research faculty to receive this K08 grant award in School of Dentistry history.

Dr. Mia L. Geisinger, Associate Professor and Director of the Advanced Education Program in the Department of Periodontology, was selected to chair the American Academy of Periodontology’s Task Force on Women in Periodontics aimed at identifying and promoting development, leadership, mentorship, and growth opportunities for women in the specialty. She is joined on the Task force by two UAB alumnae, Drs. Jennifer Doobrow (UAB Perio 2010) and Britany Matin (UAB SOD 2012; Perio 2015). Together with the Task Force, the AAP, and a partnership in Straumann, they are working to develop programs to connect and empower women periodontists.

Dr. Amjad Javed, Professor and Director of Post-Graduate Education, IOHR, has been appointed to represent UAB SOD as a member of UAB’s Graduate Council Advisory Committee. As a member of the committee, Amjad will serve in an advisory capacity to the Graduate School Dean by reviewing academic requirements, policies, procedures, and Graduate School activities.

Dr. Nate Lawson, Assistant Professor and Division Director of Biomaterials, received the inaugural 3M Innovative Research Fellowship at the ADA Annual Meeting for his innovative work in advancing dental research. Launched in early 2017, the program is meant to support future-oriented new pathways and methods in dental research. Dr. Lawson was honored at a private ceremony and will receive a $10,000 fellowship for two years.
Dr. Kent Palcanis, Associate Dean Emeritus, received the Distinguished Alumni Award from his alma mater, Ohio State University College of Dentistry, in October. Dr. Palcanis received his BS and DDS degrees from Ohio State. He retired in 2008 from the UAB SOD as Professor and Associate Dean Emeritus and presently teaches part time at the school. He currently serves as the Executive Director of the American Board of Periodontology.

Dr. Michelle Robinson, Associate Professor & Associate Dean for Health Information and Business Systems, was recognized as a 2017 National Role Model by Minority Access, Incorporated, a nonprofit organization that assists individuals, academic institutions and government agencies in diversifying campuses and worksites. Among high achievers who are excelling in their fields, she joins the ranks of former presidential candidate Dr. Ben Carson, first African-American US Attorney General Eric Holder, and 16th US Surgeon General Dr. David Satcher. Dr. Robinson wears many hats at UAB SOD and she is a game-changer for her generous work in developing others and her passion for building a diverse, equitable and inclusive environment.

Dr. Ken Tilashalski, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, has been recently promoted to full professor. “Dr. T.” is quite unique in that he has earned specialty certificates in both oral & maxillofacial pathology and endodontics. He has held numerous clinical, teaching, and administrative positions at UAB. Always busy, Dr. T is course director of 10 UAB SOD predoctoral and postdoctoral courses, highly involved with committees at the SOD and UAB, active with the American Dental Education Association, participates as a Commission on Dental Accreditation site visitor, and gives numerous courses to practitioners locally, nationally, and internationally.

Dr. Ping Zhang, Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, was recently awarded a $1.2 million basic research grant (R01) from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), a branch of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), to study osteoclast precursors and host susceptibility to chronic periodontitis, one of the most common human infectious disease and the primary cause of tooth loss in adults. The proposed studies will be helpful to identify therapeutic interventions to aid in the prevention and control of periodontal disease.

Drs. Ramzi Abou-Arraj, Nico Geurs, Mike Reddy and Philip Vassilopoulos, Department of Periodontology, were honored with the R. Earl Robinson Periodontal Regeneration award at the 2017 American Academy of Periodontology meeting in Boston, MA. The award recognized their publication, “A randomized clinical trial evaluating rh-PDGF2/βTCP in periodontal defects.” J Dent Res 2016; 95(5): 523-530.
FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

Drs. Timothy Smith and Jocelyn McClelland, part-time faculty, have been awarded the title of Fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry (FAGD). Pictured with Dr. Toni Neumeier, the current AGD state president.

MEET SOD’s NEW FACULTY

**Dr. Amir El Hassan** has joined the School of Dentistry in the Division of Prosthodontics in the Department of Restorative Sciences. Dr. El Hassan comes to us from the University of Tennessee where he recently completed his specialty training in prosthodontics. Previously, he practiced for nine years both in Pennsylvania and Arizona. Originally from Sudan, where he completed his BDS, Dr. El Hassan completed his US dental training at the University of California San Francisco in 2004 where he obtained his DMD. As a fully licensed dentist in Alabama, we are excited to have Amir join our UAB team where he will contribute to both the preclinical and clinical teaching.

**Dr. Edward A. McLaren** has been appointed Professor in the Department of Clinical & Community Sciences Division of Biomaterials, in which he will serve as Director of the Advanced Esthetic, Restorative & Biomaterials program and Director of the Master Ceramist and Digital Dentistry Continuing Education program. Dr. McLaren is internationally recognized for his expertise in dental ceramics and esthetics. Dr. McLaren held a similar position at UCLA for 18 years. He is the founder and director of the Advanced Dental Esthetics, Restorative & Biomaterials Program 3-year graduate program for dentists, founder and director 3-year advanced ceramics and digital technology for technicians program, founder and director one-year esthetic and restorative fellowship. Dr. McLaren maintained a private practice limited to prosthodontics and esthetic dentistry in which he did all of his own ceramics during his time at UCLA.

Dr. McLaren is actively involved in many areas of prosthodontic and materials research and has authored or co-authored over 85 articles. He is performing ongoing clinical research on various restorative systems. He has presented numerous lectures, hands-on clinics and postgraduate courses on ceramics and esthetics across the nation and internationally. He recently published a book about his ceramic techniques and features dental photographic art, entitled “The Art of Passion: Ceramics, Teeth, Faces, and Places.”
UAB SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Chijioke Ulasi (D3) is among 10 dental students who received the 2017 American Association of Women Dentist AAWD Colgate Research Award at the 2017 AAWD Annual Conference. The AAWD Colgate Research Award is given annually to third and fourth year female dental students involved in research. Applicants are judged and selected based on a number of criteria including innovation, research vision, potential for leadership, academic performance, and overall strength research.

UAB SNDA Accolades

For the 2nd year in a row, the UAB chapter of the Student National Dental Association (SNDA) were honored as Chapter of the Year at the 104th SNDA convention in Dallas. This highly competitive award is based on the chapter’s community service, innovative programs, and collaborations with other organizations. The team also received First Place in a new competition for the creation of a short video highlighting their chapter’s events.

Our SNDA members took UAB to even greater heights, preparing speeches and running for offices at the national level. As a result, we now have the following national officers:

- Mark Abere (D3) will be inaugurated President of the national SNDA in December
- Ray Dawkins (D2) will be the next national Treasurer
- Kandis Carter (D2) is now Director of Regional Communications
- Donielle Williams (D4), who is Past President of our UAB Chapter, is the Corporate Roundtable Representative

UAB HSDA Efforts

The UAB SOD Hispanic Student Dental Association (HSDA) hosted several outreach events in the Birmingham community. A “Back to School” event, sponsored by Riverchase United Methodist Church, provided free dental screenings, free oral hygiene products and contact information for parents who were concerned about their children’s oral health or even their own. A “Spanish & Snacks” event provided dental students an opportunity to come together during lunch and practice common Spanish dental phrases to better communicate with future Spanish speaking patients. And, for the first time, HSDA participated in the “Fiesta” event, hosted in Birmingham’s Linn Park, where free oral hygiene materials were provided for children.

Student Academy of General Dentistry

In July 2017, the student Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) organization became an official student organization at the UAB School of Dentistry to promote general dentistry, allow collaboration between practicing dentists and students, and provide a network for support. Over the past year of planning with Dr. Toni Neumeier, who currently serves as the president for Alabama AGD and the faculty advisor for the student AGD organization, students were able to receive the AGD 2016 Student Chapter FellowTrack Scholarship and AGD 2017 Constituent Mini Grant to help start the organization. The first group of elected officers are Bright Chang (President; D3), Amanda Ward (Vice President; D3), Joseph Newman (Treasurer; D2), Michael Torello (Secretary; D3), Rachelle Cucca (Community Outreach; D2), Bhakti Desai (Community Outreach; D2), Andrea Fenton (Community Outreach, D3), Daniel Kuyk (Community Outreach; D2), Aissatou Barry-Blocker (Fundraiser; D3), and Yunhee Choi (Fundraiser; D3).

Recently at the 44th Annual Review of Dentistry by the Alabama and Mississippi AGD, Bright Chang and Yunhee Choi placed 2nd and 3rd places respectively in the e-poster session held on September 8th.

SPEA Best Chapter Awarded

UAB’s Student Professionalism and Ethics Association chapter won Best Chapter at the SPEA national meeting in Atlanta. The award is given to the chapter in the Regency that had the biggest ethical and professional impact on their school and who has demonstrated excellent communication with national leadership. The award is a testament to great work, but what makes it even more impressive is the fact that the chapter has only existed for a few years.
Honors Convocation & Scholarship Luncheon

The annual Honors Convocation Ceremony & Scholarship Luncheon took place on June 2 and recognized more than 100 students for outstanding academic achievements and acknowledged the generosity of scholarship donors. Alumni Association President Dr. Bob Jones presented the Alumni Award for Leadership to Will Bates and the Alumni Scholarship Award to 12 D3 and D4 dental students. Alongside Dr. Jones, the 2nd District Dental Society was well-represented at the Scholarship Luncheon where members of the district, Drs. Ben Cumbus, Melodie Jones and Chet Swartzentuber, honored the 2016-2017 scholarship recipient, D2 Jody Glover.

Graduation

UAB School of Dentistry held the 2017 graduation ceremony on June 3 at the Alys Robins Stephens Center in Birmingham and awarded diplomas to 64 graduating seniors. President of the American Dental Association Dr. Gary Roberts delivered the Lister Hill Lecture for the commencement ceremony. Dr. Stanley Beard, president-elect of the University of Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association and Dr. Gary Myers, president of the Alabama Dental Association spoke on behalf of their respective organizations. The Dean's Medal, the most coveted honor presented to a member of the graduating class, was awarded to Will Bates.
UAB SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

SCHOOL EVENTS

White Coat Ceremony
The Class of 2021 were presented with white coats at the annual White Coat Ceremony in Birmingham on August 24. Guest speakers included Dr. Bob Jones, president of the University of Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association and Dr. Dan Dunwody, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Hinman Dental Society.

UAB SOD Homecoming
The School of Dentistry participated in UAB’s 2017 Homecoming competitions during the week of October 2. D1 students placed 3rd in the annual building decoration competition with their patriotic spin on UAB’s homecoming theme “Blazers United”.

UAB Dentistry Cares Community Day
The 5th annual UAB Dentistry Cares Community Day was held on November 15 at the UAB School of Dentistry and provided free dental care to the underserved and homeless people in the Birmingham area. Faculty, staff and students from the school plus other community members volunteered their time and resources to provide an opportunity for low-income adults to receive teeth cleanings, filling and extractions throughout the day. Henry Schein was the title sponsor.
The University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Dentistry was founded in 1948 and has been graduating approximately 55 dentists each year. Current enrollment has increased to 63 per entering class. Many of our graduates return to their hometowns, others stay in the Birmingham area and others choose to practice out of state after graduation. At present, Alabama’s dentists principally populate our 13 urban counties. These counties account for 58% of the state’s population and 79% (1,673) of the state’s dentists. Our most rural 41 counties, however, constitute 21% of the population but only 9.8% (208) of the state’s dentists. Among our smallest populated 25 counties, there are only 3.4% (69) of our state’s dentists, while 8.3% of the state’s population resides there.

As part of a HRSA grant awarded to the UAB School of Dentistry in 2013, an interactive map locating all dentists in Alabama was developed. It can be found at the link below through our UAB Dentistry Community page: www.uabcsc.ch.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=579cd3474752475984f0bcb4cc5de4e

The map has a feature demonstrating dentist to population ratio by county, future population growth or decline by county as well as Medicaid treating dentists. All of these factors are important when considering the current status of Alabama practicing dentists, changes over the last 15 years and future practice opportunities.

Drs. Conan Davis and Stuart Lockwood are developing a policy paper on practice trends of Alabama dentists, but have provided UAB Dental Alumni Magazine with an abbreviated look at some of the trending data below – difference in number of general & pediatric dentists (primary care) by county from 2003 to 2017. More will be forthcoming in the near future. Please address corrections or comments to Dr. Davis (conand@uab.edu) or Dr. Lockwood (stuartlockwood@aol.com)

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The number of practicing dentists in Alabama has increased from 848 in 2003 to 1019 in 2017. The percentage of general & pediatric dentists (primary care) has increased from 70.3% (595) in 2003 to 81.6% (822) in 2017.
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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Higher = Stronger + Better

I have never been and don’t pretend to be a math whiz. I’m a “right brained person” and my favorite subjects in school were history, political science, and literature. But I had a pretty cool algebra teacher in eighth grade, so I retained more than most years. I vividly recall learning about the transitive property of equality. In math, the formula for this property is if $a=b$ and $b=c$ then $a=c$. For example $5 = 3 + 2$ and $3 +2 = 5$.

I have a theory of fundraising for the School of Dentistry where the transitive property also applies. It is Higher = Stronger + Better. The success we are enjoying at the School of Dentistry directly impacts the success we are having in our philanthropic campaign for UAB Dentistry. We recently eclipsed $21.5$ million. Four years ago when we started the campaign, we established a goal of $20$ million.

UAB Dentistry has never been stronger or better since graduating its first class 65 years ago! Through our campaign, we have had unbelievable support in raising funds for endowed faculty positions. We now have 12 endowed or soon-to-be endowed positions, allowing us to recruit and retain the best faculty of any dental school. By having the best faculty, we have become stronger. We also made a commitment to upgrade our facilities. Numerous clinics and laboratories have been renovated. In turn, our clinical instruction is better than ever. When you combine our highly skilled faculty with state-of-the-art facilities, we attract better students and more research dollars, which not only enable us to continue to raise money for those areas but other areas as well. We have raised more money for community outreach, student scholarships, and program enhancements.

The key stakeholders of UAB Dentistry, the faculty, staff, alumni, friends, and students, are committed to being stronger and better. Under the leadership of Dr. Michael Reddy, our Dean, and Dr. Ben Cumbus, our Campaign Chair, I am convinced we can become even stronger and better.

If you haven’t made a gift to the campaign or if you want to support another initiative such as our Comprehensive Care Clinic or the Prosthodontics Clinic, I encourage you to support our efforts. We have a plethora of naming opportunities for those clinics. We also still have a great need to endow programs, faculty positions and student scholarships. I am more than happy to assist you in making your gift decisions or answering questions you may have. Please feel free to contact me at shuffman@uab.edu or (205) 934-3601. I want to thank all of our supporters for their generosity. We are stronger and better because of you!

Sincerely,

J. Scott Huffman, CFRE
Executive Director of Development
Executive Director, UASOD Alumni Association
When asked to meet with my classmate and dear friend, Joel Hearn and Scott Huffman, Executive Director of Development for UAB School of Dentistry, I knew that something big was up. As in the past, I would be asked to contribute to the Campaign d’jour in support of the School of Dentistry. After a nice lunch at one of my favorite restaurants, I started to explain how I was already committed to several other organizations and would be hard pressed to offer a significant contribution at this time. I will never forget my good friend Joel’s response – “oh we’ve got much larger plans for you than that – we want you to chair the entire dental campaign for UAB School of Dentistry. They then went on to explain that The Campaign for UAB’s goal was $1 billion – yes, that’s billion with a B – but our Dental School goal was ONLY $20 million. After regaining my composure and still trying to comprehend what had just transpired, I went to my “go to” answer when presented with such a challenge – “let me think about this and talk to Ginny and I will get back to you.”

Through further conversation I learned that Dr. “Scotty” (I could never call him that) McCallum and Dean Michael Ready would be my co-Chairs and of course Scott and his wonderful staff would always be there for me. I later thought to myself, what an honor to be considered to serve with such a prestigious group of men, my former Dean, whom I had always admired and respected as such a charismatic leader, the present Dean whose leadership has taken the Dental School to new levels of excellence, and of course Scott. I had been given a chance to team with such fine men and to support a cause that I truly loved. After a confirmation from my wife, Ginny, it was really a no-brainer – and Scott assured me that we could “make it happen.” I was all in.

With the guidance and inspiration of Drs. Ready and McCallum, and the diligence, untiring effort, and determination of Scott Huffman, we did “make it happen” and in record time. The generosity of so many dentists – some of whom you would least expect – and the benevolence of many generous corporate partners was absolutely amazing. With Scott’s quiet but effective appeal, and the constant support of his dedicated staff, we moved decisively and steadily toward our goal. We are fortunate to have so many alumni who love their school and appreciate the education they received and how it has enriched their lives. They, in turn, are so generous to share their assets so that other deserving students can have the same opportunities in the future.

All in all, it’s been a wonderful experience, attending the many activities sponsored by our Dental School and our Alumni Association, meeting so many wonderful students, dentists, and faculty members and experiencing firsthand the unbounded benevolence of all those that I have met. We are truly blessed. By the way, and I say this especially to our numerous young alumni, get involved with your Alumni Association, participate in those events offered, and go by the school to see old friends and faculty and remember what a wonderful education you received from this institution. Your involvement and your time is your gift at this point in your career. Hopefully you can help us in other ways as your career matures and you have the ability to return some of your assets to their source.

Lastly, and most importantly, I want to say that none of this would have happened without Scott Huffman. He is a dynamic, yet unassuming, treasure for the UAB School of Dentistry. His ability to solicit and procure funding for the school is unprecedented. He is the reason we have raised $20,000,000 and the reason it “happened” with so little effort on my part. Scott is a gem and I am so pleased that I had the opportunity to work with him and that he is a vital part of our team.

Regards,

Ben Cumbus
Chair, Campaign for UAB Dentistry
Class of 1972
Dr. Hugh B. Harmon ('58) and his wife, Dr. Maryhelen C. Harmon have endowed a scholarship within the UAB School of Dentistry with a gift of approximately $104,000. The Harmon-Cleverly Endowed Scholarship will be awarded to a UAB School of Dentistry student who shows solid academic promise and achievement. The Harmon’s made the gift in memory of Dr. Paul Hammons, who taught and mentored Hugh Harmon and other dental students.

Dr. Harmon said he and Dr. Hammons had a great relationship in dental school and beyond. “He was a great professor and teacher. We became the greatest friends. He was a stickler for perfection. He was a great mentor and friend”, he said.

Both Dr. Harmons graduated with bachelor’s degrees from the University of Alabama in 1952. After graduating from the School of Dentistry, Dr. Hugh Harmon served on the faculty as a clinical instructor from 1958 to 1960. However, having his own practice in the warmth of the Florida sunshine soon called them to Dunedin where they still reside. Hugh served his patients from 1960 to 2005. All the while, Maryhelen had an accomplished career in academia. She earned a master’s degree from the University of Florida in 1962 and was awarded her Ph.D. from Florida State University in 1981. She served on the faculty at the University of South Florida as professor of English for 42 years. In recognition of her achievements, Maryhelen was named the USF Outstanding Teacher of the Year in 1987, and taught at Cambridge as well as in Paris and Florence.

“She supported me while I was in dental school and I supported her when she was in school,” said Dr. Harmon, who also received help from the G.I. Bill from his service in the Korean War. They both enjoyed their time at the UAB School of Dentistry. Maryhelen was president of the dental auxiliary and Hugh was making his mark in the clinics. “Everybody looked out for everybody else. The whole school was like a big fraternity”, he said.

Drs. Harmon, both retired, enjoy the quiet life of Dunedin, a small community near Tampa, Florida. They enjoy gardening, fishing, and spending time with one another. Hugh Harmon said they wanted to endow a scholarship because they wanted to carry on the tradition of excellent dental care.
Milestone Memory Inspires Isbell’s Gift to Dental Clinic

The first injection of local anesthetic is a milestone achievement for a dental student – and a moment of truth. Where to put the needle? What if my hand shakes? What if the needle breaks? What if I miss?

Gordon Isbell III remembers that moment like it was yesterday – not only because it was a rite of passage, but because of the steadying hand on his shoulder as he stood in the second floor clinic at the UAB School of Dentistry on a fall day in 1979. The hand belonged to Dr. Scotty McCallum – oral surgeon, former dean of the dental school, then Vice President for Health Affairs and later UAB’s third president. “I had grown up knowing him as a family friend,” Dr. Isbell says. “It meant the world to me that he took time to stop by the second floor and be there for my first shot.”

If hands-on experience is the not-so-secret secret to mastering any skill, great teaching is surely the secret sauce. In the Comprehensive Care Clinic, hands-on learning and excellent teaching give third- and fourth-year dental students the opportunity to put classroom knowledge to work.

Every UAB dentist has trained in the Comprehensive Care Clinic, though alumni may know it as the “Second Floor Clinic.” A $2 million renovation is underway to give today’s students a state-of-the-art setting for that training.

Dr. Isbell is one of 20 alumni who have made gifts to name spaces in the clinic. “If the School of Dentistry was a human body, that’s where you’d hear the heartbeat,” he says. “It’s where you learn to deliver great care to your patients, and it’s where the need seems greatest for alumni giving.”

Dr. Isbell’s list of chairmanships, awards and leadership roles includes top positions with the American Dental Association, the Academic of General Dentistry and the American Dental Political Action Committee. He has served on the School of Dentistry’s Dean’s Leadership Council for five years, and in July will become president of the Alabama Dental Association (ALDA).

But his general dentistry practice in Gadsden is still the best part of his professional life. “It’s about patients – the people you can help, and the long-term relationships you develop over time,” he says. “I knew from the time I was 6 years old that this was what I wanted to do because of how I saw my own dentist, Dr. Frank Finney. He was also my Scoutmaster, and was president of the ALDA, and I wanted to be like him.”

After dental school graduation in 1981, Dr. Isbell returned to his hometown and has practiced there ever since. Son Ross – Gordon Roswell Isbell IV – joined the practice after graduating from the School of Dentistry in 2014. And when Ross gave his first injection in that clinic in 2012, Dr. McCallum’s steadying hand rested on his shoulder, too.

“As a family, we are so proud of this school, and especially proud that it’s the number one dental school in the country,” Dr. Isbell says. “It provides excellent clinical training in a research-focused environment, which is critical to the future of dentistry. So we are happy to have the opportunity to give back.”
A memorial fund has been established in memory of long-timer School of Dentistry employee Ms. Lura Guin who passed away on April 25, 2017. Ms. Guin was affectionately called “Ms. Lura” by students, residents, faculty and staff. She was a registered nurse in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Her career spanned over four decades. She served UAB with distinction, receiving numerous awards through the years for her work with dental students.

According to Dr. Warren Arrasmith, who knew her as a student, alumnus, and faculty member, “Ms. Guin was opinionated, but always fair with the students. Even after her retirement, faculty and former students stayed in touch with her because of the impact she had on their lives”.

The Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery recently established the Lura Guin Memorial Fund for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery to honor the woman who meant so much to UAB dental students and our residents. Contributions will be used to help support the department. A recognition plaque will be prominently displayed in the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinic area bearing Lura's name and the names of those individuals who contribute $1,000 or more to the Fund. Approximately $25,000 has already been raised.

Please join with us in memorializing a wonderful woman who worked tirelessly to help dental students and OMS residents through her many years of service. We have an outstanding department that has been blessed with great leadership. Let’s honor and recognize someone who worked behind the scenes and cared so much for the students, residents, faculty, and patients. No matter the size of your gift, we will inform her family of your gift in her memory. Enclosed is a giving form and return envelope for your convenience. Checks may be made payable to the Lura Guin Memorial Fund and sent to Mr. Scott Huffman, CFRE, SDB 214, 1720 2nd Ave. S., Birmingham, AL 35294-0007.
IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM EUGENE SULLIVAN, D.M.D.

By J. Scott Huffman, CFRE

He still had that twinkle in his eye. I had the pleasure of visiting with Dr. William “Gene” Sullivan (Class of 1952) at his home in Huntsville, Ala on November 8th. Even at the age of 93 and in failing health, Dr. Sullivan’s face still lit up when I talked about the UAB School of Dentistry with him, his daughter’s Amy Shadoin and Beth Miller, and long-time friend, Dr. John Barnes (Class of 1981) who introduced us.

I intended to write a feature story about Dr. Sullivan being one of the few remaining living members of the Class of 1952, the first graduating class of the University of Alabama School of Dentistry. Unfortunately, his health declined in the following days and he passed peacefully at his home on November 23, 2017.

Like all of his classmates, Sullivan was a World War II veteran when he came to Birmingham as part of Dr. Joseph Volker’s first class. Volker was the dental school’s founding dean who later went on to become the first president of UAB and first chancellor of the University of Alabama System. “He was tough and dental school was tough,” Sullivan recounted. But daughters Amy and Beth assured me nothing was too tough for their dad. His life was a tough road traveled but his experiences were rich and rewarding.

Sullivan was born in Amory, MS and moved to Huntsville with his mother, but she died when he was a child. His maternal grandparents raised him. After high school, he worked briefly at the Redstone Arsenal as a chemist before enlisting in the US Navy during World War II. While in the Navy, he served as a Radarman Second Class on the LST-932, which saw service in the Asia-Pacific Theater in several campaigns for the liberation of the Philippines including landings in Leyte, Mindanao, and Okinawa.

After an honorable discharge, Dr. Sullivan enrolled at the University of Alabama, but never graduated because he received early acceptance to the School of Dentistry. One only need to flip through a Dentala yearbook to know he was destined to make an impact on dentistry and his patients. After graduation, Gene returned to Huntsville where he practiced until his retirement in 1993. He made a huge impact on his patients and the dental community.

“He first influenced me as a student when I was a resident in the general practice residency program here in Huntsville,” said Dr. Barnes. “He was one of my adjunct professors and he taught me so much about dentistry and life. He truly cared about our profession and making Huntsville and the state a better place.”

Many will remember Gene Sullivan for his involvement in the Alabama Dental Association. He served as ALDA president from 1982-1983. He was one of the pioneers who helped make the ALDA annual session successful. He was also president of the Eighth District Dental Society from 1970-1971 and the Huntsville-Madison County Dental Society from 1963-1964. In 1978 he received the Most Excellent Fellow Award. His professional accomplishments also included serving on the Alabama Board of Dental Examiners and being a founding member of the Dr. C.C. Bass Dental Study Club.

“Daddy loved dentistry and he loved his family,” said daughter Amy Shadoin. “There wasn’t anything he wouldn’t do for his patients or for his staff. My sisters and I also worked in the office for a short while. We loved watching him care for his patients,” she said. “He treated four generations of families,” said daughter Beth Miller.

I visited with Gene and heard stories about the home he and his wife, Eileen, made for their three daughters. I learned that he studied photography, traveled extensively, enjoyed classical and jazz music, and loved Alabama football. As a member of the School of Dentistry’s inaugural class, Gene joins the majority of his classmates in eternity but he will be fondly remembered by his family and the thousands of patients and citizens of Alabama who he touched.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Margaret Eileen Scott Sullivan, whom he married in 1958. He is survived by three daughters, Dr. Amy Shadoin (Alan), Ms. Beth Miller, and Mrs. Laura Ragland, (Edward, Jr); four grandchildren, Rowe Ragland, Mary Margaret Ragland, Scott Louis Miller, and Kate Miller, all of Huntsville, AL.

Memorials may be made to the Class of 1952 Endowment Fund c/o J. Scott Huffman, CFRE, SDB 214, 1720 2nd Ave. S., Birmingham, AL 35294-0007.
2017 was an eventful year. Dean Reddy, Scott Huffman and your alumni team enjoyed seeing everyone who came to support and represent UAB SOD.

AADR DEAN’S RECEPTION, SAN FRANCISCO
March 22nd

HINMAN DEAN’S RECEPTION, ATLANTA
March 24th

GULF COAST DENTAL CONFERENCE, ORANGE BEACH
June 9th

AGD SCIENTIFIC SESSION, LAS VEGAS
July 14th

BIRMINGHAM BARONS YOUNG ALUMNI EVENT, BIRMINGHAM
July 20th

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ON THE ROAD

AGD DEAN’S RECEPTION, DESTIN  
September 8th

UA VS. LSU FOOTBALL TAILGATE, TUSCALOOSA  
November 4th

DEAN’S RECEPTION  
courtesy of Dr. Robin Pruitt  
October 12th

ADA DEAN’S RECEPTION, ATLANTA  
October 19th

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When was the last time you reviewed your financial plan?
ANNOUNCEMENTS

George Hardy (‘81) was featured in the UAB News for his unique career in both dentistry and acting. He has practiced dentistry in Alex City and acted in several short and full-length films for more than 25 years. His recent film credit, “Texas Cotton”, was premiered at the Birmingham Sidewalk Film Festival in August 2017. To read more about his story, visit www.uab.edu/news/experiencing-the-arts/item/8601

Richard Simpson (‘87) was one of three dentists named as DentaQuest’s 2017 Health Equity Heroes in May. The award was given to those who are “breaking down barriers and developing innovative programming to improve health outcomes and access to care for underserved populations,” according to a news release. Dr. Simpson was recognized for his long-term service as an advocate for children’s health services. He is in his second year as the chair of the Oral Health Coalition of Alabama and is also a leader in interprofessional training in the state as the co-chair of the Oral Health Committee of the Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

ICD Fellows Named

During the recent International College of Dentists convocation in Atlanta, Georgia during the ADA Annual Meeting, the following Alabama dentists became fellows (L to R): Jim Lewis, Jim Shamburger, Mark McIlwain, Matthew Litz, Debbie Sema, Adolphus Jackson, Dan Givan, Crawford Tatum, Jr., Scott Sprayberry.

The USA Section of the International College of Dentists, as a part of the preeminent honorary dental organization in the world recognizes and promotes excellence in leadership with an emphasis on service, provides support to our Fellows and respect for our peers, addresses oral health needs and education throughout the world, fosters an atmosphere of collaboration with those who share our values.

PRACTICE OPPORTUNITIES

Dr. Marvin Barron (57, yes 1957!) is seeking a full or part time dentist located in Northeast Alabama, Rainsville. Will mentor new graduate, and would like to transition the practice for a buy-in agreement and retire. The practice is general dentistry with referral following for bridges, crowns and partials. The office is a three-person caring staff with 5 fully equipped operatories, reception area, business office, sterilization room, restrooms and lab. No staff for you to hire. No equipment for you to buy. Walk in and work with Dr. Barron and learn the patients and transition knowing you are not assuming a load of debt. Doctor averages 10 patients per day and has a 4-day work week, which is his preference. Office equipment is older but immaculately maintained, and if you are the kind of person who does not like to assume a large amount of debt and walk into an office to begin your practice fresh out of college, this practice is for you. Change and add what you like as you build your practice. Location is in center of town with bank, shopping center, restaurants and housing on three sides in single story professional building complex. Ample parking, great visibility. If you are looking for a nice practice to join, and eventually own, with a great team to support you, please email your resume or questions to barronneis898@gmail.com.
IN MEMORIUM

(’55) William Donald Jacobs died at home after an extended illness on April 23, 2017. He was a graduate of Elba High School, Troy University and the University of Alabama School of Dentistry where he later specialized in orthodontics. He served in the United States Air Force as a dentist. He later moved moved to Pensacola, Florida where he practiced orthodontics until he retired in 1989. He was an active member of the American Association of Orthodontist and the Southern Society of Orthodontist. He served as president of the Pensacola Dental Society and he was recently honored as a past president of the Florida Association of Orthodontist.

(’63) William J. Boykin passed away peacefully on Wednesday, June 28, 2017. Bill graduated from Central High School in 1951. He then entered the US Air Force where he was stationed in both France and Washington DC. After serving his country, he graduated from the University of South Carolina and obtained his degree in dentistry from the University of Alabama. Bill and his family moved to Aiken, South Carolina where he practiced dentistry for over 50 years. He was a member of the Aiken Dental Association, the Central District Dental Association, The South Carolina Dental Association and the American Dental Association for 54 years.

(’64) Charles W. Lambert ended his earthly journey on March 6, 2015. He was a graduate of Birmingham Southern College and the University of Alabama School of Dentistry. Dr. Lambert opened his dental practice in Athens in July 1964 and retired in 2007. Prior to attending college, Dr. Lambert served in the United States Army while stationed in Verdun, France.

(’67) George Carroll Stacey, Sr. of Hayneville, Alabama went to be with the Lord on October 22, 2017. Dr. Stacey graduated from Excel High School, University of Montevallo and the University of Alabama School of Dentistry. He practiced dentistry for 35 years in Gadsden. He recently received his certificate for 50 Years of Service from the Alabama Dental Association.

(’74) James D. Reed passed away on July 9, 2017. Upon graduating from Russellville High School in 1960, he entered Florence State University (UNA). Before completing his undergraduate studies, he enlisted in the Alabama National Guard. At the completion of his military service, he completed his undergraduate degree in Chemistry in 1969. He graduated with his DMD in 1974 from the University of Alabama. He started his dental practice in the Edgewood community of Homewood and remained there for 44 years. A prolific artist throughout his life, he was always creating. Whether it was comic caricatures for his dental school yearbook or canvases that were displayed in his dental office.

(Endo ’14) Edward Joseph (Ned) Wikle fought the good fight with supernatural faith, courage and grace and was awarded his crown of glory on Thursday, March 17, 2016. He attended the University of Mississippi, graduating with a business degree in 2002. After a short banking career, Ned decided to follow in his father’s footsteps in the practice of dentistry. He resumed his science courses at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and was accepted into the University of Mississippi College of Dentistry, receiving his DMD with Cum Laude honors, in 2008. While in dental school, he joined the United States Navy and, upon his dental graduation, Ned completed his General Practice Residency at the U.S. Naval Medical Center in San Diego, California. He was then assigned to the Marine Corp/ Air Station, Iwakuni, Japan, where he served three years. Ned then returned to the United States and completed a two-year residency in Endodontics.

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University of Alabama School of Dentistry Alumni Association 2018 Dues Statement

2018 Alumni Membership Dues $75
Young Alumni Dues (Years 2-5 out of school) $35
Retired Alumni Dues (70 yrs+; no license) $35
Alumni Assoc. Endowed Professorship $_______
Dean’s Fund $_______
Joy White Fund $_______
Total Enclosed $ _______

Make checks payable to
Alabama Dental Alumni Association
SDB 212, 1720 2nd Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35294-0007

Please charge the above total to ___Visa ___MC ___Amx ___Discover

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Excellence in Alabama Dentistry Fund $_________
Student Excellence Fund $_________
Comprehensive Care Clinic Fund $_________
Total $_________

Please make checks to these funds payable to:
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