A BRIGHT, HEALTHY FUTURE

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Dental education shapes the future of the dental profession. In order for dentistry to retain its current professional standing and privilege of self-regulation, dental education must ensure stability in two key areas.

First, dental schools must remain an integral part of a strong university system. However, high and increasing operating costs amid relentless budget cuts can threaten this relationship. We must guard against a shift of our schools into lower-tier institutions partially or completely divorced from the academic community. While this has occurred in certain cases, such a trend would invite a conflicted commercial influence into the educational process where supporting corporations, rather than dentists, control the content of our curriculum. Coupled with the increasing presence of midlevel providers, government regulators and the remaining health care community would begin to view and treat dentistry as more of a trade and less of a profession. Your financial support will fortify our already strong academic ties.

Second, our schools need to continue to develop valued science, technology and information, and produce competent graduates to remain worthy of the public’s trust. In exchange for our promise to act in the best interests of our country’s oral health, society has granted dentistry the privilege of self-regulation. We must acquire the necessary financial resources to keep our training and research in tune with the demands of private practice, including treating patients with complex medical needs and providing access to the underserved. In the event we fail to meet our duties under this social contract, we will lose our professional autonomy and become subject to increased third party and regulatory oversight.

While the future of dentistry appears bright, many educators question whether our schools can continue to meet these goals in the face of mounting fiscal challenges. We at UB are facing continued unprecedented reductions in state support as we embark upon our $11 million pre-clinical laboratory modernization.

Your increased support stands as our main hope of success. Importantly, we must remember that not only do our contributions directly fund initiatives, but they also indirectly reflect how much we, as graduates, value our institution. A strong statement on our part sets the stage for additional and vital private sector support. Please join Dean Michael Glick, our faculty, administrators and fellow alumni in this mission.

Chester J. Gary, DDS ’78, JD ’91, President, UB Dental Alumni Association
On your mark, get set, Run for Smiles
April 26
The SDM is gearing up for the third annual Run for Smiles 5k race to be held Saturday, April 26, beginning at 10 A.M. in front of the Health Sciences Library on UB’s South Campus. The event serves to raise awareness of the dental school clinics for members of the Western New York community. Last year’s Run for Smiles helped raise thousands of dollars to benefit outreach programs of the dental school. Funds raised by the race will go to UB CARES (Counseling, Advocacy, Referral, Education, Service), a program in the dental school that works to break down the barriers to care that patients face. The run also will benefit Buffalo Outreach and Community Assistance (BOCA), a student-run group that provides free dental care in many locations throughout the world.

A post-race celebration will convene in the Squire Quad facing the finish line under tents with food, beverages and live music. There will also be awards and trophies for top finishers in their divisions.

For more information about the race and how to register, email ubsmilerun@gmail.com.

Comings and Goings
Since September 2013, the SDM has welcomed a number of new faculty and staff:

**Oral Diagnostic Sciences** – research staff includes Lillie Baker and Katelyn Mazurkiewicz, with Kathryn Applegate as clinical reception clerk.

**Restorative Dentistry** – Roderick Stewart as part-time clinical instructor and Allana Langen as research assistant.

**Oral Biology** – Postdocs Mrudula Varanat and Jiachuan Pan, with research technician Michelle Panasiewicz.

**Periodontics and Endodontics** – S. Myneni Venkatetasa, MS, ’08, PhD, ’12, and Nabeel Alqahtani, MS, ’13, Perio. Cert., ’13, joined as part-time clinical instructors, with dental hygienist Lucy Ferraro.

**Orthodontics** – Rodney Littlejohn, Ortho. Cert., ’82, joined as part-time faculty member.

Thomas Dzimira joined the Office of Information Resources, while Richard Shaffer started as stores clerk in Clinical Dentistry and Donna Wypych was appointed interim compliance director for the SDM.

**Fond Farewell to Maggie Penque** who retired from Oral Diagnostic Sciences in February. She served the department as secretary and author of “Maggie’s Mailbag”.

**Professor Moon-Il Cho** also retired in January after 25 years of service as a full-time faculty member in Oral Biology. He previously worked at SUNY Stony Brook for nine years after receiving his PhD in 1979. His academic career was focused on dental education and research, teaching oral histology and oral sciences to dental students, and serving as a research mentor to numerous visiting scientists, post-doctoral fellows and graduate students. He was recognized by dental students with the SDM Alan Gross Excellence in Teaching Award in 2003 and 2009.

Cho’s research in the areas of cell biology of periodontal ligament fibroblasts, development of growth factor-modulated periodontal regenerative therapies, and root development, as well as other areas, resulted in more than 100 publications. He was awarded the Robinson Periodontal Regeneration Award from the American Academy of Periodontology in 1995. We wish him well in his retirement in Iowa.
Eisner Receives 2014 Gies Award for Outstanding Innovation

John Eisner, associate professor emeritus, pediatric and community dentistry, was awarded the 2014 William J. Gies Award for outstanding innovation for a dental educator.

The Gies Awards for vision, innovation and achievement pay tribute to deserving individuals, institutions, and organizations that embody the ideals set forth more than 80 years ago by one of the original innovators in dental education. A distinguished panel of judges selects the awardees based upon their vision, innovation, and achievement in the realm of dental education, oral health, research, and leadership. The Gies awards are now firmly established as the preeminent recognition program in the dental education community.

Eisner’s career in dental education began at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in 1971. In 1979 he joined Dalhousie University’s faculty of dentistry where he was associate professor of pediatric and community dentistry and the first assistant dean for academic affairs. During his time at Dalhousie, Eisner designed and implemented the school’s curriculum and new clinic information system, and conceived and developed the ACFD Summer Teaching and Management Institutes which for many years were a foundation for faculty development in Canada.

In 1989, Eisner joined the faculty at the University of Buffalo School of Dental Medicine where he published, with several other colleagues, the initial description of a computer-based oral health record and also developed a software program that would streamline the admissions process. This program was soon made available for use by other dental schools and many other health professions and is currently used by approximately 3,000 health professions schools and programs. More recently, Eisner has developed an accreditation management system that has been adopted by 10 accrediting agencies and more than 3,000 of their accredited schools and programs in the U.S.

ADAF awards scholarships to SDM sophomores

Kevin Kurtzner and Daniel Pinto, members of the Class of 2016, are helping SDM achieve excellence on a national level.

The American Dental Association Foundation (ADAF) dental student scholarships help predoctoral dental students defray a part of their professional education expenses with a generous scholarship of $2,500. The goal of this program is to facilitate the education of academically gifted dental students. Applicants must also demonstrate examples of leadership, research, service achievements, and volunteerism attributes. Students in the second year of study at the time of application, and currently attending or enrolled at a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, are eligible. A total of 50 scholarships were awarded through this program nationwide.

Kurtzner and Pinto were selected by the American Dental Association Foundation (ADAF) for this most prestigious and competitive scholarship for the 2013–2014 academic year.

Congratulations Kevin and Daniel, you make us proud!
SDM’s got talent

“Great show!” “I was really impressed with the talent!” Just a few of the comments following the 18th Annual School of Dental Medicine Talent Show held on January 24 in the Center for the Arts Drama Theatre. The show was started in 1997 through the efforts of Alan Gross, ’52, and Elaine Davis. This year 11 acts featuring 20 different performers held the audience’s attention with singing, dancing, instrumentals, and dog tricks. Even Master of Ceremonies Robert Schifferle, ’81, PhD ’93, entertained the crowd between acts with his wit and magic tricks.

The evening started off with the cutest performer of the event, Cooper, a year-old chocolate lab trying to teach his owner Bobby Cox, ’17, that he should stick to dentistry instead of a career on the stage. They were followed by two veteran solo performers, staff members Karen Henry on the sax and Jill Uebelhoer singing. Uebelhoer then joined faculty/alums Michael Hatton, ’82, MS ’86 and Joseph Rumfola, ’02, student Rick Hill, ’15, and summer staff member Zachary Lebold for a bluesy rendition of “Love in Vain.”

Hatton, Hill and Lebold performed with another band that included faculty/alum Kenneth Lee, ’89, students Matthew Valerio, ’14 and Jamieson Brady, ’16, and special guest Yvonne Schmidt, a professional blues vocalist. The Class of 2016 was further represented by Winston Liu and Donna Scott playing Romanian Folk Dances, and Erik Hageman on the accordion.

In probably the most emotional performance of the evening, Jessica Silvestri, ’14, danced a tribute to her mom, accompanied by Jacqueline Boyczuk, ’15, Sara Hauschild, ’14, Michael Weinstein, ’14 and Valerio. Jessica’s mom, Dora, passed away last May.

Yiching Wu, ’14, returned this year to play the pipa, a traditional Chinese string instrument. She, along with other Class of 2014 performers, will really be missed next year, as several have contributed their talent to the show for many years.

Notable is Valerio, who this year played piano in four of the acts, including two duets, first with Ken Lee on “Scenes from an Italian Restaurant,” and then with Jacqueline Boyczuk on “Blue Skies.”

“Playing at the talent show has been a great way to bond with my classmates and professors. I will remember those performances for the rest of my life! I have made great friendships and found supportive mentors through participation in the talent show,” says Valerio. “Playing music takes us out of our element as dentists. Music isn’t always about perfection; it’s about touching someone’s heart by drawing emotion from their souls. I believe that we were effective in doing this at this year’s talent show and that’s why I was proud to be part of it.”

The event is made possible by support of the Alan J. Gross Student Resource Fund, and we thank those who contributed to make this such a fun evening.
The 150 years of the Erie County Dental Society

By 1860 the population of Buffalo was over 81,000 and growing. Professionals including newly graduated dentists saw this growth as an excellent opportunity to establish a practice and settled in the city.

With the outbreak of the Civil War, many were convinced, including Benajah T. Whitney, a physician turned dentist who came to Buffalo in 1851, that some organization was needed to serve the dental profession itself and the community at large. At the urging of Whitney, this talk was spearheaded by George B. Snow (SDM '04–'12), who in 1863 had arrived in Buffalo to practice. Snow wrote the above message on a piece of paper and set out to gather the interest of other dentists.

Snow, along with Leon F. Harvey, called upon dentists practicing in the city, of which there were 21 at the time, urging them to work together to organize a dental society. These two young dentists obtained the signatures of 19 of the 21, all of whom had offices within an area bounded by Exchange, Washington, Clinton, Court and Pearl streets. On the night of the meeting, one man attended who had not signed, and two who did sign failed to attend. As a result, the Buffalo Dental Association began with 18 members.

A society constitution was drafted and adopted, and officers were elected. George E. Hayes, one of the older dentists who had begun practice in Buffalo in 1829, was elected president; Reuben G. Snow, physician-turned-dentist and father of George B. Snow, was elected vice president; George B. Snow, secretary, and Joseph R. Wetherell, treasurer. Finally, the group adopted the name Buffalo Dental Association (BDA) and then adjourned, confident that they had been a party to history in the making. Thus it was on that Friday night in May 1864 that one of the oldest dental societies in the United States had its birth. It is one of the few to enjoy a continuous existence since the date of its organization.

The early history of the BDA parallels in part that of the New York State organization; in 1862 the Western New York Dental Society was organized with Charles W. Harvey as its first president. Six years later, the Dental Law of 1868 passed the New York State Legislature, establishing the State Dental Society with its subordinate district societies, Buffalo being the focal point of the Eighth District, composing the eight counties of Western New York. The BDA itself operated purely on the local level and consisted of dentists who practiced only in the city. The association held a joint meeting with the Eighth District Dental Society annually in January and provided continuous activities and services to its members and the community right through WWII.

Following WWII, the association saw a sharp decline in membership; services it had provided to members and the community had ceased due to the war efforts. Programs and activities all had to be reactivated and geared once again to a peacetime society. Additionally, many of the activities formerly carried on by the BDA had been taken over by the Eighth District during and after the war.

For a time, the Eighth District gradually assumed the functions of the BDA both for Buffalo and for Erie County, this did not last long. Within a short time, a new group of men took over the association and redefined its role. Out of their efforts came not only a revived society, but an entirely new concept of operation. The association became, in short, a substantial group within the Eighth District. No longer would there be any real competition or rivalry—and to indicate its increased scope of activities, the group began to call itself the Buffalo Dental Association of Erie County. By the early 1950s, the new leadership had pushed membership to more than 400.

In 1953, the association formally changed its name to Erie County Dental Society. This action permitted towns and villages around Buffalo not only to share in the society’s activities, but to have proper representation in the organization itself. The Erie County Dental Society now became, under its first president, Henry Spiller, ’35, the proper component of the Eighth District Dental Society.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the society and to kick off the occasion, an installation dinner was held on January 11 at the Buffalo Club. Newly elected officers include Amy Rappold, ’03, president, Darren Forcier, ’01, vice president, Joshua Grant, ’00, secretary, Tara Halliwell-Kemp, ’05, assistant secretary, and James Hoddick, treasurer.

Source: Erie County Dental Society, Centennial, 1864–1964; compiled by the centennial committee

—Compiled by Robin Comeau
EVENT CELEBRATES SQUIRE SOCIETY EXPANSION

Last fall’s Squire Society event at the Fontana Boathouse along the Niagara River in Buffalo was a rousing success. The guests of honor were donors who have given $1,000 or more during the previous fiscal year. An increase of about 20 percent in Squire Society members was noted, along with an increase in the retention of Squire level donors as well.

Other guests of honor at the event were Dean Michael Glick, members of the School of Dental Medicine Advancement Council (many of whom were also Squire Members) and the school’s American Student Dental Association leadership who were there to mingle with the guests. Laura Barres, Class of 2015, and an honorary Squire member, even made tooth- and toothbrush-shaped cookies for the event.

The newly formed School of Dental Medicine Advancement Council consists of William Calnon, ’78, Chair, Steven Guttenberg, ’69, Gerard Meuchner (Vice President and Chief Global Communications Officer, Henry Schein, Inc.), George Tysowsky (Vice President for Technology, Ivoclar Vivadent, Inc.), Allen Finkelstein (Chief Executive Officer, Bedford Healthcare Solutions), Ronald Inge (Vice President for Professional Services/Dental Director, Washington Dental Service), Erie County Health Commissioner Gale Burstein, MD ’90, and Ex-Officio Stanley Bergman (Chief Executive Officer, Henry Schein, Inc.).

MOSER MAKES THE MOST OF HER ROLE IN DEVELOPMENT

Since she arrived in the Office of Development in October 2012, Associate Director Danielle Moser has been working with the group of leadership donors and trying to grow the Daniel H. Squire Society (donors who give $1,000 or more annually). She also meets with alumni and coordinates the fundraising efforts for classes celebrating their reunions.

Moser’s career in nonprofit/fundraising started when she volunteered at the Kevin Guest House in college and then participated in a marathon for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s Team In Training program. “From there I was hooked,” she recalls. “I knew I wanted to work in nonprofits.” Moser began her career as the coordinator for the Team In Training program at the society, recruiting marathoners and century riders and helping them reach fundraising goals. Then she went to work on multiple events and fundraising initiatives with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation before arriving at the dental school.

“It’s been great working here and having the opportunity to talk to many alumni. I enjoy hearing about their times at the dental school and the different paths that they’ve taken afterwards,” she notes. “It’s encouraging to see the leadership donor pool increasing as alumni are reconnecting with the school and showing their support.”
THE MANY SIDES OF DEAN JAMES A. ENGLISH, SET AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE DENTAL SCHOOL IN THE 1960s WHERE HE INITIATED GREAT ADVANCEMENTS.
THE RIGHT MAN, FOR THE RIGHT JOB, AT THE RIGHT TIME

HOW THE INSIGHTFUL LEADERSHIP OF JAMES ENGLISH TRANSFORMED A TRADITIONAL DENTAL SCHOOL INTO A LEADING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

James A. English was dean of the UB Dental School from 1960 to 1970, during which time the school was transformed from a traditional provincial school into an internationally known educational and research institution. The changes that took place during that period were a direct result of Dean English’s wisdom, leadership and energy. “Jim” English passed away in 2004 at the age of 94 and his contributions to the dental school, the dental profession and the university deserve to be remembered and honored. This article recounts this history and the role that Dean English played.

“Jim” English graduated in 1936 from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dentistry. He was a veteran of World War II and spent 24 years as a dental officer in the U.S. Navy, retiring with the rank of captain. While in the Navy, he earned an MS degree in Pathology and a PhD in Biochemistry. He served as science liaison officer, Office of Naval Research in London, England, and was admitted as a member to the Royal Society of Medicine, London. He was also commended by the Surgeon General of the Navy for outstanding performance of duty.

English also served as president of the International Association for Dental Research, 1961-62. Thus, when he became dean in 1960, English was already a productive scientist with much experience in patient care, public health and administration. In addition, he had developed many relationships with dental educators, investigators and policymakers throughout the world.

In 1960, the University of Buffalo (UB) was a small private university with a strong local following. However, things were about to change. Nelson Rockefeller, who was elected governor of New York in 1959, began to expand the State University of New York (SUNY) system. In addition, Clifford C. Furnas, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense, had become chancellor of UB in 1954. After guiding UB through the merger with SUNY, Furnas became the first president of SUNY at Buffalo. In this role, he fully supported English’s agenda, making it possible for him to accomplish so much during his deanship.

In 1960, the faculty of the UB Dental School consisted of a group of very dedicated clinicians who had kept the school going during very difficult times, including the Great Depression and World War II. Most were UB dental school graduates and all were part-time teachers who conducted private dental practices in the local community. Very few had formal residency or graduate training in the discipline they were teaching.

By the standards of the day, the school provided good dental care for its patients. However, if a potential patient had a systemic condition, they were considered a “non-teaching case” and were not accepted as a patient. As a result, the excellent basic science knowledge imparted to the dental students by the medical school was rarely, if ever, used or reinforced in the clinical years. Furthermore, no research programs existed in any of the dental departments.

As his first priority, English set out to recruit full-time dental faculty in all of the traditional disciplines. Due to his contacts, he was able to recruit faculty from among retired Navy dental officers and other federal agencies, from other U.S. dental schools, and from among several of the existing part-time faculty, some of whom obtained extra training and made academic dentistry a full-time career.

Also, convinced of the need for global cooperation in dental education and research, English recruited full-time faculty from such countries as Denmark, England, Japan and Norway. These efforts resulted in a dental school faculty that was educationally and culturally diverse, in contrast to what had previously existed.

His leadership skills were then able to forge the faculty into a cohesive and highly motivated group. This was greatly enhanced by English’s “going to bat” for the faculty. For example, in the 1960s, UB was in the early stages of becoming a major research university and its promotion policies began to reflect that reality. As a result, academic advancement for dental faculty became a problem until English was able to convince the president that the dental faculty needed time to achieve the expected standards, which they eventually did.
English also considered the basic science departments of the medical school as departments of the dental school and acted accordingly. The chairs of those departments were invited to be full voting members of the executive and other standing committees of the dental school, a move that greatly enhanced communication between the clinical and basic science departments.

He also emphasized the need to develop new knowledge and urged the faculty to understand the underlying principles of what they were doing and teaching. One of his favorite expressions was, “You should read the label before opening the can.” His pursuit of “knowledge-driven” dental practice was a concept now termed “evidence-based dentistry.”

During his periodic walks through the clinics, English would gently suggest to anyone standing around or chatting that they “read something useful instead.” After appointing a new department chair, he would often ask, “What are you going to do now?” If the reply was, “I’m going to be a department chair,” he would respond, “That’s your title, but what are you going to do?”

The dean was always open to suggestions from young faculty who, he recognized, represented the future of the school. Student class officers were invited to serve on school committees.

He also strongly discouraged the use of ethnic or gender stereotypes. During his tenure, the first tangible steps were taken to recruit women and those from minority and disadvantaged groups as students and as members of the faculty.

English also initiated an honor system and a student-administered honor court to address any ethical violations. This system, in addition to its attempt to curtail unprofessional behavior by very competitive dental students, was intended to encourage ethical behavior as they cared for patients after graduation.

One of the dean’s most creative innovations was to establish the Department of Oral Biology. He gave himself the academic title, Professor of Oral Biology, and recruited a top scientist to chair the department. Oral Biology went on to recruit a group of very competent researchers, both dentists and non-dentists. In 1963, the department developed the first PhD program in Oral Biology in the U.S. That program became extremely successful and has produced many top scientists in the U.S. and around the world. Oral Biology also became very successful in obtaining external funding for research and research training.

By the time English stepped down as dean in 1970, major curriculum changes were already underway. The existing curriculum of only having basic science courses taught during the first year was changed when courses in dental anatomy, principles of occlusion, and dental materials were included. In addition, a basic science course (pharmacology) was moved from the second to the third year.

The senior elective program had been introduced and the first comprehensive care clinic had been initiated during the second semester of the senior year. This clinic provided a more realistic model of general dental practice, resulting in fewer patient visits and greater efficiency of inter-disciplinary problem solving. It also provided the framework upon which all patients could be accepted regardless of their medical condition. This became extremely important as the patient population aged and more systemic diseases and orofacial problems among the school’s patients had to be diagnosed and managed.

In 1970, as a result of the dean’s leadership, the dental school had built a full-time clinical and research faculty, developed a genuine partnership with the medical school’s basic science departments and other UB departments, revised the dental curriculum, developed new pre-doctoral, post-doctoral and graduate programs, opened opportunities to qualified individuals irrespective of nationality, gender, race or ethnicity, and built an infrastructure for basic and clinical research.

The school had also earned a very positive national and international reputation and gained recognition as a valuable and respected component of UB and of SUNY. This is very significant since many had previously regarded dentistry as a narrow technical field. Thus, it is clear that James A. English was the right man, for the right job, at the right time. It would be very appropriate for a permanent memorial to honor his contributions be established on the UB campus.
Bringing rays of hope in the sunshine state

The enduring postcard image of Fort Lauderdale, Florida as a sun-and-fun capital where many flock to enjoy a resort environment belies a darker side for a large segment of the populace. On any given night, there are more than 2,800 homeless individuals and families in the city and surrounding county.

The Broward Partnership for the Homeless, a large 200-bed residential short-term housing facility in Fort Lauderdale, has cared for more than 18,000 since it opened 15 years ago. For the past eight of those years, Lisa Silverberg, BA, ’73, DDS ’85, has been helping the homeless get back on their feet through their teeth—or lack of—in the facility’s dental clinic, one of the few programs of its kind in the country.

“Most of the clients have almost never seen a dentist in their lives,” she says. “They have no concept of oral hygiene. They have severe periodontal disease, a lot of missing teeth, terrible nutrition and rampant decay. They have little or no confidence, because their smiles are so compromised.” Silverberg has been filling in many of the gaps of those smiles to help the clients look their best for job interviews, and she’s been doing it with very limited resources.

“We don’t have the money to do crown and bridge or to do dentures. Everything that I do has to be done as a direct procedure in the mouth,” she explains. “I developed a technique that I used to use in my private practice, making what I call fiber-reinforced composite bridges. Initially I considered it to be a temporary restoration just so they could get a job, but we’ve found that some of the bridges have lasted for many years. It has restored their confidence and they have been able to get out into the workforce and get jobs.

“This job has become so fulfilling that I can’t imagine doing anything else.”

The native of Rockaway Beach, New York, first came to the University at Buffalo in 1969 where she earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology, pre-med, in 1973. After acquiring further education in medical technology and working in Manhattan for seven years, Silverberg decided that she wanted to go to dental school “because I wanted to do more with my life and work more directly with people, with my hands in the science field.”

At age 29 she was accepted into the UB dental school. “At that time, there were only about 10 or 11 women in the class. I was pretty much 10 years older than almost everybody,” she recalls. “I thought the education I received was fantastic, top-notch all the way.”

She had met her future husband in dental school and they got married during their studies. After graduating in 1985,
she did her residency in Brooklyn before the couple moved to the Albany area where they established a private practice together. After raising two children and a subsequent divorce, Silverberg moved to Florida for a new beginning in 2006.

That same year the Fort Lauderdale facility got a privately funded grant to start an in-house dental clinic. Silverberg, with her new Florida license, was hired as the dentist to start the program. “I loved it so much from the first day I was here that I never left,” she declares. She works three days a week in an office with three chairs, two hygienists and an assistant. The clients, as they’re called, spend an average of 60 days at the facility during which time they are assisted in obtaining housing and employment and to stay off the streets.

Silverberg has perfected the fiber-reinforced composite bridge technique into an efficient procedure with staying power. “Usually this is made for just one tooth, but I have been able to successfully do it with up to six teeth, from canine to canine, and even more,” she says. “I’m doing this all by hand. It’s the kind of thing that people wouldn’t normally do in private practice but I get to do that here, and it’s really creative, which is the main reason I went into dentistry.”

The resources at hand are limited to composite. “Everything that we do for these people has to be done right then and there. Because they’re only here for 60 days, I can’t send anything out to a lab. You never know if they are going to come back. Many have never had their teeth cleaned. We teach them how to brush and floss and emphasize that they should do it after every meal. We really change their whole attitude. If they have to go back out on the streets, at least they have some cognizance of how to take care of their teeth.

“Because of their mental or physical disabilities or drug issues, we do have recidivism here,” she adds. “If they end up coming back, we get to see patients again to see how our work has held up. And it holds up!”

Those who visit the clinic are mostly males who range from ages 19 to 68, with the average age 40. “There’s a lot of ex-convicts and recovering drug addicts and alcoholics,” she notes. “There are also many, many people there that have just hit really bad luck, especially during the economic downturn. Clients cry because they can’t believe the change and how much it means to them. It’s been an absolute blessing for me to help people every day.”

Lisa Silverberg may have set out to start a new life for herself in Florida but in the process she has helped start new lives for many others.
The parade of youth ushered through the doors of Squire Hall on a cold single-digit day in February numbered in the hundreds. Most were very young. They were greeted warmly at the front door, led in a rousing chorus of “If You’re Happy and You Know It” and then guided by various “dental heroes” to a friendly dental experience to maintain their healthy smiles.

The 12th annual Give Kids a Smile (GKAS) Day was underway—eight hours of bustling activity that sets the dental school aglow with beam- ing young smiles, fresh from receiving needed care.

Six hundred young patients, ages 3 to 20, pre-K to high school, opened wide for 250 private dentists and dental hygienists, and SDM faculty, students and staff who donated their time to provide dental cleanings and treatment for those who may not receive regular dental care and who may be seeing a dentist for the first time.

This year’s theme was “Super smiles brought to you courtesy of your dental hero.” Besides the gowned
All Around
at 12th Annual Give Kids a Smile Day

heroes chair-side, there were hundreds of volunteers acting as caped crusaders alongside such figures as Buster Bison, Sabretooth and Dudley the Dinosaur helping guide the children and their parents through tours of the dental clinics, oral hygiene instruction and the hands-on activities of the Teddy Bear Clinic in neighboring Harriman Hall, a fun health fair designed for little children.

GKAS clinical coordinator M. Dian ChinKit-Wells, clinical assistant professor in the UB Department of Pediatric and Community Dentistry and a 1994 alumna of UB’s dental school, has been there from the start when the SDM was among the pioneering dental schools in the country to open its doors to a day of free dentistry for an underserved community.
This year, 320 of the 600 young patients came from Bethel Head Start, bused to Squire from their classrooms. Other patients came with their parents who called ahead for appointments to say that their child needs dental care and that they may lack the means to provide it. High school students from several Buffalo Public Schools were pre-screened and scheduled for treatment. The outreach also included Buffalo’s significant refugee population, and the Amish population from Sherman, N.Y. was in greater abundance this year.

Each child left the UB clinics with a toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss and instruction on how to keep their teeth healthy.

Wells noted that the dental community rallies around the event, growing in volunteers each year. “This year has been huge in terms of our pediatric dental residents, residents from Roswell Park Cancer Center and Erie County Medical Center.”

She adds that more dental students were involved this year—about 77 total—including a contingent of freshmen and sophomores. “We’re finding out that very early on in their dental careers they want to do more for the community and they want more patient experience,” Wells relates.

Also, a more visible connection between medical and dental services was apparent. At the first-floor clinic, Deborah Raiken, MD, clinical assistant professor, Pediatrics, was taking children’s weights and temperatures. At the Teddy Bear clinic, Elizabeth Hatton, MD, clinical assistant professor, Oral Diagnostic Sciences, and her daughter Elizabeth, a graduate student accepted into the DDS program this fall, were taking peeks into young ears amidst the juggling, rope twirling, plate spinning entertainment of the Buffalo Jugglers that brought wide eyes and wider smiles from the crowd.
The objective goes beyond the day-long event. “Every year we work to find our children a dentist in their local community or they can continue to come to UB and call us their dental home,” says Wells. “It is important that our patients continue with dental care more than just once a year.”

She emphasizes the extensive team effort involved. “We call ourselves the UB Smile Team because this is beyond dentistry; this is about smiling. You cannot have a healthy smile if you didn’t get the dentistry to support that. That’s why UB is here.”

In addition to UB Provost Charles F. Zukoski, dignitaries who were in attendance included Erie County Commissioner of Health Gale R. Burstein and City of Buffalo Second Deputy Mayor Ellen S. Grant.

Burstein, who mentioned that her father is a recently retired UB dental faculty member, noted that as a pediatrician, “I know that problems with oral health can affect eating, growth and general health in children. The UB School of Dental Medicine is a great partner for us in Erie County and one of our community’s greatest health assets.”

The event is held as part of National Children’s Dental Health Month in collaboration with the American Dental Association and the Eighth District Dental Society. The day was dedicated to Judith Lampasso, ’93, MS ’96, TMD Cert. ’97, Ortho. Cert. ’99, PhD ’02, who died in September. A former SDM faculty member in orthodontics, she was known for her substantial support of the event.
For Cheryl Sears, the dental assisting program in UB’s Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) was a godsend. A young mom at the time with an inclination toward dentistry but strapped for cash to pursue such an education, the EOC program provided “a wonderful foundation for dental assisting. I walked out of there so confident.” And, like many others in the program, she walked right into employment, first in a private practice in the area before joining the UB dental clinic in 1986 where she is now a senior dental assistant.

For the past 40 years, the EOC dental assisting program has been helping many across Western New York find their calling in dentistry and beyond. In October 2013, the program moved to Squire Hall for clinical studies—a move initiated by SDM Dean Michael Glick—and to new classroom quarters in the Buffalo Niagara medical corridor downtown.

“The advantage of being here in the dental school is that EOC students are having daily interaction either in the clinic or in the lab,” says program director Susan Camizzi. “They’re really in an academic atmosphere at a different level so they really understand now what a dental student has to do to become a dentist.”
Joseph Gambacorta, assistant dean for clinical affairs, concurs. “It’s a win-win situation for everybody. There are two sets of students at the beginning of their careers so what better place to coordinate all the learning activities when you can learn from each other and understand what each person in the dental team does.”

Camizzi, herself a graduate of the program, has been on the EOC faculty for 30 years, the last 10 as director. “About half of the assistants here in the dental school are graduates of the EOC,” she notes. “We’ve had students go on to dental hygiene, law school, become teachers. We’ve opened the door to education for them, and they can run with it, become employed or go on to college and get a different education and take a different career path. We educate people from 18 to 60. We had a recent graduate who was 60. She got a job in a second.”

The tuition-free program, directly funded through the state, is open to academically or financially disadvantaged persons. The fall and spring semester program is approximately 1,000 hours, accredited through the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a New York State registered program. National and state standards are met. The students do approximately 700 hours in classroom and laboratory time and a minimum of 300 hours clinical time in a dental office and in the dental school.

The Advanced Dental Assisting Program Track (ADAPT) is an additional New York State registered program administered through the university, the SDM’s Office of Continuing Education, and the EOC. It is for dental assistants who want to be licensed and are on-the-job trained and meet the criteria of taking the Dental Assisting National Board exam by virtue of having 3,500 hours of work experience.

Camizzi says that demographically it’s a well-rounded group of people as far as age, race and socio-economic background. “We do have a few men in the program now. That’s the biggest change in our population.”

The program graduates 20–25 students annually. “Most of them get jobs here. The area dental community is very accommodating,” Camizzi adds.

Elaine Hennie-Megna, ’78, retired private practitioner, has been on the EOC faculty for 30 years as well. She is proud to be the second African American female to graduate from the dental school. Two years ago she organized Buffalo’s African American female dentists to form Future Dentists Mentoring Committee, with a goal of increasing the number of young minority females applying to, gaining acceptance and completing dental school. Fifteen young women have been mentored to date. “The EOC dental assisting program’s exceptional students have always been invited to join the committee,” she notes.

As part of the program’s faculty, Megna teaches chair-side dentistry from the dentist’s point of view, and she also focuses on materials, both old and new, used in dentistry. She is proud to be part of a faculty team—which also includes lab assistants Lauricia Thomas and Ellen Ruof, program and ADAPT graduates, respectively—that has helped build the excellent reputation the program’s graduates have in the community. “With the new licensure requirements of many state facilities, our students are getting higher salaries and benefits available at hospitals, schools and large practices,” she says. “Since moving to the dental school, the student is being introduced to all the different aspects of the profession. This relationship is good for both the assistant and the dental student. It is a good beginning for both schools.”
Student Match Day 2014 is
A FAMILY AFFAIR

Family ties were bound tightly on a blustery January morning as members of the SDM Class of 2014 anxiously opened emails to learn what postdoctoral program accepted them. And their families, part of the SDM community and beyond, were just as anxious for them. Student Match Day is an exciting time of anticipation for life after graduation in the year of additional study required by New York State, especially with parental support.

THE MCCULLOUGHS

Carly McCullough applied for a general practice residency (GPR), like her father, Patrick McCullough, ’77, a member of the SDM admissions committee. “He always talks of his residency as one of the best decisions of his life. He was introduced to so many different techniques and situations,” she says.

Carly was accepted at St. Peter’s Hospital in Albany, 45 minutes down the highway from her home in Queensbury and the town of Hudson Falls, where her father’s practice has been a fixture for 35 years. “This is an all-around solid program, lots of good dentistry and good hospital experience.”

She credits her father with inspiring her to work in the dental field. “My dad had me come to the office one day to shadow him and I was amazed at what actually went on. He also had taken extracted teeth and mounted them in plaster for me to drill on. He really knew how to get a girl hooked.”

Her father recalled Davis Garlapo, ’68, Pros. Cert. ’75, as his primary mentor when he went to school here—an experience extended to Carly. “I worked with Dr. Garlapo on a crown I did for my father, so it was kind of a reverse generation mentorship.”

“I didn’t realize how great an education I was getting here until I started interviewing for my residencies. I found that people don’t get as much experience as we do here. I’m grateful to be here. Dad’s experiences in the school were influential,” says Carly.

THE RUOCOS

Meaghan Ruocco may have the closest proximity of any matches. She will travel across Bailey Avenue from Squire Veterans Administration Medical Center Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) program—the same route her father took after his SDM graduation in 1986.

Ferdinand Ruocco, clinical assistant professor and a predoctoral clinic group leader, observed that the VA is a good program in Western New York to do comprehensive general dentistry—“You’ll see a wide range of patients and...
do a lot of different dental procedures.”  
“I’m hoping to become proficient in all aspects of dentistry so that when I get into practice, I’ll be able to work with confidence,” says Meaghan.

She will have a ready step from her residency into her father’s general dentistry practice. It’s a place where she was inspired to switch from a physical therapy pursuit to dentistry as she occasionally helped out.

“Watching how he interacts with patients and how he carries his work throughout his life influenced me,” she says. “Whenever I’m showing him my work, he’s very honest and practical.”

“I basically tell her how it’s done in the real world,” he relates.

THE MAHAJANS

Nisha Mahajan was inspired by her sister who became a dentist. Her father set the tone when he moved his family from India where he struggled as a lawyer to Calgary, Alberta, Canada, where he started a new business. “He wanted us to be something that people need,” she recalls. “He said, ’People will always need doctors and dentists.’” And so, his four children are equally divided between medicine and dentistry.

Nisha followed her sister to dental school in India at the age of 17. After six years there, she applied to SDM’s International Dental Program (IDP). “It’s a good program, very competitive,” she says, being one of only 24 chosen out of about a thousand applicants.

She aced her first choice on Match Day, a hospital-based dentistry program in Hartford, CT. The program’s internal medicine, emergency medicine and anesthesia rotations were attractive to her.

Of particular interest was the program’s oncology rotation, which is more prominent in the program’s optional second year. Nisha had a cancerous kidney removed four years ago and has been cancer-free since. “I’ve been more interested in dealing with cancer patients,” she reasons. “I think I’m more empathetic towards them.”

She loved the two-year IDP here and got a welcome reception when she visited the Hartford program. “Everyone is always very impressed with UB. Two other people from our class are also going to the same program,” she says. “They really like UB on the East Coast.”

Postgraduate plans were underway for a total of 110 members of the Class of 2014 during this year’s Match Day. More than half are headed into general dentistry programs (GPR, AECD), followed by specialty areas (oral surgery, periodontics, orthodontics, prosthodontics, anesthesiology) and private practice. Fifty students will be doing their postgraduate work in New York, with 17 of them remaining in Buffalo. The others will be spread across 21 other states and four Canadian provinces. All are primed for matchless experiences on the way to their careers.

“I DIDN’T REALIZE HOW GREAT AN EDUCATION I WAS GETTING HERE UNTIL I STARTED INTERVIEWING FOR MY RESIDENCIES.” —Carly McCullough
Salamon Wins National Oral Health Award

Josef M. Salamon, ’07, received the 2013 National Oral Health Council Clinical Excellence Award for Junior Career Level, the highest award given by the IHS Division of Oral Health. Salamon is dental services director and CIRHC dental unit supervisor, Seneca Nation Health System.

“It is a pleasure working with my fellow UB alumni—Erin L. Brown, ’09, Stephen J. Illig, ’73, Alexander N. Campagna, ’09, and Erica L. Scott, ’08—as we strive to deliver excellent care to the members of the Seneca Nation and the Western New York Native American Community,” he says.

Among his accomplishments over the past year are expanded pediatric and orthodontic coverage, and new initiatives including a comprehensive sports-related dental injury prevention program, prioritized patients with diabetes and expectant mothers for hygiene services, and implementation of a “fluoride fast lane” to allow open access for 0-5 year-olds—the first program of its kind which has now spread across the IHS.

Alumni Brunch Way Down Yonder in New Orleans

The University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association hosted an alumni brunch during the annual ADA Meeting. The reception was held in the beautiful courtyard of The Court of Two Sisters Restaurant in New Orleans, Louisiana on November 2, 2013. The event featured live jazz music and more than 50 alumni and friends, welcomed by Dean Michael Glick and Joshua T. Hutter, ’05, president of the UB Dental Alumni Association at the time.
FORE! BILLY BARUE TOURNAMENT SET FOR MAY 3

The 25th annual Billy Barue golf outing is scheduled for May 3 at the Chestnut Hill Country Club in Darien Center, NY. The $75 per player ($300 team) fee includes unlimited range balls, 18 holes with golf carts, barbecue lunch, steak dinner, beverages, raffle and door prizes. Cash is accepted; checks should be made payable to ASDA. For more information, contact Tim Violante at timothyv@buffalo.edu or 716-523-7266, or Mike Weinstein at mw68@buffalo.edu or 315-408-5570.

ALUMNI AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Alumni Office is accepting nominations for the Honor and Humanitarian awards.

The Honor award is given to those whose enthusiastic and unifying endeavors have helped to promote the continued growth, development and success of the UB School of Dental Medicine.

The Humanitarian award is given to the alumnus who best exhibits the following characteristics: unselfishness, concern for others, commitment to dentistry, commitment to and involvement in the community, high moral character; and someone who through his or her actions has become a Leader in the community.

If you know of an alumnus who is deserving of either honor, please contact the Alumni Office at 800-756-0328, ext. 2, or 716-829-2061. Nominations may also be faxed to 716-829-3609, or emailed to Sherry Szarowski at ss287@buffalo.edu.

CALL FOR YEARBOOKS

The Dental Alumni Association is attempting to complete a yearbook library stretching from the turn of the 20th century to the present. The association hopes to obtain at least two copies for each year. Volumes still needed include:

- 1892-1897
- 1908-1914
- 1916
- 1919-1920
- 1922
- 1925-1929
- 1931-1937

If you have any of these volumes and would be willing to donate them, call Sherry Szarowski at 829-2061 or 800-756-0328, ext. 2.

The Dental Alumni Association is a not-for-profit organization; your donation may be tax deductible.

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO?

Your classmates and colleagues want to read about you as much as you want to read about them. Let us know what’s new in your life.

Our pages on alumni news and class notes are eager to spread the news. Photos are always welcome. Send your announcements to Sherry Szarowski ss287@buffalo.edu.

SHERRY SZAROWSKI

ALUMNI DIRECTORY UPDATES

The Dental Alumni Association would like to produce a directory in 2014. Alumni will be sent an email with a link that will allow them to check and update home/office address, email and phone number. You may also update by calling the alumni office at 716-829-2061, faxing to 716-829-3609 or emailing Amanda Jackson at agjackso@buffalo.edu.

SOUTH DENTIST 25
April 11 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
UB Dental Hygiene Symposium
Hello! There’s More to Hygiene Than Perio: Chairside Management of Dental Caries
Salvatore’s Italian Gardens, Transit Road, Buffalo
John Maggio, DDS
TUITION: $145
6 CE HRS

April 30 (6 to 9 p.m.)
Creating Ideal Gingiva Around Dental Implants and Teeth
200G Baldy Hall, N. Campus
Othman Shibly, DDS
TUITION: $65 [BUF]
Distance learning surcharge applies
3 CE HRS

April 30 (8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.)
2nd Annual UB/8th District Conference
Update in Direct and Indirect Restorative Dentistry: Mastering Today’s Materials for Your Practice
Allen Hall, UB South Campus
Lou Graham, DDS
ALUMNI MEMBER: $175
8TH DISTRICT MEMBER: $175
NONMEMBER: $225
TEAM MEMBER: $75
6 CE HRS

May 2 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
Annual Sugarman, AO and Metro Study Club Event
Digital Impression Symposium: Which Technology is Best for You?
Salvatore’s Italian Gardens, Transit Road, Buffalo
ALUMNI/AO MEMBER: $195
NONMEMBER: $225
TEAM MEMBER: $95
6 CE HRS

May 2-3 (Fri-Sat 9 a.m. to noon)
Guidelines for Immediate Implant Placed in Fresh Extraction Socket – Surgical and Restorative Considerations to Minimize Esthetic Complications with Live Surgery Demo
UB School of Dental Medicine
Ahmad Kutkut, DDS, MS, Mohanad Al-Sabbagh, DDS, Othman Shibly, DDS, MS
ALUMNI MEMBER: $695
NONMEMBER: $795
TEAM MEMBER: $95
10 CE HRS

May 15-16
(Repeats June 12-13)
(9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
Individualized Endodontics, Lectures and Workshop ‘...mano a mano’
UB School of Dental Medicine
DENTIST: $995
14 CE HRS

May 16 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
Advanced Concepts in the Evaluation, Assessment & Care of Dental Implants
UB School of Dental Medicine
Lynn Mortilla, RDH
DENTIST: $195
TEAM MEMBER: $95
6 CE HRS

May 21 (6 to 9 p.m.)
Forensic Dentistry/Applications in GP
200G Baldy Hall, N. Campus
Mary Bush, DDS and Raymond Miller, DDS
TUITION: $65 [BUF]
Distance learning surcharge applies
3 CE HRS

May 28 (6 to 9 p.m.)
Early Orthodontic Treatment: To Treat or Not to Treat?
200G Baldy Hall, N. Campus
Sawsan Tabbaa, DDS, MS
TUITION: $65 [BUF]
Distance learning surcharge applies
3 CE HRS

May 30 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
Lasers in Dentistry: The Science You Need to Know, Clinical Applications and Hands-on Training
UB School of Dental Medicine
Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS, Robert Yetto, DDS and Thomas Mang, PhD
DENTIST: $495
TEAM MEMBER: $225
6 CE HRS

June 4 (6 to 9 p.m.)
Current Concepts in Oral Pathology
200G Baldy Hall, N. Campus
José Tapia, DDS, MS
TUITION: $65 [BUF]
Distance learning surcharge applies
3 CE HRS

Annamarie Phalen
Associate Director, Continuing Dental Education
**TRAVEL COURSES**

Enjoy travel opportunities with UB and through collaborations with other university dental schools. Please reference UB!

**JUNE 15–24**

**BALTIC CRUISE**

Nine-day cruise aboard Norwegian Star (Round trip Copenhagen), in partnership with University of Iowa College of Dentistry

**Emerging Dental Technologies**

Alan Swett, DDS, University of Iowa College of Dentistry and private practice in Johnston, Iowa

**CABIN PRICES START AT $1,499 PER PERSON**

**DENTIST TUITION:** $325

**OTHERS:** $200

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**FEBRUARY 22 – MARCH 1, 2015**

**WESTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE**

Seven-day Western Caribbean cruise aboard Celebrity Silhouette (Round trip Fort Lauderdale), in partnership with the University of Toronto.

**Oral Surgery Demystified for the General Dentist**

Howard I. Holmes, DDS, University of Toronto

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**NON-DENTIST:** $395 CAD

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**JUNE 6 (9 A.M. TO 4 P.M.)**

**ANNUAL JOHN J. CUNAT EDUCATIONAL FUND PROGRAM**

Advanced Treatment Using the Pre-Adjusted Appliance

Salvatore’s Italian Gardens, Transit Road, Buffalo

Richard McLaughlin, DDS

**ALUMNI MEMBER:** $195

**NONMEMBER DENTIST:** $225

**TEAM MEMBER:** $95

6 CE HRS

**JUNE 19 (6 TO 9 P.M.)**

**UB IMPLANT STUDY CLUB**

Utilizing an Implant Coordinator in Your Practice

UB School of Dental Medicine

Frank Sindoni, DDS, MD

**SINGLE MEETING TUITION:** $225

**Distance learning surcharge applies**

3 CE HRS

**JUNE 25-27**

(8:30 A.M. DAILY)

**35TH ANNUAL DENTAL CONGRESS**


**Periodontal-Restorative Relationships – Thu.**

**Drug Interactions – Impact on Practice – Fri.**

Chautauqua Institution

Featuring UB Faculty Etern Park, DDS, MD, Violet Haraszthy, DDS, MS, PhD, and Sebastian Ciancio, DDS

**DENTIST:** $225

**TEAM MEMBER:** $125

12 CE HRS

**COURSE REGISTRATION**

Confirmation notice will be emailed upon receipt of your tuition payment.

**TO REGISTER**

**PHONE:** Call 716-829-2320 | Toll-free 800-756-0328

**ONLINE:** Complete course details and online registration available on the UB dental events course calendar at [www.ubdentalalumni.com](http://www.ubdentalalumni.com)

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**ADA CEREP**

UB*CDE is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. UB*CDE designates these activities for continuing education credits.

Updated 1/27/14. All information correct as of press time. UB CDE reserves the right to change tuition, dates, topics and/or speakers as necessary.
The Seneca Nation Dental Program (Salamanca and Irving, NY), directed by Erin L. Brown, ’09, and Joseph M. Salamon, ’07, was awarded 2013 Indian Health Services’ Best Overall Dental Program. This is a competitive award given to an IHS, tribal, or urban dental program within the Nashville area IHS that comprises approximately 40 clinics in the southeast and northeast USA. The award is based on annual program review, quality improvement, and oral health promotion. The program also recently won two grants to fund a sports-related dental injury prevention program for Seneca athletes (developed with assistance from David P. Croglio, ’87) and the extramural clinical rotation program with SDM students.

Brian J. Jackson, ’89, recently published an oral implantology article in the November issue of the dental journal, Dentistry Today. The title of the manuscript is, “Small Diameter Implants: A Treatment Consideration for the Maxillary Edentulous Patient.”

Jackson is a diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry and an honored fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry. He is a partner in the group practice, Slavin, Jackson, Burns and Herbowy, with locations in Utica and Waterville, N.Y.

Hanau Cup Hockey hits the ice April 18
Attention all puck-chasing alumni, students, staff and faculty. The annual Hanau Cup Hockey Tournament gets underway Friday, April 18, 7:00 – 8:30 PM, at Northtown Center at Amherst, across from the Coventry Road entrance to the North Campus. Students play for free, others pay about $15. After the ice contest, chill at a post-game party at The Steer on Main Street near the South Campus for pizza, wings and beverages.

The event is sponsored by the UB Dental Alumni Association and Dental Dynamics. For more information or to participate, contact Sherry Szarowski at 829-6419 or ss287@buffalo.edu.

The highlight of the event was the pledge of $25,000 from Ian M. Lerner, General Chairman Elect of the 2013 GNY Dental Meeting, to help kick-start the fundraising efforts for clinic operatories. UB SDM was asked to assist in the first-ever RAM clinic held at the 2014 GNY Dental Meeting in the Javits Center, which will help hundreds of people receive dental treatment.

For those in the New York City area who would like to become involved in the UBDA Greater New York City Chapter, please contact Ivan Lee at iv2l@aol.com.

Good things come in threes
Congratulations to Jason Creps, ’09, and wife Mary Creps, ’10, who welcomed triplets to their family on December 10, 2013.
In Memoriam

Russell J. Nisengard, '66, Perio. Cert., PhD, '70, died December 5, 2013. He was a member of the SDM faculty from 1970 to 2010 and was recognized for his teaching in microbiology and periodontology by being designated a SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor. He also served as associate dean for advanced education for 17 years and interim dean for two years. Nisengard was the recipient of a number of awards including SDM Educator of the Year and the William Gies Award from the American Academy of Periodontology, and was recognized nationally and internationally for his research in the area of oral immunology. He served as president of the UB Dental Alumni Association in 2007. In addition to his "official" service to the school, he was a friend and advisor to many faculty and staff members.

Paul H. Will, ’58, of Dewittville, N.Y., died on October 13, 2013. He was 80.

Karl J. Englert, ’60, born and raised in Buffalo, died on October 30, 2013. He was 78. After graduating from the SDM, he served in the US Navy, stationed in Parris Island, S.C. He then moved to Lakewood, N.Y. where he practiced dentistry for 40 years before retiring to Pensacola Beach, Fla.

John D. Waldo, ’48, born in Albion, N.Y. died on October 8, 2013. He was 92. After serving in the US Army during World War II, he attended the SDM and was a member of Xi Psi Phi dental fraternity. In 1950, he began a 40-year dental practice in Columbia County, N.Y., in the village of Philmont and the city of Hudson.

Richard L. Hanks, ’59, of Omak, Wash., died on December 28, 2013. He was 79. A native of Ithaca, N.Y., he spent three years in the Army Dental Corps in Fort Richardson, Alaska, and eventually established a private practice in Anchorage, in 1966. For many years, he was associated with the Alaska Sled Dog and Racing Association, competing in many races throughout the state. In 1977, he and his family moved to Omak and purchased an apple orchard where Hanks pursued his interest in agriculture.

Milton W. Tretiak, ’52, of New York City, died on December 29, 2013. He was 85. While a captain in the U.S. Army, he served as a dentist and later opened his own practice, from which he retired. In retirement, he enjoyed spending the winters at his home in Palm Beach, Fla.

Robert J. Kohnke, ’54, of Niagara Falls, N.Y., died on January 25, 2014. He was a graduate of St. Bonaventure University, and practiced dentistry in North Tonawanda for 43 years. An avid golfer, he enjoyed the outdoors spending summers at the family cottage in Long Beach, Ontario.

William W. Rathke, ’51, an orthodontist who had a long-time practice in Hamburg, N.Y., died on January 10, 2014 in Berlin, Vt., where he moved to be near his children after suffering an illness. He was 90. Rathke grew up in South Buffalo and served in the U.S. Navy near the end of World War II. He went on to graduate from the SDM and received his orthodontics certification from Columbia University. He was a member of the Rotary Club of Hamburg, and named a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. He was an active alumnus of the SDM and retired from his career at age 84.

Marilyn Sulzbach, friend and former executive secretary of the University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association, passed away on February 19, 2014. She started her 28-year career at UB in the Department of Oral Medicine before moving to the school’s alumni office. Sulzbach supported numerous presidents of the alumni association over her 20 years as executive secretary. She was co-editor of UB Dentist magazine, and was instrumental in growing the annual Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting to the success it is today.

Sulzbach received the Distinguished Service Award in 2012 for her outstanding dedication, commitment and support of the alumni association and the school. She retired in 2013.

Very well known and respected in the dental community, she will be greatly missed.
How are you defining your role regarding community and professional initiatives?

The intention was to look at our community, identify pockets of unmet need, and then develop relationships in order to address those needs. The school has already done a huge amount of good work—the services that are provided to the pediatric population in Buffalo could rival any dental school in the country. Now we need to address the adult and geriatric populations—the substantial refugee and HIV populations, domestic violence victims, and the developmental disability community.

It’s a shift from practicing within our own walls to recognizing that the care we provide within the community is a very valuable part of our training. Over the next year you will see our students having a greater presence in the community—a change that I anticipate will be integrated into the curriculum.

What interested you in the field of public health?

In the late ‘80s, I was a periodontist in New York City when a referring dentist asked me to join a clinic he set up to treat persons with HIV disease. It was the first HIV-dedicated dental clinic in America. I eventually became the director of that clinic. We did clinical research but the bulk of our work was delivering care to the HIV community at a time when we knew little about the disease and dental services were very difficult to come by. I then became the first dentist to serve on a presidential HIV/AIDS advisory council, serving under President Clinton, also a remarkable experience. Since that time, my interests expanded from the HIV community to other underserved populations. That’s how I got into public health.

Do you see your research focus on improving access to care for disadvantaged populations continuing here?

The opportunities I see for research would be in our newest initiative at the Erie County Health Mall, the school’s newest clinic opening in April where we’ve gone into one of the poorer areas of Buffalo on Broadway. Onsite will be behavioral health, family medicine and oral health. It’s an opportunity that we’re giving our dental students to really work as true members of a primary care team. We fully anticipate that, through an interprofessional approach to care, our patients will have improved outcomes. We want to engage the community and change the culture in how they utilize health care. There is certainly research opportunity in studying the impact of interprofessionalism on patient health outcomes.

What are your objectives regarding student affairs?

It’s critical to have a very diverse group of individuals coming in the front door, and as a school we are constantly striving to bring diversity to the class. We need to expand our pipelines to different colleges to attract those from varied backgrounds who wish to fundamentally improve the oral health of the public. By recruiting these types of students and offering experiential learning within the community, we begin to create a new generation of dentists who change the oral health profile of our region, if not the country.

What is your participation as a member of the Santa Fe group?

It’s a group of dental leaders comprised of people I have admired as transformers of the dental profession, whether from research or care, or leaders in industry, who look at issues confronting our profession, and see if we could, through policy development, effect change. I’m very honored to be part of it.

Have you acclimated yourself to Western New York?

The quality of life is high here. It is a diverse population that has successfully managed to live together. The architecture and culture is great; the food is even better. I have already come to understand why people who come to Buffalo from outside tend to remain here.

Stephen Abel, associate dean for student, community and professional initiatives, and associate professor, periodontics and endodontics, is moving the school toward new areas of outreach and learning since his arrival last year.
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The University at Buffalo is a premier public research university, the largest and most comprehensive campus in the State University of New York system. The School of Dental Medicine is one of 12 schools that make UB New York’s leading public center for graduate and professional education and one of five schools that constitute UB’s Academic Health Center.

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DENTAL MEETING
Upstate New York’s Premier Dental Event!

BUFFALO NIAGARA
CONVENTION CENTER
NOVEMBER 5-7, 2014

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THURSDAY

MICHAEL C. DI TOLLA, DDS, FAGD
Top 10 Crown and Bridge Mistakes

The Robert J. Genco Distinguished Speaker Series

JON B. SUZUKI, DDS, PhD, MBA
Contemporary Clinical Periodontics and Oral Implantology

FRIDAY

CHESTER J. GARY, DDS ’78, JD ’91
The Electronic Communication Minefield – Alumni Speaker Series

HOWARD FARRAN, DDS, MBA
One-Day Dental MBA

UCHE ODIA T U, DMD
The Wellness Advantage: The Mouth Body Connection

PRE-REGISTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN AN IPAD MINI.

FOR COMPLETE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS OR TO REGISTER ONLINE VISIT: ubdentalalumni.org and click on the 2014 BND Meeting or contact the UB Dental Alumni Association at (800) 756-0328, ext. 2, (716) 829-2061 or ss287@buffalo.edu.