OUR MISSION

Through leadership in education, patient care, discovery, and community engagement, we aim to advance oral and general health in Kentucky and beyond. We are committed to cultivating a humanistic environment that appreciates and respects the diversity of thought, culture, and experiences of all members of our community.
Faculty and staff at the UK College of Dentistry have worked continuously over the past year to make progress towards many of the goals set forth in UKCD’s 2016-2020 strategic plan. The plan highlights key priorities in the areas of education, clinical care, research, community engagement, and leadership, all with the ultimate vision of making UK College of Dentistry #1.

EDUCATION

Education centered elements of the strategic plan center around the college’s mission to create the college’s vision of making UK College of Dentistry #1. Over the past year, UKCD has worked to strengthen the quality and distinctiveness of the college’s predoctoral programs. To support this work, additional faculty and staff have joined UKCD and existing faculty have been undergoing various trainings to help implement new technologies into patient care workflows. As a result of our determination, this fall, UK Dentistry will be one of only five programs in the nation selected to pilot a new digital dentistry curriculum created by the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP)—see more on page 20.

In addition to our DMD program, the college’s portfolio of other educational offerings continues to grow. An Oral Medicine Externship as well as a Craniofacial Genetics Externship are now offered. Additionally, this year, UKCD began offering a six-month Dental Assistant Training that provides direct clinical experience, as well as experience with auxiliary services such as radiology, sterilization, dental labs, and billing and collections. The first cohort of participants completed the training in July.

RESEARCH

Student research activities have the ability to make a powerful impact on the dental education experience. To cultivate and promote a culture of research excellence, the Research Track program of study was established. Incoming dentistry students now have the opportunity to apply for the program and, if selected, take part in an intensive research experience in conjunction with their dental curriculum. For each year that they successfully complete program requirements, students receive a stipend to help offset the cost of tuition. Learn more about the first group of students who participated on page 29.

CLINICAL

Clinical care related goals of the strategic plan include taking steps towards providing the highest quality patient care utilizing the technologies, facilities, and therapies of the future. In 2017, UK Dentistry’s new endodontic suite opened for patient care, equipped with a Zeiss OPMI PRCgo surgical microscope. Renovations to the Dental Science Building third floor DMD clinic will complete, and in August the clinic will re-open with updated operatories and a new clinical digital design center—see more on page 20. Alumni are invited to an Open House on October 7 to tour updates to the Dental Science Building. Visit dentistry.uky.edu/2017weekend for more information.

To improve the overall DMD Student Clinic dental patient experience, UKCD will begin piloting the UK College of Dentistry Wellness Clinic in January 2018. This clinic will operate as an apex of interprofessional collaboration, practice, and care, allowing for the ability to integrate patient triage, screening, urgent care, and wellness.

Continued plans for renovation include updating the Dental Science Building second floor DMD Student Clinic, retrofitting operatories in our clinic located in UK Healthcare at Turfland to allow our orthodontic residents to treat patients, and updating both the Pediatric Dentistry and General Practice Residency clinics located in Kentucky Clinic.

Establishing mutually beneficial partnerships has contributed tremendously to the advancement of the college’s clinical care initiatives. Industry leaders such as Straumann USA LLC, Bien-Air Dental, and Dudev America have extended generous donations that will allow for the development, implementation, and evaluation of new clinical technologies, facilities, and therapies. Transdisciplinary collaborations with other colleges within the University of Kentucky has also helped to enhance programs within the College of Dentistry, including working with the College of Nursing with the NCATS for Appalachia Program as well as the College of Medicine whose faculty help support the Craniofacial Genetics externship.

Smart clinical operations drive improved outcomes. In order to build the best systems to support efficient and effective clinical operations, a new class of dental assistant has been identified. Five new employees that are radiology competent, certified in sterilization technology, and prepared to take on expanded duties have been approved for hire as of June 2017.

The addition of these staff members will support more opportunities for students to gain four-handed dentistry experience and support patient care.

LEADERSHIP

In efforts to lead through inclusion, equality, and innovation, the college set out to develop and implement a plan that would foster a humanistic culture where students, staff, and faculty are included and valued for their contributions and ideas. Using the University’s institutional diversity and inclusivity efforts as inspiration, faculty and staff took part in training on implicit (unconscious) bias and creating inclusive working and learning environments during the June 2017 UKCD retreat.

The 2016–2020 strategic plan also highlighted the need to transform the college’s leadership structure in a way that enabled more effective and efficient decision making. The college has defined and adopted a functional organization structure and operates as a “team of teams” from different disciplines that share a common goal of maximizing overall consumer satisfaction. Distributed communication through this network encourages cross-functional teamwork and enables fast growth, stability, and efficiency. Additionally, to promote organic growth of leadership and encourage leading through consensus, quarterly faculty retreats that include a formal meeting, updates on agenda items, and business related to outcomes assessment, will be implemented this year.

During the 2017-2018 academic year, the college looks forward to building upon these successes, and making strides towards accomplishing even more. We look forward to sharing additional progress with you.
**DEPARTMENT OF ORAL HEALTH PRACTICE NOTES**

Dr. Bob Fraser was named interim chair of the Department of Oral Health Practice.

Dr. Steve Tucker, an oral surgeon, and Allyson Wright, a periodontist, join the division chairing this fall. Dr. Wright will serve in a team leader role while Dr. Tucker will be supporting oral and maxillofacial surgery needs in the DMD Student Clinic. DMD students and patients will benefit, as they will bring additional specialty support and expertise to the clinic floor, helping to improve care efficiencies.

Dr. Emily Winfrey joined the division as a team leader.

DMD student clinic areas are undergoing major renovations and updates.

**DIVISION OF COMPREHENSIVE CARE**

Dr. David Thornton was named division chief. Thornton joined the college in 2010 following his work in private practice.

Best wishes to Dr. Ershal Harrison upon his retirement in June 2017.

Dr. Thamer Musbah joined the division last year as assistant professor. Musbah trained in Oral Medicine and Special Needs Dentistry at New York University. He completed residencies in Oral Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine and in Orofacial Pain at the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry. He is course director of ODMB14, teaches in DMD clinic, and is currently accepting new patients regarding Oral Medicine and Orofacial Pain healthcare.

Dr. Marcia Rojas joined as assistant professor. Rojas earned her dental degree from the University of Costa Rica and received a Master of Science in Orofacial Pain at UK. Currently, Rojas is finishing a Master of Public Health and is a candidate for a doctorate in Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

Scheduled for early 2018, a Wellness Clinic will be piloted in the DMD Student Clinic.

**DIVISION OF RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY**

Dr. Hiroko Nagaoaka was elected to represent UKCD on UK’s Health Care Colleges Council, while Dr. Carla Rodriguez was elected as UKCD’s alternate representative.

**DIVISION OF PERIODONTOLOGY**

Dr. Pinar Huja was inducted as a Fellow of the UK Center for Interprofessional Health Education for her support of multidisciplinary education.

As the breadth of techniques to provide periodontal therapies to patients increases, our program is striving to enhance the availability of these techniques for our periodontal residents. UKCD is formalizing an agreement to provide an optional LANAP curriculum to our periodontal residents. Our program will be among the first in the nation to offer such training. Dr. Dolph Dawson is a Certified Instructor for the Institute for Advanced Laser Dentistry and will be able to offer the initial training to residents.

**DIVISION OF PROSTHODONTICS**

Dr. Rodrigo Fuentealba was awarded with the inaugural UKCD Junior Faculty Teaching Award at UKCD’s recent Faculty & Staff Retreat. This award was created to highlight faculty who successfully implement novel teaching and learning technologies and receive outstanding peer and faculty evaluations.

**DIVISION OF ORAL DIAGNOSIS, ORAL MEDICINE AND ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL RADIOLOGY**

Dr. Thamer Musbah joined the division last year as assistant professor. Musbah trained in Oral Medicine and Special Needs Dentistry at New York University. He completed residencies in Oral Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine and in Orofacial Pain at the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry. He is course director of ODMB14, teaches in DMD clinic, and is currently accepting new patients regarding Oral Medicine and Orofacial Pain healthcare.

Dr. Marcia Rojas joined as assistant professor. Rojas earned her dental degree from the University of Costa Rica and received a Master of Science in Orofacial Pain at UK. Currently, Rojas is finishing a Master of Public Health and is a candidate for a doctorate in Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

Scheduled for early 2018, a Wellness Clinic will be piloted in the DMD Student Clinic.
**DEPARTMENT OF ORAL HEALTH SCIENCE NOTES**

Dr. Ahmad Kutkut has been promoted to associate professor with tenure. Additionally, Kutkut was awarded with the International Congress of Oral Implantologists (ICOI) Diplomate Certificate, a voluntary credential established to create a common certification program for all implant dentists around the world, as well as featured in a recent issue of Journal of Oral Implantology highlighting his work in the article, “Microthreaded Implants and Crestal Bone Loss: A Systematic Review.”

Kutkut also received the inaugural UKCD Junior Faculty Research Award presented at UKCD’s recent Faculty & Staff Retreat. This award was created to highlight faculty who demonstrate research accomplishments, including authorship of scholarly publications in peer-reviewed journals; invitations to participate in scientific presentations, and preceptorship of award-winning student research.

**DIVISION OF ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY**

Dr. Melvyn Yeoh joined UKCD as an assistant professor in late 2016. Yeoh received his DMD from the University of Pennsylvania and his MD from Wall Cornell Medical College in New York. He holds American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery diplomate status and is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. Yeoh’s clinical interests include Head and Neck Oncology and Complex Maxillofacial Reconstruction.

Residents in the OMFS division, as well as participants in the General Practice Residency Program, are being offered the opportunity to assist Dr. Steve Tucker on cases involving patients receiving an implant supported fixed bridge or all-on-four case, aiding in their understanding and experience in this type of treatment.

**DIVISION OF ORAL PATHOLOGY**

Dr. Douglas Damm received the 2017 Distinguished Dental Alumni Award by the Emory Dental Alumni Board.

**DIVISION OF OROFACIAL PAIN**

The Orofacial Pain Clinic celebrates 40 years in 2017. See more on page 12.

**DIVISION OF ORTHODONTICS**

Dr. Jeffrey Okeson ('72) was inducted into the Philippine Association of Functional Jaw Orthopedics TMJ as the first individual to receive honorary membership in this association. Twelve members of the association traveled from the Philippines to attend the OTP Mini-Residency Program.

Dr. Cindy Beeman was inducted as a Fellow of the UK Center for Interprofessional Health Education for her support of multidisciplinary education, and received an honorary faculty membership to the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Chapter at the UK College of Dentistry.

Dr. James Hartfield was nominated by the CODA Nominations Committee to serve on the Review Committee on Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics Education, and was named as the Director of the Orthodontic Graduate Program.

Congratulations to Dr. Sarandeep Huja who was recently named the next dean of the College of Dental Medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina.

Dr. Tom Klueumper was elected chair of the American Association of Orthodontist’s Council on Orthodontic Education. Additionally, Klueumper will serve on the AAO’s CODA Review Committee, a group specially formed by AAO leadership to review the accreditation standards for the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Orthodontics and to make recommendations it deems necessary to “promote and monitor the continuous quality and improvement of dental education programs.”

**Photo above (l to r):** Dr. Hollie Swanson, Christine Harper, and UK Provost Tim Tracy

Dr. Lina Sharab ('14) successfully sat for Clinical Examination of American Board of Orthodontics and has achieved Board Certification. ABO certification represents the highest level of commitment to excellence in orthodontic clinical care. Sharab will be increasing from part-time to full-time appointment in the orthodontic graduate program.

Learn about our recent graduates and incoming residents at dentistryuky.edu/orthodontics.

**OTHER UKCD NOTES**

Dr. Wes Coffman was named director of UKCD’s Turlington location. Coffman will work with faculty and staff to improve operations, patient experiences, and delivery of care.

Christine Harper, M.S., assistant dean for Student Affairs, graduated from the UK’s Women’s Executive Leadership Development Program (WELD). The eight-month WELD offering is designed to develop the next generation of UK leaders through retreats, monthly meetings, conversations with upper level administrators, and a group project. Harper also was highlighted by the ADEA in an Education Spotlight feature this year.

Dr. Rob Kovarik was named senior associate dean. Among his duties, Kovarik will provide leadership to department chairs, foster teamwork among faculty, and focus on institutional effectiveness and strategic plan implementation.

Dr. Tom McConnell was named associate dean for clinical affairs. McConnell will orchestrate operations of clinical programs, monitor quality assurance and improvement initiatives, and manage clinical risk management issues.

In January 2017, the most recent group of staff members completed the UKCD Staff Leadership Program.

Above: Dean Kirkland and Ginnie Haynes, director of the UKCD Staff Leadership Program, with program participants.
HONORING THE IMPACT OF A TEACHER

Dr. David R. Thornton and Teresa M. Boyd, both members of the UKCD Class of 2000, wished to recognize the impact a former UKCD faculty member made on their careers by establishing the Dr. Jeffrey Dembo Critical Thinking Award.

“We wanted to give back to our school to show how grateful we have been in our careers, and know the best way to do this was to honor a former teacher and also help make a small dent in the financial burden of a student. When Teresa and I started to talk about this, we both had the same teacher in mind and we knew what we would call this award. Dr. Jeff Dembo was a great influence on both of us during our dental school education. We both had realized how the Critical Thinking class that he taught us during our first year had influenced us so much when it came to not only treating our patients but also dealing with all the information that we are bombarded with daily in the ever-changing profession of dentistry. His insight and wisdom made us not only better dentists but better thinkers.”

Presented for the first time in May 2017, the Jeffrey Dembo Critical Thinking Award goes to a fourth-year student who demonstrates critical thinking, active learning, creative problem solving and thoughtful decision making in the field of dentistry. The recipient should understand and build upon the fundamentals of the dentistry curriculum, while remaining open to exploring alternative methods if they are in the best interest of the patient. If you would like to join Drs. Thornton and Boyd in honoring Dr. Dembo, you may make a contribution by mailing a check to University of Kentucky Gift Receiving 210 Malabu Drive, Suite 200 Lexington, KY 40502

Dr. Albrecht felt it was important to pay it forward and share with current UKCD student dentists. This scholarship will be awarded for the first time to an incoming student in the Class of 2021 who demonstrates financial need and is preferably a first-generation college student.

UKCD Philanthropy Contact Linda Epling at (859) 323-696 or email linda.epling@uky.edu
In 1974 Dr. Jeffrey Okeson began teaching the art of occlusion at the UK College of Dentistry. At the time, there was a widespread belief that most facial pain resulted from the misalignment of the teeth and jaws, otherwise known as malocclusion, or simply, a "bad bite." After observing that occlusal adjustment didn’t always improve a patient’s pain, Okeson decided it was time to search outside the box for a solution. While moving away from standard practice was revolutionary at the time, Okeson received the support of UKCD leadership and in 1977, established the first university-based orofacial pain clinic in the country on UK’s campus. This year, the Orofacial Pain Clinic celebrates four decades as a vanguard in the dental community. Following the creation of the clinic, a graduate program was established and became the first nationally-accredited program in the United States teaching evidence-based information on pain. UKCD remains a driving force in furthering the study and treatment of orofacial pain. This year, at the 29th Annual Orofacial Pain Alumni Symposium, graduates gathered to discuss the advancements that the program has allowed them to make.

After completing the program, Dr. Peter Bertrand went on to establish an orofacial pain program at the Naval Postgraduate Dental School to treat patients suffering from pain from combined traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder and other hard and soft tissue injuries. When Bertrand retired, Dr. John Johnson went on to serve as program director.

Okeson expressed great esteem in the progress of the program over the years, “What we teach our student dentists in this area is far beyond what others receive. Hopefully we’re helping to develop a culture where graduating dentists understand the importance of this type of care and know what to do when they encounter a patient in pain.”

In 1994, Okeson, along with several colleagues, founded the American Pain Society's Orofacial Pain Section, which today is a major voice in the study of orofacial pain, contributing to the world's understanding of the condition.

Okeson, as well as his colleagues, have gained national and international recognition for their work in orofacial pain. Okeson’s research has led to advancements in understanding how occlusion affects pain. His mentoring of graduate students has helped shape the careers of many in the field of orofacial pain.

Okeson’s contributions to the field of orofacial pain have been recognized with numerous awards, including the American Academy of Orofacial Pain’s Clinical Contribution Award, the American Academy of Orofacial Pain’s William J. Rogers Award, and the American Academy of Orofacial Pain’s Annual Lecture Award.

The ripple effects of their efforts have directly contributed to our ability to care for this country’s wounded warriors over the past 16 years,” said Johnson. Attendees of this year’s symposium also heard remarks from other graduates on the UK Orofacial Pain Program including, Rolumo Albuquerque, DDS, MD PHD, Gary Klasser, DMD, Pei Feng Lim, BDS, MS, and Matthew E.B. Russell, MS.

Okeson’s leadership has been recognized by the American Academy of Orofacial Pain, where he has served as the organization’s president and has been awarded the American Academy of Orofacial Pain’s Clinical Contribution Award, the American Academy of Orofacial Pain’s William J. Rogers Award, and the American Academy of Orofacial Pain’s Annual Lecture Award.

The UK Orofacial Pain Clinic celebrates 40 years of innovation with a symposium that brings together graduates from the program and other leaders in the field of orofacial pain. The symposium includes presentations by Dr. Okeson and other leaders in the field, as well as a panel discussion on the future of orofacial pain research and treatment.

White, Greer and Maggard (WGM) was an active supporter of student activities during the 2016-2017 academic year. The orthodontic practice assisted both the American Student Dentist Associations (ASDA) and Association of Women Dentists (AWAD) chapters at UK.

For ASDA, WGM underwrote travel expenses through the White, Greer and Maggard Annual Session Award for nine UKCD members to attend the national ASDA Annual Session held February 2017. This annual event allows students to experience the benefits of working together through organized dentistry to impact a wide variety of issues.

Dr. Benjamin Nero graduated from UKCD in 1967. Dr. Biggerstaff was on faculty and eventually, became chair of the Orthodontics Division at the College of Dentistry. Together, they laid the foundation for an environment at UKCD in which all students, faculty, and staff are valued for their contributions and ideas.

The campaign was spearheaded by Dr. Carol Bolden, who also initiated the endowment originally. Dr. Bolden, along with UKCD’s Development Director, reached out to all UKCD alumni to seek their support.

Following comments by Dr. Nero, Dr. Biggerstaff, and UKCD Dean Stephanos Kyrkanides, Dr. Bolden announced the campaign had exceeded its goal with gifts and commitments of $10,500. Following the announcement, an additional $3,100 was received, bringing the total funds added to the endowment to $13,600. Additionally, a planned gift has been designated for the Drs. Nero and Biggerstaff Diversity Scholarship Endowment.
The UK College of Dentistry held its Eighth Annual Barrels & Kegs Tasting and Silent Auction in February at the Hilton Lexington/Downtown. The event serves as a fundraiser for the UKCD Alumni Association to support student and alumni programs and scholarships.

More than 390 alumni, students, faculty, and friends attended to mingle and meet our featured distillers—Alltech, Barrel House Distilling, Buffalo Trace, Four Roses, Heaven Hill, and Wilderness Trail Distillery. The tasting also included samples from local microbreweries Country Boy Brewing and West Sixth Brewery.

Thank you to everyone who supported this event and to our sponsors: UK College of Dentistry Alumni Association, Kentucky Center for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (Silver Level Sponsor), and Pediatric Dentistry of Hamburg (Bronze Level Sponsor).
IN MEMORIAM

'73 DR. DON HARRIS
November 20, 2016

'75 DR. ALVINIA NEWELL
May 19, 2017

'76 DR. MARK BOTHWELL
June 24, 2016

'76 DR. JAMES ROGER CASTLE
December 22, 2015

'77 DR. NICHOLAS OCHS
August 21, 2016

'77 DR. NICHOLAS OCHS
August 21, 2016

'78 DR. DAVID BESSER
May 24, 2016

'83 DR. DAVID BESSER
May 24, 2016

'84 DR. ELLEN WOODWARD KAPLOW
June 16, 2016

FACULTY

DR. STEPHEN DACHI
July 2, 2017
Learn more at dentistry.uky.edu/dachi

WEATHERING THE STORM
2016 ANNUAL UKCD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION GOLF TOURNAMENT

The UKCD Alumni Board would like to thank all of the golfers who braved the weather and the hole sponsors that helped make the 2016 tournament so exciting. Sponsors were Boyd Thornton Dental (lunch), Psimer & Associates (reception), and White, Greer & Maggard (beverage cart).

Top: David Thornton (’00) and Paige Higdon (’19)
Middle: 2016 1st place team - from left, Patrick Clifford, Ryan Dages, Kyle Reynolds (’09) and Jay Claywell (’09)
Bottom: From the Class of 2017 - from left, Chris Cornett, Michael Burns, Quinn Maynard and Michael Whitman.
ANNUAL FALL SYMPOSIUM AND ALUMNI WEEKEND 2016

CELEBRATING AND REMINISCING WITH FELLOW ALUMNI, FORMER AND CURRENT FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, AND FRIENDS.
Advanced digital technology is challenging the limits of what is possible in oral health, function and beauty. Since joining UK College of Dentistry, Dean Stephanos Kyrkanides has worked with faculty, staff, students, and the community to make his vision for increasing the use of digital dentistry at UKCD a reality. The effort is paying off, as beginning this fall, the UKCD will join a select group of five pilot institutions in launching the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP) Digital Dentistry Curriculum.

According to Dr. Marcus Abboud, associate dean of digital dentistry at UKCD, use of technology not only provides clinicians with more accuracy, it also enables them to use their time and resources more efficiently—an aspect that is beneficial to both provider and patient.

“A new and complete digital workflow for dental restorations can significantly enhance the overall patient experience, shorten the treatment time and deliver consistent quality results compared to the traditional labor intensive craftsmanship,” Abboud said. “Starting with an intra-oral scan taking pictures of the tooth eliminates any impression material in the mouth of the patient. It delivers accuracy with time and cost efficiency through the whole restorative procedure.”

According to the ACP, incorporating digital solutions into regular practice has led to a steady increase in efficiency and ease of collaboration with laboratories for prosthodontists nationwide. Despite this being the case, studies show that computer-aided design and manufacturing are only 15 percent of dental practices in the U.S due to a relative lack of available education and trainings about its applications and benefits.

Prior to being selected for the ACP pilot, UKCD had committed to incorporating digital dentistry more into the DMD student curriculum, working to plan and start clinic renovations, secure new digital equipment, train faculty, create new design stations, and secure partners to help bring efforts to fruition.

The clear vision and reputation of UKCD was one of the reasons a partnership, including a generous gift of equipment such as milling machines, scanners and software, with Straumann USA LLC was possible. Anja Haverhals, vice president of customer marketing and education at Straumann USA LLC said, “Straumann and the University of Kentucky can work together to educate future clinicians to provide the best care possible. The landscape of dentistry is changing and the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry has set itself apart and will remain on the cutting edge of innovative technology.”

Kyrkanides believes Straumann chose UKCD as a partner because of the clear vision for increasingly incorporating digital workflows. “UKCD has emerged as a leader in dental education and they are impressed by our vision,” he said. “This gift will facilitate the launch of our increased digital dentistry efforts this fall.”

The partnership with Straumann USA LLC will enable UKCD to begin providing the leading edge education to current and future dental providers. “The digital initiative at the UK College of Dentistry entails a comprehensive unique model that educates students, residents, faculty and the dental community in new digital health devices and technologies, and explains the value to patients and the health care system,” Abboud said. “Digital technology will be included in all different physical spaces of the UK College of Dentistry, covering every aspect of dentistry from diagnosis, computer aided design to manufacturing.”

Moving forward, student dentists will be able to perform intraoral scans on DMD Student Clinic patients, sending their files to a UKCD design center, where a restoration will be designed and milled on-site. This workflow will support such treatments as same-visit crowns, inlays and onlays.

Additionally, UKCD looks to offer dentists, assistants, and lab technicians continuing education offerings, utilizing digital dentistry tools, focused on a range of topics, including: virtual implant placement, surgical guide design, and custom implant abutment design.
STUDENT NEWS

UK COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY RECOGNIZES 2017 GRADUATES

Members of the Class of 2017 were recognized at the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry’s 52nd College Convocation for Presentation of Academic Hoods on May 7. Family, friends, faculty, staff, and honored guests were present at Memorial Hall to recognize the achievements of the graduating class.

Dean Stephanos Kyrkanides presided over the hooding ceremony. Dr. Michael Day (’03) brought greetings from the UKCD Alumni Association. He was joined by Dr. Bill Lee (’81), second vice president of the Kentucky Dental Association and Dr. Jessica Kress (’12), spoke on behalf of the Blue Grass Dental Society.

Dr. Ershal Harrison, associate professor and team leader in the Division of Comprehensive Care, (’81) was chosen by the graduating class to speak for the college. Blake Dickens, president of the Class of 2017, spoke on behalf of his class. Dr. Thomas Cooper, professor emeritus, UK College of Dentistry, led the assemblage in the singing of the “UK Alma Mater” as well as “My Old Kentucky Home.”

FUTURE PLANS See what our grads plan to do at dentistry.uky.edu/class2017
OKU INDUCTS SEVEN NEW MEMBERS

Each year, student dentists benefit from the generosity of alumni and their families, friends, and supporters. In March, a luncheon was hosted by the UK College of Dentistry for all 2016-2017 scholarship recipients and donors during which the following scholarship recipients were announced:

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP – CLASS OF 2017
Joseph Blank of Henderson, Ky., received a degree in Biotechnology from UK.

Alexandra Arnold, Kai Brown, who is from Hanson, Ky., received her undergraduate degree from the University of Alabama. Arnold is from Lexington, Ky., and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Alabama. Brown, who is from Hanson, Ky., received a degree in Agricultural Biotechnology from UK.

Anne Ethridge, of the UAB School of Dentistry, as a guest speaker. The Omicron Kappa Upsilon Chapter at the UK College of Dentistry recently inducted seven new members from the Class of 2017. Only the top 20 percent of the class is academically eligible, and only 60 percent of those eligible may be elected based on scholarship, demonstration of exemplary traits of character, and potential qualities of future professional growth and attainment.

This year’s new members are: Michael Burns, Blake Dickins, Beth Goebel, Stephen Haverkos, Dustin Mayrand, Briana Price, and David Roe.

During the awards ceremony, Alexandra Arnold (’18) received the William S. Kramer Award of Excellence. This award recognizes a third-year dental student who has demonstrated excellence in scholarship, character, and the potential promise for advancement of dentistry and service to humanity.

Nash Laungani (’19) received the Basic Science Award. The recipient of this award is a second-year dental student elected by the Basic Science faculty of the University of Kentucky and is recognized as the overall most outstanding student in the basic sciences through two years of basic science training.

Dr. Cindy Beeman, associate professor in Orthodontics, was named the UK College of Dentistry faculty inductee and Dr. Donna Weber, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Nutritional Sciences at the UK College of Medicine, was named an honorary inductee.

OKU was pleased to welcome Dr. Mary Lynne Capilouto, a former dean of the UAB School of Dentistry, as guest speaker.

The Hinman Dental Society has promoted continuing education in the dental profession since 1912 and began granting scholarships to dental students in 1986. Recipients of the scholarships are selected by the dean of the college. They also must be junior student members of the American Dental Association (ADA), and in the top 10 percent of their class.

“1) I was overwhelmed with gratitude when I was notified I had been selected as a Hinman Scholar,” said Brown. “It was so exciting to see the realm of dentistry on a national level and what our future profession has to offer. The informative sessions, connections with colleagues, and inviting atmosphere made my experience at Hinman one to remember. I hope to attend this great conference again in the future”.

“2) I was so thankful to be recognized by the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry. The opportunities provided by the college have been invaluable to me both professionally and personally.

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The Omicron Kappa Upsilon Chapter at the UK College of Dentistry recently inducted seven new members from the Class of 2017. Only the top 20 percent of the class is academically eligible, and only 60 percent of those eligible may be elected based on scholarship, demonstration of exemplary traits of character, and potential qualities of future professional growth and attainment.

This year’s new members are: Michael Burns, Blake Dickins, Beth Goebel, Stephen Haverkos, Dustin Mayrand, Briana Price, and David Roe.

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UK STUDENT DENTISTS EARN GOLD CROWNS FOR PHILANTHROPY, ACHIEVEMENT

The University of Kentucky chapter of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) was honored with three Gold Crown Awards at the 2017 ASDA Annual Session in Orlando.

Each year, the ASDA presents over 30 Gold Crown Awards to individual members and chapters in recognition of excellence in media publications, outstanding service and commitment of chapter delegates.

UK ASDA received the Gold Crown for Outstanding Social Media Campaign for its wellness week Instagram campaign. President Karah Brown expressed the importance of sharing how UKCD enhances the dental school experience, and placed special emphasis on the importance of wellness in dental school.

The chapter was also recognized for its philanthropy efforts, specifically its revival of the Mr. Molar Competition which raised money for Mission Fayette County.

“Our chapter has flourished over the past year, and these awards reflect that perfectly,” said Brown.

Recent graduate and Immediate Past President Hunter Hazle received the prestigious award of District 7 Delegate of the Year. District 7 is the regional district of ASDA consisting of Indiana University; Marquette University; Midwestern University; University of Illinois at Chicago; Southern Illinois University; and the University of Louisville in addition to UK.

“ASDA helped ignite my passion for the dental profession,” Hazle said when asked about his achievement. “ASDA improved my leadership and communication skills, and I wanted to get more students involved so that they too could grow as leaders.” Hazle extended special thanks to White, Greer & Maggard Orthodontics for helping him achieve that goal by providing a travel grant that allowed 9 additional student dentists to attend this year’s Annual Session.

CLASS OF 2017 AWARDS

Each year numerous awards are given to members of the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry graduating class on behalf of alumni, professional organizations, and national corporations. This year’s awards were bestowed at the Senior Award Banquet in April. The following awards were presented to selected student dentists in the Class of 2017:

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<tr>
<th>Award</th>
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<td>Academy of General Dentistry</td>
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Congratulations are extended to each award recipient and all graduates of the Class of 2017 on behalf of the entire college community.
UKCD COLLEGE RESEARCH DAY RESULTS

UKCD held its College Research Day in conjunction with the 12th Annual CCTS Spring Conference. As a special highlight of this year’s event, the college heard from Dr. Martha Somerman, director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR). Prior to speaking at the conference, Somerman met with UKCD junior faculty to recount her journey toward dentistry and the steps following until reaching the NIDCR. Faculty discussed their current research focus and listened to Somerman’s research and career development insights. Following her presentation at Research Day, Somerman reviewed UKCD poster session submissions and spoke with participants.

Below is a listing of outcomes for UKCD posters:

**UKCD GRADUATE STUDENT/RESIDENT CLINICAL RESEARCH CATEGORY**
Judges: Drs. Rick Windhorn and Hiroko Nagaoka

- First: Sudha Gudhimella; Orthodontics (Mentor: Dr. Robert Wertke) “Immediate Loading of Unsplinted Implant Retained Mandibular Overdenture: A Randomized Controlled Clinical Study”
- Second: Anastasia Koizal/Amal Alfaraj; Periodontics (Mentor: Dr. Ahmad Kutkut) – “Zirconia in Dentistry: A Literature Review”
- Third: Michael Rectn, Oral Surgery (Mentor: Dr. George Yordanov) “Skeletal Anchorage in a Rat Model Under Low Orthodontic Force”

**DMD STUDENT RESEARCH**
Judges: Drs. Delph Dawson, Jim Hartfield, Isabel Moreno-Hay, and Lorri Morford

- First: Nash Laungani; DS2 (Mentor: Dr. Robert Wertke) “HDAC Inhibitors Attenuate the Development of Hypersensitivity in a Mouse Model of Orofacial Neuropathic Pain”
- Second: Steve Haverkos, DS4 (Mentor: Dr. Galal Omami) “Variation in Grey-Scale Intensity for Hard Tissue Landmarks by CBCT”
- Third: David Jensen, DS2 (Mentor: Dr. Mohamad Al-Sabbagh) “Factors Influencing the Referral of Dental Implant Patients: The General Practitioner’s Perspective”
- Fourth: Alex Kluempfer, DS3 (Mentor: Dr. Sarandeep Huja) “Rate and Type of Tooth Movement in Rats Under Low Orthodontic Force”

**VON ALLMEN CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP “2-MINUTE PITCH YOUR POSTER” COMPETITION**

A new activity at the CCTS Conference, UKCD had five posters deemed first place in their category:

- First: Ishtia Bhattar, Periodontics (Mentor: Dr. Mohanad Al-Sabbagh) “Biomarkers Associated with Peri-Implantitis and Response to Surgical Therapy”
- Second: Mohamed Rezk, Periodontics (Mentor: Dr. Ahmad Kutkut) “Immediate Loading of Unsplinted Implant Retained Mandibular Overdenture: A Randomized Controlled Clinical Study”
- Third: Amber Adkins, Pediatric Dentistry (Mentor: Dr. Christina Perez) “The Effects of a Nipple-Assisted Therapy Dog in Reducing Children’s Anxiety in a Dental Setting”

**TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH CATEGORY**
Judges: Drs. Craig Miller and Jeff Ebersole

- First: Sudha Gudhimella, Orthodontics (Mentor: Dr. Sarandeep Huja) “Skeletal Anchorage in a Rat Model of Orthodontic Tooth Movement (OTM)”
- Second: Anastasia Koizal/Amal Alfaraj, Periodontics (Mentor: Dr. Octavio Gonzalez) “Porphyromonas gingivalis Activates Notch-1 in Human Oral Epithelial Cells”
- Third: Michael Rectn, Oral Surgery (Mentor: Dr. George Yordanov) “Skeletal Anchorage in a Rat Model Under Low Orthodontic Force”

**RESEARCH**

**FOURTH ANNUAL DENTAL IMPLANT SYMPOSIUM**
In conjunction with UKCD’s 4th Annual Dental Implant Symposium which focused on “Clinical Application of Advanced Digital Implant Technology in Everyday Practice,” over 250 registrants heard from implant experts and speakers on how to provide the best quality of implant therapy and avoid complications. A research poster session was also held, judged by UKCD’s Drs. Octavio Gonzalez, Hiroko Nagaoka, Pinar Emecen Huja, and Lena Shahar, with the following posters deemed first place in their category:

- First: Steve Haverkos, DS4 (Mentor: Dr. Galal Omami) “Variation in Grey-Scale Intensity for Hard Tissue Landmarks by CBCT”
- Second: Anastasia Koizal/Amal Alfaraj, Periodontics (Mentor: Dr. Ahmad Kutkut) – “Zirconia in Dentistry: A Literature Review”
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**STUDENT DENTISTS FIND ENRICHMENT IN RESEARCH**

Research is the fuel of productive science. This sentiment, shared by students and faculty alike, applies to any discipline. The University of Kentucky has long embraced the value of discovery through research — a commitment that has earned UK an R1 Carnegie Classification, the highest ranking among research institutions. For students in the College of Dentistry, engaging in research often proves to be of critical importance to their experience at UK.

Research in dentistry and oral health sciences spans the gamut from laboratory-based studies, to clinical and translational applications, to inquiries in public health. Incoming DMD students interested in taking part in an intensive research experience now have the unique opportunity to apply for the UKCD Research Track program of study. In addition to completing required courses for the DMD degree, students selected for participation in the Research Track will focus their efforts on chronic oral diseases, cancer, health services research, and/or oral facial pain. For each year that they fully meet the requirements of the program, students will receive scholarship funds to help offset the cost of tuition.

David Jensen, a second year student in the UKCD, says participating in research alongside dedicated faculty mentors has increased his scope of understanding of the field.

“With the ever-increasing support of research at UKCD,” he said, “I feel that we can better understand the profession that we will go on to practice, and hopefully, add to it in a significant way.”

For many Research Track participants, including second-year student Nash Laungani, participating in research has lead to real-world discoveries that continue to improve various aspects of the patient experience. These advancements open the door for students to compete for national research awards, or to become co-authors on publications on the results.

“I’m grateful for all the support and mentorship that we continue to get from the Dean and faculty,” Laungani said. “There is no doubt that we’re in the midst of an exciting, progressive time with dental research shaping our understanding and approach to treating dental diseases.”

Laungani and Jensen received first and third place awards, respectively, after presenting at this year’s College Research Day. An annual event held in conjunction with the UK Center for Clinical and Translational Science, Research Day has lead to real-world discoveries that continue to improve various aspects of the patient experience. These advancements open the door for students to compete for national research awards, or to become co-authors on publications on the results.

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This spring, over 100 University of Kentucky students, faculty and community members spent time in Santo Domingo, Ecuador, on an interdisciplinary health brigade experience with Shoulder to Shoulder Global (STSG).

The Centro de Salud Hombro a Hombro clinic (CSHH), the primary worksite for UK’s STSG volunteers, provides medical care, prevention services, oral health and school-based services to the community. The CSHH clinic opened its doors 10 years ago as an initiative led by Dr. Thomas Young, professor of pediatrics in the UK College of Medicine.

“It is so exciting to celebrate 10 years of delivering comprehensive health services in this community in Ecuador. STSG and our Ecuadorian partners have provided care to thousands of patients with services and service learning opportunities for UK students, staff and faculty. We plan to continue to dream big,” shares Young.
Over the course of 10 years, the clinic has provided over 58,000 medical consultations and 21,000 dental consultations.

The brigade, a culmination of the Interprofessional Teamwork in Global Health course. As part of this course students learned about Ecuador, how to work in an interprofessional environment and how to apply basic principles of cultural anthropology, sociology, diversity and health care to the experience.

This year’s brigades included students from a variety of colleges including Arts and Sciences, Education, Health Sciences, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health and Dentistry. UKCD’s Drs. Teresa Lyon and Ershal Harrison traveled to Santo Domingo to support participating student dentists.

“The students often had to learn to work in less than ideal situations,” said Harrison. “Their time was divided between the clinic and seeing patients at local schools, churches or in the villages. In those situations, we did not have the advantage of suction, water, hand pieces or radiography.”

“As the week progressed and their confidence levels rose, they became more independent. Two students were able to expand their Spanish speaking abilities as well. They also had the opportunity to work with two Ecuadorian dentists both at the clinic and in the villages,” adds Harrison.

Spencer Wright, a third year student dentist, recommends all dental students try to take part in trips like this one. “As a dental student I know it is easy to become consumed with our busy schedules. Often we become so focused on the next exam or practical we lose track of what is happening around us in the world. I feel trips like these are vital to participate in as a healthcare provider. It is eye opening to global healthcare needs and reminds me that I am in fact a global citizen. While in many ways this trip was physically exhausting because we were working long days, it was also rejuvenating. It reminded me why I want to be a dentist,” said Wright.

“In addition to the technical competency and clinical proficiency gained while at UKCD, programs such as Shoulder to Shoulder integrate learning opportunities that promote critical thinking and social and ethical development. Oral Health is a common thread that connects all of humanity,” said Lyon. “Hopefully our students will leave our program with a strong desire to bring lasting change to the state of oral health in underserved communities worldwide through their volunteerism.”

“It was amazing to stand back and watch our students work together and apply all the training they have received in organizing a makeshift dental clinic with local supplies and limited dental resources. Every day we visited a different community with different needs and they adjusted to each situation impeccably.”

“The last day of a mission trip was and will always be the most difficult to me. It is the time when goodbyes are said and you’re trying to make your last memories with the people who relationships were created with. There is more to life than just accumulating wealth. You truly start living and enjoying life at the precise moment you start serving others,” adds Lyons.

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**ANNUAL GIVING BY DEGREE YEAR FOR JUNE 2016-MAY 2017**

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We want to express our appreciation to the following donors for their generosity and support of the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry (UKCD) during the time period of June 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017. Your gifts have provided support for scholarships, renovations, programs, projects, and upgrades, and equipment, allowing UKCD to advance our goals in education, patient care, research, and community engagement. Thank you for all of your support.

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OCTOBER 6-7, 2017
41ST ANNUAL FALL SYMPOSIUM AND ALUMNI WEEKEND
DENTISTRY.UKY.EDU/2017WEEKEND

Weekend events include a Friday morning CE course followed by an afternoon at Keeneland. All alumni are invited to join us Friday evening for a reception in the Recruiting Room of Kroger Field where we will recognize our Distinguished Alumnus of the Year and the Classes of 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007, and 2012. Saturday will include an open house with breakfast and tours of the newly renovated clinics at the College of Dentistry, tailgate, and UK vs. Missouri football game.