The Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery would like to welcome back Dr. Jay Pronk as a visiting assistant professor. Jay graduated from dental school in 2004, and after a brief time at the Medical College of Wisconsin, he is glad to be back in the Hawkeye state! He, along with his wife, Amy, and their twin sons, Aiden and Ethan, live in North Liberty.

Dr. Peter Damiano, Preventive and Community Dentistry, and director, Public Policy Center, is one of six UI faculty who will receive the 2008 Regents Award for Faculty Excellence. Faculty members who are nominated for the Regents Award must have rendered significant service to The University of Iowa and/or to the State of Iowa. Each nominee must also have distinction in at least two of the following four areas: teaching, research/creative activity, extension/professional practice, or service. Nominees must be a currently active tenured faculty member who has been employed in a tenure-track position at the University of Iowa for a minimum of fifteen years by the date the award is made.

Delta Dental of Iowa (see photo above) has made a $1.5 million gift commitment to help fund a planned major renovation of the Dental Science Building. The gift was made by the newly formed Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation through the University of Iowa Foundation.

Dean David Johnsen said, “Delta Dental of Iowa and the College of Dentistry see this gift as a long-term investment in the oral health of Iowans and in a top-tier dental school.”

Donn Hutchins, president and CEO of Delta Dental of Iowa and president of the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation commented, “This gift is also an investment in the future, which is critically important given Iowa’s aging population and the growing need for dental services in rural Iowa…”

The College will name the Geriatric and Special Care Clinic area in the renovated dentistry building in recognition of Delta Dental of Iowa’s gift. The naming is subject to approval by the University’s President’s office.

Melanie Kenney has recently joined the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery as an assistant nurse manager. Mel has been with the University of Iowa since 1982, most recently as a research assistant in Pediatric Cardiology/Internal Medicine.

Mel and her husband, Tom, have three children. Phil, 21, is at Truman State and plays football. Andrea, 17, is a senior at City High and will be attending Iowa State in the fall. Eric, 13, is in 7th grade at South East Junior High.
The Hispanic Dental Association Goes to Ottumwa

The annual Latino Health Fair in Ottumwa, Iowa, has been the Hispanic Dental Association’s (HDA) premier community service event for several years. While the 2000 government census puts Ottumwa’s Latino residents at only 2.7% of the town’s population, over the past eight years this percentage has grown. Six HDA student members, along with Dr. Marcela Hernandez, Operative Dentistry, piled into vehicles to make the two-hour drive. [See above photo, left to right: Nathifa Smith (D2); Dr. Marcela Hernandez; Laura Mausser (D2); Erin Sheffield (D3); Shawn Countryman (D1); Roberto Moreno (D2); and Cameron Andrew (D1.)]

The annual Ottumwa Latino Health Fair was located at St. Mary’s Church where a weekly mass is held in Spanish. The HDA provided screenings to more than 25 children and adults. Each participant received a toothbrush, toothpaste, and many received a fluoride treatment as well.

After several hours, the Iowa dental student members returned to Iowa City, burdened with fewer goodies and the glow of giving back to a growing community.

Recent Publications


Notice: Emergency Information

If something happens to you at work and the College doesn’t know who to contact on your behalf in an emergency, it makes it impossible for the College to help you or facilitate a resolution. Human Resources asks everyone in the College to recognize the importance of emergency contact information. Please go to the Employee Self-Service site, look under the header Personal > General > Emergency Contacts, and provide at least one emergency contact name and phone number. Having this information could make all the difference in an unforeseen situation.

FILLING STATION MENU
May 12-16, 2008

Monday
Hickory Smoked Pork Sandwich w/Chips $4.75
Soup, Salad Bar, Deli, Pizza, Sushi, & Paninis

Tuesday
Cheddar Bacon Chicken Sandwich & Chips $4.95
Soup, Salad Bar, Deli, Pizza, Sushi, & Paninis

Wednesday
BBQ Beef Brisket Sandwich w/Chips $3.95
Soup, Salad Bar, Deli, Pizza, Sushi, & Paninis

Thursday
TACO BAR!!!
Turkey Tetrazzini $4.50
Soup, Salad Bar, Deli, Pizza, Sushi, & Paninis

Friday
BBQ Chicken Sandwich w/Chips $3.95
Soup, Salad Bar, Deli, Pizza, Sushi, & Paninis

A copy of the Filling Station menu can be found at http://www.dentistry.uiowa.edu.
**Lend a Hand to a Co-Worker**

**Connie Collins**, a dental assistant in Operative Dentistry, has exhausted her sick leave and vacation because of an injury. Anyone wishing to help Connie by contributing vacation time may pick up a catastrophic leave donation form from Mary Yoder (S229 DSB), or by going to [http://www.uiowa.edu/~eforms/hr/contrib.pdf](http://www.uiowa.edu/~eforms/hr/contrib.pdf). Once the form is completed, please send it to the Benefits Office, USB. Any contributions of one hour or more on her behalf will be truly appreciated.

**Lend a Hand to a Co-Worker**

**Carmen Dolezal**, a clinic clerk in Periodontics, has exhausted her sick leave and vacation because of a serious illness. Anyone wishing to help Carme by contributing vacation time may pick up a catastrophic leave donation form from Becky Todd (S450 DSB) or by going to [http://www.uiowa.edu/~eforms/hr/contrib.pdf](http://www.uiowa.edu/~eforms/hr/contrib.pdf). Once the form is completed, please send it to the Benefits Office, USB. Any contributions of one hour or more on Carmen’s behalf will be truly appreciated.

**Lend a Hand to a Co-Worker**

**Dr. Jane Chalmers**, Preventive & Community Dentistry, has exhausted her sick leave and vacation because of a serious illness. Anyone wishing to help Dr. Chalmers by contributing vacation time may pick up a catastrophic leave donation form from Pat Zousel (N329 DSB), from Dental Human Resources, or by going to [http://www.uiowa.edu/~eforms/hr/contrib.pdf](http://www.uiowa.edu/~eforms/hr/contrib.pdf). Once the form is completed, please send it to the Benefits Office, USB. Any contributions of one hour or more on her behalf will be truly appreciated. **Please note:** If you donated vacation time to Dr. Chalmers last year and it was never used, Benefits is in the process of returning your unused donation form to you because of its “age.” Please feel free to re-sign and re-date it and return it to Benefits, or, if you prefer to complete a new form, pick one up as described.

**Lend a Hand to a Co-Worker**

**Nicole Donaldson**, a dental assistant in Hospital Dentistry, has exhausted her sick leave and vacation. Anyone wishing to help Nicole by contributing vacation time may pick up a catastrophic leave donation form from Marty Fields or by going to [http://www.uiowa.edu/~eforms/hr/contrib.pdf](http://www.uiowa.edu/~eforms/hr/contrib.pdf). Once the form is completed, please send it to the Benefits Office, USB. Any contributions of one hour or more on Nicole’s behalf will be truly appreciated.

**Lend A Hand to a Co-Worker**

**Sherry Harris**, custodian at the College of Dentistry, has exhausted her sick leave and vacation because of caring for a family member. Anyone wishing to help Sherry by contributing vacation time may pick up a catastrophic leave donation form from Michelle Brown, Dental Human Resources (N300) or by going to [http://www.uiowa.edu/~eforms/hr/contrib.pdf](http://www.uiowa.edu/~eforms/hr/contrib.pdf). Once the form is completed, please send it to the Benefits Office, USB. Any contributions of one hour or more on Sherry’s behalf will be truly appreciated.

**Lend a Hand to a Co-Worker**

**Lisa Jackson**, a dental assistant in Pediatric Dentistry, has exhausted her sick leave and vacation. Anyone wishing to help Lisa by contributing vacation time may pick up a catastrophic leave donation form from Cindy Becker (S201) or by going to [http://www.uiowa.edu/~eforms/hr/contrib.pdf](http://www.uiowa.edu/~eforms/hr/contrib.pdf). Once the form is completed, please send it to the Benefits Office, USB. Any contributions of one hour or more on Lisa’s behalf will be truly appreciated.

**A Note from Jane Chalmers and Family**

See Page 6 (Online Only)

Family Dentistry is collecting monetary donations for Ms. Julie Lohr (D4) to help defer costs of parking, etc., while her son is recuperating in the hospital. We anticipate that he will be in the hospital for quite some time. Please drop off donations at FAMD, S313 DSB, to Cheryl or Jean by noon, Monday, May 12. Thanks!
Biking the Mekong Delta: Culture, Contrasts and Craziness

From January 22 to February 7, Dr. Rick Walton (Department of Endodontics), his wife, Laura, and their Chicago friend, Arch Bryant, enjoyed a bicycling adventure in the Mekong Delta region of Vietnam. Their journey took them from Cedar Rapids to Denver, then to San Francisco where they caught a 13-hour flight to Hong Kong and one more flight to Saigon. Their trip was arranged through Discover Vietnam, a touring company.

The Waltons took their 27-speed Bike Fridays with them – packed into suitcases! (Arch shipped his road bike.)

The entire tour group consisted of Rick and Laura, Arch, a guide, and a driver who transported their luggage and supplies in a van. The weather was very hot, usually in the high 80s or 90s, and one day the temperature reached 104 degrees. While it did rain during their trip, they had no precipitation while biking.

Aside from some tourist shops and hotels, few locals spoke English. Their guide and driver spoke only rudimentary English.

Their bicycling was the epitome of craziness. Rick reports that the traffic on the Vietnamese roads was often heavy and resembled, as he put it, a “free-for-all.” The primary mode of transportation for the Vietnamese is motorbikes. Rick, Laura and Arch saw motorbikes carrying three or four passengers or large, heavy loads. Along with the motorbikes, the traffic was composed of pedestrians, pedicabs (many with large loads), handcarts, buses, bicycles, large trucks, and cars, all en masse on mostly rough-surfaced two-lane roads. The buses and trucks would barrel through the throng of traffic with horns blaring. Everyone would move to the side and then close the gap after the vehicle passed, like the wake of a boat going upstream. Fortunately, the trio had no accidents despite the lack of side paths and the rarity of bike lanes -- remarkable! Their only mishap was one flat tire.

The trio biked about 300 miles over ten days, including two layovers. They lodged in interesting hotels in cities along the way. Most of their bicycling was through the countryside, with rice fields, and numerous small villages.

The Waltons and Bryant ate typical (and very good) Vietnamese food during the trip: fruits, rice, fish, noodles, soups, shrimp, eggs, and other unidentifiable substances (they didn’t ask!!). Continental breakfast at the hotels generally included cereal, fruit, meat, breads, cheeses, eggs, and much more; they drank bottled or processed water. None of them had any illness during the trip.

Dr. Walton reported they encountered no anti-American animosity, possibly because many of the Vietnamese were born after the Vietnam War, and also because the Vietnamese appreciate guests in their country.

During their sightseeing, Rick, Laura and Arch discovered that Vietnam is a mixture of many religions. They visited pagodas, temples and other religious sites, including Catholic, Buddhist, Hindu, Confucian, Taoist, Islamic and Cao Dai. Their sightseeing also included some tourist attractions, such as the Reunification Palace; the War Remnants Museum; unique national parks; and Mt. Sam and Black Lady Mountain, both which they climbed. Another highlight was visiting the tunnels of Cu Chi, a 155-mile network that was created during the French Indochina War by the Viet Minh and utilized by the Viet Cong through the Vietnam War. The tunnels included housing, kitchens, and field hospitals. Visitors are encouraged to tour the tunnels and the visitor’s center.

After returning to Saigon, Rick, Laura and Arch stayed three additional nights to enjoy more sightseeing. The festivities and decorations were in place for Tet, the lunar New Year, which was celebrated country-wide in grand style.

It was an interesting, unpredictable, and at times, a harrowing experience. The Walton’s best description? Culture, contrasts and craziness!

(See page 5 for additional photos from the Waltons’ trip.)
(continued from page 4, Biking the Mekong Delta: Culture, Contrasts and Craziness)

(Above) Another impediment on the road ...

Trying to converse with friendly school girls

Biking through a countryside village

Always lots of motorbikes!

See Dr. Rick Walton’s Noon Presentation, "Biking the Mekong Delta: Culture, Contrasts & Craziness" May 20, 2008, noon-1:00 pm Oral B Classroom
Thanks so much to all our wonderful collegiate family for being such a great support and for your generous love and care! Special thanks to the Preventive and Community gang for the beautiful tulip magnolia that I will watch grow over the spring and summer!

Love, Jane, Knute, Wade and Ryan XXXX
National Employee Health and Fitness Day

On Wednesday, May 21, to celebrate National Employee Health and Fitness Day, consider going for a walk with a co-worker and stopping by one of two campus locations to pick up a few goodies:

- UIHC or East Campus Indoor/Outdoor Walking Map
- A ‘freebie’ and pedometer drawing
- Acknowledge your participation by earning Wellness Store Points. Register for Well On Our Way between May 19 and 21 and earn 50 extra National Employee Health and Fitness Day points at www.uiowa.edu/hr/wellness/woow/.

Locations:
- University Employee Health Clinic, Boyd Tower
- UI Wellness Main Office, Communications Center

Celebrate the benefits to yourself and The University for your physical activity not only on this day, but every day:

- Enhanced employee productivity
- Decreased rates of illness and injuries
- Lower levels of stress
- Increased well-being, self-image and self-esteem
- Improved physical fitness

Bike to Work Week
This year, The University is proud to be a sponsor of the Iowa City/Coralville Bike to Work Week events from May 12-16. If you commute to work via bicycle, email megan-moeller@uiowa.edu and get entered to receive B2WW prizes including a new bike. More information on local events can be found at cicbikeweek.org.

Why is it a good idea to ride?

- Bicycling burns 350 to 700 calories per hour and new bicyclists can increase aerobic capacity by 20 percent.
- The average bike trip costs one cent per mile compared to 34 cents per mile for a car. Biking to work one day a week can reduce commuting costs up to 20 percent.
- Compared to driving a car, urban bicycle trips of three miles or less can actually decrease travel time.

Receive 50 additional points to the Wellness Store for physical, social, and environmental wellness for participating in Bike to Work Week. Register for Well On Our Way at www.uiowa.edu/hr/wellness/woow/.

Lighten Up Iowa
Congratulations University of Iowa LUI Teams. Collectively, The University’s 437 participants logged over 18700 hours of exercise and lost over 1670 pounds. Leading Teams are listed at www.uiowa.edu/hr/wellness/lightenup/index.html. Stay tuned for Live Health Iowa 2009 – Registration starts in December.

Fit Forever
UI Division of Recreational Services is now offering fitness programs for individuals 55 years and older, who are able to walk on a treadmill, use a stationary bike and operate weight training equipment. This summer, two classes designated for these individuals will be offered. See attached poster or visit www.recserv.uiowa.edu/programs/FitandWell/programs.htm for details on Fit Forever and other Group Exercise programming.

American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Johnson County
Relay for Life is a time and place where people come to celebrate those who have survived cancer, remember those we’ve lost, and fight back. This year’s Relay will be held on Friday evening, June 20. Please consider forming or joining a team to support this cause. Simply sign up online today. For more information about forming a team, contact Jackie Kleppe Williams jackie-williams@uiowa.edu or (319) 384-3025. In addition to participating on a team, there are other volunteer opportunities available. For volunteer information, contact Cheryl Valenta at Cheryl.Valenta@cancer.org.

(from your friendly College of Dentistry Wellness Ambassador, Vicki Green)
THE COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY PRESENTS AN

OPEN FORUM

WITH

President Sally Mason

3:00-4:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2008

Oral B Classroom (N212)

Faculty, Students and Staff are encouraged to attend