By Lynn Anderson Davy

Dental student Frankie Chyi didn’t need the official start of her dentistry education to begin conducting academic research. Eager to learn, she began interviewing parents about their children’s tooth-brushing habits the summer before she entered the University of Iowa College of Dentistry. And she did so on the advice of her older sister, who also is a UI dentistry student.

“Even though many of the children had access to toothpaste and toothbrushes, they were still not brushing their teeth at least once a day,”

Continued on page 2
“It’s unusual to do research before you start school, but my sister really encouraged me to start early,” says Chyi, a second-year dentistry student from Des Moines, Iowa. “She introduced me to her mentor and let me read her research. It was all about teeth whitening, and I didn’t understand any of it, but I took her advice.”

Chyi’s study, “Factors Associated with Toothpaste Use Among Low-Income Families,” was one of more than 100 research papers presented at the 65th Annual Meeting of the Iowa Section of the American Association for Dental Research (AADR), held at the UI College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics on Feb. 13.

Chyi received the Max Smith Award, which recognizes the best oral presentation by a pre-doctoral dental student. The prize comes with a monetary award of up to $500.

“I’m so honored to have received the award,” says Chyi. “But I’m also really proud of the College of Dentistry for valuing research that can help the community. Research is important because it is the force behind everything we do as dentists. Dentists depend on sound research to improve dental care and make better clinical decisions.”

For her study, Chyi surveyed 212 parents at Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) food and nutrition centers in Iowa City and Des Moines to find out what they knew about oral health, as well as their children’s tooth-brushing habits. She found that about half of the parents did not know what fluoride was and that roughly half reported not having enough time to ensure their children brushed their teeth at least once a day.

“Even though many of the children had access to toothpaste and toothbrushes, they were still not brushing their teeth at least once a day,” Chyi says.

Chyi now must tackle the challenging next steps, including how best to educate low-income families about oral health. And taking those steps is important. Conducting research helps students understand the science behind the dental procedures they will undertake one day in their own practices, says Dr. Teresa Marshall, professor of preventive and community dentistry and director of the Student Research Program, which was established at the UI College of Dentistry in 1984.

“Dentistry is both an art and a science,” Marshall says. “Doing research, as opposed to just reading science textbooks or journals, helps students appreciate the process of inquiry. Science is an evolution of collective thought, requires lots of effort, and doesn’t follow any expected trajectory. Participation in research also facilitates critical-thinking skills.”

The UI College of Dentistry has a strong national reputation for research, and faculty members encourage students to take on rigorous topics, Marshall says. A research course is offered in the fall as part of the school’s first-year curriculum, allowing many students to discover a topic they want to pursue.

“During the course, faculty members present their research to the students, which helps students connect with a mentor and also learn about the great variety of research that is going on in the college,” Marshall says. “Of course, there are also students who just take a special interest in an area, and we work with them to match them with the right mentor.”

For Chyi’s part, she had to do some brainstorming to find a research topic that interested her, but once the future dentist had her idea, she was determined to see it through to fruition, says Dr. John Warren, Chyi’s research mentor and a professor of preventive and community dentistry. Chyi plans to continue her research and is already thinking about ways she can help low-income parents ensure good oral health for their children.

“Frankie developed her project from the ground up and had a hand in it from the beginning,” Warren says. “She has worked very hard on this research project. I’m proud of the work she’s doing and of the great example she sets for other dental students.”
Campus Transformations

Our university landscape is changing … 2016 marked the dedication and opening of four campus facilities.

The Arts Campus

In 2008, Iowa City and much of the university campus were hit by a historic flood. Nearly all of the low-lying arts campus facilities were damaged, displacing students and faculty and their creative work, and destroying the artistic homes for UI students and visiting artists from around the globe.

Art Building West was the first of the arts campus replacements to open. The award-winning facility houses the School of Art and Art History and was designed by New York architect Steven Holl, who also designed the UI’s Art Building West.

Hancher Auditorium. The University of Iowa selected world-renowned architects Pelli Clarke Pelli to design the 1800-seat, state-of-the-art auditorium, which opened in grand style in fall 2016 with a special performance by Steve Martin and Martin Short.

The Voxman Music Building is situated in the heart of downtown Iowa City. Designed by LMN Architects and located at the corner of Clinton Street and Burlington Street, this vibrant facility houses acoustically optimal performance and practice spaces, advanced learning environments, a music library, and inviting public spaces.

University of Iowa Stead Family Children’s Hospital opened to patients in February 2017. This 507,000-square-foot home for children’s medicine is adjacent, and linked to, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. In 2016, the hospital was named to recognize Jerre and Mary Joy Stead’s remarkable, $25 million gift commitment to children’s medicine at Iowa. This incredible facility includes a new procedural room for pediatric dentistry.

Breaking Ground

The UI College of Engineering broke ground on a new annex, which was completed in fall 2017. The 65,000-square-foot addition connects to the current Seamans Center and extends the complex southward, toward Burlington Street.

Construction on a new home for the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy also began in 2016. The new building will be located on the site of the old Quadrangle Residence Hall, which was demolished in summer 2016, and will be completed by 2020.
Louis Montgomery (1952 DDS) has always felt fortunate to have been able to attend college. Shortly before his birth in 1926, Louis's father died unexpectedly. His mother was left with six children to raise, but his oldest brother took over financially supporting the family. His mother's hope was that all of her children would finish high school, but Louis had higher goals. Louis was drafted in his senior year in high school. His mother asked the draft board if he could graduate before being inducted and they complied. (Two brothers were already serving in Africa and France.)

While Louis was serving in the army during World War II, he attended the first Nuremburg Trials - a special memory – which he is now recording for the Veteran's Museum in Waterloo. After returning home, he enrolled in Buena Vista College (now University). He then transferred to the University of Iowa and received his DDS in 1952. Dr. Montgomery appreciated the help of the GI Bill!

When one of his dental school classmates, Roger Zemanek, was diagnosed with polio, Louis was instrumental in organizing an annual Christmas fundraising campaign and party for Roger, a tradition that lasted for 50 years until Zemanek's death. “Throughout the years,” says Dr. Montgomery, “we ended up raising about $250,000.”

Although the DDS graduate was offered a faculty position at the UI College of Dentistry – $6,500 per year to teach freshmen dental students in 1952 – Dr. Montgomery instead opted to open a solo practice in Waterloo. “A solo practice offered more possibilities,” he says, “including financial.”

In his mind, it was a perfect community for him, partly because of a new shopping center being constructed where he would open his office, and also because the University of Northern Iowa offered a nearby campus atmosphere.

Over the years, Dr. Montgomery took many prosthodontics courses at the Pankey Institute in Key Biscayne, Florida. The 24 cutting-edge classes occurred annually during one week. The Pankey classes, coupled with his education at the College of Dentistry, enabled Dr. Montgomery to develop his reconstructive prosthodontics practice. Rebuilding patients’ mouths was satisfying, rewarding and “a very important part of my practice,” as was developing a dentist-patient relationship and treating different generations of the same family.

His two sons followed their father down the dentistry path. Andre, the oldest, recently retired, was vice president of a dental supply company which specialized in computerizing dental offices. Marc is a Woodbury, Minnesota, cosmetic dentist.

Dr. Montgomery practiced dentistry for 60 years, retiring in 2012 at the age of 85. Now Louis enjoys spending time at his ranch, which is located 33 miles south of Waterloo. Replete with rolling hills, horses, and a fishing pond, it is a relaxing spot for him to visit. Other activities for Dr. Montgomery and his wife, Mary, a retired John Deere employee, include spending winters in Florida with longtime friends; attending Iowa football home and out-of-state games; dinners on Wednesday nights “with the guys,” including other retired dentists; regular weekly dining out excursions with friends; working out three times a week at the Covenant Wellness Center where they have been members for many years; vacationing with family and friends in Minnesota; attending their church, St. Edward Catholic; supporting community projects; and most importantly, spending time with their blended extended family.

Dr. Montgomery has a strong loyalty to the University of Iowa, where he has been a supporter since 1961. Louis also remains grateful for his dental education at Iowa; he and Mary have arranged an estate gift for the dental school. “I was privileged to graduate from the University of Iowa College of Dentistry … the experience changed my life.” His wife, Mary, concurs, adding that Louis “…still looks back and marvels at the opportunities he received.”

The University of Iowa Dental Alumni Association and the College of Dentistry recognize Dr. Louis Montgomery’s long and fruitful dental practice career and his commitment to the University, the College and to his class, and wish to honor him with the 2017 Alumnus of the Year Award.
2017 Dental Educator
of the Year
Vincent D. Williams, DDS, MS

In high school, Vincent (Vince) Williams was asked by his Decorah, Iowa, dentist, Dr. Obed Berg (DDS ’47) during a dental appointment if he’d ever thought about pursuing dentistry. He hadn’t initially but at Luther College he took pre-dental classes, then attended the UI College of Dentistry in 1953. It wasn’t easy – money was always an issue – so during college, Vincent washed dishes in a lab and at Quadrangle Hall and played in jazz bands on weekends. He also served 10 pm meals to doctors and staff at the hospital, then studied late after other students had gone to bed.

As a senior dental student, he joined the U.S. Air Force on extended active duty. After graduating in 1957, Dr. Williams and his wife, Verla, were stationed in Harlingen, Texas, for three years.

After being honorably discharged in 1960, Dr. Williams heard that Dr. Gordon Luce (DDS ’19), was retiring from his Decorah practice. Dr. Williams and his family moved back to Iowa and after one year in a dental association, he purchased Dr. Luce’s practice.

Seventeen years later, Dr. Williams was ready for a change. He had been an adjunct instructor in Preventive and Community since 1972, working on the mobile dental unit throughout Iowa, and decided perhaps academics might offer him a new opportunity. Dr. Williams sold his practice to Dr. Murray Bouschlicher (DDS ’76) and accepted a full-time position in Family Dentistry as a group leader. Enrolling in the Fixed Prosthodontics specialty program as a part-time graduate student, he obtained his MS and certificate in 1980 and joined Family Dentistry as an assistant professor.

In 1986, Vince Williams had an opportunity to spend a six-month sabbatical at the University of Oslo (Norway) as a visiting professor. While eating lunch in their library, he discovered a book, Principles of Dental Treatment Planning by Robert B. Morris. From Norway, Dr. Williams called Dr. Daniel Hall, chair of Family Dentistry, to describe the “fantastic book” and urged him to buy copies. Consequently, Dr. Williams’s discovery entirely changed what D4s were taught about treatment planning.

Dr. Williams helped implement another major change: the process of the senior dental students’ clinical treatment of patients. Fourth-year students would receive 96 IBM punch cards and “cherry pick” their patients based on easier treatments, or to meet their requirements, then consider their learning experience complete. Consequently, some patients were not treated, clinic revenue was reduced, and the seniors’ clinical experience was not as comprehensive. To improve the students’ learning experience and patient care, as well as increase the senior year revenue, Associate Dean for Clinical Activities and Family Dentistry Acting Chair Thomas Gardner, Dr. Howard Dedmon and Dr. Williams worked to provide the seniors with a case-based, patient-centered and complete care-oriented clinic experience.

In 1997, Dr. Williams retired as a professor and was also honored with the UI Collegiate Teaching Award. Continuing to work as an adjunct faculty, he received the 2007 Adjunct of the Year Teaching Award from the graduating class. Dr. Williams fully retired in 2013.

Dr. Williams has been a member of the American Dental Association, American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics, International and American Associations of Dental Research, Iowa Dental Association, Johnson County Dental Society, the University District Dental Society, Psi Omega Dental Fraternity, and Omicron Kappa Upsilon. He has authored or co-authored many articles and a book chapter.

He and Verla raised four children: Dawn, Mark, Arik and Jené, and they have been blessed with eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. In his spare time, Dr. Williams enjoys church activities, playing bass guitar in a praise band, attending Hancher events and Iowa football games, and taking Senior College classes.

The University of Iowa Dental Alumni Association and the College of Dentistry are pleased to recognize Dr. Williams’s accomplishment by giving him the 2017 Educator of the Year Award.

Continued on page 6
2017 Honorary Recognition of the Year
Penni M. Ryan, BLS, CPP

Penni Ryan’s budding career began in 1983 as secretary to the associate dean for student affairs at Mayo Medical Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. Serving as a liaison to the dean’s office, she organized graduation, orientation and academic events and also prepared the dean’s letters and packets for residency training.

In 1990, Penni joined the UI Hospital & Clinics Department of Hospital Dentistry as a secretary, providing support to five faculty and three residents. Within a year, though, she received a phone call from Dean James McLeran, UI College of Dentistry. His administrative assistant, Eunice, was retiring and McLeran wanted Penni to apply for the position. She did and it appeared she would be offered the job – but Dean McLeran had an unusual request: Penni and her family were going camping in Wisconsin and he wanted her to call him on the pay phone so he could hear her customer service voice. She obliged and in July 1991, she assumed her new job as administrative assistant in the dean’s office.

Three years later, Penni’s responsibilities expanded further: besides planning academic and social events, she assumed oversight of the Dean’s Office Foundation and University expense accounts; served as a liaison with the UI Counsel’s Office, the Attorney General’s Office, UI President’s Office, UI Provost’s Office, UI vice presidents, other UI colleges, and UIHC, as well as a liaison to dental, community, state, national and international agencies, media and the public; and other duties.

In 1995, another transition occurred: Dean McLeran retired and Dr. David Johnsen became the new dean. Penni continued with her role in the Dean’s office. In 2005, Jamie Sharp, who had been coordinator for continuing education at the College of Dentistry, retired. Her position was absorbed by Penni whose job title became director of continuing education and alumni affairs.

Penni’s achievements during the past 12 years have been numerous. She became a certified program planner and received her Executive Leadership certificates in 2010. While working and raising a family, Penni took one University of Iowa course every semester, and in 2013, she received her BLS and certificate in aging studies. She has held various offices, including president of the Association of Continuing Dental Education, and has served as secretary, chair and counselor for the American Dental Education Association, Section on Continuing Dental Education. At the University of Iowa, she has served as chair of the Foundation BGI Database Subcommittee and has been a member of the UI Graphics Identity Committee, The UI State Fair Committee, as well as the UI Strategic Communications Committee.

At the College of Dentistry, Penni has served as president of the Omicron Upsilon Kappa (OKU), Mu Chapter dental fraternity, and is involved with the Marketing and Technology Committees as well as being chair of the Continuing Dental Education Committee.

In 2006, Ms. Ryan received the Special Appreciation Award from the Pierre Fauchard Academy and also the Special Recognition Award from the Iowa Dental Association. Two years later, she received an honorary membership to OKU. In 2009, Penni was honored with the Board of Regents Award for Staff Excellence, and in 2012, she received the Pride of CASE District Silver Award for the Best Capital/Comprehensive Building Campaign.

Penni has received numerous Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation grants as well as a grant from the UI Provost, which have supported continuing education courses and miscellaneous geriatric projects and courses.

Penni and her husband Don have two children, Justin (wife Amy) and Brandon, and a new grandson Everett.

“Working at the College and with all of the alumni has made my job fun, interesting and sometimes challenging,” says Penni. “Most importantly, I have made numerous lifelong friends.”

The University of Iowa Dental Alumni Association and the College of Dentistry recognize Penni Ryan’s many accomplishments and are pleased to give her the 2017 Honorary Award.
In January 2016, the Office of Research and Economic Development launched a Dare to Discover campaign showcasing researchers, scholars, and creators from across the University of Iowa, including a series of banners throughout downtown Iowa City.

The College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics is proud to honor Rawa Alammari and Jennifer Sukalski.

Visit dare.research.uiowa.edu to learn the stories behind the personal faces of discovery and creativity.
Legacies

First-years continue family dental tradition

Nicholas Nemmers D1; Roger Nemmers (grandfather) 1959; James Nemmers (father) 1989; Peter Nemmers (brother) current D3

Nancy Rhomberg (Nemmers) (Aunt) dental hygiene 1981; Carol Peters (Nemmers) (Aunt) dental hygiene 1982; Sara Sodawasser (Nemmers) dental hygiene 1966

Kellen Bohn D1; Courtney Bohn (sister) 2016; Keagan Bohn (brother) 2018

Cameron Gray D1; Gerald Gray (Father) 1996
Legacies Continued

Jared Loftus D1; Ronald Loftus (grandfather) 1971; TJ Loftus (father) 1996; Jeff Loftus (uncle) 1997; Larry Dunscombe (great uncle) 1964

Braz Voy D1; Scott Voy (father) 1988

Taylor Steffans D1; Keith Valesh (grandfather) 1965

Rick Young D1; Al Young (cousin) 1995
Brandon Enloe D1; James Enloe (father) 1985; Pamela Wicks (mother) 1987; Lana Wicks (McPermott) (cousin) 2011

Alec Mathews D1; Michael Mathews (father) 1985

Connor Dang D1; Darrell Dang (father) 1985; Pamela Wicks (mother) 1987; Lana Wicks (McPermott) (cousin) 2011
### 2018 Research Day Awards

**65th Annual Meeting — Iowa Section of the American Association for Dental Research**

#### Procter & Gamble (P&G) Competition – Predoctoral

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<td>ALISON CHRISTENSEN</td>
<td>Arwa Owais, Deborah Dawson</td>
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#### James S. Wefel Pediatric Dentistry Predoctoral Award

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<td>ASHLEY SPOONER</td>
<td>Michael Kanellis, Derek Blanchette</td>
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#### Iowa Society of Periodontology Predoctoral Award

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<td>BLAKE LOUSCHER</td>
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#### Operative Dentistry Postdoctoral Award

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#### Endodontic Michel Fuller Postdoctoral Award

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<td>ZACHARY GOETTSCHIE</td>
<td>Fabricio Teixeira, Anne Williamson</td>
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#### Orthodontics Postdoctoral Award

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<td>SAMUEL CHRISTENSEN</td>
<td>Fang Qian, Sath Allareddy, Kyungsup Shin</td>
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#### Preventive and Community Dentistry Postdoctoral Award

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### Max Smith Competition – Predoctoral

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<td>John Warren</td>
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### Max Smith Competition – Postdoctoral

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### ADA Poster/Table Clinics Competition – Predoctoral

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<td>Karin Weber-Gasparoni, Anwa Owais</td>
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### ADA Poster/Table Clinics Competition – Postdoctoral

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### Michael W. Finkelstein Evidence Based Section Awards

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### Basic Science Postdoctoral Award

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### Pediatric Dentistry Postdoctoral Award

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<td>Anwa Owais</td>
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Dr. Sherry Timmons ('95 DDS), PhD, is now serving as the new Associate Dean for Student Affairs. Dr. Timmons has a demonstrated commitment to the learning environment and to student success, is well known within the college, and has national networks. She also has extensive experience working with dental students in an academic setting. During the search process, strong support came from faculty, staff, and students. Cathy Solow retired as Dean of Student Affairs after working at the College of Dentistry since 2009. During the search process, Dr. John Warren served as Interim Dean.

The Board of Directors of the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) announced that Dr. John C. Keller, MS, PhD, Dean of the Graduate College, associate provost for graduate and professional education, and interim vice president for research and economic development at Iowa, was the 2017 winner of the Debra W. Stewart Award for Outstanding Leadership in Graduate Education. Dr. Keller is a professor in the Iowa Institute for Oral Health Research and the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and also former director of the Implant Biomaterials Research Program. In 1998, he was appointed the associate dean of the UI Graduate College and became dean and associate provost for graduate education in 2002.

Professor Emeritus Axel Ruprecht, DDS, MScD, formerly Department of Oral Pathology, Radiology and Medicine, was the commencement speaker at the Third Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology residents’ graduation at the University of Florida, Gainesville, in December 2017. He is currently a faculty member of the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Diagnostic Sciences at the University of Florida.

The UI College of Dentistry is one of the research centers for two multi-center National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded studies that will focus on dental caries (cavities) in children. The first study, which continues a previous NIDCR-supported study, is a five-year competitive renewal that continues work on the development of a better dental caries risk prediction model for underserved toddlers and young children. The second study is a four-year clinical trial to test the effectiveness of silver diamine fluoride (SDF) in arresting dental caries in pre-school children. Both studies are funded by the National Institute for Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) and are based at the University of Michigan. The combined funding for the two projects is nearly $19 million; the UI will receive about $5.3 million. The second project is a Phase III randomized clinical trial to test the effectiveness of silver diamine fluoride (SDF) in halting the progression (‘arresting’) of dental caries in pre-school children. Dr. Steven Levy, DDS, MPH, Department of Preventive & Community Dentistry, is principal investigator for both studies.

Dr. Fabricio Teixeira, DDS, MS, PhD, head of Endodontics, was one of eight invited speakers for the Sixteenth International Endodontic Symposium, “Clinical and Biological Concepts of Modern Endodontics.” The symposium was held by the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry at the University of Southern California (USC) on December 9, 2017.

Drs. Arwa Owais, BDS, MS, Pediatric Dentistry, and Sath-eesh Elangovan, BDS, DSc, DMSc, Periodontics, attended an intensive two-and-one-half day inaugural, hands-on workshop on systematic reviews and meta-analysis, which was organized by the American Dental Association (ADA).

Dr. Mike Murrell ('81 DDS), Family Dentistry, volunteered on a seven-day mission with the Syrian American Medical Society. He joined 50 other health professionals providing service to Syrian refugees in northern Jordan.

The inaugural meeting of the American Academy of Cariology (AAC) was held in Atlanta, Georgia on October 18, 2017, prior to the annual session of the American Dental Association. The AAC’s goal is to eradicate dental caries in the United States through the promotion of science-based disease management. Dr. Sandra Guzman-Armstrong, DDS, MS, Operative Dentistry, is one of the AAC founders and current secretary.

Several Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS) faculty and staff attended the 99th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. The meeting was held October 9-14, 2017, in San Francisco, Calif. Dr. Richard Burton, DDS, MS, was honored as outgoing president of the American Board of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery (ABOMS). Dr. Kirk Fridrich, DDS, MS, chair of OMS, is a former president of ABOMS.

Dr. Bill Synan, DDS, served as an ABOMS board examiner for ten years.

Dr. Karin Weber-Gasparroni, DDS, PhD, head of Pediatric Dentistry, received a $10,000 grant from the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation for her research, “Factors Associated with Early Childhood Caries Among Young WIC-Enrolled Children.”

Professor Emeritus Dr. Ronald Ettinger, BDS, MDS, DDS, formerly Prosthodontics and Iowa Institute for Oral Health Research, traveled to Australia to attend the 6th Walkabout Conference, which was sponsored by the Australian Society of Special Care in Dentistry in Brisbane. He presented “Special Needs Dentistry: An International Perspective” and “Rational Dental Care: A Philosophy of Clinical Decision Making for Older Adults.” Dr. Ettinger also traveled to Adelaide where he was a guest speaker at the South Australian (SA) Dental Service. His presentations were “The Oral Health Needs of Functionally Dependent Older Adults” and “Oral Health Care of Patients with Alzheimer’s Disease and Other Dementias.” Dr. Ettinger
was a guest at the Private Dentists Meeting: Residential Aged Care Dental Scheme as well, where he presented “The Oral Health of Functionally Dependent Adults and Treatment in Alternate Settings.”

Department of Oral Pathology, Radiology and Medicine’s radiology faculty and residents attended the 68th Annual Session of the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology (AAOMR). Dr. Trishul Allareddy, BDS, MS, was nominated AAOMR Councilor for Educational Affairs for the next four years (2017-2021) and Dr. Saulo Melo, DDS, MSD, PhD, MS, received his certificate as a diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology (ABOMR).

Dr. Satheesh Elangovan, BDS, DSc, DMSc, Periodontics, is part of a team that has developed the first Touch Surgery dental simulation module. The team focused on a periodontal surgical procedure that is aimed at covering the gingival recession using coronally advanced flap and connective tissue grafting. As the world’s first cognitive surgical simulation software, Touch Surgery is backed by studies that have proved its construct, face, and content validity. Dr. Elangovan also received a grant for $49,278 from the International Team of Implantology Foundation. This grant will be used for his research, “RNA Activated Titanium Surface for Enhanced Soft Tissue Attachment: A Proof of Concept Study,” which focuses on developing a novel titanium surface that will also act as an RNA (of growth factors) delivery device.

Dr. Azeez Butali, DDS, PhD, Iowa Institute for Oral Health Research, and Oral Pathology, Radiology and Medicine, has received a five-year NIH Kids First Program service grant. The goal of the Gabriella Miller Kids First (GMKF) Program is to develop a data resource for the pediatric research community incorporating both childhood cancer and structural birth defects genomic and phenotypic data. Drs. Butali and Terri Beaty (Johns Hopkins University) are principal investigators. The grant will be used to help develop his Biorepository project, which will combine biological materials, dental and medical records; establish a fully integrated medical, genetic, and dental patient record, to improve a patient’s quality of care and enhance quality research across the UI medical and dental facilities; and make the data and biological materials available to UI researchers and other collaborators, to conduct ground-breaking research, deliver personalized precision medicine, and improve patients’ health. NIH will pay a multi-million dollar amount for the whole genome sequencing of 805 samples at the Broad Institute (Cambridge, Mass.). The GMKF is a $126 million congressional mandate to support research that will find a cure for pediatric cancers and structural birth defects. It is from the NIH common funds and $12.6 million has been set aside each year for 10 years. Dr Butali’s application was one of eight funded grants in 2017.

Dr. Emily Lanzel (12 DDS), MS, Oral Pathology, Radiology & Medicine, was featured in the August 21, 2017, issue of ADA News: “Specialty Pathway: Oral Pathology.” During the question and answer interview, Dr. Lanzel talked about why she chose to pursue dentistry and how she became interested in oral pathology.

Dr. Rick Williamson, DDS, MS, Prosthodontics, volunteered on a Somos Amigos weeklong mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Each mission trip includes approximately 40-50 volunteers: physicians, dentists, nurses, hygienists, dental technicians, etc., who treat about 900 patients.

Dr. Douglas Kendrick (10 DDS), Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, received a one-and-one-half year, $72,305 grant from Zimmer Biomet CMF and Thoracic, LLC for his clinical research study, “The OmniMax MMF System: A Cohort Study for Clinical Evaluation.” This multicenter study includes the University of California – Davis and the Medical University of South Carolina; the three schools will evaluate the clinical benefits of the OmniMax MMF system from Zimmer Biomet in the treatment of mandibular fractures. Dr. Kendrick is principal investigator for the multicenter study.

Dr. Bill Johnson (’75 DDS), MS, Endodontics, has been reappointed chair of the American Association of Endodontists (AAE) Special Committee on Endodontic Education. In 2017, the committee developed a white paper focusing on standards for endodontics diagnosis, treatment planning and prognosis. This year, the committee’s focus will be on nonsurgical root canal treatment.

Dr. Saulo Sousa Melo, DDS, MSD, PhD, MS, Oral Pathology, Radiology & Medicine, attended the 2017 American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Summer Program for Emerging Academic Leaders. The year-long program is designed to provide early career faculty who show great promise as potential leaders with the guidance, insight and skills needed to build an academic career.

Dr. Xi Chen, DDS, PhD, Preventive & Community Dentistry, received a one-year, $25,000 grant from the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation for his research project, “Oral Health Needs and Perceptions of Seriously Ill Older Adults with Limited Life Expectancy.” Dr. Chen’s pilot study will explore self-perceived oral health needs and values among older adults with advanced health conditions, and examine their oral disease patterns. He is principal investigator.

Dr. Liu Hong, MD, MS, PhD, Iowa Institute for Oral Health Research and Prosthodontics, and Associate Dean for Research Dr. Brad A. Amendt, PhD,
Dr. Theo Katsaros, DDS, MS, Periodontics, successfully completed the American Board of Periodontology (ABP) board certification.

Dr. Peter Damiano (’86 DDS), MPH, Preventive & Community Dentistry and director of the Public Policy Center (PPC) and the PPC’s Health Policy Research Program, was invited to serve on the Legislative Advisory Committee (LAC) of the American Dental Education Association (ADEA). The LAC provides advice and counsel to the ADEA on public policy and legislative priorities and promotes policies and programs that improve the nation’s oral health, advance dental and craniofacial research and education, reduce oral health disparities, and increase access to dental care. Dr. Damiano will serve a three-year term.

Dr. Fabricio Teixeira, DDS, MS, PhD, head, Endodontics, was elected to serve as director of the American Board of Endodontics during the 2017 American Association of Endodontists (AAE) annual meeting in New Orleans. He also gave a presentation, “Critical Apical Zone.”

Dr. Keith Krell (’81 DDS, ’83 MS endodontics) and adjunct faculty in Endodontics, will serve as vice president of the American Association of Endodontists.

Faculty from the Chongqing Medical University School of Stomatology (China) visited the College of Dentistry. The visit was arranged after Drs. Liu Hong, MD, MS, PhD, Prosthodontics and Iowa Institute for Oral Health Research; department head Daniel Caplan (’88 DDS), PhD, and Xi Chen, DDS, PhD, both Preventive & Community Dentistry; and Associate Dean for Research Brad A. Amendt, PhD, visited the School of Stomatology at Chongqing Medical University in September 2016. These trips have been an effort to establish potential research and educational collaborations between the two schools. Educational collaborations may include having Chinese graduate students or faculty from the School of Stomatology visit the College of Dentistry for training, or third-year College of Dentistry dental students visiting the Chinese School of Stomatology for portions of their extramural rotations.

Dr. Azeez Butali, DDS, PhD, Iowa Institute for Oral Research, and Oral Pathology, Radiology & Medicine; Dr. Liu Hong, MD, MS, PhD, Iowa Institute for Oral Health Research, and Prosthodontics; and Associate Dean for Research Brad A. Amendt, PhD, each received a 2016 Inventor Award from the UI Research Foundation. Dr. Butali’s award was in recognition of his intellectual property Healthcare Trends — Help My Pikin app, a campaign to reduce the infant and under 5 mortality rates in Nigeria. Drs. Hong and Amendt received the award in recognition of their innovations over the years and their work with NaturemiRI, LLC.

Professor Emeritus Dr. Steve Vincent, DDS, MS, Oral Pathology, Radiology & Medicine, was installed as president of the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology during the annual meeting.

Dr. Julie Reynolds (’11 DDS), MS, Preventive & Community Dentistry, and a researcher in the Public Policy Center’s (PPC) Health Policy Research Program, participated in the 2017 Dental Quality Alliance Conference, which was hosted by the American Dental Association in Chicago on May 12-13. The conference was held for professionals to gain knowledge on the need for and the goals of measurement to support quality improvement in oral healthcare, explore strategies for successfully leading and influencing healthcare improvement through measurement in dentistry, and examine emerging trends in quality measurement and leadership across the dental care continuum.

Drs. Ray Kuthy, DDS, MPH; Steve Levy, DDS, MPH; Susan McKernan, DMD, MS, PhD; Michelle McQuistan (’01 DDS), MS; Julie Reynolds (’11 DDS), MS, and John Warren (’86 DDS), MS, all Preventive & Community Dentistry, attended the National Oral Health Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Dr. McQuistan became president-elect of the American Association of Public Health Dentistry and Dr. Warren assumed the office of vice president of the American Board of Dental Public Health.

Dr. Mike Kanellis (’79 DDS), MS, and Ms. Cathy Skotowski, RDH, MS, both Pediatric Dentistry, also attended.
The Donald B. Osbon Memorial Lecture was held April 22, 2017, at the College of Dentistry. Approximately 70 people attended. Dean David Johnsen welcomed attendees; Dr. Kirk Fridrich, DDS, MS, head of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, gave introductions. Dr. Jeffrey Dembo, Lexington, Kentucky, offered some comments about Dr. Osbon. Dr. Peter K. Moy, a professor in the department of oral & maxillofacial surgery at UCLA, was the featured speaker. He gave the presentation, “The Role an Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon Must Play in Implant Dentistry.” Dinner was held at the Coralville Marriott Hotel and Convention Center. The Donald B. Osbon Memorial Lecture series was established in memory of Dr. Donald B. Osbon to recognize his major contributions to the dental profession and oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Dr. Satheesh Elangovan, BDS, DSc, DMSc, Periodontics, received a $29,000 The Osseointegration Foundation Basic Science Research grant to explore the feasibility of developing a novel resorbable barrier membrane that will act as a delivery vehicle for biomolecules (including DNA), to enhance bone regeneration. Osseointegration Foundation is an affiliate of the Academy of Osseointegration. The study will also explore methods to harness the bone regenerative potential of periosteal stem cells.

Dr. Michael Santucci, DDS, adjunct faculty in Family Dentistry, received the E. Lloyd Du Brul Faculty Achievement Award from the University of Illinois, Chicago (UIC). The award is given to a faculty member who reflects the late Dr. Du Brul’s commitment to education excellence that strengthens the influence and renown of the UIC College of Dentistry.

The American Dental Education Association awarded Dr. Cristina Vidal, DDS, MS, PhD, Operative Dentistry, a $3,500 grant for her research entitled “Proteomics Profile and Activity of Dentinal and Salivary Collagen-degrading Enzymes in Caries Progression.” The research project will investigate protein composition, especially enzymes like MMPs, in both healthy and carious teeth and saliva from the same patients. The research aims to determine the precise role of specific proteins, biomarkers, and host-derived enzymes in dentin degradation and caries progression.

Office of Iowa Practice Opportunities Announces the arrival of the:

Recruiting New Dentists in Iowa: A guide for your community to be successful has been published on the Office of Iowa Practice Opportunities website and was written by Iowa Practice Opportunities Coordinator, Deb Hoyle, with input from recruitment partners from Iowa Area Development Group, Sue Cosner and Bruce Hansen, and the Keokuk Area Dental Recruitment Task Force, Shelly Olmans and Rachael Patterson-Rahn.

The guide provides dentists and communities with information for developing a community recruitment effort and task force in a smaller community. An online and printable version of Recruiting New Dentists in Iowa: A guide for your community to be successful can be found at www.dentistry.uiowa.edu/oipo-recruiting-dentist.
Madeline Swenson (D4) was awarded a $1,000 Student Research Travel Grant by the Osseointegration Foundation for her research, “Peri-Implant Mucosal Dynamics around Divergent and Concave Abutment Transition Profiles.”

Dr. Rawa Alammari (oral science resident) took honorable mention in the fall 2017 Graduate College’s Three Minute Thesis competition.

The third annual Iowa American Student Dental Association (IASDA) Pre-Dental Summer Academy was held June 23-25. Fifty-three pre-dental students attended the event to learn about dentistry as a career and also took part in hands-on waxing, cavity preparation and restoration activities. Dr. Natalia Restrepo-Kennedy, Operative Dentistry; Dr. Carolina Garcia, Prosthodontics; and Rachael Kowbel, Dental Student Admissions, gave presentations to the undergraduate students. Dr. Deirdre Egan from the University of Iowa Writing Center gave a presentation on how to perfect a personal statement when applying to dental school. Alison Christensen (D4) coordinated the event with invaluable help from student volunteers: Justin Mikesell, Jenn Feingold, Ebode Okuruwa, Erica Recker, Meghan Nelson, Ryan Frost, Sophia Chen (all D4s), Alyssa Spilski, Brandon Winter, Donté Nesbit, Erika Takanami, Erin Leppek, Isabella Jasek, Layton Fritsch, Malachi Zeitner, Matt Rohlf, Olivia Lofgren, Shelby Roszhart, Sheldon Stender (all D2s), and Cody Glass and Jared Loftus (D1s).

OPRM radiology faculty and residents attended the 68th Annual Session of the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology (AAOMR) in St. Louis, MO, which was held on October 4-7, 2017. A total of eight posters from Iowa were presented during the 68th Annual Session of the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology, including those by Drs. Suvendra Vijayan, Daniah Alhazmi, and Joshua Orgill (all residents). UI dental student, Katherine Sislow (D3), also presented a poster at the AAOMR meeting.

During the Pediatric Dentistry awards luncheon, Walker Clark (Class of 2017) received the 2017 Dale Redig Student Excellence Award and Casey Goetz (Class of 2017) received the 2017 American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Certificate of Merit Predoctoral Student Award.

Cleo Stephanides (Class of 2017) received the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Award during the Oral Pathology, Radiology and Medicine luncheon. Joshua M. Hindman (Class of 2017) received the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Award. Amy Vermeer (Class of 2017) was given the American Academy of Medicine Award. Gabrielle N. Moen (Class of 2019) received the A.K. Fisher Oral Pathology Award.

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery presented awards to D4 and D3 students. Aaron Kotecki (D4) received the Kimberly S. Swanson Dental Scholarship; Andrew Richter (D4) received the Ralph A. Fenton Memorial Award; Charles Abraham (Class of 2017) received the American Academy of Orofacial Pain Award; Shaun O’Neill (Class of 2017) was the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology, Inc. Award recipient; Caitlin Miller (Class of 2017) was given the Mary Ann Vercande Scholarship; Christopher Treinen (Class of 2017) received the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Award; Tyler Wallingford (D2) worked to coordinate lab activities and serve as a mentor to participants. Dr. Michelle McQuistan (DDS ’01), co-investigator, and Ms. Rachael Kowbel, director of Dental Student Admissions, served as the primary contacts for the College of Dentistry. Numerous other CoD faculty, staff and students also volunteered with the program.
D2 students Shaan Desai and James Park presented their research during the second annual Iowa One Health Conference, which was held October 14 at the UI College of Public Health. Shaan received a third-place certificate for his poster presentation, “Discovery of a Novel Variant in Retinoid-related Orphan Receptor Alpha in Non-syndromic Orofacial Clefts in African Populations.” James’s poster was entitled, “Identifying Variants Contributing to Nonsyndromic Orofacial Clefts in Dachshund Family Transcription Factor 1 Gene in African Populations.”

Endo residents Jered Vislisel, Jay Leer, Mikaela Hazard, Ryan Teahen, Britt Gillard, and Amy Vermeer, as well as Fabricio Teixeira (professor and chair of Endodontics), Dr. Rick Walton (professor emeritus, Endodontics) and Dr. Carrie Teahen (DDS ’10) competed in the Quad Cities Relay Marathon and Half Marathon. Despite the heat, all of the runners had strong finishes.

Amber Bates, PhD student and Paula Gomez (D4) attended the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center Scientific Research Retreat. Amber presented a poster presentation of her research entitled “Matrix Metalloproteinase Responses of HNSCC and Immune Cell Transwell Co-cultures.” Paula presented her research poster entitled “HBD3 Induced PD-L1 Expression in HNSCC.” Several UI College of Dentistry dental students participated in the seventh Xicotepec, Mexico trip, led by Dr. Steve Levy, Preventive & Community Dentistry. International Perspectives: Xicotepec is an interdisciplinary, service-learning course in which UI students work with faculty and Rotarians from Iowa and Mexico to carry out projects. This year, the College of Dentistry team provided preventive dental services to 1,200 children. Student presentations about their experiences in Xicotepec were held recently at the Marriott Hotel and the dental team regaled the audience with one of the songs they learned in Spanish to encourage children to practice good oral health care. Participants for the trip included two faculty from the College of Pharmacy and six pharmacy students; one faculty from the Department of Theatre Arts, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences; three students from the College of Engineering; Daisy Patino, Family Dentistry and Preventive & Community Dentistry; Drs. Julie Reynolds and Steven Levy, both Preventive and Community Dentistry; Colby Beck, Adam Dixon, Andrew Wellin (all D3s) and Sophia Chen (D4).

During the 155th annual meeting of the Iowa Dental Association, Dr. Tamer Theodory (operative dentistry resident) received the First Place Award for the Dental Graduate Student Clinics with his presentation, “Tooth Preserving Treatment Options for Smooth Surface Initial Caries.” Dr. Nyla Balakrishnan (dental public health resident) received the Second Place Award for the Dental Graduate Student Clinics with her presentation, “Select State Initiatives on Integrating Oral Health and Chronic Disease.” Deborah Yu (D4) received first place for her presentation, “Characterization of a Polydopamine Coating on Dentin.” Peter Douglas (D4) received second place for his presentation, “Pulp Prognosis and Necrosis of Traumatic Dental Injuries in Children.” Josh Colvin (D3) received third place for his presentation, “Systematic Review of Factors Associated with Conventional Complete Denture Dissatisfaction and Intolerance.”

Fifteen dental students, who are members of the local chapter of the American Association of Woman Dentists (AAWD), held a “Pumpkin Carving Night” in October 2017 at Aspire at West Campus’s Community Center. Their advisor, Dr. Emily Lanzel, Oral Pathology, Radiology & Medicine, also attended with her two children, Gus and Gigi. The dental students included Jasmeet Brar (D4), Amanda Phan (D3), Carolyn Duong (D4), Colleen Iverson (D2), Anisha Cheruvillil (D4), Shelby Roszhart (D2), Alex Chamberlain (D2), Marin Parsons (D4), Bailey O’Brien (D2), Kathleen Bohr (D3), Dr. Emily Lanzel, Brooke Brown (D3), Michelle Burson (D4), and Alexis McGinley (D1).

Dr. Matthew Oishi (dental public health resident), has received a one-year, $14,960 grant from the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation, which will support his research, “National Survey of Oral Health Programs and Services at Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly.”

Dean David Johnsen accepted a check from Iowa American Student Dental Association (IASDA) officers, Elaine Boosalis (D3) and Donte Nesbitt (D2). IASDA donated proceeds from the PreDental Summary Academy to the College of Dentistry’s 2011 Patient Fund, which was created to support patients who cannot pay for needed care.

Dr. Dina Garcia, postdoctoral fellow in the Iowa Institute for Oral Health Research, received a Mass Media Science & Engineering Fellowship from the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She completed her highly competitive fellowship work over a 10-week summer at CNN Español.

In July 2017, pediatric dentistry and dental public health residents visited families of migrant farmworkers in the Williamsburg area to provide dental exams and apply fluoride varnish to 32 children. Children identified as needing further dental treatment returned to the College of Dentistry on August 1; pediatric dentistry residents provided the necessary care. The faculty and resident participants
The College of Dentistry Student Affairs Office hosted 30 junior high students attending a health science camp through St. Ambrose University (Davenport, Iowa). Ms. Cathy Skotowski (Pediatric Dentistry faculty) facilitated the visit; Alison Christensen (D4), Beck Schneider (D2) and Liz Skotowski (D1) aided in an impressions activity and quiz.

Seven Class of 2017 students received the 2017 D4/Senior Research Achievement Award: Walker Clark, Sean McGivern, So Young Park, Hayley Rinehart, Michael Hemming, Christopher Hogden, and Amy Vermeer.

During the Family Dentistry Awards Luncheon, Tania Toulabi (Class of 2017) won the American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Student Award of Merit. Amy Vermeer (Class of 2017) received the American Association of Endodontists Student Achievement in Endodontics Award. Melanie Norton (Class of 2017) with the American Association of Women Dentists (AAWD) Eleanor J. Bushee Award and she also received the Dr. James Michael Leary Memorial Award. Gregory Daniels (D4) received the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) Senior Student Award. Yessica Escutia Ponce de Leon (Class of 2017) received the International College of Dentists Humanitarian Award. Shaun O’Neill (Class of 2017) received the International College of Dentists Leadership Award. Emily Flesner (Class of 2017) received the Dr. Vince and Verla Williams Excellence in Treatment Planning Award in Family Dentistry. Tyler Wallingford (Class of 2017) received first prize for the Dr. Duane Schmidt Practice Management Award. Amy Vermeer (Class of 2017) received second prize, and Terris Williams (Class of 2017) received third prize. Terris also received the Brasseler USA Award. David J. Knight (Class of 2017) received the Delta Dental of Iowa Treatment Planning & Documentation Award.

During the Operative Dentistry annual spring banquet, Peter Douglas (D4) received the Academy of Operative Dentistry Award, Aaron Koteczki (D4) received the Dr. Walter Williamson Student Award. Elliott Glenn (D4) received the Carl Sware Predoctoral Research Award, Dr. Watcharaphong Ariyakriangkai (operative dentistry resident) received the Carl Sware Postdoctoral Research Award, and Abe Freybler (D2) received the Rudy Minger Memorial Award. Shaun O’Neill (Class of 2017) received the American College of Dentists, Iowa Section Outstanding Achievement Award.

For the third consecutive year, the College of Dentistry orthodontic residents won the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) resident case display competition, which was held during the AAO meeting. (In 2014, they won second place.) Residents compete from throughout North America by presenting records of their best treated orthodontic cases. Eighty-nine percent of the Iowa orthodontics residency graduates have passed the initial examination given by the American Board of Orthodontics. (The national average is 32.6 percent.) Celebrants included Dr. Veerasathpurush Alareddy and Dr. Kyungsup Shin; Drs. Sheila Daniels, Kevan Kadavy, David Jones, Sam Christensen, Gisela Borget, Austin Foster, Kate Finlen, Thomas Crary, Nicholas Pappas, Mason Dearing, and Lina Alsibaie (all current or graduated orthodontic residents).

Stacey Howes (D4) has been serving as vice president of the National Student Research Group. She began her term at the conclusion of the 2017 meeting of the International Association for Dental Research, which was held in San Francisco.

Andrew Welling (D3) received two Anatomy & Cell Biology awards: Award for Superior Achievement in Dental Gross Anatomy and the Michael Finkelstein Award for Dental Histology. Wenjie Yu, a PhD candidate in Dr. Brad Amendt’s lab, received the Student Teaching in Anatomy & Cell Biology Award.

Several faculty and students attended the National Oral Health Conference (NOHC) in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Students included dental public health residents, Drs. Nyla Balakrishnan, Peter Drouillard, Aparna Ingleshwar, Matt Oishi, and Jennifer Sukalski, as well as Sean McGivern (Class of 2017). Former dental public health grad student, Dr. Mary Kelly, received the second-place award in the Leverett Graduate Student Merit Award for her study, “Utilization of Oral Health Procedures by Medicaid-enrolled Senior Adults as the Transition from Community-Dwelling to Nursing Facility.”

Several dental students participated in the “Week of the Young Child” event at the Iowa Children’s Museum. Students providing oral health education, dental screenings and fluoride varnish to 50 children included Drs. Amy Lesch and Nicole Youngers (pediatric dentistry residents), Alyssa Spilski and Erich Eichwald (both D2s), Leah Barshinger, Sarah McGowan, and Brittanie Lucas (all D3s); and Eric Meyer, Alison Christensen, Justin Mikesell, Jennifer ...
Christopher Hogden (Class of 2017) was one of two dental students who were selected to participate in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Medical Research Scholars Program (MRSP) for 2017-2018. The MRSP is a comprehensive, year-long research enrichment program designed to attract the most creative, research-oriented medical, dental and veterinary students to the intramural campus of the NIH in Bethesda, MD. Student schools engage in a closely mentored basic, clinical or translational research project on the main NIH campus in Bethesda or nearby NIH facilities that match their research interests and career goals. Christopher received a $75,000 grant with the MRSP. His D2 project was “The Role of Activation Function-1 (AF1) Domain in Sequence Specificity of the Glucocorticoid Receptor” and his D3 project was “The N-Terminal Domain of the Glucocorticoid Receptor Modules DNA-Binding Specificity.” In 2017, Christopher received the 2017 Senior Research Achievement Award.

Feingold, Michelle Burson, Ebose Okuruwa, and Taylor Postler (all D4s).

The following students received the 2017 Dean’s Student Leadership Award: Trish Henderson, Monica DeCarlo, Erich Eichwald, Donte Nesbitt, and Thanh Nguyen (all D2s); Elaine Boosalis, Grace Moore, Amanda Phan, Ashley Spooner, Tara Sears, Brooke Brown, Blake Louscher, Beth Pfohl, and Kyndra Weber (all D3s); Peter Douglas, Elizabeth Axell, Ebose Okuruwa, Erik Blomquist, Michelle Burson, Sophia Chen, Macaira Leahy, Karley Brantman, Alison Christensen, Aaron Kotecki, Paula Gomez, Stacey Howes, Bethany Keane, Taylor Postler, Andrew Richter, Marin Parsons, Madeline Swenson, Melani Fulton, and Erica Recker (all D4s); and Josie Meis, Casey Goetz, Andrea Montano, Emily Steil, Sarah Cyr, Sean McGivern, Shaun O’Neill, Serena Geisinger, Cleo Stephanides, T.J. Williams, Sean Harvey, John Lorenz, and Amy Vermeer (all Class of 2017). Sherri Chyi (Class of 2017) received the SCADA Dentsply Award.

Four College of Dentistry Students Attend a Filming of The Price is Right: Alex Thanh Chosen to Appear on the Show!

For some students, spring break conjures up a trip to Florida or South Padre Island, Texas. For four College of Dentistry students, however, spring break was an opportunity to attend a filming of The Price is Right.

It all began with D1 Alex Alhoff’s undergrad years when he and his roommates began watching the show. “So my roommates in undergrad and I would record the show and watch it together over lunch hour every day.” Alex’s habit has continued since then. Says Thanh Nguyen, “Alex is a huge The Price is Right fan, and when I say huge fan, I mean he’s a fanatic. Al watches it every single day …”

When Alex, Thanh, Malachi Zeitner and Tanner Brolsma (all D1 students) decided to go to California for spring break, Alex procured free VIP tickets online for the show. “When we showed up,” says Alex, “I just said I had four people in our party and we didn’t have to wait in line outside the gates nearly as long as the people who hoped to get in just on a first come, first serve basis.”

“I grew up watching The Price is Right,” adds Thanh, “and never in a million years did I think that a regular guy like me from Iowa would be able to get on a national television show in Hollywood. I had a feeling one of us four would get chosen because everyone loved the fact that we were graduate students from Iowa hanging out in California – like people actually live in Iowa and are pretty friendly!”

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Regretfully, Thanh did not win a brand new car but he did win a pasta maker and a treadmill. “The treadmill is also for me from Iowa would be able to get on a national television show in Hollywood. I had a feeling one of us four would get chosen because everyone loved the fact that we were graduate students from Iowa hanging out in California – like people actually live in Iowa and are pretty friendly!”

When the dental students arrived at CBS Studios, they and other members of the audience were interviewed in groups of 30 by a show producer. After a couple more hours of waiting, they were allowed to enter the studio. “It’s much smaller than the people who hoped to get in just on a first serve basis.”

Regretfully, Thanh did not win a brand new car but he did win a pasta maker and a treadmill. “The treadmill is also for sale,” adds Thanh, “so please e-mail me if you’re interested!”

Alex, Thanh, Malachi, and Tanner didn’t have an opportunity to take photos of comedian Drew Carey, who is the show’s host. “They took our phones before we started filming the show,” says Thanh, “or else I would have. He’s a very charismatic and funny entertainer. For the first three or so commercial breaks, he would joke around … and make fun of us in front of the whole crowd; I think he really liked us!”
Samuel Christensen (’55 DDS) retired from a successful career in pediatric dentistry and received the Eight over 80 Award from the Waterloo Courier. He was featured in the July 19, 2017 issue of the Courier.

E. Thompson Witte (’56 DDS) retired from full-time practice in periodontics from 1965-2017 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. He is working part-time at Red Cross Clinic in Norfolk, VA teaching dental students from MCV in Richmond, VA. Dr. Witte served as a United States Navy Captain from July 1956–May 1984.

Dennis Dahl (’71 DDS) went on dental mission trip to Guyana, South America in May 2017. He went by boat to jungle villages along the rivers to hold clinics in four villages in four days, then two half days doing continuing education with the only provider in the region — a mid-level dentech. 99.5% extractions. Of the patients needing treatment, the need for sealants is huge.

Kurt Studt (’72 MS Cert.) retired from active dental practice in January 2017 over 50 years. He is a retired Colonel Air Force reserves and clinical professor of applied dental medicine at Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine.

John Olmsted (’75 DDS) presented over 530 days of continuing education at international, state, regional dental meetings and dental schools with lectures and workshops at AAA201 Atlanta; Greater New York Dental Meeting 2018; Chicago Mid-Winter 2018; Hinman Dental Meeting 2018 in Atlanta, Georgia; and ADA/Cuba Travels April 30-May 7.

Keith Krell (’81 DDS, ’83 MS) elected Vice President of the American Association of Endodontists and will be President in 2020.

Barbara Ries (’83 DDS) was named Omaha’s choice for #1 orthodontist in June 2017.

Susan Graettinger Speck (’84 DH) has been adjunct faculty at Community College of Denver since 2005.

Robert Margeas (’86 DDS) received the Charlie English Community Education Award at the 25th Annual Seattle Study Club Symposium at Palm Springs, CA. The award is given in recognition of one of the most dedicated educators and teachers that dentistry has ever had and the award represents the ideals of the man for whom it is named. Recipients of this award are at the top of their profession, lauded for their knowledge and skill; and yet are always more concerned with teaching and learning than they are with accolades and recognition.

Peter Triolo, Jr. (’87 DDS, ’91 MS) named Professor Emeritus of The University of Texas School of Dentistry, Houston, Texas in December 2017, for leadership in dentistry. After leaving the University of Iowa, he served in a variety of leadership roles at Creighton University, the University of Pittsburgh, and the University of Texas.

Michelle Doughty (’87 DH) accepted a position at Creighton University School of Dentistry in the Department of Diagnostic Sciences.

Terry Winter (’91 DDS) joined the practice of Stephen Decker (’87 DDS) and Susan Irey (’79 DDS).
In memoriam

DDS 1930: R. Darmansak of Surbaya, Indonesia, died.


DDS 1952: Robert McDonough of Sun City, AZ, died June 30, 2017.


MS 1955: Glenn Carwell of Bowling Green, KY, died August 20, 2009.


DDS 1976: Rudolph Kraus of Fayette, IA, died October 2, 2017.

DH 1977: Jeanne Church of Lovilia, IA, died December 20, 2012.


DDS 1978: Patrick Colbert of Chancellor, SD, died October 2, 2017.


Faculty:

historical IMPRESSIONS

Drs. Frank and Ida Mae Check: Husband/Wife Dental Graduates

Before 1882, despite repeated efforts to pass a law regulating the practice of dentistry in Iowa, opposition continued for years. This resistance resulted from the public’s opinion of dentists who were often compared to blacksmiths. Some Iowa dentists who had apprenticed and had no degree also balked at the proposed legislation, which would have required them to pass a competency examination.

In early 1882, however, Iowa became the fifteenth state to enact legislation regulating the practice of dentistry. This resulted in a dental department at the University of Iowa being established that same year.

Two of Iowa’s early dental graduates were the grandparents of Dr. Rick Check (‘67 DDS), MSD. Dr. Frank Check, according to his grandson, “actually began his dental career in 1902 or 1903, having completed a year or so of externship with a dentist in Missouri.” Dr. Check opened his practice in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and then completed a dental degree from the University of Iowa in 1907.

In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, women dental students were rare; some dental schools even refused admission to females. (Today, Iowa’s dental classes are composed of nearly 50% females.) Ida Mae Check, however, was intrepid -- she became an Iowa dental graduate in 1913. Drs. Frank and Ida Mae Check practiced dentistry in Cedar Rapids, then sold their practice in the early 1920s and moved to Minneapolis where Dr. Rick Check’s grandfather briefly practiced pharmacy. (At that time a dental graduate could work in pharmacy without additional certification.) Later they returned to Cedar Rapids and opened another dental practice where they remained until it was sold in the late 1940s.

“They owned a manufacturing plant in Minneapolis, a real estate sales business, and a fishing resort in Wisconsin,” says Dr. Rick Check. “When I knew them, they had owned Iowa farms in Cedar Rapids, Walker, and Springville – one at a time but all while practicing dentistry in Cedar Rapids …” Regarding their influence on his career choice, Rick Check adds, “When I reached the point of choosing a career, they were more elderly and never verbally focused my direction. But I observed their independence and accomplishments, so my choice was indeed to follow somewhat the same path, based largely on their lives.”