The college around the world

For his international contributions to oral cancer research, Christopher Squier, PhD, DSc, received an honorary membership award from the Hungarian Dental Association in 2012. The award commemorates the organization’s 25-year relationship with Squier, director of graduate studies and professor in the Dows Institute for Dental Research and in oral pathology, radiology, and medicine, who assisted with developing a tobacco control program in Hungary.

International connections are common in the College of Dentistry. Over the past five years, the college has been linked to 59 countries through teaching, consulting, research, and service activities of its faculty, adjunct faculty, students, and staff, not to mention the countries considered home by international visiting faculty, predoctoral students, and graduate students. (See map pages 6-7.)

Here’s a sampling of global outreach by faculty since 2008:

• Steve Aquilino, DDS, MS, prosthodontics, and Aaron Figueroa (D4) joined a Miles of Smiles Team Iowa Rotary Club trip to Guatemala as part of a cleft lip and palate mission. It was the fifth mission trip for Aquilino.

• Michael Callan, ’88 DDS MS, orthodontics, has traveled to Cambodia and Haiti on dental missions.

Continued on page 5

Dental pioneer

Green Vardiman Black studied medicine under his physician older brother and trained with a local dentist before launching his own dental practice.

In the 1860s, Black conducted research and manufactured nitrous oxide for tooth extractions; invented one of the first cord-driven, foot-powered dental engines; published articles and textbooks; and taught chemistry, anatomy, and physiology. He also organized a microscopical society and developed the first scientifically balanced amalgam.

He held faculty positions at dental colleges in Missouri, Chicago (including a deanship at Northwestern), and at the University of Iowa (1890-91), where he taught anatomy and physiology. Black turned down a position as a pathologist in the UI medical department because it wasn’t lucrative enough. He was a member of Illinois’ first board of dental examiners and its first board president. GV Black died in 1915.
The Big Ten dental deans met in December at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics. These dental schools share a combination of characteristics and needs with few other dental schools. The Big Ten schools have a need for an ongoing supply of dentists, particularly to replace the large number of dentists retiring in the next few years. These schools are public research universities and have a state governance structure and political systems. With these issues in common, the Big Ten dental deans began meeting several years ago and decided to annually visit one of the schools.

In 2011 we visited Indiana and last year the group traveled to Iowa. Discussions were based on common issues faced by all Big Ten dental schools: training and educating highly competent general dentists for our states and beyond; enhancing a culture of inquiry built onto clinical competence; interdisciplinary research; advanced programs; recruitment and retention of faculty; maintaining top-quality schools with dwindling state resources; student debt; and much more. The deans are continually looking for ways to learn from each other. The finance deans and the faculty who work on evidence-based dentistry have already started to meet to discuss their common issues as well.

A highlight of the December visit was an open forum discussing what the Big Ten dental schools might face in 2020. The deans each provided their views followed by questions from the forum attendees. The deans have more than 80 years of dental deanng among them. Prominent on their minds were quality faculty, finances, student debt, and research support. I was struck by the prevailing attitude that despite all the challenges each of us face, we are not only “making it” but are proud to be in a great profession, part of world-class universities, and working with terrific faculty and staff at each school! Of course, competition crept in particularly when talking football. Oh well.

The deans were impressed with Iowa! Each commented on the people—their warmth and work ethic—the programs, and the facility. Besides being truly proud to be part of our college, I felt proud to be part of a great group of schools and a really fine group of leaders.

**From The Dean**

**Iowa hosts Big Ten dental deans**

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**FACULTY**

**Gustavo Avila-Ortiz**, DDS, MS, PhD, periodontics, presented a lecture on “Alveolar Ridge Preservation: Historic Perspective and Current Evidence” at the II Spanish College of Oral Implantologists Meeting in Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

**Kim Brogden**, PhD, periodontics, was appointed director of the Dows Institute for Dental Research. He succeeds James Wefel, who passed away in September 2012.

**David Gratton**, DDS (‘97 MS and Cert.), prosthodontics, presented “New Dental Technologies: Do They Help or Hinder the Esthetic Restoration?” at the 42nd Annual Session of the American College of Prosthodontists in Baltimore.

**Michael Kanellis** (‘79 DDS, ‘83 MS, ‘95 MS) chairs an informal ad hoc committee appointed by the Iowa Dental Board to continue ongoing discussions regarding expanded functions for dental hygienists and dental assistants.

**Steven Levy**, DDS, MPH, preventive and community dentistry; **Rebecca Slayton** (‘92 DDS, ‘98 PhD and Cert.), head of pediatric dentistry; **Jeff Murray**, MD; and **Barbara Broffitt**, preventive and community dentistry, co-authored a paper in the Journal of Dental Research that received the prestigious Gies Award from the International/American Association for Dental Research.

**Teresa Marshall** (‘87 PhD), preventive and community dentistry, and **Cheryl Straub-Morarend**, DDS, family dentistry, were featured in
Remembering Arne Bjorndal

Arne Bjorndal (’54 DDS, ’56 MS), who created the Department of Endodontics and was its first director, passed away Nov. 4, 2012.

Bjorndal joined the college faculty in operative dentistry shortly after earning his dental degree. He started the endodontics program and soon initiated the endodontics graduate program. In the early 1970s, endodontics became a department. Bjorndal, who retired in 1984, was recognized for his commitment to dental education with the I.B. Bender Lifetime Educator Award from the American Association of Endodontists in 2008.

Bjorndal was a native of Norway who served in the Norwegian Army during World War II. He was a prisoner of war for two years and was decorated by the King of Norway for his service.

Memorials may be directed to the Department of Endodontics through the UI Foundation, P.O. Box 4550, Iowa City, Iowa, 52244-4550.

ADEA’s online publication, CCI Liaison Ledger, for their work on evidence-based dentistry continuing education courses. Others involved include David Holmes (’78 DDS, ’91 MS), head of family dentistry; Michael Finkelstein (’76 DDS, ’82 MS), oral pathology, radiology, and medicine; Karen Baker, MS, director of Pharmacy Services; and Steve Armstrong (’87 DDS, ’98 PhD), head of operative dentistry.

Michelle McQuistan (’01 DDS, ’04 MS), preventive and community dentistry, serves on the Healthiest State Initiative – Dental Health Committee, whose goal is to increase the number of Iowa adults who visit a dentist annually. Iowa ranks 19 out of 50 states, with 67.8 percent of Iowa survey participants reporting they visited a dentist once in the previous 12 months.

Christopher Squier, PhD, DSc, Dows and oral pathology, radiology, and medicine, received a Gift of Clean Air Champion award from Clean Air for Everyone (CAFE) of Johnson County, a member-based, nonprofit concerned with increased smoking rates in teens.

Clark Stanford (’87 DDS, ’92 PhD and Cert.), prosthodontics and associate dean for research, presented “The Fundamentals of Evidence-based Dentistry” at the International Journal of Prosthodontics/Peking University School of Stomatology Workshop for Young Prosthodontic Educators in Beijing, China.

Alberto Gasparoni, DDS, MS (’03 PhD)
Assistant Professor and Director of Admissions Clinics

Family: Karin Weber-Gasparoni, DDS (’99 MS and Cert., ’03 PhD), associate professor of pediatric dentistry, and their three children, Nathalia, Leonardo, and Isabella.

Hometown: Siena, Italy, famous for rolling hills, oaks, olive trees, and wineries; also good food, stunning countryside, and lots of irreverent, friendly people.

When did you become interested in dentistry?
It came almost by chance. During my undergraduate studies I was preparing to apply for medical school. In 1984, the Italian government finally opened dental schools following the directives of the European Community. At that time, it seemed a good opportunity, even if I did not know much about dentistry. I passed the entrance exam, and since then have loved all parts of dentistry, from basic science research to clinical aspects of dentistry.

How did you choose the University of Iowa?
While I was finishing a master’s degree in Kansas City, I sent out applications for a PhD program. A faculty member asked if I had sent one to the University of Iowa, as he believed my research would benefit from the technology available here. When I came for an interview, I fell in love with Iowa and the College of Dentistry. I remember thinking I would like to work in an academic institution like this when I returned to Italy. I went back to Italy and could not find one.

How does working in an academic setting benefit your work?
Being surrounded by top-notch, internationally renowned specialists allows me to provide the highest quality of dental service to my patients.

What philosophy guides your professional work?
Know your patients and treat every patient as you would like to be treated. Last, but not least, always seek the highest quality you can.

What would people be surprised to know about you?
Once in a while, I just love a good, irreverent joke.
Project SEALED benefits NE Iowa children

The UI colleges of Dentistry and Education are collaborating on a partnership with Allamakee County to improve the oral health of underserved children, enhance career development for the participating UI faculty and students, and help create a more diversified dental workforce in Iowa.

Project SEALED (Service, Engagement and LifeCareer Education in Dentistry) was established last year and made the first visit to Waukon and Postville in December. Dental students and faculty saw approximately 140 children who were provided with screening exams, sealants, fluoride varnish, and cleanings.

“This outreach opportunity to the far northeast corner of the state provides University of Iowa dental students with unique educational experiences and communities with much-needed dental care,” says Dan Caplan (’88 DDS), PhD, head of preventive and community dentistry. “Our contacts in these communities are excited to be participants in this collaborative effort and have gone out of their way to make it successful. We hope to be able to provide additional services in the future, such as dental restorations and tooth extractions.”

Besides Caplan, dental faculty involved with Project SEALED include Michelle McQuistan (’01 DDS, ’04 MS) and Steven Levy, DDS, MPH, preventive and community dentistry; Tad Mabry, DDS, MS, Rebecca Slayton (’92 DDS, ’98 PhD and Cert.), and Michael Kanellis (’79 DDS, ’83 MS, ’95 MS), pediatric dentistry; and Steven Armstrong (’87 DDS, ’98 PhD), Marcela Hernandez, DDS (’01 MS and Cert.), and Sandra Guzman-Armstrong, DDS (’99 MS), operative dentistry.

This activity, which is supported primarily by the UI Office of the Provost with $148,170 from the “Better Futures for Iowans Fund,” extends UI resources to Iowans and addresses an important goal of the University Strategic Plan—to provide better futures for Iowans.

UI dental students, including Pete Wright (D1), below, and faculty treated nearly 140 children in Waukon and Postville.
‘Go-to’ guide on jawbone disease reissued

Steven Vincent, DDS (’84 MS and Cert.), professor and head of oral pathology, radiology, and medicine, and Robert Robinson, MD, professor of pathology in the UI Carver College of Medicine, recently published a new edition of *Tumors and Cysts of the Jaws*, considered the go-to guide for jawbone diseases and diagnosis. Here they reflect on their collaboration.

How prevalent are tumors and cysts in the human jaw?
The prevalence of jaw tumors is on par with similar conditions involving other bones of the skeleton. Significantly, a number of tumors and cysts that occur in the upper and lower jawbones are not found anywhere else and have unique clinical and microscopic features. Some behave aggressively, requiring additional treatment to help prevent recurrences; others can be treated in a very simple manner. The pathologist must be familiar with the sometimes-subtle differences between these aggressive and non-aggressive tumors when communicating with the surgeon.

How did you first get involved with the publication?
We have a long collaborative history, including numerous continuing education programs on this subject given at the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology and the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology annual meetings. Dr. Robinson was contacted by Dr. Steven G. Silverberg, the editor-in-chief of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, American Registry of Pathology, regarding this volume. It was only natural that we should work on this publication together.

What is new in this edition?
This volume includes the latest information regarding this unique area of pathology since the volume’s last publication over 12 years ago. Additionally, volume IV contains numerous high-definition microscopic images, radiographs, and CT scans.

How has the field of jaw pathology diagnostics changed since you entered it?
Pathology now relies more on special staining methods and molecular biology techniques, which were not available when we began our careers. Volume IV reflects this—for the first time it contains contemporary laboratory procedures that tell us more about the types and behaviors of the tumors and cysts we diagnose, and often gives us better information about the expected behavior.
Key

Colors next to country names signify international activities such as teaching, consulting, research, and service by College of Dentistry & Dental Clinics faculty, adjunct faculty, students, and staff. The countries of international visiting faculty, predoctoral students, and graduate students are also represented.
2008-2012
The University of Iowa College of Dentistry & Dental Clinics teaching, scholarly, and service activities span the globe.
Readers of DSB Weekly, the e-newsletter for faculty, staff, and students of the UI College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics, are often treated to dental humor by fourth-year student and cartoonist John Syrbu. He put down his pen for a few minutes to talk about his talent.

**How old were you when you became interested in drawing cartoons?**
I’ve been drawing since I could hold a pencil, but it wasn’t until I started dental school that I really started “cartooning.”

**What is it about cartoons that appeals to you?**
Given my schedule, I think the most appealing thing about cartoons is that they are a quick-and-easy fix for me. In the past I’ve worked on more involved projects, but I don’t quite have the free time I did in high school and college.

**How do you come up with your cartoon ideas?**
Most of my ideas come from lectures. I’ll hear a word or a phrase and my mind will twist it into an idea for a cartoon. And with the longer, more mundane lectures, sometimes it’s the only way for me to stay engaged in the material!

**What are your favorite cartoons?**
I’ve never been a regular reader of newspaper cartoons. I tend to pay more attention to other cartoons and focus on the artistic style of the cartoonist. I think every artist eventually develops certain styles and tendencies (even dentists!).

**Do you enjoy drawing overall?**
Definitely. It’s very relaxing and easily accessible to me anytime I have a pen, paper, and a vision. The vision is without question the most difficult part of it all.

**What are your plans after graduation?**
My wife and I are looking into general practice residency programs and employment opportunities in the Twin Cities area of Minnesota.

**Besides DSB Weekly and the American Student Dental Association’s monthly newspaper ASDA News, where have your cartoons appeared?**
I’ve been featured in other small dental publications and blogs, and I’ve been commissioned by dental practices for various designs and artwork. In addition, I’ve created a Facebook page for my artwork (search for “dental art and humor”).

**Will you integrate your cartoons into your private practice after you graduate?**
I plan to, yes. I hope to use my skills to help with marketing for my practice. Especially if I work in an environment that sees pediatric patients, it would be fun to incorporate my art into the practice.
UI at IMOM

The College of Dentistry sent 209 volunteers, including 163 students and 14 residents, to treat patients at the 2012 Iowa Mission of Mercy sponsored by the Iowa Dental Association in October at the River Center in Davenport. Over two days, 1,389 patients received $923,373 in donated care. For more photos and videos, go to www.iowadental.org or to YouTube and search for IMOM student video.

**Top:** Jerry Walker (’62 DDS, ’64 Cert., ’69 MA), emeritus professor of pediatric dentistry, awaits a patient with Lauren Harvey (D3), resident, Greg Dietz, DDS, and Katie Naberhaus (D3).

**Bottom:** Tom Roemer (’88 DDS) and Dan Caplan, head of preventive and community dentistry, take a break with (seated, from left) Abbie Bagenstos, Kathryn Cook, Tim DeStiger (’82 DDS), Matt Coen, Mike Mehlfouf, and Thao Kieu. All the students are D3s.

**STUDENT news**

The Pediatric Dentistry Student Group received a $5,400 grant from the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation for a project to provide 500 packets of oral health information and oral health care supplies to prenatal health care facilities and Women, Infants and Children clinics. A portion of the grant also will pay for educational DVDs that can be shown in clinic reception rooms.

Katie Anfinsen (D3) and Christina Schiltz (D3) were selected for the 2013 American Dental Education Association Gies/American Association for Dental Research Academic Dental Careers Fellowship Program. The one-year fellowships provide mentor training and support programs offered by dental school faculty. The two dental students’ faculty mentors are Justine Kolker (’96 DDS, ’00 MS and Cert., ’03 PhD), John Warren (’86 DDS, ’91 MS), and Matt Geneser (’06 DDS).

**Correction**

Erin Johnson (D1) is the latest member of her family to attend the College of Dentistry, following in the footsteps of cousin Nicholas Kane (’10 DDS), uncle Kevin Kane (’80 DDS), and grandfather Richard Kane (’52 DDS). Richard was incorrectly identified in family photos of current D1 students that appeared in the fall issue of The Dental Link.
2012 Alumni Reunion

Save the date!
The 2013 Dental Alumni Reunion Sept. 20-21 will honor classes ending in ’03 and ’08.

In memoriam

DDS 1950: Paul W. Horne of Marietta, Ga., died April 9, 2011.
DDS 1954, MS 1956: Arne M. Bjorndal of Iowa City, Iowa, died Nov. 4, 2012.

1. James Sommers (’52 DDS) and Linda Young.

2. Karin Weber-Gasparoni (center), DDS (’99 MS and Cert., ’03 PhD), recipient of the James H. McLeran Faculty Award at the Dean’s Club Dinner, is pictured with Alberto Gasparoni, DDS, MS (’03 PhD), and Hermine McLeran.

3. Class of 1992 alumnae (left to right) Kris Terhark Medin, Deb Oldham, and Deb Carneol.

4. Thieleane Raecker received donor recognition for the building campaign from Dean David Johnsen, DDS (’73 MS).
Michael Till (’61 DDS, ’63 MS) has published Along Massachusetts’ Historic Route 20 (Arcadia Publishing, 2012). He grew up in Independence, Iowa, off Highway 20 and has traveled all 3,365 miles of the highway, collecting over 2,500 postcards of towns and attractions along the route. A former dean at the University of Minnesota, Till was the UI Dentistry Alumnus of the Year in 1999.

Dennis Dahl (’71 DDS), of Pocahontas, Iowa, added two more track championships and 12 feature wins in go-kart racing in 2012. During more than 20 years of racing, he now counts 16 track championships, 10 regional championships, and about 150 feature wins.

Kurt Studt, DDS (’72 MS and Cert.), lectured on dentistry through the ages in a presentation sponsored by the Academy of Science at the Missouri History Museum in St. Louis.

St. Luke’s Dental Health Center has been renamed the Dr. Rhyss B. Jones Dental Health Center in honor of Jones (’73 DDS, ’81 MS), former adjunct professor in pediatric dentistry who passed away in April 2012. In 1976 he helped open the center, which provides low-cost dental services to infants, children, and adolescents, as well as to children and adults with developmental disabilities. He was its director at the time of his death.

Dennis McTigue (’74 DDS, ’76 MS and Cert.), a pediatric dentist and professor at Ohio State University College of Dentistry, was awarded the Ohio Dental Association Achievement Award. His service to the profession has included president of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry, the Academy of Dentistry for the Handicapped, and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, as well as director of the Commission on Dental Accreditation. He created a children’s dental clinic that has served poor children countywide for almost 30 years and is one of Ohio’s longest-running safety net clinics.

John A. Johnson (’76 DDS) is retiring after 36 years of practicing dentistry in Iowa.

D. Diane Fuller (’77 DDS) is president of the Metropolitan Denver Dental Society.

Peter Preston (’87 DDS) retired after 25 years with the United States Public Health Service, at the rank of captain. He served with the Indian Health Service in Kotzebue, Alaska; Many Farms, Ariz.; Chinle, Ariz.; and Sells, Ariz.; and with the United States Bureau of Prisons in Greenville, Ill.
“I am grateful that my degree has allowed me to have a wonderful career. Our participation in this important campaign will help ensure that the college’s rich educational tradition will continue for generations to come.”
— Dr. Robert C. Margeas

In recognition of a generous gift from Dr. Robert C. Margeas, the College of Dentistry & Dental Clinics has named two student classrooms in the new building addition: The Dr. Robert C. Margeas Classroom and a second classroom in memory of Dr. Paul A. Polydoran.

Dr. Margeas received his DDS degree from the University of Iowa College of Dentistry in 1986 and has a private practice in Des Moines.

“This generous donation allows the college to provide quality educational space for small-group instruction and discussion, which in turn encourages more faculty-student interaction.” – Cathy Solow, Associate Dean for Students

The best quality of our college is the dedication of our alumni and friends who understand how important private support is to attract, retain, and reward our students.

For more information about supporting faculty, students, and facilities at the UI College of Dentistry, contact:

Bill Windauer
Director of Development, College of Dentistry & Dental Clinics
The University of Iowa Foundation
(319) 335-3305 or (800) 648-6973
Email: william-windauer@uiowa.edu
www.givetoiowa.org/dentistry