



# dean's update

University of Florida | College of Dentistry | August 2012



I have been impressed with the urgency of doing. Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Being willing is not enough; we must do.

--Leonardo da Vinci

The world is changing very fast. Big will not beat small anymore. It will be the fast beating the slow.

--Rupert Murdoch

Things alter for the worse spontaneously, if they be not altered for the better designedly.

--Francis Bacon

We live in a moment of history where change is so speeded up that we begin to see the present only when it is already disappearing.

--R.D. Laing

When you are through changing, you are through.

--Bruce Barton

The world hates change, yet it is the only thing that has brought progress.

--Charles Kettering

Change before you have to.

--Jack Welch

To: UF College of Dentistry,

As the summer of 2012 comes to a close, we will be welcoming our 41st D.M.D. class to the college. We have come a long way since 1972 when our first class came to the newly-established University of Florida College of Dentistry. These students placed their trust in untested faculty providing an unproven curriculum without a real building in which to teach students and treat patients. The students, faculty and staff were building a school, a program, a reputation and a new tradition.

Their work, and those who came after, built and fostered a tradition of excellence in education, teaching and research that spans the United States and the globe. To maintain that tradition, we must continue to invest in all areas of our college that contribute to our excellence today and prepare us for dramatic changes in dental science, care and delivery.

Every few years we collaborate with all areas of the college to create a comprehensive strategic plan that outlines our goals and priorities, and pinpoints strategies for achieving them. Our current [strategic plan](#), acts as a roadmap from 2012 through 2016 with goals relating to patient-centered care, research, the DMD program, advanced and graduate education, and resources.

As you can imagine, an important driving force behind several of the changes is the dramatic decrease in state funding during the previous five years. The university has lost about 30 percent of its state appropriations during that time, for a total of \$229 million.

Raising tuition year after year to bridge the gap is not a sustainable solution for the College of Dentistry. DMD education is expensive, and our students deserve value in their dental education – the highest quality at an affordable cost. In 2012, our graduating class carried a staggering average debt of \$181,000 with them; an 81 percent increase over just seven years ago when it was a 'mere' \$100,000.

We can't keep pushing cost increases and state funding decreases off on our students. To accomplish our teaching, research and service missions, change needs to come from within by seeking efficiencies, increasing patient flow, and providing the highest quality of care in a patient-centered environment.

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Patient-centered care includes a commitment to excellence in diagnosis and evidence-based treatment planning, technical excellence, outstanding customer service, and of course, free parking. While we excel in many of these dimensions, there are also areas where we are behind the curve compared to the private sector and our peer academic dental institutions – setting patient-friendly hours for our dental centers.

We all expect extended hours from the service industry and the medical/dental care profession is increasingly following suit. For instance, six months ago the UF Orthopaedic Institute implemented an after-hours clinic Monday through Friday from 5 to 9 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. We are currently investigating different models for extended hours and ways to provide faculty and staff coverage without creating too much inconvenience for those involved.

I realize that change creates discomfort for some people but in today's climate, we have to change. It's that simple.

We are also working with campus experts to develop a strategic marketing and customer service plan for our clinical services, with a focus on attracting the 'Gator Nation' on our campus to choose us for their dental care.

Our messaging will highlight the opportunity to receive multi-disciplinary comprehensive dental care from our faculty experts and from students and residents working under their supervision. We will also emphasize our state-of-the-art technology and our convenient location for UF&Shands faculty, staff and students.

In addition we are working with UF HR to shape the GatorCare self-insurance program that is currently in development. Initially it will offer insurance for UAA, the UF foundation, and residents and graduate students, and eventually the goal is that all UF employees can be folded into the self-insurance program. We hope to see dental insurance as part of that program and are working with the university to create a dental plan that will be affordable and provide the kinds of coverage that people need.

You've already heard about the first steps we have taken to upgrade our physical plant. A [visioning process](#) led by Kahler-Slater resulted in a plan to renovate our existing building and build a new one. With the [vision](#) in place, we were able to move to the next step, a feasibility study, handled by an independent consultant group.

They surveyed our alumni, donors and friends, and met with 60 of our supporters to gauge the likelihood that we could successfully raise the funds to support the renovation and new building. The results were positive and we now look to the university for their



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support and approval and, if we receive it, we're likely to launch a fundraising campaign.

We are also working on a major revision of our DMD curriculum that more closely simulates a general clinical practice, promotes active learning, is patient-centered, supports interdisciplinary professional education and provides earlier clinical experiences.

Overall, we have a lot of work to do in the coming year and we need to approach it with a real sense of urgency and as a team.

I have every confidence in our ability to pull together and continue to make decisions that bring changes that are in the best interests of our mission, and that will best ensure continued excellence in the tradition that began 40 years ago.

A wise person once noted, *"No single raindrop believes it is responsible for the flood."*

We may think we play such a small role that our actions, or inaction, won't make a difference to the overall changes ahead. But each individual decision and action shapes our future and our continued college success.

Sincerely,  
Dean Terri Dolan



## Land Grant U



You have probably heard that the University of Florida is a "land grant university." But what does that mean? In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Morrill Act into law. Among other things, it granted federal lands to states. The land would be used for, or sold and the money used for, establishing and funding educational institutions, at the time focused on agricultural and mechanical arts.

It gave thousands of Americans access to knowledge and education that they would likely have not otherwise experienced and was the genesis of the University of Florida.

UF and FAMU are Florida's land-grant universities. Interested? Learn more on this [special website](#).

The university is planning a host of events to celebrate the 150 year anniversary between fall 2012 and spring 2013 so stay tuned!



*1964 ABC broadcast of the Hootenanny Show from the University of Florida. Johnny Cash is in black.*



## D.M.D. student goes to Washington

On May 31 during the college's break week, while some of his classmates were enjoying not thinking about dentistry, D.M.D. student Frank Berdos was meeting with the U.S. Department of Education Secretary Arnie Duncan in Washington, D.C., to talk about the importance of involving college students in pre-professional health care organizations.

For more, visit our [web site](#).

## Rody receives orthodontic award

Wellington Rody, D.D.S., an assistant professor in the Department of Orthodontics at the University of Florida received the 2012 American Association of Orthodontists Willie and Earl Shepard Orthodontic Faculty Development Fellowship Award for his dedication to clinical orthodontics and translational projects. Rody only recently joined the faculty of the University of Florida in 2012.

"I have served on the selection committee for this award in the past and I know that this meritorious award represents a true honor," said Timothy Wheeler, D.M.D., Ph.D., chair of the Department of Orthodontics.



## Pediatric dentistry has a sunny new home

If you're looking for the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, you'll probably need to look up. They're now located in renovated space on the 11th floor where things are bright and sunny. As an added bonus, they receive expedited support for computer problems because IT is right next door.

Photos from top, clockwise:

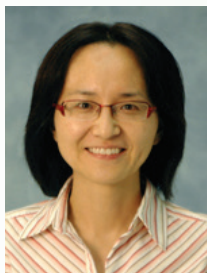
- 1) Pedo staff members Melissa Labrusca and Labrishia Johnson give a "thumbs up" in support of their new environment that includes a large window.
- 2) Dr. Leda Mugayar is happy in her new office.
- 3/4) Gifts from residency program graduates funded the creation of special space for the residents.
- 5) Even the refridgerator in Pedo is smiling!





# Faculty promotion, tenure & awards

*Congratulations to 17 faculty members at the University of Florida College of Dentistry who were part of recent promotion, tenure and award announcements effective July 1, 2012.*



**Suenghee Cha**, Ph.D., was promoted from assistant professor to associate professor with tenure in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Sciences. She earned her dental degree in 1993 from Yonsei University in Seoul, Korea, and her Ph.D. in immunology from the University of Florida in 2001. She worked for several years in private practice before joining the University of Florida in 2004.



**Luciana Shaddox**, D.D.S., Ph.D., was awarded tenure and a promotion from assistant professor to associate professor in the Department of Periodontology. She earned her dental and Ph.D. degrees from the School of Dentistry in Piracicaba, University of Campinas in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and completed post-doctoral training in oral microbiology related to periodontology at the University of Florida.



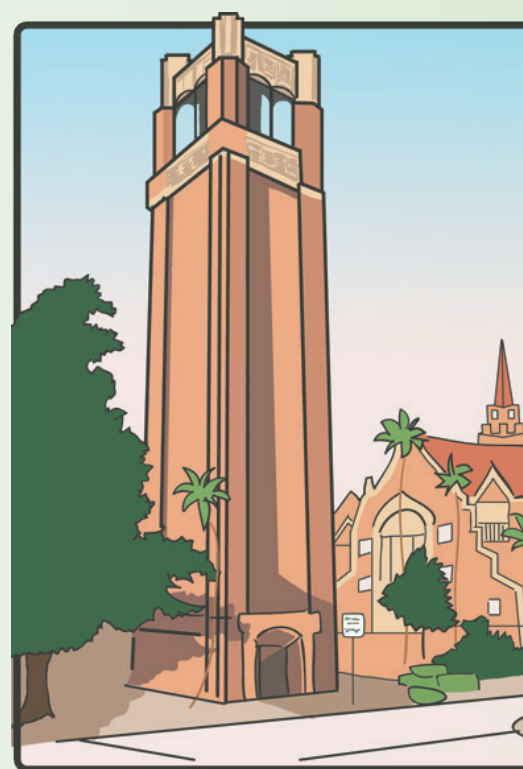
**Abimbola Adewumi**, B.D.S., was promoted to clinical associate professor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry where she has served on faculty since 2005. Her primary focus is teaching and research, and she also provides clinical service. She earned her dental degree in 1996 from the University of Ibadan College of Dentistry in Nigeria and completed a Fellowship in Pediatric Dentistry at the University of Florida in 2005.



**Gail Childs**, M.P.H., was promoted from Associate in Dentistry to Senior Associate in Dentistry the Office of Education where she works in the Office of Education and the Department of Community Dentistry and Behavioral Sciences. Childs joined the college in 1996 and the majority of her focus is currently within the Office of Education where she oversees the administration, instructional support and evaluation for the D.M.D. courses. She also facilitates the curriculum management process and planning for the Curriculum Committee.



**Calogero Dolce**, D.D.S., was promoted from associate professor to professor in the Department of Orthodontics where he has served as faculty since 1996 and is currently the graduate program director. Dolce earned his dental degree in 1988 from the University of New York in Buffalo and his certificate in Orthodontics from the University of Florida in 1993.



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**Micaela Gibbs**, D.D.S., has been promoted from clinical assistant professor to clinical associate professor in the Department of Community Dentistry and Behavioral Science where she's served as the director of Community-Based Programs since 2007. Gibbs earned her dental degree from the University of Colorado in 1994 and completed a General Practice Residency and a Fellowship in Health and Neck Cancer at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. She worked in private practice and was an adjunct faculty member at the University of Colorado before joining the University of Florida in 2003.



**Emma Lewis**, B.D.S., has been promoted from clinical assistant professor to clinical associate professor in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery where she serves as the director of the residency program. Lewis earned her dental degree from the University of Edinburgh in 1990, and her medical degree from the University of Western Australia in 2000. She also completed her oral and maxillofacial training in 2000 through the University of Adelaide and the University of Western Australia.



**Marc Ottenga**, D.D.S., was promoted to clinical professor in the Department of Restorative Dental Sciences where he has served as a clinical associate professor since joining the college in 2005. His primary focus is on teaching DMD students and was voted 2006 Clinical Teachers of the Year by the students. He earned his dental degree from The Ohio State University in 1980 and worked in private practice for 21 years before moving into the academic world at the University of Florida. He is a member of the Academy of Operative Dentistry.



**Christopher Spencer**, D.D.S., was promoted from clinical assistant professor to clinical associate professor in the Department of Restorative Dental Sciences. He joined the college in 2006 after completing a fellowship program here in Craniofacial Pain and Temporomandibular Dysfunction. In 1978 he earned his dental degree from the University of the Pacific Dugoni School of Dentistry and then worked in private practice from 1980 to 2004. Spencer's primary focus is teaching dental students as a TEAM leader, and he also works in research and direct patient care.



The following faculty practice and teach in the Hialeah Dental Center, part of the UF Statewide Network for Community Oral Health:

**Francisco "Frank" Granda**, D.M.D., M.S., M.D., was promoted from adjunct assistant clinical professor to adjunct clinical associate professor at the Hialeah Dental Center where he's been involved in teaching since 2007, first as a courtesy clinical assistant professor before becoming an adjunct assistant clinical professor in 2010. He earned his dental degree from the University of Puerto Rico in 1975 and then joined the U.S. Air Force.

**Reuben Hertz**, D.D.S., F.A.G.D., has served as a courtesy clinical assistant professor at the college's Hialeah Dental Center since 1999 and has been promoted to courtesy clinical associate professor. Hertz graduated in 1965 with his dental degree from the New York University Dental School and went on to complete a general dentistry residency program while serving in the U.S. Army. In 1970 he went into private practice in Miami and currently develops and presents didactic programs in clinical dentistry, risk management, practice management and career opportunities for the Hialeah program.



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**Frederick Knoll**, D.M.D., has served in private dental practice in Miami for 35 years, having graduated with his dental degree from Case Western in 1971. He has been teaching at the Hialeah Dental Center since 2007 where he coordinates the fixed dental prosthodontics curriculum for the Hialeah AEGD residents including didactic lectures and seminars and preclinical laboratory exercises, as well as some clinical teaching. He was promoted from courtesy clinical associate professor to courtesy clinical professor. He has been an active member of organized dentistry and is a member of the American College of Dentists.

**Cesar Sabates**, D.D.S., was promoted from adjunct clinical associate professor to adjunct clinical professor. He has been working with the Hialeah Dental Center since 1999 and has served for many years on the Hialeah Advisory Board. He currently oversees the implant curriculum in addition to providing clinical supervision, and didactic and seminar instruction.

**Barry Shipman**, D.M.D., was promoted to adjunct clinical professor from adjunct clinical associate professor. Shipman earned his dental degree from Tufts University in 1968, and went on to complete an internship in General Dentistry and a graduate Prosthodontics Residency at Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center in Brooklyn, N.Y., and then completed a residency in Maxillofacial Prosthodontics at Rowell Park Memorial Hospital in Buffalo, N.Y., in 1973.

**Susan Socas**, D.M.D., was promoted from adjunct clinical associate professor to Adjunct Clinical Professor. She earned her dental degree from the University of Florida in 1987 and went on to complete a General Practice Residency at the Dade County Research Clinic in 1988. She then began working in private practice but also worked at the Dade County Clinic where she taught residents and provided indigent care. Socas began working with the college's Hialeah Dental Center in 1996 where she lectures, is a course director, works in the clinic and oversees coordination of courtesy and adjunct faculty.

## Senior Faculty Awards

**Arthur Nimmo**, D.D.S., F.A.C.P., and **Timothy Wheeler**, D.M.D., Ph.D., received a senior faculty award from the university, recognizing them for their contributions to the university.

Nimmo, a professor of prosthodontics and director of predoctoral implant dentistry, earned his bachelor's degree from SUNY College at Oneonta in 1975. He earned his D.D.S. from the University of Maryland in 1979 and completed specialty training in prosthodontics at the UCLA Center for the Health Sciences in 1983.

Wheeler, a professor and chair of the Department of Orthodontics, also serves as assistant dean for Advanced and Graduate Education and is the Academy 100 Eminent Scholar Chair. Wheeler earned his bachelor's degree from Stetson University in DeLand, Fla., in 1976. He attended the University of Florida, earning his Ph.D., his D.M.D. and his certificate of Orthodontics from UF.



## D.M.D. students score 100% (again)

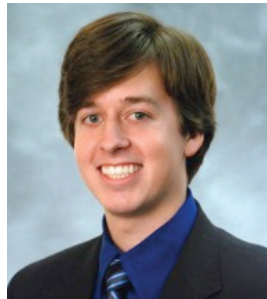
For the fourth year in a row, the college's DMD students scored a 100 percent first-time pass rate on the National Board Dental Exam Part I. The class enjoyed two celebrations - a quickly organized cookie celebration the day after results came in, and then lunch the following week to make sure they know how proud we are of their performance.

"This is quite an accomplishment. We are very proud of the students and I truly appreciate the hard work of the faculty who support our students in their dental education," said Teresa A. Dolan, D.D.S., M.P.H., professor and dean of the college.



## Harden selected for D.M.D./Ph.D. program

Scott Harden has been selected as the first candidate to enter the University of Florida College of Dentistry integrated D.M.D./Ph.D. program.



"We are really pleased that Scott has chosen to follow this educational path and are proud to have him as our inaugural student," said David Culp, Ph.D., a professor in the Department of Oral Biology. "Scott has already shown himself to be up to this challenge and we are looking forward to watching his accomplishments over the next four years and beyond in his career."

For more information about the program, visit the [web site](#).



## There IS a free Lunch!

The Class of 2013 was invited to a "lunch and learn" on July 26 hosted by the faculty and staff of the National Dental Practice-Based Research Network (NDPBRN).

The goal was to educate the 30 D.M.D. students who attended about the NDPBRN and showcase how they can become involved in the clinical research programs of the network while they are still in dental school and once they have graduated and are practicing. The NDPBRN is coordinating a similar session for each D.M.D. class over the next several weeks.

## Florida Tomorrow Campaign/Because of You

Fall 2012 marks the end of the seven-year Florida Tomorrow Capital Campaign. The foundation and the university are focusing several celebratory events on October 5 and 6; some will be centered around the UF football game against the LSU Tigers.

Our college is scheduling our celebrations as part of our annual Dental Fall Weekend on November 2 and 3, so that our alumni can be a part of our campaign closure. The support from our alumni, donors and friends during the course of the campaign propelled our college beyond our goal of \$16 million to a current total of \$18.1 million.

We are very grateful and proud!





# From the archives 1976

You may recognize these faculty who appeared in our first yearbook, and probably most published since then as well!

Our first graduating class included these curriculum flow charts in their yearbook.

