Timothy Garvey, D.M.S., took his first mission trip to the Dominican Republic in 1987, just seven years after graduating from the College of Dentistry. He’s been back every year since, and it’s pretty certain that he’s still sleeping in the same cot he first slept in more than 20 years ago.

Recently Garvey, a clinical associate professor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, sits for hours on end for relaxation. Twenty-four of the 25 minutes when he was at his prime care on the mission trips don’t have dental facilities at all. Most don’t have electricity or running water. But he keeps going back because “I got hooked,” he said. “and you never run out of soda.”

In 1987, he said, he had no idea what he’d gotten himself into when he agreed to part of a dental mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Now, Garvey is one of several college faculty who help oversee the work of Pediatric Dentistry, isn’t there for luxury or relaxation. Twenty-four of the 100 dental students and residents at the college, the student who care for of our college from within—faculty, staff and students—and with others with whom we’ve formed alliances, donors and friends. Together we are a strong force for dentistry in our state, our nation and in other parts of our world.

So we bring it back again. He says. “I believe it brings us back to the reason most of us wanted to be dental students,” he said. “I believe it brings us back to the reason most of us wanted to be dentists.”

On May 1, 2003, Timothy Wheeler, D.M.S., Ph.D., a professor and chair of the Department of Orofacial Orthodontics and Assistant Dean for Advanced and Graduate Education, was appointed Academy 100 Eminent Scholar Chair.

Wheeler has been in clinical dentistry for 43 years. As an Emeritus Scholar his duties include contributing to the clinical instruction of dental and advanced education students; providing at least one course in dental continuing education with areas in orthodontics and international dentistry; mentoring at least one junior faculty member in clinical or translational research each year.

Wheeler currently oversees graduate clinics and teaches several dental specialties through the programs introduced new dental clinical techniques, such as Invisalign and other orthodontic treatments, advancement of other programs nationally. Wheeler also initiated the Orthodontics Fellowship Program, which is highly respected among U.S. dental schools and has served as a model for similar programs. Wheeler is active in clinical research, securing industry and National Institute of Health funding. His research has included testing ways to biomechanically accelerate tooth movement, improvement treatment methods, and evaluate dental health both during and after orthodontic treatment.

In addition to Wheeler’s education and research activities, he treats private practice patients in the college’s Faculty Practice. The Emeritus Scholar Chair has been created in 1984 by the Academy 100 Hundred Scholarship Society. The chair has been vacant since 2006. Criteria include “outstanding professional reputation and outstanding contribution of scholarly activities.” The selection process involved a search committee composed of senior college faculty, and nominees were solicited from faculty members. During his tenure at the college, Wheeler has been a research fellow in the Department of Oral Biology, a resident in the Department of Orthodontics; an assistant professor in Oral Biology and Orthodontics; a resident in graduate research in Orthodontics; an associate professor in Oral Biology and Orthodontics; director of postgraduate Orthodontics; Director of Advanced Educators; Director of Advanced and Graduate Education, and an associate professor and chair of Orthodontics. He became professor and chair of Orthodontics in 1988 and Assistant Dean for Advanced and Graduate Education in 2001.

Wheeler has been a member of numerous local, state, national and international dentistry organizations. Past leadership positions include director of the American Association of Dental Research and councilor of the Orthodontic sections for the American Dental Education Association. From 2004-2005, he was director for the International Association of Dental Research.

His list of honors and awards include membership in Omicron Kappa Upsilon, the Chi Omega Pi Foundation Annual Research Award and the UF Outstanding Achievement and Performance Award.

Wheeler Named Academy 100 Eminent Scholar

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2008
B u i l d i n g a M e m o r i a l G i f t

High above the college’s main drive in Gainesville, Fla., stands a new statue of the Florida Dental College’s original building. The 9-foot statue, which was unveiled last spring, is a symbol of the college’s long history and tradition of excellence in dental education.

Dental Faculty Award

The University of Florida’s College of Dentistry announced the winner of the 2010 Dental Faculty Award. The award recognizes outstanding contributions to the college’s mission of teaching, research and service.

A c a d e m y o f A l u m n i a n d F r i e n d s

The College of Dentistry held its annual Academy of Alumni and Friends dinner at Hotel Zaza in Dallas to honor its members and those who contribute to the college’s success.

G a t e r s f o r H i g h e r E d u c a t i o n

The Florida Board of Trustees for the University of Florida held its annual meeting in Tallahassee to discuss the college’s strategic plan and other matters.

G a t e r s T o d a y

The College of Dentistry held its annual Gaters for Today event at the UF Health Science Center in Gainesville to honor its alumni and friends.

Saluting our volunteers

Thank you to everyone who volunteers for our college and its students and our legacy.

Standing out in the crowd


Seeking 2010 nominees

The UF Dental Alumni Association is seeking nominations for its 2010 Outstanding Alumnae and Alumni Awards.

A c a d e m y o f A l u m n i a n d F r i e n d s

The Academy of Alumni and Friends Board of Directors held its annual meeting in Dallas to review the college’s strategic plan and other matters.

Faculty Excellence Opportunity Awards

Three UF College of Dental Medicine faculty members received Excellence Opportunity Awards for their exceptional work in teaching, service and research.

Plan for the future

The college is working on a long-term strategic plan that will guide its future development and ensure its continued success.

New faculty

The college has added two new full-time faculty members to its faculty, bringing the total number of full-time faculty members to 106.

FLORIDA NATIONAL DENTAL JOURNAL

Florida National Dental Journal

Florida National Dental Journal

The Florida Dental Association celebrates its 125th anniversary with a special issue of the Florida National Dental Journal.

FLORIDA DENTAL ASSOCIATION

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