

February 2011



# University of Florida College of Dentistry

Teresa Dolan, D.D.S., M.P.H.  
Professor & Dean

To: UF College of Dentistry,

This is the first Dean's Update of 2011; I've held off on issuing an update while my alter ego, Captain Dolan, was at the helm reporting on the AxiUm software rollout. I am very proud of the excellent teamwork, collegiality and hard work of our faculty, staff and students during this important software implementation.

Our next phase is focusing on perfecting procedures and scheduling additional training to ensure that everyone uses the system to its maximum capacity.

## I Promise



Stephanie Scrambling

On January 19, Dr. Guzick introduced a new internally-focused initiative, "I Promise," across the colleges and the hospital system aimed at improving patient care and the patient experience. I Promise focuses on everyone's individual commitment to the patient and to quality patient care. The campaign encourages us to embrace a culture of "one promise, every patient" and provide the right care at the right time for every patient.

At the January 19 kickoff, several HSC staff members spoke about what the campaign means to them and we were pleased to have Stephanie Scrambling, a treatment coordinator in the DMD clinics, selected to speak at the event.

She said, "No matter what area of health care you are in, chances are you are busy, so busy sometimes you may feel overwhelmed. No matter how busy you are, remember to keep putting our patients first. Offer that friendly voice. Listen when they talk. It's these simple gestures that can make the biggest difference in a patient's day."

Stephanie also shared her personal promise with attendees by promising to "always treat patients with a caring attitude and with the respect they deserve."

In the coming months, the I Promise campaign will include initiatives that engage all faculty, staff, students and volunteers at the HSC in the program. I am looking forward to collaborating on the development of the program and implementing it internally to help ensure continued customer service excellence in our college.

### My promise:

*To come to work each day energized by the opportunity to work with outstanding faculty, staff and students to create a world-class college of dentistry that supports our students' learning, provides the highest quality patient care, facilitates academic creativity, productivity, scholarship and scientific inquiry, and serves our community and profession.*

– Teresa A. Dolan, D.D.S., M.P.H.





## Goodbye to a colleague and friend

**Arnold S. Bleiweis, Ph.D.**

**1937 – 2010**

**Arnold S. Bleiweis, Ph.D.**, graduate research professor emeritus, who retired in 2003 after serving the University of Florida for 35 years, passed away on December 16, 2010, following a brief illness. He was one of the university's and our college's most outstanding researchers. He was a dedicated teacher and mentor of dental and graduate students and junior faculty throughout his career.

Arnie had a delightful sense of humor, was always in a positive frame of mind and was admired by so many individuals around the globe. He was a great asset to our college, and continued to be a part of our program long after his retirement. We miss him dearly.

## Welcoming new dean's office staff

**Ana Dropps**, our new finance director, started on December 13, 2010, in preparation for Julie Thompson's retirement on January 6, 2011.

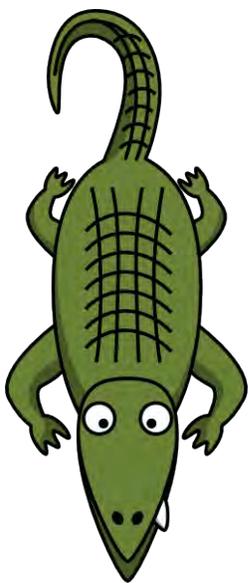
Ana's responsibilities include providing financial oversight of all college revenues and expenses; ensuring we adhere to best practices of accounting processes, serving as the auditing contact for outside auditors and also overseeing internal audit procedures, and developing and maintaining budgets.

Ana is a C.P.A. and she earned her bachelor's degree in accounting from UF in 1983. She has a diverse and balanced professional background having worked at the UF College of Medicine as director of finance and director of business services from 1991 to 1997, before leaving the academic world to gain experience in a corporate setting.

On January 21, **Thomas LaFleur** joined the college as senior development director following Cathy Jenkins' retirement. He has 17 years of experience in development with a strong background in higher education, academic medicine and health care — all of which dovetail nicely with his responsibilities in our college.

Tom earned his bachelor's degree in communications and a certificate in public relations and advertising from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

He started his development career focusing on annual fund development for his alma mater before transitioning into overall development roles at several educational institutions including Canisius College, Buffalo; Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York, N.Y.; and the University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, N.Y. He also worked in fundraising capacities with The American Lung Association of New York State and the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences.



## Patient Satisfaction Surveys

Each year, during a week in the spring, we actively encourage all clinics to distribute customer service surveys to patients. The results are typically very positive and the last round of surveys was no exception.

Our patients are overwhelmingly happy with the care they receive and the professionalism of their caregivers. If you are interested in seeing detailed results, [click here](#) and scroll to the bottom of the page.



## Superior Accomplishment Award winners

I am proud that four very special UF College of Dentistry employees won 2011 Superior Accomplishment Awards for Division 5: Rebekah Bush, Tania Fleming, Marilyn Stewart and Shannon Wallet.

Rebekah Bush, Department of Community Dentistry and Behavioral Sciences, was nominated by her coworker Terry Weber. Weber cited Bush's "hard work and untiring dedication to her job and the university" as one of the overarching reasons for the nomination.

Tania Fleming was nominated by Arthur Nimmo, D.D.S., who is the chair of the Department of Prosthodontics where Fleming has worked for the past three years. Nimmo wrote that Fleming distinguishes herself from other employees through her "enthusiasm for work and her outstanding work ethic."

Marilyn Stewart, Office of Education, was nominated by her supervisor, Gail Childs. Childs praised Stewart for "going above and beyond her normal duties," and said that her overall job performance has been outstanding.

Shannon Wallet, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the Department of Periodontology, was nominated by Dr. Kathleen Neiva. Wallet was recognized as "always performing at the best of her abilities and knowledge, going beyond expectations and requirements." Her chair, Dr. Aukhil, noted that she is always willing to collaborate with others and takes on extra responsibilities.

This program recognizes employees who have performed beyond normal expectations and have contributed outstanding and meritorious service in their fields. We have many wonderful employees in our college and I strongly encourage supervisors to nominate their outstanding staff members during the next opportunity for Superior Accomplishment Awards.



Fleming



Bush



Wallet



Stewart



## Itero Press

On January 27 and 28, prosthodontic and team leader faculty received training on a new digital impression system: Itero. Through a grant coordinated by Dr. Geraldine Weinstein, the system was donated to the college by DSG laboratories (formerly Americus). Itero takes digital impressions that are uploaded via the internet to the laboratory.

Itero impressions can be used for single unit crown, and for more complicated impressions such as a full mouth impression for extensive prosthodontic treatment. The bonuses? There's no need for messy impression materials, and it increases accuracy while reducing chairtime.

## Honors & Appointments

**Calogero Dolce**, D.D.S., Ph.D., was named director of the graduate program for the Department of Orthodontics, effective January 3, 2011. His new duties include overseeing graduate curriculum, resident progress and resident schedules.



Dolce

Dolce joined the college as an assistant professor in the Department of Orthodontics in 1996, subsequently received tenure and was promoted to associate professor in 2002. He has won several research awards from AADR and NIH, and was selected as the recipient of the first Southern Association of Orthodontists Excellence in Orthodontics Education award.

**Leandra Dopazo**, D.D.S., M.S., was named director of the graduate clinic for the Department of Orthodontics, effective January 3, 2011. Her new duties include overseeing patient assignment and treatment by residents, monitoring resident clinical progress, and supervising graduate clinic staff.



Dopazo

In addition to teaching orthodontic residents, overseeing the graduate clinic and practicing in the college's Faculty Practice, Dopazo is also currently the director of the orthodontic predoctoral program. In that capacity she oversees their orthodontic curriculum and teaches them during their orthodontic rotation and, should they so choose, orthodontic elective. In January, **Dr. Clark Hodge** returned and is once again overseeing predoctoral orthodontic rotation seminars.

**Roberta Pileggi**, D.D.S., M.S., an associate professor and chair of the department of endodontics, was recently elected to a four-year term on the Board of Trustees of the American Association of Endodontists (AAE) Foundation.



Pileggi

**Pileggi**, who is also the program director of the Endodontic Graduate Program, joined the university in 2005. Pileggi received her D.D.S. from the Universidade de Paulista in Brazil, her M.S. and Certificate in Endodontics from the University of Maryland in College Park, and Educational Scholars Fellowship Program at the Baylor College of Medicine and University of Texas at Houston.

We are proud to have her representing us at the national level with the AAE Foundation.

## Special Olympics, Special Smiles

Led by Dr. Enrique Bimstein, a group of college faculty, staff and students volunteered for the Special Olympics, Special Smiles program in Orlando in November 2010. The group saw more than 150 athletes during the two-day event.



## Future plans

In light of recent issues with air, heat, elevators, etc., I expect that everyone will agree that it is high time to investigate major changes to our home – the Dental Science Building. Our building opened in September 1975; more than 35 years ago. Since then, we expanded DMD enrollment and added 17 graduate and certificate programs. In addition we have grown into one of the leading dental research institutions, currently ranking fourth of all U.S. dental schools in federal research funding.

Our facility has not kept pace with changes in dental education, patient care delivery and basic research. Recently, the university agreed to fund a planning/visioning exercise to address future facility needs to support new ways students learn, how scientists conduct research and how patients experience their dental care. The goal is to develop a plan that enables the college to maintain its current high ranking, expand its research programs, provide excellent patient care and contemporary dental education, and continue to compete for the best and brightest students.

I look forward to engaging many of you in this phase of planning for our future – for the future of dental education in our state.

## Lobby: Sooner, rather than later

The lobby of the dental tower will be remodeled, probably beginning Summer 2011, as part of a coordinated remodel of all three main HSC entrances. In addition to flooring, wall covering and seating updates, there are plans to upgrade what's called "wayfinding," or the way people find where they need to go in our facilities. So an architecture firm will study traffic patterns, signage, etc, to ensure we make it easy for our patients and visitors to reach their destination.

## Save these dates

### *Spring Break*

(DMD, Graduate Program and UF)  
March 7 - 11

### *Dean's Seminar Series*

*Fatigue Behavior of Glass-ceramics, Glass- infiltrated Alumina, and Zirconia (Y-TZP) in Dental Appliances*

Thursday, March 10

12:15 to 1:15 p.m. in Dental Tower, D1-26

Dr. Paulo Francisco Cesar

Universidade de São Paulo

Departamento de Materiais Dentários

Universitária Sao Paulo, SP – Brasil

### *Florida State Board Exams*

March 11 -13

### *ADEA/AADR Meeting*

March 11 - 19, San Diego, Ca.

### *Annual Bicuspid Ball*

Friday, April 1 from 7:30pm to midnight

### *DMD Senior Banquet*

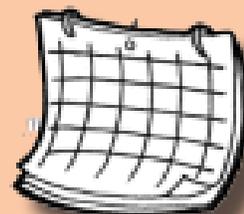
Saturday, May 7

### *College of Dentistry Commencement*

Friday, May 20 at 2:30 p.m.

### *Florida National Dental Convention*

June 9 -11, Orlando



**For more info about these and other college events,  
visit our [online calendar](#).**