

June 2011



University of Florida College of Dentistry

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

To: UF College of Dentistry,

It's hard to believe that we celebrated Commencement two weeks ago, we recently welcomed our second class of Internationally Educated Dentists into our AEGD program based at the Hialeah Dental Center, we're preparing to welcome our next group of advanced and graduate education students on July 1, and our newest DMD students in August. Yes, the spring semester flew by and we're ready for a busy summer!

Thanks to everyone who participated in our [Commencement program](#). This ceremony provides an important opportunity for our college to reflect on its achievements, thank the faculty and staff who make this an outstanding College of Dentistry, congratulate our graduates, and honor their families and friends. I want to add a special thanks to Ceneri Abare and the staff and faculty of the Office of Education who always do an outstanding job organizing the Commencement, among their many other responsibilities. This is always an emotional time for me, and I hope you felt the same sense of pride and accomplishment on this important day.

I remember when summer was a quiet time in Gainesville and at the college. This year, summer will be a time of change, upgrades and progress, in addition to our usual activities. I hope this update will help keep you informed about these upcoming activities.



Clinic transitions

Clinic IA

Clinic IA is getting a facelift. For many years this clinic was home to DMD students and their patients, is getting a facelift, and will serve as the new home for the graduate programs in Periodontology and Prosthodontics. This innovative practice will facilitate a more patient-centered approach to combined diagnostic, surgical and restorative care for our patients. The renovation begins in Fall 2011 and should be complete by Summer 2012.

The DMD students who were working in Clinic IA will be blended into the four General Dentistry Care Groups on the 2nd and 3rd floors.

Oral Health Maintenance Clinic

The OHMC is closing at the end of August. Instead of receiving oral health maintenance in a separate clinic, most of the patients will be treated within the General Dentistry Care Groups. These patients will continue to receive excellent care and assist our second year students' transition into clinical dentistry. Some of the patients previously treated in OHMC will move to a new clinic where they will be treated by seniors in the "Honors in Advanced General Dentistry Care Group."

Honors in Advanced General Dentistry Care Group

Beginning in the fall semester, select DMD seniors will be invited to participate in a clinical honors rotation. The goal of the Honors Care Group is to more closely simulate a private practice model of care. We hope to provide a more clear picture of what life after dental school is like for a general practitioner, including an emphasis on time management and productivity while maintaining excellent technical quality. Over time we hope to include four-handed dentistry training and usage, and expand the concept to additional Care Groups.

Participants will be selected through an interview process to determine their potential for excelling in the clinical environment. The additional educational activities will include four specific literature reviews, presentation of two treatment-planning cases with an assigned mentor, and presentation of a completed case. Just as the college offers honors experiences in research and advanced dental education, we are excited to offer this clinical honors opportunity to our students.

School of Advanced Dental Sciences

The Faculty Senate recently approved our proposal to create a School of Advanced Dental Sciences and, pending approval by the UF Board of Trustees, the new school will begin officially on July 1, 2011. Included in the new school are the departments of endodontics, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontology and the prosthodontic graduate program.

The School will facilitate the integration of these advanced education programs, ultimately improving the education that residents receive and better preparing them for the future, and also improving the patient experience involved in interdisciplinary care. The school also allows for better utilization of existing business personnel and other resources.

During the last 10 years, the number of dental students who continue in advanced education students has grown; nationally 60 percent of all dental students enter an advanced education program. We currently have 122 advanced education students; 66 of those are in programs that will be part of the new school. The school will also serve as the new home of the college's Continuing Dental Education program.

I recently announced an internal search for the Director of the School of Advanced Dental Sciences position. The selected individual will lead the development and implementation of these comprehensive changes.

Save these dates

Annual Staff Retreat

Friday, June 3 from 8am to 5pm
Splitz Bowling Alley, Gainesville

Florida National Dental Convention

June 9-11, 2011
Gaylord Hotel & Convention Center, Orlando
Please join us for the Gator Dentists Reception on
Friday, June 10 from 5:30 to 7pm

White Coat Ceremony

Friday, June 24 at 2 p.m.
Curtis M. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts
For more information, contact Censeri Abare at
cabare@dental.ufl.edu or 352.273.5947
Or visit: <http://www.dental.ufl.edu/Offices/News/Events/Coating-Ceremony/>



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



Coming soon: A major lobby renovation

I don't think there's any need to explain why we are renovating our lobby. The area serves as one of three major entry points for the entire Health Academic Center in addition to the gateway to our college. I am extremely pleased with the plans developed by Flad&Associates, the architecture firm hired by the VP's office to coordinate this project, and am confident that everyone will be happy with the results of their efforts. The materials and the color palette is beautiful.



We expect the transformation to begin this summer and will probably take between five and six months to complete. They will work on the area in segments and redirect traffic flow through parts of the lobby, but the lobby will not close during construction.

During the same time frame, the area that serves as an entrance to the College of Medicine (where the Starbucks cart is currently located) is also being renovated and will have the same look and feel as our new lobby.

Signage or "wayfinding" is a major aspect of the lobby renovation. The goal is to make it easier for our patients, as well as UF Physicians and UF&Shands patients, to find their

respective care areas. We have given thoughtful consideration to ensuring that new signage makes sense to the general public, rather than our internal audience.

This is also an opportunity to review our branding, and to rename some of our clinical areas so that they are more patient-friendly. For example, the patients of our DMD TEAMS program will be treated in our General Dentistry Care Groups. And "UF Dentistry" will be used to help create brand recognition of the excellent comprehensive dental services provided by the college. This is important as we continue to market our services to the UF and Shands community, and encourage them to seek their dental care from one of our "UF Dentistry" programs.

Envisioning our future

In May we launched a visioning and conceptual planning activity, funded by the university, to help us plan for our future facilities needs. The university will contract with an architectural firm to thoroughly review our facilities, conduct focus groups, and challenge us to envision the type of facility and infrastructure needed to support our teaching, research and patient care missions. We'll be challenged to think about how students learn, how patients experience the clinics, community space, the best ways to conduct science, and other future college needs. Ultimately we will have a plan that can be used for fund-raising, and to support a proposal for state funding for a building expansion and renovation.

Our goal is to become more patient centered and student friendly, but we also realize that our financial health depends increasingly on clinical revenue to support the operations of the college. Facility changes will support a more efficient delivery of quality patient care, allow for improved collaboration and communication internally, and provide a more attractive and comfortable practice environment for our patients.



GatorAdvantage

The HSC launched the GatorAdvantage program almost a year ago to enable UF and Shands employees to gain faster access for patient appointments at the hospital and at UF clinics. Our college plans to join the program beginning July 1, 2011.

Although we haven't finalized all operational aspects of the program, here are some key points about GatorAdvantage and what it means:

- This is an "access" program, not a discount program.
- The program applies to all UF faculty and staff, and their family and dependents.
- Patients must "self-identify" as a GatorAdvantage patient when they call for an appointment.

- Ideally, all patients would be scheduled for an appointment as soon as possible, for a time and date that's convenient for the patient. If the patient requests a specific dental provider, they may need to wait a little longer for that appointment.
- GatorAdvantage patients receive vouchers to cover their parking costs.

For our college, we'll begin the program in Faculty Practice on July 1, 2011, and then phase in our dental specialty practices beginning January 1, 2012. I'll share more information with you as our plans develop.

This is an excellent opportunity for us to participate in a marketing program that targets our own "Gator Nation" as patients. And one of the most important ways we can decrease the impact of state funding cuts on our programs is to increase our clinical revenues.

For more information about the current program, (<http://post.health.ufl.edu/2010/11/15/a-gator-advantage/>).

Honors, Awards & Appointments

Roulet appointed restorative chair

We moved an important step closer to the realization of the Department of Restorative Dental Sciences with the hiring of **Jean-François Roulet**, D.D.S., who joins the college in October and has been appointed the inaugural chair of the department. As many of you know, Jean-François is a well-known expert in restorative dentistry and we're fortunate to have him to lead shaping the implementation of the new department.

For the last eight years, he has been director of the Department of Research and Development / Clinical at Ivoclar Vivadent, and currently serves as a senior expert in Professional Services at Ivoclar Vivadent. He lives in Schaan, Liechtenstein, and is looking forward to moving to Florida. Jean-François will be responsible for administration, faculty recruitment, mentoring and professional development, and fiscal management, as well as setting strategic direction for the department and its teaching, research and service endeavors.



Roulet

Honors, Awards & Appointments Administrative Changes



Walker

Some familiar names and faces have new titles now with changes to several administrative appointments. Following Dr. Bill McArthur's retirement, I have appointed **Clay Walker, PhD**, as the Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs.

Dr. Walker is remaining in his current office on the ground floor (DG-48) and reports that faculty have had no difficulty finding him in this location! Clay is continuing his research which focuses on biofilm formation and the increased resistance to antibiotics that occurs in biofilms.

He is also a collaborator in the study of aggressive periodontitis in children as well as the metagenomics of periodontitis in HIV positive patients. His new responsibilities include providing advice and guidance to the dean, department chairs, center directors and individual faculty on matters affecting our faculty with an emphasis on the effective mentoring of junior faculty.

Dr. Robert Primosch, DDS, MS, M.Ed., who for many years has led the academic mission of the college as Associate Dean for Education, stepped down from that position to refocus on pediatric dentistry. He has set up temporary lodging in the dean's office suite while renovation work is in progress on the 11th floor.



Primosch

Nini Sposetti, DMD has been appointed Associate Dean for Education, a position that is a natural progression for her, having served as the Assistant Dean for Admissions and Financial Aid since 2001. In that role she managed dental admissions and financial aid and lead efforts to implement holistic admissions practices in the D.M.D. program. She effectively managed the program during a decade of dramatic growth in application numbers.



Sposetti

Pamela Sandow, DMD, has taken over Nini's role as Assistant Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid. She will also continue to serve as the Director of the Oral Medicine Clinic where she provides care for head and neck cancer patients.



Sandow

Pam is a graduate of our college and has many years of experience in our college working in patient care, education and research, and has served on the college's Student Recruitment and Admissions Committee for 15 years.

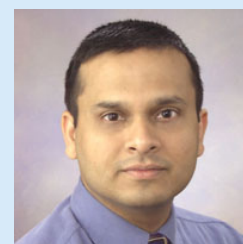
On a personal note, I feel extremely fortunate to work with a very talented group of faculty willing to serve in these very important administrative roles.

Honors, Awards & Appointments

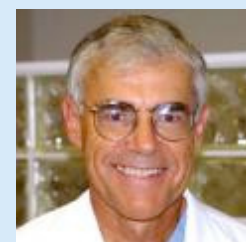
2011-12 Teachers of the Year

It's a great honor for a committed teacher to be recognized by students – and each year our sophomore, junior and senior students vote for the college's Teachers of the Year, selected for their excellence, innovation and effectiveness in teaching.

This year, the honors go to **Indraneel Bhattacharyya**, D.M.D., M.S., and **Ulrich Foerster**, D.D.S., who were voted 2010-11 Teachers of the Year for the University of Florida College of Dentistry. Foerster, a clinical associate professor in oral and maxillofacial surgery, was selected as 2010-11 Clinical Sciences Teacher of the Year. Bhattacharyya, an associate professor in oral and maxillofacial diagnostic sciences, was voted the 2010-11 Basic Sciences Teacher of the Year; an honor he also received in 2004-05.



Bhattacharyya



Foerster



Aukhill

Aukhill appointed to Senate Committee

Ike Aukhill, DDS, professor and chair of the Department of Periodontology, has been appointed to serve on the Academic Freedom, Tenure, Professional Relations and Standards Committee of the University of Florida. This is a one-year term beginning in Fall 2011.



Baccaglini

Baccaglini receives CCRP designation

Lorena Baccaglini, DDS, DDS, MS, PhD, CCRP, an assistant professor in the Department of Community Dentistry and Behavioral Science, received Certified Clinical Research Professional designation by successfully completing the national clinical research certification examination on January 29, 2011.

Brady named 2011 UF Research Foundation Professor

Jeannine Brady, Ph.D., a professor in the Department of Oral Biology, was one of 33 UF faculty members as UF Research Foundation Professors for 2011-2014, for her distinguished current record of research and a strong research agenda that will likely lead to continuing distinction in her field.

Factors that determine the awards include publication in scholarly journals, external funding, honors and awards, development of intellectual property and other measures appropriate to their field of expertise. The three-year award includes a \$5,000 annual salary supplement and a one-time \$3,000 grant.



Brady

Honors, Awards & Appointments

Kesavalu appointed to IADR/AADR committee

Lakshmya Kesavalu, B.V.Sc., M.Sc., S.C.C., an associate professor in the departments of periodontology and oral biology, has been appointed to serve the Fellowships Committee of the IADR/AADR for a three-year term from 2011 to 2014.



Kesavalu

Serrano wins national research award

Giselle Serrano, a UF undergraduate research student mentored by Dr. Lorena Baccaglini in the department of community dentistry and behavioral science at the UF College of Dentistry, won the prestigious Dr. Robert and Kay Schattner Award for best original presentation by a student during the 65th Annual American Academy of Oral Medicine (AAOM) meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The competition was open to oral medicine residents, fellows and students nationwide and includes a \$1,500 cash prize.

Serrano's four-year study, "Psychological findings in recurrent aphthous stomatitis," is part of an ongoing series of NIH-funded large epidemiologic research grants aimed at identifying the cause of recurrent aphthous stomatitis (Principal Investigator: Lorena Baccaglini, DDS, MS, PhD, CCRP).

My sources tell me that they don't think an undergraduate has ever won this award and that there was quite a bit of curiosity at the meeting about this "unknown" undergrad who beat graduate-level competitors from some very highly-respected universities. It's wonderful that we can claim her as part of our college – congratulations to Giselle, Lorena and everyone who participates in this project.



Serrano, right,
with Dr. Baccaglini

Tomar receives 2011 IADR H.Trendley Dean Memorial Award

Scott Tomar, D.M.D., Ph.D., received the 2011 H.Trendley Dean Memorial Award during the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) annual meeting in San Diego, Ca., in March 2011.

One of the highest honors bestowed by the IADR, the award recognizes distinguished accomplishments in research and development in the fields of behavioral science, epidemiology, and public health, and is supported by the Colgate-Palmolive Company.

Scott's reputation spans the U.S. and we are really fortunate to him as part of our college. In a recent *Gainesville Sun* article about access to dental care for the children in Florida, he received high praise from Shelly Gershan, director of the Pew Children's Dental Campaign, "Scott Tomar is one of the unsung heroes in Florida who has done so much to raise awareness of oral health disparities among children."



Tomar

Honors, Awards & Appointments



Yilmaz

Yilmaz selected for ELAM program

Ozlem Yilmaz, DDS, has been selected as a 2011-2012 fellow for the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM), a program of Drexel University College of Medicine.

Yilmaz, an associate professor in Periodontology and Oral Biology, is one of 54 women, from across the United States, selected for the program which prepares senior women faculty for leadership positions at academic health centers.

Musical Chairs?



As the process of renovation and, in some cases, asbestos abatement continues there are quite a few groups setting up temporary quarters. I apologize for the disruptions caused by these moves, but I know that everyone will be more comfortable and better situated in the long run.

The Pediatric Department is located in D3-39 (formerly the Craniofacial Center) until August when their new home on the 11th floor is expected to be completed.

The Office of Research is still on the 9th floor but moved down the hall, temporarily, until their new space on the 3rd floor is renovated.

The info is out there (you just have to know where to look)

If you'd like to know more about the college or specific areas, we post quite a lot of information on our web site but we realize that not everyone knows it's "out there," much less where to find it. So here's some help:

Publications

[Annual Report](#)

[Annual Program Review](#)

[Strategic Plan](#)

[Previous Dean's Updates](#)

[Office of Research Newsletter](#)

[Clinic Administration Newsletter](#)

Facebook pages

[College of Dentistry](#)

[Southeast Center for Research to Reduce Disparities in Oral Health](#)

One more thing . . .



The Department of Endodontics has a new mascot. Designed by our very own Sal Salazar, who works in Clinical Administration, the mascot will be used for department communications with alumni of the Endo graduate program.