



A COLLEGE UPDATE from *Dean A. Isabel Garcia, D.D.S., M.P.H.*

To: UF College of Dentistry

Happy Holidays! December is always such a wonderful time to reflect on the many accomplishments within our UF College of Dentistry family as we prepare to enjoy the coming break for some rest and relaxation.

We have had a special couple of weeks at UFCD. It was a pleasure to host our Retired Faculty Luncheon at Blue Gill two weeks ago, and to recognize nearly 40 staff members last week for their dedication to our college at our annual Service Pin Ceremony. We bid farewell to Frances Rollins with a superb retirement celebration, and enjoyed hosting the college's holiday tea festivities in the Dean's Office.

I know the Office of Student Advocacy & Inclusion holiday party – with warm wishes, cookies and hot drinks – gave our students some well-deserved stress relief amid finals and CDCA manikin exams.

The semester has closed but we are already preparing for a busy and exciting spring semester. We hosted our Accepted Students Open House this past weekend, with the highest attendance ever. Thank you to the Office of Admissions, faculty, residents, students and staff that work so hard to put together this great event. It is safe to say the future is bright for our college, and rewarding to see so many students and their families interested and excited about becoming Gator Dentists.

Curriculum Update

A Curriculum Committee workgroup is making major progress toward aligning the basic sciences and clinical curricula in preparation for the Integrated National Board Dental Exam, or I-NBDE. The class of 2023 will be the first to sit for what will be a dramatically different testing scenario from several past decades. Currently, the exam is given in two parts testing basic science knowledge in students' sophomore year, and clinical knowledge in the senior year. The new integrated format will combine basic sciences and clinical knowledge into one exam at the end of DMD students' fourth year.

While we have known for some time about the integrated



Dolwick Honored for Enduring Impact

at UF Health's Celebrating Distinction Event

The impact he's left on lives across Gainesville is as omnipresent as the colors orange and blue. M. Franklin Dolwick, D.M.D., Ph.D., has spent the last 35 years treating dental patients and instructing students and residents as the chair of the College of Dentistry's department of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Dolwick's storied career was recognized during the 2019 Celebrating Distinction ceremony, held Oct. 22 in the DeWeese Auditorium of the McKnight Brain Institute of UF, where Dolwick was named the **Academy One Hundred Eminent Scholar**.

Congratulations, Dr. Dolwick! [Read the full UF Health story.](#)



exam, it has certainly required diligence in balancing the structure of the curriculum to continue our very high level of teaching success, while also revising courses for the changing requirements for the I-NBDE.

I can't thank our Curriculum Committee, and this workgroup, enough for their hard work in this area.

Building Update

The outside firm contracted by UF is in the final phase of the indoor air quality assessment project that launched in summer 2019. We had a preliminary discussion with their project lead who shared a broad overview of occupant responses from the survey many of you completed in August.

The contractors have been on site three times to inspect over 300 rooms, carrying out visual inspections of both the interior and exterior as well as the heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems. Testing and monitoring in each room included among others: temperature, relative humidity, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide concentrations, moisture measurements and organic chemical monitoring. Additional tests were carried out as needed in specific rooms. We are working closely with UF and UF Health senior leadership as well as UF Facilities Services and UF Environmental Health & Safety on a plan of action pending final results and recommendations.

Thank you all for your cooperation and input as these inspections have, at times, interrupted your work flow.

Wildlight

It was an honor to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony and open house for UF Health - Wildlight in Yulee, Florida, at the end of November with a number of our clinical faculty and operational/administrative staff. I'd like to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Joseph Orlando, who will be our clinic director at UF Health Dentistry - Wildlight as we begin seeing patients in January. We are excited to be a part of this beautiful new facility and to have the opportunity to serve the oral health needs of the people in Nassau County (north of Jacksonville).

I sincerely hope you have a wonderful holiday break relaxing, recharging and spending time with those who mean the most to you. As I reflect on the past year, I am so thankful to our entire UFCD family - our faculty, staff, students, residents, alumni and friends. Your caring approach and dedication to our college are what makes us thrive. I look forward to seeing you all in 2020 for a prosperous new year full of opportunity for our very special UF College of Dentistry.

Warm wishes and all the best this holiday season,

Dean Isabel Garcia

Welcome ...

a familiar face to the UFCD Development and Alumni Affairs team



Join us in welcoming a familiar face, **Abel Gilbert**, to a new role on the College of Dentistry development team as our new development coordinator. Abel made the quick trip from the third floor in the Office of Admissions to the fourth floor in the Dean's Office.

He previously served in the Office of Admissions since 2013, most recently as our outreach and recruitment specialist for the college and our D.M.D. program. In his new role as development coordinator, Abel will leverage his skills to support our advancement efforts in expanding philanthropic support, alumni relations, stewardship and development outreach for the college.

Be sure to stop by and visit him in his new home in the Dean's Office, D4-13.

A Fond Farewell

to Ms. Frances Rollins

Thank you to those who helped us celebrate the sunshiny, smily person we've all come to know and love, Frances Rollins. Frances is retiring this month after over three decades of service to the University of Florida and UF College of Dentistry. She celebrated with a bang: friends, family, siblings, co-workers, kids and grandkids in tow last week. We will all miss her vibrant personality, caring hospitality and warmhearted disposition in the Dean's Office, and wish her all the best in relaxation and memory-making through her next chapter of life.



'Tis the Season to Celebrate . . . YOU

Congratulations to our UFCD employees who reached service milestones this year, and who were honored at our Service Pin Ceremony last week:

THIRTY YEARS

- Ronda Breton

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

- Grace Gulecas
- Jerri Wainer

TWENTY YEARS

- Paula "Kay" Colvin
- Mindy Lee-Walker
- Pauline Roberts-Coleman

FIFTEEN YEARS

- Denise Dorman
- Raenie Johnson
- Tammy Lee
- Amanda Mills
- Linda Tanner
- Michelle Watson
- James Webb

TEN YEARS

- Lisa Jefferson
- Jashmin Patel
- Heather Stowell Rhoden
- Denise Turner
- Shawn C Waddle
- James Wold

FIVE YEARS

- Jennifer Aquino Gomez
- Natasha Arbaczauskas
- Jennifer Blackburn
- Josue Cardoso
- Michele Cooley
- Daisy Cruz
- Brenda Curl
- Yunielvis Diaz Prats
- Galia Escoto
- Andrea Flores Arevalo
- Nicolas Foglia
- Yoani Gonzalez
- Janet Gould
- Whitney Haley
- Connie Kalter
- Gladys Morejon Juan
- Debi Roberts
- Maria Ruise
- Simone Stone
- Terry Thomas



Upcoming Events

December

- 20** Classes and Clinics End
23 - Jan 3 Semester Break

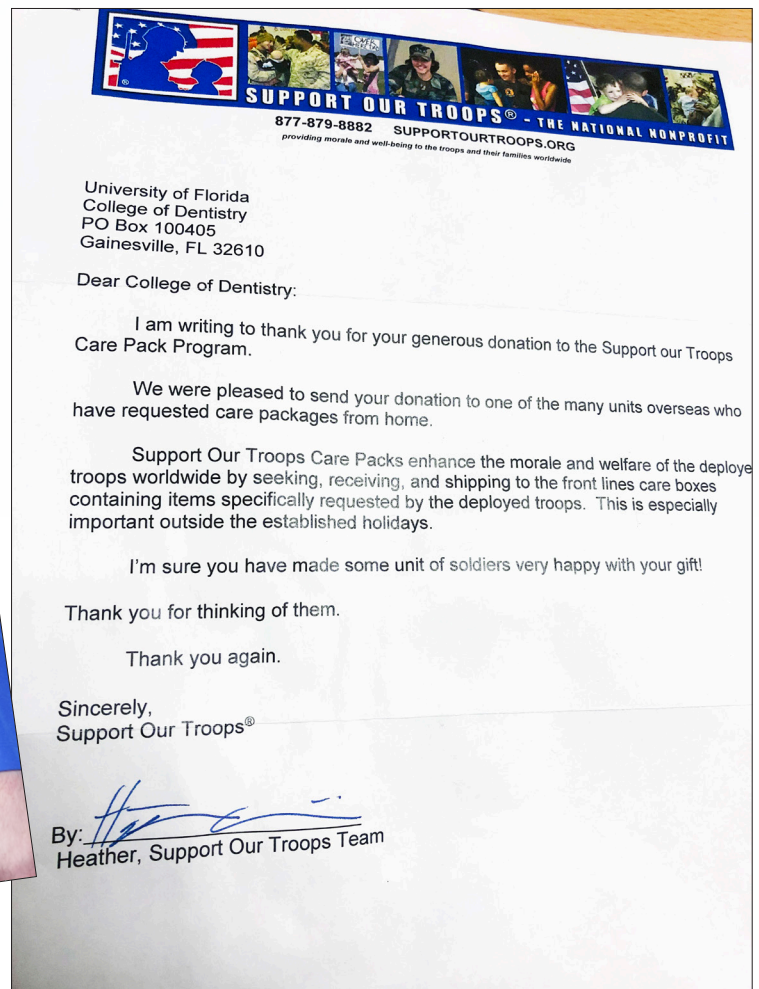
January

- 6** Classes Begin
20 Martin Luther King, Jr., Day
23-24 Clinic Exam II - patient
31 ACD Ethics Seminar (D3 & D4)

February

- 8** White Coat Ceremony &
Friends and Family Day
21 Florida Board of Dentistry Meeting (D4)

A Special Thank You Supporting Our Troops



Recent College Happenings



Hosted UFCD's first **UF Campaign for Charities** fundraiser at Swamp Head. Along with our annual book sale, the college doubled its UFCC donation to over \$1,200, contributing to the \$1 million raised by the whole UF campus for Alachua County charities!



Attended the ribbon cutting and open house for **UF Health Wildlight** in Yulee, Florida. UF Health Dentistry — wildlight will begin serving patients in January 2020.



Welcomed the classes of 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009 and 2014 back to Gainesville for **Dental Fall Weekend CE**, reunion and tailgate festivities November 8-9.



Received a **Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award** for the fifth consecutive year, recognizing the college's outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion.



Won volleyball championships! (Congratulations "Rolling Thunder" and "We Know You Don't Floss"), thanked our extremely generous donors on **Grateful Gator Day** and continued to **serve** the underserved in our community and beyond.



Celebrated the holidays with our Retired Faculty Luncheon, our annual Student Advocacy & Inclusion holiday party, and by "decking the halls" and spreading holiday cheer throughout the UF College of Dentistry.