Chairs Message: Giving Thanks

“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.” —Winston S. Churchill

On October 22, 2015, a small group of alumni and other supporters met to discuss the future of the Department. This very special group is the Pediatric Dentistry Development Steering Committee. Members are Antonio Braithwaite, Bryan Cobb (Co-Chair) LaRee Johnson, Kim Jones, Gail Rohlfing, Halley White, Mike Ignelzi, John Christensen, Jim Congleton (Co-Chair), Rob Moran, Richard Brooks, Stephanie Chen and ex-officio members Jessica Lee, Bill Vann and Mike Roberts. This small but very enthusiastic and committed group has been meeting annually to provide guidance to ensure the financial future of the UNC Department of Pediatric Dentistry. Among the topics discussed were: 1) The Graduate Program and strategies to increase residents’ stipends, 2) the Vann Endowment Fund (VEF) under the leadership of Mike Ignelzi and Mike Hasty. Our plan is to announce the completion of VEF during the October 2016 Alumni Weekend reception. We hope to see everyone there! 3) possible future named funds. Many of you shared with us a very special moment during the October 2015 Alumni Weekend reception when we were very fortunate to announce the Eugene Howden Fellowship! Keep a lookout for other announcements coming soon, and 4) the Legacy Giving Initiative, which has been successful in obtaining planned giving commitments as you will read about later in this newsletter. I am proud to announce that I recently joined this elite group in December and I would like to encourage others to do the same. The committee, with help from many of you, is responsible for doubling our department endowment with plans to continue its growth. We still have a long way to go, but you can see our future is very bright. I cannot express how thankful I am to this committee and to all of you for your tireless and unselfish efforts in support of the Department. THANK YOU! THANK YOU! All the best for a Happy and Healthy 2016!

New Diplomates of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry

In addition to the new Diplomates recognized at the Annual Session of the AAPD in Seattle (May 2015), the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry (ABPD) has recently announced additional new Diplomates. These individuals have successfully completed the certification process and are to be congratulated for their accomplishment. Those who are alumni, friends or otherwise have a North Carolina connection are the following. We are proud of you all!

Rebecca Andrews  Shijia Hu
Bob Cherry  Laszio Ledenyl
Sindhura Citineni  Marshall Long
Charles-Thomas Cooke  Chad Shobe
Maggie Fetner  Felicia Swinney
Crystal LeAnn Hayes  Yvette Thompson
Travis Hicks  Logan Webb


LaRee Johnson, DDS, MS—Dorothy Pang, BDS, DDS, MS
Kate Pierce, DDS, MPH—Bill Chambers, DDS, MS
Sigurdur Saemundsson, DDS, MPH, MBA, PhD

Friday, April 8, 2016
William and Ida Friday Continuing Education Center
Chapel Hill, NC
6 hours of CE credit
Before an excited crowd in a surprise for the honoree, the Department on October 23rd announced a new University-endowed Fellowship to honor the academic legacy and profession contributions of Gene Howden (’71) of Pinehurst, a three-time Carolina graduate who received his DDS Degree in ’66 and an MS Degree from the School of Dentistry in 1971. On hand for the occasion were many kindred graduate program alumni, NCAPD members, Howden family members, and many friends, including several of Gene’s dental school classmates. It was a wonderful evening!

Gene joins several other beloved faculty who have been honored with Fellowships. He served as the Director of the DDS Program in Pediatric Dentistry from 1971-78. During this time-span he built the foundation for what has long been viewed as one of the most respected clinic teaching programs in the School. A tireless and highly gifted teacher, he is the only member of the department in its sixty-year history to be honored with the prestigious school-wide Richard F. Hunt Award in Undergraduate Teaching.

A Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry, Gene spent the final 30 years of his career in private practice in Chapel Hill, where he was widely recognized as both an exemplary practitioner and a community leader. He was one of the early pioneers during the developmental years of the North Carolina Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and served frequently as an officer, and as President in 1979-80. He was a long-time and highly valued consultant to the NC Medicaid Program. Gene was an energetic and tireless leader of the UNC Dental Alumni Association and was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the Association in 2012.

Through a combination of cash gifts, pledges, and testamentary commitments, the Howden Fund is already assured of obtaining the $100,000 goal for a permanently endowed named fund at UNC-CH. When the goal is reached, the endowment proceeds will be used exclusively to supplement stipends of residents in the department. Chaired by program alumni Sonny Long (’78) of Charlotte and Bill Vann (’76) of Chapel Hill, the Howden Steering Committee also included Phil Caldwell (’74) of Fayetteville, Larry Dempsey (’75) of Rocky Mount, Jessica Lee (’02) of Chapel Hill, Ted Oldenburg (’62) of Chapel Hill, and Jim Stone (’75) of Charlottesville, VA.

Pictured at the Reception announcing the Gene Howden University-Named Fellowship are the Howden Steering Committee Members. Pictured left to right are: Bill Vann, Jessica Lee, Gene Howden, Larry Dempsey, Sonny Long, Ted Oldenburg and Jim Stone. Committee Member Phil Caldwell was out of the country.

Darryn Weinstein
Pediatric Dentistry Welcomes New Faculty Member

It is a great pleasure to welcome Dr. Darryn Weinstein to UNC's School of Dentistry as the new Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs. Darryn is a dental graduate of the University of Iowa and completed his training in pediatric dentistry at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). He practiced for several years with Chicago's Infant Welfare Society providing dental services to primarily low income children. Darryn was also in private practice in Chicago and proceeded to take a position at UIC where his primary responsibilities involved the College's clinics in the role of Director of Clinics. In 2009, Darryn joined the Midwestern University as part of the team that developed the new College of Dental Medicine – Illinois, and where he served as the Assistant Dean for Clinical Education. This past summer Darryn joined UNC's School of Dentistry and we are excited to have him as a member of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry.
VEF Update

As noted in the last Department Alumni Newsletter, we have made steady progress on our goal of $500,000 and we have set a date to announce the conclusion of formal solicitation for the VEF. We will celebrate our success on Friday, October 7, 2016, after the department-sponsored continuing education course at the UNC Friday Center.

Thus far, the VEF has:

- Sponsored three (2012-14) hospitality get-togethers at the AAPD Annual Session for Tar Heel Alumni and NCAPD members
- Sponsored the past two annual Residents’ Appreciation Banquets to celebrate the residents’ achievements, while honoring program graduates and their families
- Supported two $5K stipend supplements to provide additional fellowship monies for our residents

Thanks to your efforts and generosity, the VEF will continue to support all the above in perpetuity. We have outstanding pledges remaining to be paid over time, and will add this additional support to category three above. Thank you for your loyalty in seeing your pledge to the end!

Michael Hasty (DDS – ’86; MS-’89)                              Michael Ignelzi   (DDS ’87, ‘PhD ’92)
Virginia Beach, VA                                                           Greensboro, NC

Legacy Gifts to the Department Begin to Mount

For several years now there has been a push for alumni and friends to consider a Testamentary or Legacy Gift to the Department. Over the past two years, Bryan Cobb (1979) of Greensboro and Jim Congleton (1977) of New Bern have led a full court press to expand legacy support—with excellent success!

In our history, the department has received two bequeaths. The first came from Willie Demerrit, the Department’s first Chair. The second came from the estate of Mary Jane Breeland of Greensboro, who had no connection with the Department or School other than a desire to make a lasting positive impact on the future good oral health of children in the state. Her $200,000 bequeath came in 2003. To underscore the power of endowments and compounding interest, the Breeland Endowment stands now at $320,000! It has been enhancing graduate student stipends since 2004, and will continue to do so in perpetuity.

Thanks in part to the energy of Bryan and Jim, we now have seven legacy gifts on the books. They will come from the estates of Stephanie Chen (1994), Bryan Cobb (1979), Jim Congleton (1977), Bobby Elliott (1998), Jessica Lee (2002), Mike Roberts, and Bill Vann (1976). These legacy gifts will support residents’ salary enhancements, an endowed faculty chair, an endowment for the Excellence Lecture Series, and an endowment for a faculty development fund.

As you plan your estate, please keep us in mind. Gifts need not be exorbitant. University Fellowships can be named to honor families or individuals starting at $100,000. As noted above, small gifts quickly sum-up to nice endowments.

If you have any questions about the process, please contact Paul Gardner at the DNFC at (919) 537-3257 or paul_gardner@unc.edu
News from the NCAPD

The 2015 Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Academy of Pediatric Dentistry was held on October 24th, at the Hilton Garden Inn at South Point in Research Triangle Park. President Kate Piece of Greensboro presided over a busy business agenda with 58 members in attendance.

The minutes of the meeting are posted on the NCAPD Web Site (NCAPD.net), and will be of interest to those members who were unable to attend. Please note: if you failed to receive the minutes when they were distributed to our List-Serve by E-mail blast on November 17th, the reason for non-receipt may be because we do not have your correct email address. If you change your email address, phone number, or add office sites or new associates, please send an email to our Executive Secretary Sarah Howard (ncapdmembers@gmail.com). Sarah will update your contact information both on the list-serve and our Web-based NCAPD Membership.

New NCAPD Officers for 2016 are:

- President: Kim Jones
- Vice-President: Mike Roberts
- Secretary/Treasurer: Bill Vann
- Parliamentarian: Michael Ignelzi

Board of Directors:
- Julie Dimock (1 Year)
- Frank Courts (2 Years)
- David Olson (3 years)

SSPD Director: Skip Tyson
Medicaid Liaison: Bryan Cobb
NC-AAP Liaison: Martha Ann Keels
AAPD Public Policy Advocate: Kerry Dove
Immediate Past President: Kate Pierce

The NCAPD will sponsor a Medicaid Workshop on Thursday, April 7th to be held at the new Hampton Inn in Carrboro from 1:30-3:30 PM. Details have been e-distributed via the NCAPD List-Serve. Please note that this meeting date/time is the afternoon before UNC’s Spring CE offering at the Friday Center on Friday, April 8th featuring “A Review of Current Practices in Pediatric Dentistry: Practical Solutions from Practicing Pediatric Dentists”.

IN MEMORIAM

Walter B. Parrish, Jr., known to his friends as “Bo”, passed away unexpectedly on September 3, 2015. Bo earned his undergraduate degree in mathematics in 1965 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was awarded his DDS degree in 1969 and his MS in pediatric dentistry in 1971, both from the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry. Bo practiced pediatric dentistry in Raleigh from 1971 to 2011. He was a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry. Bo was also an Eagle Scout and served in the NC National Guard, retiring in 2003 at the rank of Lt. Colonel. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Juanita Parrish, and a son, Walter B. Parrish, III, and daughter, Laurin Parrish, and several grandchildren. We will all miss Bo’s jolly disposition, sense of humor, and positive view of life.
North Carolina Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

Oral Health Service Award(s) Presented

With an enthusiastic crowd of NCAPD members, family and friends in attendance, not one but two NCAPD Oral Health Service Awards (OHS) were presented at a reception at the Friday Center in October. The OHSA acknowledges individuals for outstanding achievements in pediatric oral health in North Carolina, including those exceptional individuals who have a strong record of advocacy for children’s oral health in the state.

The winner of the 2015 Award is Dr. Gary R. Rozier, Professor of Health Policy and Management in the School of Public Health. Having been awarded the OHSA in 2013, Dr. Rebecca King, the former Chief of the NC Oral Health Section, has been unable to attend the Award’s Ceremony in 2013 and 2014 because of ADA Delegate duties, so she serendipitously shared this year’s stage with her former mentor and frequent collaborator.

Gary is currently in phased-retirement after a stellar 38-year career characterized by excellence in dental public health research though building partnerships. These are far too many to mention, but among the most impactful for North Carolina’s children are Into the Mouth of Babes (IMB) and Zero-out Early Childhood Caries (ZOE); both are now soundly embedded in our state’s fabric of oral health preventive successes. He has also been a tireless and nurturing mentor for many residents in pediatric dentistry. Fittingly, his nomination and presentation were made by Jackie Burgette, a current (and likely his final) doctoral mentee, who is also a pediatric dental resident.

Rebecca is also well known for her long record of service as the former Chief of Oral Health Services in the Division of Public Health. A lifetime servant in the realm of community health in the state, she has served a variety of state and national public health leadership positions, always demonstrating a strong advocacy for children’s oral health. Her award was presented by Dr. Dennis Clements, a Duke pediatrician who praised her colleagueship and her savvy in building collaborations that have resulted in enhanced quality health for the state’s children.

Pictured from left to right (back): Kimon Divaris, Bhavna Pahel, Jessica Lee, Gary Rozier, Rebecca King, Jackie Burgette, Jane Weintraub

Left to right (front): Genevieve Pahel, Nicholas Pahel

Elliott and Robinson/Molina Residents

Recruitment Weekend 2015

The Department hosted 12 candidates for the graduate program on November 19-20, 2015. This weekend was sponsored by Alumni Bobby Elliott (MS 1998) of Cary and his professional partner, Julie Molina (DDS 2004, MS 2008) of Chapel Hill. Many of you know that this weekend is one of the highlights of our departmental life. Candidates arrived Thursday and enjoyed an evening with our current residents at 411 West Restaurant.

Interviews commenced on Friday, with interviewees meeting with all faculty members on an individual basis, complemented by resident-led tours of our clinics, SOD and the Children’s Hospital, with an opportunity to meet many staff. Lunch was catered in the school providing the interviewees more time with the residents. The weekend’s activities ended with a Friday evening reception that included faculty, residents, and interviewees. This recruitment strategy receives high marks by our interviewees for the richness of the interview experience. Our thanks to Bobby and Julie for their help in assisting us recruit the very best to our program!
Residents’ Corner

What is your New Year’s resolution?

Gentry Byrd: To take pictures of things other than my dog. If you follow me on Instagram, you’ll understand.

Lauren Green: To cut back on Ramen, popcorn, and sleep deprivation.

Molly Tesch: To end my long-term relationship with my snooze button.

Jami Ballantine: To stop raiding the candy drawer, or at least refill it.

Beau Meyer: I, Beau, solemnly resolve to eat less candy, in good times and to prevent cavities. I promise to be true to opening the candy drawer less often, til restoration or root canal do us part.

Bhavna Pahel: To continue to resist Facebook.

Jenna: To wean myself off of my Diet Dr. Pepper IV-drip. And get more sleep. I can especially get on board with that last one.

Erica Brecher: To run less and eat more junk food

Scott Schwartz: To respond to emails from the chief resident more swiftly.
Continuing Education

October 23, 2015

Our fall CE offering of “Changing the Paradigm for Preventing and Managing Dental Caries: Using Everything We Know” was another great success with over 230 course participants. This course addressed the newest and most creative means of managing dental caries. Peter Milgrom, Professor, Oral Health Sciences, University of Washington (Seattle) and Timothy Wright, Bawden Distinguished Professor, University of North Carolina (UNC-CH) were the featured speakers. They reviewed current caries preventing protocols and also presented evidence to support the use of new medicaments in our continuing efforts to arrest dental caries.

Spring 2016

Friday, April 8, 2016
9:00 AM-4:30 PM

Our spring of 2016 CE offering is bringing back a venue that received enthusiastic praise a few years ago. The course is focused on clinically relevant and challenging issues and will feature five private practicing alumni of the UNC-CH pediatric dentistry residency program.

Registration and heavy continental breakfast begins at 8:30 AM
William and Ida Friday Continuing Education Center
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

The course is featuring UNC-CH pediatric dentistry alumni, LaRee Johnson (Raleigh), Dorothy Pang (San Francisco), Kate Pierce (Greensboro), Bill Chambers (Asheville) and Sigurdur Saemundsson (Iceland). These clinicians will be bringing their expertise to the debate about various caries risk assessment tools, the issue of prolonged breast feeding practices (including mothers who are having breast feeding problems and the indications for maxillary frenectomy), the use and challenges of Zirconium prefabricated crowns for primary teeth, development and maintenance of a harmonious practice environment, and a current review of sedation protocols and guidelines.

Register early and do not miss this excellent course with five engaging speakers!

As always, the course tuition includes the heavy continental breakfast at registration, two breaks with snacks and liquid refreshments, and a full lunch including the famous desert buffet at the Friday Center, and free parking!

Tuition:$285 dentist
$150 dental team members

Registration information for this CE offering can be obtained by calling the School of Dentistry Continuing Education Office (919)537-3400, or by going to the UNC School of Dentistry’s web page at www.dentistry.unc.edu/cde.

Fall 2016

Friday, October 7, 2016
9:00 AM-4:30 PM

“Review of Contemporary Issues Associated with Pediatric Conscious Sedation, Local Anesthetics and Management of Emergencies in the Pediatric Dental Office”

Registration and heavy continental breakfast begins at 8:30 AM
William and Ida Friday Continuing Education Center
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Dr. Stanley Malamed, national and internationally recognized authority on sedation, local anesthetics and emergency management, is returning to Chapel Hill. He always provides an interesting and stimulating course with up-to-date information that a practitioner will find extremely helpful. This course often sells out, so we encourage you to register early once registration opens up in the Summer of 2016.

As always, the course tuition includes the heavy continental breakfast at registration, two breaks with snacks and liquid refreshments, and a full lunch including the famous desert buffet at the Friday Center, and free parking!

Tuition:$285 dentist
$150 dental team members

The Department continues to seek identification of topics of interest to pediatric dentists, generalists and their staff who treat children. If you have a subject of special interest or a particular speaker to recommend, let us know and we will see what we can do to schedule the topic and/or speaker for a future CE course.
We had a nice visit recently from Tom Bouwens (2007) from Zeeland, MI, who was on hand to assist our Practice Management Course Director Michel Ignelzi (1992) of Greensboro with a day of teaching in the department. Tom’s UNC-earned MBA background is a nice asset for contemporary practice management topics. He was accompanied by spouse Teresa and they had children Gabe, Eli, and Lydia in tow for the Heels’ football and basketball games that weekend.

Kudos to Tegwyn Hughes Brickhouse (2002) of Richmond, VA who is the PI of a new $2.4 million federal grant awarded to the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) School of Dentistry. The grant will introduce an innovative new curriculum, purchase new dental technology, and build on its ongoing efforts to treat at-risk pediatric patients. Teg is Department Chair and Research Director in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at VCU.

Congrats to Ron Venezie (1994) of Apex who assumed the Presidency of the NCDS on January 1st, taking over the helm from Scott Cashion (1997) of Greensboro. GREAT job Scott! All the best for a smooth year, Ron!

December 5th, 2015, featured the 4th Gerdts Fat Ass 40-mile Run. This year’s course was on the NC Mountain-to-Sea Trail on the south banks of Falls Lake from Rolling View Marina in Durham to Falls Dam in Wake Forest, continuing on to the finish-line at the home of LaRee Johnson and James Gerdts, the Race Director. It was a gloriously beautiful day to watch the sun come up and go down! A good time was had by all the participants, including LaRee Johnson (1999), Jessica Lee (2002), Erica Brecher (2016), James Gerdts, Brad Brecher and Bill Vann (1976). No injuries!!

Edward Miller (1973), upgraded his US Coast Guard captain license to 50 ton Master with towing and sailing endorsements.

Congratulations to Shijia Hu (2015, PhD 2016) and Bien Lai (2011) who have announced their engagement to marry! Shijia gave Bien the beautiful diamond engagement ring on Christmas Eve! These two wonderful people have not set a date for the marriage ceremony but we will post it once known.

George Vadiakas (1991), and his family recently visited Chapel Hill. Pictured in the photo are George’s mother, Irene, his wife, Natassa and his children, Chronis and Vangelis.

Tim Wright recently had the pleasure of seeing Pattarawadee “Patti” Leelataweewud (1999) at the FDI World Dental Federation annual meeting in Bangkok, Thailand in September 2015. Patti was serving as one of the local hosts for the meeting. It was great to catch-up on her activities and accomplishments and see how she is serving in multiple leadership roles. She has become a Diplomate of both the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry and the Thai Board of Pediatric Dentistry. Patti is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at Mahidol University School of Dentistry (MUSOD) in Bangkok and serves as the Program Director of Pediatric Dentistry Major, Master of Science Program in Dentistry. She has served as Deputy Head of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry since 2013, and is the Assistant Dean of Education at the MUSOD. In addition, Patti has served as President of the Thai Society of Pediatric Dentistry since 2012. In 2011 she received the Outstanding Teacher Award Faculty Senate Prize from Mahidol University.

It is very satisfying to see our graduates providing leadership and service to advance pediatric dentistry and the oral health of children across the globe. Patti is a wonderful example of the success of our international graduates and the global influence they are having on pediatric dentistry. Tim enjoyed seeing all of his Thai friends while at the meeting, including his PhD mentee, Waleerat Sukarawan (AKA: Jaeb - seated on the left) who is a pediatric dentist and completed the UNC Oral Biology program, and Patti on his right.

(See Alumni and Friends on page 9)
Update on Residents and Fellows

Our current residents are:

**Fellows:**

- Shijia Hu BDS-Singapore
  BDS, National University, 2008
- Jacqueline Burgette-
  Massachusetts
  DMD- Harvard, 2010

**3rd Year:**

- Jenna Alvey-North Carolina
  DDS- UNC, 2010

- Erica Stutius Brecher-
  Massachusetts
  DMD-Tufts, 2013

- Scott Schwartz-Illinois
  DDS-University of Illinois -Chicago, 2012

**2nd Year:**

- Jami Ballantine—California
  DDS- University of Michigan, 2014

- Beau Meyer-Ohio
  DDS-The Ohio State University, 2014

- Bhavna Pahel—North Carolina
  DDS- University of North Carolina, 2014

**1st Year**

- Meredith Gentry Byrd—North Carolina
  DDS- University of North Carolina, 2015

- Lauren Green—North Carolina
  DDS-Medical College of South Carolina, 2015

- Molly Tesch—North Carolina
  DDS- University of North Carolina, 2014

Once again it seems that time has flown by and we finished the fall semester. Our first year residents, Molly, Gentry and Lauren are off to a great start wrapping up coursework and spending more time providing care in our graduate clinic. Many of you will see them at the SSPD meeting so please say “hello”. Our second year residents are now fully immersed in our clinical program and are excelling in all aspects of it. Jami, Beau, and Bhavna have begun their Chief Resident responsibilities and are treating patients in the operating room, the Hospital Dental Clinic and our graduate clinic. Beau is also immersed in his MPH coursework and had a stellar semester. Our third and fourth year residents continue to be excellent role models for their fellow residents and outstanding ambassadors for our program. Scott, Jenna and Erica are serving as graduate teaching assistants in our predoctoral clinics while spending the majority of their clinic time providing patient care through their rotations at the Durham County Health Department. In addition to the activities mentioned above, Jackie and Shijia also continue to work towards the completion of their PhD programs.

**Alumni and Friends continued from page 8**

Bob Cherry (DDS 2008, MS 2011) reports that the Coastal Carolina Pediatric Dentistry practice in Wilmington is doing great. The group will be opening an office in Leland soon to better serve their patients that live in Brunswick and other neighboring counties. He is happy to share that he recently became a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry. Bob and his wife, Stuart, have three children and all are doing well. Will loves to play basketball, soccer, tennis and golf (chip off the old block!). Charlotte loves art and using her creative side. Both are currently in an immersion program at school and are learning to read and write in Spanish. Bob and Stuart are trying to keep up! Davis, the youngest, loves anything that involves a ball or being outside.

Upon completion of his residency, Travis Hicks (DDS 2009, MS 2012) joined the Wake Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry Practice in Raleigh. He and his wife, Courtney, are happy to report that their son, Fisher, will be having a baby sister soon who is expected in May 2016. We are happy to report that Travis became a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry this past year. Travis shared that the practice and family keeps his life ever interesting and fun.

David and Allison Eggleston (DDS 2009, MS 2011) are expecting twins this spring!
Department Research Activities

The Department has a long history of conducting impactful research in a wide range of fields aimed to improve children’s oral health. Currently, we are involved in the areas of genetics, behavioral and health services research, education, and clinical studies. Faculty, residents, PhD students and dental students are all actively involved in interdisciplinary research projects.

Our first year residents, Gentry Byrd, Lauren Green, and Molly Tesch, have been busy investigating potential research project ideas. Of note, Gentry and Lauren will be pursuing MPH degrees at the Gillings School of Global Public Health and Molly will be working with Martha Ann Keels (1990) on a project related to “oral disease experience among children with special health care needs”.

Our second year residents, Jami Ballantine, Beau Meyer, and Bhavna Pahel have all made great progress in their research projects, and have presented their research protocols and update at school-wide and department events. Beau recently co-authored with Jessica Lee a high-profile invited commentary in the Journal of Dental Research with the title “The confluence of sugar, dental caries, and health policy.” Congratulations to Jami Ballantine who won a Task Force on Design and Analysis in Oral Health Research travel award to attend the first ADA Genomics Conference, at the ADA headquarters in Chicago.

Third-year residents, Jenna Alvey, Erica Brecher and Scott Schwartz, are in the final stretch before graduation. Jenna and Scott have already successfully defended their M.S. thesis and M.P.H research projects, respectively. Scott also represented the department at the prestigious American Public Health Association (APHA) meeting in Chicago, November 1-4, 2015 with an oral presentation. Jackie Burgette and Shijia Hu, who are enrolled in the Pediatric Dentistry certificate and PhD degree track, are also in the final stretch before graduation and anticipate defending their PhD theses in the spring!

Upcoming presentations at the American Association for Dental Research general session
The Department of Pediatric Dentistry will be well-represented at the upcoming AADR meeting in Los Angeles, March 2016. Gentry Byrd will be presenting a report from her research project with Rocio Quinonez (2000) titled “Predictors of primary care physicians addressing prenatal oral health”. Jami Ballantine will be presenting a preliminary report from her MS thesis project titled “Exploring the genetic basis of early childhood caries”. Her advisor is Kimon Divaris (2011).

Divaris receives new research grants
Great news! Kimon Divaris (2011), Associate Professor, received a five-year award from the National Institutes of Health/National Dental and Craniofacial Research Institute totaling $8.4 million called “Genome-Wide Association Study of Early Childhood Caries”, also known as “ZOE-Genes for Smiles (G4S).” ZOE-G4S is a large-scale genetic epidemiologic study of early childhood caries (ECC), the most common chronic disease of childhood and an important public health problem that is characterized by marked social, economic, and racial/ethnic disparities. This five-year project will investigate the genetic underpinning of ECC among a multi-ethnic community-based sample of approximately 9,000 preschool children in North Carolina. The ZOE-G4S project includes a trans-ethnic genome-wide association study for ECC and will examine the joint contribution of environmental, behavioral and genomic influences on early childhood oral health. The study’s results have the potential to identify important genomic factors that underlie oral health and disease, and can inform risk stratification and disease prediction for targeting susceptible groups or individuals with early, intensive caries-preventive protocols. School of Dentistry coinvestigators for ZOE-G4S include Gary Slade, John W. Stamm, and Andrea Zandonà. This multidisciplinary project includes investigators from the Gillings School of Global Public Health, Kari North, John Preisser and Danyu Lin.

Kimon also received a $50K pilot grant award from the NC Translational and Clinical Sciences (TraCS) Institute for a study titled “Who does what in the oral biofilm: the metagenome and metatranscriptome of early childhood oral health and disease.” The pilot study will investigate approximately 250 young, preschool children’s supragingival oral biofilm metagenome and metatranscriptome in states of healthy dentition and ECC. The study utilizes next-generation sequencing approaches for bacterial taxonomy (metagenomics) and function (bacterial gene expression via RNA sequencing) in the context of ECC. Upon successful completion, the study is expected to offer novel insights into key microbial-ecological events operating at the biofilm-tooth surface interface that are associated with this severe, dysbiotic disease.
My last conversation with Deah Barakat
Rocio Quinonez (2000)

From my door I heard: "Hi Dr. Q ..... I am going to be attending a refugee camp in Turkey this summer and we will be treating a lot of kids, so I wanted to see if Pedo can do something to help". I looked up and saw Deah at my door. While he was in a hurry, I asked what he had in mind. I was somewhat familiar with his plans since he had spoken in a course titled "Culture, Behavior and Communication" about his Syrian culture and home customs.

During our brief conversation in late January, 2015, I promised to speak to him more about our Baby Oral Health Program (bOHP). I also offered to share some of our materials to help provide education to many of the refugee families he planned to visit. Furthermore, I told him that he and his colleagues could attend one of our bOHP sessions to get the full training before leaving abroad in the summer. This was my last conversation with Deah Barakat.

Deah's death was a senseless tragedy that devastated our dental school community. There was time to ponder on the "why's" of this event, but really, moving forward was the only thing we could control. I recalled our conversation, and with some help from the dental students, I identified the pre-dent students planning to attend the summer refugee camps. We invited them to our bOHP training session in May and six students attended along with our rising senior DDS students. What a pleasure it was to have them present and honor Deah’s dream. Several weeks later, these pre-dental students headed to the Middle East where they used the information they learned to provide oral health education as part of the comprehensive dental care being delivered in these refugee camps.

Deah's legacy will live on forever! The school-wide service day orchestrated by the UNC dental students this past Fall was amazing. In his honor, our department chose to serve by training family medicine residents on the Prenatal Oral Health Program (pOHP), a cause that Deah had expressed interest. It is times like these that remind me that every day is a service day, and how humbled and honored I am to be part of our School of Dentistry community!

Excellence in Pediatric Dentistry Lecture Series Update

On November 13, 2015 Dr. Scott Cashion presented a very insightful seminar titled “Leadership, Organized Dentistry and Private Practice”. Scott completed his Pediatric Dentistry Graduate Program and MS degree ('97) at UNC Chapel Hill and is a North Carolina native. Scott has been heavily involved in leadership roles with the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and the North Carolina Dental Society (NCDS). He just finished serving as President of the NCDS and thus was able to share his unique perspective on how one maintains a vibrant private practice while taking on the significant challenges of private practice. This was a wonderful opportunity for our residents, our future leaders in training, to interact with a truly engaged leader in organized dentistry at the state and national levels.

The next speaker in our Excellence in Pediatric Dentistry Lecture Series will be Dr. Henry Fields who will talk about orthodontic management of the pediatric patient with an emphasis on trauma. Henry is well-known to UNC having served as Director of the UNC Graduate Pediatric Dentistry program and Associate Dean. Upon leaving UNC, Henry became Dean at The Ohio State University School of Dentistry and then became Chair of their Department of Orthodontics. We hope you will be able to join us for what will be an informative Excellence Lecture May 6th, 2016 at the UNC School of Dentistry.
Dr. Skip, Dr. Steph, and the Crew

The Tseng Family

The Spangler Family

The Cherry Family

Southern Village Pediatric Dentistry

The Miller Family

Drs. Mayhew, Scheffler, Conn, Hardaway and Team

The Rossitch Family

The Fetner Family

Pediatric Dentistry of Greensboro

The Gao Family
Gifts Support Excellence in Pediatric Dentistry

You can insure the future of pediatric dentistry in North Carolina and the nation by supporting the different professorships and resident fellowships in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at the University of North Carolina. Donations can be directed to your favorite fund listed on the Pledge Card below.

If you are interested in establishing a new fellowship fund and naming it in honor or memory of an individual, your donations can be directed to this named fund through the Dental Foundation of North Carolina, Inc., the UNC School of Dentistry’s nonprofit foundation.

Many individuals would like to make major gifts to UNC but cannot commit current assets for this purpose. Through a will you can make a more significant gift than you might have ever thought possible by designating a specific sum, a percentage or the residue of your estate to the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. There are many options for providing a bequest that will leave a legacy of support for excellence in pediatric dentistry. To learn more about starting a new fellowship or making a bequest, please contact Paul Gardner or Sarah Huppert at the Dental Foundation at (919) 537-3257 or by email at paul_gardner@unc.edu or sarah_andrews@unc.edu.

Dental Foundation Estate Planning Language

“I give, devise and bequeath ______ percent ( _____%) of my residuary estate [or, the sum of __________Dollars ($__________)] to The Dental Foundation of North Carolina, Inc. (the "Foundation"), located in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, for the unrestricted needs of the UNC Department of Pediatric Dentistry, or to establish ‘The __________________________ Fellowship Fund in Pediatric Dentistry.’ The Board of Directors of the Foundation shall treat this bequest as part of its endowment, and the income paid out of the Fund shall provide fellowship funding to the department’s residents.”

GIFT AND PLEDGE CARD

Yes! I want to make a gift of $_____ to the Dental Foundation of North Carolina to support graduate education in pediatric dentistry at UNC.

I prefer to make my gift in payments of $______ ❑ monthly ❑ quarterly ❑ annually for___ years.

Please use my gift for the:
❑ Vann Endowment Fund (4392) ❑ Pediatric Dentistry Fund, unrestricted (2062)  
❑ Tom McIver Fund (4373) ❑ Jack Menius Fund (2132)  
❑ Pediatric Graduate Program Endowment Fund (4338) ❑ Diane Dilley Fund (4360)  
❑ Sandy Marks Fund (2133) ❑ Ted Oldenburg Fund (2043)  
❑ Caldwell/Christensen Fund (4335)  

Payment by:
❑ Check made payable to the Dental Foundation of NC ❑ Visa ❑ MasterCard

Account #:_________________________________________ Exp. Date:________________

Signature:_________________________________________

Additionally, my company or my spouse’s company will match this gift. Enclosed is the company’s matching gift form.

For more information on the Dental Foundation of North Carolina or giving to the UNC School of Dentistry, please call 919-537-3257.
WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH YOU?

This Newsletter goes to more than 350 of our Department alumni and friends. We get many comments on how much everyone enjoys keeping up with friends and events through the Newsletter grapevine. But we need you to let us know what is going on in your lives so we can share. Please use this page to pass on news to us that we can include in our next publication! Also, pictures are greatly appreciated.

Please send us personal or professional news that may be of interest to alumni and friends of the Department.

Name______________________________________________
Year of program completion________
E-Mail Address ______________________________________

Send to: Catherine Campos- Dept. of Pediatric Dentistry CB #7450 - Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7450
Email Address: catherine_campos@unc.edu

News of interest:

Thanks!