College of Dentistry 5K

Dean Timothy Hottel

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The University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Dentistry is proud to announce that the following companies have provided support for this publication.

DELTA DENTAL OF TENNESSEE
PATTERSON DENTAL SUPPLY, INC.
Dear colleagues,

If the number of applicants nationwide is a measure of the dental profession, and it is, then dentistry is still one of the most sought-after careers available today! This trend is positive for the profession and each individual who is involved in the field of dentistry.

Thanks to the generous donations and support of our alumni and corporate partners, I am pleased to announce that the college has started several projects to enhance the education of our students. We are moving forward with the renovations to the fourth floor. Based on our current timeline, this pre-doctoral clinical floor is scheduled to be completed in early 2010, hopefully before our end of March CODA site visit. Other projects that are in the works are the PG pediatric clinic, the installation of a state-of-the-art cone beam technology, a second CT scan machine and much more. When you visit the school in the next year, please stop by and see our new modernized dental research laboratory on the ground floor and clinical research center on the third floor.

Research has taken on an increased presence with the hiring of our new Senior Executive Associate Dean for Research, Franklin Garcia-Godoy. Franklin brings a wealth of experience to UT and has been assigned to develop new sponsored research with our faculty and alumni alike. In the near future, each of you will see the name of your dental school in national publications – something that we can all be proud of.

In addition, we have just hired the first female chair in the long history of the UT College of Dentistry. Lina Cardenas, currently residing in San Antonio, will join us this September as the new chair of pediatrics and community dentistry. This is another milestone at the college and one that all of us can applaud. As great as the profession of dentistry is, there is still an issue with access to care across the nation. With the arrival of Lina, the college will move forward to do our part to provide our students with a greater appreciation and commitment to those in the community who are underserved.

Finally, as your new dean, I want to thank each of you who has extended a warm welcome to me. Special thanks for the support you are giving to me and to the UT College of Dentistry. It is an honor for me to be here in Tennessee as your dean.

Timothy L. Hottel, DDS, MS, MBA
Dean
UT College of Dentistry
Dear friends and colleagues,

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to share news of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center with you. During a recent meeting with a gubernatorial candidate, I was asked for a wish for our institution. As someone who has been associated with it for more than 52 years — I entered medical school on our Memphis campus in 1957 — I felt qualified to respond. I told the candidate that I hoped our almost century-old institution could be appreciated for its value to this community and state; that it would be recognized for its rich heritage as the state’s flagship organization for producing the state’s workforce of outstanding health care professionals; and that it could be more strongly supported in funding by our state leadership.

I would like to take this occasion to explain what we at the Health Science Center are doing to be worthy of this wish, as well as why now, more than ever, we need the community’s continued support to make it a reality. In a recent address to our faculty, I stressed that even in these uncertain financial times, our six colleges were educationally strong, making aggressive strides in research while being responsive to the health needs of our community and state. Many of us, including our students, are significantly engaged in community service. We as an institution have much for which to be grateful including the support from our hospital partners, foundations and community leaders. I believe we are making progress in telling the story of the Health Science Center — previously the best-kept secret in town.

Yet, these successes are not without trials. We are facing significant challenges as this global financial tsunami affects all of us at some level. In this current fiscal year, we have had a state base budget reduction totaling $7 million, which included the state-mandated reduction last July and a mid-year rescission last October of $4.5 million. We learned earlier in the year that the UT system would face a $66 million reduction in FY 09-10, our HSC’s part totaling more than $15 million.

Our plan to meet this budget cut includes a reduction in force of about 200 non-faculty positions, the elimination of about 300 vacant faculty and staff positions, and the merging, reduction or elimination of various programs. These decisions were based on whether or not the positions and programs were strategically critical to the mission of this institution. Importantly, the plan requires at least a 10 percent across-the-board tuition increase in order to maintain the integrity of all colleges here and across the state.

We will be receiving federal stimulus funds. However, these are only one-time funds that will provide us with an opportunity to better prepare ourselves to withstand the effects of the inevitable major budget reduction in July 2012. Over two years, we will receive approximately $30 million in stimulus funds. The funds will be very tightly controlled, including prohibiting use for salaries and capital outlay (new buildings). They may be used for renovation, modernization or repair of our facilities infrastructure, all sadly in great need.

Since we do not anticipate state funding for critical capital needs in the near future, we will seek funding from the State Bond Authority to allow us to carry debt service, which has to be paid back. We will use these borrowed funds to build a new research facility, as well as a new clinical facility. In addition to seeking funds from the State Bond Authority, we are developing creative means for advancing the progress of the institution including private philanthropy.

Though we face challenging times, we believe great opportunities for future restructuring of our Health Science Center have been created. We will be leaner but more efficient and effective in addressing our strategic missions. As we approach our centennial year — 2011 — we have defined our vision for the future and recently published a strategic plan titled, “The Future of Health Care Today ...” its subtitle, “Strategic Planning in a Time of Declining Resources.” We have reinforced the importance of our mission as the flagship campus dedicated to educating the state’s workforce of health care professionals.

We will be ever grateful for your support as we face the difficulties and opportunities ahead. Please keep us in your thoughts as we face these intensely challenging times. We in the Health Science Center family wish you all the best, and we welcome your insights and comments in the months to come.

Hershel P. Wall, MD
Chancellor
The UT Health Science Center
hwall@utmem.edu
Introducing UT Dentistry Dean

Dr. Timothy Hottel

by Sarah Phillips, D3

It seems that change has been the theme lately, not only on the national level, but also right here at the UT College of Dentistry. The college has been in the spotlight recently for its dilapidated facilities and low faculty to student ratio, and students are very concerned with changes such as steep tuition hikes and the reaccreditation due to take place in 2010. Additionally, fundraising has become more difficult due to the current economic climate, and the school is in desperate need of funding for necessary repairs, most of which are vital to the reaccreditation process. Needless to say, there is plenty going on around here. When Dr. Timothy L. Hottel was appointed to the position of dean in January, his hands were full from the first moment he sat down in his new office.

Dr. Hottel hasn’t been sitting down much since. He hit the ground running within his first few months, acquiring free disability insurance for all students in the clinic, drumming up future research possibilities, and tackling what he feels is the biggest problem at UT – the physical state of the Dunn Dental building. In a recent message to faculty, staff, and students, Dr. Hottel says he also plans to increase the faculty to student ratio in the near future, focusing on faculty “recruitment and retention.” He also highlights the positive points at the college including students’ favorable national performance on Parts One and Two of the boards.

Last week I was lucky enough to catch our busy new dean in his office long enough to ask him a few questions about UT, his plans for the college, and most importantly, himself.

Dr. Hottel strikes me as friendly and energetic, and he seemed more than happy to talk to me over his lunch break. His laid-back, easy-going personality does not suggest his long list of accomplishments which I thought was, well, pretty cool.

Dr. Hottel previously served as executive associate dean and chief financial officer, associate dean for academic and financial affairs, division chief for primary care, professor in the Department of Prosthodontics, and interim chair of the Department of Cariology and Restorative Dentistry at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He holds an associate’s degree, as well as a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Cleveland State University. He earned his DDS at Case Western Reserve, also in Cleveland, where he received a master’s in biomedical engineering. His MBA is from California Coast University, and he says, smiling, that he “almost has a PhD, too.” Dr. Hottel returned to the clinic at Case Western the day after graduation, and both taught and practiced dentistry full- or part-time for 26 years.

He is well known internationally for his work with implant dentistry, and travels the world giving lectures about his techniques. He adds that he likes to “work on my friends, you know, just for fun.”

Dean Hottel seems like a fun guy. Currently, his favorite movie is “Shrek” and his favorite television shows are “CSI Miami,” “NCIS,” and “24.” He considers MONEY magazine a good read (a quality that I can appreciate in a dean). He gave me his quickest answer when I asked him what his favorite sport is — baseball. He also participates in some pretty unique activities during his free time. Dr. Hottel enjoys being active in the Boy Scouts, where he is a merit badge counselor, and was happy to report that his son, following in his footsteps, recently became an Eagle Scout at 15 years of age. He also has three daughters.

In Florida, he volunteered his free time as a reserve police officer, something that he hopes to continue to do here in Memphis. He was also certified as a marine captain and enjoyed operating the police boat on the Intracoastal Waterway.

Although he has a fun-loving attitude, Dr. Hottel is serious about volunteerism. “Number one, I think everybody should give something back to the community,” he stated.

Improving the dental school is something that Dean Hottel is serious about. He feels that “students go out from here and do well,” and reemphasized that the crux of our problems as an institution is the physical condition of the school itself. This problem, he says, is “being addressed as we speak.”

His determination and enthusiasm are infectious, and when I left, I found myself feeling just a little more optimistic than when I walked in. Although there is much work to be done in the coming months, I am assured by another statement made by the dean in his recent message to the college. “I look forward to working with the faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends to continue the rich heritage of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Dentistry.”
The UT College of Dentistry Admissions Office would like to thank our alumni for the support and encouragement given to perspective applicants. We appreciate the guidance you offer students interested in pursuing a career in dentistry. The 2008-2009 admissions cycle has been very busy for the faculty, dental students and private practitioners serving on the admissions committee. The selection process becomes more challenging as the applicant pool becomes more impressive. Below is a profile of the 2008-2009 application cycle.

### 2009 Admission Cycle

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<td>GRE Scores</td>
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Perspective students should note the following timeline for applicants to the UT College of Dentistry. Interested candidates are encouraged to apply early. Electronic applications are available online at www.utmem.edu. Printed applications will not be accepted.

### 2010 Application Timeline

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DENTISTRY Summer 2009 7
**President Petersen Steps Down, Simek Named Interim**

On February 27, the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees accepted John Petersen’s resignation as president and appointed Jan Simek as acting president.

In his farewell address to the board, Dr. Petersen looked back at the challenges facing him when he was hired in 2004, thanked his staff and offered encouragement as the university faces serious budget reductions.

“We’ve got the spirit. We’ve got the vision. We’ve got the plan. We’ve got the opportunity even though these are tough times,” Dr. Petersen said.

Dr. Simek was acting president March 1 through June 30 while Dr. Petersen was on administrative leave with pay. Dr. Simek became interim president on July 1 and will serve a term not to exceed two years.

Board Vice Chair Jim Murphy commended Dr. Petersen for accomplishing the tasks set before him when he was hired: restoring confidence with the governor, legislators, alumni and donors; filling leadership vacancies; maximizing UT’s relationship with Oak Ridge National Laboratory; and increasing fundraising. “He succeeded in all priorities we set. Now he has decided to take another course,” Murphy said. “We thank him for his devotion to the university.”

Dr. Simek, a distinguished professor of anthropology, has been at UT Knoxville since 1984. Previously, he was interim chancellor in Knoxville.

**Omicron Kappa Upsilon Annual Convocation**

On April 14, the Psi Chapter of Omicron Kappa Upsilon held its Annual Convocation at the Chickasaw Country Club in Memphis. Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU), is a national dental honor society formed in 1914 by the dental students of Northwestern University School of Dentistry, with the blessing of their dean, Dr. Green Vardiman Black. Chartered in 1929, the UT College of Dentistry’s Psi Chapter celebrates 80 years of association with the Supreme Chapter this year. Also making this year special is the election of Psi Chapter member and UT associate dean of Clinical Affairs, Dr. Lloyd George, president of the Supreme Chapter.

Nine members of the Class of 2009 were initiated as members of OKU. Graduating students are selected from the upper 20 percent of the graduating class and from this group no more than nine students can be inducted. In addition to scholarship, students are selected based on character and potential for future professional growth and attainment.

The 2009 student inductees are Erica Wood Armstrong, Elysia Parham Belva, Mary Ellen Dobbs, Kristin Erin Domboski, James Michael Galles, Leah Hastings Gordon, Katherine Ann Hart, Brandi Marie Hodge, and Katherine Bodford Malone. Senior Leah Gordon received the Psi Chapter Alumni Award and third-year dental student Kevin Kennedy received the Dr. William S. Kramer Award. Both awards were given in recognition of having the highest GPA for each respective class. In addition, Dr. Kenneth Mark Anderson, Department of Biologic and Diagnostic Services, was inducted as a faculty member and Dr. Betsy D. Barcroft, UT class of 1988, was presented with an honorary membership for her volunteer work with children.

A special thank you to Komet USA, LLC and WhipMix Corp. for their generous sponsorship of the Annual Convocation.
Defining the Best in Health Care

On May 29th at the FedEx Forum UTHSC held its 98th graduation, with 614 students collecting their health care credentials. The commencement ceremonies were conducted and degrees conferred by Chancellor Hershel P. Wall. Alongside the graduates being honored were nine of the university’s professors who were awarded endowments for various chairs and professorships.

The ceremony also featured Methodist Healthcare CEO Gary Shorb as the guest speaker. Commenting on the relationship between Methodist and UT, Shorb called the partnership “mutually beneficial and key to us achieving our vision of being the best.” In his speech he stressed Methodist Le Bonheur’s important link to UTHSC saying, “When you look at the top 25 hospitals in the country, every one is owned by, or affiliated with, a strong academic enterprise committed to research, education and clinical care.” Shorb described for the graduates the three features that he believes separate good health care professionals from great ones: collaboration, compassion and giving back to the community. “These are true regardless of what happens with health care reform, and I am confident at this point no one knows what that will look like. We will have reform but these traits will still define the best.”

Shorb highlighted the ability to work and be part of a team, the desire to foster open communication and mutual respect. He praised those who use collaboration to truly provide outstanding care because they work in tandem not just with the health care team but with the families of their patients. Collaborators always take time with their patients and their families. Collaborators recognize that “many are smarter than one and they take advantage of the collective intellect of the team.”

Great health care professionals also consistently demonstrate compassion. He said that all of the graduates “possess a certain level of compassion just by choosing health care as your life’s profession. Ultimately for patients and their families, it is our compassion that helps them through difficult times…Sometimes small but thoughtful gestures are all that’s needed.” He relayed the story of a palliative care nurse whose compassion for patients and their loved ones made it possible for a couple who had been married for 64 years to share a final photo together even though one was wheelchair bound and the other bed-ridden.

The final trait he ascribed to all great health care professionals is the ability and willingness to give back. He named Church Health Center founder Dr. Scott Morris as an example of someone who created a way for himself and dozens of other health care professionals to give back to the Memphis community. With some 60,000 patients who would not be able to afford traditional health coverage, the Church Health Center and its more than 600 volunteers play a vital role in serving Memphis families. Shorb then mentioned a certain pediatrician who has organized the scheduling of volunteers for the Church Health Center for the past 21 years. And when volunteers can’t be found, that physician takes on the work himself. That volunteer and organizer is UTHSC Chancellor Pat Wall whom Shorb referred to as a “magnificent professional…We are all pleased and grateful for what he’s done for our community.”

The nine UTHSC faculty members whose dedication and diligence earned endowed professorships or chairs received special hoods and certificates to commemorate their honors.

- Samuel E. Dagogo-Jack, MD – A.C. Mullins Professorship in Translational Research
- Matthew Ennis, PhD – Simon R. Bruesch Professorship in Anatomy
- James C. Fleming, MD, FACS – Philip M. Lewis Professorship in Ophthalmology
- Donna K. Hathaway, PhD – Ruth Neil Murry Chair in Nursing
- Natalie C. Kerr, MD, FACS – Roger L. Hiatt Professorship in Ophthalmology
- Abbas E. Kitabchi, MD, PhD – Maston K. Callison Professorship
- Giancarlo Mari, MD – Baptist Memorial Healthcare Clinical Professorship in Maternal/Fetal Medicine
- Guy L. Reed, MD – Lemuel W. Diggs Professorship in Medicine
- Robert W. Williams, PhD – Governor’s Chair in Computational Genomics

Each of the 614 graduates and the nine faculty members who crossed the stage to be recognized and to shake hands with the leadership of the university has made a commitment to being a resource – a commitment to improving the lives of others. And although the new graduates and faculty are in very different phases of their careers, that shared commitment to the well-being and health of others is the tie that binds.
**UT a Partner in Volunteer State Solar Initiative**

The University of Tennessee will join Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the Tennessee Valley Authority as a partner in Governor Phil Bredesen’s proposed Volunteer State Solar Initiative.

UT and ORNL will be home to The Tennessee Solar Institute, one of two projects in the proposed $62.5 million initiative subject to U.S. Department of Energy approval. The Tennessee Solar Institute would receive $31 million of that funding to focus on basic research to improve solar product affordability and efficiency. Also proposed in the initiative is the West Tennessee Solar Farm near Brownsville. This five-megawatt 15-acre power generation facility at the Haywood County industrial mega site will serve as a demonstration tool for educational, research and economic-development purposes.

“Together, UT and Oak Ridge National Laboratory have an unmatched collection of resources and assets,” said UT Acting President Jan Simek. “It’s exciting to consider what we may be able to achieve – for this state, for Tennesseans, and for the energy economy – by putting all of these extraordinary resources to work.”

“With our statewide mission and reach, we are especially proud that UT is helping bring economic development and opportunity to Haywood County in rural West Tennessee.”

ORNL Director Thom Mason added, “Tennessee is taking advantage of a unique opportunity to become a national leader in the solar industry. By leveraging all of the state’s assets on the single goal of making solar energy more affordable, there is a good chance that the Solar Institute will help bring even more jobs to Tennessee.”

Funding for the proposed comprehensive solar-energy and economic-development program would come from federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds to advance job creation, education, research and renewable-power production in Tennessee.

**UTHSC Mourns Loss of Emeritus Vice Chancellor**

William “Bill” Robinson, 79, Emeritus Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis, died on April 29 at Baptist Memorial Hospital after a long battle with pulmonary fibrosis.

Bill and Sylvia, his wife of 43 years, came to Memphis in 1962 when Bill was hired by the UT Medical Units as assistant director of Student Welfare. That launched a 36-year career with the university which had numerous highlights including the six year design, planning, and building of the Wassell Randolph Student-Alumni Center and Fitness Center, which Bill then had the responsibility for managing.

He was later appointed vice chancellor for Student Affairs and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1998. Upon his retirement, the university honored him by naming the school’s athletic facility (gymnasium, swimming pool, exercise facilities and racquetball courts) the “William C. Robinson Student Recreation Center.”

“During his decades here, Bill was better known than any other member of the Health Science Center staff,” stated Chancellor Hershel P. Wall. “Naming the athletic building after him was a lasting and appropriate tribute for his many contributions to this university. For years Bill was, for students in all of the colleges, the face of the university while they studied here.”
On May 30, Chancellor Hershel P. Wall and his wife Jean welcomed “American Idol” Top 10 contestant Lil Rounds (center) to the Memphis campus for the Campaign for Tennessee Celebration. That evening the university announced that it has raised $99,585,662 or 77 percent of its $130 million goal. The funds are part of the five-year $1 Billion Campaign for Tennessee. The UT system total when this issue went to press was more than $852 million.

Campaign for Tennessee Celebration a Success

The Regional Biocontainment Laboratory (RBL) held its ribbon cutting ceremony in June. The event was attended by Congressman Steve Cohen, as well as representatives from the City of Memphis Office of the Mayor, the Shelby County Health Department, and the National Institutes of Health. The RBL is the first complete building on the UT-Baptist Research Park with the Pharmacy Building following close behind. That six-story, 192,000-square-foot building is targeted for completion in the spring of 2010.

Hamilton Eye Institute Receives Final Touches

In August, the UT Health Science Center celebrated the unveiling of the completed Hamilton Eye Institute.

After a three-phase project starting in 2004, the Hamilton Eye Institute unveiled the signage of its 60,000-square-foot facility located at 930 Madison Avenue. Later that same month a hand-crafted bronze bust of the two HEI benefactors – Ralph S. Hamilton, MD, and his wife Barbara Howell Hamilton – was revealed. The unveilings marked the final touches to the Hamilton Eye Institute and was a celebration honoring the Hamiltons for their lifelong work and dedication in the field of ophthalmology.

The HEI space includes the Hyde Glaucoma Center, a surgery center, a general adult eye care clinic, subspecialty care clinics, a pediatric eye clinic, a wet lab for surgical instruction, a distance learning suite, and an ambulatory surgery center. Medical libraries and resource centers for physicians and patients are also housed in the building. The third floor contains an educational facility with a 99-seat auditorium.

RBL Completed, Construction Continues on Pharmacy Building

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“What a year at the MidSouth Dental Congress!” said event general chairman Dr. Fred Heros. Just like all conferences and events across the county, the MSDC planning committee was a little worried about how the economy would affect registration numbers at the 2009 Congress. “But WOW! We had no need to worry,” said Heros. “We didn’t skip a beat and once again, the College of Dentistry will benefit financially from another successful MidSouth Dental Congress.”

The MidSouth Dental Congress committee prides itself on offering quality continuing education courses that advance the growth and development of the dental profession – all while allowing doctors, spouses and staff an excellent opportunity for fellowship and fun. This year was no exception. The planning committee pulled together a dynamic and informative group of speakers. The 2009 line-up included Amy Kirsch, Dr. Stanley Malamed, Pam Smith, Dr. Michael Miller, Dr. Gary Hartwell, Dr. Jay Ragain, Laney Kay, Dr. Morris Robbins, Dr. Ruth Mulvaney and Dr. Pam Ritzline, offering a wide range of courses for those in attendance. Additionally, UT College of Dentistry faculty members, Drs. Steven Cloyd and James Simon offered hands-on courses on the UT Health Science Center campus.

“The success of the MidSouth Dental Congress is due largely to the support of our sponsors,” says Heros. “We are grateful to Delta Dental of Tennessee, Oral Arts Laboratories, Patterson Dental Supply, Henry Schein Dental, Delta Dental of Arkansas, Nashville Dental and Zimmer, Inc. for their generous contributions and continuous support of the MidSouth Dental Congress and the College of Dentistry.” Thanks to the generosity of Oral Arts Laboratories, the Welcome Party continues to be a highlight of the weekend. Several attendees won cash prizes and Dr. Marilyn Poteet Langford was the lucky recipient of a $1,000 travel certificate. The exhibit hall also contributes greatly to the success of the Congress. Many attendees make purchases during the Congress or make contacts they carry back with them to their offices.

During the weekend, the College of Dentistry Alumni Association presented Dr. John H. Sullivan ('69) and Dr. James B. Summitt ('71) with the Outstanding Alumni Awards during the Alumni Awards and Reunion Luncheon. Many attendees participated in their class reunion activities Friday and Saturday evenings. The classes of 1959 were honored with a dinner where they received their 50-year pins and certificates. The “Golden Grads” were also treated to a tour of the UTHSC and the College of Dentistry by Dr. Mark Patters, associate dean of Academic and Institutional Affairs.

Don’t miss out next year! Join us in Memphis on March 5-7, 2010 for the 15th Annual MidSouth Dental Congress. You won’t find a better deal in dental education. Catch up with classmates, make new friends and attend cutting-edge continuing education courses. Visit www.midsouthdentalcongress.com for details.
Golden Graduates 1959

March 1959
TOP ROW
Joe Rainey
James Cantrell
John Cavalaris
Jim Ross
BOTTOM ROW
William Campbell
Kenneth Mills
C. Barton Haggard

June 1959
Jack Stewart
Harris Pittman
Ken Carver
Joe Kimmons
James Finley

September 1959
TOP ROW
Perry McGinnis
Ken Lovern
George Edwards
Sam Longley
BOTTOM ROW
Tracy Moser
Jesse Overall
Reuben Pelot

December 1959
TOP ROW
Jim Woods
Charles Purifoy
Dave Wolfe
George Culbreath
Hobart Beale
BOTTOM ROW
William Brooke
Gage Boyd
Bob McAlexander
Bill Watson
Don Ford
Jeffrey Brooks, DMD

Jeffrey Brooks, DMD, received his Doctor of Medical Dentistry degree from the University of Mississippi in 1988, graduating Summa Cum Laude; whereupon he attended the University of Tennessee residency training program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery from 1988 to 1992. Dr. Brooks currently is a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. He has always had a love of teaching and has felt a great sense of gratification in fulfilling this desire at the University of Tennessee where he was trained.

Dr. Brooks has over 16 years of private practice experience as well as extensive experience with technological advancements surrounding dentistry. He is renowned in the Cone Beam CT field having hands-on experience with this technology by utilizing it in the treatment of patients. He is currently employed by the world leader in the Cone Beam CT market, PracticeWorks, a division of the Kodak corporation, in their 3D division. Dr. Brooks brings a new dimension to the scope of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery residency training program with his unique skill set.

Peter M. Di Fiore, DDS, MS

Peter M. Di Fiore, DDS, MS, a native of New York, received his BA from Hunter College, City University of New York, and his DDS from New York University College of Dentistry where he was inducted into Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society. After graduation, Dr. Di Fiore served two years in the United States Army Dental Corps at Fort Ord in Monterey, Calif. Upon his return to New York he practiced as an associate on Long Island and then moved to Bangor, Maine.

Dr. Di Fiore was the first public health dentist for the City of Bangor Dental Clinic practicing Pediatric Dentistry before going into his own private practice in General Dentistry and becoming active in professional organizations and community activities in Bangor. He then relisted in the Army and served as a general dentistry officer and later went on to complete the U.S. Army endodontic residency at Walter Reed and Madigan Army Medical Centers earning a certificate in Endodontics and a MS degree in oral biology from George Washington University. Specialty certification as a diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics followed a few years after completing his advanced education in endodontics.

Dr. Di Fiore served as chief of Endodontics at all of his assignments at U.S. Army state side posts as well as in Germany. After 20 years of active military service he retired from the army and assumed his first university academic position right here at the UT College of Dentistry. This very positive teaching experience stimulated his academic curiosity about positions in advanced education and subsequently he moved to Chicago to assume a position as chair of the Endodontic Division and director of graduate endodontics at Northwestern University.

With the closure of Northwestern University Dental School, he moved on to teach at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, the University of Medicine and Dentistry in Newark, New Jersey, and then back to his alma mater, New York University College of Dentistry as director of predental endodontics. But there was still another circle yet to be completed, all the way back to the place where his university academic career began almost 15 years ago, with good colleagues and friends at the University of Tennessee.

Although Dr. Di Fiore was an avid runner completing seven marathons over the years, he now leaves them for his daughter Justine, who lives in Minneapolis, Minn. His son Shawn lives in Eugene, Ore. where he is the proprietor of the Museum of Unfine Art and Record Store.
World-famous researcher, Franklin Garcia-Godoy, DDS, MS, has been appointed as the senior executive associate dean for Research. He has earned his reputation through his impressive and unsurpassed comprehensive and voluminous clinical and scientific contributions to oral health research. Moreover, because of his dedication, enthusiasm and tireless efforts to educate and to train high-quality dentists. He has mentored several thousand dental students in educational institutions across the world. He has also trained several hundred postdoctoral dental residents, many of whom have become distinguished dentists, researchers and educators. Several of his postdoctoral residents have won national and international awards for their research accomplishments.

Dr. Garcia-Godoy has published more than 500 abstracts, book chapters and original scientific peer-reviewed dental research publications. He is the editor of the American Journal of Dentistry, and associate editor of several other significant dental journals. He is a member of the National Institutes of Dental and Craniofacial Research Advisory Panel, and the dental materials evaluation standards committee of the American Dental Association. Dr. Garcia-Godoy is the author of Primary Preventive Dentistry, the leading text book for pediatric dentists. He is the current president of the International Association for Dental Research Cariology Group, and current president of the Society for the Regulation in Biology and Medicine. He was the founding president of the Hispanic Dental Association. In addition, Dr. Garcia-Godoy was the past or present board member, office bearer, or member of more than 35 professional dental associations and dental groups.

Dr. Garcia-Godoy currently holds $3.5 million in federal, industrial and professional research grants. His research encompasses the development of improved professional dental products, in addition to clinical testing of personal dental products. He has also been responsible for several clinical trials to deliver primary care and secondary preventive care for vulnerable patients and underserved infants, children, adults, and the elderly. He currently holds a $1 million federal research grant to develop new improved worldwide biocompatibility screening standards. Dr. Garcia-Godoy organized the world’s first Regenerative Endodontics conference in 2007. He has recently been directing stem cell and regenerative dental research to help shape the future of dental practice.

UT Dentistry Dean Timothy Hottel said that the appointment of Dr. Garcia-Godoy will bring increased international recognition, prestige, academic excellence and outstanding research success to the UT College of Dentistry. “I am certain Dr. Garcia-Godoy will prove to be popular with our students and faculty because he brings exciting research opportunities and the mentorship needed to shape the future of dental practice. Our students, patients and the community we serve will all benefit from his work at UT.”

Dr. Garcia-Godoy and his wife Katherine have two sons; Franklin, who is a medical doctor doing a residency in surgery in Philadelphia, and Alexander, who will be a first-year student at UT College of Dentistry.

Molly Rosebush, DDS, MS

Molly Rosebush, DDS, MS, joined the UT College of Dentistry faculty in August 2008 as an assistant professor in the Department of Biologic and Diagnostic Sciences. She completed her advanced training and MS in oral and maxillofacial pathology at The Ohio State University in June 2008 and became a diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology in September 2008. A native of Michigan, Dr. Rosebush received a BS in biology from Duke University in 2000, then returned home to complete her DDS at the University of Michigan in 2005.

Dr. Rosebush divides her time at UT in both the divisions of Oral Diagnosis and Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology. She enjoys working with student doctors in both the clinic and classroom environments and participates in the microscopic diagnosis of biopsy specimens through the Oral and Maxillofacial Diagnostic Services. Dr. Rosebush was a speaker at the 2009 Mid-South Dental Congress and participates in community health fairs in the Memphis area. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology and a member of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies.

Dr. Rosebush and her husband Ryan enjoy traveling and outdoor activities. They live on Mud Island with their dog Cayman and are enjoying the Mid-South climate and downtown Memphis scene.
In January 2009, Terry Trojan, DDS, MS, became a new, full-time member of the faculty in the Department of Orthodontics where he serves as clinic director.

His journey from Albany, Ga., to the UT College of Dentistry was a long one, especially when Dubai was the original destination. Dr. Trojan received an invitation to apply for a teaching position within the United Arab Emirates. The possibility led him to call a long-time friend and UT Dentistry department chair Dr. Jim Vaden, who promptly said, “Why would you want to go to Dubai? If you want to teach, you need to look at the position I am trying to fill here at UT.”

So, after 30 years of practice in Albany followed by four years of retirement, Dr. Trojan gave in to an itch that had not been scratched for almost 40 years. His 89-year-old mother’s comment sealed the deal. She said, “It’s about time you did that, Terry! I was wondering how long it would take you to realize you should be teaching.”

Dr. Trojan is a 1970 graduate of the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. After two years in the Navy, he returned to Ann Arbor and completed his orthodontic residency in 1974. He has served in many positions representing his specialty including president of the Georgia Association of Orthodontics and director, Southern Association of Orthodontics. He is a member of the American Dental Association, American Association of Orthodontists, American College of Dentists and International College of Dentists. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics and member of the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics. Dr. Trojan has presented lectures at annual meetings of the Southern Association of Orthodontists and to groups in California on integration of computer systems in a private practice environment. He implemented a paperless practice system in his Albany and Leesburg, Ga., offices in 1999.

During his four years of retirement, which he now refers to as his sabbatical, Dr. Trojan developed an interest and expertise in the intricacies of beach restoration. He chaired the committee Citizens for Healthy Beaches, which served to educate the public and to interact with city, county, state and federal entities to acquire the permits and funding needed to accomplish the restoration of storm-damaged beaches in the Destin, Fla., vicinity. He says, “without a doubt that process is definitely more difficult than pulling teeth.”

Dr. Trojan (who prefers the name Dr. T or just “T”) is excited about the opportunity to participate in the training of future generations of orthodontists. He hopes he can impart an appreciation for the continual pursuit of excellence in both knowledge and skill that will allow his students to provide excellence in the treatment of their patients. He hopes that all graduates will carry with them an understanding of orthodontics and a knowledge that will allow them to communicate freely with the orthodontists who share in the treatment of their patients.

Dr. T and his wife Bev are excited about living in a larger metropolitan area. Their interests and hobbies include frequent travel, gardening, hiking, camping, sailing and spending time with their two sons’ families, which include four grandchildren, residing in Portland and Eugene, Ore.

Wei-Chang Yeh, DDS, MDS, was born in Taipei, Taiwan. He received his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from the Taipei Medical University. He then enrolled in the orthodontic specialty master’s degree program at Taipei Medical University.

Following his residency training, Dr. Yeh became an associate in a private practice for five years. In 2008, he completed his second orthodontic residency in advanced education in biomechanics at the University of Connecticut. As an instructor and researcher in orthodontics, Dr. Yeh is especially interested in multidisciplinary cases, TMJ, biomechanics and facial esthetics.

Dr. Yeh will join the Department of Orthodontics as a full-time faculty member at the UT College of Dentistry this summer. He is delighted to be a part of the UT family and the warm and friendly Southern atmosphere.
The Most Unselfish Gift

““The most unselfish and unique gift one can give higher education is to donate your body to medical science,” said Randall J. Nelson, PhD, professor and director of the Anatomy Bequest Program at the UT Health Science Center.

Dr. Nelson, who has taught gross anatomy to first-year medical and physical therapy students and now teaches dental students, explained, “The human body can’t really be replicated in plastic or even on the computer.” Part of what students learn in the process of dissecting a human body is that each has very subtle, some not-so-subtle differences. “Realizing that the actual human body does not necessarily fit the textbook description is the best educational experience for treating real-world patients,” Dr. Nelson added.

Todd Smith, DDS, alumnus and former instructor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry of the College of Dentistry, had this to say about his experience as a dental student in gross anatomy: “It’s of paramount importance to get hands-on experience. Books can only do so much and the fact is, not all are textbook bodies. For example everybody’s nerves don’t run in the same places.”

“The gross anatomy class is one of the first chances students have to be clinicians,” noted Dr. Nelson. “This class sets students apart from every other discipline.”

People who have ever considered donating their body to science might also consider that it is one gift that does, quite literally, keep on giving. “Each student can play a role in saving lives. If each saves just 10 lives in his or her career or trains 10 students, they have parlayed one donation into impacting hundreds of lives,” Dr. Nelson conjectured.

“The wonder in students is incredible,” added Dr. Nelson, pointing out that students of the health care professions have been learning directly from the human body for more than 100 years.

“The students’ relationship with the cadaver is an intimate one,” recalled Dr. Smith. “We’re with the body every day, and we learn from day one to respect the person who gave their body so we can learn.”

“Most students refer to the cadavers as ‘patients,’” said Dr. Nelson. “In the past, some students have given their patient a memorial service and are very sad to finish the course.”

In the fall approximately 155 medical students are in the gross anatomy class. Spring semester finds 80 dental students, as well as 55 to 70 physical therapy, occupational therapy students and nursing students in the labs. In total, six gross anatomy labs can accommodate eight cadavers each.

With the growing need for health care professionals, larger classes in most of the UT Health Science Center colleges are planned. “We would like to be able to offer more students in more disciplines the experience of the gross anatomy lab today,” noted Dr. Nelson. “The greater challenge will be in the future.”

All of the literature on donating one’s body for medical teaching and research encourages the donor to give the idea a great deal of thought. Discussion with family members, clergy, the family physician and an attorney is encouraged.

The UT Health Science Center operates within the framework of Tennessee laws, which provide for and clarify the rights of those who wish to donate all or parts of their bodies after death to medical science. The administrator of the anatomical bequest program is a licensed funeral director and embalmer. An anatomical diener maintains the lab in appropriate order.

Persons wishing to find out more about donating their bodies to the UT Health Science Center can contact: Anatomy Bequest Program, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, 855 Monroe Avenue, Memphis, TN 38163, or call (901) 448-5978 before 5 p.m. or after 5 p.m., page a Bequest Program representative at (901) 448-2640. Information is online at: http://www.utmem.edu/anatomy-neurobiology/index.php?doc=ABP.htm.
The ninth annual Commencement to Clinical Practice Ceremony for the University of Tennessee College of Dentistry took place on July 18, 2008, in the Hyde Chapel on the Memphis University School campus. This event celebrated the dental class of 2010's achievement of completing the first two years of dental school and the beginning of their clinical rotations.

The Commencement to Clinical Practice Ceremony, also known as the “White Coat Ceremony,” emphasizes the humanistic values of compassion and caring. The white coat has come to symbolize a commitment to caring for patients, not just by curing disease and enhancing health, but by respecting patients and providing quality patient care.

The College of Dentistry Alumni Association donated the funds for the white coats. “We are proud to support such an important event,” stated Alumni Association President Becky Barton, DDS. “We want to encourage our future dentists to embrace the ideals of the dental profession, including ethics and morality.”

Former Tennessee Governor and UT College of Dentistry alumnus Winfield Dunn, DDS, served as guest speaker. The college provided each third-year student with a copy of Gov. Dunn’s book From a Standing Start – My Tennessee Political Odyssey. Gov. Dunn signed the books with a personal inscription to each student.

Undergraduate members of the American Association of Women Dentists (AAWD) recently held the Senior Tea event honoring senior members. This special event was held at the home of Dr. James and Mary Simon in Memphis.

The UT Chapter of AAWD was formed to foster mutual support among female dental students and to provide a personal, social and professional association with women dentists.
UT Dental Students Win Hinman Scholarships

UT dental alum Jason A. Blair (08’) and recent graduate Katherine Bodford Malone (’09) were awarded scholarships from the Hinman Dental Society. The awards were announced at the 96th Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting last year in Atlanta.

The Hinman Dental Society provided scholarships and gifts totaling more than $250,000 to 89 dental, dental hygiene, laboratory technician and dental assisting students at 36 southeastern colleges and universities, as well as dental education groups and clinics. Hinman scholarship recipient schools are located in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

The Hinman Dental Society has promoted continuing education in the dental profession since 1912. It began granting scholarships to dental students in 1986, adding dental hygiene students to the program in 1989, laboratory technician students in 2003 and dental assisting students in 2005. Recipients of the scholarships are selected by the dean or director of each school’s dentistry, dental hygiene, laboratory technician and dental assisting department. They also must be junior student members of the American Dental Association, as well as in the top 10 percent of their class.

Students Assist at Sisterhood Showcase

On June 6 and 7, the UT College of Dentistry was on hand at the 14th Annual Sisterhood Showcase to focus on health and wellness. Crowds of mostly women and children stopped by a well-staffed booth consisting of UT Health Science Center dentists, professors, staff and students to receive free dental screenings and referrals. In addition, participants were given toothbrushes, floss and brochures on oral health.

This year the team conducted 643 dental screenings, which surpassed last year’s total of 531. A dental screening is an inspection of the mouth to see if there are any oral/dental problems.

Children were excited to be seen by the dental professionals. “The most common problems that children have are tooth decay (caries) and misguided tooth eruption,” said third-year UT dental student Valentine Emechete. Valentine was present both days to assist the rest of the faculty and staff.

Adults who stopped by the booth showed genuine concern for their oral health. That concern was met by the attention and thorough knowledge of the team. “They are always so nice and seem so concerned,” whispered a participant as she walked away from the College of Dentistry booth with her mother and daughter. This is the fifth year the 27-year-old mother of three has attended the showcase and she said she visits the booth every year.

Serving the Community

Throughout the year, members of the UT College of Dentistry Chapter of the Student National Dental Association (SNDA) participate in various community health fairs. The SNDA is committed to raising oral health awareness in the Memphis area.
Tennessee Smiles: UT Grassroots Oral Health Outreach Initiative, a community outreach program based at the UT College of Dentistry, has made a habit of putting smiles on the faces of citizens of the Mid-South. Tennessee Smiles members provide complimentary oral health screenings and oral health information at local health fairs throughout the area. Armed with an array of donated dental care products and oral health educational tools, the grassroots initiative often serves those in the community who have fallen between the cracks.

Initiated by Waletha Wasson, DDS, associate professor in the Department of Endodontics and Operative Dentistry, the program has performed dental screenings and spread awareness of the importance of oral health to more than 5,000 citizens at approximately 140 community events since 2003. “We are all about serving the community and making sure that the citizens of Tennessee understand that the mouth is the first portal of entry and you have to make sure that it stays healthy. Oral health care is the genesis of complete health care," explains Dr. Wasson.

Many of the citizens cared for by Tennessee Smiles have never had a dental screening. “Many people have no idea of the extent of their problems, which are often asymptomatic. These health fairs are an opportunity for us to give them insight,” says member Molly Rosebush, DDS, MS, assistant professor in the Department of Biologic and Diagnostic Sciences. Most commonly found are dental decay, gum disease, and even oral cancer.

In addition to spreading oral health awareness and performing screenings, Tennessee Smiles members also serve as ambassadors of the dental profession and the UT College of Dentistry. Younger attendees are encouraged to become leaders in their community by distributing samples and teaching the oral care behaviors learned at the events to their family and friends. Limited reach media and discussions are also provided and designed to plant a seed to consider the dental field as a career choice.

Information about the UT College of Dentistry dental clinic is also available at the events. Many of the citizens are pleased to know they have dental health care options and can receive quality care from student doctors at the centrally located Dunn Dental building clinics. “Many don’t know that this option is available. We hear it all the time, people have no idea that we are here...even those who cannot afford dental care,” passionately explained Dr. Wasson.

A post-screening care, research and follow-up system is one of a handful of NIH pilot studies that are being developed by Tennessee Smiles. The group is interested in the bigger picture of oral health needs of the citizens of Tennessee and issues to justify legislation, grants and more funding. “One of our goals is to be an advocate and reach out to the legislature and insurance companies who have traditionally considered dental issues as an adjunct, not a necessity,” states Maurice Lewis, assistant professor in the Department of Endodontics and Operative Dentistry.

Tennessee Smiles is a community within itself, which brings together members from all facets of the college. “We have a unique group that is full of passion. We have everyone from the college pitching in at these community engagement efforts – deans, chairs, directors, faculty, student doctors, staff, family and friends. It is quite remarkable,” says an exuberant Dr. Wasson.

The initiative also assists faculty in meeting professional requirements and student doctors in meeting their
community service objectives. The Memphis chapters of the American Association of Women Dentists (AAWD) and Student National Dental Association (SNDA) partnered on a recent event to illustrate the leadership of women in the dental field. The local chapter of the SNDA is often a partner with Tennessee Smiles, providing much-needed helping hands while fulfilling its service mission in the process. In turn, students have won numerous national SNDA “Chapter of the Year” awards, in part due to their community engagement efforts. The SNDA has also won several Certificates of Meritorious Achievement for the best scrapbook for community service activities.

Tennessee Smiles has grown so much in popularity that requests are outgrowing the time and resources that the group can provide. The demand for screenings, supplies and dental instruction has provided a few hurdles that are forcing the outreach program to scale back their availability and become more selective as to which events they attend. “There is an enormous need for oral health care in the community, and the requests are coming in so fast, there is more than we can possibly do. It’s disheartening,” says Dr. Wasson.

However, alumni can play a very important role in helping Tennessee Smiles carry out its mission of spreading oral health awareness and performing community services. There are a number of ways alums can help fulfill this need, from volunteering time at community screenings to donating complimentary oral health supplies to be distributed to citizens at health fairs. Current needs include:

- Providing oral health care supplies (toothpaste, brushes, floss and mouthwash)
- Donating services to underprivileged citizens
- Volunteering to hold health fairs in the Memphis area, Mid-South, other areas of Tennessee, and in coordination with Tennessee Smiles members
- Collecting data for legislative efforts, grants and funding

For more information about Tennessee Smiles, or to assist in this oral health outreach initiative, please contact Dr. Waletha Wasson’s office in the UT College of Dentistry, (901) 448-6271.
More than 200 family, friends and supporters of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center gathered for a 5K Run/Walk on Sunday, April 26 to raise awareness and funds for the UT College of Dentistry.

The preparation for the event began shortly after UT Annual Health Awareness Month. Organized by Pam Houston, special events coordinator for UTHSC, several individuals were involved in the many different aspects of the race from the logistics, such as creating a course and raising funds, to promoting the event. Everything was planned in a way that would raise the most support for the College of Dentistry.

A few minutes before the race, participants of all ages stretched to the warm up exercises of Olympic Gold Medalist Rochelle Stephens. Dee Griffin, ABC24/CW30 news anchor and reporter, emceed the event. The run started in front of the Hyman administration building on South Dunlap while the walk began on the south side of Forrest Park.

Participants weaved through the course in humid yet breezy, 84-degree weather. Kenneth Boone, first-place runner, finished the race in just 20 minutes and 43 seconds. Boone signed up for the race after hearing about it through media affiliates.

The support of the university dental community was evident not only in their promotion of the race but also in their personal testimony.

UT Health Science Center is proud to provide quality dental services at a reduced price to residents in Memphis and surrounding areas. With more than 7,000 graduates, the UT College of Dentistry is the oldest dental school in the South (established in 1878). More than 75 percent of all the dentists now practicing in Tennessee are graduates of the college. A significant number of the dentists practicing in Arkansas are also UT graduates. Through the dental clinic, students – under close faculty supervision – provide more than 39,000 patient visits each year to support oral health care in the Memphis area.

Sponsors were Delta Dental of Tennessee, Lenny’s Sub Shop, Rockin’ Robbin’s DJ’s and The Arc of the Mid-South.
Each year, the UT College of Dentistry Alumni Association presents its highest award to alumni who have made distinguished contributions to the dentistry field. In March, the 2009 Outstanding Alumni – John H. Sullivan, DDS, and James B. Summitt, DDS, MS – received their awards during the MidSouth Dental Congress.

John H. Sullivan, Class of 1969, has devoted almost 40 years to general dentistry. Upon graduation, Dr. Sullivan joined the American Dental Association, the Tennessee Dental Association (TDA), and the UT College of Dentistry Alumni Association. His leadership roles in each of these organizations helped to advance dentistry across Tennessee and the nation.

Since 1971, Dr. Sullivan has served the TDA in important capacities including that of president, vice president, West Tennessee vice president, chairman of the awards committee, and chairman of “Dental Relief,” an effort that provides charitable dental services. As a member of the Tennessee Academy of General Dentistry since 1990, he served as a board member and as board legislative chair.

Adding to his list of organizational involvements, Dr. Sullivan became a member of the American Orthodontic Society, the American Academy of General Dentistry and the American College of Dentists. He is a Fellow of the TDA, the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists.

In support of his alma mater, Dr. Sullivan participates on the UT College of Dentistry Alumni Board of Trustees and has served as vice president and president of the UT Dental Alumni Association. He has been vital to the success of the MidSouth Dental Congress, a 14-year-old organization providing continuing education opportunities for dentists in the Memphis region. He helped to establish the Dental Scholarship Endowment, which provides annual need-based scholarships for dental students, and is active on the UT Legislative Committee. Dr. Sullivan also assisted with the College of Dentistry 21st Century Campaign Committee, which raised more than $5 million for the college.

James B. Summitt, Class of 1971, demonstrated an early commitment to dentistry by joining the Dean’s Odontological Society while in dental school. Upon graduation, he became a dental officer for the U.S. Air Force, eventually attaining the rank of colonel. During his military career, he completed a master of science degree in general dentistry and a two-year general practice residency at Wilford Hall Medical Center (WHMC) in San Antonio, Texas. He later led this two-year program and became director of dental services for WHMC.

Dr. Summitt retired from the Air Force in 1989 and later joined the faculty at the University of Texas Dental School at San Antonio. He led the university’s Division of Operative Dentistry beginning in 1991 and maintained that post until he was named chairman of Restorative Dentistry in 2000.

As a dental educator and scientist, Dr. Summitt has published 56 original articles, 85 abstracts and has been an investigator in 13 funded research projects. Also, he is first author on Fundamentals of Operative Dentistry: A Contemporary Approach, a textbook currently used by many dental schools in the United States and abroad. He serves on the Scientific Investigation Committee for the American Academy of Restorative Dentistry and is vice-president-elect of the Academy of Operative Dentistry. For the American Board of General Dentistry, he served as president from 1996 to 1997.

Dr. Summitt has given much of his time and talents to grooming new members of the dental profession and acting as a dentistry resource. He has been a mentor to numerous students and residents, and has served on the editorial review boards of six dental journals. His professional expertise has been recognized many times through receipt of the U.S. Air Force Meritorious Service Medal (four times) and the Legion of Merit Award; and the Academy of Operative Dentistry 2005 Award of Excellence. He has also earned several teaching awards from UTHSC, including “The Presidential Teaching Award,” his alma mater’s highest teaching accolade.
Alum Receives ADA Humanitarian Award

The American Dental Association (ADA) honored its first Humanitarian Award recipient at the 149th Annual Session and World Marketplace Exhibition in San Antonio.

The ADA Board of Trustees has selected Thomas S. Underwood (’70), DDS, Nashville, Tenn., for his three decades of providing humanitarian treatment to people in need of dental care.

“I am delighted that Dr. Underwood is the first recipient of the new and very prestigious ADA Humanitarian Award,” said ADA President Mark J. Feldman, DMD. “He has truly brought smiles and comfort to thousands of needy individuals through his tireless efforts and has set the bar very high.”

A 1970 graduate of the UT Health Science Center College of Dentistry, Dr. Underwood performed humanitarian efforts around the world for nearly 20 years. In addition, he has made vast contributions to the oral health of those in Tennessee.

“It’s an honor to be the recipient of the inaugural Humanitarian Award,” Dr. Underwood said. “After volunteering in Israel, Jamaica, Honduras, Kenya and Zambia, I realized how many people were suffering from lack of comprehensive oral care in my own state. I knew there was something we could do to make it better right here at home.”

With support from the Nashville Dental Society and the outreach commission of the West End United Methodist Church, Dr. Underwood founded the Nashville Interfaith Dental Clinic in 1994.

The Humanitarian Award presents Dr. Underwood with $1,500 to donate to the clinic that provides comprehensive dental care on a sliding scale to working low-income families who are without dental insurance.

In the mid-1990s, Dr. Underwood worked with state legislators and the TennCare Medicaid oversight committee to develop a dental care model that has more than 850 dentists statewide treating TennCare children from birth through age 20. The program, which launched in 2002, has been nationally recognized as a model program for other states.

Dr. Underwood, a general dentist in solo practice, is married and the father of a son and daughter.

Outstanding Alumni Award Call for Nominations

Each year the Outstanding Alumnus Award is presented based on recommendations from the UT College of Dentistry alumni, faculty or other constituents. The annual selection is made by the Awards Committee of the UT Dental Alumni Board of Trustees on behalf of the UT College of Dentistry Alumni Association.

The Outstanding Alumnus Award is not limited to just those in active dental practice and recognizes members of the dental profession who have distinguished themselves in the areas of community service, leadership in local, state or national health professional organizations, teaching and/or research activities or any other area of performance or accomplishments for which the UT Dental Alumni Board of Trustees determines to be worthy. A letter of nomination and curriculum vitae should be mailed to:

UT Dental Alumni Board of Trustees c/o UT Office of Alumni Affairs
62 S. Dunlap, Ste. 520 • Memphis, TN 38163

Class of 1959

Hobart Beale, Martin, Tenn.
Dr. Beale retired after 30 years from general dentistry and his private practice in Martin, Tenn. Since 1976, he has been a clinical instructor at the UT Family Practice in Jackson, Tenn. and was named Tennessee’s Rural Practitioner of the Year in 1996. He has two daughters, Julie, who attends UT Martin, and Bonnie, who is a pharmacist. He has two grandchildren, Jada, who attends the UT College of Pharmacy, and Justin, who is in the physical therapy program at the UT College of Allied Health Sciences.

William Gage Boyd, Miramar, Fla.
Dr. Boyd has developed and sold two practices, and is now working in the original practice that he started in 1960. He and his wife Connie have been married for 34 years and have two daughters.

William A. Brooke, Jr., Knoxville, Tenn.
Dr. Brooke sold his general practice in 2000 and retired in 2002. He enjoys traveling, landscaping, hunting, fishing and the sport of skeet shooting. He and his wife Lou enjoy spending time with their family. They have five children and twelve grandchildren.

William E. Campbell, Knoxville, Tenn.
Dr. Campbell is a Fellow of the American College of Dentistry and the International College of Dentistry. He is a member of the American Academy of Practice Administration and past president of East Tenn. Academy of Practice Administration and of the American Dental Association. He is also a member of the second district of the Tenn. Dental Assoc. Dr. Campbell and his wife Harriet have been married for 57 years. They have two sons, a daughter and six grandchildren, with one entering her fourth-year at the UT College of Medicine.

James I. Cantrell, Brentwood, Tenn.
Dr. Cantrell recently retired in 1994 after 35 years of private practice. In 2003, he returned to work part-time at the Maury County Health Department. He and his wife Suzanne have a son and two daughters. Dr. Cantrell enjoys traveling, golf, fishing and reading. He has also served in medical missions to Haiti since 2001.

Joseph “Ken” Carver, Kingsport, Tenn.
Dr. Carver retired from his practice. He and his wife Sandy have three sons including a UT College of Medicine graduate.

George L. “Buddy” Culbreath, Sr., Trenton, Tenn.
Dr. Culbreath has been practicing in Tenn. since 1960. He and his wife Sybil have been married for 58 years and have four children.

George S. Edwards, Jr., Hixson, Tenn.
Dr. Edwards retired from his practice in orthodontics in 1996. He served two years in the U.S. Army Dental Corps as 1st Lt. Capt. at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Dr. Edwards has practiced for six years in general dentistry and 27 years in Orthodontics. He is a former president of Chattanooga Dentists and Tenn. Orthodontists and a fellow in the American College of Dentists. He serves as a deacon and Sunday school teacher at First Presbyterian Church in Chattanooga and was a chairman of the deacons for two years. He is the president of the Civic Club, a member of Founder Bethel Dentists and a charter member of the YMCA with his wife, Barbara. Dr. Edwards and Barbara have three children and 10 grandchildren.

James “Jack” Finley, Lavaca, Ark.
Dr. Finley retired from his private practice. He has served as (continued on next page)
Alum Brett Seshul Finalist for Balint Orban Award

Dr. Brett A. Seshul, a 2008 graduate of the periodontology residency program, has been named a finalist in the 2008 Balint Orban Memorial Competition, sponsored by the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP). The competition is named in honor of Dr. Balint Orban, a member of the AAP who was influential in developing the scientific foundations of contemporary periodontology. It is open to students currently enrolled in accredited periodontology residency programs in the U.S. and Canada and those who graduated less than 18 months prior to the annual meeting of the AAP.

This competition provides a forum for presentation of the clinical and basic science research completed by students during their residencies. Eight finalists (four in clinical research and four in basic science research), selected on the basis of written abstracts of their work, are invited to give oral presentations at the annual meeting of the AAP. Two winners are named, one in each research category. For 40 years, this highly regarded competition has unveiled many of the future leaders in periodontology, whether in academia or private practice.

Dr. Seshul’s research interest is bisphosphonate-related osteonecrosis of the jaw (ONJ), and his Master’s research project was entitled “Effect of Bisphosphonates on the Production of Mediators of Osteoclastogenesis (RANKL, OPG, and IL-6) By Human Gingival Fibroblasts.” His mentor for this project and master’s committee chair was David A. Tipton, DDS, PhD, in the Dental Research Center and the Department of Periodontology. Drs. Paul Bland, Mustafa Dabbous, Edwin Thomas and Lawrence Weeda, all of the UT College of Dentistry, also served on Dr. Seshul’s master’s committee.

Bisphosphonates are used to prevent and/or treat resorptive bone diseases including osteoporosis and metastatic bone cancer. Bisphosphonate-related ONJ results in localized pain, soft tissue swelling and inflammation, tooth mobility, and exposed bone. In this condition, bisphosphonates can alter osteoblast RANKL and OPG production so that osteoclast activation and bone remodeling are inhibited and bone becomes necrotic. Dr. Seshul’s work suggests that the bisphosphonate drugs alendronate and pamidronate can also affect soft tissue cells (i.e., gingival fibroblasts), altering their production of RANKL and OPG. This could in turn help to alter the bone microenvironment to favor inhibition of bone resorption and remodeling, contributing to ONJ.

Dr. Seshul is a 2001 graduate of the UT College of Dentistry. Before entering the periodontology residency program at UT in 2005, he served in the United States Army from 2001 to 2005 in Germany, Iraq and at Fort Irwin, Calif. During this period he completed a residency in advanced education in general dentistry.
Alumnus Award. He and his wife Carol, both natives of Knoxville, are enjoying retirement and being close to family in East Tenn. They have two sons and three grandchildren.

Tracy J. Moser, Greenwood, Miss. Dr. Moser retired from his practice. He and his wife Dot have one son, two daughters and one grandson.

Jesse Overall, Manchester, Tenn. Dr. Overall has been practicing general dentistry in the same location and partners for 45 years. He and his wife Martha have been married for 52 years and have a daughter named Fran.

Reuben N. Pelot III, Knoxville, Tenn. Dr. Pelot is a past clinical instructor in the general practice residency program at the UT Medical Center in Knoxville. He is a past member of the Tenn. Board of Dentistry, associate member of Southern Regional Testing Agency, current member of the Commission on Dental Accreditation for the American Dental Association. He serves as Tenn. Section chair for Pierrer Fauchard Academy and is a life member of the Academy of General Dentistry. He has received the Presidential Volunteer Service Award and is the sole founder and director of dentistry at the Volunteer Ministry Center Homeless Dental Clinic. He also served in the Tenn. State Guard as Lt. Col. and senior dentist in the medical division. He and his wife Barbara celebrated 50 years of marriage in 2007. They have four children, with their oldest being a dental hygienist, and fourteen grandchildren, with one in her second year of pre-dental curriculum at UT.

Charles G. Purifoy, Greenwood, Miss. After serving two years in the Army, Dr. Purifoy returned to Greenwood, Miss. and practiced general dentistry for 46 years. He served on the Mississippi State Dental Board of Examiners for 10 years. He is a member of the Academy of General Dentistry and the American College of Dentistry. His hobbies are turkey hunting, bass fishing, vegetable gardening, and following Ole Miss and Pillow Academy football. He and his wife Beth Massey Purifoy have two daughters and two grandchildren.

Joseph F. Rainey, Clinton, Tenn. Dr. Rainey is an instructor at the Department of General Dentistry Graduate School of Medicine, a member of Second District of the Tenn. Dental Association, American Dental Association, American College of Dentists, International College of Dentists, Southeastern Academy of Prosthodontics, Pierre Fauchard Academy, and served as past chair with East Tenn. Academy of Dental Practice Administration. He has also served on the Board of Directors with Delta Dental of Tenn, Delta Dental of Mich. and their foundation, Renaissance Health Services Corporation, and has been awarded fellowship status in the Tenn. Dental Association. Dr. Rainey is a retired Lt. Col. in the U.S. Air Force and in 1989 was named the Air National Guard Dentist of the Year. He has served on many boards in his community including Anderson County Economic Development Association, Clinton Board of Zoning Appeals, Clinton Regional Planning Commission, Anderson County Election Commission, Cumberland Committee Board of Directors, Anderson County Board of Health and Education Facilities, and is a member of the Memorial United Methodist Church. He and his wife Pamela have two daughters and two grandchildren.

James R. Ross, Collierville, Tenn. Dr. Ross boarded the American Board of Periodontology and is very active in organized dentistry at the local, state and national levels. He has published many articles and chapters (continued on next page)
in textbooks and developed the veneered osseous graft. His first novel *The Last Reunion* was published in 2007 and has a second novel entitled *Snake River* due in the spring. He is a member of Leadership Collierville and is active in his church. He and his wife Lucy have two sons.

**Jack B. Stewart**, Hot Springs Village, Ark.
In 1962, after serving three years in the military at Fort Hood for the Army Senior Dental Program, Dr. Stewart opened a private practice in Batesville, Miss. In 1995, he sold his practice to Dr. Stephen Sullivan, also a UT graduate, but continued to work part-time until 2000. He served for 21 years as chief of dental services at the North Mississippi Regional Center in Oxford, Miss., where they provided dental services to physically and mentally challenged clients. Dr. Stewart currently practices dentistry in Hot Springs Village, Ark., with UT friends Major General Bill B. LeFler and his son, and Dr. Ed Blaine. He and his wife Jerre have two daughters, Laura and Jackie, and three grandchildren. Jackie is a graduate of the dental hygiene program in the UT College of Allied Health Sciences.

**William W. Watson**, DeSoto, Mo.
In December of 1959, Dr. Watson went to work with the Missouri Division of Health and operated the first mobile dental unit. He entered into private practice in May 1961. After working 43 years, he retired in 2004. He served on the DeSoto City Council from 1967 to 1973, serving as mayor from 1970 to 1971. He spent four years as a radio announcer for basketball games and from 1980 to 1996 affiliated high school football and basketball games. His hobbies are hunting and fishing. In June 2008, he and his wife Lou celebrated their 60th anniversary. They have six children and 11 grandchildren. His daughter Suzanne graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Dental College in 1984 and is affiliated with Premier Dental Partners in St. Louis. She was recently recognized on the List of Top Dentists in 2009 for the St. Louis Region.

**David Wolfe**, Grand Cayman Islands
Dr. Wolfe practices general dentistry and has lived in the Cayman Islands for more than 25 years.

**Jim Woods**, Clemson, S.C.
Dr. Woods served in the U.S. Army Corps at Ft. Braggs, N.C., and then pursued general dentistry in Cleveland, Miss. He went to Montreal from 1966 to 1968 to receive his accreditation in orthodontics and went on to practice in Gulfport, Miss. He and his wife Joan will soon celebrate their golden anniversary in August. They have four children and seven grandchildren.

**Class of 1964**

**Drexel Carter Davis II**, Knoxville, Tenn.
Dr. Davis retired from the practice of general dentistry in 2008. He currently volunteers his dental services at the People’s Clinic, a health center for the homeless. He and his wife Charlotte have two daughters and two grandchildren.

**Ronald M. Dressler**, Atlanta, Ga.
Dr. Dressler is the master, founder and a former president of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology. He and his wife Rita have two sons and four grandchildren.

**Billy G. Molpus**, Philadelphia, Miss.
Dr. Molpus retired in 2008, but he is actively involved in international dental missions to Tibet, Siberia, Mongolia, Thailand, Laos, Uganda and the Line Islands of the Pacific.
**Alumni Association Officers**
President - Rebecca A. Barton, DDS
President Elect - Buford J. Suffridge, DDS
Vice President - J. Kendall Dillehay, DDS
Treasurer - Billy W. McCann, Sr., DDS

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Vice-Chairman - Randall P. Prince, DDS
Secretary - James C. Ragain, Jr., DDS

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Walker Swaney, DDS
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*Tennessee* (East)
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Paul T. McCord, DDS

*Middle*
Jeannie Beauchamp, DDS
Phil Wenk, DDS

*West*
Stan Young, DDS
Stueart L. Hudsmith, DDS
Joe Greer, DDS
Jerry Sullivan, DDS

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Steve Ballard, DDS
James Dougherty, DDS
Ronald Staples, DDS
C.L. “Leeby” Greenblatt, DDS

**Region II At-Large**
J. Kendall Dillehay, DDS

**Region III At-Large**
Joseph Safirstein, DDS

**Region IV At-Large**
(Public Health/Armed Forces)
James C. Ragain, Jr., DDS

**President of the Faculty**
Scott Hollis, DDS

**Emeritus Dean, UT College of Dentistry**
William F. Slagle, DDS

**Honorary Members**
Stacey A. Garner, DDS
Charles L. Rogers, DDS
H. Vernon Reed, DDS

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**Class of 1969**

**John W. Bishop**, Maitland, Fla.
Dr. Bishop has specialized in the practice of pediatric dentistry for 35 years. He has volunteered his dental services in Central and South America through Missionary Ventures. He and his wife Pam have one daughter, two sons and five grandchildren.

**Charles J. Colvin**, Livingston, Texas
Dr. Colvin specializes in the practice of prosthodontics. He retired from the United States Army in 1999 with the rank of colonel. He and his wife Jan have a son and a daughter.

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**Class of 1979**

**David N. Beuchamp**, Bainbridge, Ga.
Dr. Beuchamp has practiced dentistry for 30 years in Bainbridge, Ga. He has also made mission trips to Jamaica, Liberia and Malawi. He and his wife Sharon have five children.

**Mark E. Schandorff**, Lynch Station, Va.
Dr. Schandorff specializes in the practice of general dentistry. He has been on more than 20 medical and dental mission trips including Brazil, Poland, Venezuela and Chile while working with Southern Baptist missionaries. He and his wife Patsy have one daughter and two sons.

**Walletha Wasson**, Memphis, Tenn.
Dr. Wasson specializes in the practice of general dentistry. She is the 2008 recipient of the Alumni Public Service Award from the UT Health Science Center. She is also a two-time recipient of the Health Care Heroes Award for Community Outreach.

**Ken Williams**, Goodlettsville, Tenn.
Dr. Williams specializes in the practice of general dentistry. He has been on more than 20 medical and dental mission trips including Brazil, Poland, Venezuela and Chile while working with Southern Baptist missionaries. He and his wife Nita have been married for 36 years and have three children.

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**Class of 1984**

**Phillip C. Carson**, Lookout Mountain, Tenn.
Dr. Carson specializes in the practice of general dentistry. He was a fellow with the International College of Dentistry in 2008. In his spare time, he enjoys playing tennis, golf and volleyball. He and his wife Susan have been married for 28 years and have two sons.

**Gary R. Woodall**, Knoxville, Tenn.
Dr. Woodall specializes in the practice of general dentistry. He is a master of the Academy of General Dentistry, a member of the American Dental Association, and a sustaining member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry. He and his wife of 26 years Donna have three children.

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**Class of 1989**

**Tim D. Chase**, Monticello, Ark.
Dr. Chase specializes in the practice of general dentistry. He is the president of the Arkansas State Dental Association and was recently inducted into the International College of Dentists. He and his wife Paige have two daughters.

**Marie B. Farrar**, Chattanooga, Tenn.
Dr. Farrar specializes in the practice of orthodontics. She is a diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics. She and her husband Mitch have two children.
Delta Dental of Arkansas has committed $1 million in support of the Dunn Building Modernization Gift Fund at the University of Tennessee College of Dentistry. The pledge is made in honor of all Arkansas dentists who received their education at the college. The UT College of Dentistry accepts at least 18 new students from Arkansas each year. As a result, a large percentage of the practicing dentists in Arkansas are UT graduates.

“The UT College of Dentistry has made a huge impact on the state of Arkansas,” explains Dr. Jim Johnston, a 1962 UT dental grad and chair of the Delta Dental of Arkansas Foundation. “There are more than 700 practicing dentists in Arkansas who were trained by the University of Tennessee and we wanted to show our appreciation and support not only for the college, but for the UT graduates who call Arkansas home and make a positive contribution to oral health in our state.”

The generous pledge will go toward re-equipping and modernizing the undergraduate clinic in the Dunn Dental Building, home of the UT College of Dentistry. In recognition of major gifts from Delta Dental of Arkansas and Delta Dental of Tennessee, the clinic will be named the Delta Dental Center for Clinical Education. In addition to these two gifts, many alumni from Arkansas, Tennessee and beyond have also made generous commitments to the effort.

“We are so fortunate to have partners like Delta Dental of Arkansas,” says Dr. Timothy Hottel, new dean of the UT College of Dentistry. “The Dunn Building Modernization is vital to our efforts to provide the best possible learning environment for our students. Without this generous commitment, we simply could not do what we need to do.”

The college has an accreditation visit in March 2010 and adequate facilities are a necessity. The clinic has not been updated since the building opened in 1977. The old chairs and units are simply worn out. Parts are no longer available, with replacement as the only option. Delta Dental of Arkansas’ pledge will help the college to re-equip the undergraduate clinic, where every dental student sees patients during his or her third and fourth years.

TDA Foundation Continues Support of Student Research

The Tennessee Dental Association Foundation continues to support the Summer Student Research Program at the UT College of Dentistry. Dr. Stephen M. Sawrie, president of the foundation, presented a check for $10,000 to Dean Timothy Hottel at the 2009 Tennessee Dental Association Annual Session in Knoxville.

“The TDA Foundation is proud of our partnership with the UT College of Dentistry,” explains Dr. Sawrie. “The future of dental research is strong because of UT’s summer program and the TDAF is pleased to be a part of it.”

Each year, the TDAF provides stipends for dental students involved in summer research projects. Students who participate in the program will present their findings to the American Association of Dental Research (AADR) Memphis Section. Selected students will make oral presentations and submit posters during the Hinman Student Research Symposium. These students are also asked to submit an abstract and poster to the AADR.

“Student research is an important part of dental education,” explains Dean Hottel. “We are grateful for the TDA Foundation’s support of our efforts in this area.”
The University of Tennessee’s telephone fundraising campaign is proof that gifts of all sizes can make a difference.

For the first time, UT’s Telefund has reached $1 million in pledges for a single fiscal year, which is considered a benchmark for programs that contact potential donors by telephone. The pledge total is $1.1 million, and it will count toward the $1 Billion Campaign for Tennessee.

Part of the UT Office of Alumni Affairs and Annual Giving, the Telefund has recorded 10,349 pledges this year, also a record for the 24-year-old program. The average gift was $97.94. Last year, there were 8,324 pledges for an average of $96.

“This milestone attests to the power a large number of people can achieve by pledging gifts of any size. It means $1 million more for UT programs across the state,” said Kerry Witcher, assistant vice president for alumni affairs and annual giving.

The Telefund begins every year in August and ends at spring commencement. About 60 student workers are hired each year to call alumni and ask for pledges.

This year, the calling shifts were expanded from three hours to four hours a night. Students work from 6 to 10 p.m. on Monday through Thursday and 2 to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

The top priority of the campaign is to modernize and re-equip the Dunn Dental Building at a cost of nearly $7 million. The building is in a state of disrepair and students are still using the same dental chairs and units that were in the building when it opened in 1977. So far, the college has received gifts and pledges of more than $4.8 million toward the effort, including seven-figure gifts from Delta Dental of Tennessee and Arkansas, as well as many generous gifts from UT dental alumni, friends of the college and several local dental societies in Tennessee and Arkansas. In addition, the UT Dental Alumni Board generated $125,000 for the project through proceeds from the 2008 MidSouth Dental Congress.

“Our goal is to begin the modernization in the fall of 2009 with the fourth floor undergraduate clinic, where all dental students see patients, and specialty areas will follow in phases,” explains Dean Hottel. “We want our students to train in the best possible learning environment. We need all of our alumni to join in and help make this dream a reality.”

While the college has received tremendous support thus far, we still have a long way to go and need your help to be successful. Generally, pledges are paid over as many as five years, so immediate cash gifts are also very important, particularly for the first phase. If you have not yet done so, please consider making a gift or pledge to the Dunn Building Modernization Gift Fund. In addition, if you would be willing to host an alumni reception in your area, please let us know. For more information or to make a gift, please contact Tim Lanier or Jennifer Burns in the UTHSC Development Office at (800) 733-0482.

UT’s Telefund Surpasses $1 Million in Pledges for 2008-09

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While the Telefund is operated in Knoxville, calls are made to alumni from every campus. The Telefund is centrally located to take advantage of one automated dialing system and staffing. Donors can allocate their pledge to any campus or program.

The Telefund, begun in 1985, has raised $8.1 million and logged 768,000 completed calls.

The Campaign for Tennessee so far has reached $825 million. The campaign’s silent phase launched in 2005 and will run through 2011.
The eighth annual College of Dentistry Scholarship Banquet was held at the Memphis Hilton on March 7, 2009. The banquet is sponsored by Delta Dental of Tennessee.

The college now has 29 scholarship endowments that provide annual awards with several more in the funding process. In addition, a number of organizations present annual awards to dental students. Thanks to our generous alumni and friends, the college presented ninety-five awards totaling more than $248,000 in 2009.

“The Scholarship Banquet is a wonderful way to recognize our scholarship recipients and honor the donors who make the awards possible,” explains Dean Timothy Hottel. “We are very grateful to the donors for funding these awards and to Delta Dental of Tennessee for their sponsorship, which makes the banquet possible each year.”

A minimum gift or pledge of $25,000 will establish a scholarship endowment in the college. An endowment may be named in honor or memory of an individual, a family or an organization. The principal of the endowment is invested and never touched. Only the earned income is expended, ensuring annual awards in perpetuity.

If you are interested in establishing an endowment in the UT College of Dentistry for scholarships or other purposes, please contact Tim Lanier, UTHSC director of Development, at (800) 733-0482 or tlanier@utmem.edu.
Scholarship Banquet

Dr. James T. Andrews

- Brent Lee, D-4
- Matthew Dover, D-4
- Marjorie Woods
- Jason White, D-4
- Leah Gordon, D-4

Dr. Jack Camp Scholarships

- Brandon Kitchens, D-3
- Patton Minkin, D-2
- Dean Timothy Hottel

Dr. and Mrs. Buford J. Suffridge Scholarship

- Ralph Teed Jr., D-4
- Lynda Suffridge
- Dean Timothy Hottel

Dr. W. C. Lady Scholarships

- Frank Merendino, D-3
- Anish Gala, D-3
- Allen Myers, D-4
- Dean Timothy Hottel

Delta Dental of Tennessee Scholarships

- Dr. Joe Rainey
- Amanda Day, D-2
- Scott Weiskopf, D-4
- Ryan Jones, D-3
- Dean Timothy Hottel

Dr. Joseph W. Graham, Sr. Scholarship

- Mr. Sam Graham
- Kelly Peaks, D-4
- Mrs. Billie Jean Graham
- Dean Timothy Hottel

Dr. Roy M. Smith Scholarship

- Gary Veazey
- Andrew Kim, D-2
- Mrs. Kathy Veazey
- Dean Timothy Hottel

Dr. and Mrs. Buford J. Suffridge Scholarship

- Ralph Teed Jr., D-4
- Lynda Suffridge
- Dean Timothy Hottel

Thomas P. Hinman Scholarships

- Kevin Kennedy, D-3
- Dr. Wallace Lail
- Leah Gordon, D-4
- Dean Timothy Hottel

Dr. W. C. Lady Scholarships

- Frank Merendino, D-3
- Anish Gala, D-3
- Allen Myers, D-4
- Dean Timothy Hottel

Dr. James T. Andrews Scholarships

- Brent Lee, D-4
- Matthew Dover, D-4
- Marjorie Woods
- Jason White, D-4
- Leah Gordon, D-4
Delta Dental of Arkansas Scholarships
Mr. Ed Choate
Kyle Fagala, D-3
Michael Gambill, D-2
Brandi Hodge, D-4
Dr. Jim Johnston
Dean Timothy Hottel

Andy Holt Scholarships
Marissa Stroube, D-4
James Pace, D-3
Ryan Thomas, D-2
Zachary Adkins, D-1
Mr. Brent Duke
Dean Timothy Hottel

Dental Scholarship Endowment Awards
Katherine Malone, D-4
Elizabeth Graham, D-4
Rachel Thornell, D-4
Larkin Clark, D-4
Dr. Wallace Lail
Lauren Marcum, D-4
Sarah Clayton, D-4
Dean Timothy Hottel

Cecily W. Tipton Scholarships
Shauna Tanner, D-3
Cara Corning, D-3
Katherine Hart, D-4
Brandon Foltz, D-3
Dr. David Tipton
Mrs. Kathryn Tipton
Kari Lynn Gano, D-2
Zachary Legan, D-2
Jesse Welsh, D-2
Dean Timothy Hottel

Harold Cloogman, DDS, Scholarships
FRONT ROW
Garren Petree, D-2
Jason White, D-4
Bradley Stewart, D-2
Ryan Pryor, D-2
Cynthia Dominessa, D-4
Robert Blair, D-4
Elysa Belva, D-4
Joclyn Nutting, D-4
Scott Cureton, D-4
BACK ROW
Daniel Edwards, D-2
Phillip Faucette, D-2
Matthew Tillman, D-2
Frank Merendino, D-3
Anish Gala, D-3
Brandon Cannon, D-4
David Zeman, D-3
Allen Myers, D-4
Dean Timothy Hottel
Hinman Funds Faculty Fellowship

The Thomas P. Hinman Dental Society of Atlanta has pledged $500,000 to the UT College of Dentistry, reinforcing the organization’s commitment to supporting dental education. This generous commitment will be used to establish the Hinman Faculty Fellowship in general dentistry.

“The Hinman Fellowship will provide much-needed support to assist us with recruiting and retaining excellent faculty members,” said Dr. Timothy Hottel, dean of the UT College of Dentistry. “We are grateful for everything that Hinman does for our college.” Once fully funded, the Hinman Fellowship will provide annual funding for faculty enrichment in perpetuity.

In addition to the fellowship, the Hinman Dental Society sponsors the annual Hinman Student Research Symposium, which is hosted by the UT College of Dentistry. The meeting annually attracts student researchers from dental schools all across the country and beyond.

Class of 1999 Establishes Faculty Endowment

The class of 1999 continues to be a pacesetter. The class was ranked number one in the nation on their board scores and now they are number one again. They have established the first ever “class endowment” in the college. In celebration of their tenth reunion, the class has pledged more than $52,000 to establish the Class of 1999 Faculty Enrichment Endowment.

Drs. Yvette Burns and Joe Safirstein led an effort to create an endowment that would produce annual income to fund a faculty award. The award recipient will be chosen by a vote of the fourth-year dental students to truly recognize a faculty member who has gone above and beyond the call of duty as a teacher and mentor. The class of 1999 effort served as a challenge to other classes celebrating reunions during the 2009 MidSouth Dental Congress. In total, reunions (for classes ending in four and nine) generated more than $280,000 in support of the college.

Peace Endowment Created through Bequest

Dr. Rush Abbott Peace has treated special needs patients for many years. Dr. Peace, a 1958 UT dental graduate, and his wife Judy have made a bequest to establish the Rush and Judy Peace Special Care Dentistry Endowment to promote the field of special care dentistry through the Department of Pediatric Dentistry and Community Oral Health. Once funded, the endowment will provide annual funding to recognize and reward faculty members who are actively involved in special care dentistry, encourage expanded training in the field of special care dentistry and assist with the provision of care to needy special care patients.

Second District Dental Society Funds Scholarships

The Second District Dental Society (based in Maryville, Tenn.) has established two new scholarship endowments in the college, the Earl O. Henry, DDS, Scholarship Endowment and the Second District Dental Society Scholarship. The Henry Scholarship honors the memory of Dr. Earl Henry, a 1935 UT dental grad from Knoxville.

Dr. Henry practiced dentistry in Knoxville until 1942, when he entered the U.S. Navy as a lieutenant commander during World War II. Initially, he spent time at Parris Island and at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. Following these assignments, Commander Henry asked for sea duty, feeling that he owed his country a more active role in the war. Sadly, Dr. Henry is the only Tennessee dentist to have lost his life on active duty during World War II. He was stationed on the U.S.S. Indianapolis when two direct hits from a Japanese submarine sank the cruiser on July 30, 1945.

The Henry Scholarship will provide annual awards for dental students from East Tennessee who are entering the military. The Second District Dental Society Scholarship will provide annual awards for students from any of the counties comprising the Second District. It is a need-based scholarship for students in the middle third of their class.

Endowments may be funded for a minimum of $25,000 and named in honor or memory of an individual or organization. The principal is invested and only the earned income is expended, ensuring annual support in perpetuity. If you are interested in establishing an endowment in the college, please contact Tim Lanier or Jennifer Burns in the UTHSC Development Office at (800) 733-0482.
On September 22, 2008, UT President John Petersen arrived in Memphis to lead a very special event — the inaugural dinner of the Hershel P. Wall, M.D., Legacy Society. Eighty-five Legacy Society members, the Memphis-area UT trustees, and UTHSC leaders joined the celebration at The University Club.

“You all represent a special organization of supporters who have demonstrated your vision and commitment to the future of education and health care by including UTHSC in your estate plans,” stated Dr. Petersen. Legacy gifts can be made by naming UT as a beneficiary of a will, charitable trust, gift annuity, insurance policy, or retirement plan.

“These types of gift commitments have an inherently special meaning because you are equating UT to a family member,” he observed. “Your gifts will help us sustain the proud tradition of teaching, research, patient care and public service, all of which make a tremendous, positive difference in the lives of so many throughout Tennessee and across the region.”

Dr. Petersen noted that naming the society for Chancellor Wall was a natural decision. “Pat sets a wonderful example for others, demonstrating true leadership and exemplary service to the Health Science Center. He truly embodies the spirit and ideals of the Legacy Society.”

Accepting this recognition and a commemorative gift from the university, Chancellor Wall stated, “In honoring me in this lasting and meaningful way, you also challenge me as well. When one receives recognition such as this — which seems undeserved — one has to earn it so I will have to work hard to do just that.

“I have been blessed to have served this place for half a century in one capacity or another. The wonderful students, residents, physician peers in the College of Medicine and now my superb colleagues here and across the state in our flagship health science institution have greatly enriched my professional life. To all of them, I am grateful.”

For information on how you can become a founding member of the Hershel P. Wall, M.D., Legacy Society, contact Bethany Goolsby at (901) 448-4941 or bgoolsby@utmem.edu.

Dr. Wall’s Devotion Honored by Legacy Society

State Commits $1 Million to COD

“I am pleased to report that due to the efforts of former Governor and stellar alumnus Winfield Dunn, the state of Tennessee has provided $1 million in funding for equipment replacement at the UT College of Dentistry,” announced UT College of Dentistry Dean Timothy Hottel. “This state funding helps to move our capital campaign significantly forward and we are extremely grateful that our legislators recognize the value of reinvesting in our college, especially in these most challenging financial times.” Dean Hottel concluded, “Special thanks to House Education Committee Chair Harry Brooks (R-Knoxville) and Finance, Ways, and Means Chair Craig Fitzhugh (D-Ripley) for their collaboration on this important effort.”

State Commits $1 Million to COD

Development

Dr. Wall’s Devotion Honored by Legacy Society

State Commits $1 Million to COD

Development

Dr. Wall’s Devotion Honored by Legacy Society

State Commits $1 Million to COD

Development

Dr. Wall’s Devotion Honored by Legacy Society
April 24, 2009, marked the inaugural gathering of the McHorris Study Club, sponsored by the UTHSC Office of Continuing Dental Education. Twenty-one private dental practitioners, prosthodontic residents, and dental technicians participated in clinical, laboratory, and lecture activities. Participants traveled from Ohio, North Carolina, Louisiana, and several cities in Tennessee to attend the event.

The McHorris Study Club offers a rigorous overview of the temporomandibular joint, related neuromusculature, restored and natural dental occlusions, facial pain, temporomandibular dysfunction, and diagnosis and treatment of the stomatognathic system. A total of three sessions, which span over three days per session, are provided to expose participants to formal presentations on a variety of TMJ and dental occlusion topics, live clinical exercises, and related dental laboratory activities. Each session is separated by a number of months to permit participants ample time to prepare for subsequent sessions. Preparation involves review of previous course activities, detailed reading of assigned professional literature, and performance and documentation of clinical procedures in the participants’ dental offices for presentation to fellow course attendees.

During the first session, participants completed a detailed review of dental occlusal morphology, ridge and groove patterns, and interocclusal contacts. Next, each participant mounted dental casts of their mouths in semi-adjustable articulators using facebow transfer and interocclusal centric relation records. Condylar controls were set using lateral check bite records. Participants then reviewed ideal occlusal mechanics and methods for achieving appropriate dental occlusion through carefully planned and precise occlusal adjustment. Each attendee was then challenged to accomplish occlusal adjustment of their mounted diagnostic casts in order to gain an appreciation for the procedure and the clinical benefits.

Activities planned for the second session to be held from November 13 to 15, will continue to familiarize participants with organized dental occlusions. Practical laboratory activities, involving the wax additive occlusal morphology technique, will be interspersed with helpful lectures on a variety of restorative dentistry topics. Understanding gained by accomplishing the waxing exercise will facilitate an appreciation for the mechanics of well-organized, functional dental occlusions. In turn, this exposure will foster discussions related to occlusal problems and their correction via occlusal adjustment and occlusal restoration.

The third session will be held from May 14 to 16, 2010, and will concentrate on the diagnostic requirements of patients with complex dental conditions and complicated restorative situations. Each course participant will thoughtfully organize the presentation of two challenging patients documented in their private practices. Learning during this session comes from assimilation of material acquired during the course and thoughtful interchange of ideas between those present during case presentations.

The course is formally directed by three individuals. The first course director, and the course’s primary lecturer, is Bill McHorris, DDS, BS. Bill is an assistant professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry at the UT College of Dentistry and director of Occlusion and TMD Management in the UTHSC Advanced Prosthodontics Program. He graduated from the UT College of Dentistry in 1964. Dr. McHorris maintains an active private practice in Memphis where he treats a variety of patients concentrating on complicated occlusal reconstruction therapy and the diagnosis and management of TMD. He lectures nationally and internationally on occlusal concepts, occlusal waxing procedures, extensive restorative dentistry procedures, and the treatment of TMJ disorders. The other course directors include Dr. Dave Cagna, DMD, MS, professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry and director of the Advanced Prosthodontics Program at the UT College of Dentistry, and Tom Colquitt, DDS, PC, president of the International Academy of Gnathology and private practitioner from Shreveport, La.

Those interested in participating in future offerings of the McHorris Study Club should contact Suzanne Davidson in the UTHSC Office of Continuing Dental Education at (901) 448-2018.
The Winter Dental Faculty Seminar was held in January and the following faculty were recognized for their significant contributions to dental education and clinical teaching.

By unanimous vote, the College of Dentistry’s faculty selected Dr. Mark R. Patters to receive the 2008 Distinguished Faculty Award. This prestigious award is the College of Dentistry’s highest teaching award. The honor was given to Dr. Patters as he stepped down from his role as interim dean of the college and into his new role as professor and associate dean for Academic and Institutional Affairs.

Dr. Patters was appointed interim dean on August 1, 2007, as the search was started for a permanent replacement for Dr. Russell Gilpatrick, who left the college in July 2007. He accepted the interim position while continuing to perform the duties as professor and associate dean for Academic Affairs.

Cheryl DeWood, DDS, MS, president of the Committee of Faculty, presented the award to Dr. Patters in appreciation for his tireless efforts in the administrative role as interim dean while maintaining his commitment to teaching excellence in the educational programs. Dr. DeWood, said “Dr. Patters won the respect of the college’s faculty by his example of leadership and dedication during the 17-month search.”
The Alumni Endowment Fund

The Alumni Endowment Fund provides faculty with an opportunity to develop research skills. Alumni and others who contribute to the endowment fund have every right to be proud of the advances in research that have resulted from their generosity. For additional information regarding individual projects, please contact the investigator(s). If you would like to make a gift or pledge to the Dental Alumni Endowment Fund, please contact Tim Lanier, director of Development, at (800) 733-0482.

Stimulation and Activation of Pro-Inflammatory Cytokine IL-18 by Lipopolysaccharide of Periodontal Pathogens

Investigators: Pradeep Adatrow, DDS, MSD, assistant professor, Department of Periodontology; Jegdish P. Babu, PhD, associate professor, Department of Periodontology and Dental Research Center

Amount Funded: $14,543
Project Period: November 2008 to October 2010

Interleukin-18 (IL-18), a newly described cytokine, is expressed by acrophage/monocytes. The presence of IL-18 is a factor in maintenance of chronic inflammation. IL-18 increases concentrations of cell adhesion molecules and chemokines, inflammatory mediators (such as nitric oxide) and the rates of neutrophil activation. Also, it has been demonstrated that the cytokine induces release of matrix metalloproteinase (MMP)-9 and IL-1. Recent studies have shown a high correlation between Gingival Cervical Fluid (GCF) IL-18 and gingival sulcus depth and significant levels of IL-18 in GCF from individuals with periodontitis when compared with levels in controls. These studies implicate IL-18 association with active periodontitis although there are, as yet, no direct functional data linking this cytokine with destructive process in periodontal disease.

In this study the ability of LPS molecules, isolated from different periodontal pathogens, Porphyromonas gingivalis (Pg), Prevotella denti- cola (Pd), Fusobacterium nucleatum (Fn) and Actinobacillus actino- myctemcomitans (Aa), to stimulate cultured monocytes to secrete IL-18 would be examined by ELISA. Our hypothesis, is that LPS molecules differ in their ability to stimulate monocytes. The LPS isolated from more pathogenic organisms such as P. gingivalis and P. denticola are more efficient in stimulating IL-18 than A. actino-mycetemcomitans and F. nucleatum. It may very well be safe to expect that pathogenic bacteria are capable of inducing more IL-18 than less pathogenic organisms, thus contributing to the severity of periodontal disease.

The way we will approach this problem is to use the cultured human monocyte cells (THP-1) to varying concentrations of LPS of periodontal pathogens and also for varying periods of time, and then assay the culture supernatant for the secreted cytokine using an ELISA.

The results of this study will add another dimension to our understanding of LPS-induced immunoregulation and may have important implications in the design of novel therapies for periodontal disease.

In-Vitro Comparison of Efficacy of Two Intracanal Irrigation Systems.

Investigators: Pranav Desai BDS, DDS, clinical assistant professor, Department of Endodontics and Operative Dentistry; Jegdish P. Babu, PhD, associate professor, Dental Research Center and Department of Periodontology; Van Himel, DDS, professor and chair, Department of Endodontics and Operative Dentistry.

Amount Funded: $7,710
Project Period: November 2008 to October 2009

The aim of this research will be to determine the antimicrobial activity of Endovac® (Apical Negative Pressure) and EndoActivator™ (Sonic) irrigation devices against endodontic biofilms and pathogens, in-vitro as compared to traditional needle irrigation in root canal therapy. The null hypothesis shall be stated as such; there is no significant difference in microbial counts from root canal systems irrigated with Endovac® and EndoActivator™ and that a significant difference will be found between these two irrigating devices and needle irrigation. Fifty extracted human teeth will be endodontically cleaned and shaped using three different disinfecting medicaments. Group One (five teeth - control group) Teeth will be irrigated with sterile saline using Max-i-Probe needle after cleaning and shaping. Group Two (15 teeth - experimental group/manual needle irrigation) Irrigation with Max-i-Probe™ needle using 5.25 percent sodium hypochlorite and 17 percent EDTA. Group Three (15 teeth - experimental group) Endo- vac® irrigation with Endovac® using 5.25 percent sodium hypochlorite and 17 percent EDTA. Group Four (15 teeth - experimental group) EndoActivator™ irrigation with EndoActivator™ system using 5.25 percent sodium hypochlorite and 17 percent EDTA.

To assess and compare the antimicrobial activity of irrigation devices all the specimen teeth will be injected with the three test endodontic pathogens, Fusobacterium nucleatum, Prevotella intermedia and Eikenella corrodens. Microbial counts (CFU) will be made by taking a sample at different intervals, and plated on culture media, incubated anaerobically and the number of CFU will be determined.

Results will be evaluated for statistical significance by ANOVA followed by Scheffe’s f-test. Difference in results with a p value less than 0.05 will be considered significant.

Statins regulate IL-1β - induced RANKL and OPG production by Human Gingival Fibroblasts

Investigators: Ivelina N Jurkowski, DMD, resident in Periodontology; Sidney H. Stein, DMD, PhD, associate professor, Department of Periodontology

Amount Funded: $13,505
Project Period: November 2008 to October 2009

The purpose of this project is to evaluate OPG and RANKL production in resting and IL-1β-activated HGF, and to determine the effect of statins on their production. Three-hydroxy-3-methyl-glutaryl-CoA (HMG-CoA) reductase competitive inhibitors, also known as statins, are widely used agents for lowering cholesterol and reducing the risk of a heart attack. They have been on the market for over 10 years and appear to have relatively good safety profiles. Recent data suggests that statins influence bone metabolic activity by stimulating new bone formation both in vivo and in vitro. Statins were also identified as a potent activator of bone morphogenetic protein-2 (BMP-2), an important stimulator of osteoblastic differentiation. In addition to their ability to enhance osteoblastic differentiation, statins also stimulated (continued on next page)
(continued from previous page)

the production of OPG by osteoblasts, which may contribute to their bone-sparing effect. These findings in the field of bone metabolism suggest that statins could be considered as potential agents for treating osteoporosis and possibly periodontal disease. Both diseases share common pathogenic pathways. Up-regulation of interleukin-1β (IL-1β), tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-α), and interleukin-6 (IL-6) induces osteoclastic activity and increased bone turnover rates leading to bone mass loss and osteoporosis. IL-1β is a potent multi-functional cytokine that is involved in host immune and inflammatory responses. It was first named osteoclast-activating factor because of its role in osteoclast differentiation and bone resorption. The various biologic effects of IL-1β are due to its ability to activate a wide range of factors, such as matrix metalloproteinases, nitric oxide synthetase, prostanoids and other cytokines. Bone resorption in periodontitis is orchestrated by the interaction of various cytokines in the inflamed tissue, produced by immune cells such as B- and T-lymphocytes and also by resident cells such as human gingival fibroblasts (HGF) and periodontal ligament (PDL) cells. Three molecules, members of the TNF ligand and receptor superfamilies regulate the process of osteoclast formation via cell to cell interactions. The first one, receptor activator for NF-kB ligand (RANKL) is expressed on hematopoetic stromal cells and periodontal osteoblasts as well as on T- and B-lymphocytes. RANKL interacts with its corresponding receptor, RANK, on mononucleated osteoclast precursors and induces their activation to multinuclear bone resorbing osteoclasts. RANKL is produced in soluble as well as membrane-bound form. The effects of RANKL are blocked by its soluble decoy receptor, osteoprotegerin (OPG), thus inhibiting osteoclast differentiation, activation and survival. RANKL and OPG are produced by many cells in the body including human gingival fibroblasts and PDL cells. Thus, the resident cells may play a major role in RANK/RANKL/OPG balance at connective tissue/bone interface in both health and disease state. Previously the effect of IL-1β on RANKL and OPG expression by HGF and PDL cells was studied. Without stimulation, OPG mRNA expression from HGF was three times greater than from PDL cells. Following stimulation the expression increased significantly for both cell types. At the moment, no data exists comparing the effect of statins on OPG/RANKL produc-
tion by resting and IL-1β-activated HGF.

Assessment of Dental Patient Satisfaction and Patient-Reported Dental Care Disparities Between Patient Groups

Investigators: Anastasios Karydis, DDS, assistant professor, Department of Periodontology; Mark Scarbecz, PhD, associate professor, Department of Pediatric Dentistry and Community Oral Health; Paul Bland, DDS, associate professor and interim chair, Department of Periodontology

Amount Funded: $2,600
Project Period: February to November 2009

The objective of this study is to investigate the patients’ expectations about dental services, their satisfaction with the dental services offered at the graduate dental clinics of the UT College of Dentistry, and patient-reported dental care disparities between different groups of patients and between patients’ expectations about dental care and their satisfaction. The following specific aims will be determined based on their age, gender, socioeconomic status, race and level of dental care: the dental patients’ expectations of dental health care, their satisfaction with the dental services received at the UT College of Dentistry, the quality gap between the patients’ expectations and their satisfaction with the dental services received, and the disparities in dental care satisfaction, expectations and quality gap between different patient groups.

Materials and Methods: Two questionnaires will be used that pertain to characteristics of dental services. The first questionnaire, Dental Expectations Questionnaire (DEQ), assesses patients’ expectations and priorities from the desired dental care. The second, Dental Satisfaction Questionnaire (DSQ), assesses patients’ perceptions and level of satisfaction from the provided dental care. All questions pertain to qualities and qualifications that a dental care provider, the dental practice staff and the dental practice itself may have. Preliminary work has shown that patients tend to evaluate certain characteristics of the dental care into groups of relevant aspects, and patients of different socioeconomic status have different expectations from their oral care. The characteristics examined are classified into five quality dimensions of dental health care, which are assurance, empathy, reliability, responsiveness and tangible characteristics.

At least 50 (maximum of 100) consecutive adult patients that visit the prosthodontic, periodontal or faculty practice clinics, and the parents of 50 to 100 children that visit the clinic of Pediatric Dentistry at the UT College of Dentistry and require multiple visits will be asked to participate in this study (total number of 300 to 400 participants). The DEQ questionnaire will be distributed and completed within the first two patient visits, while the DSQ questionnaire will be distributed during the last two patient visits.

The mission of the UT College of Dentistry is to improve oral health through education, research and public service. To achieve the goal for oral health care of the highest standards, dental providers need to assess patient satisfaction and respond to patient needs and expectations. The analysis and comparison of the data from the two questionnaires can quantify the difference or “quality gap” between patients’ expectations and their satisfaction from the services rendered. Information gathered from this study may be used for the reaccreditation of the graduate programs. The identification of possible differences between patients’ groups and their expectations and satisfaction can help in the planning and improvement of the relevant graduate programs. Using the results of this study, UT College of Dentistry may tailor dental services in such a manner as to target specific groups and meet patients’ expectations. Further insight on the aspects of dental care that specific groups consider more important may increase patient satisfaction, compliance with recommended treatment and reduce the number of cancelled appointments.

Development of Faculty of the UT College of Dentistry

Investigator: UT College of Dentistry Faculty Development Committee Chair, Mary Aubertin, DMD, associate professor, Department of Biologic and Diagnostic Sciences

Amount Funded: $20,250
Project Period: May to September 2009

This alumni academic enrichment grant will enable the Faculty Development Committee to enlist the Academy for Academic Leadership organization, a nationally recognized dental educator training group, to bring several didactic sessions and workshops to the campus of the UT College of Dentistry. The purpose of these didactic sessions and workshops is to improve the quality of both didactic and clinical teaching at the faculty of the college and provide insight into teaching methodology and pedagogy for working with current generations of dental students to best prepare them for their future careers in dentistry.
Analysis of Tooth Shade Duplication Utilizing a Spectrophotometer

Investigators: Kenneth A. King, DDS, associate professor, Department of Restorative Dentistry; Suzanne Coco, DDS, MSD, assistant professor, Department of Restorative Dentistry; Audrey M. Selecman, DDS, MDS, assistant professor, Department of Restorative Dentistry; Cindy Deaton, CDT, teaching associate, Department of Restorative Dentistry

Amount Funded: $12,412.45
Project Period: March to September 2009

Instrumental color measurement devices have been introduced as a means to provide a more objective method of tooth shade determination. A precise measurement would improve communication with the dental laboratory and thereby improving patient satisfaction. Vita Easyshade Compact Spectrophotometer is calibrated to be used with the Vitapan 3D Master Shade Guide and Vitapan Classical Shade Guide and their corresponding porcelains. Utilization of this system would allow for accurate reproduction of the desired shade. The Vita Easyshade Compact spectrophotometer is claimed to provide fast and accurate measurement of a tooth’s shade, verify a crown’s shade prior to cementation, and check the crown shade accuracy during the porcelain buildup and correct as needed.

For this study, 12 porcelain shade disks for each of the 29 Vitapan 3D Master Shade Guide tabs will be fabricated. Six porcelain disks of each shade tab will be fabricated and the shade verified during the buildup utilizing the Vita Easyshade Compact. An additional six porcelain disks for each of the 29 Vitapan 3D Master Shade Guide will be fabricated by visually matching to each of the corresponding 3D Master Shade tab. After fabrication, all 12 porcelain disks will be evaluated for color duplication with the Vita Easyshade Compact.

A LabScan™ XE scanning spectrocolorimeter (Hunter Associates Laboratory) will be used to measure the L*a*b* values of the custom made porcelain disks. The L*a*b* values of the porcelain disks will be used to calculate the Delta E (ΔE) values of the porcelain disks when compared each other (both fabrication methods) and to the L*a*b* values of 25 3D Master Shade Guides from a previous study.

The null hypothesis of this study is that there are no discernible color differences between the porcelain disks of the same shade fabricated utilizing the Vita Easyshade Compact, the porcelain disks of the same shade fabricated visually, and the corresponding shade tabs from the 29 Vitapan 3D Master Shade Guides.

Geographic Variability in the Tempos of Tooth Formation in the United States

Investigators: Ann S. Smith, DDS, assistant professor, Department of Pediatric Dentistry and Community Oral Health; Edward F. Harris, PhD, professor, Department of Orthodontics

Amount Funded: $4,370
Proposed Dates: June 2009 to May 2011

Health professionals have an obligation to evaluate children’s biological development. There are several methods available, but the use of dental crown-root formation as viewed radiographically (so-called dental age) is a common approach. This is particularly true in pediatric dentistry and orthodontics – the two specialties that deal with growing patients – where the onset of treatment and the kind of treatment often depend on the child’s dental age. Dental age typically is interpreted from a panoramic radiograph, which is taken periodically by pediatric dentists as part of the standard of care in children from about three years of age onwards. Curiously, there are no appropriate standards to gauge the dental age of children in the United States. Standards now employed either are antiquated (Nolla 1960; Moorrees et al. 1963) or are from foreign studies where it is known that the tempo of growth is different (Demirjian et al. 1973).

The present research aims to address two issues. First, we will collect data from multiple sites in the United States (a geographically cluster sampling strategy) to develop contemporary, sex-specific standards on American Caucasian children (children of other ethnic groups are known to grow at different tempos than Caucasians). Secondly, as a related issue, we will test the data for regional differences; our hypothesis is that migration patterns to the United States are still reflected in discernible differences in the rates of children’s dental development. Support of this is evident in the regional (national) differences documented in Europe. Cluster sampling will develop data (ca. 400 cases per cluster) on six regions. At this initial phase, regions are selected using contacts with colleagues, but with as great a dispersion around the country as possible. Groups can differ among regions either the amount of development and/or the tempo (rate) of development. These differences will be tested using analysis of covariance models. A finding of no difference would be anticipated if migration within the country has homogenized the population, though data (SNP and mitochondrial data) argue against this.

This project will develop contemporary sex-specific standards to gauge dental age in growing patients, which meets a glaring need both as regards routine clinical treatment and also to assess the growth of children with special needs.
**Continuing Dental Education**

**August – December 2009**

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Please call (901) 448-5386 or visit us online at http://cde.utmem.edu for more information on these courses.

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**Right Here in Memphis**

In February, UTHSC launched its new “Right Here in Memphis” ad campaign, which has generated more than 3.7 million impressions and significantly increased traffic to the UTHSC home page. This ad, produced in honor of the 2009 graduating class, appeared on local TV Websites, on Google Network sites and in selected print media.
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