UCLA Dentistry plays an important role in the future of healthcare. We are preparing future dentists to treat a large, diverse population. This entails training and educating healthcare providers to have confidence in their clinical skills and a strong grasp of the art and science of dentistry.

Over the past 50 years, UCLA has built a reputation for excellence in dental education and for this, we are a top choice for dental school candidates. In the 2015-2016 fiscal year, we said goodbye to the Class of 2016 and welcomed the Class of 2019. We are confident that our new graduates now have the tools and skills necessary to treat a diverse population, and we hope to stay connected to them as they progress in their careers.

Our role in healthcare also extends to our research activities, which can be translated into new methods of managing and treating oral diseases and conditions. Our success in this area is evidenced by the fact that we continue to be among the top funded dental schools by the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. Additionally, over the past five years, we have had a 33.5 percent increase in the annual amount of awarded contracts and grants. This funding helps fuel our scholarly pursuits in the research and discovery process.

Our predoctoral and specialty clinics are the bedrock of our clinical training curriculum. The patient care we provide to the regional population not only benefits the patients who receive treatment, but also provides an environment for our students and trainees to refine their skills. During the 2015-2016 fiscal year, among the many renovation projects that occurred, the clinics managed a complete overhaul of the first floor lobby and patient assessment area. Additionally, a new patient management system was adopted. Combined, these upgrades added to our goal of improving the patient experience.

Public service and outreach pushes our students beyond our school walls and enriches their overall training experience. Through participation at annual health fairs and outreach events, our students, residents, trainees, and faculty make a difference in the lives that they touch. In turn, those patients who receive care provide critical experience to our students and trainees.

To our donors, Apollonian Society members, alumni, and Board of Counselors, you make up the community of support that continues to build the foundation for our future. Thank you for your time and gifts, because without you, this dental school would not be nearly as strong.

I would like to end this message by recognizing one of the most important events that happened in the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Dr. No Hee Park, my predecessor, stepped down as dean on June 30. He led the dental school for 18 years—during which time every area of the School thrived and grew. As I look to the future, I hope to continue the standard of striving for excellence that Dr. Park set.

Sincerely,

Paul H. Krebsbach, DDS, PhD

Pursuing
Excellence
UCLA’s reputation for excellence in education attracts candidates from all over the world to our degree and certificate programs and professional schools. The students, residents, and trainees in the UCLA School of Dentistry are bright and talented, and represent a diverse array of backgrounds, life experiences, and professional goals.

On the following pages, you will have the pleasure of meeting a dental student who has mastered the art of balancing his professional and personal responsibilities; and who looks forward to providing oral healthcare in an underserved community. You will also meet a pediatric dentistry resident who has made UCLA her academic home for the past 14 years in her pursuit of knowledge and preparation for a career as an academic dentist. Finally, you will meet a student enrolled in our Professional Program for International Dentists, who, despite hardship and adversity, maintains a positive outlook and plans to take his UCLA training back to his home country.

We are grateful to all the individuals, foundations, and government entities who have supported our students through scholarships, fellowships, and grants, which reached nearly $3.5 million dollars in the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

UCLA Dentistry would not be a top destination for those seeking dental education and training were it not for the support of the entire community of faculty, staff, alumni, and friends. Thanks to this generous support, the future of the dental profession is in very capable hands.

Future Plans: Class of 2016

35% Private Practice

65% Postgraduate Education

Future Plans: Class of 2016

Private Practice

General Practice/Adv. Edu. in Gen. Dentistry 30
Orthodontics 15
Pediatric Dentistry 10
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery 5
Prosthodontics 4
Endodontics 2
Oral Pathology 1
Periodontics 1
PhD in Oral Biology 1
Masters in Public Health 1

Postgraduate Education

At a Glance: Class of 2019

Females 39
Males 48
Bachelor’s 84
Master’s 2

Average Dental Admission Test Score

Average of PAT 23
Average of Total Science 22

Overall GPA 3.74
Science GPA 3.70

Range of Ages 21-33
“For as long as I can remember, I’ve wanted to be a dentist,” said Joshua Vert, Class of 2017. “I enjoyed going to the dentist as a kid, which seemed odd to my mom at the time, but it’s worked out well.”

Although Joshua was accepted to several dental schools after his first round of applications, he didn’t get into UCLA Dentistry — his top choice. “I didn’t let that discourage me. I decided to take a 2-year hiatus and pursue a Master’s program at BYU in Molecular Biology,” he reflected. The timing worked out well, as his then girlfriend, now wife, was in an art history program at BYU as well.

The second time was a charm. He entered the UCLA School of Dentistry in the fall of 2013 and is on track to graduate with the DDS Class of 2017. He wasn’t a stranger to the UCLA campus, having done his Bachelor’s degree here in psychological biology. One day, he even sees himself as a dental educator.

“I want Dr. Bibb’s job as the School’s associate dean for student affairs. She’s the biggest advocate for the students,” said Joshua. “It was nice to come into a new environment and come across someone who wants to support you and see what you can offer the school.”

In addition to wearing his dental student hat, Joshua also has responsibilities as a husband and a father of a 2-year-old, with another baby on the way. With a growing family, keeping debt to a minimum has been a goal of his over the past few years. He applies for every scholarship where he fits the requirements.

“UCLA has been very kind to me. The scholarships and financial aid I’ve received have been crucial over the last few years,” said Joshua. “I’ve received the Apollonian Society Scholarship, the Wyatt Rory Hume Endowed Scholarship, and the Foundation of the Pierre Fauchard Academy Scholarship.”

Joshua is also the recipient of the National Health Service Corps Scholarship — a coveted reimbursement plan, which is only offered to 20 dental students across the country. The program covers dental school tuition for all four years, and in return the recipient will commit to practicing in an underserved area. Recipients can go on to specialize once their service is complete. In Joshua’s case, he has committed to working in an underserved area for four years after he graduates.

“To learn more about how you can support student scholarship, visit www.dentistry.ucla.edu/scholarships.”

Joshua Vert, DDS Class of 2017
I want to make sure that children and adolescents understand the importance of expanding their lives through education. I come from an underrepresented background in dentistry and I hope that my experience will resonate with people like me.”

Ruth Alvarez, MS ’09, DDS ’13, PhD ’16, Pediatric Resident (expected ’18)

“Dental school taught me to be good at multitasking – you have to be,” said Ruth. “My biggest take away during dental school were the relationships I built. My friends, professors, and patients made those four years such a rewarding experience.”

Ruth graduated from dental school in 2013 and added a DDS followed by a PhD degree in 2016 to her growing list of credentials. But, she still wasn’t satisfied. There was a clinical piece of her training that she felt was missing. Going back to her love for children, she decided to pursue an advanced training certificate in pediatric dentistry, and of course, UCLA was at the top of the list.

After all these years at UCLA, Ruth hopes to instill the same sense of passion about education and the importance of pursuing knowledge to younger generations. “I want to make sure that children and adolescents understand the importance of expanding their lives by attending college,” said Ruth. “Growing up, I was blessed to be surrounded by people who changed my life, and helped me get to where I am today. I’d like to do the same for younger generations.”

Between her third and fourth year of dental school, Ruth met her future husband, who is now an orthodontist, while at a Hispanic Dental Association conference – one of the many groups she was involved in during her dental training. She also volunteered with the Dental Education Outreach program – a mentoring group that educates children on the importance of oral health for kindergarten through fifth grade; and the Inglewood Clinic Group, which offers low to free dental services for children in need at the Children’s Dental Center.

Pursuit of Knowledge

“Dental school taught me to be good at multitasking – you have to be,” said Ruth. “My biggest take away during dental school were the relationships I built. My friends, professors, and patients made those four years such a rewarding experience.”

Ruth graduated from dental school in 2013 and added a DDS followed by a PhD degree in 2016 to her growing list of credentials. But, she still wasn’t satisfied. There was a clinical piece of her training that she felt was missing. Going back to her love for children, she decided to pursue an advanced training certificate in pediatric dentistry, and of course, UCLA was at the top of the list.

After all these years at UCLA, Ruth hopes to instill the same sense of passion about education and the importance of pursuing knowledge to younger generations. “I want to make sure that children and adolescents understand the importance of expanding their lives by attending college,” said Ruth. “Growing up, I was blessed to be surrounded by people who changed my life, and helped me get to where I am today. I’d like to do the same for younger generations.”

Between her third and fourth year of dental school, Ruth met her future husband, who is now an orthodontist, while at a Hispanic Dental Association conference – one of the many groups she was involved in during her dental training. She also volunteered with the Dental Education Outreach program – a mentoring group that educates children on the importance of oral health for kindergarten through fifth grade; and the Inglewood Clinic Group, which offers low to free dental services for children in need at the Children’s Dental Center.

Pursuit of Knowledge

“Dental school taught me to be good at multitasking – you have to be,” said Ruth. “My biggest take away during dental school were the relationships I built. My friends, professors, and patients made those four years such a rewarding experience.”

Ruth graduated from dental school in 2013 and added a DDS followed by a PhD degree in 2016 to her growing list of credentials. But, she still wasn’t satisfied. There was a clinical piece of her training that she felt was missing. Going back to her love for children, she decided to pursue an advanced training certificate in pediatric dentistry, and of course, UCLA was at the top of the list.

After all these years at UCLA, Ruth hopes to instill the same sense of passion about education and the importance of pursuing knowledge to younger generations. “I want to make sure that children and adolescents understand the importance of expanding their lives by attending college,” said Ruth. “Growing up, I was blessed to be surrounded by people who changed my life, and helped me get to where I am today. I’d like to do the same for younger generations.”

Between her third and fourth year of dental school, Ruth met her future husband, who is now an orthodontist, while at a Hispanic Dental Association conference – one of the many groups she was involved in during her dental training. She also volunteered with the Dental Education Outreach program – a mentoring group that educates children on the importance of oral health for kindergarten through fifth grade; and the Inglewood Clinic Group, which offers low to free dental services for children in need at the Children’s Dental Center.

Pursuit of Knowledge

“Dental school taught me to be good at multitasking – you have to be,” said Ruth. “My biggest take away during dental school were the relationships I built. My friends, professors, and patients made those four years such a rewarding experience.”

Ruth graduated from dental school in 2013 and added a DDS followed by a PhD degree in 2016 to her growing list of credentials. But, she still wasn’t satisfied. There was a clinical piece of her training that she felt was missing. Going back to her love for children, she decided to pursue an advanced training certificate in pediatric dentistry, and of course, UCLA was at the top of the list.

After all these years at UCLA, Ruth hopes to instill the same sense of passion about education and the importance of pursuing knowledge to younger generations. “I want to make sure that children and adolescents understand the importance of expanding their lives by attending college,” said Ruth. “Growing up, I was blessed to be surrounded by people who changed my life, and helped me get to where I am today. I’d like to do the same for younger generations.”

Between her third and fourth year of dental school, Ruth met her future husband, who is now an orthodontist, while at a Hispanic Dental Association conference – one of the many groups she was involved in during her dental training. She also volunteered with the Dental Education Outreach program – a mentoring group that educates children on the importance of oral health for kindergarten through fifth grade; and the Inglewood Clinic Group, which offers low to free dental services for children in need at the Children’s Dental Center.
I was always taught that any type of work was valuable as you were being paid in experience,” said Ibrahim Saeed, an incoming trainee enrolled in UCLA Dentistry’s Professional Program for International Dentists (PPID).

This is a mantra that has served him well. The Iraqi-licensed dentist is approaching his UCLA training like he does everything else – with hard work and passion.

Ibrahim was born in Iraq in 1988, right before the first Gulf War broke out. “I grew up in a world where there weren’t a lot of educational resources available,” he said. “We didn’t have books or chairs. We were also very isolated from the rest of the world.”

At one point, his uncle, who was living in the United States, would send the family American movies and cartoons so that Ibrahim and his siblings could learn conversational English and better understand American culture.

When Iraq was no longer safe, Ibrahim and his family had the opportunity to move to Germany in 2002 and then Jordan in 2003. After a few years of living outside of Iraq, they tried to move back home, but their country continued to experience conflict and unrest. Ibrahim’s father was an Ambassador in the Iraqi foreign affairs office and his position took the family to India.

It was when Ibrahim entered high school in India that he chose dentistry as a profession. “As a painter, I wanted to find a profession where I could use my hands, I thought I could also help people achieve a beautiful smile,” he said.

Education was never an option in Ibrahim’s family. It was always given that he would go on to university after high school. His mother had been an important role model to him throughout his adolescence and always emphasized that education opened doors and dictated respect.

“Both my mother and father are huge influences in my life. My mother was a geologist, which was a profession that was unheard of for an Iraqi female,” said Ibrahim. “Without my family and their support, I wouldn’t be where I am today.”

Ibrahim was accepted to dental school in Egypt in 2006. “It was an entirely new experience for me. Up until that point, I had always lived with my family,” he said.

After receiving his BDS degree, Ibrahim tried, yet again, to go back to his home country. This time, with a degree and clinical training in hand, he was determined to help people in Iraq with their oral health needs. Amid continued unrest, he finally came to the conclusion that Iraq was not the best place to practice. He was able to secure a volunteer position at three clinics in northern Germany where he shadowed professional dentists and refined his German – a language that he had started to learn at an earlier age, but never became fluent in.

Having the opportunity to attend UCLA is a once in a lifetime opportunity,” said Ibrahim. “The professors teach with enthusiasm and the collaboration amongst the faculty and students is inspiring.”

Ibrahim Saeed, BDS, UCLA DDS Class of 2018

“A Long Journey Home

After his time in Germany ended, he decided to become a licensed dentist in the U.S., which would allow him the freedom to practice dentistry but go back to Iraq once a year to volunteer at a dental clinic.

In 2014, he made the move to the U.S. and applied for asylum, which came with a 15-month approval process. “I always thought of America as a place where hard work pays off,” said Ibrahim. “It’s a place where I would love to build a life and raise children.”

With only a few days left before the deadline for UCLA’s PPID program, Ibrahim submitted his application and his scores on the National Board Dental Examination and the English proficiency test (TOEFL).

“Having the opportunity to attend UCLA is a once in a lifetime opportunity,” said Ibrahim. “The professors teach with enthusiasm and the collaboration amongst the faculty and students is inspiring.”

Ibrahim has completed the summer immersion part of the PPID program. He’s looking forward to becoming better acquainted with the Class of 2018. After he graduates, he plans to apply to a residency program.

Ibrahim still holds onto his dream of returning to Iraq full-time, but in the meantime is thankful for his present opportunities. “I want to take the world-class dental training and education that I receive at UCLA to help patients overseas and expose students to the advanced materials and technology we have here in the U.S.”

To learn more about how you can support the student experience, visit www.dentistry.ucla.edu/apollonians.
Continuing Education Opens Doors

“No other dental school provides this high of a caliber for an implant course for dentists,” said Dr. Peter Moy, a professor in the section of oral and maxillofacial surgery and director of the UCLA Dental Implant Continuum. “We limit our class size so that the ratio between instructors and dentists is small and the quality of training is the best it can be.”

At one point, dental implants were seen as failures. An implant meant that traditional methods of dental care could not save a tooth. But over the last 10 years, with the introduction of new techniques and instruments, implants have come a long way. UCLA Dentistry was one of the first dental schools to offer continuing education courses in this field.

At the end of 2015, the School’s Office of Continuing Dental Education launched a revamped implant dentistry course. The course was one of 78 offered in the 2015-2016 fiscal year and is set-up in a 2-year format that runs for six sessions and includes live patient treatment.

“Participants who attend this course are dental professionals who want to provide the best for their own patients,” said Dr. Todd Schoenbaum, director of continuing dental education. “They complete our course with the confidence and knowledge that they can perform an implant with a high level of success.”

For nearly 1,500 participants in the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the dental school’s continuing education program offered instruction that refined their skills and added to their credentials.

“We have people from all over the country and even the world coming to attend our courses,” said Dr. Schoenbaum. “Attending a UCLA continuing dental education course is more than just keeping up-to-date with the profession, they are receiving instruction from world-class clinicians.”

For information on the Office of Continuing Dental Education, please visit www.dentistry.ucla.edu/continuingeducation.

SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS AWARDED TO DDS STUDENTS 2015-2016

Aid from University Sources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship &amp; Grant Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dean's Scholarship &amp; Dentistry Grant</td>
<td>$2,095,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Student Aid Health Science Grant</td>
<td>$218,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Regents Scholarship</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental School Scholarship Awards</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Miki Lee Scholaship</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich &amp; Marion Wilson Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Society Scholarship</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rash &amp; Shiley Shapiro Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Board of Counselors Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quini Family Scholarship</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Foundation of California Dentists Scholarship</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyatt Roy Humen Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yip Family Scholarship</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yoshio Yamaguchi Scholarship</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Board of Counselors Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Foundation of California Dentists Scholarship</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven &amp; Ron Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal (Aid from University Sources) $2,519,437

Aid from Outside Sources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship &amp; Grant Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US Veterans Benefits</td>
<td>$241,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Navy Health Professions Scholarship Program</td>
<td>$189,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Army Health Professions Scholarship Program</td>
<td>$189,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Air Force Health Professions Scholarship Program</td>
<td>$90,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Health Service Corps Scholarship</td>
<td>$89,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta Dental Hispanic Initiative Scholarship</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven S. Koh Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Howard Y. Chen Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy &amp; Randy Wall Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Hooley Scholarship</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burbank Health Care Foundation Medical Scholarship Award</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Trade Alliance Foundation Scholarship Award</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Dental Association Medical Education Award</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Foundation of the Pierre Fauchard Academy Scholarship</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal (Aid from Outside Sources) $895,768

Total Aid from all University and Outside Sources $3,415,205

To learn more about how you can support student scholarship, visit www.dentistry.ucla.edu/scholarships.
Research and scholarly pursuits are essential endeavors for UCLA School of Dentistry faculty, students, and residents. Research contributes to the knowledge necessary to improve the oral and systemic health of the people of California, the nation, and the world. The 2015-2016 fiscal year was no exception to the continued success of our research faculty, whose projects and studies covered a wide-range of cutting-edge topics. From the use of nanodiamonds in root canals to improving bone regeneration through a combination of proteins, UCLA Dentistry is at the forefront of dental and oral health research.

From July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, UCLA Faculty were awarded 34 new grants and contracts from various funding sources, totaling over $23 million. The total amount of new and continuing grants and contracts that were received totaled nearly $19 million, a roughly 2 percent increase from the previous fiscal year and a 33.5 percent increase from five years ago. UCLA Dentistry continues to be among the top-funded dental schools by the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, which totaled $7.8 million for 15-16. An overview of our research funding appears on the opposite page.

Our faculty were featured in widely recognized scientific journals, including Nature Medicine, Cell, and Science Translational Medicine. In total, over 225 original articles and nearly 20 book or book chapters were published by our faculty. Of the 228 articles that were published, nearly 23 percent were featured in journals with an impact factor of 5 and above, demonstrating the importance of our faculty’s research findings.

Researchers at the School of Dentistry are creating new areas of study that hold promise of breakthroughs that will better our world.

A full list of new contracts and grants that were awarded and original research publications can be found online at www.dentistry.ucla.edu/research.
Breathing Easier

The use of e-cigarettes has increased dramatically in the past few years, particularly among women and young adults. According to the Centers for Disease Control, roughly 2.4 million middle school and high school students were using e-cigarettes in 2014. Misleading public health advertising of e-cigarettes states that the product is healthier than tobacco cigarettes—a message that caught the attention of UCLA School of Dentistry oral health researchers, Drs. Shen Hu and Diana Messadi.

Dr. Hu, an associate professor of oral biology and medicine, was also struck by the lack of empirical data that existed on the physical health effects of e-cigarettes. “The effects of conventional cigarette smoke on human health have been well documented,” he said. “But there has been a lot less research on the health risks of e-cigarettes, particularly their effect on the oral cavity—the portion of the mouth behind the teeth and gums.”

The majority of the published studies on e-cigarettes focused on understanding users’ behavior or pathological symptoms. There is a wide range of reported positive and negative health effects. “We feel that consumers are getting mixed messages,” said Dr. Messadi, the School’s associate dean for education and faculty development. “As oral health researchers, we felt it was our responsibility to provide more evidence on the physical effects of e-cigarettes.”

The pair reached out to colleagues at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health to collaborate on a study where they would simulate the act of smoking an e-cigarette and record the effects that the vapors had on oral epithelial cells.

With their combined resources, the team of researchers started with normal keratinocytes, or cells from the outermost layer of the skin, of the oral cavity and exposed the cells to two different brands of e-cigarette vapor for 24 hours. The vapor, containing varying amounts of nicotine or menthol, was generated by a machine built to “smoke” cigarettes like a human would. The researchers then measured the particle concentration and size distribution of the simulated vapors.

They found that e-cigarette vapors, which contain nanoparticles of metal, silica, and carbon, vary in concentration depending on the e-cigarette brand and flavor. The team’s results from their laboratory tests on cultured cell lines showed that e-cigarette vapors may significantly weaken the oral cavity’s natural defense mechanism by decreasing the levels of an antioxidant called glutathione.

“We found that e-cigarettes contain toxic substances and nanoparticles that could kill normal oral keratinocytes by roughly 85 percent,” said Dr. Hu. “Based on our findings, we believe that similar results could happen in a human study and that e-cigarettes could increase users’ risk for oral disease.”

On the basis of what the team knows now, they feel that clinicians should be counseling their nonsmoking patients to avoid e-cigarettes. “Especially, they should discourage adolescents and young adults from starting to use e-cigarettes if they’ve never smoked before,” said Dr. Messadi. “For adults who want to stop smoking, I tell them if it stops them from smoking, it’s good, but in the long run they also have to stop using it.” She also noted that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has not approved e-cigarettes for smoking cessation.

The team plans to translate their findings in the laboratory, to a human study. “A small but significant portion of dental patients at UCLA Dental Clinics have used e-cigarettes, which will provide sufficient patient resources for our planned studies,” Dr. Hu said. “Our hope is to develop a screening model to help predict toxicity levels of e-cigarette products, so that consumers are better informed.”

“Our hope is to develop a screening model to help predict toxicity levels of e-cigarette products, so that consumers are better informed.”

Dr. Shen Hu, Associate Professor of Oral Biology pictured at left with Dr. Diana Messadi, Professor & Chair of Oral Medicine & Orofacial Pain
Co-Director of the Weintraub Center for Reconstructive Biotechnology

Dr. Dean Ho, Professor of Oral Biology & Medicine,

“This is a landmark advance.”

Researchers from the School of Dentistry, in collaboration with the Schools of Engineering and Medicine, developed a revolutionary technology platform called phenotypic personalized medicine, or PPM, which can accurately identify a person’s optimal drug and dose combinations throughout an entire course of treatment.

Unlike other approaches to personalized medicine currently being tested, PPM doesn’t require complex, time-consuming analysis of a patient’s genetic information or of the disease’s cellular makeup. Instead, it produces a personalized drug regimen based on information about a person’s phenotype — biological traits that could include anything from blood pressure to the size of a tumor or the health of a specific organ. The team’s research was featured on the cover of Science Translational Medicine’s April issue.

Dr. Dean Ho, a professor of oral biology and medicine at the dental school, said one of the platform’s remarkable capabilities is its ability to produce graphs personalized for each individual patient that represent precisely how they respond to treatment.

The graphs plot the drug dose along the horizontal axis and the patient’s response to treatment on the vertical axis. (Data for the patient’s response is dictated by whatever health goal the doctor is trying to achieve: shrinking the size of a tumor, having a certain level of medication in the blood or reducing toxicity level, for example.)

“Remarkably, every person produces a graph in the shape of a curve called a parabola — picture a ‘U’ either right-side up or upside down — and that parabola dictates how doctors should proceed with the treatment,” said Dr. Ho, who also holds an appointment in the UCLA Department of Bioengineering.

“Each person’s unique curve provides doctors with a visual guide to determine the exact doses of medicine they should prescribe as the treatment continues, which is the key to achieving truly personalized medicine.”

Another benefit of PPM is that it can be re-calibrated in real time to adapt to changes during treatment — for example if a person undergoes surgery or develops an infection, or if their organ function changes over time, any of which could mean that drug dosages or combinations need to be modified. The platform can use the patient’s new data to provide doctors with a new parabola and revised recommendations.

Tested for post-transplant care

The researchers performed a study on eight people who had recently received liver transplants. Most transplant patients take an immunosuppressive drug called tacrolimus to prevent their bodies from rejecting the organ. In general, doctors prescribe dosages of the drug based on how other patients have responded in the past, and they adjust those amounts if and when complications arise. In the UCLA research, four patients received care following the traditional approach and four received treatment that was guided by PPM.

“Properly managing patients’ immunosuppression can have profound long-term impacts on the survival of the organ and the patient,” said Dr. Ali Zarrinpar, assistant professor of surgery in the UCLA division of liver and pancreas transplantation and a collaborating researcher of the study. “This study shows that we can pinpoint drug doses that can substantially improve patient outcomes. The ability to confidently and systematically guide the treatment of each patient is a critical advance in minimizing the chance that transplant recipients will reject their new organs, while also avoiding drug side effects.”

To know whether the PPM approach was successful, researchers wanted to see the amount of tacrolimus in each patient’s body stay within the “ideal” range, as dictated by each patient’s unique parabola-shaped graph. They found that those who were treated following PPM spent as much as 50 percent less time outside of that ideal range than the patients whose treatment followed the traditional approach.

“Optimizing the drug ratios during combination therapy for a population or a specific patient has, until now, been virtually impossible,” said Chih-Ming Ho, who is UCLA Engineering’s Ben Rich–Lockheed Martin Professor, and a pioneer in developing PPM. “Our ability to calibrate how individual patients respond to treatment and to use that information to robustly guide their regimen based on the parabola-based approach has made personalized medicine a reality.”

The team is currently using PPM in several other clinical trials, some of which are already underway, including one for treating cancer and infectious diseases.

Diagram opposite page: Compilation of patients’ specific parabolic response surfaces, which are the keys to personalized medicine. They represent responses to combination therapy for individual patients for liver transplant immunosuppression.

For decades, doctors and scientists have predicted that personalized medicine — tailoring drug doses and combinations to people’s specific diseases and body chemistry — would be the future of healthcare.

Personalizing Medicine

We have found that every patient’s response to medical treatment — for diseases ranging from cancer to infectious diseases, or following an organ transplant — produces a diagnostic road map. This is a landmark advance.”

Dr. Dean Ho, Professor of Oral Biology & Medicine, Co-Director of the Weintraub Center for Reconstructive Biotechnology
Improving the Patient Experience

Quality patient care is among our top priorities at the UCLA School of Dentistry. Our academic programs, research, and scholarly activities, and major capital improvements are all made with the ultimate objective of improving the delivery of dental care. In the 2015-2016 fiscal year, several improvements were made to our facilities and operations in order to enhance our patients’ experiences.

Physical Infrastructure Upgrades

The first floor clinic lobby was entirely refurbished, upgrades included entry doors compliant with the American Disability Act (ADA), internal glass doors, cashier windows with ADA compliant counters, new ceilings and energy efficient lighting, a waiting area with modern furniture, and all new wall coverings and structural pillars. The patient registration area now highlights the west wall sculpture, which is an original unique piece of artwork representing enamel prisms. The project was accentuated with new signage throughout the lobby. Please visit our first floor clinic lobby to experience the renewed atmosphere of the area.

Other major improvements made throughout our clinics include a change of floor plan in the operating rooms and the installation of modern equipment in the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery clinic; the creation of a new waiting room for the Postgraduate Periodontics Clinic; and the replacement of the dental chairs, units and cabinets in the Patient Assessment (previously Oral Diagnosis) and Postgraduate Orofacial Pain clinics. Additionally, some upgrades were made to the Oral Radiology clinical facilities. Combined, these physical improvements have modernized units in the dental school that were showing signs of aging, and collectively represent our ongoing efforts to have facilities that match the cutting-edge nature of the dental care that we provide.

Patient Management Software Upgrades

After a year of planning, nearly all of the clinic units in the School converted their patient record management system from GSD to axiUm, which is a software product that has been developed over the last several years and is used by over fifty dental schools in the United States. This conversion brings a more robust system to the UCLA Dental Clinics and helps to streamline the management of patient records in our highly decentralized operation. You can read more about the axiUm conversion on page 23.

Looking Forward

Our UCLA Dental Clinics have vastly improved fiscal outcomes in the last five years and have culminated with unprecedented results in 2016. A full 5-year overview of the clinic’s financial performance appears on the next page. While we look forward to maintaining a fiscally sound operation, our clinic services need to balance those efforts with a focus and devotion of resources to the students’ and residents’ experiences during training, and ensure that the proper allocation of resources are congruent with our strategic planning and initiatives.

“We have a responsibility to our patients and students to provide the best care possible and the highest standard of training,” said Gary Herman ’73, supervising group practice director in the pre-doctoral clinic. “Additional resources, the expansion of our infrastructure, and maintaining highly qualified faculty are all needed to reach the level we desire.”
“It’s been a long, up-hill road,” said Dr. Paulo Camargo, associate dean for clinical dental sciences and chair of the section of periodontics. “After five years of securing alternative funding, streamlining our operations, and identifying opportunities to contain expenses, we have increased our patient care revenue by nearly 16 percent and our profit by 250 percent over the past five years.”

The 2008 financial collapse and the subsequent Great Recession had a profoundly negative impact on the School’s clinical operations. By the end of the 2011 fiscal year, the clinics were operating at a nearly $15 million deficit.

Optimizing Our Performance

To add to the already challenging financial state, services covered by adult Denti-Cal were canceled; and because of this, many of the general clinic patients weren’t able to pay for dental services. Dental students also experienced a steep decline in the availability of patients to complete the hands-on component of their training. Additionally, the expansion of non-CODA accredited Advanced Clinical Training programs in the dental school created new competition for patients and utilization of resources.

Towards the end of 2011, the economy slowly started to recover. However, the aftermath of the financial crisis created a new reality of diminished budgets and limited resources. What remained the same was the responsibility to provide students and residents with adequate clinical opportunities while maintaining a fiscally sound operation. Clinical and administrative leadership had no choice but to look for alternative sources of funding. In 2013, with the successful negotiation skills of Dr. Fariba Younai, a professor of clinical dentistry, and Dr. Camargo, the dental school secured the first term of a 2-year contract with the Los Angeles County for $2.36 million.

“Funds from the Ryan White Act help us cover the direct costs associated with providing comprehensive dental care to HIV/AIDS patients, said Dr. Younai, who also serves as the program director. “With assistance from our chief financial officer, Andrew Alexan, and the program coordinator, Vanessa Porter, the program has been a huge success, so much so, that it has been renewed for another two years and is now under consideration for another cycle.” Dr. Younai also acknowledged Dr. Steven Lee, a group practice director, for his contributions to the success of the program.

With additional funding from various foundations, secured under Mallory Gompert and the School’s development office, the Wilson-Jennings-Bloomfield UCLA Venice Dental Center now has several productive programs where underserved patients can access dental services at the Center’s pre- and post-doctoral clinics.

Once additional funding had been secured and revenue began to increase, the UCLA Dental Clinics turned to streamlining operations and identifying opportunities to contain expenses. These changes all needed to happen without having a negative impact on the clinics’ ancillary services.

“We took a step back and looked for inefficiencies in the system and identified opportunities where we could save money,” said Dr. Camargo, who is also the Tarrson Family Endowed Chair in Periodontics. “We outsourced some of our maintenance services and restrucutred our patient records management, which is now mostly computer-based and digital.”

Over the last five years, starting in 2011 to June 2016, total patient visits have increased by 9 percent, excluding subgroups and other independent clinic units. The influx of patient visits increased revenue by 16 percent, climbing from $9 million in 2010-11 to $10.4 million in 2015-16. During the same 5-year period, the clinics’ operational expenses were increased only by 2 percent from $11.3 million to $11.5 million. The combination of increased revenue with a relatively minimal increase in operational expenses resulted in the clinics experiencing a dramatic decrease in its operational deficit, going from $1.48 million in 2010-11 to $424,000 in 2015-16.

“This is the first time, to my knowledge, that the UCLA Dental Clinics could have operated without supplemental school funds,” said Dr. Camargo. “This positive change wouldn’t have been possible without the years of hard work and dedication of our clinic faculty, staff, students, and residents. These individuals have made all the necessary adjustments to optimize our performance. Their support has been essential to achieve our objectives and balance our budget.”

Jacqueline Nelson, DDS Class of 2018
Applying Technology to Patient Care

For over a decade, the dental school’s clinical operations had relied on a practice management software, serviced by General Systems Design (GSD). The software’s technical support was being phased out and used by only three other dental schools in the country. For the volume of care that the UCLA Dental Clinics provide, a more advanced system was essential to its operations. After a year of preparation by several facets of the dental school, the clinics’ new patient management software, axiUm, went live in June.

axiUm is a mature product that has been developed over the last fifteen years and is used by fifty dental schools in the United States. The large user-base encourages constant refinement and improvements; and the multi-faceted software has built-in solutions, including a secure communications feature, for several issues that could arise from a dental school’s clinical operations.

An additional advantage of the new software is that it gives the clinics access to an advisory group of influential representatives from the user-base of dental schools, put together by the software’s parent company, Exan.

“UCLA Dentistry will have an active voice in molding the software to respond to new demands in dentistry and dental education. By becoming an axiUm user, we now belong to an extraordinarily large dental data repository, which has the potential to be used for research purposes,” said Dr. Barry Margolis, group practice director. “Being a highly decentralized organization, from an operational standpoint, individual clinic workflows within the dental school are distinct and required substantial software customization,” said Ramanjit Chohan, project specialist. “In parallel with axiUm customization, the electronic health records of approximately 270,000 patients needed to be converted from GSD as well as thousands of patient records from other patient management software systems, and we had to scan a significant number of paper charts on top of that.”

Once the software conversion was complete, clinical staff, students, residents, and other trainees had to be trained on axiUm. Full- and part-time faculty also received their initial hands-on training in axiUm towards the end of June and into the summer. Training sessions served as essential preparation for our clinic teams to begin using the software in their respective clinics. Learning curves are typical of a software conversion project of this size andcontinued trouble-shooting will continue through the end of 2016.

“On behalf of all the clinical administrative teams, I would like to thank all the axiUm users for their patience and cooperation during the initial phases of the conversion process,” said Dr. Paulo Camargo, associate dean for clinical dental sciences. “Special recognition goes to Grant Yano, who oversaw the IT component of project, Dr. Barry Margolis, who served as the liaison between the dental and IT ends of the software, Ramanjit Chohan as the project specialist, and Ms. Vina Chin for her assistance with the business and administrative aspects of the conversion. The School also received valuable support from Dr. Jeff Goldstein’s office via Vincent Chan and Cheryll Andico, who continue to help us with post-conversion needs.”

An additional advantage of the new software is that it gives the clinics access to an advisory group of influential representatives from the user-base of dental schools, put together by the software’s parent company, Exan.

“UCLA Dentistry will have an active voice in molding the software to respond to new demands in dentistry and dental education. By becoming an axiUm user, we now belong to an extraordinarily large dental data repository, which has the potential to be used for research purposes,” said Dr. Barry Margolis, group practice director. “Being a highly decentralized organization, from an operational standpoint, individual clinic workflows within the dental school are distinct and required substantial software customization,” said Ramanjit Chohan, project specialist. “In parallel with axiUm customization, the electronic health records of approximately 270,000 patients needed to be converted from GSD as well as thousands of patient records from other patient management software systems, and we had to scan a significant number of paper charts on top of that.”

Once the software conversion was complete, clinical staff, students, residents, and other trainees had to be trained on axiUm. Full- and part-time faculty also received their initial hands-on training in axiUm towards the end of June and into the summer. Training sessions served as essential preparation for our clinic teams to begin using the software in their respective clinics. Learning curves are typical of a software conversion project of this size and continued trouble-shooting will continue through the end of 2016.

“On behalf of all the clinical administrative teams, I would like to thank all the axiUm users for their patience and cooperation during the initial phases of the conversion process,” said Dr. Paulo Camargo, associate dean for clinical dental sciences. “Special recognition goes to Grant Yano, who oversaw the IT component of project, Dr. Barry Margolis, who served as the liaison between the dental and IT ends of the software, Ramanjit Chohan as the project specialist, and Ms. Vina Chin for her assistance with the business and administrative aspects of the conversion. The School also received valuable support from Dr. Jeff Goldstein’s office via Vincent Chan and Cheryll Andico, who continue to help us with post-conversion needs.”
The first thing you notice about Warren Fujimori is his energy and passion for life. The 62-year-old’s motto is; “it’s not how long you live...but how well you live!” For someone who was diagnosed with HIV/AIDS 20 years ago and was only given a mere three months to live, he tries to live his life to the fullest. He has never let his diagnosis get him down. He’s currently working on a degree in nursing and hopes to give back to people who need care. An actor by trade, he has spent some time as a cosmetologist, a certified surgical tech, and is very active in AIDS advocacy and fundraising events.

Getting the Care He Needs

Warren is a new patient at the UCLA Dental Clinics where he is being seen for general dentistry. He is also one of over 500 patients who have benefited from a grant awarded to the dental school by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Starting in 2013, the School of Dentistry received $2.36 million, under the Ryan White Act, to provide general dental care to up to 1,000 individuals each year who are HIV+/ AIDS. The program has been so successful in treating the large population of HIV+/AIDS patients in Los Angeles that the grant is under consideration for renewal for another two years.

“Getting the Care He Needs”

Los Angeles County has one of the largest HIV+/AIDS populations in the United States. Experts estimate the number to be over 60,000 people. “The need for healthcare services for HIV+ AIDS patients is in high demand,” said Dr. Fariba Younai, program director. “This grant has allowed individuals who live with HIV+ AIDS to receive comprehensive oral health services in our clinics—care that will not only improve their quality of life but also improve their overall health.”

Los Angeles County has one of the largest HIV+/AIDS populations in the United States. Experts estimate the number to be over 60,000 people. “The need for healthcare services for HIV+ AIDS patients is in high demand,” said Dr. Fariba Younai, program director. “This grant has allowed individuals who live with HIV+ AIDS to receive comprehensive oral health services in our clinics—care that will not only improve their quality of life but also improve their overall health.”
Beyond Our Walls to Create

The UCLA School of Dentistry places significant importance on giving back to the community through subsidized patient care; and on training dentists who have the clinical skills needed to improve the oral and general health of the population.

A Resource for the Community

Through two selective courses, dental students can provide oral health screenings, sealants, and topical fluoride applications — services that help adults and children improve their overall health. Nearly 200 students provided over 350 student-days of service at fluoride treatment, 48 sealants, 18 restorations, and six extractions. The team also provided education/oral hygiene instructions to 71 children. In total, there were 137 volunteers who participated in the event.

Improving Diversity in Dentistry

The extremely successful Pre-College Science Education program, one of the dental school’s STEM outreach programs, continued for its ninth year. Priscilla Garcia and Sydney Adams, featured on page 29, described how despite being out of their comfort zone, they improved their oral health after participating in the program.

Partnerships

34 outreach events in the greater Los Angeles area. A complete map of the health fair locations is provided on page 33.

The dental school’s Section of Pediatric Dentistry continued their service at the annual Give Kids A Smile event. More than 70 children (two of whom are pictured on this page) received valuable services, with a value of care at nearly $10,000. Treatment included: 71 screenings, 41 prophylaxis, 70 X-rays, 39

Creating a Dental Home

The UCLA-First 5 LA Children’s Dental Care Program continued its third year of supporting the delivery of dental care to children, from birth to age 5, and pregnant women. With funding from the First 5 LA grant and guidance from the UCLA School of Dentistry, more than 22 clinics throughout the Los Angeles area received assistance to serve as a community-based dental home. A full article appears on page 31 about the Venice Family Clinic, one of the designated clinics that received support from First 5 LA.
Sydney Adams, Pre-College Science Education Student pictured at right with Pricella Garcia, fellow student & research partner

“This has been the longest that I’ve been away from my family,” said Pricella Garcia, a high school senior who is a participant in the School of Dentistry’s Pre-college Science Education program (PSEP) for the 2016-2017 academic cycle. “It’s been overwhelming, but this experience has gotten me excited about the future.” Pricella is one of 10 students who make up the current cohort of the dental school’s highly successful outreach and diversity initiative that was established in 2007. The Pre-college Science Education program exposes gifted but educationally disadvantaged high school students to scientific research and potential careers in the health sciences.

A two-year commitment is required of the high school students from Los Angeles area high schools who are also participants in College Bound and Project Grad Los Angeles – programs that help young underserved students prepare for and graduate from college.

“I find that I’m not as anxious about going to college next year. Having to navigate UCLA, be on time for lab meetings, and present complicated information to a group of peers has shown me that I will be able to handle the demands of college life and curriculum,” said Pricella who will be the first of her family to go to college. Sydney Adams, another student in the program, agrees with her research partner’s assessment of how the program has opened her eyes to what college will be like.

“I’ve always been interested in the sciences and doing some type of research,” said Sydney. “For me, it was eye-opening to see how someone can dedicate their entire career to one research topic that they’re passionate about. It’s inspired me to find my topic.”

Each year, a new cohort of ten students is given the opportunity to conduct bench research and work closely with School of Dentistry faculty and their research assistants. The students conduct projects in such fields as bone biology, bioengineering, immunology, stem cells, and cancer. The program kicks off in the student’s junior year of high school with ten Saturday meetings followed by an intensive 6-week summer program between their junior and senior years of high school. During the summer portion, dental school faculty and researchers welcome the students into their labs where they teach them techniques and make them a part of their teams.

Out of their Comfort Zone

“Even though it was a short time, it was a wonderful experience for me to work with Pricella and Sydney,” said Dr. Kenzo Morinaga, visiting assistant project scientist and research mentor. “I hope they maintain their interest in research and that our paths cross in the future.”

The second year of the program consists of a Saturday academy that prepares the students to compete at the American Association for the Advancement of Science’s Pacific Division annual meeting. The dental school group is among the youngest to compete in the annual competition where they will go up against students and trainees from around the country.

“To be able to apply what I learned in my Advanced Placement Biology classes to a real-life scenario in a university lab has been invaluable,” said Sydney. “All of our faculty mentors and the lab assistants have been so helpful.”

Since the program’s inception nearly ten years ago, nearly 100 students have benefited from exposure to research and science education, and each has gone on to attend college with a partial or full scholarship at some of the top universities in the country.

To learn more about how you can support our pre-college science education program, visit www.dentistry.ucla.edu/precollege.
“People assume that in a more affluent area such as the west side of Los Angeles there isn’t a need for low-income healthcare. This couldn’t be further from the truth,” said Dr. Nicole Thompson-Marvel, the dental clinic director for Venice Family Clinic, a community-based nonprofit that provides quality health services to underserved populations living in west Los Angeles through ten locations.

Venice Family Clinic started providing general dental services in 2006 to those who can’t afford private practice rates or have Denti-Cal insurance, which many providers don’t accept. But it wasn’t until five years later that a six-chair, on-site dental center in the Simms/Mann Health & Wellness Center allowed the Clinic to completely address their patients’ oral health needs, especially for very young children and pregnant women. “In 2011, we were able to bring on dedicated dental staff and designated space, which made a huge difference. Then, as time progressed, we received incredible support that helped us grow,” said Dr. Thompson-Marvel.

In 2015, Venice Family Clinic became one of ten community health center sites in Los Angeles County that received technical assistance and resources from the UCLA-First 5 LA Children’s Dental Care Program (CDCP). The funding for this program—which supports the delivery of oral healthcare to children from birth through age 5 and pregnant women and helps expand their capacity to serve as community-based dental homes—came from a transformative contract awarded to the UCLA School of Dentistry by First 5 LA, the Los Angeles-based public agency created by California voters to direct Proposition 10 tobacco tax revenues toward early childhood development, health, and education programs.

“Venice Family Clinic has long been a major provider of primary care for a large, underserved patient population,” noted Dr. Jim Crall, director of the UCLA-First 5 LA CDCP and chair of public health and community dentistry at the UCLA School of Dentistry. “And their new Lou Colen Children’s Center is in an area of Mar Vista with large numbers of children covered by Denti-Cal who aren’t getting dental services, which made it an obvious choice to receive support from our CDCP program.”

In the short time that the CDCP has been in place, clinic staff and program administrators have already seen a shift in their patients’ attitudes toward oral health. “One of the biggest rewards that the clinic staff receive is the transformation of their patients’ habits and in-turn their oral health,” said Jose Rios, the community dental home coordinator for Venice Family Clinic. “The parents tell us how their children are finally brushing their teeth and how their family’s nutrition is improving. This shows they are listening.” In addition, many of the patients who were initially deemed high-risk are now low- or moderate-risk patients.

UCLA-First 5 LA support has helped expand the School of Dentistry’s commitment to improving children’s oral health in LA communities. One example is the Infant Oral Care Program (IOCP) initiated in 2009 by Dr. Francisco Ramos-Gomez, a UCLA professor of pediatric dentistry, as an early disease prevention program. The IOCP has worked for the past seven years to improve oral health outcomes through a culturally-sensitive disease prevention and management model targeted at underserved, low-income, minority children,” said Dr. Ramos-Gomez. “The First 5 LA support has helped us to add quality improvement to our efforts on behalf of young children at this clinic and to better integrate our dental services with the clinic’s pediatricians. We have seen a profound effect on our rate of cavities, which has been cut by over half.”

Creating a Dental Home

Another component of the CDCP is the prenatal classes geared towards educating moms-to-be on the importance of proper oral hygiene for themselves and their unborn children. “We believe that the prenatal classes have contributed to the lower rate of cavities in our pediatric patients,” said Dr. Thompson-Marvel. “I know we are making an impact in these women’s lives.”

This fall, the Lou Colen Clinic will be going even further by opening a dedicated dental space with four new dental chairs—each designed with patients of all ages in mind. Support from the UCLA-First 5 LA program has helped to make this highly anticipated expansion a reality and will dramatically increase the clinic’s ability to see more pediatric patients. Children also will be able to learn about dental care through hands-on lessons at the child-size ‘brushing station.’

“Many people don’t realize how important oral health is to their systemic health,” said Dr. Thompson-Marvel. “With the UCLA-First 5 LA funding, we have truly become a one-stop shop for all our pediatric patients’ healthcare needs.”

To learn more about our community partnerships, visit www.dentistry.ucla.edu/community.

“The First 5 LA support has helped us to add quality improvement to our efforts on behalf of young children at this clinic and to better integrate our dental services with the clinic’s pediatricians. We have seen a profound effect on our rate of cavities, which has been cut by over half.”

Dr. Francisco Ramos-Gomez, Professor of Pediatric Dentistry, pictured at left with a young patient and his mother
During the 2015-2016 fiscal year, through the Health Fairs Selective course, 187 unique students provided 364 student-days of service participating in 34 events listed below (with the sponsoring agency). Together, the students provided 2,086 oral health screenings, 350 individuals received sealants, 1,645 teeth were sealed, and 1,470 topical fluoride applications were applied.

1. Back to School Health Fair (LA Supervisor Sheila Kuehl & LA Parks & Recreation)
2. San Fernando Community Health and Resource Fairs (Community Services & Health Care)
3. Give Me a Smile Dental (Merci Dental & Meet Each Need with Dignity)
4. 10th Anniversary Health Fair (Iglesia Poder de Dios)
5. 19th Annual Community Health Fair (Asian Pacific Health Corps)
6. 8th Annual Health and Safety Fair (Panorama City Neighborhood Council)
7. Oral Health Campaign (UCLA Student Wellness Commission)
8. UCLA/Bank of Hope Screening & Treatment Days
9. Koreatown Community Health Fair (Community Medicine in Koreatown at UCLA)
10. 11th Annual Ladies Health Day (First African Methodist Episcopal Church Los Angeles)
11. Lennox Health Fair (Latino Medical Student Association at UCLA)
12. Medical Experience through Service in Healthcare (MESH) Project Health Fair
13. MESH Project Health Fair (Los Angeles Education Partnership Health Fair)
14. UHHE Health Fair (UMMA Community Clinic)
15. Montebello Community Health Fair (Los Angeles Education Partnership)
16. Gardena High School Health Fair (Harbor-UCLA Dept. of Family Medicine)
17. Health Fair (Harbor-UCLA Dept. of Family Medicine)
18. 8th Annual Monterey Park Health Fair (Asian Pacific Health Corps)
19. Covered California Enrollment and Health Fair (Office of Senator Tony Mendoza)
20. Pilipinos for Community Health (Asian Pacific Health Corps)
21. 2nd Annual Hawaiian Gardens 3K Fun Run and Health Fair
22. Vietnamese Community Health Fair (Vietnamese Community Health at UCLA)
23. Vietnamese Community Health Fair (Vietnamese Community Health at UCLA)
24. Miles of Smiles (Inyo County Office of Education)
25. Miles of Smiles (Inyo County Office of Education)

To learn more about how you can support our public service initiatives, visit www.dentistry.ucla.edu/service.
Now more than ever, philanthropic partnerships and support are critical for ensuring that we can continue to offer exceptional educational opportunities for our students and faculty. Such support also enables us to provide world-class patient care and makes possible the outreach efforts that are an integral part of UCLA Dentistry’s mission. In the 2015-2016 fiscal year, endowing scholarships and fellowships for future dentists emerged as one of our highest priorities. A pinnacle achievement was the establishment of the Dr. No-Hee Park Awards for Excellence to honor his commitment to student scholarship. These awards will help students defray educational expenses, ensuring that a broad array of professional opportunities remain open to them upon graduation. A full write-up of the awards and the Stepping Down event that was held in Dr. Park’s honor appears on the page 37.

UCLA Dentistry continues to work towards the $35 million Centennial Campaign goal. Among our priorities, endowing prestigious faculty chairs remains at the top. Establishing coveted endowed chairs will ensure that we can continue to recruit and retain the most outstanding faculty (see more information about the School’s ninth endowed chair on page 41). In addition to providing course instruction, overseeing student development and conducting pioneering research, our scholars create a true academic community. The skills, experience, and accomplishments they bring to UCLA have positioned the dental school as one of the premier programs in the nation.

To the over 500 donors who gave during the fiscal year, thank you. You help pave the way for the next generation of dental professionals and oral health researchers—meaningfully advancing the field of dentistry and benefiting patients throughout our local and global communities.

Recognizing Dedication

UCLA Dentistry is a special place for nearly 5,000 DDS graduates and nearly 1,000 advanced certificate holders, where they built their foundation of the dental profession. One of the School’s most valued alums and supporters, Dr. Thomas Rauth, was recognized as the 2016 Alumnus of the Year at the annual Alumni Day at the CDA event. We are grateful for Dr. Rauth’s generosity, vision, and inspiration. A full write-up on Dr. Rauth appears on page 39.

Rebalancing Revenue

In response to the reduced role of state support, UCLA Dentistry has grown its international programs, contracts and grants, and gifts and endowments to meet operational needs and invest for the future.

Dr. No-Hee Park addresses the crowd at a Stepping Down event that was held in his honor.
Honing Dr. No-Hee Park’s Commitment to Excellence

Dr. No-Hee Park, the longest-serving dean at the UCLA School of Dentistry, was honored by 300 UCLA leaders, faculty, students, alumni, staff, friends, and family members during a UCLA Centennial Campaign celebration at UCLA’s Carnesale Commons.

At the end of June, Dr. Park stepped down from the deanship after 18 years to return to teaching and research in the fields of cancer and aging. He began his service with UCLA in 1984, starting as an associate professor and was quickly promoted to full professor a year later. Prior to his dean appointment in 1998, Dr. Park served as the associate director of UCLA Dental Research Institute, the associate dean for research, and the director of the UCLA Dental Research Institute.

In the opening remarks at the May 5 celebration, Chancellor Gene Block noted that Dr. Park took the dental school to new heights during his tenure. The School of Dentistry went from surviving to thriving and is now considered among the top dental schools in the country.

Under Dr. Park’s leadership, the Chancellor said, “the faculty has pioneered breakthrough advancements in oral and systemic health; students are on their way to becoming the next generation of dental leaders; alumni have been widely recognized as experts in their fields; and the level of community service provided by faculty, students, and staff has been astounding.”

The audience also heard from Naomi Ellison, DDS ’81, chair of the School of Dentistry’s board of counselors and a cabinet member of the Centennial Campaign for UCLA. Dr. Ellison reflected on the legacy Dr. Park leaves behind — a reputation for excellence in dental education, research, patient care, and community service. In addition, she remarked that the best way for UCLA to preserve our public interest is through private support.

Dr. Ellison also announced the establishment of the Dr. No-Hee Park Awards for Excellence to honor his commitment to student scholarship. The awards will be granted to the top third-year dental students exhibiting excellence in the art and science of dentistry, research, and leadership. The Campaign had approximately 75 donors and surpassed its $1 million goal.

A musical performance by the Dentatonix, an a cappella group, made up of UCLA dental students, was followed by a special tribute video to Dean Park. Dr. Park is succeeded by Dr. Paul Krebsbach, one of the nation’s leading researchers in tissue engineering and stem cell biology. Dr. Krebsbach became the eighth dean in the 50-year history of UCLA Dentistry.

To see a tribute video on Dr. Park’s legacy, please visit www.dentistry.ucla.edu/centennial.

The 2015-16 fiscal year marked the fourth consecutive year of growth in philanthropic giving for the university. This achievement came as the Centennial Campaign for UCLA reached the halfway point. The $4.2 billion campaign was publicly launched in May 2014 and is scheduled to conclude in 2019 during UCLA’s 100th anniversary year.

UCLA Dentistry has a $35 million goal for the Centennial Campaign, and the dental school has raised 65 percent of this goal, $22.5 million, as of June 30, 2016. Building upon the School of Dentistry’s commitment to interdisciplinary education, research, patient care, and public service, the Centennial Campaign will help propel UCLA Dentistry into the model of how an intellectually integrated dental school can create the knowledge, innovation, and leaders that will shape the dental field’s future.

For the remainder of the campaign, the dental school will focus its efforts on securing support for student scholarships to attract the most qualified, dedicated, and promising students; research and scholarly activities to develop academic programs and research centers; community outreach to provide care for neighboring populations; establishing a pipeline for students from underrepresented backgrounds; and supporting our current students.

For information about how to give to UCLA Dentistry, please visit www.dentistry.ucla.edu/give, or call the Office of Development at (310) 206-6063.
Recognizing Dedication

“The UCLA School of Dentistry sets the highest standards in dental education, patient care, research, and community service,” said Dr. Tom Rauth, DDS Class of 1973 and a current Board of Counselor member. “Being a UCLA Dentistry alumnus and giving back to this school is an honor and a privilege.”

Dr. Rauth was named the 2016 Alumnus of the Year at the dental school’s annual Alumni Day at the CDA event in May of 2016. Every year, the School chooses one alumni member who they feel has exhibited dedication to the School and the dental profession.

For nearly a decade, Dr. Rauth volunteered as the chair of the Apollonian Society – the School’s membership-based philanthropic society, which is dedicated to enhancing the student experience and the School’s reputation for excellence. With his visionary leadership, the Apollonian Society contributed funds, which exceeded $2 million in his tenure. His other top achievements include the establishment of the White Coat Ceremony for first year students, support of patient care subsidy funds, and the purchase of computers, endodontic surgical microscopes, and digital cameras for the student clinic.

“Dr. Rauth’s passion for the well-being of our students is inspiring,” said Dr. Ronald Mito ’76, executive associate dean for academic personnel and programs. “Serving with him as the co-chair of the Apollonian Society allowed us to make a meaningful impact on student morale and achievement.”

Dr. Rauth stepped down as the Apollonian Society chair in 2013, but continued to help fundraising efforts by leading the signature campaign for the School’s 50th Anniversary, the Alumni & Friends Presidential Endowed Chair Campaign. At the end of 2015, Tom and the other committee members successfully completed this $1 million chair campaign to recruit and retain future junior faculty.

“Dr. Rauth’s commitment to build support for future generations of UCLA Dentistry faculty and students is inspiring,” said Dr. Naomi Ellison, chair of the School of Dentistry’s board of counselors and Centennial Campaign Cabinet. “He is truly deserving of this recognition.”

After he earned his DDS degree, Tom went on to obtain his Master of Science in Dentistry degree and a certificate in Endodontics in 1975 from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. Upon his return to the Los Angeles area, Tom joined an endodontic practice in Santa Monica and also taught at the School of Dentistry from 1975 to 1978. He then established his current Santa Monica practice in 1978. Tom and his wife, Patricia, have three adult children and four grandchildren. One of his sons, Dr. Rick Rauth, received his MS in Oral Biology, DDS, and certificate in endodontics all at UCLA before joining his father in the Santa Monica endodontic practice.

“I am very grateful for Dr. Rauth’s generosity and vision on behalf of our students and the quality of their educational experience,” said Dr. Carol Bibb, associate dean for student and alumni affairs. “I cannot imagine a more deserving Alumnus of the Year and inspirational role model for alumni who wish to give back to our School.”
Oral health resources for people with developmental disabilities and other medically vulnerable patients are severely lacking, which makes finding a qualified care provider difficult for individuals who need special care. Longtime donors to the dental school, Ralph and Shirley Shapiro and their son, Peter Shapiro, wanted to address the lack of essential support systems for the medically vulnerable in our society. Through their generous support and visionary leadership, they made possible a partnership with the United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles to create an endowed chair to support teaching, research, and patient care for special needs patients.

Following the establishment of the United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles Endowed Chair in Special Patient Care, the dental school’s ninth endowed chair, Dr. Eric Sung, professor and chair of the section of special patient care, was appointed in September of 2015. As the inaugural endowed chair for the first-of-its-kind at UCLA Dentistry, Dr. Sung works to improve and develop programs to help better care for this patient population, increase accessibility, and find solutions for the lack of support for this vulnerable population.

“This endowed chair will help us expand care to special needs patients by increasing exposure to residents and dental students,” said Dr. Sung. “By increasing exposure, you’re creating an environment where these trainees become more familiar with these complex cases and not fearful. They, in-turn, are equipped to help address the severe shortage of clinicians who can treat this special population.”

Dr. Sung has been with the Special Patient Care-Hospital Dentistry clinic, since 1992. He is the preeminent expert on treating complex cases, and is a graduate of the UCLA DDS program, Class of 1990, and the UCLA General Practice and Hospital Dentistry residency program, Class of 1992.

“Fuelling UCLA Dentistry’s excellence is an extraordinary group of philanthropists. They include alumni who want to give back to the university that provided the foundation for their career success, concerned community members who wish to support scholarship, and grateful patients who received exemplary care from one of UCLA Dentistry’s world-renowned clinicians, UCLA offers uniquely diverse ways to fulfill philanthropic goals.

Our planned giving strategies can help donors build a meaningful legacy that will provide crucial support to academic excellence, world-class dental care and scientific research, and the education of generations to come.

We invite you to contact our Development Office and explore the impact your gift could have on the dental school and the future of oral health. Additionally, there are a number of ways to structure your gift that will provide current and future financial benefits to you. And, by combining your giving now, over time and/or in your estate, you may be able to make an ultimate gift far greater than what you thought was possible.

For more information, please contact the Dentistry Development Office at (310) 206-6063 or apollonian@support.ucla.edu.

A Faculty Member’s Legacy

Dr. Frida A. Xhonga-Oja served as a dedicated faculty member at the UCLA School of Dentistry for over 20 years. At the time, she was one of the only full-time female professors teaching in the Section of Operative Dentistry. Throughout her career, she dedicated herself to the promotion and recruitment of women in the dental profession. Dr. Xhonga-Oja passed away on August 12, 2015 from natural causes, leaving a bequest to the dental school which established the Frida A. Xhonga-Oja Scholarship Fund. This Scholarship Fund leaves a legacy of support to help attract the best and the brightest students and prepare them to become the dental leaders of tomorrow.

“Thanks to Frida’s scholarship to UCLA Dentistry, we know that future generations of students will continue to benefit from her passion for supporting excellence in dental education,” said Dr. Carol Bibb, a professor and the associate dean for student and alumni affairs.

For more information, please contact the Dentistry Development Office at (310) 206-6063 or apollonian@support.ucla.edu.
In reviewing the UCLA School of Dentistry’s 2015-2016 fiscal year revenues, in comparison to fiscal revenues of five years ago and ten years ago, several trends can be seen in the shifting composition of revenue sources.

First, is the decline of state support as a percentage of all revenues; second, is the development of international programs; third, is the growth in contracts and grants; and last, is the continued support and growth of our gifts and endowments.

For a number of reasons, state support as a percentage of the total budget has not been as robust as support levels in years past. Consequently, UCLA has not been able to increase the permanent budget for its schools to assist in funding several recently added or increasing expenditures. The largest of these expenditures include (1) the escalation of the employer contribution to the pension plan; (2) the introduction of the Office of the President Tax; and (3) the increased generosity of our donors to fund academic scholarships, endowed chairs, and new investments in our core equipment and facilities.

As we enter a new fiscal year we are excited to continue our collaboration between the UCLA School of Dentistry’s academic and research leaders and our students, alumni, and donors to ensure we meet our operational needs and invest for the future.

### REVENUE BY SOURCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund Source</th>
<th>Fiscal Year 2005-2006</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
<th>Fiscal Year 2010-2011</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
<th>Fiscal Year 2015-2016</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Funds &amp; State Support</td>
<td>$12,069,734</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>$12,589,943</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
<td>$13,666,042</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other University &amp; Special</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Appropriations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Fees &amp; Tuition</td>
<td>$5,153,141</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>$8,421,504</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>$9,429,431</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Funding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracts &amp; Grants</td>
<td>$9,577,125</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
<td>$14,197,956</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>$18,963,806</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gifts &amp; Endowments</td>
<td>$3,155,324</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>$2,635,271</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>$5,388,746</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinics, Faculty Practice Groups &amp;</td>
<td>$21,868,384</td>
<td>37.0%</td>
<td>$25,761,581</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
<td>$24,746,757</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>$59,156,440</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>$70,781,829</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>$84,783,894</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Includes Indirect Medical Education: GME resident salaries paid from Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, and Veterans Administration resident funding also paid through the UCLA Medical Center.
2 Contracts and Grants reflect dollars received for new and continuing sponsored awards.
3 Gifts and Endowments includes new contributions and investment income.
Dedicated Individuals

Working Together

Academic Personnel

This has been a year of celebration and transition. The dental school celebrated its 50th anniversary, in May 2015, with a gala, where we acknowledged the many achievements that could only have occurred due to the quality and dedication of the faculty. This year, Dr. No-Hee Park was honored for his 18 years of service as Dean at a campus-wide event. The School of Dentistry bid him farewell as he returned to academic life, and Dr. Paul H. Krebsbach was welcomed as the new Dean, effective June 30, 2016.

Additionally, the dental school continued to recruit and hire highly qualified professionals with diverse backgrounds and expertise to become full-time academics. This past fiscal year, three young, full-time faculty were identified and hired through our search processes: Dr. Yangpei Cao, health sciences assistant clinical professor, in the section of endodontics; Dr. Renna Hazboun, health sciences assistant clinical professor, with a joint appointment in the section of endodontics; Dr. Alireza Moshaverinia, assistant professor, in the section of prosthodontics; and Dr. Bo Yu, assistant professor, section of restorative dentistry. Please join us in welcoming these faculty into UCLA School of Dentistry family.

“This past year, 360 community dentists volunteered as faculty to share their knowledge and expertise with our dental students, residents, and trainees,” said Dr. Ronald Mito ’76, executive associate dean for Academic Programs and Personnel. “We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all of our faculty and especially those who have volunteered their time to the School of Dentistry for multiple decades.”

In total, the impact of all the faculty on education, research, patient care, and public service to the community, and the dental profession is collectively immeasurable. Thank you for your service!

Staff Personnel

The success of any successful enterprise is fueled by the quality of the people working for it. The UCLA School of Dentistry is no different. Along with the first-tier faculty members, our staff members contribute substantially to the success of the school’s exceptional academic programs, clinical operations, and innovative research enterprises.

In the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the School of Dentistry continued to provide a secure and stable work environment for its nearly 300 staff members due to the school’s impressively solid and stable financial status. This year’s theme in staff personnel appeared to be “change” as we saw various staff members leave and an influx of new individuals join the dentistry family. We wish those who have left us for new opportunities much luck and success. We welcome the new staff members who take their place and wish them a long and happy career here at the School of Dentistry.

This past year, our annual holiday breakfast was held on Friday, December 4, 2015. In the School of Dentistry’s tradition of honoring an exceptional Supervisor and Staff Member of the Year, Lisa Goto-Koga was named Outstanding Supervisor of the Year and Matt Tyler was named Outstanding Staff Member of the Year. For the reasons described in the following section (see page 54), we are incredibly fortunate to have these dedicated and hardworking individuals as part of the dentistry family.

The holiday breakfast also marked milestones in years of service for the individuals listed on the next page, who were recognized for their longstanding service to the School of Dentistry and UCLA.

As in recent years past, one of the highlights of the holiday party was the raffle for the students and staff. Many thanks to the continued generosity of Mr. VJ Lyons of Eurodent as several lucky students and staff members were the grateful recipients of over $3,500 worth of donated raffle prizes, including several HD televisions.

Thank you to all the staff members who help to make the School of Dentistry one of the premier dental schools in the world.
YEARS OF SERVICE

Faculty 40+ Years of Service

John Beumer, (Retired-Recall)
Russell Christensen, Associate Professor
Joseph Cooney (Retired-Recall)
Donald Dupratt (Retired-Recall)
Madeleine, PhD, Tissue Culture
Sethuan Leverett White (Retired-Recall)
Malvin MacCallum, (Retired-Recall)
Ronald Mito, Professor of Clinical Dentistry
Bruce Sanders, Adjunct Professor
Vladimir Spolsky, Associate Professor
James Stewart, Adjunct Professor
Henry Takeda, Professor of Clinical Dentistry

Faculty 30-39 Years of Service

Kathryn Atchison, Professor
David Ciraulo, Lecturer
Mary Chiaro, Lecturer
Alan Felsenfeld, Professor of Clinical Dentistry
Jacob Flaschmann, Clinical Professor
Arthur Friedlander, Professor-In-Residence
Michael Gritz (Retired-Recall)
Donna Elton, Lecturer
No-Hoe Park, Dean & Distinguished Professor
Carol Bibb, Ferber Moy, Clinical Professor
Donna Eteson, Lecturer
Jacob Fleischmann, Clinical Professor
Arthur Friedlander, Professor-In-Residence
Jeffrey Rosenblum, Lecturer
Michael Hamada, Lecturer
Edmond Hewlett, Professor
Michael Marcus, Professor
Frederick Rutherford, Assistant Adjunct Professor
Gilbert Kwong, Lecturer
Perry Klokkevold, Associate Professor
Irene Kamifuji, Administrative Analyst/Supervisor
Katsumi Kawakami, Assistant Adjunct Professor
Gilbert Kwong, Lecturer
Gary Wolfe, Lecturer
Craig Woods, Adjunct Professor/Academic Administrator
Richard Leathers, Assistant Adjunct Professor
Leon Rossman, Lecturer
Frederick Rutherford, Assistant Adjunct Professor
Harry Schwartz, Adjunct Professor
Joan Okimo-Corral, Associate Clinical Professor
Mark Orabi, Lecturer
Gregory Prince, Adjunct Professor
Randolph Meng, Associate Professor
Thomas Sims, Lecturer
No-Hee Park, Dean & Distinguished Professor
Gregory Sue, Lecturer
Gary Wolfe, Lecturer
Craig Woods, Adjunct Professor/Academic Administrator
Philip Melnick, Lecturer
Richard Leathers, Assistant Adjunct Professor
Richard Leathers, Assistant Adjunct Professor
Robert Wylie, Lecturer

Staff 20+ Years of Service

David Akin, Clinical Research Administrator (20 yrs)
Evelyn Marques, Student Affairs Office II - Supervisor (25 yrs)
Walter Araya, Clinic Administrator (20 yrs)
Francesca Moore, Administrative Assistant (25 yrs)
Rita Batista-Ramos, Facilities Planning Manager (25 yrs)
Rita Guatauro-Martinez, Clinic Administrative Assistant (25 yrs)
Lisa Soto-Ortega, Facilities Planning Manager (25 yrs)
Rita Guatinaro-Martinez, Clinic Administrative Assistant (25 yrs)

Staff Retirement

David Akin, Clinical Research Administrator
Evelyn Marques, Student Affairs Office II - Supervisor
Sha’nell Boots, Practice Administrator - Supervisor
Maria Ward, Hospital Laboratory Technician
Irene Kamifuji, Administrative Analyst/Supervisor

WELCOME NEW FACULTY

Dr. Yangpei Cao, Assistant Clinical Professor, Section of Endodontics
- DDS, West China School of Stomatology, 2011
- MS, Oral Biology, UCLA, 2014

Dr. Renna Hazboun, Assistant Clinical Professor, Section of Restorative Dentistry
- DMD, Temple University Kornberg School of Dentistry, 2010
- Certificate, Hospital Dentistry/General Practice, UCLA, 2011

Dr. Paul Krebsbach, Dean and Professor, Section of Periodontics
- DDS, University of Minnesota, 1987
- PhD, Biomedical Sciences, University of Connecticut Health Center, 1993
- Certificate, Periodontology, University of Connecticut Health Center, 1993

Dr. Alireza Moshaverinia, Assistant Professor, Section of Prosthodontics
- DDS, Mashhad University of Medical Sciences, School of Dentistry, 2004
- MS, Dental Biomaterials, Ohio State University, College of Dentistry, 2009
- PhD, Craniofacial Biology, Ostrow School of Dentistry, USC, 2012

Dr. Bo Yu, Assistant Professor, Section of Restorative Dentistry
- DDS, UCLA School of Dentistry, 2011
- PhD, Oral Biology, UCLA School of Dentistry, 2014
Dr. Paulo Camargo, associate dean for clinical dental sciences, professor and chair of the Section of Periodontics, and the Torsom Family Endowed Chair in Periodontics, was honored as the school’s 2016 Distinguished Faculty of the Year. Dr. Camargo was selected because of his exceptional teaching record, excellent clinical service, and dedication to the School. He was also recognized by the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) for his outstanding teaching and mentoring in periodontics. The AAP award is given annually to a periodontics faculty member of a U.S. dental school.

Dr. Ting-Ling Chang, clinical professor and chair of the Section of Prosthodontics, was honored with a Distinguished Teaching Award for Non-Senate Faculty by the UCLA Academic Senate Committee on Teaching. She was one of only three faculty members from a campus-wide pool of nominees to be recognized for her teaching and outstanding contributions to educational excellence in 2016. She is a diplomat of the American Board of Prosthodontics, a member of the American Dental Education Association and a member of the International Association of Dental Research.

Dr. Francesco Chiappelli, professor in the Section of Oral Biology, was re-appointed as Chair of the UCLA Council on Planning & Budget for the 2016-17 academic year. He was also appointed as editor-in-chief of the journal, Comparative Effectiveness Research – an international, peer-reviewed open access journal focusing on comparative effectiveness of healthcare. He is also a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a Fulbright Specialist and peer-reviewed Fulbright Scholar, and has served the Fulbright Association’s Greater Los Angeles Chapter as the president.

Dr. Earl Fremiller, professor of clinical dentistry, was recognized for his 20+ years of volunteer work at the Thousand Smiles cleft missions. The award was given to him by the San Diego Botanists for his exceptional commitment to the children of Ensenada. He has been a volunteer surgeon at the quarterly clinics for over 20 years and has helped hundreds of children. He is also the Bob and Marion Wilson Endowed Chair, the chair of the Section of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and chair of the Division of Diagnostic and Surgical Sciences.

Dr. Mo Kang, professor and chair of Division of Constitutive and Regenerative Sciences and the Section of Endodontics, was elected to the American Association of Endodontists (AAE) Foundation Board of Trustees and is a past recipient of the AAE Foundation’s Endodontic Educator Fellowship Award. He also became a Diplomat of the American Board of Endodontics. Additionally, he was appointed as a regular member of the Oral, Dental, Craniofacial Study section within the National Institutes for Health Center for Scientific Review. He also holds the Dr. Jack A. Weichman Chair in Endodontics.

Dr. Edmond Hewlett, professor in the Section of Restorative Dentistry and associate dean for outreach and diversity, was the recipient of the Dr. Jeanne C. Sinkford Scholar in the ADEA Leadership Institute Award. The award was created through a collaborative effort between the American Dental Education Association (ADEA), Colgate-Palmolive Co. and the National Dental Association. The Sinkford Scholarship provides the opportunity for a dental educator who is closely aligned with the promotion of equity, diversity, and inclusion to participate in the ADEA Leadership Institute.

Dr. Dean Ho, professor in the Division of Oral Biology and Medicine and co-director of the Wintraub Center for Reconstructive Biotechnology, was inducted into the College of Fellows by the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering for his outstanding contributions to the engineering of nanodiamond-materials for imaging and therapeutic applications. Dr. Ho’s paper titled, Multi-protein delivery by nanodiamond promotes bone formation, which appeared in the Journal of Dental Research, was selected for the 2015 William J. Gos Award for Biomaterials and Bioengineering Research. He was also named the President of the Board of Directors of the Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening.

Dr. Diana Messadi, professor and chair of the Section of Oral Medicine & Orofacial Pain and associate dean for education and faculty development, was invited to be the guest editor of the February 2016 CDA Journal. Dr. Messadi contributed an article on “Oral Cancer: Novel Concepts for the Oral Health Care Practitioner.” She explores the emerging technologies in early intervention, potential therapies and dental management of cancer survivors. Other faculty members, including Drs. Reuben Kim, Eric Sung, and Fanba Younas, also provided articles on the same topic in the issue.

Dr. Sanjay Mallya, associate professor in the Section of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology, was elected as President-elect of the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology. He was recognized for his contributions, experience, and leadership by the membership. As President-elect, he will become the President of AAOMR at next year’s annual meeting. Dr. Mallya was also promoted to associate professor during the 15-16 fiscal year. His research focuses on the molecular mechanisms of oral cancer and parathyroid neoplasia.

Dr. Ronald Mito, professor of clinical dentistry, was appointed the executive associate dean for academic programs and personnel, a new position on the administrative team. All division chairs report to him and he is responsible for budget assignments as well as academic matters. He was also appointed to the Community Police Advisory Board for the Pacific Area by Chief Charlie Beck, the Pacific Area covers Venice Beach down to LAX and east to the 405 freeway.

Dr. Ali Reza Moshaverinia, assistant professor in the Division of Advanced Prosthodontics, received the GlaeserSmithKline Prosthodontist Innovator Award from the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP) Education Foundation and the ACP Research Committee. His application was chosen, out of several other applicants, for merit and its potential impact on the specialty of prosthodontics. He was also awarded a prestigious 2016 Academy of Osseointegration Research Grant for research that will lead to the development of a novel treatment for patients suffering from peri-implant bone loss.
Dr. Flavia Pinih, associate professor and director of the pre-doctoral program, and Ki-Hyuk Shin, associate adjunct professor, were selected for recognition in the School’s Academy of Excellent Educators for 2016. The Academy was established in 2016 to recognize excellent and dedicated educators, with a 50 percent or more appointment. Dr. Pinih was also promoted to associate professor with tenure, effective July 1, 2016.

Dr. Christine Quinn, clinical professor and chair of the Section of Dental Anesthesiology, received the coveted Horace Wells Award. Dr. Quinn is one of two women to ever receive the award from the International Association of Dental Anesthesiology Societies (IADAS). The Horace Wells award, the highest recognition given by IADAS, is given to outstanding practitioners who have served their colleagues and their profession with steadfast enthusiasm, dedication and integrity in the field of dental anesthesiology.

Dr. Francisco Ramos-Gomez, professor in the Section of Pediatric Dentistry and the director for the Pediatric Dentistry Preceptorship Program, was awarded the first prize Winner of Excellence by the International Association of Pediatric Dentistry. The award is meant to recognize the most innovative global community oral health intervention programs designed to improve the oral health of children and their families. He was also elected President of the International Association for Dental Research – Pediatric Oral Health Research Scientific Group.

Dr. Kumar Shah, associate clinical professor in the Section of Prosthodontics and director of Faculty Group Dental Practice, was appointed to the editorial board of the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry, the leading professional journal devoted exclusively to prosthetic and restorative dentistry. Dr. Shah has also been elevated to a full Fellow in the Academy of Prostodontics for 2017. The Academy, founded in 1918, is the oldest specialty organization in prosthodontic dentistry, boasting a Fellowship of distinguished clinicians, educators, and leaders of the profession from around the world.

Dr. Wenyuan Shi, professor and chair of the Section of Oral Biology, was invited to the White House to take part in a newly launched program, the National Microbiome Initiative, which is part of the Obama Science and Technology initiatives on Precision Medicine and Environmental Protection. He was among representatives from 50+ government agencies and academic research institutes/foundations and 10+ private industry companies. The Administration announced steps to advance the understanding of microbiome behavior and enable protection and restoration of healthy microbiome function.

Dr. Sotirios Tetradis, professor in the Section of Maxillofacial Radiology, was accepted as 2016-17 American Dental Education Association Leadership Institute Fellow. The ADEA Leadership Institute is a year-long program designed to develop the most promising individuals at academic dental institutions to become leaders in dental and higher education.

Dr. Eric Sung, professor and chair of the Section of Special Patient Care, was appointed the inaugural holder of the United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles Endowed Chair in Special Patient Care. The endowed term chair – the dental school’s ninth – was established to support teaching, research, and patient care for special-needs patients, with a goal to advance oral healthcare for people with developmental disabilities and other medically vulnerable patients. A preeminent expert on treating complex cases, he has been with the Special Patient Care Clinic since 1992. See the full write-up on page 41.

Dr. Shane White, professor in the Section of Endodontics, was elected as the Vice Chair of the U.C. Senate for the 2016-17 fiscal year, and subsequently he will serve as Senate chair for the 2017-18 fiscal year. To our knowledge, he will be the first dentist to serve in this position from either U.C. dental school and he will hold the highest ranking position in the U.C. system as a dentist. He was also appointed to the 2016 Retirement Options Task Force by U.C. President Janet Napolitano, as well as re-elected for a second term as chair of the U.C. Retirement System Advisory Board.

Dr. David T. Wong, professor and associate dean of research, was the recipient of the 2015 American Association of Clinical Chemistry (AACC) Outstanding Speaker Award. The AACC is a global scientific and medical professional organization dedicated to clinical laboratory science and its application to healthcare. He also holds the Felix and Mildred Yip Endowed Chair in Dentistry and is the director of the UCLA Center for Oral/Head and Neck Research. He is an active scientist in oral cancer and saliva diagnostics research.

Dr. Ben Wu, professor and chair of the Division of Advanced Prosthodontics and director of the Weintraub Center for Reconstructive Biotechnology, was recognized by the Institute of Biological Engineering at their annual conference. His article, “Recent advances in 3D printing of biomaterials” (volume 9:4), was chosen as the “Article of 2015” in the Journal of Biological Engineering. The Article of the Year honor is based on number of accesses during a calendar year, number of all-time accesses and number of citations, which in his case, was accessed over 13,000 times in the ten months.

FACULTY RETIREMENT

Dr. William Morgan, clinical professor in the Section of Restorative Dentistry, retired at the end of 2015. After he graduated from UCLA’s D.D.S. program in 1973, he started as an associate dentist in Operative Dentistry. He then lectured in the Section of Fixed Prosthodontics from 1981 to 1997 and in 2003 became a clinical professor in the Section of Restorative Dentistry, where he was until his retirement. Dr. Morgan operated a private practice in restorative dentistry in Woodland Hills for over 20 years.

Dr. James Uhrick, part-time lecturer in the Section of Restorative Dentistry, retired at the end of June. Dr. Uhrick held multiple positions over the years, dating back to 1988 when we was first hired as a teaching assistant, after he completed his UCLA D.D.S. Over the years he taught in several different capacities, including casting control, esthetic dentistry, and pre-clinical courses. Dr. Uhrick was also a general dentist in Castaic, Calif. for over 20 years.

Dr. Mario Caballero, part-time lecturer in the Section of Periodontics, retired at the end of February after over 30 years of service to the pre-doctoral program. He received his Bolivian DDS degree in 1963. After receiving his certificate of Periodontics in Argentina in 1971, he came to the United States to pursue his American dental degree and graduated from USC dental in 1976. He was hired as a lecturer in periodontics at UCLA in 1975, where he taught up until his retirement.
Remembering a Legacy

Dr. Harold Hargis, professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMFS), died on Nov. 17 at the age of 90. Being a mentor to dental students and residents who trained under him was his greatest passion. During his career, he taught anatomy, local anesthetic techniques, suturing techniques, and many other topics. Students demonstrated their appreciation for his effort and time he spent with them by honoring him with several student teaching awards.

Dr. Hargis earned his BS and DDS degrees from Howard University, followed by postdoctoral work at the University of Illinois. He completed an oral surgery certificate at Fitzsimmons General Hospital in Colorado. He started his career in the U.S. Army at a time when there were very few African-American oral and maxillofacial surgeons. He was assigned to Switzerland to serve as director of their GPR program and then served as program director and associate professor with tenure until 2007. He also helped establish the Swedish Medical Center Hospital Dental Residency Program.

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Frank James Kratochvil, professor emeritus of dentistry and pioneer in removable prosthodontics, passed away on June 7, 2016 at the age of 93. He joined UCLA in 1967 after a distinguished career in the Navy. He built the highly regarded pre-doctoral removable prosthodontics program. In 1975, he started the renowned postgraduate residency program in Prosthodontics that trained generations of prosthodontists who became leaders in fixed, removable, implant, and maxillofacial prosthodontics. He has forever enriched our educational program, our faculty, staff, students, and the lives of countless patients.

Dr. Eric Loberg, a part-time lecturer in the section of orthodontics, passed away on March 15, 2016. He began teaching orthodontics’ residents at UCLA Dentistry in 1989 up until his passing. He received his DMD degree from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. He was excited to share his professional knowledge and skills with the residents, and constantly motivated them to strive for excellence. He was very dedicated to teaching and will be greatly missed by his fellow faculty members, residents and the entire School of Dentistry community.

Dr. Bart Johnson, a part-time lecturer in the section of hospital dentistry from 1986 to 1991, passed away after a battle with cancer on June 30, 2016. Bart was a Bruin three times over. He earned his DDS in 1985, GPR certificate in 1986, and an MS in Oral Biology in 1989. Originally, he was recruited to the University of Washington to serve as director of their GPR program and then served as program director and associate professor with tenure until 2007. He also helped establish the Swedish Medical Center Hospital Dental Residency Program.

STAFF HONORS

Supervisor of the Year, Lisa Gotori-Koga

“Since coming to the dental school, Lisa has demonstrated impressive working knowledge of the building and its needs. We are fortunate to have such a knowledgeable and experienced facilities manager on-hand,” said Vina Chin, assistant dean for administration and external relations.

Lisa Gotori-Koga, facilities planning manager, was recognized as the 2015 Supervisor of the Year. Although Lisa has only been with the School for less than two years, she has proven herself to be an invaluable resource, especially after a major fire erupted in one of the dental school’s labs in April of 2015. Her response to the fire was so outstanding that she was recognized with a Certificate of Appreciation by UCLA Facilities Management. Lisa previously worked for the Office of Asset Management at UCLA, where she was the operations manager for over 18 years, managing the Wilshire Center and other off-site University-owned properties.

Staff Member of the Year, Matt Tyler

“Matt’s historical knowledge of academic personnel has been invaluable to our office. His ownership of the job and his customer service to our faculty and staff is something that is very much appreciated by all,” said Steve Sheeveil, director of academic personnel.

Matt Tyler, senior academic personnel analyst, in the Office of Academic Personnel, was recognized as the 2015 Staff Member of the Year. He has been a valued staff member at the dental school for six years, and 20 years total at UCLA. Although Matt’s role is largely behind the scenes, he plays a crucial role in the smooth operation of the dental school. He is not only responsible for the hiring process of new faculty and other academic appointments, but he is also the cornerstone of the faculty dossier process — a challenging and time-consuming responsibility that Matt takes on with a great attitude. The dental school is fortunate to have him as a staff member.

Matt Tyler, senior academic personnel analyst, in the Office of Academic Personnel was recognized as the 2015 Staff Member of the Year. He has been a valued staff member at the dental school for six years, and 20 years total at UCLA. Although Matt’s role is largely behind the scenes, he plays a crucial role in the smooth operation of the dental school. He is not only responsible for the hiring process of new faculty and other academic appointments, but he is also the cornerstone of the faculty dossier process — a challenging and time-consuming responsibility that Matt takes on with a great attitude. The dental school is fortunate to have him as a staff member.
PART-TIME & VOLUNTEER ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

New hires are noted in bold italic. Promotions are noted with ●
Division of Diagnostic & Surgical Sciences

Morgan L. Assistant Adjunct Professor

Section of Anesthesiology

Steven Ganzberg, Health Sciences Clinical Professor
Andreas Minassian, Lecturer

Section of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology

Hope Wellen, Lecturer

Section of Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology

Jonathan Armstrong, Assistant Researcher
David Hatcher, Health Sciences Clinical Professor
Gilbert Frowein, Lecturer
Clara Magaz, Assistant Researcher

Emily Mangang Westall, Lecturer
Legiang Nguyen, Lecturer

Division of Growth & Development

Section of Orthodontics

Kati Augarten, Lecturer
Marc Ausubel, Lecturer

Division of Oral Biology & Medicine

Section of Oral Biology

Kati Ano, Visiting Assistant Professor

New Personnel are listed in bold italic

Michelle Rappeport, Lecturer
Jen Stenz, Lecturer
Ting Ting Wu, Associate Professor-in-Residence
Quan Yuan, Visiting Assistant Researcher

Section of Pediatric Dentistry

David Arnold, Lecturer
Zazanize Barochiana, Lecturer
Ruth Becker-Hamaker, Lecturer
Marshall Chey, Lecturer
David Chin, Lecturer
Eunha Cho, Lecturer
Christopher Dixon, Lecturer
Sahr Doostzadeh, Lecturer
Robert Dunger, (Retired-Recall)
Bozhana Fischer, Lecturer
Robin Flint, Lecturer
Sethan Ghalia, Lecturer
Kenneth Greaves, Lecturer

Section of Oral Medicine & Orofacial Pain

Nona Aghajanian, Lecturer
Shawn Arman, Lecturer
Sarah Ayard, Lecturer
Dennis Bailey, Lecturer
Dan Bopasoa, Lecturer
Feridey Carr, Lecturer
Mansita Chang, Lecturer
Cynthia Dep, Lecturer
Tahani Gargari, Lecturer
Donald Goodman, Lecturer
Steven Graf-Radford, Adjunct Professor

Paul Gen, Lecturer
Akonahida Gupta, Lecturer
Richard Hirschmugen, Lecturer
Bernadette Jaeger, Adjunct Professor
Wyseky King, Lecturer
Changlu Lu, Academic Administrator

Division of Oral Medicine & Oral Surgery

Stephen Loeb, Lecturer
Ruth Loeb, Lecturer

Division of Public Health & Community Dentistry

Charles Alexander, Associate Adjunct Professor
Jose Alvarado-Gomez, Lecturer
Kathy Althobin, Professor
Benjamin Fried, Lecturer
Jeffrey Goldstein, Associate Adjunct Professor
Gary Homan, Academic Administrator

Group Practice Directors

Group Practice Directors play a critical role in the School of Dentistry’s pre-doctoral clinical teaching program. During the 2015-2016 academic year, pre-doctoral students provided care under the leadership of:

Gary Herman, Supervisor
Chris Biddle
Sylvia Bradstreet
Shadi Kamalvand-Khourani
Stevie Lee
Barry Mangots
Ebert Tom

The dental hygiene program at West Los Angeles Community College provides an important collaborative training experience for our dental students and residents, as well as another point of care for our patients in Westwood and Venice. We wish to acknowledge the following lecturers:

Cynthia Chambers
Carina Dones, Course Chair
Jemine Duran
Natalie Fernigo
Lisa Kambarian
Joy Ogami-Asi
Sandra Schneidewind
Carissa Simon
Idalia Velasco
In 2004, the UCLA School of Dentistry’s Apollonian annual fund was transformed into the membership-based Apollonian Society, which is dedicated to enhancing the student experience and the reputation for excellence of the School. Since this transformation, the Apollonian Society has made great strides, funding innovative projects, strengthening morale among students, and collectively contributing over $3 million to the School. In the 2015-2016 fiscal year, Apollonian Society’s fundraising campaign raised $238,234 in gifts and pledges from its loyal supporters and new donors.

Key
Apollonian Society Founding Members are noted in bold text.

Silver Circle Members are noted in italics

Patrons ($1,000 – $2,499)
Terry L. Patel, DDS '83 & Sandra Armit
Brian J. Aldrich, DDS '09

Founders ($2,500 – $4,999)
Salvatore G. Souza, DDS '89 & Shari Souza

Benefactors ($5,000 – $9,999)
Richard J. Ewing, DDS '79 & Jeanne A. Ewing

Corporate Benefactors are noted with an asterisk

Adele P. Goldman, DDS '74, MS '84

Benefactors ($10,000 – $24,999)
Richard S. Rassam, DDS '93 & Sini Rassam

Benefactors ($25,000 – $50,000)
Darren & Sarah Chang

Benefactors ($50,000 – $100,000)
Steven J. Shaevel & Gail B. Shaevel

Benefactors ($100,000 – $250,000)
Robert J. Ferman, DDS '82 & Janice A. Ferman

Benefactors ($250,000 – $499,999)
Stephen Y. Lee, DDS '87 & Carol B. Lee

Benefactors ($500,000 – $999,999)
Michael A. Felsenfeld, DDS '74 & Robert C. Felsenfeld

Benefactors ($1,000,000 & above)
John P. Schmitz, DDS '72 & Susan Schmitz

Benefactors ($5,000,000 & above)
Paul D. Schenker, DDS '68 & Marilyn Schenker