

THE ALUMNI MAGAZINE OF THE FACULTY OF DENTISTRY, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI ANCHOR

2017 | 2018



THE FUTURE OF DENTISTRY

The first half of the new clinic
is open for business



New faculty leaders

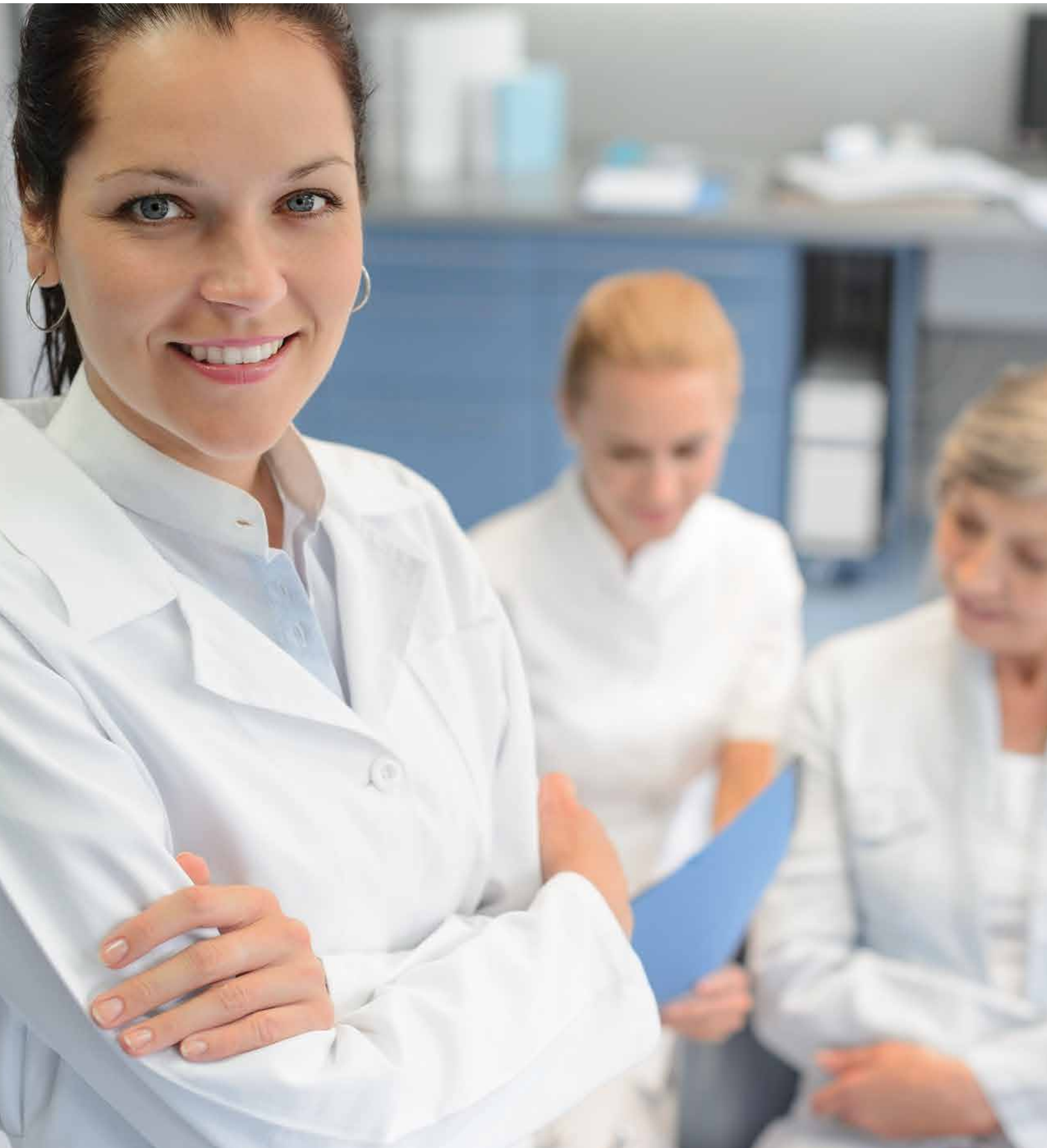
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On our cover: Teaching and patient care are now taking place in the first half of the renovated dental clinic. Please join us for the grand re-opening during Homecoming 2018.

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ALUMNI ANCHOR



Dean's Message



It is a pleasure to bring greetings to you from your Faculty of Dentistry Family.

This has been another outstanding year of events and activities that continue to support the mission of our Faculty.

Of these, one of the most prominent activities has been the wonderful progress on our clinic renewal project. The first half of our renovated clinic space opened in May and students are now treating patients there. Final completion and an unveiling event are planned for 2018.

Our clinic renewal is so much more than bricks, mortar, and individual cubicles. It is the future of dentistry. The renewal project will allow us to teach in new ways, our students can learn from the latest techniques with the latest equipment, our patients can receive enhanced care, and we can serve more patients, including those who have limited or no access to oral health care. It is truly transformational.

Equally exciting are our outreach activities. Thanks to your support, our outreach activities have expanded over the years and developed far beyond our expectations. Through these programs, we can provide access to care for

many who would otherwise be denied it. I invite you to watch our video on outreach, *Serving the Underserved*, which is available at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=CgP5jcwIaAE

The Faculty continues to embrace our important goal of cultural change. Our faculty, staff, and students are committed to ensuring that we continue to offer quality education and exceptional patient care within an environment that is diverse, inclusive, and welcoming to everyone.

It is incredibly rewarding to see how our students in dentistry and dental hygiene have embraced this opportunity and demonstrated their leadership skills in governance and social hosting. A perfect example of this is the renovation of the student lounge, which you can read about on page 16. The goal of this student-led project was to foster an inclusive and healthy community within our Faculty that reflects the diversity of our student body and strengthens the integration of dental hygiene and dentistry students. I think their lounge is a perfect reflection of this commitment to diversity and inclusion.

As I reflect on my nine years as dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, I want to take a moment to thank and acknowledge you, our alumni. I have spent a great deal of time visiting and talking with you over the years. Across this great country and beyond, I have found you to be extraordinary friends and colleagues. Your dedication, support, kind words, and, of course, your financial support of the Faculty of Dentistry have been exemplary. You have made it possible for the Faculty to progress in so many ways. Clinic renewal and outreach are only two examples of the initiatives that would not have been possible without you. I want to thank you personally so very much for all your support.

In closing, I leave you with a quote from Voltaire, which I feel reflects my gratitude for all you have done: "Appreciation is a wonderful thing. It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well."

Until we meet again, best wishes to each of you.

Most sincerely,

Thomas L. Boran
Thomas L. Boran (DDS'78)
Dean, Faculty of Dentistry

Dentistry Alumni Committee update

Lee Erickson (DDS'81), Denise Zwicker (DipDH'04, BDH'12) and Shauna Hachey (DipDH'04, BDH'12) have been elected DAC chair, vice-chair and secretary, respectively for 2017-19.

The DAC would like to congratulate Susan Keating-Bekkers (DipDH'91), who will receive the Dalhousie Alumni Association's 2017 A. Gordon Archibald Award at the Dalhousie Alumni Dinner on October 12. Susan will be the first dental hygiene alumna to receive a Dalhousie Alumni Award. We hope that she is the first of many to come!

Congratulations also go out to Marianne Dobbin (DDS'12), who has been appointed to the Dalhousie Alumni Association's board of directors.

We would like to thank Peggy Maillet (DipDH'74) for her 12 years of service to the DAC, the past two as chair. We would also like to thank outgoing member Heather Carr (DDS'88) and dental hygiene student representative Stacey Milligan (DipDH'18), and to welcome our new DAC members Amanda Lee (DipDH'14, BDH'15), Mark Sutherland (DDS'02) and Kristen Gamache (DipDH'18).

Our gratitude goes to Nancy Neish for her years as service as director of the School of Dental Hygiene. We are very proud of our greater engagement with our dental hygiene alumni and this could not have been achieved without Nancy's support.

Finally, the DAC would like to thank and acknowledge Dr. Tom Boran. Over his nine years as dean, Dr. Boran has made alumni relations one of his highest priorities. During this time, we have seen improved and diversified communications; our Faculty has hosted scores of events and engaged hundreds of alumni across the country and around the world, including two of our biggest events ever (the Centennial and DH50 in 2012 and 2013, respectively); grassroots class reunions have been encouraged and supported at higher levels than ever; and students and young alumni alike have greatly benefited from enhanced mentorship programming and professional networking opportunities. Thank you, Tom! *

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OMFS changes



Dr. Yang Gu



Dr. Lisa Johnson

There have been some big changes in the oral and maxillofacial department. Dr. Lisa Johnson, who joined OMFS in November 2016 as an oral pathologist, was named director of the biopsy service, effective July 1, 2017.

On the same date, Dr. Yang Gu became director of the oral pathology clinic. Both Dr. Gu and Dr. Johnson will continue to accept biopsy specimens from private practices as well as from the Faculty of Dentistry clinic. Students rotate through the oral pathology clinic to gain experience in oral pathology cases.

During the time that Dr. Ben Davis is acting dean for the Faculty of Dentistry, Dr. Chad Robertson will assume the role of chair of the OMFS department and interim chief of the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery at the Nova Scotia Health Authority. *



Dentistry student shows compassion



Third-year dentistry student Danah Al-Radhan harnessed her passion for filmmaking into support for this year's For The Health Of It chosen charity, Mobile Outreach Street Health (MOSH).

Each year the Faculty of Health Professions, Medicine, and Dentistry join forces to put on a variety show of music and skits in support of their chosen charity. Last year, Danah worked behind the scenes, but this year she wanted to

do something more to raise awareness and raise money for the charity. So she decided to make a film about MOSH and its work. The result is *MOSH: We all need compassion*.

While she was shocked and moved by the stories of the street involved people she talked with, Danah was also uplifted by the compassion she saw. "I was inspired by the humanity I was seeing and it inspired me to want to show the great work MOSH does."

Danah research, interviewed, wrote, and filmed *We all need compassion* while attending classes, working in the dental clinic, and preparing for exams and assessments. "There were many nights when I didn't get a lot of sleep. It wasn't easy, but it was worth it." *

You can read more about Danah and watch the film at <http://bit.ly/2fyCUQ6>

The view from one year out

Dr. Omer Malhi graduated with his Doctor of Dentistry degree from Dalhousie in June 2016 and moved with his wife and two children to St. John's, NL, where he joined Village Dental Office.

His journey began in Pakistan in 2012. Already a qualified dentist, he immigrated to Mississauga before joining the two-year Qualifying Program at Dal in 2014.

From his vantage point of one year out, what advice would he offer this year's graduating class? "Dal has a good reputation in Canada and they will have no issues about getting a job. Dal Dentistry students are regarded very highly," he says.

Once they are in private practice he strongly recommends developing empathy for and rapport with their patients. "When patients trust you, you will have your most successful treatments and your patients will be loyal to you." *

Did you know?

Alphabetically, the first Dalhousie Dentistry graduate in our alumni database is Nathan Aaronson (DDS'39). The last is Peter Zwicker (DDS'92).

The five most common alumni names (including variants) are John (66), Robert (53), William (49), Michelle (48) and Jennifer (44).

The five most common alumni surnames (including variants) are MacDonald (62), Smith (33), MacNeil (25), MacLean (23) and Brown (21).

The Faculty of Dentistry is currently able to reach 95% of its alumni via mail and 86% via email. But we've lost touch with more than 160 alumni. With 2018 being Dalhousie's 200th anniversary, here are some of the alumni we'd like to reconnect with, as they will be celebrating milestone anniversaries next year:

Robert MacLeod (DDS'58)
 John Vernick (DDS'58)
 Murray May (DDS'68)
 John Miller (DDS'68)
 C Graham Bennett (DDS'73)
 Michael Devine (DDS'73)
 Frederick Rutledge (DDS'73)
 Leslie Bierman (DipDH'83)
 Susan Boycott (DipDH'83)
 Robert Chen (DDS'83)
 Gary Clarke (DDS'83)
 Karen Vey (DipDH'83)
 Miss Lisa Vu (DipDH'83)
 Ed Murdoch (DDS'88)
 Caroline English (DipDH'93)
 Marina Frenette (DipDH'93)
 Rachelle Lemoine (DipDH'93)
 Luiza Epp (DipDH'98)
 Cheryl Hammill (DipDH'98)
 Natalie Miller (DipDH'98)
 Nancy Winslow (DipDH'98)
 Becky Wiseman (DipDH'98)
 Krista Foster (DipDH'03)
 Kristy Joudrey (DipDH'03)
 Mary Robinson (DipDH'03)

If you can help us reconnect with any of these alumni, or if you would like to update your own contact information, please email alumni.dentistry@dal.ca

Upcoming Dentistry Alumni Events

September 23, 2017

Dr. Harold Brogan Memorial Golf Classic
 Hammonds Plains, NS

October 13

JD McLean Lecture
 Halifax, NS

October 14

Dentistry Homecoming CE Weekend
 Halifax, NS

October 20

Alumni Lecture Series & Reception
 St. John's, NL

November 17

Alumni Lecture Series & Reception
 Sydney, NS

January 20, 2018

Dentistry Winter Ball

January 26

Dentistry Table Clinics Night

March 8/9 (TBC)

PDC Alumni Reception
 Vancouver, BC

April 1

Dentistry Outstanding Alumni Award Nomination Deadline

April 23

Dalhousie Coast to Coast Tour
 Edmonton, AB

April 25

Dalhousie Coast to Coast Tour
 Calgary, AB

April 26/27 (TBC)

ODA Alumni Reception
 Toronto, ON

For more information on these and other events, please visit www.dal.ca/dentistry or email alumni.dentistry@dal.ca



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Survey results

A big thank you goes out to everyone who completed our *Alumni Anchor* readers' survey. It sounds like you enjoy hearing what is new at the dental school, with particular interest in Faculty updates, alumni and student profiles, outreach, and research activities. There was appreciation for continuing to publish a hard copy magazine and some of you even asked for it to come out twice a year. Thanks for taking the time to tell us what you think. *

If you have further feedback for us, please send it to alumni.dentistry@dal.ca

Dentistry Mentorship Program Update



More than 75% of dental hygiene students attended the first dental hygiene mentorship event in April 2017.

In 2016-17, the Dentistry Mentorship Program – a joint initiative of the Faculty of Dentistry and the Nova Scotia Dental Association – focused on hosting a diverse lineup of special events, providing students with access to information and the opportunity to connect with mentors in a more casual environment, on their own terms.

Seven events were held under the umbrella of the Dentistry Mentorship Program, including presentations on issues new dentists might face, such as ethics and professionalism, financial planning, and topics specific to women working in the field of dentistry. And, for the first time, a mentorship event was coordinated for dental hygiene students. It was extremely well attended and well received.

The Community Contacts Program continues to perform strongly, with more than 60 volunteers in 20 Canadian cities, 18 American states and eight international locations who are ready and willing to serve as professional contacts for dentistry and dental hygiene students and recent grads.

And in May, the Faculty of Dentistry's Jon Bruhm delivered the keynote address at the third biannual Dentistry Mentorship Summit in Toronto, featuring representatives from dental associations and faculties of dentistry from across Canada. *

For more information, or to get involved in the Dentistry Mentorship Program, please email alumni.dentistry@dal.ca

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The Dentistry Alumni Dinner

The Outstanding Alumni Awards

The White Coat Ceremony

Class reunions

and much more

Stay tuned to www.dal.ca/dentistry for details. Registration will open in early 2018 – don't miss out!



The Faculty of Dentistry is pleased to recognize **Susan Keating-Bekkers (DipDH'91)**, the recipient of the Dalhousie Alumni Association's prestigious **A. Gordon Archibald Award**.

Join us as Susan is recognized at the Dalhousie Alumni Dinner on October 12, 2017 in Halifax. Details and ticket information are available at www.dal.ca/homecoming or call 902.494.2807.

Do you know Dalhousie alumni who deserve to be recognized? Email alumni.dentistry@dal.ca for details.



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Embracing change

Passionate. Collaborative. Sincere. Quote-centric. Tiggerific. Many words can be used to describe Dr. Tom Boran. However, perhaps the best one would be: Engaging.

More than 1,000 dentistry and dental hygiene students have attended the Faculty of Dentistry over the past nine years knowing Dr. Boran as their dean. Most, if not all, have had the opportunity to engage with him at one point or another—whether it was a greeting and a smile in the hallway, as an instructor in the clinic, in a class-wide meeting, at a social or networking event, on the softball field, or in any number of other capacities. As dean, he made it his personal mission to treat students like alumni from day one, and to always treat alumni like valued family members.

Dr. Boran is known for referring to the various members of our Faculty—alumni, faculty, staff, students, patients, donors, and members

of the oral health community—as members of our “Faculty Family.” He always made a point to engage with and include as many of them as possible in a wide variety of events and initiatives. By informing them and getting them involved in the goings-on of the Faculty, his intention has been to show our stakeholders the value of giving back to the Faculty—through sharing their ideas, their time, their personal funds, by sending their children and neighbours here, and by being ambassadors for Dalhousie Dentistry.

Over the past nine years, our Faculty has seen improved and diversified communications; we have hosted a wide variety of events and have personally reconnected with hundreds if not thousands of alumni

across the country and around the world; and both students and alumni have greatly benefited from enhanced mentorship programming and professional networking opportunities.

Under Dr. Boran's leadership, our Faculty hosted two of its largest ever alumni events—the Centennial in 2012 and “DH50,” the 50th anniversary celebrations of the School of Dental Hygiene, in 2013. Collectively, these events directly engaged nearly 1,500 members of our Faculty Family.

One of the other signature moments of his tenure as dean took place in 2012 when Dalhousie became the first Canadian dental school to receive the American Dental Education Association's prestigious William J. Gies Award for Achievement (Academic Dental Institution).

Dr. Boran concludes his term with our clinic renewal project well underway and on track for a grand reopening in September 2018 as part of Dalhousie's 200th anniversary celebrations. During his deanship, he has been instrumental in helping to raise more than \$7 million to support the Faculty of Dentistry, its students, and our communities.

A significant portion of this fundraising has gone to support a wide variety of outreach projects through which the Faculty strives to serve the underserved in our surrounding communities. This dedication and commitment to outreach—to expand our Faculty's reach, and to show students the value of volunteering and giving back to the community—is a hallmark of Dr. Boran's time as dean, and one of the key pillars of our Faculty.

At an appreciation event in May 2017, the Faculty of Dentistry officially announced the Tom Boran Dentistry Outreach Support Fund—an endowment that will support new and existing oral health initiatives at Dalhousie and across our region, so that our Faculty will be able to continue to support outreach areas in greatest need.

Dr. Boran ends his term as dean with a legacy of his commitment to excellence and change. The Faculty is in better shape than it was when he began his term, and we all know that he truly hopes and expects that the good work will continue as our Faculty looks toward the future. ✨

If you would like to learn more or contribute to the Tom Boran Dentistry Outreach Support Fund, please visit www.giving.dal.ca/dentistryoutreach or contact Victoria Hamilton at 902.494.6170 or victoria.hamilton@dal.ca



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Follow us. Like us.

Getting to know you

By Jon Bruhm

On July 1, 2017, some new but familiar faces ascended to leadership roles in the Faculty of Dentistry. In this *Alumni Anchor* feature, we are pleased to re-introduce our community to Ben Davis and Cara Tax.

BEN DAVIS, ACTING DEAN



Photo by Nick Pearce

Dr. Ben Davis

Q: You've been a member and leader in Dalhousie's Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery since 1997, and are well-known in the greater oral health community. Why did you accept the appointment as acting dean?

A: I feel a debt of gratitude to this Faculty. I had always wanted to be in academic dentistry, and was honoured to have been offered a faculty position 20 years ago by my mentor, David Precious, and the dean at the time, Bill MacInnis. Dalhousie gave me a wonderful opportunity, and serving as acting dean is one way that I can show my appreciation. I look forward to working with the assistant deans in providing leadership until a new dean has been named.

Q: You were born in Toronto, raised near Montreal, and educated in Antigonish, London, and Toronto. That makes you a "come from away." Also, it has been more than 25 years since a non-Dal grad has helmed the Faculty of Dentistry. What does that mean to you?

A: I have had the privilege of being a part of faculties elsewhere in Canada, and this has given me a unique perspective and appreciation as to just how fortunate we are here at Dalhousie. We have a wonderful Faculty, it's the right size, there's a sense of collegiality I haven't encountered before, and I think we offer a unique undergraduate experience. Although I'm not from here, I have been embraced by the Dalhousie community and have a deep appreciation for this place.

Q: During his time as dean, Dr. Tom Boran had numerous priorities, including outreach, clinic and curriculum renewal, alumni relations, and development. With the understanding that you have a finite term, what are your goals as acting dean?

A: We need to ensure that the curriculum and clinic renewal pieces are advanced and followed through to completion. I think we're well on our way, thanks to the hard work and guidance from the likes of Tom and some of our other academic leaders. I am also keenly aware of, and have a passion for, outreach. Our department has been providing cleft surgery care to underdeveloped countries for over 25 years. Closer to home, I appreciate that there is a huge gap between those who need oral health care and those who can afford it. This is a centrepiece of our Faculty, and I plan to march that along. One piece I want to enhance is care for our veterans. In my opinion, there are veterans in our region who aren't receiving an appropriate level of oral health care. I have been asked to review the provision of oral health care to our veterans in long term care here in Halifax and have reached out to faculty experts to assist in this review and hopefully improve this group's access to care. That's something I think we can achieve in the short term, and it's something I will continue even after I've left this position.

Q: What is something that members of our Faculty Family might be surprised to learn about you?

A: My wife has two degrees from Dal and my eldest son is a King's student. Apart from a new puppy that takes up a lot of my free time, I'm an avid cyclist. *

CARA TAX, DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL OF DENTAL HYGIENE

Q: You've been a member of the School of Dental Hygiene since 1992. Why did you accept the five-year appointment as director of the School of Dental Hygiene?

A: Having the opportunity to be the director of the School of Dental Hygiene is a true honour and it's the pinnacle of my career. I bring almost 40 years of teaching experience to this position. During this time, I have taught and learned from some of the best. As director, I want to share my knowledge and help create a vision for the future of dental hygiene education at Dalhousie University.

Q: You were born and raised in Winnipeg and spent a few years in Ottawa. That makes you a "Come From Away." Also, it has been more than 20 years since a non-Dal grad has helmed the School of Dental Hygiene. What does that mean to you?

A: I hardly feel like an outsider, having taught at Dal since 1992, but I suppose I bring a different perspective to the position. Living in three different regions in Canada has provided me with a network of connections that spans the country, and has given me insight into the profession from many perspectives. I believe this knowledge and these connections will be important as we look at renewing our curriculum and further developing a four-year degree program in dental hygiene.

Q: The School of Dental Hygiene has greatly benefitted from the leadership of Nancy Neish. Moving forward, what are your goals as director?

A: I see us really building on our scholarship. We have several faculty members who have completed their masters degrees and are quite involved in research. I think we've really got momentum, and can make some great contributions to the faculty research plan. Also, collaborating with dentistry to make the group practice model a success is high on my list of goals. It's kind of crazy that we teach our students in silos and then expect them to work together in practice. The group practice model provides an opportunity for both dentistry and dental hygiene students to understand and appreciate the strengths that each brings to patient care. This knowledge will be most valuable when they begin to practise in the "real world".

Q: What is something that members of our Faculty Family might be surprised to learn about you?

A: I suppose someone might be surprised to know that I was part of a team that raised \$500,000 for a capital fund. *



Prof. Cara Tax

Photo by Nick Pearce

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The **experts** behind a great smile

Renewed student lounge reflects a new focus on inclusion

By Cheryl Bell

Student leaders from the dentistry and dental hygiene programs hosted students, faculty, and staff from the Dal community at an open house in May to launch the Dentistry Building's renovated student lounge – a space that welcomes and invites a diverse range of students.



"What started as a difficult and upsetting experience has become a very exciting time for us," said Abby Barton (DDS'17), as she and other student leaders revealed the freshly renovated student lounge and a new wall mural on May 8, 2017 and talked about the goals and rationale behind the changes.

"We are so proud of what our students have accomplished," said Dr. Tom Boran, dean of the Faculty of Dentistry. "They have thought deeply about what it means to be inclusive, they have collaborated with each other, consulted widely, and they have

made thoughtful and meaningful changes. This student lounge and this new mural are proof positive of that."

EMPHASIZING INCLUSION

Two years ago the student lounge was talked about as part of the Facebook episode that rocked the Faculty of Dentistry and the university. As part of the ongoing work to address culture and climate within the Faculty of Dentistry, the students decided that they would "try to build an inclusive and healthy community within our Faculty and

to reflect and increase the diversity of the students involved in our society and events".

Wanting to draw a line under the past and take the Dalhousie Dentistry Students' Society (DDSS) forward in a new way, Barton and her fellow DDSS student leaders set out their values as a student society – inclusivity, responsibility and accountability, safety, and transparency – and then worked to create a space and a sustainable framework by which those values would flourish.

The students consulted widely and worked in collaboration with groups and colleagues on and off campus. They also held their first

annual Leadership Summit in October 2016, which was aimed at training and preparing student leaders for the conflicts and difficult conversations that often accompany positions of leadership.

"There are many issues facing students, ranging from mental health to sexualized violence," said Barton, "and student leaders need the knowledge, skills, and resources to talk about these issues constructively and direct students to sources of further support."

OPEN AND ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

The result is an open and accessible office with a large window onto the lounge, in which trained student leaders will host office hours and deal with student concerns. The lounge itself has also been designed to be a welcoming space in which the DDSS can "host events that are welcoming and inviting to our student community as a whole," said Barton.

Far more than simply a physical space, the renovated student lounge and office are symbolic of a strengthened focus on reflecting and increasing the diversity of the students involved in the Dalhousie Dentistry Students' Society.

The final element in the students' project is a mural, created by the community artist Tonya Paris and based on community consultations at the Faculty's outreach clinics at the North End Community Health Centre, the North Preston Dental Clinic, Harbour View Elementary School, and the ISANS Immigrant and Refugee Clinic.

CHANGING THE WRITING ON THE WALLS

"We thought a lot about what was reflected on the walls of Facebook and our student bar room in 2015 and about how it came to be written," said Barton. "Changing the writing on the walls was a way of reflecting our commitments as a community. It also acknowledges our continued journey and ongoing learning, because we know that this work will never be done."

Dalhousie president Dr. Richard Florizone commended Barton and her fellow student leaders for taking on this project. "What you have learned and accomplished is a foundation and a springboard to make us all better," he said. "You make Dal stronger and I am proud to be your president."

Dr. Boran added his praise for the work of the students. "You have worked hard, you have been inspired, and you have been brave. You have made a lasting difference, not only to this Faculty, but to the university. That is your legacy, and you can be proud of it."*



Photos by Nick Pearce

Dentistry and dental hygiene students with the new lounge mural (left to right): Bryce Tung, Abby Barton, Sarah Grant, Dave Ropson.

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Photo by Nick Pearce

Building the future of oral health education

By Nada Haidar (DDS '97) and Rick Raftus (DDS '86)
Dalhousie Dental Clinic Renewal Campaign Champions

This is an exciting time at the Faculty of Dentistry. Renovations to the dental clinic are underway and we are about to launch a new era in oral health care education at Dalhousie.

As proud alumni and part-time instructors in the Faculty, we see first-hand the impact of the clinic renewal on students, patients, and the communities we serve. That is why we are supporting the project as campaign champions.

In the following pages, you'll see some of the newly renovated spaces and a snapshot of the work yet to be completed.

Students and faculty are already working in the renovated portion of the undergraduate clinic, which has been designed following a group practice model. This means dental students work side-by-side with hygiene students, dental assistants and administrative staff. The result is that all students gain experience that is very similar to working in private practice.

The project is not yet finished. Fundraising continues so that we can move ahead with phase two of the renovations. When the clinic renewal is complete, it will enable us to significantly expand our capacity to serve the community, providing oral health care and outreach to underserved populations – those who need it the most. We will be able to treat more patients, provide better continuity of care, and perform new procedures. Students will have a comprehensive understanding of how a collaborative group practice functions and enter the field as stronger, more skilled practitioners.

We are proud to serve as campaign champions and to spread the word about the incredible work being done within the

Faculty, and the exciting changes to come. It is important to us to contribute to the life of the school that gave us so much and continues to support us as professionals.

Oral health care is about more than acquiring a skillset. It's about the compassionate care of others, particularly those who have limited or no access to treatment. The Dental Clinic Renewal project will equip students with the highest level of clinical experience and help them become caring professionals who are committed to their patients and their communities. This, to us, is the future of oral health care. ★



THE LEGACY EFFECT

Judy Flecknell and Jeff Williams

Judy Flecknell (DDS '86) and Jeff Williams (DDS '86) found their life's passion at Dalhousie's Faculty of Dentistry, both in their careers and in each other. Now, they want to honour that connection and help others through a bequest in their will.

We Can Help

If you're thinking of including Dalhousie University in your estate plans, we can help you match your gift to your wishes. Explore the possibilities at dal.ca/plannedgiving.

Have questions? We have answers.

Ann Vessey | 902-494-6565 | ann.vessey@dal.ca



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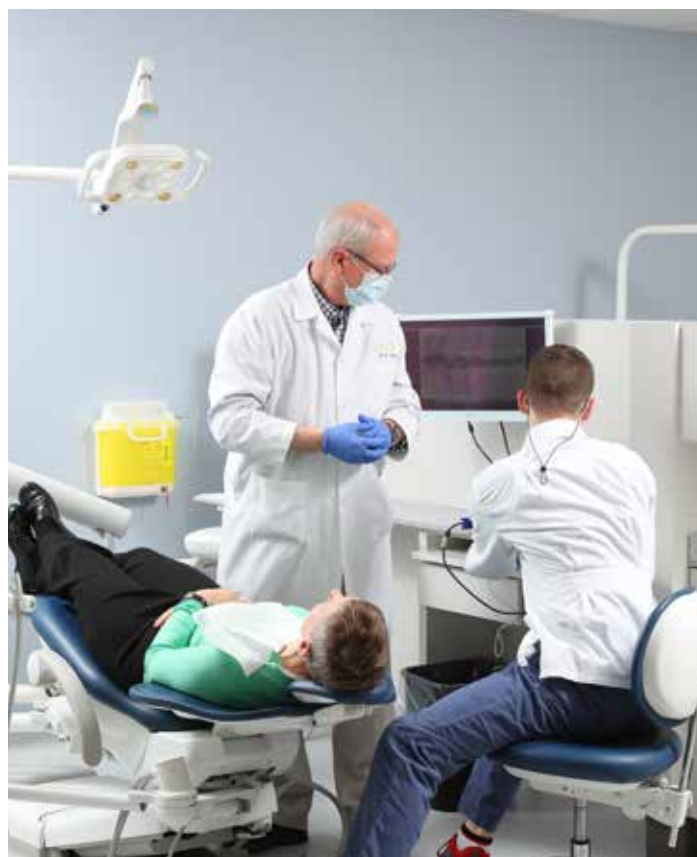
Visit dal.ca/donors/flecknell-williams and learn more about their story.



Unveiling the future of dental care

By Cheryl Bell

Donors and Dal community members got a sneak peek at what the renovated Dalhousie Dental Clinic will look like when work is complete in 2018 – changes that will make a big difference in dental education, patient care, and community impact.



Up-to-date technologies and equipment allow the new group-practice model help students simulate what they'll face in the real world after graduation.

The excitement in the room was palpable as Dr. Tom Boran, dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, and two second-year dentistry students, Lexi McLean and Emily Bishop, spoke about the ongoing clinic renewal project and what it means for student learning and patient care. Work has been taking place “behind the wall” for several months and everyone was eager to see the results.

The first half of the renovated dental clinic was unveiled to a group of donors and members of the Dalhousie community at a preview event on April 27. Students and faculty began working in the new space on May 1 and the grand reopening of the fully completed clinic will take place during Homecoming 2018.

“These clinic renovations are so much more than bricks and mortar and so much more than individual cubicles. They are the future of dentistry,” said Dr. Boran, prior to leading the group on a tour of the new clinic.

“This renewal project means that we can teach in new ways, our students can learn the latest techniques with the latest equipment, our patients can receive enhanced care, and we can serve more patients, including those who have limited or no access to oral health care. It truly is transformational.”

McLean and Bishop, who will benefit from the new clinic for two years before they graduate, spoke highly of the up-to-date technologies and equipment, air quality, accessibility for physically challenged and wheelchair-bound patients, and the new group practice model, which will help to “simulate what we will be facing in the real world after graduation,” said Bishop.

SUPPORTING IMPROVED CARE

Dr. Jeff Williams and Dr. Judy Flecknell, (both DDS '86) were impressed by how “new and shiny” the new clinic is.

“The group practice model will lend itself to simulating real life dental practice,” said Dr. Williams. “That alone is probably the most significant change and benefit to dentistry and dental hygiene students.”

“The fresh air, excellent lighting, restful colours, increased accessibility, and lack of clutter will all be conducive to learning in a comfortable manner,” added Dr. Flecknell.

Dr. Boran commended the generosity of the late Dr. Bill Murphy (DDS '56) for his lead gift, which has helped spur the Faculty toward its fundraising goal.

“I am delighted to tell you that we have raised more than half of our \$6-million target,” said Dr. Boran. “Thanks to a significant number of pledges, we hope to bring the campaign home next year. That being said, there is more to do and our feet are still firmly on the pedal. If we can surpass our goal, that means more equipment, more support, and better facilities for both our students and our patients.”

EXPANDING COMMUNITY IMPACT

Dr. Boran also thanked Susan Keating-Bekkers (DDH '91), a long-term supporter and volunteer in the Faculty, for helping to create a new video (<https://youtu.be/wArFO7CnqT4>) about the Faculty's extensive outreach work, which the renovated clinic will help to enrich and extend.

“We are so grateful to all of you for your loyalty to this school, our profession, and for giving us the opportunity to learn in a transformed environment,” said McLean. “It will assist the many generations of dental students to come. Thank you for making this possible. We can hardly wait to get started!” *

Annual Giving Report

The Faculty of Dentistry is extremely grateful for the generosity of our alumni, friends and organizations that support our Faculty and Dalhousie University. The following is a list acknowledging those who have made financial contributions between April 2016 and March 2017. We sincerely appreciate your support. We would also like to thank our donors who requested to remain anonymous.

DENTISTRY CLASS GIVING

1940

Max Greenberg

1941

Leonard S. Goldberg

1950

Walter Cook
Ed Spracklin

1955

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1956

Norman J. Layton
Samuel Newman

1957

James W. Carson
James H. Peters

1959

G. Murray Dewis
Frank Lovely
David R. Rubin

1960

Yosh Kamachi

1961

Kinji Asahina
Larry Gaum
Roger J. Paturel
Thomas H. Raddall II

1962

Don Bonang
Doug Chaytor
J. W. Logue

1963

William O. Adams
Melvin Brown
Garry W. Condon

1964

Joseph E. Grasso
Donald Hatheway

1965

Robert Cooper
George R. Nye
G. S. Zwicker

1966

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Brock H. Rondeau
Maurice K. Wong

1967

Douglas E. Arnold
John W. McMullen

1968

Eckart Schroeter
W. E. Thompson

1970

Leslie J. Hudgins
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1971

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Carl Tilley

1972

David Moore
Robert Murray
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1973

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Eric G. Easton
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1974

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A. Ernest Corrigan
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1975

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Ray Wenn

1976

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1977

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Murray P. Holburn
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1978

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K. L. Henry Chong
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Janet Stewart
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1979

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Reg Goodday
Gary Samson
Brien W. Stackhouse

1980

Val Biskupski
Brian S. Budovitch
Marlene E. Mader
Rory L. McLean
Marina Sexton
Robert K. Snow
Michael J. Taylor

1981

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Robert S. Roda

1982

Ronald Buckley
Grahame Usher
Anne Young
Mary Yurchesyn

1983

Janet Bailey Buckley
Robert C. Dunphy
Gary M. Henderson
Deborah N. Stymiest

1984

Eric Beaton
M. Anne MacDonald

1985

Simone Abbass
Tim Chaisson
Graham Conrad
Terrie Logue
Daniel M. Tam
Joseph Westhaver

1986

Judith Flecknell
Vincent L. McMaster
Chris Petropolis
Donald Stewart
Lary Trites
Jeff Williams

1987

Maureen Bourgeois
Gary Diamond
John Laureijs*
Daniel McKenna
Caroline Pavlin

1988

Heather Carr
D. Scott Clark
Jane E. Porter
Cheryl A. Wenn

1989

Daniel Albert
Linda Blakey
Michael H. Brown
Paul Cameron
Sheridan Cyrus
Gillian Espie
Terry Foreman
Greg Hooper
K. Stacey Hughes
Gordie Rudolph
Joanne Stewart

1990

Jenine Arab O'Malley
Michael Bishop
Claire Karst
Kevin Walsh
MaryAnn Wiseman
Ernest R. Wotton

1991

Allan Hynes
Kilby Townshend

1992

Christopher Baker
Patricia Bueckert
Tony Ciocca
David V. Craig
Mary McNally
Stuart Richardson

1993

Derrick N. Batten
Pauline Cahill
Joanne M. Green
J. Scott Green
Alan Robinson
Glenda Ross
A. Drew Smith

1994

Doug MacNeil
P. J. Murphy
Matthew Nichols
Ronald S. Rix

1995

Katrina Brouwer
Kim Maddison

1996

Kelly A. Crawford
Charmaine Williams
Maureen E. Wiseman

1997

Todd A. Dakin
Nada Haidar
Kelly Hatt

1998

Nancy Browne
Natasha Campbell
Michel Comeau
Jeff Hockley
Kent Orlando
Joel E. Powell

1999

Krishna Mahabir

2000

Janice Stewart

2001

Peggy S. Bown

2002

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Julie Labbe
Kevin MacDonald
Mark Ripley
Mark Sutherland

2003

Dan MacLellan
Tara Avery Scichilone

2004

Natasha Garnett

2005

Wade Abbott
Natalie Brothers
Sandy Crocker
Shannon Davis
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Colette Vallee

2006
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2007
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2008
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Mohammad Shafiei

2010
Tiffany A. Kisway
Gaurav Mahar

2011
Beth Nielsen

2012
Ahmad Fayad

2014
Emily Effiong

2015
Viren Patel

*Deceased

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1964
Jane Wong

1965
Carol (Forman) Nicholson

1966
Alexandra M. Wright

1967
Judiann Thomas

1968
Merla Gerrior

1969
Glenda M. Butt

1971
Jean V. McGinis

1972
Deborah (Turner) Richard

1975
Rena Demone
Anne Dorey

1976
Anne M. Ryan

1977
Susan Matheson

1978
Marilyn Cummings
M. Jeannette Laba

1979
Barbara McCain
Lois R. McLean

1980
Lori J. Cyca

1981
Ann MacDonald

1984
Bethany Z. Miles

1985
Carolyn D. Gorling
Kim Haslam
Sylvia M. Van Gogh

1986
Michele M. Chioveli
Lesley Des Noyers
Lucille Paquet

1987
Vicky Garland
Corinna Recker

1988
Jackie (Fox) Bannister

1989
Erin E. Panzarasa

1990
Stacey Walsh

1991
Susan Keating-Bekkers
Angela Hynes
Janice Irving

1993
Jennifer Bower

1997
Keri Robinson-Payne

1999
Andrea D. McAllister

2001
Wendy Stewart

2007
Marianne Williams

2015
Megan White

DENTAL HYGIENE CLASS GIVING – BACHELOR

2010
Janet A. Munn

HERITAGE SOCIETY

We thank the following
people who have
remembered the Faculty of
Dentistry in their wills:

E. Paul Atkinson
James W. Carson
Walter F. Cook
Don & Norma Cunningham
Douglas & Jackie Eisner
Judy Flecknell & Jeff
Williams
Gary M. Foshay
Timothy Guy Haywood
C. David Hoffman
Frank Lovely
Deborah C. Matthews
Carl McDermott
Rory & Lois McLean
Bruce & Susan Moxley
Kenneth C.L. Ngan
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Tammy Chouinard
Joanne B. Clovis
Benjamin Davis
Aimee Dawson
Jean Charles Doucet
Jana Elias
Marielle Elias
Anita Foley
Margery Forgay
Lorna L. Fraser
Curtis Gregoire
Victoria Hamilton
C. David Hoffman
Patricia Konopasky
Kate MacDonald
Margaret MacKenzie
Douglas & Veronica
MacPherson
Deborah C. Matthews
Douglas McLean
Bruce & Susan Moxley
Chad Robertson
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Dean Weinkauf

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CDSPI
College of Dental Hygienists
of Nova Scotia
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Prince Edward Island
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Donald J. Armstrong, DDS '66
Peter G. Baltzer, DDS '79
Peter S. Flieger, DDS '69
John Laureijs, DDS '87
Mitchell Levine, DDS '60
William M. Murphy, DDS '56
Dana Naikauskas, DDS '58
Rick Sansouci, DDS '84
Vincent T. Shannon, DDS '72

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dentistry/alumni-
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DID YOU KNOW?

The group practice clinic is a cornerstone of our Clinic Renewal Project. If you would like to join alumni and friends who have chosen to name cubicles and be part of the transformation, please contact Victoria Hamilton at 902.494.6170 or victoria.hamilton@dal.ca for more information.

A mission of mercy

By Suzanne Rent

Dental hygienist **April MacDougall** volunteered on a hospital ship off the coast of West Africa. She has discovered that going on missions is part of her life.



April MacDougall's strong religious faith inspires her to go on missions and she sees her dental hygiene skills as a way of helping others.

She spent the month of November 2016 working with Mercy Ships, the world's largest non-governmental floating hospital, anchored off the coast of Benin, a French-speaking nation in West Africa.

Mercy Ships has treated more than 2.42 million people in the poorest countries of the world since it was founded in 1978. MacDougall joined 400 other medical professionals on the seven-deck ship where they helped patients with everything from orthotics to eye care.

"It's heartbreaking to see how great the need is there," MacDougall says. "Seeing the lineups of people waiting for care and being able to give it to them was amazing."

It wasn't her first mission. Inspired by the work of her father, who grew up in a missionary home, MacDougall took part in earlier missions to Moldova and Papua New Guinea.

"I have a skill I like to share with other people," MacDougall says.

There were two hygienists and several dentists working during her mission with Mercy Ships. MacDougall provided cleaning and oral health care to around seven patients each day. The clinic carried out fillings and extractions and performed minor surgeries.

MacDougall remembers one patient in particular, a gentleman who was so grateful for the treatment that he brought MacDougall a dress and a set of wooden dishes as a gift. "He was so thankful," she says. "He had everything all wrapped up and gave me a hug. It makes you realize how much you are touching someone's life."

The work also challenged her as a hygienist.

"It really helped to broaden my scope of practice," she says. "I saw more challenging cases than I would normally here in the clinic." She also had the opportunity to administer anesthetics and perform simple extractions.





MacDougall says she would love to go back to Mercy Ships. "I just haven't decided when," she says. "I would have liked to stay longer and I would have liked to help more people. But you can only do so much for everyone."

Saulo Gamarra is the lead dentist with Mercy Ships. He worked directly with MacDougall. "[April has] excellent verbal and written communication skills, excellent organizational skills, flexibility, and sensitivity to language and culture diversity. In my opinion, she learned more about compassion for the poor and needy," Gamarra says. "That is what our team aims for."

Gamarra says Mercy Ships is a rewarding opportunity and encourages dentists and hygienists to join a mission. "There [are] so many opportunities to help poor people here. Do not miss this chance. It could be a breakthrough in your life."

More recently, MacDougall worked on an outreach program closer to home. In April, she participated in a free tooth-cleaning clinic for underserved populations at Holland College in Charlottetown. The clinic was held as part of Gift from the Heart, a national program.

Six hygienists, including MacDougall, organized the event, which was the first year it was held in P.E.I. About 50 people volunteered and Holland College, which has a dental assistant program, opened its space. An oral surgeon volunteered to provide screenings for oral cancer. About 70 patients stopped in for cleanings.

"We also had to turn away 20 to 30 people," MacDougall says. "It showed us how great a need there is for oral care. It was crazy busy, but it was awesome. Everyone had a wonderful experience."

She says she and the volunteers will host the same event next year. She also hopes to volunteer on another mission.

"I love travelling, so if I can travel and practise what I know, I'm always looking for different experience," MacDougall says. "I'd definitely go back to Mercy Ships, but if something else presented itself, like working up North, I'd do that." ✨



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SERVING
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By Mark Campbell

Mexican-born educator and dental hygienist **Maria Tigner** (DDH'92) is a passionate advocate for enhanced dental care in Mexico. She goes home every chance she gets to provide dental care and educate students and practising dentists on the importance of preventive care.



It has not been easy for Maria Tigner (DDH'92) to advocate for enhanced dental care in Mexico. Most people only go to see a dentist when there is a problem, and the majority of dentists tend to work without the support of a dental hygienist.

But perhaps the biggest challenge Tigner faces is that she lives thousands of miles away in Ontario.

"I was looking for an opportunity to reconnect with Mexico," says the Dalhousie Dental Hygiene program alumna. "I was raised there. I have family there. I thought if I reach

out to my alma mater and other universities to do some presentations on the impact of preventive dental care, I could travel back from time to time. That's how it all started."

Distances may limit Tigner, who is a professor of dental hygiene and dental assisting at Algonquin College, in terms of what she is able to do. But every chance she gets, she goes home to help make a difference. Tigner has shared protocols for treating children with disabilities with the Children's Hospital Federico Gomez and the Centro de Rehabilitación Infantil Teletón

(CRIT) in Mexico City. She has volunteered at orphanages, daycare facilities and hospitals, providing care to hundreds who otherwise might not have access to dental hygiene services. And she has delivered presentations to dentistry and dental hygiene students and professors, and to practising dentists, on the importance of preventive dental care, and how hygienists can play a vital role in advancing oral and overall health.

"The reason most people only go to a dentist when there is a problem is partly due to a lack of public education on preventive dental care,"

Photo by Colin Rowe



Maria Tigner found her way to reconnect with her homeland through dentistry.

**“Dalhousie opened the door for me to do different things and to give back. It transformed my life.”
– Maria Tigner**



says Tigner, who also worked in private and restorative practice, and at the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario. “In the absence of hygienists on the dental team, preventive care is typically not carried out with the same degree of persistence and determination. By promoting the role of dental hygienists in the profession, I hope to change that.”

Like many of her colleagues in Mexico, Tigner practised independently after receiving her DDS from the University of Mexico (UNAM). It was only after relocating to Canada with her Canadian husband in 1983 that she began to appreciate the role dental hygienists play in patient health. After completing several National Dental Examining Board examinations to be certified as a dentist in Canada, the system changed, making it mandatory to enroll in a dental accreditation university program. Realizing it was cost prohibitive, Tigner found a more practical opportunity to reenter the field in Dalhousie’s Dental Hygiene program.

“I had great professors,” Tigner says. “Through their instruction and my experiences, I fell in love with the profession to the point where I could see the possibilities it offered me and Mexico. Dalhousie opened the door for me to do different things and to give back. It transformed my life.”

Drawing on her own Dalhousie experience, Tigner is now transforming lives in Mexico through her advocacy and volunteer efforts. It is a slow process; many dentists still treat patients unassisted and only three universities currently offer dental hygiene programs, meaning limited access and awareness. These programs, which have only existed since 2013, are further hampered by a lack of vital resources, which Tigner is trying to address.

“I am looking into translating dental hygiene textbooks to Spanish,” Tigner explains. “The universities in Mexico currently do not have any because there are not enough programs being offered and not enough people enrolled in them. If I can provide those resources, and translations of professional documents from the College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario, it will go a long way toward helping dental hygiene students and other professionals provide better care for their patients.”

There are many other initiatives and plans that Tigner is pursuing to enhance dental care and education in Mexico. She is in discussions to develop exchange and collaboration programs between Algonquin College and Cuauhtemoc University in Queretaro, Qro, Mexico. She is also helping to bring dental hygiene students to Canada to further their studies, and to train professors currently teaching the course in Mexico. It hardly seems she could do more, but with retirement on the horizon, Tigner is making plans to spend more time advocating and volunteering in Mexico.

“I already have a place in San Miguel de Allende where I will be part of a very active community of volunteers,” Tigner says. “I’d like to start a dental assisting course, which is currently very limited and undersized there—nothing like what we have in Canada. I want to deliver more lectures at the universities and raise awareness of the importance of preventive dental care so we can better protect people. And I want continue making good use of my dental license in Mexico by doing restorative work for children. It will be a wonderful way to retire!” ✱

Dean's List

Congratulations to our alumni, faculty, and staff who continue to receive awards and recognition for their work, and contribute to the advancement of the fields of dentistry and dental hygiene. If you have any news items or story ideas to share, please submit them to alumni.dentistry@dal.ca.

*Denotes alumni who are also faculty members

ALUMNI

Maureen Andrea (DDS'91) was inducted as a Fellow in the Pierre Fauchard Academy in May 2017.

Linda Blakey (DDS'89) was inducted as a Fellow in the Pierre Fauchard Academy in May 2017.

Marcia Boyd (LLD'12) received the Canadian Dental Association's Medal of Honour in April 2017.



Katrina Danielak (DDS'15) was selected as the winner of the Faculty of Dentistry's 2016 Pumpkin Carving Contest.



Leonard Goldberg (DDS'41) and his wife Miriam received a visit from the Faculty of Dentistry's Jon Bruhm and Victoria

Hamilton. Dr. Goldberg was presented with his 75th anniversary alumni pin in December 2016.

Sara Gordon (DDS'85) has been named a Fellow in the Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine Program for Women. Dr. Gordon is currently the associate dean of academic affairs at the University of Washington's School of Dentistry. Her classmate, **Carol Anne Murdoch-Kinch**, also completed this program in 2013.



Max Greenberg (DDS'40) received a visit from Ann Vessey of Dalhousie's Advancement Office shortly

before his 105th birthday in March 2017. He remembers his time in Halifax fondly and always asks about his friends back at Dalhousie.

Richard Holden (DDS'89) was inducted as a Fellow in the Pierre Fauchard Academy in May 2017.

Simar Hundal (DDS'11) created the Angad Hundal Memorial Award in honour of her late son, and presented the inaugural award at a ceremony at the Halifax Central Library in September 2016.

Claire Karst (DDS'90) received the Nova Scotia Dental Association's T.D. Ingham Volunteer Award in June 2017.

Susan Matheson (DipDH'77) received the Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry's Distinguished Service Award in June 2017.

Maria Tigner (DipDH'92) was recognized with Dalhousie's Building a Better World distinction in April 2017.

FACULTY

Ross Anderson (Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Nova Scotia Dental Association's Award of Excellence in June 2017.

***Tom Boran** (DDS'78, Dean's Office) received the Nova Scotia Dental Association's P.S. Christie Award for Distinguished Service in June 2017.

Daniel Boyd (Applied Oral Sciences) has been awarded an NSERC Idea to Innovation grant worth \$124,658 to develop degradable and imageable microspheres. He has also been invited to provide a chapter for the 2nd edition of *Bioactive Glass*, published by Woodhead Publishing Group. Dr. Boyd and ***Heather Doucette** (DipDH'94) have been awarded a one-year \$50,000 Innovacorp Early Stage Commercialization Fund grant to develop a novel desensitizing agent for over-the-counter toothpastes.

***Chris Cameron** (DDS'04, Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Outstanding Teacher in Graduate Periodontics Award from the Dalhousie Master of Periodontics Program students in June 2016.

Heather Dymont (Dental Clinical Sciences) has been appointed interim chief of dentistry at the IWK and interim head of paediatric dentistry at Dalhousie.

Mark Filiaggi (Applied Oral Sciences) has been awarded a one-year \$50,000 Early Stage Commercialization Fund grant to develop polyphosphate glass microspheres for clinical use.

Jack Gerrow (former faculty member) received the Canadian Dental Association's Distinguished Service Award in April 2017.

***Reginald Goodday** (DDS'79, MSc'88, Oral & Maxillofacial Sciences) and co-authors **Susan Bourque** (DDS'04, MSc'13) and **Pember Edwards** (DDS'16) have been awarded the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Foundation's 2017 Daniel M. Laskin Award for the most outstanding article published in the

Journal of *Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery* for their paper, "Objective and Subjective Outcomes Following Maxillomandibular Advancement Surgery for Treatment of Patients With Extremely Severe Obstructive Sleep Apnea (Apnea-Hypopnea Index ↑100)."

***Shauna Hachey** (DipDH'04, BDH'12, School of Dental Hygiene) graduated with her master of health studies from Athabasca University in June 2017.



Nader Hamdan (Dental Clinical Sciences) has been appointed director of the Graduate Program in Periodontics.

He is also the first author of "Surgical Management of a Severe Early Implant Complication: A 19-Year Follow-Up Case Report," which was published in *Clinical Advances in Periodontics*.

***Kim Haslam** (DipDH'85, School of Dental Hygiene) has been appointed to a probationary tenure track position in the School of Dental Hygiene.

Ahmed Ismail (former faculty member) received the Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity Achievement Medal Award in May 2017. Dr. Ismail is currently dean of the Kornberg School of Dental Medicine at Temple University.

***Susan Keating-Bekkers** (DipDH'91, School of Dental Hygiene) will receive the Dalhousie Alumni Association's A. Gordon Archibald Award for volunteerism to Dalhousie in October 2017.



Robert Loney (Dental Clinical Sciences) achieved the 1 million view mark on his YouTube channel page.

***Teanne MacCallum** (DipDH'07, BDH'10, School of Dental Hygiene) graduated with her master of arts in education from Mount Saint Vincent University in May 2017. Teanne is the co-investigator

on a \$10,000 Knowledge Sharing Support Award ***Mary McNally** (DDS'92, Dental Clinical Sciences) has been awarded from the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation. In partnership with Caregivers Nova Scotia, the funding will make it possible to extend Brushing Up on Mouth Care resources to family and friend caregivers and to offer support for long-term care administrators and care providers.



Isabel Mello (Dental Clinical Sciences) received the W.W. Wood Award for excellence in dental education in May 2017.

Pierre-Luc Michaud (Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Dr. Wayne Garland Award from the DDS Class of 2017. This award is presented to a faculty or staff member for outstanding dedication and commitment to providing a quality pre-clinical education.

***Richard Price** (DDS'88, Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Faculty of Dentistry Research Excellence Award in September 2016. Dr. Price also contributed a chapter on light curing to a new textbook, *Restoring with Flowables*.

***Rick Raftus** (DDS'86, Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Student Life & Community Improvement Award from the DDS Class of 2017. This award is presented to the faculty of staff member who has shown an effort to improve the dental school experience inside and/or outside regular clinical activities.

Stephen Roth (Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Nova Scotia Dental Association's Community Service Award in June 2017.

***Kathy Russell** (DDS'90, Dental Clinical Sciences) received the 2017 Samuel Berkowitz Long-Term Outcomes Study Award for her paper, "A multi-centre study using the SWAG scale to compare secondary alveolar bone graft outcomes for patients with cleft lip and palate".



***Sachin Seth** (DDS'00, Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Dr. Gorman Doyle Award from the DDS Class of 2017.

This award is presented to the full-time clinical instructor who has contributed the most to student education in clinical dentistry.

***Daryl West** (DDS'82, Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Part-Time Clinical Instructor Award from the DDS Class of 2017. This award is presented to the part-time clinical instructor who has contributed the most to student education in clinical dentistry.

Tamara Wright (Dental Clinical Sciences) was inducted as a Fellow in the International College of Dentists in May 2017.

STAFF

Jo-Anne Roski (Dean's Office) received the Gladys Littler Award in June 2017. This annual award recognizes a staff member who exemplifies a high level of commitment, high standards of performance, and outstanding service of the Faculty of Dentistry at Dalhousie University.

FOND FAREWELLS

The Faculty of Dentistry would like to wish happy trails to **Ross Anderson** (Dental Clinical Sciences), **Deborah David** (Dean's Office), **Marilyn Klein** (DIR), **Peggy Maillet** (School of Dental Hygiene) and **Nancy Webb** (Dean's Office), who have all retired since the last issue of the *Anchor*.

We would also like to sincerely thank **Tom Boran** (DDS'78) and **Nancy Neish** (DipDH'74) for their years of dedication and service as dean of our Faculty and director of our School of Dental Hygiene, respectively.

A warm welcome in a cold climate: hygiene students gain experience in Labrador

By Cheryl Bell



Sarah Grant



Stacey Milligan

When four second-year dental hygiene students headed to Labrador in the middle of winter to provide dental hygiene care to the 1,500 residents of Forteau and its surrounding villages, they had little idea that their skills would be so much in demand or that this community would capture their hearts so completely.

Stacey Milligan, Sarah Grant, Alicia Bond, and Jadeen Umscheid each spent two weeks working at the Grenfell-Labrador Health Clinic alongside Dr. Brian Kizner and dental assistant Sabrina Belben. The Faculty of Dentistry has been sending students there for the past nine years.

The students quickly found themselves immersed in both the work of the clinic and the life of the community. "It was like I had been there my whole life," says Milligan, who found herself learning to cross-country ski and attending potluck dinners as well as removing calculus and providing oral health education.

Each student was busy from the start. In fact, as soon as the people of Forteau and its surrounding communities hear that the students are coming, the clinic phone

starts to ring. Working largely on their own, the students found themselves scaling and debriding, applying sealants, dealing with both basic and complicated dental hygiene, offering oral health education in the clinic and at local schools, and consulting with Dr. Kizner on treatment plans. One patient was a 66-year-old woman who had never had dental hygiene treatment before.

"We wait all year for the Dal students." – Dr. Brian Kizner

All the students said that Dr. Kizner and Sabrina regarded them as professionals and valued members of the team from the outset. "It was nice but scary," says Umscheid. "I had to self-check and make good use of the explorer. Both my hygiene skills and my time management improved exponentially."

"Working independently makes you want to do an outstanding job," adds Grant. "I felt our professors had prepared us well for that moment. I could hear them in my head as I worked."

"It was a great transition to the real world," says Bond. "Dr. Kizner told me that I was the dental hygienist there. I wasn't treated separately because I was a student."

"We wait all year for the Dal students," says Dr. Kizner. "They are among the best hygienists I've ever worked with. We give them the patients who need the care the most and they rise to the challenge. I would happily take the whole class."

The students worked hard and also found themselves enjoying Labrador life as part of the close-knit community. They cross-country skied, went snowshoeing, ice-fished, attended Sabrina's exercise classes, and ate partridge and Jigg's dinner.

They all came away wishing that they could continue working in the close-knit community or one similar to it. "I don't think any of us wanted to come back," says Bond.

Next year the School of Dental Hygiene hopes to raise the money to send five students to Forteau. *

Read what the New York Times has to say about the Forteau experience: <http://nyti.ms/2togoBl>



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