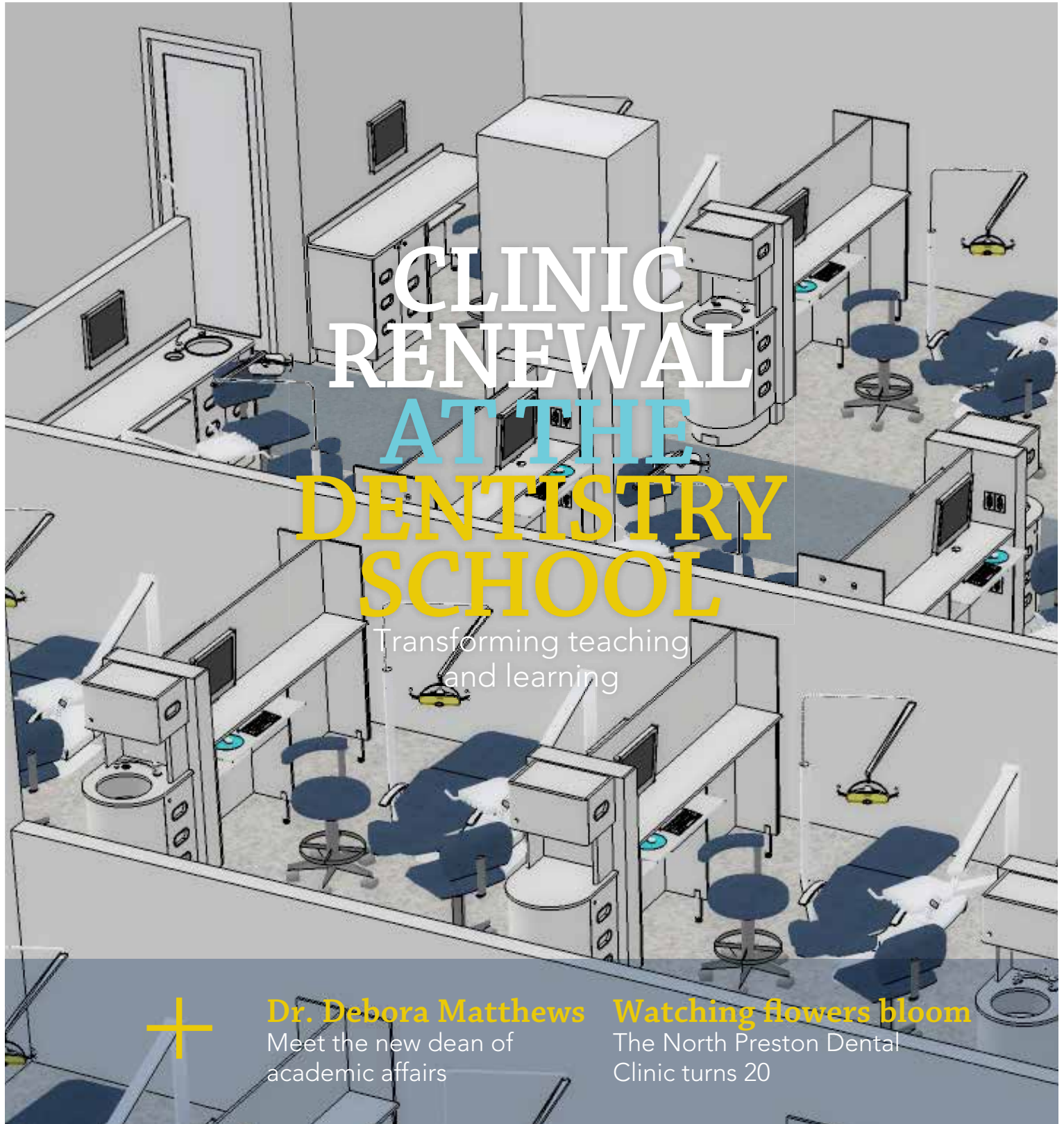


ALUMNI ANCHOR

2016 | 2017



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Transforming teaching
and learning



Dr. Debora Matthews

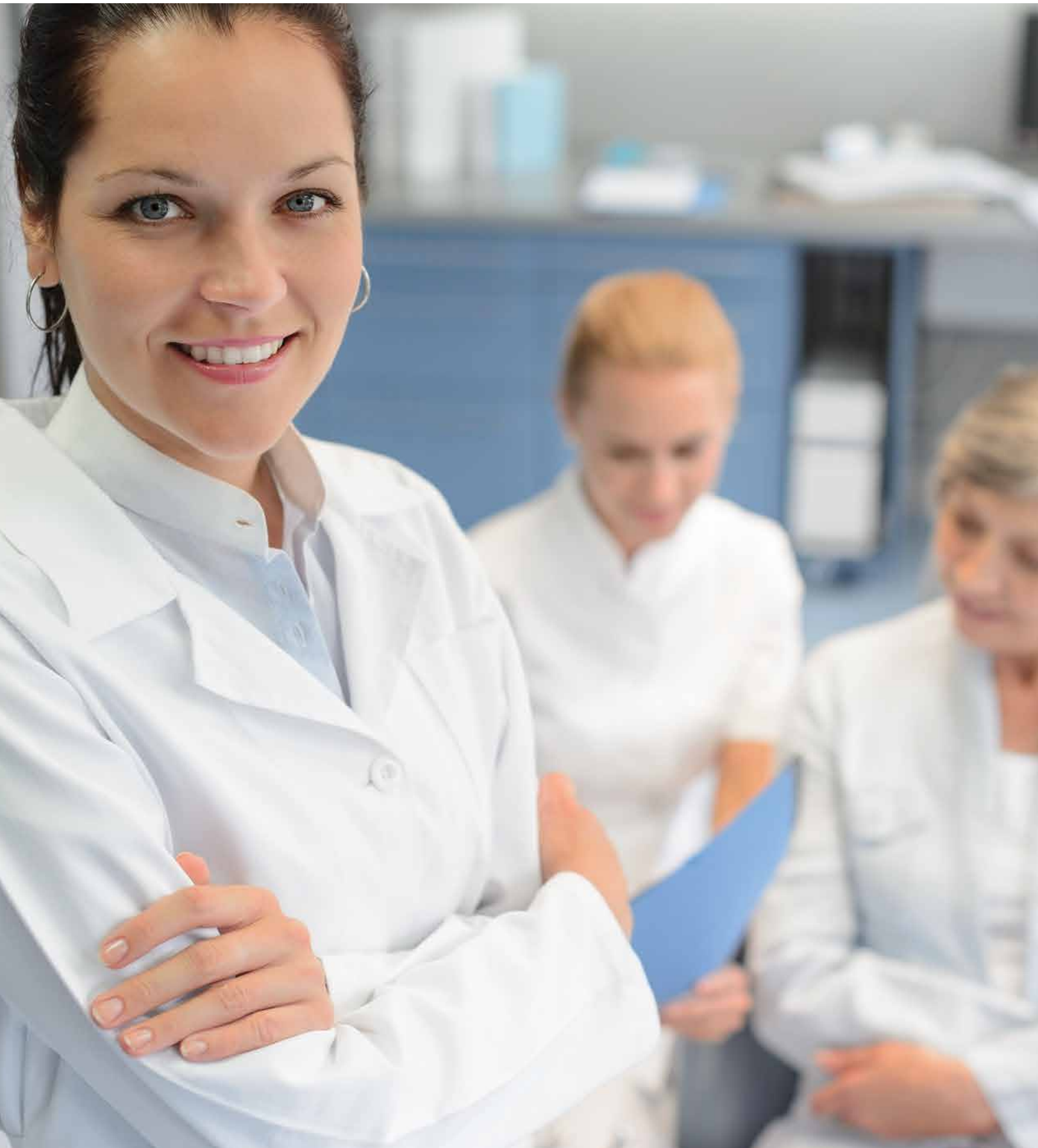
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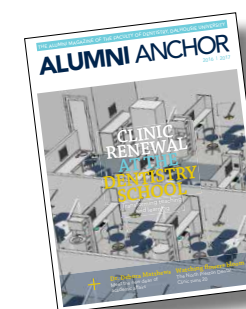
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On our cover: An architectural rendering of our new clinical teaching space, currently under construction in phases. Join us for our grand opening in Fall 2018!

Design: Mike Cugno/Advocate Communications Group

DEAN'S MESSAGE



Warm summer greetings to you from your Faculty of Dentistry Family.

This has been a year of discovery, reflection, and positive change. Our

faculty, staff, and students have all been committed to, and worked hard to bring into effect, changes that will enable us to continue to offer a high quality educational experience for our students, excellent care for our patients, and an environment that is diverse, inclusive, and welcoming to all.

Without question, there has been a great feeling of renewal and fresh beginnings within the walls of the Dentistry Building. And that may be partly because the walls of the Dentistry Building are literally moving.

We are well on our way with our four-year clinic redesign and renewal project, which started in April 2015. This project is transforming the way our 35-year-old facility looks and will function. When completed in September 2018, it will offer improved space for research, teaching, learning, and caring for our patients.

As you will see in the cover story about clinic renewal, the Faculty of Dentistry already has a sparkling new preclinical laboratory, our first ever simulation laboratory (which is equipped with state-of-the-art technology to enhance our students' learning experience), a hospital-quality medical device reprocessing unit, and clinical offices that are now located next to our clinics.

The lecture theatre formerly known as Room 3156 has been upgraded from the 1980s with new information technology services, seating, and a fresh new décor. In recognition of support from the Aurum Group, we are now proud to call Room 3156 Aurum Hall. It was officially opened in October 2015 during the annual JD McLean lecture. More exciting milestones lie ahead.

Also in this issue of the *Alumni Anchor* you will find news about student and faculty initiatives, awards, and great stories of outreach, including two of our alumni who travelled to Jordan last November to provide much-needed care to Syrian refugees.

Closer to home, we celebrated the 20th anniversary of the North Preston Dental Clinic, where I expect many of you did rotations under the gentle guidance of Juliette Thomas, who continues to co-ordinate activities there, and our paediatric dentistry team. We held a marvellous dinner in June

to celebrate 20 years of this mutually enriching partnership.

Please keep turning the pages to see for yourself some of the activities and initiatives from the past year. I am confident you will enjoy reading about the many successes of our alumni, students, faculty, and staff.

I would like to end with an update of my own. After eight years as dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, I will be ending my term on June 30, 2017. This has been an amazing experience for me, but I feel that this is the right decision at this point in my life.

I hope you have all had a safe and happy summer and in time-honoured fashion, I leave you with a quote from one of my great heroes, Robert F. Kennedy: "Let us dedicate ourselves to what the Greeks wrote so many years ago: to tame the savageness of man and make gentle the life of this world."

Most sincerely,

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

We would like to thank our outgoing DAC members Hailey Berry (DipDH'16), Meghan Dunphy (DipDH'12, DDS'16) and Dan MacLellan (DDS'03), and welcome our incoming members Ahmad Hussein (DDS'13), Lexi McLean (DDS '19) and Stacey Milligan (DipDH'17).

For the DAC's full 2015-16 Annual Report, visit www.dal.ca/dentistry/alumni

Congratulations to former DAC member Richard Raftus (DDS '86), who has been appointed to the Dalhousie Alumni Association's Board of Directors.

Dentistry Alumni Committee update

The DAC would like to congratulate Asile and Asraa El-Darahali (DDS'08 & DDS'13, respectively), who will receive the Dalhousie Alumni Association's 2016 Christopher J. Coulter Award on October 13. We would also like to recognize Ian Doyle (DDS'78), Andrew Nette (DDS'76) and Darcie Robichaud (DipDH'93), who will receive the Faculty of Dentistry's Outstanding Alumni Award at the Dentistry Alumni Dinner on October 15. We hope to see you there!

We appreciate the efforts of the alumni and friends who submitted names for

the Dalhousie Alumni Awards and the Outstanding Alumni Awards. These nominations are an important way to ensure that our alumni are recognized for their achievements.

The DAC will serve as the Faculty of Dentistry's primary planning committee for Dalhousie's Bicentennial celebrations in 2017-18. Stay tuned for details.

Upcoming Dentistry Alumni events

September 24

Dr. Harold Brogan Memorial Golf Classic
Hammonds Plains, N.S.

October 14

JD McLean Lecture
Halifax, N.S.

October 14

CDSPI Panel Discussion & Reception
Halifax, N.S.

October 15

Dentistry Homecoming CE Weekend
Halifax, N.S.

October 15

Dentistry Alumni Dinner
Halifax, N.S.

October 26

Alumni Lecture Series & Reception
Moncton, N.B.

October 27

Alumni Lecture Series & Reception
Fredericton, N.B.

October 28

Alumni Lecture Series & Reception
Saint John, N.B.

January 14

Dentistry Winter Ball

January 27

Table Clinic Night
Halifax, N.S.

February 15

Dalhousie Alumni Award Nomination Deadline

March 9

PDC Alumni Reception
Vancouver, B.C.

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



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Taking dental care to a Syrian refugee camp

Dr. Asile (DDS '08) and Asraa (DDS '13) El Darahali are sisters, dentists, alumni, and committed community volunteers. Already well known for their "Spirit of Ramadan" and "Coats for Humanity" events, which have helped thousands of people in Halifax and beyond, last November they took their outreach efforts one giant step further.

They travelled to the Za'atari refugee camp near the Jordan-Syrian border with a suitcase full of donated supplies and provided dental care for refugees fleeing the Syrian conflict. There, they spent a week working in ill-equipped clinics, seeing 30 to 40 patients between them daily, many of them children. They were working to make a difference against seemingly overwhelming odds.

Asile and Asraa spoke of their experiences in a presentation at Dalhousie in April and in their convocation address to the Faculty of Dentistry Class of 2016. They will be presented with the Dalhousie Alumni Awards' Christopher J. Coulter Award during Homecoming 2016.

Further reading:
On the front lines in Za'atari:
bit.ly/1UPPZ7e
The Class of 2016 takes flight:
bit.ly/1Uk1lbq



Dr. Asraa El-Darahali treating a Za'atari resident

New faculty members

The Faculty of Dentistry recently welcomed two new faculty members to the team. Dr. Brendan Leung joined the Department of Applied Oral Sciences on April 1 as assistant professor with a specialization in biomaterials science and tissue engineering. He did graduate training in biomedical engineering at the University of Toronto and post-doc research on micro-fabrication

technologies at the University of Michigan.

Dr. Nader Hamdan joined the division of periodontics in the Department of Dental Clinical Sciences on July 1. Dr. Hamdan has a BDS from Jordan University of Science and Technology, an MSc in dental sciences from McGill University and an MDENT Periodontics from the University of Manitoba.



Dr. Mary McNally named scholar-in-residence



Dr. Mary McNally was named the 2016 ADEA Enid A. Neidle scholar-in-residence. She will spend three months in Washington, D.C., this autumn researching gender and diversity as elements of professionalism in North American dental schools.

Interview with John O'Keefe from CDA Oasis: bit.ly/2aQ58Sf

Impact Award winner Abby Barton

DDS3 student Abby Barton was awarded a Faculty Leadership Award at the Dalhousie IMPACT Awards in March. Abby seizes every opportunity to volunteer in the Faculty's outreach clinics and often takes the lead in planning volunteer opportunities for her class or other groups of students, such as providing dental care at the North End Community Health Centre during Reading Week in February.



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Helping Kuwaiti students in Canada



Khaled Albusairi, DDS3, has been elected the national chair of the National Union of Kuwaiti Students in Canada (NUKS). As one of the non-profit's founding members in 2013, Khaled and his colleagues wanted to provide a resource for Kuwaiti students coming to Canada to study. NUKS has nearly 350 members and branches in Calgary, Ottawa, Montreal, and Toronto, as well as Halifax. It organizes events, information sessions, and fundraisers for charity.

Further reading: bit.ly/2aAzzjy

Bringing refugee families to Halifax



Photo: Danny Abriel

New graduates Karen McLean and Reem Rostom were the driving forces behind the Halifax Dentistry Student Society for Refugees, which they set up this past year. Moved by the photos of three-year-old Syrian refugee Alan Kurdi, who drowned by crossing the Mediterranean Sea with his family, they decided to do "something different, something inspiring" for their DDS4 community service project. Even though Reem and Karen have now graduated, current students will continue to fundraise and fulfil the society's objective of bringing refugee families to Halifax.

Further reading: bit.ly/2aCSvxx

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The experts behind a great smile

Natalie Archer: Dental defender

By Mark Campbell

Dr. Natalie Archer wasn't taking any chances. It was 1996, and the Keene, Ontario native ("People always joked that I was a keener," she observes. "I always said, 'Literally, that's true.'") was concluding her second admission interview for Dalhousie's dentistry program. Crushed that she had not made it in on her first try, she made a promise to the faculty: if accepted, she would go on to make a difference.

"At the time," she concedes, "I probably didn't know what I meant. I had wanted to be a dentist for as long as I can remember. I really wanted to do well, and, for me, part of doing well was doing good in the world. So I said 'If you let me in, I will not let you down.'"

She may not have known at the time how to make good on her promise, but Dr. Archer kept her word in a way that would make anyone associated with Dalhousie proud. Through her work at the Runnymede Dental Centre in Toronto, and the establishment of the innovative Dental Elder Abuse Response (D.E.A.R.) project, she has been a pioneer in raising awareness about the importance of providing dental care for

older populations, specifically people in long-term care.

"Of all the forms of elder abuse out there, dental elder abuse is the most common form," says Dr. Archer. "That's what we discovered in doing the research for D.E.A.R. Part of it is a lack of knowledge among seniors, institutions and family members about the importance of dental health, but there is also neglect and abuse.

"As dentists," she continues, "we're well versed in what can be defined as child abuse, but there hadn't been much in the way of discussion and effort to address dental issues among older adults. There's a huge growing segment of the population that does not have access to a private dentist. They are vulnerable, they are medically compromised, they are fragile, and they are important. We need to do everything we can to ensure they receive cleaning and treatment."

That determination to serve patients who otherwise might be overlooked was fostered in part while studying at Dalhousie. Dr. Archer fondly recalls the clinics and school outreach programs

that provided opportunities to work with more vulnerable communities and populations and says they were particularly influential.

"For example, children at the schools had decay and very much needed dental care. Visiting these schools made access to care a wonderful thing, but it was also important to me. Dalhousie provided insights and inspiration to do my own outreach work and innovative approaches to help the community, particularly our older adults."

Dr. Archer's interest in elder care began in earnest when she committed to a mobile dental care service shortly after relocating to Toronto in 2001. Each Friday, she visited retirement homes and long-term care facilities with an assistant, and she quickly became dispirited by the conditions she encountered.

"There were broken teeth, abscesses, pain and infections," she says. "We're talking hundreds of patients in this situation, and I got very upset with what I saw. I decided to come up with a strategic plan to do something about it."

As it happened, Runnymede Healthcare Centre had been looking at

setting up a dental clinic that would focus on elder care. The president and CEO, Connie Dejak, approached Dr. Archer about running it. Starting with one Friday a month, Dr. Archer and an assistant initially focused on inpatients so they could build a trained team and determine the type of care required.

That was in 2011. “Today,” Dr. Archer notes, “we have referrals coming from across the Greater Toronto Area. We have a waitlist for new patient appointments. We have organizations like the Canadian Paraplegic Association and the Alzheimer’s Society referring patients. And now, with the experience we’ve built, I’m hoping we can teach other dentists, students and schools how to treat the fastest growing demographic in the city.”

Although the clinic has made great strides in addressing dental elder abuse, Dr. Archer realized that treatment alone was not enough. It was an issue of education, of awareness, and of policy. She partnered with the Canadian Centre for Elder Law and National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly to launch the D.E.A.R. project. Its objective is to link and equip dental professionals with the knowledge and resources—workshops, videos, brochures—to ‘take the bite out of elder abuse.’

“We try to put everything online, because that’s just the easiest, most cost-effective way to do it. We had facilitators, mostly seniors, going out to teach people. We did surveys, participated in health fairs, and visited long-term care facilities to get the word out about it, and we used the Runnymede clinic for research.”

Given that no one had even remotely attempted an undertaking like this before, it quickly drew attention from around the world. Professionals and associations in Brazil, Africa, Cuba and the United States have all been in contact about using D.E.A.R.’s content or launching something similar. Dr. Archer says it’s rewarding to see interest in the project, but it does not quite compare to seeing the difference that D.E.A.R. and the Runnymede clinic have made in Toronto.

“Many older adults feel they are burdening family members. They don’t want to trouble them. So they may go years without seeing a dentist, which means there is embarrassment, not to mention awkwardness from family members. Once we take good care of them, once we show them what we can do for them, it changes their lives. The feedback we get about what we do, that’s been the best reward.”

Tending to two clinics, the D.E.A.R. project, her family and professional

involvements, you might think Dr. Archer would be reluctant to take on more. But that promise to Dalhousie seems to keep motivating her. She’s in talks to help Syrian refugees with their dental needs, working with the Alzheimer’s Society on an awareness project, even contemplating how she can contribute to Dalhousie’s Dentistry Clinic Renewal initiative. And she’d like to change elder care policy related to dental care in Ontario.

“The number-one cause of death in long-term facilities is acquired pneumonia. It’s a buildup of plaque in the mouth that is completely preventable. Whether it’s through policy, education or empowering people, everyone should know how to prevent it. If I can do that, it would make me happy.”

“But what I’d really like,” she continues, “is to show the profession that geriatric dentistry is the best, most rewarding, most wonderful practice to be in. Ultimately, we need to ensure that everyone has access to dental care because everyone deserves to live pain and infection free.”

To learn more about the Dental Elder Abuse Response (D.E.A.R.) project, please visit www.rosedalefamilydentalcare.com/dear/ *

“I never thought in a million years I’d be coming back to Pictou County to work,” she says.

But an opportunity came up at that childhood clinic and she took it. “I graduated on Friday and started work on Tuesday and never looked back,” she says. “It was a very positive decision for me and a great place to start my career.”

A few months after that meeting where she had her say, the Ivany Report was released. It included recommendations on how the province can improve its own future. Around the same time, Hill and a few friends got working on their own plans. They created Pulse Pictou County, a grassroots group of young, working age people whose goal is to attract, keep and connect other young working age people in the community. Together, they focus on four pillars, including community initiatives, professional development, social activities, and athletics and wellness in the area. They also sent delegates to the Georgetown Conference 2.0. Hill originally spoke at the Pictou meeting prior to the first installation of that conference. The local chamber of commerce honoured them with a community partners award last year.

Hill’s involvement in the development of Pictou County grew from there. For Hill, connecting her career and her passion for community just makes sense.

“For me as a young professional and for me as a dentist, we are people who are known in the community,” she says. “We have lots of relationships with many different types of people in our community. I think it’s our responsibility to help give back to our communities and help lead them.” Hill was named to the 21inc Top 50 Under-40 Leaders in Atlantic Canada in 2015.

That Hill has taken on such a leadership role comes as no surprise to her professors at Dalhousie. According to Dr. Richard Raftus, the Faculty of Dentistry encourages such leadership.

“I feel that’s part of the profession,” he says. “For one reason or another, you’re looked upon as a leader.”

Hill worked with Raftus at a clinic at the dentistry school. He says Hill was dedicated to the profession, hardworking and willing to learn. As for what’s in her future, Raftus says nothing would surprise him.



Dr. Amanda Hill at the clinic in New Glasgow where she practises. Hill is also active in leading the community to economic prosperity.

Photo: Suzanne Rent

“She’s going to be a leader in her community,” he says. “She already is. Anything is possible for her.”

Doug Griffiths sees the same quality in Hill, too. The former MLA from Alberta didn’t know Hill until she contacted him after reading his best-selling book *13 Ways to Kill Your Community*. The two connected months after she quoted his work in a speech she gave to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board. Griffiths has been on the East Coast since then, including at a meeting where Hill received quite the introduction from a local mayor who spent several minutes talking about her work.

“It was the longest introduction I’ve ever seen,” Griffiths recalls. “There was tremendous respect [for her] in the room.”

Griffiths says changes in communities often come not by committee, but by one person saying they’ve had enough. He thinks Hill is that person. “Without her, it wouldn’t be focused and orchestrated,” he says. “If I was raising an army [to build strong communities], I would make her a five-star general.”

As for her own career, Hill says it’s in a bit of a transition. She moved to Mountain Road Dental Group in New Glasgow in September 2015. She says she hopes to take on more leadership roles in dentistry. Currently, she is the president of the Northern Nova Scotia Dental Society. She says she loves opportunities to attend conferences and reconnect with colleagues.

“We are always learning, which is something I love about my career,” she

says. “There are always new techniques new things to develop and grow.”

She remembers, too, how studying at Dalhousie set her on the right path, but also reminded her of home where she studied in small classes and small schools in a small town.

“I’ve always been used to that intimate setting with a close group of people,” she says. “There is no question the Faculty of Dentistry is just that. The staff, instructors are so supportive and you get so close to your classmates.”

This past spring, Hill and Pulse Pictou County were involved in the debate over amalgamating the area’s municipalities. Pulse was in favour of the move.

“It was a theme we identified with,” she says, “getting our community working together as one unit. We don’t think it’s good to be in our six separate silos.”

But at a plebiscite held in May, Pictou County voted against amalgamation.

While the news was discouraging, Hill says she remains optimistic about her community’s future. She says she loves Pictou County’s beaches, its pizza, the international success of some smaller businesses in the area, and its people. And she sees more young people stepping up and having their say.

“I see that shift from relying on the government to fix everything and for communities to being responsible for themselves and changing their attitude,” she says. “Attitude is a really big part of this. We really have to realize that it’s up to us to do it, take the reins ourselves and make things better.” *

The making of a leader

Amanda Hill practises dentistry in her home community of Pictou County. But she really wants to lead it into the future.

By Suzanne Rent

Amanda Hill had a light bulb moment at a meeting in 2013. It was a gathering to discuss the future of Pictou County, where Hill grew up. Delegates there would later be attending a conference in Georgetown, PEI to discuss issues facing smaller communities in Atlantic Canada. At the time, Hill had been back in Pictou County about five years, practising at the same dental clinic she attended as a child.

A provincial election was just around the corner and the local party candidates assured attendees they could approach them for help on issues facing their community. But Hill, who first planned on just being a “fly on the wall,” at the event, had something to say.

“I put my hand up and said, ‘Maybe I am being naïve but do we have to rely on the government to do this for us? Can’t we just fix this ourselves?’” she recalls.

The audience applauded her response.

“I realized then I can be part of the solution for some of these issues,” she says.

Hill knows well the challenges her community faces: an aging population, lack of jobs, and young people leaving for futures elsewhere. She went to school in Pictou, studied biology at St. FX, got early entrance to study dentistry at Dalhousie, and had no plans of looking back to her hometown.

Dr. Scott Schofield: Providing a new model of clinic care

By Cheryl Bell

A couple of years ago, Dr. Scott Schofield (DDS '06) and his wife Dr. Elizabeth Jackson (DDS '06) asked themselves the question that many of us ask ourselves at some point in our lives: "What would we do if we won the lottery?"

And then they decided to do it anyway—without the lottery win.

In September 2015, Schofield and Jackson opened the doors of their newly built dental clinic in Coldbrook, in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley. This is the dream of many young dentists, but Fundy Dental Centre is not a typical dental practice. There are no other offices like it east of Ontario.

Fundy Dental Centre was created to help improve access to care for a range of patients who struggle to get the dental care they need, including those needing same-day emergency treatment and those who cannot get time off work during the day and need extended office hours to attend dental appointments. It is also a clinic with a "social conscience," one that is working to remove the barriers to dental treatment that patients on income assistance struggle to overcome.

Part of Schofield's inspiration for the clinic—besides the mental lottery game—is his brother. Nearly three years ago, he was injured in Thailand and was left with a permanent cognitive disability. Schofield saw first-hand how his brother was marginalised under the social assistance system.

"It made me think about underserved populations and how difficult it is for some people to receive dental care," says Schofield. "For example, an examination, X-ray and tooth extraction would typically cost over \$200. Even with dental coverage through social assistance, the balance for the patient would be around \$50-60. That can be a real barrier to treatment."

Fundy Dental Centre offers reduced rates for patients who pre-qualify for income assistance and are using the MSI/Quikcard system. They can receive an exam and X-ray for \$5 and a tooth



Dr. Scott Schofield (DDS '06) and his wife Dr. Elizabeth Jackson (DDS '06)

extraction for \$10. Fillings and dentures are also available at a significantly reduced rate.

In addition to helping to make dental care affordable for those on social assistance, Fundy Dental Centre also offers same-day treatment to patients with dental emergencies and sedation options for patients with severe dental phobia. Both Schofield and Jackson have their own busy private practices and know how many emergency calls they receive in a day—many of which have to be turned away. For them, the need for an emergency clinic was clear.

"I try to offer emergency care to my patients, but it isn't always possible if my schedule is full," says Schofield. "Emergency dentistry can also be unpredictable, plus not all dentists enjoy treating emergencies. At Fundy Dental Centre, we focus on acute dental needs, such as severe pain, bleeding, trauma, or infection. We have zero patients on our books and we don't offer a hygiene program. Patients are treated on a 'one-off' basis."

As part of their research, Schofield and Jackson visited Dr. Chris Lee (DDS '04), who manages the emergency clinic at Dalhousie's Faculty of Dentistry.

"Chris is a friend and a great colleague to consult, and he has been a good advocate for our clinic," says Schofield. "Our models of care and practice philosophies are not quite the same, but he was very helpful when it came to advising on the policies and protocols for an office of this nature."

Fundy Dental Centre has attracted a team of dentists who share Schofield's practice philosophy and a Dalhousie dentistry background. Classmate Dr. April Nason (DDS '06) works full-time at the clinic. Drs. Mark MacPherson (GPR '15), Leanne Easson (DDS '15), Grainne O'Malley (DDS '14), Ryan LumTai (GPR '16), Ashfaq Jiwani (DDS '14) and Allison Nette (DDS '12) complete the team.

Dalhousie General Practice Residency students currently go on rotation at Fundy Dental Centre to gain emergency dental experience in a private practice setting. Starting this autumn, DDS4 students who are taking the public health elective will also be able to go on rotation at the centre as part of a new pilot project, the Fundy Dental Community Program. If the pilot goes well, it is hoped that all DDS4 students will be able to gain this valuable experience. Further reading: www.fundydental.com/community. *

Do you know Dalhousie dentistry and dental hygiene alumni we should feature? Let us know! Email alumni.dentistry@dal.ca

The Faculty of Dentistry is pleased to recognize the recipients of the Dalhousie Alumni Association's 2016 Christopher J. Coulter Award



Drs. Asile (DDS'08) & Asraa El-Darahali (DDS'13)

Congratulations!

Join us as the El-Darahali sisters are recognized at the Dalhousie Alumni Dinner on **October 13, 2016** 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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October 14–15 | Halifax, NS

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The JD McLean Lecture featuring the Outstanding Alumni Awards, CDSPI Panel Discussion and Reception & Milestone class reunions

CDE Courses include:

Heart and Stroke BLS for healthcare providers © - *Darryl Chickness*
CDSPI Panel Discussion & Reception
Oral Pathology 101: A refresher course for dental professionals + Why is there glass in my toothpaste? - *Dr. Daniel Boyd & Prof. Brenda MacIsaac*
Bases and liners: Their use in restorative dentistry - *Dr. Sachin Seth*
Obturation with warm vertical condensation (lecture and hands-on session) - *Dr. Isabel Mello with Dr. Michael Bishop and Dr. Wayne Maillet*
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For details or to register, visit www.dal.ca/dentistry/cde

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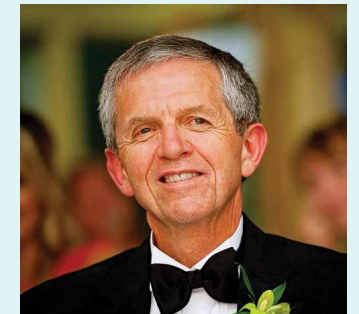
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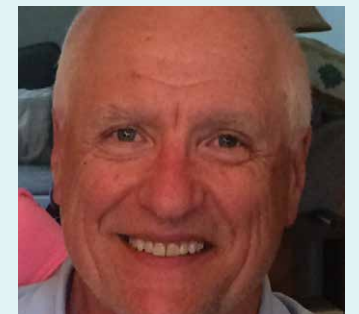
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The Dentistry Alumni Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2016 Outstanding Alumni Awards



Dr. Ian Doyle (DDS'78)



Dr. Andrew Nette (DDS'76)



Darcie Robichaud (DipDH'93)

Congratulations!

Join us on as we recognize these most deserving alumni at our Dentistry Alumni Dinner on **October 15** in Halifax.

Details and ticket information are available at www.dal.ca/homecoming or email alumni.dentistry@dal.ca.

Clinic renewal: Transforming teaching and learning

By Cheryl Bell

When the Maritime Dental College opened its doors in 1908, the first six students found a collection of old-fashioned dental chairs and \$400 worth of donated supplies in a small corner of Dalhousie University's Forrest Building.

Just as the Faculty has undergone a series of evolutions over its 108-year history, the dental clinic is in the midst of its latest transformation. Set to be unveiled in 2018, the renovations will not only result in more modern and well-equipped facilities than ever before, but the new clinic will also offer an enriched teaching and learning environment for both undergraduate and graduate students and provide a new model of comprehensive patient care.

"We will be moving to a group practice model," says assistant dean of clinics and building services Dr. Blaine Cleghorn. "Instead of rows of dental chairs, we will have small group practices that model private practice, with students from all years of dentistry and dental hygiene working together on patients and gaining similar experience."

A history of renewal and expansion

The current renewal project is just one of many major revamps the clinic has undergone throughout its history. As the dental school became more established over the years, student numbers grew—and so did the need for space. In 1958, the new Dentistry Building opened at the corner of Robie Street and University Avenue. With 33 cubicles in a larger, more modern clinic, it was able to accommodate 50 third and fourth-year students and 16 dental hygiene students, and expand its range of programs.

The addition of a surgery suite in the clinic also enabled the Faculty to



establish one of the first Canadian graduate programs in oral and maxillofacial surgery.

By 1972, the entering undergraduate class had reached 30 students and a trailer was brought in to accommodate the clinic overflow. Under Dr. Ian Bennett, dean of the Faculty between 1967 and 1986, the clinic expanded again and reopened in 1982. At four times the size of the original building, both clinical spaces and programs grew substantially. The new clinic had 206 cubicles for undergraduate and graduate students and continuing education programs.

Time for change

In 2015, nearly 35 years later, it was time to begin updating the facilities again. Although the age of the building and its facilities was part of the reason behind the decision in favour of clinic renewal, the Faculty wanted to innovate and offer a significantly enhanced experience for students, patients, and the teaching faculty.

"We decided to organize the clinic in a different way so that we can deliver

a different model of patient care," says Cleghorn.

Assistant dean of academic affairs Dr. Debora Matthews explains: "Our aim is to integrate dentistry and dental hygiene students from each year of the program into the clinics, following a vertical cluster system. They will be organized into groups and assigned to one of the group practice clinics, which have been designed to introduce students to private practice. Each interdisciplinary team of students will be overseen by faculty members and together they will care for a family of patients."

Not all students will be working together in the group practice all of the time, explains Cleghorn, but it will give them all a home. There will be more opportunities for students to learn from one another. Patients will also benefit by receiving care from a more consistent group of students and supervisors.

The new physical space will make it easier for mixed groups of students to work together on their core competences, such as placing rubber

dams, making impressions, or applying pit and fissure sealants.

Not surprisingly, the move to a new group practice model is prompting the introduction of a new curriculum. "This is a great opportunity to update our curriculum to better reflect our new model of care," says Cleghorn.

The project means three years of construction in the Dentistry Building and a lot of moving around—of people and equipment—plus the challenge of maintaining clinic hours for patients. Three of the five levels of the Dentistry Building are affected by the renewal project—73,175 square feet in total.

Level 1

Level 1 will group the specialties, continuing education, and oral diagnosis and screening clinics together with various-sized classrooms. Students can transition easily from lectures to hands-on learning and practice spaces. The oral diagnosis and screening clinic is being updated to meet or exceed current standards for radiation shielding. This level also houses an expanded Medical Device Reprocessing (MDR) facility. New dumbwaiters for transporting items between levels are one of the new features that will increase safety and decrease the risk of cross-contamination.

Level 2

This level will provide the main learning hub for all undergraduate and graduate students. The undergraduate clinic will be reconfigured to function as four self-contained group practice clinics containing 16 chairs each, similar to private dental clinics, where interdisciplinary teams of students will care for a family of patients. Each group will work under the guidance of two instructors, giving them consistency and continuity.

The oral surgery clinic, graduate periodontics, general practice residency, and faculty practice clinics will also be on this level, fostering interaction between them and with the group practice clinic. Two fully equipped surgical suites mirror a hospital setting and will enable students to provide a full range of dental services.

Level 3

State-of-the-art simulation, bench, and wet labs are now open on this level, all of which are accessible to students on evenings and weekends at varying times. Offering highly advanced technology, the new labs make pre-clinical teaching and learning easier and more efficient.

Although there is much work to be done, the conclusion of the project is in sight. Phase I demolition began in April



Students use the new bench lab during the Prosthodontic Olympics (in costume, of course!)

Photo: Wayne Garland

2015 and completion of the \$27,635,000 project is expected in the summer of 2018. The pre-clinical and simulation labs are already in use and work is currently underway to transform the undergraduate clinic.

When students returned to the clinic in August 2016, they found the clinic reduced in size by half, and they will carry out their clinical work in the half that is available to them while the other half is under construction. Although this has resulted in the need for some scheduling creativity, dentistry and dental hygiene students will receive the same amount and standard of clinical instruction as usual. When the first side is completed in May 2017 the clinic will "flip," says Cleghorn, and work will begin on the second half.

This is a challenging phase, says Cleghorn. "There are all kinds of surprises in an old building, particularly when you start opening up ceilings and walls. We are being called upon to make a lot of decisions, often with little warning. But our team here is making the clinic work through all the changes. It's not always easy, but they are doing it."

The end result will be well worth it. It's the fulfilment of the big picture that Dr. Tom Boran, dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, believes will help everyone get through the last months of change and upheaval. "The clinic renewal will allow our Faculty to provide our dental and dental hygiene students with one of the best clinical dental educations in North America," he says, "and enable us to raise the bar of excellence on patient care, dental clinic education, and outreach." *



The new bench lab opened in November 2015. Read more about the labs at bit.ly/2bN2r58.

A new chapter begins

The evolution of the JD McLean Centre

By Jon Bruhm

Many oral health professionals who have participated in continuing dental education courses or local study clubs will remember the JD McLean Centre. Former dentistry dean William MacInnis and Dr. Harold Brogan came up with the original ideas behind the creation of the Centre, which was subsequently designed and implemented by a team led by clinic manager Bruce Moxley and senior dental technician David Mercer. Opened in 2000 and named after longtime former dean, Dr. J.D. McLean (1954–1975), the space on the northern edge of the Dentistry Building's lower level was a special learning environment. Along with classrooms and a patient waiting area, the

clinical area boasted a rotating selection of equipment, from chairs and lights to cabinetry. All of it was supplied, installed and maintained by dental suppliers, and all of it was for sale.

Dr. MacInnis worked to establish partnerships with a number of dental supply companies. This enabled them to use the JD McLean Centre as a showroom of sorts by setting up some of their equipment there. Students, faculty members and continuing dental education and/or study club participants were then able to test the equipment for themselves—a “try before you buy” kind of arrangement.

“We always had new equipment in the McLean Centre,” says Dr. Blaine Cleghorn, assistant dean of assistant dean

of clinics and building services. “It was a wonderful learning opportunity for our students, faculty and alumni, in that it gave them the ability—and a comfortable environment—to try out a variety of equipment and determine what they might want to have in their own practices.”

It was a good arrangement for the dental supply companies, too. They benefited from opportunities inside and outside normal business hours to showcase their equipment to prospective clients.

“I’ve visited most of the other Canadian dental schools and a lot of U.S. schools, and I’ve never seen any other arrangement like this,” says Cleghorn. “It’s been a good working relationship, and it’s been a mutually beneficial arrangement.”

The installation and removal of dental operatory equipment typically requires extensive modifications in concrete floors with plumbing, electrical and other services added or removed, usually requiring weeks of lead time and significant service disruption. However, the JD McLean Centre boasted a unique reinforced and raised floor, which made six inches of fully serviced work space accessible through floor panels that could be lifted and replaced, allowing an operatory changeover in one working day and no disruption to adjoining cubicles. This format resulted in a strong working relationship with dental suppliers.

As plans developed for the faculty-wide clinic renewal, it was decided the existing JD McLean Centre space would evolve into a new 29-chair specialty clinic, scheduled to open in mid-2017. It will become a new area in which students will gain competency in the various disciplines of dentistry.

Meanwhile, the area west of the former JD McLean Centre will be transformed into a new 14-chair JD McLean Continuing Education Clinic, with a medium-sized classroom and two small seminar rooms nearby.

These changes mean that the JD McLean Centre will no longer be used as a display site for new equipment, although the relationships with some of the dental supply companies will continue in a different way.

“With a constant flow of students moving all over the clinic, we felt it was important to have them learning on the same equipment in their operatories,” says Cleghorn. “That said, we continue to work with several companies that lend or donate equipment and students have an opportunity to evaluate it. Right now, we are evaluating technologies involving digital dentistry, digital scanning, and fabricating restorations on site so that we don’t have to send patients home with temporary restorations. Our relationships with partners in the dental industry give us opportunities to test out new equipment and supply systems, which helps us determine what’s best for our students, faculty, and patients.” *

The Faculty of Dentistry would like to acknowledge the generous contributions of the many alumni and friends who supported the JD McLean Centre through the university's capital campaign, as well as the dental supply companies that were involved in providing equipment over a 15-year period, particularly the Sustaining Partners. These companies include: 3M Canada, A-dec, Belmont, DentalEZ Group, Dentsply Canada, Henry Schein Ash Arcona, KaVo Canada, Midmark, Patterson, Pelton & Crane, and Whip Mix. We would also like to especially recognize Scott Thornton and Henry Schein Canada for their long-standing, sustaining role in the success of the JD McLean Centre project.

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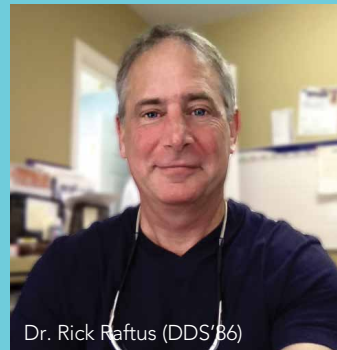
DENTISTRY MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The Dentistry Mentorship Program, a joint initiative of the Faculty of Dentistry and the Nova Scotia Dental Association, continued for its third year. A total of 32 dentistry students were connected with mentors based across the region, with the purpose of developing confidential, professional relationships to help broaden the students' knowledge base in a pressure-free environment.

"I don't think of what I do as volunteering," said Rick Raftus (DDS'86). "It's just part of our tradition here to help students learn outside the walls of the

dentistry school, to gain real world experiences, and learn how to treat a wide range of people."

For more information or to become a mentor, please email alumni.dentistry@dal.ca



Dr. Rick Raftus (DDS'86)



Dr. Ahmad Fayad (DDS'12)

Community Contacts Program

Established in 2014, the Faculty of Dentistry's Community Contacts Program (DDCCP) is an opportunity to help dentistry and dental hygiene students expand their professional networks, and to find out more about what it's like to live and work in regions across the continent and around the world.

The DDCCP has recently expanded and now includes 54 volunteers in 19 Canadian cities, 15 U.S. states and seven international locales—from Australia to Yellowknife!

"One of the things I like about volunteering is that there is always the chance to bring people together," said Dr. Ahmad Fayad (DDS'12), our DDCCP volunteer in Edmonton, who benefitted from similar connections when he was a new graduate preparing to head to Alberta. "It gives you a great sense of satisfaction to share your knowledge about your city and help someone get started."

If you are interested in becoming a Community Contact, please email alumni.dentistry@dal.ca

Meet Victoria Hamilton Development Officer, Health Faculties

It's all about the people

Whenever someone asks me, "What do you love most about your job?" I never have to think twice: "It's the people I meet."

I'm fortunate that my career allows me to meet alumni and friends from across Canada and beyond. Alumni are eager to reminisce about their time in the Faculty of Dentistry, especially the quality of education, support and wide range of clinical experiences that prepared them for their future. And, of course, they treasure the life-long relationships that took shape within the walls of the Dentistry Building. They often tell me that they owe so much of what they have to their education.

Their time here is what inspires them to give back; they want others to have the same rich educational experience.

The future of dental education

This is an exciting and transformational time for our clinic with the ongoing work on the Clinic Renewal Project. As dentistry and dental education continue to change as a result of new research and new technology, the clinic renewal will ensure our students and patients have the most up-to-date equipment and knowledge. It will transform the way our students learn, and ensure our patients receive quality care.

I'm thrilled that our alumni and friends are such a major part of this project. Alumni often come to me with their ideas for making an impact on dental education within the Faculty. Together, we can make their vision become a reality.

Aligning passions

My role is to align their interests and passions with the Faculty's projects and initiatives. I can help them fulfill their own philanthropic goals while advancing the Faculty's mission to provide excellence in oral health care

education, and continuing to provide quality care to our community. It truly is a win-win situation.

When I see the impact these gifts have not only on our students, but also in the greater community, I feel incredibly fortunate to have played a part in that. ★

If you would like to discuss ways in which you can contribute to the Faculty of Dentistry, please contact Victoria at **(902) 494-6170** or victoria.hamilton@dal.ca



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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 2015 and March 2016. We sincerely appreciate your support. We would also like to thank our donors who requested to remain anonymous.

Class participation percentages, based on original class numbers, are listed next to each graduating year.

DENTISTRY CLASS GIVING

1941 – 17%
Leonard S. Goldberg

1947 – 10%
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1950 – 9%
T. Edward Spracklin

1955 – 17%
Doug & Jackie Eisner

1956 – 15%
Norman J. Layton

1957 – 18%
James W. Carson
James Peters

1959 – 18%
G. Murray Dewis
Frank Lovely
David R. Rubin

1960 – 12%
Yosh Kamachi

1961 – 38%
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Thomas H. Raddall, II
Donald Woods

1962 – 21%
Don Bonang
Doug Chaytor

1963 – 21%
William O. Adams
Melvin Brown
Garry W. Condon

1964 – 10%
Joseph E. Grasso

1965 – 24%
Theresa D. Chiang
Robert Cooper

George R. Nye
G. S. Zwicker

1966 – 22%
Robert A. Janes
John F. Miner
Brock H. Rondeau
Maurice K. Wong

1967 – 4%
John W. McMullen

1968 – 22%
Donald W. Feeney
Jamie Levitz
Eckart Schroeter
Robert Sexton
W. E. Thompson

1970 – 12%
Leslie J. Hudgins
Floyd V. Jackson
Bill & Robin MacInnis

1971 – 5%
Carl Tilley

1972 – 9%
David Moore
Robert Murray

1973 – 22%
Thomas V. Disney
Eric G. Easton
Harold F. Johnson
Lex MacNeil
Peter F. Manson

1974 – 17%
Ronald A. Bannerman
Charles Cann
Donald Fitzpatrick
Mary M. Hurst
Wayne & Peggy Maillet

1975 – 11%
Ron Beaton
Ray Wenn

1976 – 14%
James Craft
Paul R. Nauss
Jim Roxborough
C. Terrence Shaw

1977 – 31%
Guy Chamberlain
H. Wayne Garland
Barbara B. Harsanyi
J. Gregg Hood
Jim Inglis
Donald C. Lobban
Stephen O'Brien
Leigh G. Smith

1978 – 27%
Thomas H. Boyle
K. L. Henry Chong
Alfred Dean
Ian Doyle
Russell Grover
Janet Stewart
Richard A. Vickerson

1979 – 19%
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Carl F. Canning
Reg Goodday
Brien W. Stackhouse

1980 – 24%
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Marlene E. Mader
Rory L. McLean
Marina Sexton
Robert K. Snow

1981 – 24%
Lee Erickson
Randall B. Morean

1982 – 23%
Archie Morrison
William Fleming
Anne Young
Mary Yurchesyn

1983 – 22%
Robert C. Dunphy
Andrew Emanuele
Gary M. Henderson
Michael McCarvill
Keith D. Snelgrove
Deborah N. Stymiest

1984 – 14%
Eric Beaton

M. Anne MacDonald
Kim Mailman

1985 – 25%
Simone Abbass
Terry Ackles
Tim Chaisson
Graham Conrad
Terrie Logue
Peter J. MacDonald
Daniel M. Tam

1986 – 17%
Judith Flecknell
Ursula H. Lozowski
Chris Petropolis
Donald Stewart
Lary Trites
Jeff Williams

1987 – 21%
Martin Bourgeois
Gary Diamond
Cheryl Dobson-MacDonald
Eric L. Haley
John Laureijs
Daniel McKenna
Caroline Pavlin

1988 – 16%
Heather Carr
D. Scott Clark
Bernadette C. McCarthy
Lynne Moyles
Tara A. Singh
Cheryl A. Wenn

1989 – 32%
Daniel Albert
Linda Blakey
Paul Cameron
Gillian Espie
Terry Foreman
Filiz Hoetten
Richard A. Holden
K. Stacey Hughes
Randall W. Morine
Adrian Power
Gordie Rudolph
Joanne Stewart

1990 – 20%
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Claire Karst
Dean Miller
Kathy Russell
Mark Simon
Kevin Walsh
MaryAnn Wiseman
Ernest R. Wotton

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Carolyn Palmer
Kilby Townshend

1992 – 18%
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Jeffrey A. Clark

David V. Craig
Mary McNally
Stuart Richardson

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Marco A. Chiarot
Joanne M. Green
J. Scott Green
Kelly Manning
Glenda Ross

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Ellen Drysdale
Jennifer MacLellan
Matthew Nichols
Janice Wilson

1995 – 6%
Katrina Brouwer
Kim Maddison

1996 – 3%
Maureen E. Wiseman

1997 – 9%
Jeffrey Covert
Nada Haidar
Kelly Hatt

1998 – 18%
Nancy Browne
Natasha Campbell
Jeff Hockley
Kent Orlando
Joel E. Powell

1999 – 10%
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2000 – 9%
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2003 – 14%
Sura Hadad
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2004 – 3%
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2005 – 17%
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Colette Vallee

2006 – 10%
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Ahmad Fayad

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2015 – 2%
Viren Patel

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1965 – 9%
Sandy Kaminker

1966 – 11%
Arlene Glube

1967 – 17%
Judiann Thomas

1969 – 10%
Glenda M. Butt

1971 – 11%
Rose Anne Penney

1972 – 10%
Anna Marie Jensen
Gorham
Deborah (Turner) Richard

1974 – 6%
Jane Mangle

1975 – 11%
Rena Demone
Anne Dorey

1977 – 6%
Susan Matheson

1978 – 6%
M. Jeannette Laba

1979 – 6%
Lois R. McLean

1980 – 6%
Wanda Fedora

1981 – 18%
Ann MacDonald
Norma (MacKinnon)
MacIntyre
Brenda Emanuele

1985 – 4%
Kim Haslam

1986 – 4%
Lesley Des Noyers

1987 – 9%
Vicky Garland
Corinna Recker

1988 – 5%
Nancy Matheson
Tracy Stewardson

1989 – 3%
Erin E. Panzarasa

1990 – 3%
Stacey Walsh

1991 – 11%
Susan Keating-Bekkers
Angela Hynes
Janice Irving
Monica Robinson

1992 – 6%
Joanne M. Clark
Jackie White

1993 – 3%
Jennifer Bower

1996 – 3%
Belle Bruce-Goulden

1997 – 3%
Claude Sequin

1999 – 3%
Andrea D. McAllister

2001 – 3%
Wendy Stewart

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2012 – 14%
Shauna Hachey

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Dental Association of Prince Edward Island
Hallmark Dental Laboratory Ltd.
International College of Dentists (Canadian Section)
J C D Surgery Ltd.
New Brunswick Dental Society
Newfoundland & Labrador Dental Association
Newfoundland & Labrador Dental Hygienists Association
Nova Scotia Dental Association
Patterson Dental Canada Inc.
Prince Edward Island Dental Hygienists Association
Sunstar Americas Inc.
The Aurum Group

IN MEMORIAM

Valija Aunins Butcher, DDS'53
Bernice Doucet, DDH'75
John Eadon, DDS'57
Douglas Elliott, DDS'76
Gordon Hinrichsen, DDS'79
Man Hui, DDS'60
Ronald Lewis, DDS'59
Charles Oler, DDS'50
Robert Pentz, DDS'55
David Peters, DDS'50
Koreen Reid, DDH'98
Chris Robb, DDH'73
Anne Wycliffe, DDH'75

If you would like to honour the memory of someone noted on this list by donating to the Gifts and Memorial Scholarship Fund, please contact Victoria Hamilton at (902) 494-6170 or victoria.hamilton@dal.ca, or donate online at <http://www.dal.ca/faculty/dentistry/alumni-friends/give-now.html>.

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.

Nursing students brush up on oral health care

By Cheryl Bell



Photo: Cheryl Bell

Professor Brenda MacIsaac demonstrates the correct brushing technique to a group of nursing students.

When Dalhousie nursing lecturer Deborah Hartlen called Peggy Maillet, assistant professor in the School of Dental Hygiene, to ask about borrowing some oral health care teaching kits, Maillet suggested a different approach: Why don't the nursing students come over to the Dentistry Building and learn from dental hygiene instructors in the clinic?

That was how 46 nursing students in the first year of the accelerated (two-year) program found themselves in Aisle A South on an April morning, learning how to floss properly and gamely brushing each other's teeth.

The students who participated in the session were getting ready to go out on their long-term care placements, so after a lecture on oral health care, the detailed training focused on teaching how to brush the teeth of those who could not do it for themselves, such as those who have had a stroke or have difficulties with mobility, and those affected by dementia. The nursing students also learned how to remove and care for dentures and partials, particularly for

those undergoing cancer therapy.

Oral health care is normally taught as part of the nursing program, usually in larger groups of students in a lab setting. The students who participated in the oral hygiene session appreciated the opportunity to work in small groups in the clinic and to try out what they learned on each other.

"It was great to learn the techniques from someone who has this expertise and who deals with oral health care every day," says nursing student Shelby Clattenburg.

"I'm glad to have this training," says Samantha Chaulk, another student. "We're about to start our long-term care placements, so we will be looking after people with Alzheimer's and dementia and those who have had strokes with limited mobility."

Clinical instructor Anna Ordinelli says that she also learned a lot from the session. Ordinelli and the other nursing instructors were there to observe, but one of the aims of the session is to boost the knowledge and skills they are able to pass on to students.

Maillet, who also taught a similar oral hygiene session at the Collaborative Health Education Building (CHEB) for lab instructors and first-year nursing students in the four-year program, says that by the year 2038, three per cent of Canadians will have dementia. "If patients don't get good oral health care when they are in long-term care facilities, it disrupts their ability to eat and sleep. Their whole body is affected," she says.

Brenda MacIsaac, one of the dental hygiene professors instructing the nursing students, demonstrated proper brushing and flossing techniques and talked about the importance of tooth care in hospital and long-term care settings. "The ability to eat is vital to patients' health," she says, "and dental diseases can spread to the heart and other organs. It's important that you be educated to know that oral health care is important and to care enough to do it."

The School of Dental Hygiene is continuing to explore new ways to collaborate with the Faculty of Health Professions. *

Student Tom Steeves claims national prize

By Cheryl Bell

Third-year dentistry student and Juniper, N.B., native Tom Steeves claimed the 2016 CDA/Dentsply Student Clinician Researcher of the year title at the Pacific Dental Conference in Vancouver in March.

This year's competition attracted 15 entrants from all 10 Canadian dental schools, each of whom presented his or her table clinic to a panel of three judges. "It wasn't too nerve-wracking," Steeves says. "We had to do a 10-minute presentation and then take questions. I had practised a lot, so I was prepared."

Steeves's prize-winning topic was "A prospective evaluation of one- versus three-day post-operative antimicrobial therapy in preventing surgical site infection following orthognathic surgery". He became interested in this subject when he worked on a summer research project in the Faculty of Dentistry after his first year of dentistry

studies. It happened to be the one topic that the oral surgery department had available to offer him. "It turned out to be much more interesting than I expected," Steeves says, "and I became more involved in the project. I enjoyed the opportunity of working in a hospital environment, which is something I wanted to experience." Steeves will be a named contributor in a forthcoming article in the *Journal of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery*.

After Steeves finishes the fourth year of his DDS program, he is considering returning to study oral and maxillofacial sciences, a further six years of education that would give him a combined MD/MSc degree. "It's a big commitment, so I'm keeping all the doors open at this point," he says, "I'm very grateful to Dr. Curtis Gregoire and Dr. Clayton Davis for the opportunities and advice they have given me."

As for his experience at the Pacific Dental Conference, Steeves says that he



Photo: Bruce Bottomley

enjoyed meeting students from the other dental schools and that the conference organizers made sure the group had the best experience possible, with lots of opportunities to talk with dental professionals from across the country.

As the winner of this year's competition, Steeves receives a \$1,000 Pierre Fauchard Academy scholarship, a life membership to the CDA/Dentsply Student Clinician Research Program, and a paid trip to the American Dental Association Annual Session in Denver, Colorado, in October. *



OUTSTANDING ALUMNI AWARDS

The Outstanding Alumni Award is presented, when merited, to graduates of Dalhousie University's Faculty of Dentistry who have made special and/or distinctive contributions to their community, profession, or to the Faculty.

For more information and nomination guidelines, please visit www.dal.ca/dentistry/alumni, email alumni.dentistry@dal.ca or call (902) 494-1674.

Nomination deadline: June 1, 2017



A winter storm prevented the 2016 Table Clinics and Dental Hygiene Professional Presentations from taking place in January, but everyone regrouped on April 1 for the Faculty of Dentistry's annual showcase of student research. Dentistry winners were: 1st place, Bryceton Tung (far right); 2nd place, Samantha Drake, (third from right), 3rd place, Lin Lin Ngu (second from right); 4th place, Kyle Thorbourne (far left). Also pictured are Tom Steeves (second from right) and assistant dean of academic affairs, Dr. Debora Matthews (third from left). For a full list of winners and research topics, please go to: bit.ly/243xQrm.



Celeste Williams is going into her third year of dentistry studies at Dalhousie.



Preston, Chezzetcook and Eastern Shore MLA David Hendsbee presented a framed certificate congratulating the community on its achievement.



Dr. Amid Ismail, who helped to establish the North Preston Dental Clinic, talks about its history.



Many people played a role in making the North Preston Dental Clinic happen.

Watching flowers bloom: Celebrating 20 years of the North Preston Dental Clinic

By Cheryl Bell

The North Preston community and Dalhousie's Faculty of Dentistry came together on June 16, 2016 to celebrate 20 years of a partnership that has enabled local children to receive dental care in a community that was previously underserved.

The North Preston Dental Clinic is located in Nelson Whynder Elementary School. It is a joint effort by the North Preston community, Dalhousie's Faculty of Dentistry, and the Halifax Regional School Board (formerly the Halifax County-Bedford School Board).

"The clinic was a wonderful coming together of need and opportunity," says Tony Atuanya, chair of the North Preston Community Education Council and emcee for the evening. "Our community recognized there was a need for dental care for our children. The Faculty of Dentistry was looking for an opportunity to work with communities that needed access to dental care and the school board was willing to use Nelson Whynder Elementary School as the location for the clinic. It has been a vital part of the community for the past 20 years."

Rosella Fraser, the facilities manager of the North Preston Community Centre, is delighted that her daughter, Adina Marsman, was able to receive dental care at the clinic when she was a student at Nelson Whynder. "Speaking as a parent, we were blessed to have this service," Fraser says. "We didn't have a dentist and I really appreciated not only the treatment and oral education Adina received, but also the attention paid to building relationships and rapport through having the dental office in the school."

The anniversary was celebrated with a

dinner, speeches, music by local performer Keonte Beals, and many messages of congratulation and thanks to everyone who played a part in making the clinic happen. Preston, Chezzetcook and Eastern Shore MLA David Hendsbee presented a framed certificate congratulating the community on its achievement.

Dr. Amid Ismail, dean of dentistry at Temple University in Philadelphia, was a member of the original team who made the North Preston Dental Clinic a reality.

Now a recognized expert on dental-health disparities and a passionate advocate for the underserved, he spoke briefly about the history of the clinic, thanking everyone for the experience they gave him. For him, it was the "University of North Preston," [where] "I discovered myself, and it was the foundation for my engagement with the community".

He recalled some initial suspicion when he first went to the community to talk about the clinic. "I was a university professor in a suit," he says. "It was expected that I would do a study and disappear. But trust cannot be achieved in one day or one month. We planted seeds and waited for them to bloom." Persistence paid off, he said. Relationships were built and "we now have a community clinic that is a model for all of us. Thank you for the experience you gave me."

In his remarks, Dalhousie president, Dr. Richard Florizone said, "Our mission at Dalhousie is comprised of three core areas, teaching and learning, research, and service. That third pillar, service, is our connection to the community, and it informs teaching and research. This clinic

is an excellent example of an idea that has grown and developed into an enduring partnership and friendship between North Preston and Dalhousie."

Faculty of Dentistry dean Dr. Tom Boran praised the hard work of dental assistant and clinic co-ordinator Juliette Thomas, who has been with the clinic since 1996 and is a steady presence for both fourth-year dentistry students and faculty.

"As Dr. Ismail said, seeds were planted here and flowers bloomed," Dr. Boran said. "When our students graduate, I'm not interested in just hearing where they are going to practise, but what population they are going to serve. And I am hearing that; it's part of the legacy of North Preston."

Another part of the legacy is the young people from the community who have gone on to become dentists. Jean Provo graduated from Dalhousie as a dentist in 2001, becoming the first person from the community to do so. Celeste Williams, who is from East Preston, is now going into her third year of dentistry studies, and a young man from the community is doing his undergraduate degree with the objective of studying dentistry at Dal.

"We made history 20 years ago," says Tony Atuanya. "A lot of things happened in the community as the result of our partnership with Dalhousie and our exploration of what you can do with a publicly-funded building."

At the end of the evening, Juliette Thomas made an announcement that Tony was too shy to make: his daughter Rosyn has been accepted into the dentistry program at Dal and will take up her place in September. ★

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

Jenine Arab O'Malley (DDS'90) received the Progress Women of Excellence Award in the field of health, wellness and sport in November 2015.

Natalie Archer (DDS'01) was recognized with Dalhousie's Building a Better World distinction in April 2016.

Paul Atkinson (DDS'88) received his Master Diploma from the International Congress of Oral Implantologists in August 2015.

Paul Cameron (DDS'89) received the Canadian Dental Association's Award of Merit in April 2016.

Asraa El-Darahali (DDS'13) received the Nova Scotia Provincial Volunteer Award in April 2016 and the Nova Scotia Dental Association's Community Service Award in June 2016. She and her sister Asile will also receive the Dalhousie Alumni Association's Christopher J. Coulter Award for career, community service and/or personal accomplishments in October 2016.



Max Greenberg

Max Greenberg (DDS'40) received a special milestone pin from President Florizone to commemorate the 75th anniversary of his graduation from the Faculty of Dentistry. We spoke with him on his 104th birthday in May 2016 and he sends his best to the Dalhousie Dentistry community!

Dr. Phil Mintern (DDS'99) received the Nova Scotia Dental Association's T.D. Ingham Volunteer Award in June 2016.

Joanne Noye (DipDH'86) completed her Bachelor of Arts in Gerontology from Mount Saint Vincent University in May 2016.

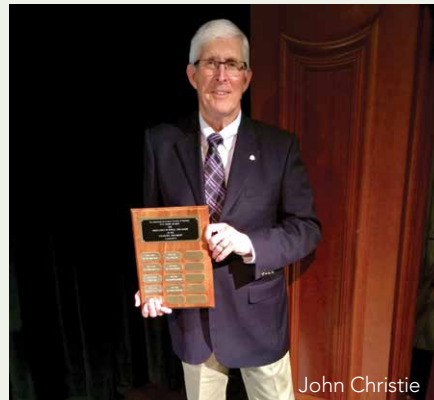
Darcie Robichaud (DipDH'93) will receive the Faculty of Dentistry's Outstanding Alumni Award in October 2016.

FACULTY

***Michael Bishop** (DDS'90, Dental Clinical Sciences) has expanded his interests into the restaurant industry, opening a Pita Pit franchise in downtown Halifax in January 2016. Two of his children, Adam and Emily, are currently enrolled in the Doctor of Dental Surgery program at Dalhousie.

Daniel Boyd (Applied Oral Sciences) has been appointed Director of the Institute for Materials Research through Dalhousie's Faculty of Science.

***John Christie** (DDS'71, Dental Clinical Sciences) received the 2016 W.W. Wood Award for excellence in dental education in June 2016.



John Christie



Tanya Cook

***Tanya Cook** (DDS'00, GDP'06, Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Dr. Gorman Doyle Award from the DDS Class of 2016. This award is presented to the full-time clinical instructor who has contributed the most to student education in clinical dentistry.

Ben Davis (Oral & Maxillofacial Sciences) has been appointed examiner-in-chief for the Royal College of Dentists of Canada.

***Heather Doucette** (DipDH'94) completed the Ironman Cozumel in November 2015 and qualified for the World Ironman Championship in October 2016.

***Ian Doyle** (DDS'78, Dental Clinical Sciences) will receive the Faculty of Dentistry's Outstanding Alumni Award in October 2016.

***Asile El-Darahali** (DDS'08, Dental Clinical Sciences) will receive the Dalhousie Alumni Association's Christopher J. Coulter Award for career, community service and/or personal accomplishments in October 2016.

Mark Filiaggi (Applied Oral Sciences) has been reappointed as chair of the Department of Applied Oral Sciences until July 2021. He has also been awarded funding for proof of concept work on controlled delivery of therapeutics from calcium polyphosphate-based beads.

Derek Jones (Professor Emeritus, Applied Oral Sciences) received the International Association for Dental Research's Distinguished Service Award in June 2016. He will also receive the World Dental Federation's Member of the List of Honour—the organization's highest award.

Debora Matthews (Assistant Dean, Research) was appointed Assistant Dean, Academic as of July 1, 2016. She was also awarded an NSHRF grant to conduct a research study on the periodontal microbiome.

***Mary McNally** (DDS'92, Dental Clinical Sciences) has been invited to join the National Aboriginal Children's Hurt and Healing team, part of the CIHR-funded Strategy for Patient Oriented Research Network in Clinic Disease. She was also named ADEA's Enid A. Neidel Scholar-in-Residence for 2016, which will allow her to conduct research on gender and diversity as elements of professionalism.

Sayed Mirbod (Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Outstanding Teacher in Graduate Periodontics Award from the Dalhousie Master of Periodontics Program students in June 2016.

***Andrew Nette** (DDS'76, Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Nova Scotia Dental Association's P.S. Christie Award for Distinguished Service in June 2016. He will also receive the Faculty of Dentistry's Outstanding Alumni Award in October 2016.

***Aditya Patel** (MPeri'15, Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Part-Time Clinical Instructor Award from the DDS Class of 2016. This award is presented to the part-time clinical instructor who has contributed the most to student education in clinical dentistry.



Aditya Patel



Richard Price

***Richard Price** (DDS'88, Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Dr. Wayne Garland Award from the DDS Class of 2016. This award is presented to a faculty or staff member for outstanding dedication and commitment to providing a quality pre-clinical education.

***Chad Robertson** (MSc'03) was appointed division head of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery as of September 1, 2015.



Sachin Seth

***Sachin Seth** (DDS'00, Dental Clinical Sciences) received the Student Life & Community Improvement Award from the DDS Class of 2016. 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 of regular clinical activities.

STAFF

Kore-Lee Cormier (Patient Services) received the Gladys Littler Award in June 2016. 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.

LIQUID PAPER

In our 2015-16 issue, we included an erroneous "Dean's List" note. We actually meant to congratulate Bruce Ross (DDS'55) on receiving the American Cleft Palate Association's Honours of the Association Award in April 2015!

Dr. Debora Matthews: A new office and a new role

By Cheryl Bell

Dr. Debora Matthews marked Canada Day by moving her office and officially taking up her new role as the new assistant dean of academic affairs with the Faculty of Dentistry.

A recognised expert in the field of evidence-based dentistry, Matthews is a professor in the Department of Dental Clinical Science division of periodontics and orofacial pain and director of the graduate periodontics program. She served as the Faculty's assistant dean of research from 2013.

In her new role, Matthews will be responsible for planning, implementing, and overseeing the quality control of the Faculty's academic curricula and for ensuring that all students meet the requirements to qualify for licensure in Canada.

While admitting that it is a "big portfolio", Matthews has translated her responsibilities into a to-do list that she is already working through.

"My vision for the immediate future is to get through the remainder of the clinic renewal process as smoothly as possible and with as little disruption to our students as possible," she says.

Given that the clinic will be half its normal size for the next year, this is no small feat, particularly finding a schedule that gives students the clinic hours they need.

"It is extremely complex," she says. "It takes into consideration not just the academic timetable, but extends to the hours that the custodial staff have available to clean in between patients. Everybody in the building is changing their hours because of the changes to the clinic, and we appreciate the sacrifices they are making."

Allied to scheduling is curriculum renewal. "Our new vertical cluster system is a great model for integrating students at all levels, but it requires careful thinking to make sure the right balance of clinic and classroom time is achieved," she says. "Further, there is a need to build capacity for future academics. Together with Drs. Mark Filiaggi and Daniel Boyd, we will be looking into how we might best implement a 'research-stream' curriculum for interested students."

Matthews also has plans to reorganise the structure of the Dean's Office staff. The office is working to manage a number of retirements, while retaining vital corporate knowledge.

She wants to revive the Faculty's constitution and governance documents in line with the governance structure of the university. As part of that process, the Faculty's academic policies and procedures are currently being updated.

Reviewing the tenure and promotion structure so that there is a clinical stream—similar to that found in the Faculty of Medicine—is also on the list. "It is important that our clinical faculty members, who are responsible for the lion's share of our students' education, have the same sort of job security as the 'traditional' research stream tenured faculty," she says.

Finally, there are also plans to extend the reach of the Continuing Dental Education office through videos and other types of teaching modules, and to merge faculty development and CDE. Matthews explains that this will "allow us to capitalize on resources and expertise within and external to our Faculty".

"This is an exciting time to be assistant dean of academic affairs," she says. "In



this time of transition and change, our Faculty has an opportunity to strengthen what has always worked well for us, and be creative about finding better ways to do what doesn't work so well. Our Faculty has a bright future and I am looking forward to being a part of it." ★

Dr. Mary McNally has been appointed acting assistant dean of research for a two-year term until June 30, 2018. McNally is a professor in the Department of Dental Clinical Science with a long history of teaching and research. She is currently on sabbatical until January 1, 2017. Until then, Dr. Mark Filiaggi will fulfill the role of assistant dean of research.



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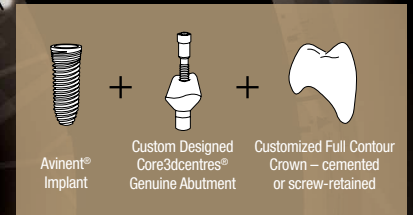
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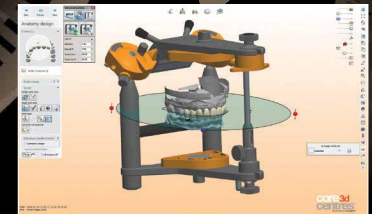
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