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2002

Impressions: 2002 Summer

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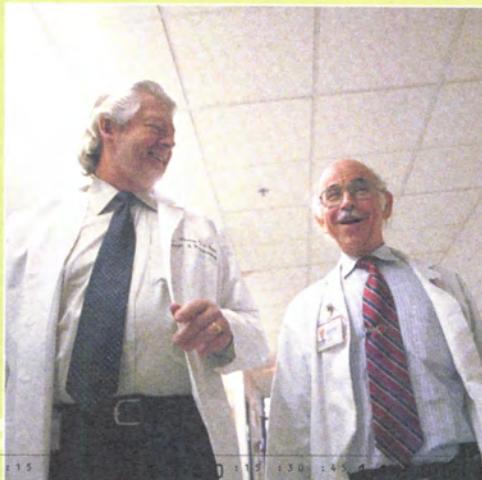
Boston University

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
Goldman School of Dental Medicine

impressions

summer 2002

RESEARCH

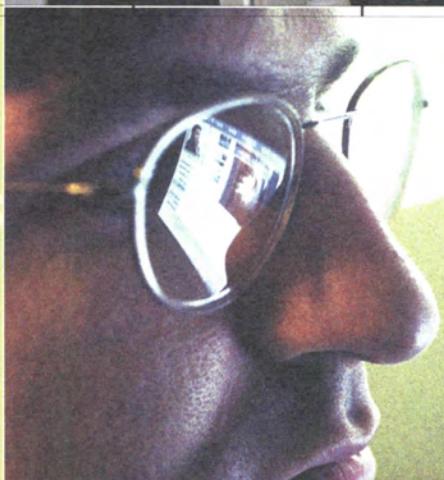


10:32



COMMUNITY SERVICE

1:33



9:01



ACADEMICS

12:45

PATIENT CARE

a DAY in the LIFE

Dear Alumni and Friends:

My warmest greetings to you.

I would like to address and acknowledge the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Along with the nation and the world, our BU family lost valued and loved members of our community. We shall never forget their contributions, sacrifice, and dedication.

BUSDM as an institution of higher education and learning has embraced, since our founding in 1963, the splendid diversity of our family of students, faculty, staff, and patients. This cornerstone of our foundation remains strong and will continue to be celebrated as one of our institution's greatest assets. We are proud to be continuously welcoming of all faiths, cultures, beliefs, traditions, and ethnic backgrounds.

Our vision as an institution is to be part of a world where research surmounts biological and technical challenges, education enriches lives, and all members of society have equal access to oral health care. This vision is reflected in our mission statement, whose guiding principles help us define our work, set goals, measure performance, and clearly state our institution's values: "The mission of BUSDM is to provide excellent education to dental professionals throughout their careers; to shape the future of dental medicine and dental education through research; to offer excellent health care services to the community; to participate in community activities; and to foster a respectful and supportive environment."

In past issues of *Impressions*, we have focused on individual aspects of our mission; in this issue we look at all four. On any given day, an extraordinary number of activities and services occur in our BUSDM community. In the following pages, we offer a partial view of our mission in action.

Spencer N. Frankl

Spencer N. Frankl, DDS, MSD
Professor and Dean

impressions

impressions : summer 2002

in this issue

IMPRESSIONS
A publication for the
alumni and friends of
Boston University Goldman
School of Dental Medicine

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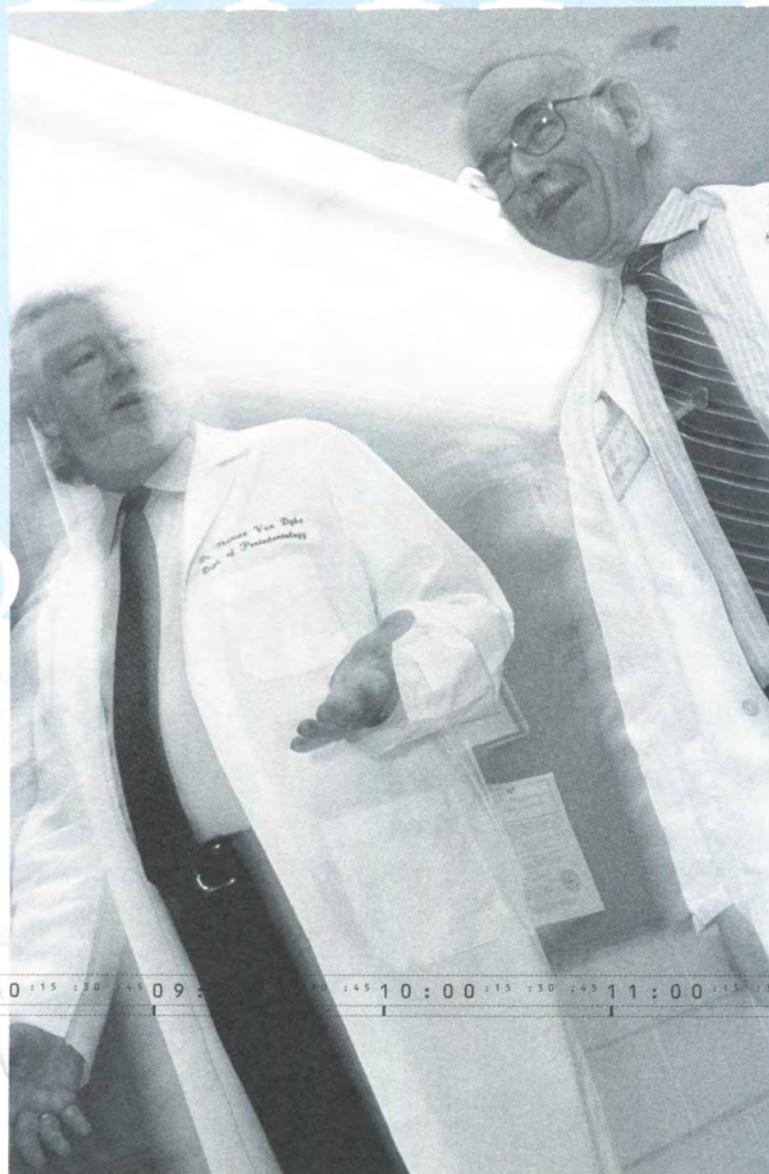
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Check-Up



1: r

"What we want to do is treat the periodontal disease and see if the treatment has any effect on the outcome of a second cardiac event or episode."

the LIFE

Among the many clinical and basic science research projects conducted by BUSDM faculty are collaborative studies with faculty from other schools and colleges at Boston University. One such study pairs Dr. Thomas Van Dyke, professor of periodontology and director of the BUSDM Clinical Research Center, with Dr. Michael Klein, a professor at Boston University School of Medicine and cardiologist at Boston Medical Center.

"Essentially, this is a pilot trial derived from the result of previous epidemiological studies showing an association between periodontal disease and heart disease," says Van Dyke. The multicenter study, which includes faculty from the University of Buffalo, the University of North Carolina, the University of Maryland, and the University of Oregon, collects data for the project known as PAVE ("periodontal disease and vascular events").

As co-investigators, Van Dyke and Klein are conducting clinical trials to determine the extent of the relationship between cardiovascular disease and periodontal disease. Says Klein, "This is fundamentally a pilot study, which means we are in the initial stages of data collection over the next three years in hopes of setting the infrastructure and collecting preliminary information to demonstrate a real possibility of measuring this relationship prospectively."

Adds Van Dyke, "The opportunity presented itself [to participate in the multicenter trial] and it's a great relationship-building opportunity for us researchers and practitioners to get together, share information, and hopefully record prospective data as to whether this association is real. Is there a cause-and-effect relationship between periodontal disease and heart disease? So, each of us at our respective

universities went out and found an interested cardiologist who thought this was worth doing. I was lucky that I just had to cross the street. Dr. Klein was very receptive and has been a wonderful research colleague."

"This association, which we refer to as PAVE—periodontal disease and vascular events—fits with the general hypothesis that atherosclerosis, which is the bedrock of coronary disease in blood vessels, is a chronic inflammatory disease, which of course is what periodontal disease is as well," says Klein.

"The other prevailing hypothesis is that bacteria from the oral cavity that gets into the bloodstream as a function of periodontal disease is somehow an initiating event in causing inflammation in the blood vessels," says Van Dyke.

Beginning in July 2001, the grant was funded by the National Institute for Dental and Craniofacial Research for \$2,216,898 over the next three years.

"We've spent the past year designing the infrastructure of the study," says Klein. "Now we will start enrolling patients. We are looking at our existing patient database and those of our colleagues to identify participants aged 18 to 70 with demonstrated, documented history of heart disease who also have periodontal disease."

"What we want to do is treat the periodontal disease and see if the treatment has any effect on the outcome of a second cardiac event or episode," says Van Dyke. "We have a rough idea of the frequency of second events occurring in people with heart disease, but we have no idea of the frequency among people who have periodontal disease."

"Or, for that matter, what the magnitude of the reduction [in possibility of second events] could be, if there even is one," says Dr. Klein. "Part of the purpose of this trial is to get an idea of the rates and then do power calculations to figure out exactly how many people have to be in the trial to demonstrate definitively the connection."

The doctors plan to enroll at least 225 patients from the BUSDM and BMC population. Each patient will be seen on a three- to six-month interval. All participating universities will enroll the same number of patients, for a total of more than 1,000 subjects.

Says Van Dyke, "It'll be an exciting few years as we watch this develop. We both feel very fortunate to work for a university as committed to research as BU and in an environment supportive of these collaborative relationships."



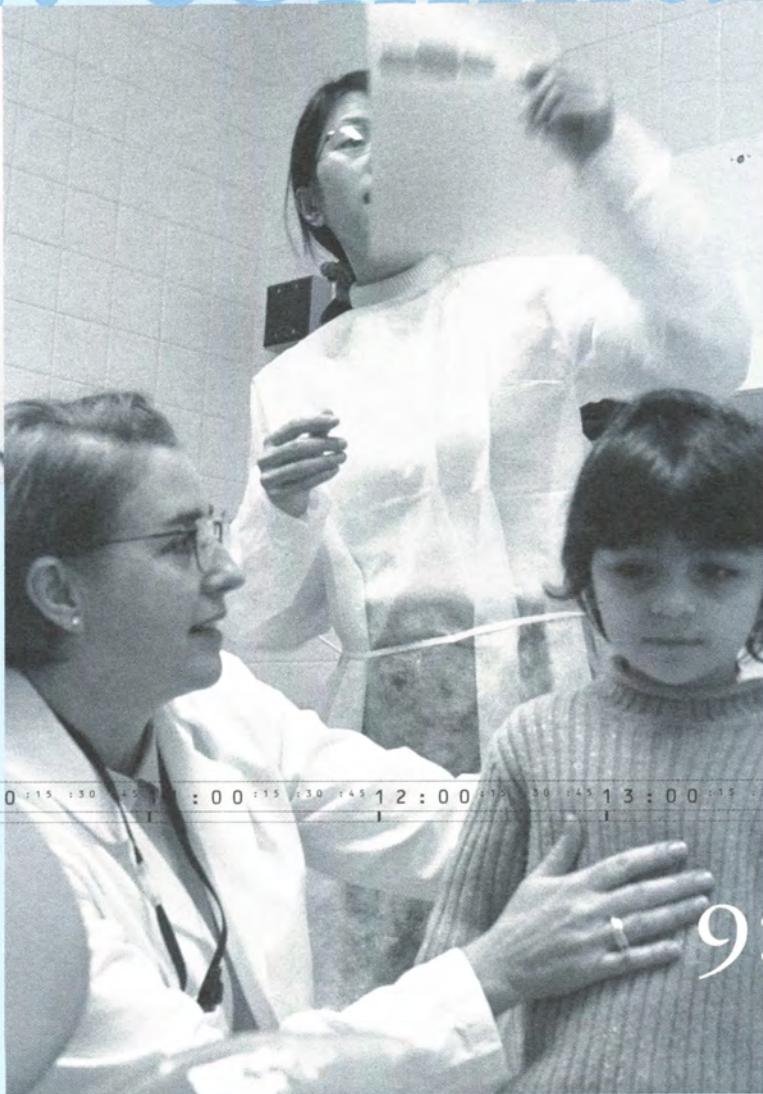
Tom Van Dyke and Michael Klein

"The oral health disparity between the urban disadvantaged and other segments of society is significant. And because this is one of the few free-care clinics in Boston, we see it all."

2: community se



9:30



Wendy Cheney

9:32



9:45

vice

It is 9:25 a.m. in the pediatric emergency dental clinic at Boston Medical Center and the waiting room overflows with children and their parents. Busy patient care coordinators check in new arrivals. The unique sound of toddlers fills the ears of *Impressions* writers Christine McDonald and Mari Megias who, with photographer Kent Dayton in tow, have arrived to document a morning in this BMC clinic.

Here, appointments are not the rule. Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and guardians simply bring in their children to see the dentist when something is seriously amiss with their oral health. First-time and recall patients wait their turn as the staff manages urgent-care patients.

The walk-in clinic, which is one of just a few in Boston that provide free dental care to children, treats approximately 3,500 children annually. "The children who come here are primarily urban and disadvantaged," says Dr. Wendy Cheney, director of BUSDM's advanced education program in pediatric dentistry. "Because access to dental care is a problem, a lot of children, when they have pain, end up in the hospital's emergency room and are then sent up to us."

The clinical area comprises several individual treatment rooms on either side of a long hallway. Each room is occupied by a pediatric resident who bends over a child in the dental chair as anxious yet comforting parents hover nearby. Compared with the hectic waiting room, the clinic is serene; the sound of children's voices is complemented by the murmur of residents as they explain procedures to parents and children.



Cheney moves from operatory to operatory checking on the residents and answering questions. As *Impressions* waits for new patients to interview and photograph, Cheney explains how the BMC clinic helps residents learn to take care of a problem with no advance notice. "Because they lack access to preventive care, these children often have significant dental needs, unlike in a private practice," says Cheney. "They often present with extensive pathology of one kind or another. So when they come in, we have to do something right away. This is an important experience for our residents." Cheney adds that residents provide oral rehabilitation in the clinic's operating room on a weekly basis, treating mainly preschool children with early childhood caries.

Soon, a family of four rounds the corner of the long hallway. Balata, his wife, and their two girls, Sheelin, age 4, and Warheal, age 3, are recent arrivals to Boston. They are Kurdish refugees from northern Iraq who, save Balata, do not speak English. As Balata discusses treatment options with the resident and then translates for his wife, Sheelin and Warheal timidly examine the photographer's camera. With their big, beautiful brown eyes, the two girls are not camera shy; they are well mannered as they grin at the camera.

After consulting with the resident, Balata coaxes Sheelin into the dental chair. She is a bit scared at first but soon settles in as the resident begins work. Were it not for the existence of this clinic, Sheelin would not be able to get the care she so desperately requires.

It is the school's association with the BMC International Clinic (which screens newly arrived refugee families) that brought Balata's family to the pediatric dental clinic. Some of the children referred by the International Clinic have never even seen a toothbrush.

By treating these patients, this pediatric oral health care center fills a key community need: providing treatment to children who have difficulty accessing oral health care. Each day, residents deal with painful emergencies because families do not have the resources to get care before a situation spins out of control. "The oral health disparity between the urban disadvantaged and other segments of society is significant," says Cheney. "And because this is one of the few free-care clinics in Boston, we see it all."



Dr. Christopher Hughes

"The goal of the software is to help students develop critical thinking skills in clinical situations. By gaining these skills, students are better prepared to continue to seek out and evaluate new knowledge and new techniques when they are practicing."

3: academics

10:45

10:13



ASE STUDIES for Dentistry [Go to Home Screen](#)

1. Panoramic radiograph revealing well-defined roots of 29-31. What would you think it is?
A. Benign cyst or tumor.
B. Periapical cyst
C. Fibro-osseous lesion.
D. Malignant lesion.

Click on the correct answer. You can also click c or d.

10:28

Anita Gohel



During their four years of dental school, students are inundated with information and knowledge. Faculty instruct students in anatomy, pathology, diagnoses, and treatments as part of the odyssey that transforms willing scholars into skilled clinicians.

One of the many challenges involves helping students to consider the whole patient, not just the oral cavity. Instead of viewing each case merely as a distinct manifestation of a particular malady, students are instructed to look at a patient's entire medical condition. Only then can a dentist appropriately diagnose and treat oral health problems.

In acquiring specific knowledge about dental and oral health issues, however, students can easily lose this broader focus. It is tempting—if not inevitable—for students simply to learn and memorize the information they will need to pass board exams, graduate from school, and begin practice.

But this is not enough. Faculty have always tried to teach students not only the fundamentals of dentistry but also the thinking and analytical skills needed to diagnose and treat patients. It was difficult, however, to provide students—especially preclinical students—with a critical foundation for decision-making.

A new software program is changing this. Developed by a company called NewMentor, the product—Case Studies for Dentistry—gives students experience making decisions about diagnoses and treatments, all in the context of a patient's medical history.

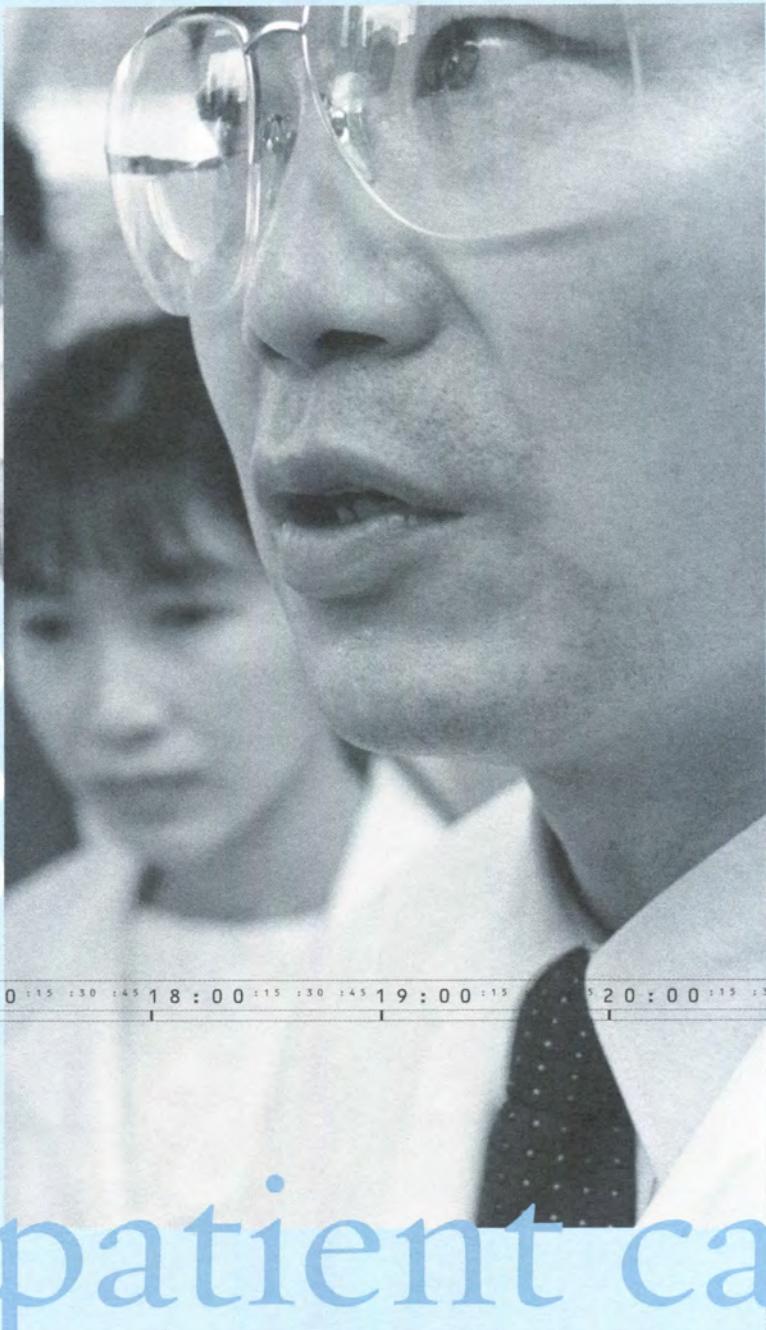
Several faculty members at BUSDM are helping to develop the content of the software. One of them is Dr. Anita Gohel, assistant professor of diagnostic sciences and patient services. "It is such a great tool," she says. "Before, we would present findings or small cases to students where now, students must look at the whole patient. Because the cases are detailed and challenging, they address all aspects of patient care and treatment. This virtual learning process, which can be designed to fit an individual student's level, also provides instant feedback. The software more closely approximates reality. It enhances critical thinking and the analytical process of the students and at the same time is very engaging and clinically relevant."

Gohel is busy adding cases to the software. Her cases, and those of other BUSDM faculty and faculty from other schools, will be provided to students at several schools on CD in fall 2002.

To use the CD, students select a case, typically labeled by the age and sex of the patient and the complaint they have. From there, students must review the patients' medical and pharmaceutical history and check for any discrepancies. For example, if a patient says he is not in treatment for any condition but later answers that he is taking medication, students must go back and resolve the inconsistency. After reviewing the patient's history and any previous radiographs, the student decides which elements of a physical and radiographic analysis are necessary. All along the way, the software lets students know if they are ordering an unnecessary radiograph or needlessly testing a tooth for, say, sensitivity to cold.

"The goal of the software is to help students develop critical thinking skills in clinical situations," says Gohel. "Perhaps more important, students need to realize that learning is a lifelong process that does not end when they graduate. By gaining these skills on their own—with the help of the software—students are better prepared to continue to seek out and evaluate new knowledge and new techniques when they are practicing."

Dr. Lee Chou



4: patient care

“This learning experience definitely boosts our confidence when dealing with HIV-infected patients because we are recognizing and remaining aware of their systemic health.”



It is Monday morning at 9:15 a.m. Dr. Lee Chou, professor and director of the Division of Oral Medicine, patiently gathers his charts and charges—fourth-year dental students Ram Srinivasan, Wayne Shim, and Joel Nichols—and heads off to clinic. In the next few hours he will teach, treat, and mentor using an innovative, patient-based clinical training model he developed seven years ago.

Chou devised this patient-based teaching model to reinforce BUSDM's competency-based teaching process for dental students. In the new teaching model, Chou supervises senior dental students who complete their rotation as a group in BUSDM's Oral Medicine and Oral AIDS Clinic, the leading referral clinic in the country for HIV-infected dental patients. The clinic treats cases referred by general dental practitioners who do not have the clinical experience to do so. Each group of six to seven students is personally involved in interviews with HIV-infected patients, from examination and diagnosis to treatment and follow-ups.

The genesis of the program is clear. Says Chou, "Traditionally, dental students are not able to gain adequate clinical experience in identifying and dealing with patients who have nondental oral diseases such as mucosal lesions, salivary gland disorders, malignant lesions, facial pain, and oral manifestations of systemic diseases." His clinical training model fills this gap by giving students experience diagnosing and treating nondental oral diseases before they graduate.

Students are aware of the need to understand the connection between oral and systemic health. "Working with Dr. Chou is very enlightening," says Ram Srinivasan DMD '02. "This learning experience definitely boosts our confidence when dealing with HIV-infected patients because we are recognizing and remaining aware of their systemic health."

Dr. Chou guides students through an analysis of each patient's history, a physical and oral examination of the patient, the tissue biopsy, and the results analysis, including diagnosis, differential diagnosis, and treatment plan. He concludes with case discussions with the students. In addition, for each case Chou provides students with a comprehensive review of basic and clinical sciences related to biology, histology, radiology, pathology, physiology, pharmacology, and oral medicine.

The experience students gain is invaluable. Says Wayne Shim DMD '02, "We have become adept at using the microscope in the examination bay to evaluate the patient's specimen histologically as an adjunct to clinical evaluation. It's a great learning exercise that we conduct under Dr. Chou's expertise."

The BUSDM clinics diagnose and treat more and more complex oral health issues each day. Over 90% of HIV-infected patients have suffered from various types of oral lesions. Says Chou, "An indisputable fact is that the majority of HIV-infected patients are not receiving adequate dental care, mainly due to dentists' lack of experience in dealing with HIV-infected patients. This type of case-based learning prepares our students to recognize and be able to deal with all compromised patients."

"The hands-on approach is extremely effective," says Joel Nichols DMD '02. "I speak for all of us when I say this experience has increased the confidence of students when they are presented with these types of unique cases."

"Our program has been recognized and sponsored for seven consecutive years by the U.S. Department of Public Health and Services," says Chou. "That recognition is important to us in the sense that it is validation that we as a school and teaching institution are staying keenly abreast of what we need to be doing to keep our students prepared and ahead of the curve."

In recognition of Chou's innovative teaching and patient care, the University has awarded him the prestigious Metcalf Cup and Prize (see page 24).



conversations

RESEARCH AND THE PURSUIT OF STIMULATING SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY IS A CORNERSTONE COMPONENT OF BUSDM'S MISSION.

As part of this issue's feature, we asked Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska, director of the predoctoral research program and one of her students, Esther Tam DMD '03, to discuss the importance of predoctoral research in the context of the DMD curriculum and BUSDM mission.

Maria Kukuruzinska: Esther, you've just returned from the AADR and IADR (American Association of Dental Research and International Association of Dental Research) meeting in San Diego. Share with me your thoughts on the experience. Any important things you learned at the meeting?

Esther Tam: Definitely the excitement of attending an international and national meeting was contagious. I was exposed to tremendous amounts of research in general, including predoctoral, postdoctoral, and faculty research. I attended many poster sessions and symposiums. So many ideas were shared and the experience of hearing and seeing what is going on in dental research was so enlightening and educational.

MK: So, I can assume that overall, it was an enhancing experience. There must have been many other students whom you met and shared ideas and experiences with.

ET: Being there and presenting my project enhanced my research vision and my commitment to my research. It also broadened my knowledge about dental-related research that is being carried out elsewhere.

MK: How do you think our school was represented at the meeting?

ET: Very well, indeed, on all levels—pre- and postdoc research as well as faculty research. I'd be remiss if I didn't note that the opportunity to attend such a prestigious meeting was truly awesome. I have you and the dean and the entire faculty to thank for your support and encouragement. We've been able to present at other local and national meetings, like the Yankee Dental Congress here and the ADA in Kansas City—it is just such a great opportunity for us students to practice our presentation skills and gain confidence each time we do so. It's such a learning and growing experience because I present alongside my colleagues and we share ideas and engage one another.

MK: Now, I recall that you were a bit apprehensive and worried about taking on the added responsibility of predoctoral research and how it might affect your performance academically—that research would take away the time to devote to other aspects of the curriculum. Yet, in fact I think that research experience has done exactly what we had hoped it would do, which is enhance your academic performance.

ET: True, true—I was nervous! But research has made me more confident and comfortable. I have always felt that research is the foundation on which discoveries are made, as well as an opportunity for me to help advance the field of dentistry in preventive

treatment and diagnosis. Myself, I'm interested in research because it feeds my curiosity. You told me, "To be a researcher you must be curious" and I think it's great to take advantage of the opportunities BUSDM provides.

MK: Indeed, we do have amazing faculty who believe in the mission and the need—really the necessity—to support research at all levels.

ET: Definitely. And you know, in all honesty, it's tough in the first few years to find the time to do research, but with certain elements in the curriculum, like the APEX program, we are encouraged and aided in working research activities into our first few years of dental school. During my first and second APEX





rotations I took advantage of the research opportunity. Also, I had to ask myself, "What can I give back to this profession?" In research I found the answer.

MK: Do you feel that—even if you do not pursue research in the future—participating in predoctoral research has made you into a better thinker and a better practitioner?

ET: Without a doubt. In fact, doing research has made me want to pursue more opportunities outside of dental school. I'd love to do a year internship at NIDCR NIH. There are so many opportunities!

MK: Are your views about research shared by your colleagues here at BUSDM and elsewhere?

ET: I see the research bug spreading in terms of the careers and excitement about it. Some people are more focused on research; it is definitely a route for the curious, for those of us with a lot of initiative to learn more and discover all the opportunities that are out there. The catch phrase "future cutting-edge research" is now accepted as an integral component of dental medicine.

MK: Which is so perfect! Because when I started working with predocs, it was my hope and my dream that we would be able to get students excited about research, that students would understand the importance of discovery—that discovery drives dental medicine forward. To see people like you and your colleagues do so well, believe and articulate the importance of research in your education, and to hear the excitement and see your enthusiasm about learning is tremendously important.

ET: There was a lot of discussion about the fact that the future of oral medicine is all about research—many of the students I met with at the meetings are planning to take a year off to do research, and then either practice, go back for postdoc training, or remain involved in research.

MK: What we hope to do more of is excite the entire dental community—not just students—about the importance of research. The idea of the predoctoral research program is to enhance the intellectual atmosphere of the school. We recently obtained display cases in the first floor lobby where we showcase advances in research both here at the school and elsewhere. We hope students like you and the general public can read about advances in research such as the human genome project and oral cancer prevention and stem cell research. We

strive to provide information to all who enter the school—patients, students, and practitioners.

ET: Well, the display cases definitely augment the educational mission of the school. They are user friendly—you don't have to be a Ph.D research scientist to gain information from what is displayed there.

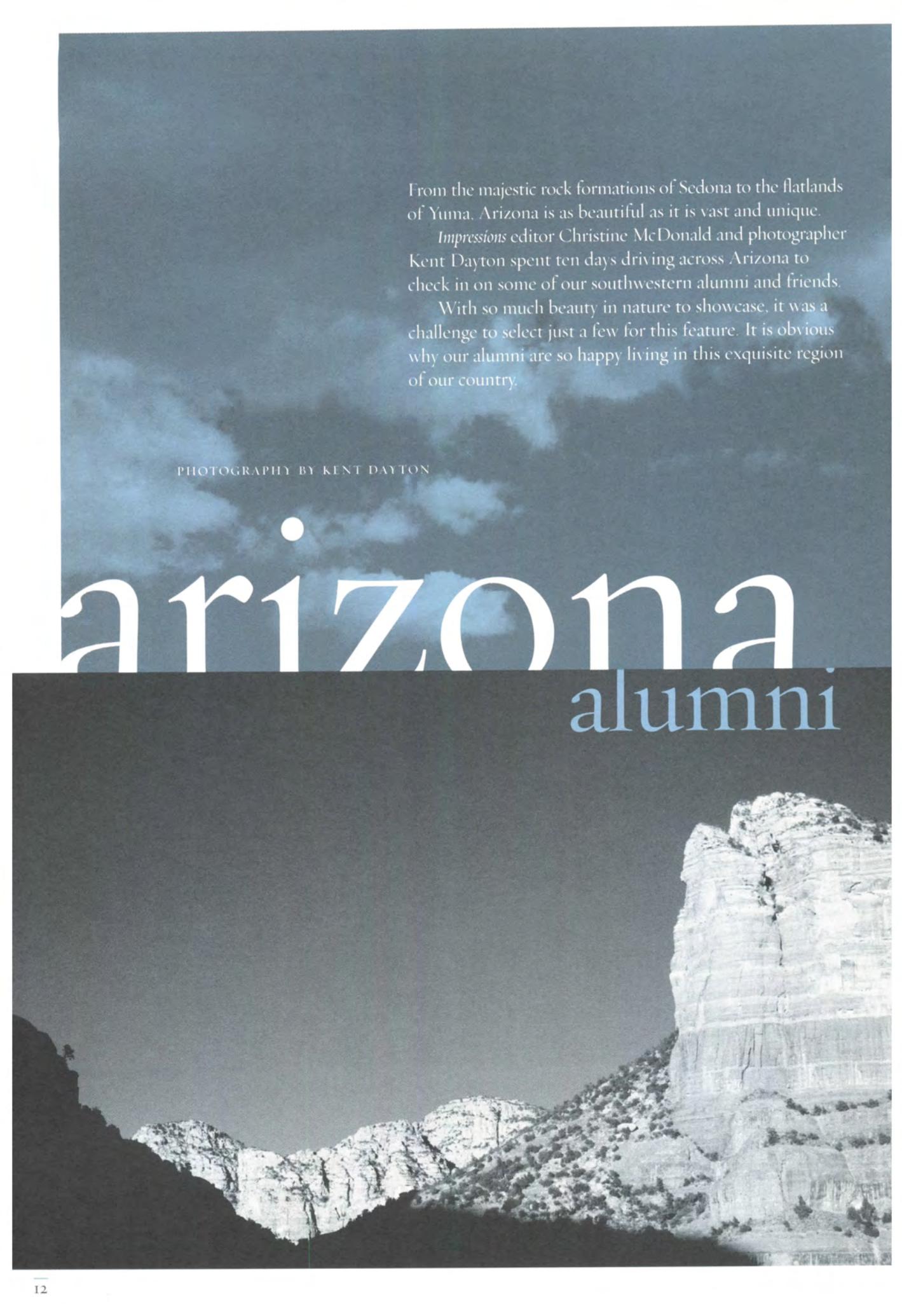
MK: Our goal is to make students comfortable with the overwhelming amount of information coming out in the field. This relates both to oral medicine and biomedicine in general, and includes discoveries in technology and therapeutics. It's so important to us to have you not be afraid to evaluate critically this information. Do you think you are less scared about tackling the overwhelming amount of information as students—and future clinicians?

ET: What I see on the horizon is so much opportunity, which is also a great challenge for us. I want to be able to pursue those challenges. We are the future. BUSDM nurtures students who are curious and enthusiastic and eager to advance the profession. We have to grab on to that and run with it. I think BUSDM has done a tremendous job of fostering that energy. I feel fully prepared to do that—as long as I can still call you with a question!

MK: Always—indeed!

Dr. Kukuruzinska and Esther Tam were photographed in the new laboratories of the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology on the fourth floor of the Evans Medical Building on the BMC campus.





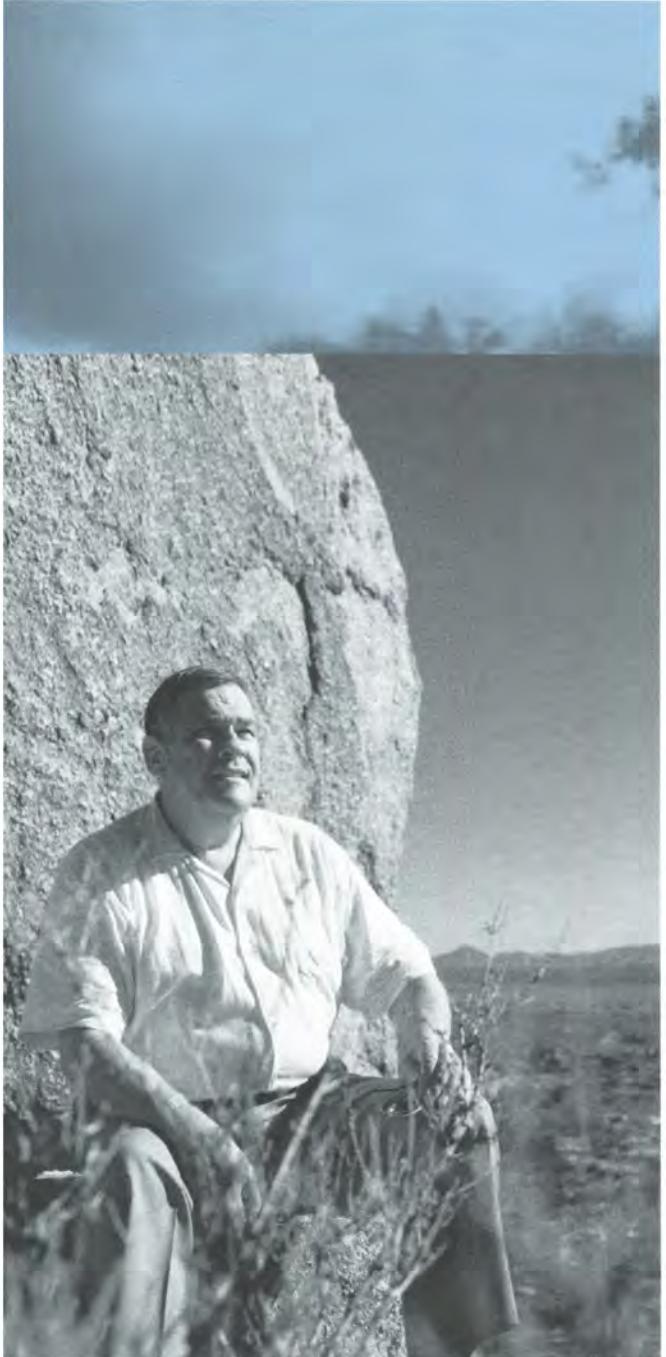
From the majestic rock formations of Sedona to the flatlands of Yuma, Arizona is as beautiful as it is vast and unique.

Impressions editor Christine McDonald and photographer Kent Dayton spent ten days driving across Arizona to check in on some of our southwestern alumni and friends.

With so much beauty in nature to showcase, it was a challenge to select just a few for this feature. It is obvious why our alumni are so happy living in this exquisite region of our country.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KENT DAYTON

arizona alumni



JOHN STROPKO
ENDO 89

We caught up with Dr. John Stropko at his home in Carefree, Arizona. He proclaims that his move to Carefree is his last and that Scottsdale is the home of his seventh and final practice. "I'm Hungarian and inherited more than my share of gypsy genes. I loved to move around a lot; I was easily bored after being in one place for long."

John has owned a total of seven practices in three states: Indiana, Arizona, Alaska, and, finally, back in Arizona. Claiming to be a desert rat, he says, "You can take the rat out of the desert, but you can't take the desert out of the rat."

"Moving to Boston and joining the graduate endodontic program was a bit of a whim too. After practicing general dentistry for 24 years, I thought I was too old to be a student and wasn't even thinking about becoming a specialist, least of all an endodontist! But my good friend and mentor, John Hughes [see philanthropy profile on page 18] suggested it. I have the utmost respect for him and referred all my endodontic cases to him. He called one day and asked, 'If I get you an interview with Dr. Schilder, will you go?' I asked him, 'Who's Schilder?' Needless to say, I interviewed on Friday and started classes the following Wednesday."

"I'm eternally grateful for what my BU education has done for me, and especially thankful for the amazing instructors, who remain close friends. Dr. and Mrs. Schilder created a family for us while we were students. If I'm traveling to a conference or meeting and I know someone from BU will be there, I try to call. Being with the folks from BU is just like coming home."

After finishing his studies, John and his family returned to Prescott, Arizona, to set up his fifth (first endodontic) practice. John was the only endodontist in the northern three-fifths of the state and became very busy very quickly. In 1996, after five years the pressures of his demanding practice became too much so he moved to Anchorage, Alaska. "I'd always wanted to live there, so we packed up the five kids and sold my practice. I picked Anchorage because I wanted more time for hunting and fishing, and once again, in a short time, I got busier than when I was in Prescott. I also became very involved with teaching microsurgery in the graduate endodontic program at BUSDM and was traveling all over to lecture. Due to Alaska's remoteness, you can't get anywhere from Anchorage easily or conveniently. And despite the awesome beauty, the long winters started getting to me. So in 1999, back we came to the desert."

Besides buying and selling practices and homes, packing, and moving, John and his wife, Barbara, have spent a great deal of time giving back to humanity.

"We both love Mexico, so over the years we got involved with the Save the Children organization and began doing medical missions to remote areas of Mexico. Our motto was that we'd go where no one else would. Barb and I did 46 trips in eight years. It's amazingly fulfilling. It keeps us humble and thankful we live in this great country."

Presently John maintains a full-time endodontic practice in Scottsdale. "I'm a sole practitioner. My wife is my chairsider assistant, and we see about three to four patients a day. Dentistry is my hobby and I love it—but if I start to get real busy and have a lot of time pressures, it's no fun for me anymore."

"I feel truly blessed that I've been in dentistry for nearly 40 years and I still look forward to going to the office every day."



FRANK GONZALEZ DMD '97

What brings a 40-year-old successful businessman from Southern Arizona all the way to Boston to enter dental school?

"It was one of the toughest things I have ever done," says Dr. Frank Gonzalez. "It was always a dream. There really are guys out there like me who always wanted to be a dentist. I woke up one day. I was 40, and I said I'd better do it now or live with regret—and I hate regret. I owned and operated a commercial dental lab in Tucson. I made crowns, bridges, and dentures, but I knew I had to go back to get my DMD."

Frank was born and raised in Sahuarita, Arizona, a small farming village not far from where he practices now, in the southwestern corner of the state. He credits Dr. Weldon Lloyd and the APEX program for bringing him to BUSDM and helping him to overcome some of the challenges of being an older student.

"I was a late bloomer, and I had a restlessness about me that was definitely quieted by going back to school. It was really rough for the first year, but it was a blast at the same time. I met a lot of wonderful people on the way. Dr. Lloyd, who recruited me, was a super guy. He had real insight into the human character. And Dr. Fred Haines was an expert mentor and teacher who taught the gentle marriage of manual dexterity and patient management. And I could never forget Dr. Zoller—a real tough guy with a tough job—teaching anatomy. He was difficult and he demanded the best. He's a real teacher who believes in and uses the Socratic method very effectively."

Although the memories are sweet and the journey enlightening, Frank readily admits it was not without certain challenges. "I was accepted easily by my fellow students—that was never an obstacle. They just called me grandpa! However, at my age, academically, there was a lot of pressure. I'd been out of school for 20 years and essentially I had forgotten how to study. The first year I had to take a speed reading course."

The thought of going back to school again to specialize was tempting yet not realistic. "I would have loved to have been an oral surgeon, but I have to look at it realistically from an age and time perspective. I don't have the years to commit and I need to start paying off my loans!"

Loan repayment was one of the motivating factors that brought Frank back to the rural, underserved area in which he now practices. "There is such a palpable need here for medical and dental professionals. The United States Public Health Service makes it attractive to devote a few years to areas like Wellton to care for these people. And I identify with the people here—I grew up working my family farm, earning \$8 per day."

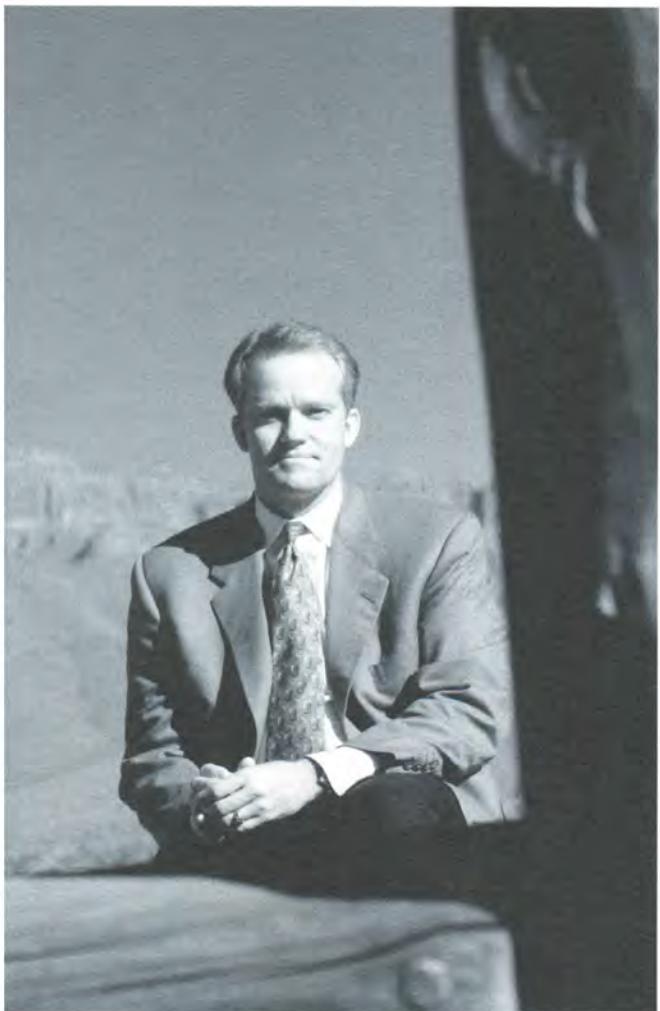
"I see some pretty challenging stuff. People from a 100-mile radius come to our clinics. I handle all the hygiene and see a lot of pedo and surgical cases. I treat many migrant farm workers. I've seen men with severe abscesses—I'd do an extraction and they'd go right back out into the field."

Frank keeps a home in Tucson, and spends two days a week between Yuma, Wellton, and Somerton treating patients in farming villages. "I sometimes feel like a cross between Michael J. Fox in the movie 'Doc Hollywood,' when he is paid for his services with a pig, and Kevin Costner in 'Dances with Wolves,' when he's sent out to the farthest regions of the great wild west. The people here are amazing—hard workers and so very appreciative. I've had people come by the office with cases of broccoli and lettuce for me, just as a measure of thanks."

Although Frank's contract with Sunset Community Health Centers (part of the USPHS) ended a few years back, he has chosen to stay. "They need me here, and I make a difference. It's a nice feeling."

Indeed.

PAUL SANDSTROM
DMD '87



"I know it sounds cliché, but I always knew I wanted to be a dentist!"

It was 1983, and Paul and his wife Heather were recently married when they decided that if Paul were to pursue his dream, there was no better time than the present.

"Heather and I were newlyweds and expecting our first child [daughter Erika, 20] when—really it was Heather who encouraged me—that it was now or never. So I applied, was accepted, and we packed up and moved east," says Paul.

"I had a wonderful experience as a child with my dentist, and I believe that positive memory had a tremendous amount to do with my choosing the profession," he adds.

Paul, Heather, and daughter Erika moved first to Waltham before settling in Natick. "Heather and I are good friends with Danny Ainge (former Celtic basketball player) and Mike Dowling (local sportscaster), both of whom belonged to our church, so we were lucky to travel so far from home and have friends there."

"I was one of the few guys in dental school who had a family—in fact we had our second child [Ryan, 18] while I was in the middle of my training. The best part about being married and having children through dental school was that I had a diversion. Most of my classmates were single and dental school was all they thought about—but I was fortunate to have a family that demanded my attention and I feel it was healthier for me. When I got home I had someone to pat me on the back and say, 'You're doing a good job—we appreciate how hard you are working at school!'"

"I absolutely loved BU. I had amazing instructors. I often think of Drs. Polins, Emerling, and Friedman. It's kind of ironic—Dr. Friedman introduced me to geriatric dental medicine, and I remember going to elderly housing sites and treating patients with her and thinking, 'I am never going to practice geriatric medicine.' It just didn't feel right to me. And now, 15 years later, my practice is about 70% geriatrics. And I love every minute of it!"

"My practice is growing and I've recently had the opportunity to hire some associates. It's been an interesting process. I've interviewed a few people and walked away thinking, 'Where the heck did they go to dental school? Did they take a correspondence course or something?' The experience has made me appreciate my education so very much. We were so well trained and prepared for our careers. I recommend BUSDM every chance I get."

Some 15 years since graduating from BU his family and practice have grown. With five children aged 7 to 20, he and Heather have their hands full.

"We are so blessed—we have five beautiful, healthy, and talented children. Sure, it gets crazy now and then with all their activities and schedules, but we wouldn't have it any other way. Coming home to Heather and the kids and the constant bustle of the house is a joy. It makes working a long, hard day easy to forget."



JOHN WACHTEL
ORTHO 98

When we arrived to pick up Dr. Wachtel for our photo shoot and interview, we found him vacuuming the office.

"I think it must come from my training with Dr. Gianelly," he jokes. "He taught us that we need to know how to do everything—and I mean everything."

A southwestern native (John grew up just a few hundred miles away in San Diego, California), he had to negotiate with his fiancé about his decision to apply to BUSDM for ortho.

"My wife and I met in dental school, and she had attended BU undergrad [Tarianne Temple CAS 98]. She said that if she was going to marry me, she wanted one last hurrah in New England, so I applied to BUSDM. Good thing I got in!"

John and his wife lived in Nashua, New Hampshire, while he studied at BU.

"Tarianne was doing a general practice residency in Manchester and she had to be no more than 30 minutes from the hospital. So I commuted for two years. It was a huge inconvenience but worth the sacrifice."

After more than ten years as a full-time student, John feels like he is just now decompressing.

"Sometimes it's still a little strange not to be a student anymore! But we are really blessed—we just had our second child, a son Andrew who joins our two-and-a-half-year-old Lauren. My wife has taken time off to be with the kids, and things are settling in nicely. You know, after September 11, I think a lot of people have refocused their priorities. I just want to do what is best for my patients and my family."

John's partner, Dr. Mark Stieg, has been well established in the Scottsdale area for about 15 years.

"I was very fortunate to partner up with Mark. He's been a good friend and mentor to me. We split our time between two offices, both working four days a week. And it's worked out nicely because he has more time to spend with his family. We have a nice balance and respect for one another."

John credits BU and especially Dr. Gianelly with his clinical confidence and chairside manner.

"Dr. Gianelly's philosophy was that we do everything—lab work, records, treatment planning, placing braces, removing them, setting up businesses—the whole nine yards. We had to make all our own retainers. There was a lot of busy work, and the toughest part was getting all that busy work done while staying on top of literature review. There was no grey area with Dr. Gianelly—you either did the work and knew it or you didn't. That kind of pressure—good pressure—prepared me well for juggling the demands of private practice. I owe a lot to his leadership and teaching."



"I sometimes feel like a cross between Michael J. Fox in the movie 'Doc Hollywood,' when he is paid for his services with a pig, and Kevin Costner in 'Dances with Wolves,' when he's sent out to the farthest regions of the great wild west."

FRANK GONZALEZ

DMD 97



A welcomed sense of obligation

Dr. John Hughes, principal and founder of Southern Arizona Endodontics (SAE), is most modest and humble about his practice, the largest group of endodontists west of the Mississippi. The practice is home to eight BUSDM alumni: David Burros 93, Steve Chipman 90, Christopher Douville 90, Dean Hauseman 87, John Hughes 83, his son Justin Hughes 99, John Smith 97, and Barney Streit 96.

"It started because I didn't like the original practice I had moved here to join. I was with them for about three months and we just didn't share the same goals and aspirations, so in February of 1984 I started SAE."

We gathered for the photo shoot and interview at Dean Hausman's home in Tucson. Even at 7 a.m., they couldn't resist the chance to clown around. Meeting John and the rest of the gang is a bit like meeting a group of fraternity brothers. Even though 30 years separate the oldest and youngest members, they all laugh, tease, and joke more like siblings than business partners and practitioners.

"That's just the point," says Dean Hausman. "Our practice is so unique because we genuinely like each other. We enjoy each other's company. We respect one another and share a philosophy that is essentially a family atmosphere — something we learned at BU that makes it easier to practice together. We all went to the same school and through the same program. This shared history and experience has helped us build our relationships."

SAE now has two locations, one in the southern section of Tucson and one to the north. The original location has expanded to more than 7,000 square feet to accommodate the 1,300 to 1,500 patients they treat a month.

“the care of
our patients is
and will always
be our number
one priority”

So how exactly did this recruitment and growth come about?

"Once Dean and I were settled, we just kept growing," explains Hughes. "We'd meet some younger guys practicing here who expressed an interest in endo, and shared our practice beliefs. So I'd chat with Herb [Schilder] and off they went to BUSDM, and then they'd return to practice here. Kent Wyatt [02] is there now and will come back, and Basil Conway will start next year."

John and his partners have always maintained a close association with BUSDM, devoting time and donating money to the school and the Department of Endodontics.

"It's all based on good memories and a welcomed sense of obligation," explains John. "You know, when the Arizona Wildcats were in the NCAA tournament, each T-shirt sold had the NCAA logo on it, and as such the NCAA got \$2 for every T-shirt sold, no matter who sold it, because the NCAA logo has value. Well, our BUSDM education has value. We are privileged members of the BUSDM alumni family—there's a lot of value in that. So, every time we do a root canal, we send \$1 back to BUSDM."

"When you give, you get back," explains Steve Chipman. "We're a group of eight now and still growing. We're looking for a few new associates, but I think I speak for all when I say we'd be hard pressed to hire someone who's not a BU grad," he adds.

SAE faces a lot of challenges in managing a growing practice and a staff of 58 employees.

"We work very hard at managing the growth of the practice and keeping the culture of the practice alive," says John Smith. "We focus a lot of effort on hiring happy, helpful people. We all refer to one another by first names and ask our patients to do the same. There's no hierarchy here—just partnering."

Dean credits John with setting the tone for the practice. "John is our initial visionary," he says. "He knew, before it was the norm, that the key to success was to take care of people first and worry about economics second. No one joins our practice—whether he or she is a front desk receptionist, dental assistant, or partner, who doesn't understand that the care of our patients is and will always be our number one priority."

Left to right: Dean Hauseman 87, Christopher Douville 00, David Burros 93, Justin Hughes 99, John Smith 97, Barney Streit 96, John Hughes 83, and Steve Chipman 90.



appreciation

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Delta Dental Plan of Massachusetts
Den-Mat Corporation
Mr. and Mrs. Dexter A. Dodge
Liaison International, Inc.
Metrowest Community Health Care Foundation
Schick Technologies, Inc.
Sirona Dental Systems
Sulzer Medica
Therics, Inc.
Vident
VITA Zahnfabrik

William Fairfield Warren Society (\$10,000—\$24,999)

3M/Espy
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Dr. Samir Batniji
Brasseler U.S.A.
BU Endodontic Alumni Association
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Robert Lloyd Corkin Charitable Foundation
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Dr. Roger P. Desilets Jr.
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Southern Arizona Endodontics
Dr. Henry Yu

Your contributions play a vital role in educating students, providing health care to our patients, conducting basic and clinical research, and giving our community access to oral health care. In these times of state budget cuts, your continued support is crucial to ensure that Boston University School of Dental Medicine can sustain its mission.

To the following individuals, corporations, and foundations who have generously given to BUSDM, we offer a resounding "thank you."

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Dean's Club (\$2,500—\$4,999)

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Eighteen Thirty Nine Club (\$1,000—\$2,499)

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Anchorage Endodontics
Dr. Cheryl Anderson
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Dr. Jean E. Asmar
Dr. Pamela Z. Baldassarre
Dr. John R. Bednar
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appreciation

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Ms. Sherry Aizanman
Alpha Omega Foundation
Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity
American Public Health Association
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progress report



Laisheng Chou

A School Without Walls: BUSDM Expands to Evans Building

In March 2002, the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology moved to 17980 square feet of renovated space in the fourth floor of the Evans Building. The new space, which includes offices and a modern, open-floor-plan laboratory, will continue to train undergraduate and graduate dental students. It will also expand students' opportunities to interact with Ph.D. students of bioinformatics and students in the Graduate School of Medical Sciences. The move means the department will be next to basic and clinical research departments of the School of Medicine, further facilitating and expanding the exchange of ideas among faculty members from BUSDM and MED.

"Our faculty already are in close contact—as part of training programs—with researchers in other areas at the School of Medicine," says Dr. Carlos Hirschberg, chair of the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology. "The new location will spur the exchange of exciting ideas among researchers."

The new laboratory features additional core facilities for tissue culture, warm and cold rooms, instrumentation rooms, dark rooms, and fluorescent microscope rooms. Each of the 42 laboratory desks has high-speed computer outlets for accessing the Internet.

This September, the school will hold a dedication ceremony for the new laboratory.

BUSDM Professor Wins Prestigious Metcalf Cup and Prize

BUSDM faculty member Dr. Laisheng Chou is this year's recipient of the Boston University Metcalf Cup and Prize for Excellence in Teaching. The prestigious award in the amount of \$10,000 is given annually to a member of the Boston University faculty who excels at education.

Chou, who joined BUSDM in 1994, is director of the Division of Oral Medicine, director of the Oral AIDS Clinic, professor of restorative sciences biomaterials, and professor of diagnostic sciences and patient services. He is an excellent teacher who consistently receives superlative feedback from students and peers for both his didactic and clinical teaching in biomaterials, oral pathology, and oral medicine. The quality of students coming out of these programs is consistently high; they owe much of their success to the strength of Chou's leadership and mentorship abilities.

Chou is also a highly accomplished scholar, particularly in research focusing on the oral manifestation of AIDS and molecular biocompatibility. With certifications in oral pathology and oral medicine and a Ph.D. in oral biology, Chou is in a unique position to bridge the gap between basic science and clinical research. An extraordinary, internationally known scientist, Chou has been a pioneer in the field of molecular biocompatibility, a new cross-disciplinary field in dentistry and medicine.

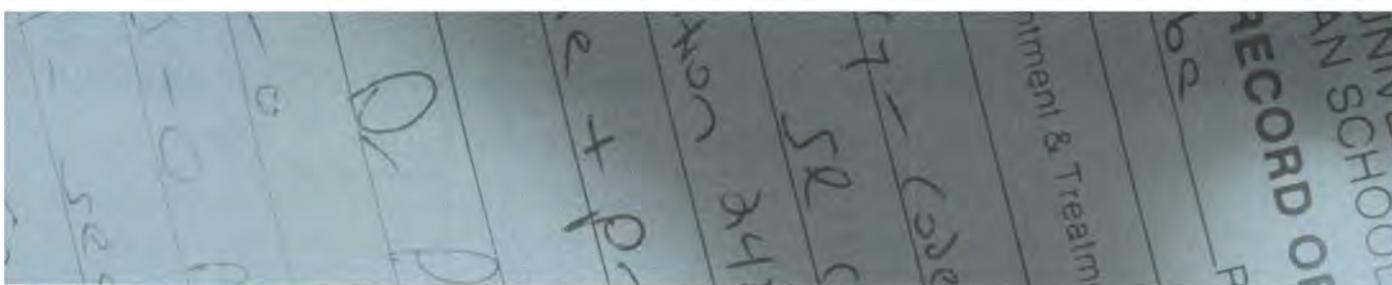
The quality and diversity of his publications demonstrate the scope of his academic training and curiosity. His research efforts have resulted in several important patents for implant devices. Chou has been actively involved in national and international research forums and directs the research of many master's and doctorate degree candidates. His students are consistently recognized for the quality of their research, which exemplifies the organization and diligence of an individual committed to the highest level of excellence in teaching, research, and patient care.

BUSDM Faculty Member to Lead ADEA

Paula Friedman, associate dean for administration and professor of diagnostic sciences and patient services, has been voted president of the American Dental Education Association (ADEA). She assumes the presidency in March 2003. In her upcoming three years (as president-elect, president, and immediate past president), she will work with the ADEA leadership and membership to address three areas critical to dental education: 1) the cost of education, 2) student indebtedness, and 3) faculty recruitment, retention, and renewal. "I believe these three areas are interrelated and causative, starting with the first and resulting in the second and third," says Friedman. "There are many other issues to address in addition to these three central themes."



Paula Friedman



Judith Jones

Jones Becomes Chair of General Dentistry

On January 1, 2002, Dr. Judith Jones assumed the chair of the school's Department of General Dentistry. Jones joined BUSDM in 1990 as adjunct assistant professor of periodontology and oral biology. She most recently was associate professor in the Department of Health Policy and Health Services Research.

Before joining BUSDM, Jones served as a fellow at the Veterans' Administration Medical Centers (VAMC) in Boston and Bedford, Massachusetts, where she was director of the Geriatric Dental Fellowship Program and chief of the dental service. She holds an advanced research career development award in health services research from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and is acting head of the outcomes section of the Center for Health Quality, Outcomes and Economic Research at the Bedford VAMC.



David Cottrell

Cottrell Assumes Chair of OMFS

In January 2002, Dr. David Cottrell assumed the chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS). He takes over the position vacated by Dr. Donald Booth, who has stepped down

from the chair after 30 years but remains active as a professor and surgeon. Cottrell most recently was director of the school's OMFS surgical residency program.

Dr. Cottrell joined the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in 1993. He is a fellow of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. His clinical interests include functional and esthetic maxillofacial reconstruction, dental implantology, temporomandibular joint reconstruction, and oral surgical treatment of disabled children and adults.

The advanced education program in OMFS was established in 1972 by Booth. Today, the residency program is affiliated with three major Boston-area hospitals and serves more than 16,000 patients annually.



Kathi Ferland

Ferland Tops at BU

Kathi Ferland, director of administration for BUSDM, has received the prestigious Perkins Award. This award is given annually to nonfaculty members of the Boston University staff to recognize their exemplary acts of service to the University. This is the first time an employee of BUSDM has won the honor.

Ferland, who joined the school in 1971 as an administrative assistant, quickly rose through the ranks to become an integral part of the school's administration. "Kathi is an invaluable member of the BUSDM family," says Dean Frankl. "Her history at the school and thorough knowledge of the issues we face make her advice invaluable on a wide range of topics. But perhaps most important is Kathi's warm personality and genuine concern for her fellow employees."

Ferland says that throughout her career at BU she constantly has had the opportunity to take on new responsibilities. "I've been very fortunate to work with people who have mentored me and from whom I've learned a great deal," she says. "The most rewarding aspect of my job is helping people solve problems, whether it be for a faculty member, an administrative manager, or a staff member."



Lawrence Zoller

Zoller Receives Spencer N. Frankl Award for Excellence in Teaching

During the school's May 2002 commencement, Dr. Lawrence Zoller, associate professor of anatomy and oral and maxillofacial surgery, received the 2002 Spencer N. Frankl Award for Excellence in Teaching. This award is given annually to a member of the BUSDM faculty who successfully challenges students to excel.

Zoller joined Boston University in 1978. He is a leader in the use of information technology in teaching, and maintains an extensive web site for his predoctoral anatomical sciences course. His postdoctoral course in head and neck anatomy was one of the first courses to balance class time with web-based instruction.

Zoller is an animated teacher who relies on the Socratic method and a problem-based approach to teaching to make his classes interactive and clinically relevant. With passion, dialogue, and a sense of humor, he challenges his students to excel.

Thoughts from Your Alumni Association President

JOSEPHINE PANDOLFO | DMD 79 PERIO 82

Our Future Is Today



Difficult as it is to believe, another class is about to join the growing ranks of BUSDM alumni.

During the past two years, your alumni board has made the students of today our focus. In the midst of the hectic and demanding predoctoral curriculum, there is little if any time to think of life after dental school. We feel it is essential for predoctoral students to realize a bond exists between them and the classes that have graduated before them. We are thus striving to develop an alumni presence that extends from freshman orientation to graduation weekend.

Based on the five-year strategic plan developed by the alumni board, the emphasis during my tenure as president has been student outreach. The board has met tirelessly on numerous occasions, including a summer, day-long retreat, to develop and find ways to implement our plan, and we came up with the following ideas:

This year's first-year students were treated to an ice cream social during orientation week, where we distributed T-shirts with the logo "Property of BUSDM Alumni Association." Second-year DMDS will attend a pizza party and career forum in the future; third-year DMDS and first-year advanced standing students were treated to a party at the beginning of baseball season, where baseball caps with a BUSDM alumni logo were distributed. Finally, the graduating class receives a gift from the alumni association each year during senior dinner. Last year's gift was a rosewood clock inscribed with "BU Class of 2001." Many of these events and gifts are supported by the Alumni Fund, which was set up for exactly this purpose. We would love to hear new ideas from all alumni, not only board members.

The board is also involved with alumni clubs in Boston, New York, Los Angeles, Washington, DC, Toronto, Italy, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Thailand, where alumni gather for lectures, wine tastings, dinners, and comraderie. The number of alumni clubs is growing yearly.

All of this would not be possible without the support of our alumni and the efforts of your alumni board, which I am proud to represent. Please peruse our calendar of alumni events to find out ways that you too can get involved. I look forward to meeting and greeting as many alumni as possible during my tenure and receiving your feedback on our programs. Don't forget to mark your calendars next year for what promises to be another unforgettable Alumni Weekend, May 18-19, 2003.



Left to right: Viktoria Hutchinson Talebian DMD 97 ORTHO 99, Shadi Daher DMD 90 OMFS 94, Joe Calabrese DMD 91 PROS 92, Elie Zebouni PROS 88 DMD 90 MSD 97, Paul Farsai DMD 94 MPH 97, Mitch Sabbagh DMD 87, Josephine Pandolfo DMD 79 PERIO 82, Ronni Schnell DMD 81, Maddy Apfel DMD 80, Rich Forcucci DMD 87, and Dean Spencer N. Frankl.

Your Alumni Board

The alumni board is here to serve you. Throughout the year, they gather at retreats and meetings to brainstorm ideas for broadening the alumni activities that help connect our alumni. The board's current focus is reaching out to BUSDM students to involve them before they become alumni.

At this year's annual Alumni Board meeting, held February 1 during Yankee Dental Congress, the board welcomed four newly elected members: Christine Lo PROS 92 DMD 95, Glenn Harris DMD 81, Sven Grail DMD 90 MBA 90, and Kevin Taylor DMD 86. If you have any ideas or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact one of your board members (contact information for each board member can be found at www.dentalschool.bu.edu/alumni/board).

BUSDM Alumni in CE Overdrive

BUSDM is pleased to announce that several of our alumni have been putting in some overtime with their continuing education courses. Five members Ronni Schnell DMD 81, Karin Miller DMD 81, Rick Short DMD 82, Joseph Silberman DMD 85, and David Youssefi DMD 96 were honored by the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) last August. Ronni and Rick received the AGD's prestigious Mastership Award for their 1,100 hours of quality continuing dental education in the 16 disciplines of dentistry, including 400 hours of hands-on courses. Karin, David, and Joseph received fellowship awards, which requires a minimum of five years as an AGD member, 500 approved CE credits, and passing a 400-question exam.

Alumni Active Throughout the Year and Around the Globe

BUSDM alumni are a vibrant group of people who look forward to meeting old classmates and making new friends at a variety of school-sponsored social events throughout the year. Some of the events held during the year include the following. Be sure to check the website www.dentalschool.bu.edu/alumni for event updates.

- New York Club holds four CE programs and two social events
- Boston Club holds two social events, including their annual wine dinner
- LA Club held its inaugural event, a cocktail reception at Mondrian in Hollywood in 2001 and will hold a second event in winter 2002
- Washington, DC, will sponsor two CE programs in 2002
- Toronto will hold two social events and one CE lecture in 2002
- Thailand Club holds one CE program
- Lebanon Club holds three CE programs
- Italy Club is in the process of organizing a European CE event for fall 2002
- Saudi Arabia Club is in the process of forming

Left to right: Mrs. Joseph Silberman, Joseph Silberman DMD 85, Denise Shapiro PERIO 87, Martin Nager DMD 85, PERIO 87, Ronni A. Schnell DMD 81, Richard A. Short DMD 82, Mrs. David Youssefi and David Youssefi DMD 96.





alumni news



Alumni gather at the 2001 Boston Alumni Club Wine Dinner (left to right): Andrew Chase DMD 93 ORTHO 98 MSD 98, Dawn West DMD 90, Spiro Saati DMD 80, Tina Tullberg DMD 84, Josephine Pandolfo DMD 79 PERIO 89, Andre Hashem PROS 90 DMD 92, Christine Lo PROS 92 DMD 95, Alfredo Tendler DMD 99 OMFS 02, Ronni Schnell DMD 81, Richard Short DMD 82, Annie Amsalem PERIO 78 DMD 85 ORTHO 89, and Ramiro Blanco PERIO 78 DMD 85 ORTHO 89.

Other events sponsored by the Alumni Office include receptions at various specialty meetings around the country, including periodontics, prosthodontics, and pediatric dentistry. In addition, the office worked with the Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics on a CE lecture weekend and Boston Harbor cruise. Other events were held at the ADA meeting in Kansas City and the Yankee Dental Congress in Boston.

Alumni Club Events

GREATER BOSTON ALUMNI CLUB HOLDS ANNUAL WINE DINNER

Beginning with their first wine tasting in 1999, Boston Alumni have turned into avid sommeliers. The club held its first wine dinner last April at the funky Brazilian restaurant, Bomboa, and this year moved to Tremont 647 to explore hip American wines and cuisine. Which wine region of the world and Boston area restaurant will they choose in 2003? To find out, get involved with the Boston Alumni Club. Club chairs are Shadi Daher DMD 90 OMFS 94, Josephine Pandolfo DMD 80 PERIO 82, and Richard Forcucci DMD 87.



Alumni at the 2002 wine dinner (left to right): Bachar Saba DMD 97, Najla Chebib, DMD 01, Tina Valades-Tullberg DMD 84, Andre Hashem PROS 90 DMD 92, Christine Lo PROS 92, DMD 95, Shadi Daher DMD 90 OMFS 94, Min Yoon DMD 01, Grace Min DMD 01, Kelly Saltzman DMD 01, Armenia Gregorians DMD 01, Harriet Schnitman DMD 86, Nahal Panahi DMD 94, Mitchell Sabbagh DMD 87, Richard Forcucci DMD 87, Stephane Maison, and Sonia Turki DMD 01. Not pictured are Annie Amsalem PERIO 78, Jonathan Millen DMD 96, Sigal Revah DMD 99, and Ali Durrani, DMD 00.



Boston Alumni Club members enjoy a fine meal at Bomboa with several faculty members in 2001.

GREATER LOS ANGELES ALUMNI CLUB GETS DOWN AT MONDRIAN

With 147 alumni and counting, the Greater Los Angeles Alumni Club kicked off its inaugural event at the swank Ian Schrager Hotel Mondrian in West Hollywood this past December. The 52 guests who attended the cocktail reception were greeted by Dr. Stephen Polins, Catherine Frankl, and several other enthusiastic members of the BUSDM community. LA plans to hold more social events in the near future. To get involved, contact one of the club co-chairs David Dann DMD 91, or Young An DMD 92.

The bulk of our events occur from September through May. Check out the website at www.dentalschool.bu.edu/alumni/calendar.html for the most up-to-date information on events in your area.

Rose Nguyen DMD 89 (2d from left) and Farshid Ariz DMD 89 PERIO 91 (far right) socialize with friends at the Mondrian cocktail reception in Los Angeles.





alumni

club chairs

contact information:

**Have concerns or ideas for an event?
Contact your alumni club chair!**

GREATER NEW YORK ALUMNI CLUB KICKS OFF FALL IN STYLE

The NY alumni Club has traditionally been a CE-based club, but this year they are expanding their scope and offering a fun summer finale with a cocktail reception held at the newly renovated office of club co-chair Mitch Sabbagh DMD 87. Mitch says his new office space is "unlike anything you've ever seen before." He's "taken the dental chair and placed it in a spa." Curious? Contact one of the NY co-chairs to find out how you can get involved: Madeline Apfel DMD 80 or Mitchell Sabbagh DMD 87.

TORONTO ALUMNI CLUB REUNITES

After a brief hiatus, the Toronto Club is getting back together. Plans are underway for an event this summer and BU President Jon Westling will be taking a trip to visit our northern neighbors in the fall. Check our website for up-to-date details: www.dentalschool.bu.edu/alumni

SAUDI ARABIA ALUMNI CLUB

In July 2001 Salah Al-Bazie OMFS 01 and Ahmed Alyamani OMFS 02 chartered a new BUSDM Alumni Club for Saudi Arabia. The club is still in its early stages, but the two are hoping to be able to bring greater recognition to BUSDM and unite local alumni through their efforts.

THE ALUMNI OFFICE HITS THE ROAD

Throughout the past few years, we have been setting up clubs and events around the corner and around the globe. We want to do everything we can to help keep you involved and connected to BUSDM. If you are interested in hosting an event, starting a club, or getting more involved, let us know. The Alumni Association is here for you! Contact your alumni officer Kyla Reynolds, sdmalum@bu.edu, for more information.

BOSTON/NEW ENGLAND

- Shadi Daher DMD 90 OMFS 94 dahers@aol.com
- Josephine Pandolfo DMD 80 PERIO 82 jscsp@aol.com
- Richard Forcucci DMD 87 r.forcucci@worldnet.att.net

GREATER NEW YORK

- Madeline Apfel DMD 80 maddydrill@aol.com
- Mitchell Sabbagh DMD 87 drmitch@nyc.rr.com

WASHINGTON, DC

- Kambiz Fotoohi DMD 91 kazf@prodigy.net
- Aldino Maggiuli DMD 91 maggiuli@prodigy.net

GREATER LOS ANGELES

- David Dann DMD 91 daviddann@aol.com
- Young An DMD 92 younghan@earthlink.net

TORONTO

- Claudia Grail PEDO 90 chomperdoc@aol.com

LEBANON

- Elie Zebouni PROS 88 DMD 90 ezebouni@lb.refer.org

ITALY

- Zeina Majzoub PROS 88 PERIO 88 DMD 91 info@buia.org or majzoub@libero.it

SAUDI ARABIA

- Salah Al-Bazie OMFS 01 albazie@visto.com
- Ahmed Alyamani OMFS 02 ahmedalyamani@hotmail.com



alumni news



Dushanka Kleinman MSD 76

1976

Rear Admiral Dushanka Kleinman DPH 76 MSD 76 was appointed chief dental officer of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps in July 2001. Dushanka served as deputy director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research since 1991.



Steve Perlman PEDO 76 with Kelly Dwan

Steve Perlman PEDO 76 was elected keynote speaker for Boston University's Fifth All-University Alumni Leadership Day, held October 27, 2001. He and Special Olympics Global Messenger Kelly Dwan delivered a rousing speech highlighting the importance of volunteerism at all levels of society. Steve remains busy with his private practice in Lynn, Massachusetts, and his unwavering contributions to the Special Olympics "Special Athletes, Special Smiles" initiative, co-launched by BUSDM in 1993.

1977 25th Silver Reunion

Reunion chairs: Dennis Pipher DMD 77 and Frank J. Riccio DMD 77



Karin Miller DMD 81 and Ronni Schnell DMD 81

1981

Karin Miller DMD 81 and Ronni Schnell DMD 81 at the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) convocation ceremony in August 2001. Their commitment to continuing dental education was honored when Karin received the AGD's Fellowship Award and Ronni received the AGD's Mastership Award.



Members of the class of 1981 celebrate their 20th reunion at last year's Spring Gala.

1982 20th Reunion

Reunion chairs: Janice Spada-Horne DMD 82 and Joan Kimball DMD 82



Murray Spain Jr. DMD 83

1983

Murray Spain Jr. DMD 83 received his Master of Public Health degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School and Old Dominion University in May 2001. A Chesapeake, Virginia, resident, he is married, has three dental practices in Virginia Beach, Norfolk, and Hampton, and two children, Jason, 16, and Jovanda, 14.

1987 15th Reunion

Reunion chairs: Mitch Sabbagh DMD 87 and Rich Forcucci DMD 87

Three friends from the DMD class of 1987—Vasken Bilemjian, Steve Ramos, and Mitch Sabbagh—reunited in West Hollywood during the December Alumni Club reception at Mondrian. Mitch, a co-chair of the Greater New York Alumni Club and a member of the BUSDM Alumni Board, flew out for the inaugural event. "I had no idea I'd see Steve and Vasken here!" he said afterwards. All three will be returning to Boston in May for their 15th reunion and hope the rest of their classmates will do the same.



Vasken Bilemjian, Steve Ramos, and Mitch Sabbagh

IDS MEMORE

Alfred Koutnik OMFS 70

Joseph Calderazzo OMFS 71

William Francis White DMD 88

Kevin McSweeney DMD 91

Michael Daniel PERIO 96



1989

Martyn Green PERIO 89 was elected president of the Western Los Angeles Dental Society and chair of the Council of Insurance for the California Dental Association. He is in private practice in Brentwood, California and is an associate clinical professor at both USC and UCLA schools of dentistry. Martyn and his wife Jennifer attended the Alumni Club Mondrian cocktail reception in Los Angeles in December 2001.



Thomas and Joseph Calabrese

1991

Joseph Calabrese DMD 91 AEGD 92 is keeping himself busy with a full teaching schedule, Alumni Board work, and twin two-year-old boys, Thomas Grant and Joseph Michael, born on Oct. 27, 1999.

1992 10th Reunion

Reunion Chairs: Young An DMD 92 and Robert Moreau DMD 92

1994

Monica Piedrahita ORTHO 94 wrote to us to tell us her news: "I am planning to move from Colombia to find more funds to help more kids with cleft lips and palate," she says. "I will first move to Singapore, and later to Italy with my husband."

Deepali Mehta Bhanot PEDO 94 DMD 96

has owned her own pediatric dental practice in Germantown, Maryland, since 1999. She is living in Olney, Maryland, with her husband and their two-year-old daughter, Shelly.

1995

Felian Cabael Chase DMD 95 is vice president of the Barbados Dental Association, and her husband Ethan Chase DMD 97 is president. Felian chairs the public relations committee for the association's Annual Winter Meeting. Past conferences have included presentations from various members of the BUSDM community. This year's conference included Dr. John Cassis and delegates from Canada, the United Kingdom, and the Caribbean. The meeting was held in Barbados in February 2002.

1996

Rassa Abdoll DMD 96 PEDO 98 runs a six-chair pediatric dental office in Phoenix, Arizona. The name of his practice is Kids Dental Center. You can check it out online at www.kidsdentalcenter.com.

Amir Mahoozi DMD 96 PERIO 00 is practicing periodontics in Boston. He is still a fanatical supporter of Manchester United football and would love to catch some games with fellow classmates.

1997 5th Reunion

Reunion Chairs: Sean Rayment DMD 97 and Jim Kiehl DMD 97

Ethan Chase DMD 97 is president of the Barbados Dental Association and his wife, Felian Cabael Chase DMD 95, is vice president. Ethan has, once again, been elected the chair of the association's Annual Winter Meeting, now in its fourteenth year. Past conferences have included presentations from various members of the BUSDM community. This year's conference included Dr. John Cassis and delegates from Canada, the United Kingdom, and the Caribbean. The meeting was held in Barbados in February 2002.

2000

After graduation, David Harkema DMD 00 returned to Michigan where he has recently become a partner in a successful private practice in East Lansing.

Robert Moskal DMD 95 is the proud father of Brandon Robert Moskal, born in December 2000. Robert, his wife, and their son are living in the Boston area.

Viktoria Hutchinson Talebian DMD 97 ORTHO 99 and her husband Pejman Talebian SPH 94 welcomed their son William Henry into the world in March 19, 2001.

Shadi Daher DMD 90 OMFS 94 welcomed Anthony Jude Daher to the world on July 1, 2001.

Chunni Duan DMD 98 ORTHO 00 gave birth to Conner Vincent Zhang on July 7, 2001.

Andrew Samuel DMD 90 became the father of Shari Lynn Samuel on November 2, 2001.

Why not share your achievements, additions, and changes? Send your information to the Alumni Office, 560 Harrison Avenue, Suite 402, Boston, MA 02118, sdmalum@bu.edu, or fill us in online: www.dentalschool.bu.edu/alumni

check-up

Information Technology Update

Electronic Bulletin

In 2001 the school's bulletin became available on CD-ROM and online (www.dentalschool.bu.edu/bulletin). This electronic bulletin comprises the content of the former paper bulletin plus video, a virtual tour of the Simulation Learning Center, and other interactive elements.

Latest Educational Technologies

- Course Info. This method for delivering course materials online was fully introduced in 2001. The IT staff helped faculty digitize their materials, including course schedules, syllabi, lecture notes, PowerPoint presentations, quizzes, and other class materials.
- Tooth Morphology software. This interactive, stand-alone software teaches students the basic morphology of adult dentition.
- Impact authoring software. Faculty use this software to develop dental cases and share them with students for self-learning.
- Clinical Radiography software. Students can study the topics consecutively or move freely among them to meet their own schedules and study habits.
- Wireless Internet access. To further enhance teaching and accessibility to network resources, wireless Internet access has been implemented in the classrooms. A wireless network card is included in the students' laptop kit. Students now can access online instructions in class without having to use any cables.

Resident Evaluation

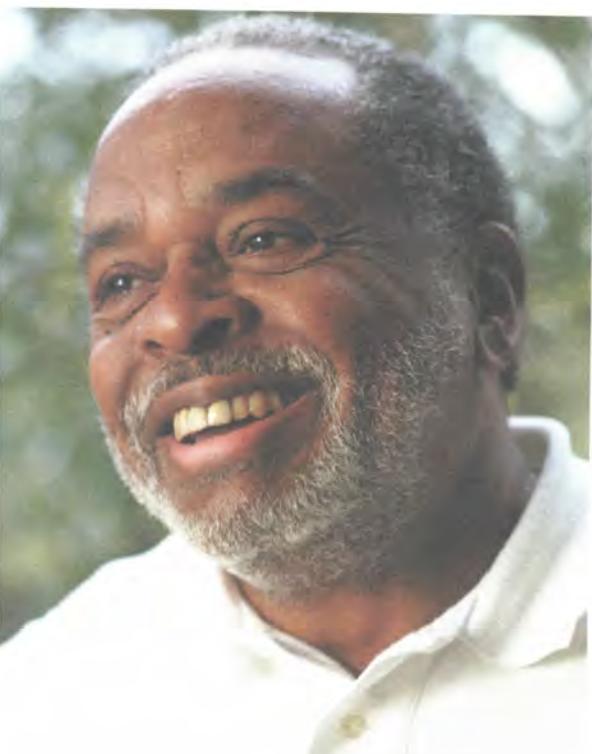
IT introduced a web-based residents' evaluation system at the Dental Health Center on the seventh floor. The easy-to-use system, which is accessible from home, saves time because the program director no longer needs to distribute and collect paper surveys and the Office of Educational Research and Evaluation does not need to enter, analyze, and distribute data. Data are now instantly available to the director—and once the reviews are approved and released ("e-signed") by the director, faculty and residents can log in at any time to check them.

the last word

The day I decided to attend Boston University School of Dental Medicine I didn't realize to what extent it would change my life. That decision presented me with opportunities that were not available to me at other institutions. BUSDM gave me lifelong friends, a successful profession that I enjoyed, and a chance to serve the school at various levels.

After I retired from private practice, Dean Frankl presented me with an opportunity to continue to serve. I couldn't refuse. Recruiting students to BUSDM and offering them the chance to make lasting friendships and receive the best dental education available is a privilege and an occasion for me to give back to the school that gave me so much. Now, some 34 years later, I still enjoy the feeling of being a part of the BUSDM family.

The opportunity to make a difference in a student's life is both a pleasure and a responsibility that I do not take lightly. Talking about the quality of the program at BUSDM and the opportunities it offers while promoting the profession is something I do with much pride and enthusiasm. I present to potential students someone who has realized his dream.



William J. Walker Jr., DDS
Acting Director, Minority Affairs, BUSDM
Board of Visitors, BUSDM
Past President, Boston University Alumni Association



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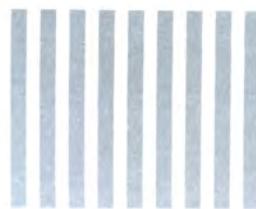
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annual recognition clubs

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