Congratulations, new graduates!
The DMD Class of 2013
On the cover: Members of the DMD Class of 2013 celebrate their achievements on Class Day. 
Front and back cover photos by Steve Gilbert. Inside cover photos by Liza Green.
From the Dean

Spring is a very busy time at HSDM. The end of April brings our annual Appreciation Dinner, at which we host the School’s most dedicated supporters for a relaxing evening of food, drink, camaraderie, and a thought-provoking presentation by an individual of note outside the world of dentistry. On page 17 you will find a report on this year’s Appreciation Dinner, which was held on April 24. Next year’s event will be a very special evening, which we hope many more of you will attend; stay tuned for details in the coming months.

The end of May heralds commencement and Alumni Reunion, with happy graduates leaving the School for new adventures and earlier graduates returning to the institution that launched their careers. It is a time of celebrating achievements and cherishing friendships and partnerships forged in the classroom and the lab. It is a time of reflecting on the years as a student and looking forward to steps about to be taken in unfamiliar and exciting directions. These simultaneous endings and beginnings are an important part of the cycle of the academic year—as exciting and bittersweet for us, the faculty and staff, as it is for the students.

The end of the academic year also features student research presentations and awards ceremonies that honor exceptional students and faculty members. This issue of the Bulletin features all these events and more, including public health projects carried out by faculty, students, and alumni. Finally, we remember HSDM alumni and friends who have passed away, including two members of the DMD Class of 1944, Robert N. Hennessy and Philip T. Sehl, who were featured in the cover article of the Winter 2010–2011 issue of the Bulletin.

As we move deeper into summer, the Office of Dental Education is busy preparing for the arrival of our newest classes of DMD and advanced graduate students. The fresh energy that these exceptional individuals bring is a welcome and exciting addition to the School, promising an interesting and inspirational year ahead.

As always, HSDM is deeply grateful for the critical contributions of the alumni and friends who are committed to strengthening the School and moving forward the mission of this unique institution. My personal thanks go out to each and every one of you. HSDM is not just a school; it is a community, one that is spread far and wide, across the United States and around the world, and whose members are bound by the common values of social justice, public service, and health care for all, with the understanding of the deep interconnection between oral and systemic health.

Bruce Donoff, DMD67, MD73

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On May 30, under a blazing late-spring sun and in a spirit of anticipation and celebration, members of the DMD Class of 2013 completed their tenure at HSDM and began the next phase of their lives. Hearts were filled to overflowing as graduates and their loved ones experienced the gratitude, joy, and pride that enveloped the HMS Quad, site of the Class Day festivities. During the afternoon, friends met each other’s families for the first time, newly minted DMDs reconnected with alumni who had returned for the occasion, and all rejoiced in the accomplishments of the exceptional individuals who received their degrees from Dean Bruce Donoff during the Class Day exercises.

The afternoon’s speaker was Harvey Fineberg, president of the Institute of Medicine, who exhorted the graduates to always put the welfare of their patients at the forefront and to view the patient as a whole person. In his remarks, Donoff told the graduates that “although you are all brilliant and exceptional, your most important characteristics are your humanity, your strong sense of justice, and your belief that every person deserves access to health care.”

Right: Dean Bruce Donoff prepares to lead the HSDM graduates into the tent for the Class Day exercises.

Left: Clockwise from top left. Kelley Dentino, Qian Yang, Justin Maccaro, Danielle Miskulin, Kathleen McCafferty, and Michele Martin pose with classmates for a group photo.

Below: The caps tell the story: These are graduates from the School of Dental Medicine.

Photos by Jan Reiss
Above, from left: Sang Park, director of predoctoral education; Megan Jennings, director of educational services; Risha De Leon, Cannon Society senior tutor; Romesh Nalliah, Castle Society senior tutor; and Peggy Timothé, Holmes Society senior tutor and director of the Office of Diversity Inclusion.

Above: Waiting to participate in their Class Day ceremony were, from left, Thomas Burk, Christopher Barth, Chieh Ting (Peggy) Chang, Kristina Christoph, Peter Dennis, and Austin Eckard, all DMD13.
Above: Comoderator Richard Senatore, president of the DMD Class of 2013, addresses the audience.

Above: Before the ceremony, Kristina Christoph, holding camera, captures (on camera screen, from left) Elyse Maiorini, Michele Martin, Kathleen McCafferty, Danielle Miskulin, and Veronica Mitko.

Left: The DMD graduates listen to the keynote address by Harvey Fineberg, president of the Institute of Medicine.
Above: Christopher Barth, HSDM’s Class Day speaker, regaled the audience with an address that he “pulled” from his prodigious beard, grown for months especially for the occasion.

Above: Sang Park, left, assistant professor of restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences and director of predoctoral education, welcomes DMD graduates Alison Quach, Daniel Ravens, and Alison Seliger to the podium to receive their diplomas.

Left: Last but not least: A delighted Yvette Zimering receives her hood.

Above: Newly hooded graduate Justin Maccaro straightens his tie as he prepares to walk across the stage and receive his diploma.

continued
COMMENCEMENT 2013, continued

Left: Sang Park, director of predoctoral education, poses with new DMD graduate Virginia Hogsett at the reception following the Class Day exercises.

Below: Members of the DMD Class of 1978 attended the graduation reception, as well as Alumni Reunion (see page 8). Posing with Dean Bruce Donoff (front row, second from right) were (back row, from left) Nelson Assael, Rute Kalpins, Ron Goldstein, Brad Phillips. Front row: Leslie Raulin, Elizabeth Bernick, Donoff, Seinwel Steinhart.

Photos by Jan Reiss
Right: New DMD graduate Qian Yang, left, poses at the reception with Mohamed Alaeddin, instructional dental technologist.

Below: During the reception, the tent adjacent to the Research and Education Building lobby was filled with graduates, their families and friends, and HSDM staff, faculty, students, and alumni.
Alumni Reunion 2013

In an atmosphere tinged with both excitement and the realization of time passing, the HMS/HSDM joint Reunion provided an opportunity for alumni to share memories and catch up on each other’s lives. Marriages celebrated and children born, careers launched and retirement attained, some classmates frail and others gone: these all had a place in the days of Alumni Reunion 2013.

This year, alumni whose class years ended in 3 or 8 participated in Reunion activities, and all HSDM alumni were invited to the School’s Alumni Day, which included a symposium focusing on global health projects being carried out by alumni and by current HSDM students and faculty. The HSDM and HMS campuses were filled with returning graduates, all excited to spend time with their former classmates and learn about the current curricula, research, and activities at their schools.

We hope to see those of you whose class years end in 4 or 9 at next year’s Reunion, and all alumni are encouraged to attend Alumni Day 2014.
Above: Patricia Slinin, DMD96, PD96 (general dentistry), left, current president of the Harvard Dental Alumni Association (HDAA), presented a plaque during the annual HDAA business meeting to former president Ellen Libert, DMD87, MMSc90, PD90 (periodontology), in recognition of her service to the HDAA and the School.

Above: Shahid Aziz, DMD96 (left), and former classmate Jose Marchena, DMD96, flank Walter Guralnick, DMD41, professor emeritus of oral and maxillofacial surgery, before the Alumni Symposium. The event was held in the HSDM Research and Education Building auditorium.

Above: The HSDM Alumni Symposium focused on global oral health. Speakers were, from left: Rishi Popat, PD09 (general dentistry; DMSc 2014, orthodontics, leadership track), who discussed his research on establishing a sustainable oral health clinic in Haiti; Jane Barrow, assistant dean for global and community health, who provided an overview of HSDM’s global oral health activities; Tom Albert, DMD71, MD77, professor emeritus of oral and maxillofacial surgery at Oregon Health & Science University, who profiled the work of FACES Foundation, a nonprofit organization of which he is president and cofounder, which offers comprehensive care for indigent patients with cleft lip and palate deformities in Peru; and Shahid Aziz, DMD96, a professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery and plastic and reconstructive surgery at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, who presented an overview of Smile Bangladesh, a nonprofit cleft-repair organization of which he is cofounder.

continued
Above: During the business meeting of the Harvard Dental Alumni Association, Chester Douglass, professor emeritus of oral health policy and epidemiology, read the Memorial Minute honoring former HSDM faculty member and interim dean Joseph L. Henry (on screen projection), who passed away in October 2011.

HARVARD SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Distinguished Alumnus Award

Presented on Alumni Day 2013 to

Edward B. Seldin
DMD68, MD74

Committed alumnus, surgeon, faculty member, inventor, artist: You honor your School through your mentoring, passion for patient care, and innovative work in biomedical engineering.

Left: Edward Seldin, DMD68, MD74 (left), an associate professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, posed with Dean Bruce Donoff after receiving the School’s Distinguished DMD Alumnus Award. Photos by Jan Reiss
HARVARD SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Distinguished Alumnus Award

Presented on Alumni Day 2013 to

ROBERT A. FAIELLA
MMSc85, PD85
Periodontology

Accomplished alumnus:
You honor your School through your leadership in the profession and in breaking down barriers to oral health care for vulnerable populations.

Right: Robert A. Faiella, MMSc85, PD85 (periodontology), right, received the School’s Distinguished Postdoctoral Alumnus Award from Dean Bruce Donoff.

Above: Members of the DMD Class of 2003 and their families posed outside “Vandy,” the dorm in which several of them lived for four years during their time at HSDM. From left: Mark Abel, DMD03; Sawsan Moopen; Anzir Moopen, DMD03, holding son Auric; Heather Kim; John Kim, DMD03; Wen Fan, DMD03; Christine Tai; Lindsay Walroth; and Jose Beltran, DMD03.
Harvard Dental Alumni Association Subscribers, Fiscal Year 2012–2013
(July 1, 2012–June 30, 2013)

Emanuel Alvaro, MMSc98
Steven R. Bader, DMD81
Owen R. Beirne, DMD72
Richard G. Bevilacqua, DMD88
Daniel A. Bills, DMD01
Robert E. Binder, DMD66
Terri A. Binder, DMD84
Jason A. Boch, DMD99, PD01
Krisena Fell Borenstein, DMD08
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Luis Chamorro, PD97, MPH99, SDM00
Kimberly Chang, PD97
Nicholas Ching, PD12
Stephen A. Colchamiro, DMD70
Kelly A. Cook, DMD98
David J. DeFranco, DMSc88
Phyllis H. Detwiler, DMD76
Eusebio A. Diaz-Pagan, PD74
Douglas S. Dick, DMD67, PD72
Hong Dong, DMD01
Cara Donley, DMD99, PD01
R. Bruce Donoff, DMD67, MD73
Ronald J. Fair, PD83
David J. Farrell, DMD51*
Rachel L. Forbes, DMD05
Robert A. Frank, DMD68
Gregory Frazer, PD84
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David K. Hiranaka, DMD88, MD90, PD93
Andrea B. Holstein, DMD01
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Tun-Yi Hsu, DMD07
Aleksander S. Iofin, DMD01
Donn R. Jacobs, MMSc81
Jonathan S. Jacobs, DMD71
Rute I. Kalpins, DMD78, PD81, MMSc82
Eric M. Katzman, DMD05
David A. Keith, DMD83
Y. Alice Kim-Bundy, DMD08
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Melvyn R. Krohn, DMD70
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Eugene A. Mickey, PD82, MPH82
Leslie I. Miller, PD74
Anzir M. Moopen, DMD03
Edward R. Mopsik, DMD67
Marc L. Nevins, MMSc97, PD97
Linda C. Niessen, DMD77, MPH77, PD82

*deceased
Subscribe to the Harvard Dental Alumni Association

Remember the feeling of pride and accomplishment you experienced when you received your degree from the Harvard School of Dental Medicine? Whether it was a DMD, DMSc, MMSc, joint degree, or certificate, your dedication—and the exceptional education you received at this prestigious institution—influenced the course of your career.

The Harvard Dental Alumni Association (HDAA) is a great way for you to stay connected with the School that launched your future. The HDAA offers opportunities for you to remain engaged in the life of the School and to maintain your connection with classmates, friends, faculty, and staff. Your subscription to the HDAA strengthens that connection and helps underwrite the Harvard Dental Bulletin, which features news from the School and updates from your classmates and their activities. (Remember to send in your own updates through the Alumni & Friends section of the HSDM website, hsdm.harvard.edu/alumni/update, or through e-mail at bulletin@hsdm.harvard.edu.)

The cost of a subscription for those who graduated in or after 2009 is only $50 ($150 for those who graduated in 2008 or before). For more information, please contact Jessie Loew, associate director of development and alumni relations, at jessica_loew@hsdm.harvard.edu or 617-432-2924.
HSDM Recognition Ceremony 2013

At the end of every academic year, the HSDM community gathers to recognize those who have excelled scholastically and clinically, inspired students to deeper learning, and conducted important research. The afternoon ceremony honors graduating DMD and advanced graduate students, teaching faculty and staff important to the graduating class, and distinguished faculty members. This year’s award recipients all followed in the footsteps of previous generations of students and faculty, representing the highest standards of excellence.

In addition to recognizing members of the HSDM community, the School presents the Paul Goldhaber Award, the most prestigious award the School confers, to an outstanding individual who is held in high international esteem in a field relating to oral and systemic health.

At the conclusion of the Recognition Ceremony, the community gathers in the Research and Education Building lobby for a Special Tea honoring the award recipients. All in all, a wonderful afternoon of celebration.

Below left: Kristina Christoph, DMD13 (center), who received the Harvard Dental Alumni Association Gold Award for all-around scholastic achievement in the course of study, is flanked by Patricia Slinin, DMD96, PD96 (general dentistry), and Dean Bruce Donoff.

Below right: Daniel Ravens, DMD13, received the Harvard Dental Alumni Association Silver Award for all-around scholastic achievement in the course of study.

Above: Ethel Goldhaber, widow of former dean Paul Goldhaber, posed with Ray C. Williams, PD73 (periodontology), who received the Paul Goldhaber Award, the School’s most prestigious honor. Williams is dean of the Stony Brook University School of Dental Medicine in Stony Brook, New York.

Photos by Jan Reiss
Top left: Qian Yang, DMD13 (center), received the Dr. Norman B. Nesbett Award for excellence in the field of clinical dentistry. Sang Park, director of predoctoral education (left), presented the award.

Middle left: Florence Kwo, DMD13 (center), received the Shklar Award for her exemplary public service. The award is presented to a graduating DMD student who excelled in academics and in a field distinguished from the sciences. Peggy Timothé, senior tutor of the Oliver Wendell Holmes Society and director of the Office of Diversity Inclusion, presented the award to Kwo.

Bottom left: The DMD Class of 2013 recognized Mohamed Alaeddin (center), HSDM’s instructional dental technologist, with the Outstanding Staff Award, which was presented by Richard Senatore, president of the DMD Class of 2013.

Below and bottom: The DMD Class of 2013, represented by Class President Richard Senatore, presented Outstanding Teaching Faculty Awards to Brittany Seymour, an instructor in oral health policy and epidemiology, and to Hiroe Ohyama, an instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences and director of the program in predoctoral operative dentistry.
Clockwise from top left: Sawsan Salih, PD13 (dental public health), center, received the James M. Dunning Award for outstanding research in oral epidemiology or public health dentistry. Salih is flanked by Dean Bruce Donoff and Mary Tavares, director of the Advanced Graduate Education Program in Dental Public Health.

Samuel Koo, DMSc13 (periodontology), center, received the James H. Shaw Award for outstanding research by an advanced graduate student. David Kim (left), an associate professor of oral medicine, infection, and immunity and director of the Advanced Graduate Education Program in Periodontology, presented the award.

Junhyck Kim, MMSc13 (prosthodontics), center, was presented with the Joseph L. Henry Award for outstanding clinical skills, innovative research, and exemplary collegiality. John D. Da Silva, left, chair and assistant professor of restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences, presented the award to Kim.

Bernard Friedland, an assistant professor of oral medicine, infection, and immunity, received the Distinguished Junior Faculty Award. He specializes in oral and maxillofacial radiology.

Left: Julie Glowacki received the Distinguished Senior Faculty Award from HSDM. A professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery at HSDM, professor of orthopedic surgery at Harvard Medical School, and director of skeletal biology at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Glowacki focuses on biomedical research.

Photos by Jan Reiss
Appreciation Dinner 2013

As is our custom, on the fourth Thursday in April, HSDM hosted its annual Appreciation Dinner to celebrate the School’s most loyal donors. Not a fundraising event, this evening is simply a way for the School to say “Thank You” to those who have committed to strengthening HSDM today and ensuring its preeminent position into the future.

In addition to a reception and sit-down dinner in the elegantly decorated lobby of the Research and Education Building, the School treats the guests to an interesting, thought-provoking presentation by a speaker of note. This year’s speaker was Dimitar Sasselov, a Harvard professor of astronomy and director of the Harvard Origins of Life Initiative, who spoke on “Origins of Life: On the Emerging Frontier Where Astrophysics Meets Biochemistry.” At the end of the evening, guests received a signed copy of Sasselov’s recent book, *The Life of Super-Earths: How the Hunt for Alien Worlds and Artificial Cells Will Revolutionize Life on Our Planet.*

The Appreciation Dinner evenings are a time of relaxation, connection, and camaraderie. Guests mingle, chat, laugh, and learn, all the while knowing that their generosity, in a very real way, has an impact on people around the world, as HSDM students go out from the School and into their futures as leaders in the profession.
Left: Dimitar Sasselov (left), the evening’s keynote speaker, chatted with Bjorn R. Olsen, dean for research, professor of developmental biology, and Hersey professor of cell biology.

Right: Walter C. Guralnick, DMD41 (left), professor emeritus of oral and maxillofacial surgery, enjoyed a break with Kimberly Ritrievi, chair of the HSDM Dean’s Advisory Board.

Left: Austin Wertheimer, Caryl Goodman, and Jeremy Wertheimer posed during the reception.

Photos by Jan Reiss
Join the Nathan Cooley Keep Society!

With your gift of $1,867 or more, you become a member of the Nathan Cooley Keep Society. Donors at this level and above receive an invitation to the School’s annual Appreciation Dinner, held every year in the spring. You still have time to join before next year’s event, which will be an extra-special evening.

Foreground, from left: Donald B. Giddon, DMD59, PD62 (periodontology), clinical professor of developmental biology; Ethel Goldhaber; Paul Schnitman, lecturer on restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences; and Phoebe Giddon. Background, from left: Gordon Macdonald, Ruth Macdonald, and Mady Donoff.

Left: Jena Winokur (left), relaxed with Rishi Popat, PD09 (general dentistry; DMSc 2014, orthodontics), and Allen Finkelstein, a member of the HSDM Dean’s Advisory Board, during the reception.
Left: T. Howard Howell, PD76, A. Lee Loomis professor of periodontology (left), and Jeffrey Stevens (right) flank HSDM students Adam Fagin and Derek Hou, both DMD 2014.

Far left: Lisa Witham and Edward Seldin, DMD68, MD68, an associate professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Left: Cary Armistead and Fay Donohue, president and CEO of Dental Service of Massachusetts.

Left: Dimitar Sasselov, a Harvard astronomer, engaged the audience with tales of his team’s search for “habitable” planets in our galaxy and the cosmic transition from chemistry to life.
HSDM Establishes Office of Diversity Inclusion

This spring, HSDM announced the creation of the Office of Diversity Inclusion, directed by Peggy Timothé, an instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences and Oliver Wendell Holmes Society senior tutor. The Office promotes increased recruitment, retention, and advancement of underrepresented minority students and faculty and seeks to emulate the Harvard tradition of excellence in education, science, and public health by supporting a well-trained faculty, while creating oral health leaders reflecting the larger community. The HSDM Office of Diversity Inclusion partners with several offices at Harvard Medical School, including the Office for Diversity Inclusion and Community Partnership and Office of Recruitment and Multicultural Affairs.

GOALS OF THE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY INCLUSION

- Foster an environment that is comfortable and welcoming to all members of the community
- Provide support for a diverse population
- Develop a recruitment strategy to increase enrollment of students from underrepresented minority groups
- Develop and implement a plan to recruit faculty from underrepresented minority groups
- Enhance and develop curricula that address issues of diversity, cross-cultural care, and sensitivity

SELECTED RECENT ACTIVITIES

- In April, the Office of Diversity Inclusion hosted 50 students on two days from the Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers, a Boston public college-preparatory high school. As the students had previously had very little exposure to dentistry as a career, HSDM student mentors presented information about the field and led tours of the School.
- Also in April, HSDM, together with Harvard Medical School, hosted a Revisit Weekend for 27 incoming dental students. The Office of Diversity Inclusion presented information on concepts of diversity and the need for diversity in the dental profession.
- In June, Timothé participated in “Hip Hop Health: Tour for Diversity in Medicine,” sponsored by the Aetna Foundation.
- Beginning in June, HSDM hosted three incoming DMD students for eight weeks through the HMS/HSDM Pre-Matriculation Summer Program. The program exposes entering students from underrepresented minority groups to research and its relevance to clinical medicine through laboratory investigation, seminars, and coursework.
- In July, the Office hosted a tour for high school students from across the country as part of the National Student Leadership Conference. The students spent a week exploring careers in science and medicine at Harvard and other area colleges.

Peggy Timothé, a senior tutor and instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences, directs the Office of Diversity Inclusion.
The Cook Islands, a parliamentary democracy in free association with New Zealand, is a group of 15 major islands spread over 2.2 million square kilometers of the South Pacific Ocean, with a population of approximately 12,000. The inhabitants of this seeming tropical paradise, however, suffer from an extraordinarily high prevalence of dental caries, periodontal disease, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease. The islands are widely dispersed, and access to oral health care is limited, particularly in the outer islands, which have no resident dentists and infrequent visits from dental therapists.

To address this situation, Jonathan Leichter, PD84 (periodontology), founded the Cook Islands Dental Care Project. For the past nine years, Leichter and his wife, Colleen Murray, both senior lecturers in the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand, have traveled to the Cook Islands from their home in New Zealand. They spend a month providing free dental care for adults and children, health care education in the schools and in the community, and continuing dental education for the local dental and medical health care teams. Students are always part of the team, and this year four final-year dental students and two postgraduate students participated in this service trip.

“There is fierce competition among the final-year dental students to secure a coveted place on this project,” says Leichter with pride. “The students are selected based on their clinical, academic, and interpersonal skills. Those chosen are always very excited and feel privileged to be part of this unique and rewarding opportunity.”

The inspiration for the Cook Islands Dental Care Project came during a World Health Organization–sponsored continuing education program for dentists and dental therapists in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, in 2004. Leichter and Murray realized the positive impact that a sustainable volunteer-driven dental care project could have in the underserved communities of the Cook Islands.

Since this cooperative effort first began, the group has established a very strong relationship with the local population. With the generous support of countless public and private donors, including charitable organizations and the New Zealand dental community, Leichter has sponsored 50 students over the past nine years, providing funds for all airfare and accommodations. In addition, each year the project donates tens of thousands of dollars’ worth of supplies and equipment to ensure the smooth operation of the clinics during the student and supervisor visits and the continued operation of the clinics once the team returns to New Zealand. The group has treated well over a thousand children and adults and provided health care promotion and dental training. The project and the ongoing commitment have received commendations from the Ministry of Health and the High Commissioner of New Zealand.

“It is clear that everyone is a winner in this mutually beneficial project,” says Leichter. “Cook Islanders receive excellent free dental care and oral health care education, the

Left: Another happy patient treated by Jessica Po, a final-year dental student at the University of Otago Faculty of Dentistry, in Dunedin, New Zealand.
Cook Island Dental Service receives much-needed supplies and equipment, and the students gain invaluable clinical experience that benefits New Zealand and the wider dental community, as they come back as better trained, more experienced, and community-minded dentists with an improved understanding of providing care in a culturally appropriate manner.” The students have all expressed a strong interest in continuing to participate in volunteer oral health projects in the future, with some going on to work on projects in Cambodia, Fiji, and Papua New Guinea.

This year, the group worked in Rarotonga and Aitutaki, two of the largest of the Cook Islands. Over time, Leichter hopes to expand the scope of this project to reach the outer Cook Islands.

*Right: Jonathan Leichter, PD84 (periodontology), third from left, and his wife, Colleen Murray (at his left) are joined by a group of final-year and postgraduate dental students at the Te Marae Ora (Ministry of Health) clinic on the island of Rarotonga. The group provided free dental care for adults and children, with some patients traveling to the clinic from islands that are a three-day boat ride away.*

*Above: The Cook Islands Dental Care Project has distributed more than a thousand toothbrushes and toothpaste kits during the past year. Sarah Davidson, a final-year dental student, helps local schoolchildren with their brushing on the school’s playing field.*
As part of the Harvard School of Dental Medicine’s global and community oral health initiative, a dedicated team of students and faculty have formed the HSDM Committee for Wampanoag Oral Health and begun working in the native lands of the Wampanoag community in Massachusetts. One driver of the Committee’s efforts is to fulfill the commitment laid out in the 1650 Harvard University charter to educate the “Indian youth of this country.” Both Native American members of the Harvard Class of 1665 belonged to the Wampanoag tribe.

Because of financial and geographic barriers, the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), located on Martha’s Vineyard, has encountered many challenges to accessing dental care. The HSDM team and the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head are currently working together to improve access to care and imagine the possibility of a sustainable, comprehensive, and family-centered oral health care system for the native population. The team of students and faculty has participated in several Wampanoag powwows and tribal meetings to learn more about the community and culture, as well as assessing the range of oral health needs through screenings. “Beyond tabulating the data for the needs assessment of oral and systemic health,” says Jungsuk Cho (DMD 2014), a member of the HSDM Committee, “we believe that it is important to build bridges of trust and understanding in order to effectively deliver clinical dentistry.” Other members of the HSDM Committee for Wampanoag Oral Health include advisers Brian J. Swann, an HSDM clinical instructor in oral health policy and epidemiology; Risha De Leon, a senior tutor and instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences; and Jane Barrow, assistant dean for global and community health; as well as students Alyssa Adams (DMD 2014), Jordan Blanche (DMD 2015), Na’eel Cajee (DMD 2014), Mehedia Haque (DMD 2015), Shikha Kanotra (DMD 2015), and Lisa Simon (DMD 2014).

On July 6 and 7, the HSDM team attended the 92nd annual Mashpee Wampanoag powwow. Led by Swann, three students—Cajee, Cho, and Kanotra—spent the sunny weekend screening young and elderly attendees and providing information about oral hygiene, oral and systemic health connections, careers in dentistry, and the Harvard undergraduate and graduate admissions process. The powwow brought together a diverse array of Native nations beyond the extended Wampanoag tribe, with groups coming from as far away as Bermuda and the US Southwest. The event celebrated the varied dancing, culinary, and clothing traditions, with special attention paid to upholding the millennia-old values of honor, sacrifice, and love for young people. HSDM is proud to join with this community in improving oral and systemic health for the Wampanoag population.
Wampanoag Leaders Speak at HSDM

On June 17, the HSDM community was honored to host the chairwoman of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) and its tribal historic preservation officer. HSDM and the Wampanoag are working closely to design and develop a dental home for the Native population of Martha’s Vineyard, a Massachusetts island community with a history stretching back more than 10,000 years. In addition to clinical care, the initiative will build in educational components to address chronic conditions prevalent in the community, strategize culturally sensitive ways of delivering care, and mentor Wampanoag youth interested in health careers.

Chairwoman Cheryl Andrews-Maltais spoke to the group on “Traditions and Culture: A Look at Wampanoag Oral and Systemic Health from Historic Times to the Present,” an insightful account of the barriers to accessing basic oral health care that tribal members have faced for many generations. Her enthusiasm for working with HSDM was evident as she noted, “We are so excited at getting this collaboration and partnership under way.” Bettina Washington, the tribal historic preservation officer, described the poor oral health conditions of the often-neglected middle-aged and geriatric populations and elaborated upon the financial and geographic barriers to accessing oral health care.

This event marked a new milestone in the relationship between HSDM and the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah). Building on this shared understanding and commitment between partners, the groups will continue to work together toward serving the unmet needs of this Native population.

From left: Brian J. Swann, HSDM clinical instructor in oral health policy and epidemiology and faculty adviser for the HSDM Wampanoag initiative; Cheryl Andrews-Maltais, chairwoman of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah); Bettina Washington, tribal historic preservation officer; and Na’eel Cajee (DMD 2014).
Community Service Awards 2013

For the second year in a row, HSDM honored DMD students who made significant contributions through community service in oral health care. This year, the School presented four awards to outstanding students whose generosity of time and spirit, innovative outlook, and leadership had a major impact on underserved populations in the local area. The 2013 awardees were:

- **Peggy Chang, DMD13**: Innovation Award, presented to a student who has established a sustainable initiative and provided leadership for the project.

- **Richard Senatore, DMD13**: Exemplary Service Award, honoring a student who has demonstrated consistent and committed support to community service.

- **Esther Kang, DMD13**: Leadership Award, honoring a student who has demonstrated leadership through creating, managing, or funding a project or organization that serves the community.

- **Abraham Itty, DMD13**: Impact Award, given to a student who has made a national impact through his or her work.

Receiving their awards from Dean Bruce Donoff were, clockwise from top right, Peggy Chang, Richard Senatore, Esther Kang, and Abraham Itty.
Shared Visits Offer Benefits for Patient and Provider

Shared medical and dental visits are proving to be an effective and practical way to improve patient access, extend patient time with providers, and cover a wide range of health topics, while at the same time benefiting clinicians: they avoid repeating information and losing revenue because of no-shows and are able to evaluate more patients in a shorter time than with single-patient visits.

Members of the HSDM community discussed shared medical/dental visits in a presentation at the American Medical Association Medical Student Section (AMA-MSS) Annual Meeting in Chicago in June. The organization is dedicated to representing medical students, improving medical education, developing leadership, and promoting activism for the health of the United States.

The HSDM team included Brian J. Swann, clinical instructor in oral health policy and epidemiology; Nina K. Anderson, clinical instructor in developmental biology; and Jason L. Outlaw (DMD/DMSc 2015). Also working with the HSDM team was Inyang Isong of Harvard Medical School, an instructor in pediatrics at Boston Children’s Hospital.

During the hour-long presentation, “Shared Group Visits: An Innovation to Improve Access to Care in Medicine and Oral Health,” the team discussed integrating medical interventions into a shared appointments dental model. This group oral health care model is being employed in a variety of settings, including for patients with diabetes, infant and toddler visits, prenatal visits, and with the construction of dentures.

“Physicians often do not focus on their patients’ oral health risk factors,” says Swann, “and dentists are generally not as strong as physicians at managing chronic health conditions in their patients. This situation is especially problematic with Medicaid patients, who may have a limited depth of services.”

Shared physician group appointments have been used successfully for chronic conditions, such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and gastroesophageal reflux disease, and investigations are under way to gauge their use in other specialty care clinics. Studies have determined that group visits are effective in improving both physician and patient satisfaction, improving quality of care and quality of life, and decreasing emergency department and specialist visits. Research has also shown that the productivity and revenue of the practices were maintained, if not increased.

During the AMA-MSS presentation, Swann discussed two models of shared visits that are ongoing at the Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA), a Harvard-affiliated community health system at which he is a clinician. One model is shared visits for patients seeking full and partial dentures; these visits have proved to take one-third of the time per patient that individual denture visits require, and the dentures are delivered in half the usual time, which reduces overhead costs for CHA.

*continued on page 34*
Building Bridges to Peace

In July, Dean Bruce Donoff traveled to Israel to participate in the 60th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Hebrew University-Hadassah Faculty of Dental Medicine in Jerusalem. He was accompanied by his wife, Mady Donoff, who, as a national board member of Hadassah, represented the organization at the celebration.

The event included a scientific symposium, at which Donoff, an oral and maxillofacial surgeon, spoke on “Management of Mandibular and Lingual Nerve Injuries.” He also attended a meeting of the International Advisory Committee of the D. Walter Cohen Middle East Center for Dental Education, on which he serves. “Our great hope [in establishing the Center],” wrote Cohen in a special commemorative issue of the magazine of the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Dental Medicine, “was that dentists from all over the Middle East would come to Jerusalem for dental training, with the overarching goal of promoting understanding and cooperation between the various countries in the Middle East.” Indeed, one aim of the Center is to serve as a hub for dental education that will promote cooperation in the field of dental medicine between the countries in the Middle East and to help in the consolidation of a true peace between Israel and its neighbors. As part of the 60th anniversary celebration, the Cohen Center sponsored a Middle East Symposium in Dental Medicine, “Building Bridges of Understanding Through Dental Medicine,” with an opening session at Al-Quds University in Abu Dis, in the Palestinian territories.

An additional reason for Donoff’s trip was to sign an Agreement of Academic and Scientific Cooperation between HSDM and the first Palestinian dental school, the Al-Quds University Faculty of Dental Medicine. The schools agreed to collaborate on research and promote the exchange of scholars, researchers, and students. The Al-Quds University Faculty of Dental Medicine and the Hebrew University-Hadassah Faculty of Dental Medicine are also working closely together to promote scholarly exchange, cross-cultural understanding, and peace.

HSDM is a member of another organization working to build bridges to peace: the Alliance for Oral Health Across Borders. The goal of this nonprofit is “to promote peace and well-being through oral health in countries, regions, and communities, particularly those facing social, economic, and political unrest. Using oral health as the path, members of the Alliance are committed, independent of any political agendas, to foster, create, and sustain collaborative relationships to bring peace and harmony among people.”

Even in our field, sometimes a bridge is more than a dental appliance, and the oral cavity can be an opening to the world.
Groups of DMD, MMSc, and DMSc students participated in the annual HSDM Student Research Day on April 9, 2013. Presenters and visitors thronged the lobby of the Research and Education Building, as the students presented their research posters in partial fulfillment of their research requirement, with faculty evaluating the student poster presentations. Members of the HSDM community visited the posters throughout the day and learned about the wide variety of research being carried out at the School. Student Research Day always generates an exciting energy, with pride and learning flowing throughout the building.

Above: Dorothy Pazin, an instructor in developmental biology and director of predoctoral research, presents the ADA/Dentsply Award to Sean Geary (DMD 2015), shown in front of his poster, “Identifying Dental Panoramic Radiographic Features for the Screening of Osteoporosis in Postmenopausal Women.”

Left: Shokoufeh Shahrabi Farahani, DMSc13 (oral pathology), explains her poster, “Neuropilin-7 and Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma.”

Below left: Christopher P. Goodell (DMD 2015) discusses his poster, “Large-Scale Synthesis of a 2-Aminoimidazole/Triazole Derivative Capable of Suppressing Oxacillin Resistance in MRSA.”


Photos by Jan Reiss
Dental Bites

**HSDM News**

**BRITTANY SEYMOUR**,

an instructor in oral health policy and epidemiology, was selected from faculty across the University as the inaugural fellow in a high-priority pilot program at the Harvard Global Health Institute.


**SHIGEMI NAGAI** presented invited lectures in New York and Los Angeles at the Kuraray Symposium in January 2013, speaking on “Colorimetric Considerations for Anterior Composite Restorations.”

**KUNIO CHAN**, a clinical instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences, received a Master of the Academy of General Dentistry Award at the organization’s annual meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, in June. Mastership is an accomplishment achieved by less than 1 percent of general dentists. To receive a mastership, a dentist must be a member of the Academy of General Dentistry and a fellow of the Academy and have completed 1,100 hours of approved continuing dental education credit, 400 of which must be in participation courses.

**ROMESH NALLIAH**, a senior tutor and instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences, was invited to appear on a panel at a student recruitment fair during the 101st Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting in March. The panel, with representatives from seven schools (all of them southern schools, except HSDM), was ethnically diverse, and the audience was 30 percent Asian, 30 percent African American, 20 percent white, and 12 percent Hispanic.

**MARY TAVARES**, director of the Advanced Graduate Education Program in Dental Public Health, and members of the program attended the National Oral Health Conference in Huntsville, Alabama, in April. **SAMANTHA JORDAN (MPH/PD 2015, dental public health)** received her Herschel Horowitz scholarship at the meeting, and **SAWSAN SALIH (PD13, dental public health)** and **KEYVAN SOHRABI (MMSc13, dental public health)** presented posters on their research.

In April, the Harvard Asian American Dental Association (HAADA) participated in the Brain Building in Progress Community Fair in collaboration with ABCD Chinese Church Head Start. Brain Building in Progress is a coordinated effort to raise visibility and awareness of the importance of the first few years of a child’s development on his or her future success. The Head Start program aims to provide resources for young children in low-income families by offering educational programs, special-needs services, mental health services, and health screenings. ABCD Chinese Church Head Start has seen one of the highest caries rates of all the Boston Head Start Programs, and staff have identified cultural differences, lack of awareness, and lack of access to oral health care as among the reasons for this outcome. HAADA is addressing this issue in several ways. At the Community Fair, **RISHA DE LEON**, an instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials and faculty mentor of HAADA, together with third-year dental students **LISA SIU** and **JUNGSUK CHO**, staffed an oral health table and distributed information on oral health and resources, along with 200 toothbrushes and toothpastes to children and families.

In July, a group of 25 nurses from Haiti visited HSDM. **JANE BARROW**, assistant dean for global and community health, organized a tour of the School, a presentation on the foundations of oral health, and an introduction to HSDM’s work in Haiti. The group was in Boston as part of the Regis College Haiti Project, designed to improve access to quality health care in Haiti by addressing the acute nursing shortage and the call for an advancement of nursing education in Haiti.
RISHI POPAT, PD09 (general dentistry; DMSc 2014, orthodontics, leadership track), married Bansi Vallabh on May 18, 2013, in Cincinnati, Ohio. She received her MBA from Harvard Business School in May 2013. After Popat completes his DMSc next year, the couple will move to his hometown, Phoenix, Arizona, where he will work to provide orthodontic services to the low-income population.

DOM DE PAOLA, president of Forsyth from 1998 to 2007, passed away on April 17, 2013, in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.


MERRILL FELDMAN, DMD50, MD52, passed away on April 27, 2013, in Swampscott, Massachusetts.

RICHARD B. PEKRUHN, DMD65, PD76 (endodontics), of Charleston, South Carolina, writes: “I have been retired since 1995. The last 11 years of active practice were spent in Saudi Arabia working for Saudi Aramco. While there, both Polly and I were bitten by the travel bug; the itch continues for both of us. We have been able to continue our travels working as bridge instructors on cruise ships, an activity that keeps us busy four or five months of each year. In addition, I have kept my interest in music alive with piano lessons and singing. I am currently with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra Chorus, the Spoleto Festival Chorus, and occasionally in the summers with the Berkshire Festival Chorus.”

Alumni News

ROBERT N. HENNESSY, DMD44, passed away on July 26, 2013, in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Above: Mohamed Shawkat Razzaque, an assistant professor of oral medicine, infection, and immunity, was recently a visiting professor at the University of Antwerp, in Belgium. Here, Razzaque, left, poses with Patrick C. D’Haese, his host at the University of Antwerp.

Above: Members of the Advanced Graduate Education Program in Dental Public Health attended the National Oral Health Conference in Alabama in April. From left, Enihomo Obadan, MPH11 (DMSc 2016); Sawsan Salih, PD13; Hend Alqaderi (DMSc 2016); program director Mary Tavares; Omair Bukhari (MMSc 2016); Camila Pinto (DMSc 2015); Keyvan Sohrabi, MMSc13; and Samantha Jordan (MPH/PD 2015).
A development program by Soligenix Inc. for the treatment of oral mucositis as a result of radiation and/or chemotherapy treatment in head and neck cancer patients has received “Fast Track” designation from the US Food and Drug Administration. STEPHEN SONIS, DMSc76, PD76 (periodontology), is a member of the Oral Mucositis Medical Advisory Board of Soligenix, a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company.

STEVEN URANGA MCKANE, DMD78, MPH79, received the Myron Allukian Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award for Outstanding Achievement in Community Dental Programs. MYRON ALLUKIAN JR., MPH67, PD68 (dental public health), presented the award to McKane at the American Association for Community Dental Programs Annual Symposium in Huntsville, Alabama, in April. For the past 13 years, McKane has been responsible for the Children’s Dental Center in Inglewood, California, an innovative education-service dental delivery prototype for underserved communities. He was the second dentist to chair the American Public Health Association Executive Board and was a founding board member and past president of the Hispanic Dental Association. He is a past president of the Connecticut Public Health Association and was on the boards of the Council on Education for Public Health, Harvard School of Dental Medicine, Michigan Public Health Advisory Council, and US Conference of Local Health Officers. He has received numerous awards, including the US Surgeon General’s Exemplary Service Award.

DAVID MOMTAHENI, PD78 (oral pathology), was promoted to clinical professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery at Columbia College of Dental Medicine. After HSDM, Momtaheni went on to receive oral and maxillofacial training at Montefiore Medical Center in New York, leading to his board certification in oral and maxillofacial surgery. He is one of 16 oral and maxillofacial surgeons and pathologists in the United States.

Four HSDM students participated in the American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry Annual Session in Mesa, Arizona, in April. Abraham Itty, DMD13 (top right), gave an oral presentation. Diane Lee, DMD13 (top left); Kanika Sharma (DMD 2014, bottom left); and Paiyal Popat (DMD 2014, bottom right) presented posters. HSDM instructor Romesh Nalliah was a keynote speaker at the meeting.
HARVARD DENTAL BULLETIN • SUMMER 2013

Professor Donald B. Giddon, DMD, PhD, Annual Lecture

The 2013 Professor Donald B. Giddon, DMD, PhD, Annual Lecture in Behavioral Medicine and Dentistry was held on Tuesday, April 9. The lecture, “Targeting and Improving Soft Tissue Functional Outcomes for Craniofacial Rehabilitation,” was presented by Carroll-Ann Trotman, associate dean for the Office of Academic & Student Affairs at the University of Maryland Dental School and adjunct professor at the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry. In the rehabilitation of patients with craniofacial deformities, surgeons attempt to restore balance and function to the hard and soft tissues of the face. Many patients, however, remain with a wide range of functional impairments and esthetic needs that require multiple surgical corrective procedures. With the advent of 3-D facial imaging techniques, Trotman’s research group has developed and used objective functional measures of facial movement for treatment planning and outcome assessment in patients with repaired cleft lip and palate. Their approach supplements surgeons’ traditional subjective assessment of the soft tissues and provides dynamic visual comparisons that can be used by surgeons to determine individual patient functional deficits and individualize patients’ treatment plans.
DENTAL SCHOOL NEWS, continued

Romesh Nalliah, left, met Nadeem Karimbux, DMD91, MMSc93, PD93, at the 8th International Conference on Problem-Based Learning in Dentistry, held in May in Ystad, Sweden.

SHARED VISITS, continued from page 27

Another shared visit model practiced by CHA is for toddler exams and fluoride varnishes. Two general practice residents, an assistant/translator, and a group facilitator work with patients and caregivers during 60-minute shared visits, which include group education on early childhood caries and individual knee-to-knee examinations. Upon completion of the exams, facilitators escort caregivers to schedule six-month follow-up visits; patients with urgent needs are seen immediately.

Feedback has shown that both providers and caregivers view the experience as positive from several perspectives. One hundred percent of caregivers “understood more about early childhood caries”; 80 percent “found it helpful to hear from other caregivers,” “were comfortable discussing issues,” or “had no concerns about privacy”; and their children “responded better to a shared dental visit than a single appointment.” The general practice residents were “very satisfied” with avoiding the need to repeat information and felt that pediatric patients and caregivers watching others during exams and varnishes experienced reduced anxiety via the repeated “tell-show-do” model.

At the AMA-MSS meeting, Isong discussed the problem of access to medical and oral health care in the United States, the history of the shared group visit and drop-in medical appointment models, ways in which the integration of oral health into medical care via the shared model visit is relevant to medical students, and the advantages of group appointment models, including, for the patients, a shared experience and social support.

Finally, Outlaw noted that this innovation in health care delivery has only recently spread to oral health. He also discussed the importance of engagement across professional and disciplinary lines, challenging the audience to avoid treating patients within silos of medical specialties and rather to share ideas, widen the scope of their curiosity, and learn from experts in other fields. “You have the power,” he said, “to be advocates for your patients’ total health and to accelerate the spread of innovations that will improve public health.”
In Memoriam

We acknowledge in remembrance the following members of the HSDM community.

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## Who Are You? Where Are You? What’s New?

Please help us keep up to date with you and your news by sending us this page with your current information—addresses and phone numbers, latest jobs, promotions, honors and awards, marriages, babies, and all the other good things in your life after Harvard. We look forward to printing your news. Your filling out this form gives us permission to print your news in the Harvard Dental Bulletin. Let’s keep in touch!

Complete and send in this form to the address below, or fill in the form online at hsdm.harvard.edu/alumni/update.

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