From the Dean

As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past year with gratitude and look forward to the coming months of 2013, the Harvard School of Dental Medicine anticipates a year of innovation and excellence in education, research, and patient care. Indeed, exciting developments are continually taking place at HSDM.

In keeping with the School’s focus on public health, HSDM has instituted a new DMD course, Introduction to Global Oral Health, based on a popular advanced graduate class that was piloted last year. This discussion-based critical thinking course examines the extensive relationship between oral health and global health, including the ways in which global population and disease trends affect oral health and the association of oral diseases with a number of issues, including poverty, HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health, and lack of sanitation and clean water.

HSDM researchers are engaged in studies with major implications for advancing human health, in areas such as osteoarthritis, chronic inflammatory disease, tissue engineering, cell biology, and genetics. One important study, concerning a finding that could lead to new treatments for osteoporosis, is featured in this issue of the Bulletin.

As part of the School’s continuing efforts toward integrating oral health and overall health, last fall the Harvard Dental Center began conducting medical screenings to help patients understand their health. At every visit, the providers discuss with patients several health areas, including blood pressure, asthma status, weight, vaccination for pneumonia, growth (for children), vaccination for the flu, and smoking. We anticipate that these measures will lead to improvements in health for our dental patients. HSDM is also leading the way in standardizing dental diagnostic coding to improve patient care and communication among oral health professionals.

One focal point of HSDM is to provide free oral health screenings, education, and dental care in underserved communities and for vulnerable populations in the local area. All DMD students participate, whether in volunteer projects that they have organized under faculty supervision or through externships at community health centers across the region. Service is a tenet of the HSDM educational experience, and the knowledge students gain about the variety of patients they may encounter benefits them immensely. Some decide to pursue careers in public health as a result.

Those of you who are HSDM alumni remember what your HSDM education meant to you as a foundation for your future and for success in your field. Your past generosity has made this foundation possible for aspiring oral health professionals who seek the very best in dental medicine education, and we are deeply grateful. I look forward to sharing with you the good works of HSDM during 2013.

Bruce Donoff, DMD67, MD73
Anubha Sacheti, DMD05, PD06

With a cardiologist father, a pediatrician mother, and a neighbor who was a dentist, Anubha Sacheti grew up surrounded by role models in the health care field. Sizing up her options, Sacheti decided that she would pursue dentistry. “It seemed to have the most balanced lifestyle among the health care professions,” she says, “and I love working with my hands.”

As a practicing pediatric dentist, past Massachusetts state leader of the Head Start Dental Home Initiative of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD), state public policy advocate for the AAPD, and the mother of two young girls, Sacheti has her hands full these days.

Sacheti came to HSDM after receiving a bachelor’s degree from Bowdoin College. She was thus comfortable in the environment of a small school—one reason she chose HSDM for her dental studies. It’s a decision she cherishes. “We did problem solving together,” she says of her classmates. “We had roundtable discussions. I made fantastic friends and had mentors with whom I speak on a regular basis.”

Among Sacheti’s mentors are Neda Shah-Hosseini, DMD96, a clinical instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences at HSDM and formerly a senior tutor, who practices in Brookline, Massachusetts. “She’s still my dentist,” says Sacheti, “and she’s an amazing person, with whom I can bounce around and explore ideas. She watches over me like a big sister.” Sacheti also cites her former teacher Catherine Hayes, DMSc93, PD93 (dental public health), president-elect of the American Association of Public Health Dentistry, as a mentor from whom she continues to learn. And Sacheti lauds Nina Casaverde, DMD03, a pediatric dentist in Bedford, New Hampshire, as “an awesome person. HSDM is such a small school that one can really form long-term relationships. Students can reach out to alumni and still be in contact after graduation. I think HSDM is unique in this way.”

Sacheti completed her general practice residency (GPR) in 2006 through the HSDM program at Cambridge Health Alliance, where she continues to teach. She is a faculty adviser for the HSDM student-led ACTION free-care program at the Windsor Street Health Center Dental Clinic. “I had my first taste of working with kids at the Windsor Street clinic during my residency,” she says. “I found that I loved it.” Her practice now also includes pediatric special-needs patients.

Following the GPR, Sacheti received specialty training in pediatric dentistry at Boston University’s Goldman School of Dental Medicine. Anubha Sacheti, DMD05, PD06 (general practice residency), cowrote the book Happy, Healthy Teeth, designed to provide parents, especially those in the Head Start program, with information about the importance of oral health care in children beginning at age one.
of Dental Medicine, during which she had a child, Aleena, now four-and-a-half years old. After graduating in 2008, Sacheti went into private practice. In 2009, she began working in the Head Start program. “I had a lot to learn about making policy, data use, and so on,” she says. “We needed more dentists to see age-one kids. These visits are very different from the three-year-old visits. Happily, we found dentists willing to learn, but we also needed pediatricians to get on board with the preventive aspects.”

To help parents and very young children get on board as well, in 2011 Sacheti published Happy, Healthy Teeth: A Guide to Children’s Dental Health, a book designed to provide accurate oral-health information in a fun context. Cowritten with a hygienist and a social worker, both of whom are part of the Head Start team, the book features photographs of young children and a simple rhyming text. Parents are encouraged to read the book with their kids. Happy, Healthy Teeth, created with a grant from the DentaQuest Foundation and endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, is currently being translated into Spanish, with Portuguese next and eventually 11 languages in all.

“The book came about,” says Sacheti, “because I was looking at books about going to the dentist to read with Aleena when she was younger. The books I found were filled with inaccuracies. So, since I had always wanted to write a children’s book, I decided to write one about a topic near to my heart.” She was editing and putting the finishing touches on the book while she was pregnant with her second child, Ara (age one), and postpartum. “It was a crazy time,” she says. Sacheti’s husband, Rajeev Surati, an engineer who owns his own company, provides immense moral support for Sacheti’s efforts.

In addition to the Head Start program, Sacheti is involved in Connect the Dots, a program of the Council on Action and Preventive Interrelations, the prevention arm of the Massachusetts Dental Society. This program brings together medical and dental providers to ensure that they all present the same message regarding the importance of the initial dental visit for children at age one. “Many pediatricians are still telling parents to take their children for their first dental visit at age three,” says Sacheti, “although the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry has been recommending the age-one visit for the past 20 years.” Connect the Dots consists of a series of lectures, with continuing education credit available through the Massachusetts Dental Society, covering such topics as the Head Start program, the importance of the age-one dental visit, performing an infant exam, the logistics in the dental office, and the cost-effectiveness of these visits for the dental practice. “We have found that the age-one visits have become a practice builder,” says Sacheti.

Sacheti also participates in the state’s oral health consortium, which meets quarterly and includes representatives from a variety of fields, including the WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) program, the Massachusetts dental schools, local community health centers, MassHealth, and the AAPD (represented by Sacheti). “Public health dentistry was an interest of mine even while I was at HSDM,” she says. “I participated in a lot of service activities and wanted something related to dentistry that I could eventually pursue outside of private practice.”

Sacheti’s efforts are being recognized by many outside her practice as well. In 2011, she was selected as one of the “Ten Under 10” by the Massachusetts Dental Society, honoring dentists who have graduated from dental school within 10 years and have made a significant contribution to the profession, their community, and/or organized dentistry. Fully immersed in the fields of public health and clinical dentistry, Sacheti exemplifies the HSDM mission of developing and fostering leaders in academia, practice, and service. HSDM is proud to count her among the ranks of the School’s alumni.

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**Update Your Information**

To keep up with the latest news and information from HSDM, make sure the School has your current e-mail and mailing addresses. Update your information at hsdm.harvard.edu/alumni/update or at alumni.harvard.edu.
One can’t tell the story of a life in a thousand words. A space that small can’t take the measure of a man or encompass the scope of his accomplishments, his doubts, his triumphs, his loss. By anyone’s measure, however, David Farrell, DMD51, had a very full life. At age 90, he remembered his service in World War II as if it were yesterday. He enjoyed a long career in academia and private practice. “My greatest accomplishment, though,” he said, “was marrying Dorothy nearly 64 years ago, followed by four magnificent children. We are very proud and very grateful for our family.”

Farrell and Dorothy (“Dotty”) met in dancing school when they were in ninth grade. They graduated from Watertown High School in the same class, and except for the period when he was overseas in military service during the Second World War, they were inseparable. They married in 1949 after having “courted” for 10 years. Four children and eight grandchildren later, they were still deeply devoted to each other.

After graduating from high school, Farrell attended Tufts University for a year. He transferred to Harvard College, where he pursued premedical studies, commuting to school by streetcar from his family home in Watertown. As a commuter and public-school graduate, he always felt a certain distance between himself and the private-school boys who lived on campus. He was, however, a stellar athlete, playing hockey, baseball, and football and excelling and lettering in each. A serious injury in a hockey game at West Point, in which he was elbowed in the head by a “goon defenseman,” ended his athletic career disappointingly.

Farrell’s future was decided early on. “When I was young, my mother designated me to be a dentist,” he says. And that was that. Before he could finish at Harvard, much less enter dental school, World War II intervened and Farrell went into military service.

**WARTIME**

Farrell was studying in his room at home in Watertown when he heard the news about Pearl Harbor. “We knew from that minute on that things would change,” he remembered. Many of his Harvard classmates enlisted; Farrell himself entered the Army Air Corps.

That was around January 5, 1942. He waited for a full year to be called up, however. “There were no planes, no fields, no instructors for the thousands who had signed up,” he said.

“In February 1943, I was finally called up with multiple classmates, and we went to Biloxi, Mississippi, for basic training.” Eventually, in Nashville, Tennessee, he was classified as a pilot and spent two months of primary training in flight school in Jackson, Tennessee, at a brand-new facility. “Training facilities were springing up all over the Southeast,” he noted.

Those students who succeeded advanced to higher-performing aircraft. Arriving at Newport, Arkansas, for basic flight training, his group was...
waiting for their bunk assignments when they heard the wail of a plane. Turning to the noise, they saw the plane crash into the runway. “No one ever mentioned it—or any accidents for that matter,” Farrell said, “not even to each other, because we were afraid it might happen to us. We never mentioned it even in combat when people were lost.”

Graduating at the top of his class in advanced flight training in Stuttgart, Arkansas, Farrell was granted “the best possible assignment.” Because of his record, he was to receive advanced instrument training and become an instructor. He rejected that, though, saying that his brother had just landed on D-Day and he wanted to go overseas and help him. So Farrell was sent to England, where he joined the 92nd Bomb Group of the “Mighty Eighth” Army Air Force and became a pilot of B-17 Flying Fortress heavy bombers. “I was very anxious that I wouldn’t be able to perform well, that I wouldn’t measure up,” he remembers. He was just 21 years old.

He did measure up, however, piloting more than 25 missions over Nazi Germany and occupied territories until the war ended in Europe in May 1945. “The colonel wanted to stay,” Farrell said, “so our group stripped down the B-17s and put in benches, and we became a transport crew. We flew high-profile infantry people from France to Casablanca, repatriated Greeks from Munich to Athens, and repatriated French people to Marseilles and Paris. Some of them were Vichyites, and I didn’t want to make it easy for them.” The crew didn’t leave Europe until February 1946. “I got on a Liberty ship at Antwerp Harbor,” he said, “and I was seasick the whole way until I saw the Statue of Liberty. A Dixieland band provided music for our arrival, but I just wanted to enter civilian life as inconspicuously as possible.”

BACK HOME
Farrell returned from the war with “a confidence that was real and hard to shake” and went back to Harvard. One day, even though he hadn’t yet graduated, he went to the Dental School and was interviewed by the dean of admissions, Arthur Maloney. It turns out that Maloney had lost a leg in a training plane crash in World War I and was interested that Farrell had been a pilot. “He admitted me on the spot,” says Farrell, who also had to be admitted to the Medical School, a requirement at the time.

Farrell calls his experience at HSDM “magnificent.” “I loved the education I had,” he said. “It was superb, second to none. I am indebted to the Dental School and to dentistry. I love my profession. It has been a wonderful, rewarding experience.” His class at HSDM began with 15 students, but only five of them stayed in dentistry and graduated with Farrell.

Upon graduation, he came back as a faculty member, teaching prosthodontic dentistry full time for five years. He then built a home office and practice in Weston and taught half time, for a total of 40 years. “I was very busy building a general dentistry practice, raising a family, and teaching,” he said. Dotty enjoyed assisting him in his practice, after having worked at John Hancock for many years. She graduated from college at age 70 with a degree in sociology from Regis College, which Farrell called “one of the stellar times in our family history.”

After Maloney—Farrell’s mentor—died, Farrell became part-time head of prosthodontics at HSDM. Encouraged to enter dental politics, he served as president of the Massachusetts Dental Society in 1976. Farrell received the HSDM Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1979.

In retirement, among other activities, Farrell wrote three novels. “They told the story of our lives,” he says. “Dorothy had a brother with Down syndrome; I had an alcoholic father. Those are tough things to overcome. In the books, I described how that affected us and how we got through it.” Also difficult to overcome was the death of one of his sons several years ago. “Everything is easy after that,” he said.

Last spring, Farrell had a hip replacement. Two months later, he learned he had untreatable terminal cancer of the abdomen. “This is where family is so vital,” he said.

Looking back and facing the end, this member of the Greatest Generation offered a heartfelt statement of gratitude: “We have had 90 years of activity and interest—and love.” By any measure, a full and wonderful life.

Editor’s note: Farrell passed away on October 18, 2012.
Oral Health in the Local Community

In 2012, HSDM students—led by founding president Peggy Chang (DMD 2013)—organized the Harvard Asian American Dental Association (HAADA), under the faculty mentorship of Risha M. De Leon, a senior tutor and instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences. One of the primary goals of HAADA is to provide oral health care awareness among different ethnic groups around the Boston area. Below is a selection of the ongoing community events carried out by HAADA and other HSDM groups:

- **In April 2012,** HSDM volunteers participated in a health fair at the Wang YMCA in Chinatown, which serves the low-income Chinatown community. HAADA conducted oral screenings for 18 children, ranging from infants to 10-year-olds, provided education on oral health and nutrition to the parents, and gave away toothbrushes and toothpastes.

- **In September 2012,** HAADA provided free oral health screenings, education, and fluoride treatment at the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program at Dorchester House Multi-Service Center. Dorchester has a large population of Vietnamese immigrants who have concerns regarding their oral health and finding a dental home. This project was a collaboration with Harbor Health Services and the Dorchester South WIC program. The oral health event was promoted during WIC’s annual farmer’s market coupon giveaway program. The participants left with a toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, a referral list of possible oral health care providers, and a follow-up recommendation from the screener. DMD student volunteers Peggy Chang, Tien Ha-Ngoc, Derek Hou, Florence Kwo, Elyse Maiorini, Justin Nguyen, Jane Shin, and Matthew Silver were joined by Geiger Gibson Community Health Center staff and Wellesley College predental students. The group screened 24 patients, some of whom requested the fluoride treatment, and provided oral health education. HAADA carried out a similar event later in September at the Neponset Health Center.

- **In December 2012,** HAADA provided oral health education for mothers at the ABCD Chinese Church Head Start. This branch of Head Start has the highest rate of dental caries, and its administration requested that HAADA offer oral health education in Chinese Mandarin to the mothers regarding dental visits, diet, importance of baby teeth, and prevention of bottle caries. Mandarin-speaking HSDM students Peggy Chang, Florence Kwo, and Qian Yang showed a PowerPoint presentation and provided free toothbrushes. This event was a pilot project for a potential future collaboration between HAADA and ABCD Chinese Church Head Start.

- **In January 2013,** led by Lauren Feldman and Chelsea Aldridge (both DMD 2014), HSDM volunteers provided oral health and career path information to teens at the Boys and Girls Club of Boston Charlestown Club. The HSDM students discussed the importance of oral health, and Peggy Timothé, an HSDM senior tutor and instructor in oral health policy and epidemiology, spoke

Justin Nguyen (DMD 2013) helps a young girl learn to brush teeth at the WIC event, while her parents and Derek Hou (DMD 2014) look on.
Inspiring Future Health Professionals

Members of the HSDM community participated in the Harvard Medical School MEDscience program in October 2012, in a session organized by Risha M. De Leon, an HSDM instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences. The mission of MEDscience is “to inspire critical thinking, scientific reasoning, and essential health literacy in high-school students through high-impact learning in the dynamic world of medicine.” Several high-school students spent time at HSDM learning about various aspects of oral health. Following an introduction by Dean Bruce Donoff, Colleen Greene (DMD/MPH 2013) and Kathleen McCafferty (DMD 2013) spoke to the students about the importance of oral health. Next, Peggy Timothé, a senior tutor and instructor in oral health policy and epidemiology, presented information on paths to becoming a dental professional, and the students engaged in an exercise on composite restorations. The session ended with a tour of HSDM.

about the various career paths in oral health. The youth then participated in an exercise with dental composite material.

• **In early February 2013**, an HSDM group participated in a health care event geared for teens ages 15 and older at the Boys and Girls Club of Boston Yawkey Club of Roxbury. HSDM assisted in the session on oral health, focusing on the importance of oral health care, proper brushing techniques, and how to access dental care.

HSDM students and faculty are deeply committed to providing free oral health care in underserved communities across the Boston area. The School provides a variety of ways for different groups to participate in improving the health of hundreds of individuals.

HSDM student volunteers posed at the registration table at the WIC office in Dorchester following a successful oral health screening and education event. Back row, from left: Matthew Silver (DMD 2014), Elyse Maiorini (DMD 2013), Jane Shin (DMD 2013), Derek Hou (DMD 2014), Florence Kwo (DMD 2013), and Wellesley College predental students Stephanie Kim and Sunny Paik. Front row: Tien Ha-Ngoc (DMD 2014), Peggy Chang (DMD 2013), and Justin Nguyen (DMD 2013).
Save the Date!

HSDM Appreciation Dinner • Thursday, April 25, 2013

Every year on the fourth Thursday in April, HSDM celebrates its most loyal donors with an evening of camaraderie, good cheer, and gratitude. The evening begins with a cocktail reception, followed by a thought-provoking keynote presentation in the auditorium, and then a sit-down dinner.

In April 2013, the keynote speaker will be Dr. Dimitar Sasselov, a Harvard University professor of astronomy, director of Harvard’s Origins of Life Initiative, and coinvestigator on NASA’s planet-finding Kepler Space Telescope project. Sasselov’s work focuses on uniting the physical and life sciences in the hunt for answers to the question of how life began. The Origins of Life Initiative is a multidisciplinary center bringing together scientists in the physical and life sciences to study the transition from chemistry to life and its place in the context of the universe.

Donors to HSDM at the Nathan Cooley Keep Level or above ($1,867 or more) receive an invitation to the Appreciation Dinner. It’s not too late to become a member of this giving society. Join us!

Take Advantage of an Important Tax Relief Provision

The popular tax provision known as the IRA Charitable Rollover has been resurrected. On January 2, 2013, President Obama signed into law the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, which includes the IRA Charitable Rollover. This provision allows many investors age 70½ and older to transfer as much as $100,000 from a traditional IRA to the Harvard School of Dental Medicine until December 31, 2013, without having to count any of the transfer as taxable income. If conducted properly, the transfer counts toward the required minimum distribution for the year.

Find out if you are eligible for this tax benefit. Call Wanda Mock, assistant dean for development and alumni relations, at 617-432-5356. Or e-mail wanda_mock@hsm.harvard.edu. Don’t miss out!
Middle-School Students Visit HSDM

Every year, HSDM hosts local middle-school students through Explorations, a one-day program for selected Boston and Cambridge public middle schools. Some 250 sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students are hosted by Harvard faculty and research associates, including at HSDM and Harvard Medical School, for a day of presentations, panel discussions about educational paths, and the pairing of individual students with researchers for laboratory activities. The primary objective of the program is to provide students with additional experience outside the classroom to enhance their science and mathematics curricula.

HSDM prosthodontics resident Edward K. Brown Jr. (DMSc 2013) was the moderator at the panel discussion, and Jason Outlaw (DMD/PhD 2016) was a guest panelist. Students visited HSDM laboratories for presentations by Yefu Li, an assistant professor of developmental biology; Malcolm Whitman, a professor of developmental biology; and Xiu-Ping Wang, an assistant professor of developmental biology.
Studying Oral Health Care in Haiti

By Rishi Popat, PD09, General Dentistry (DMSc 2014, Orthodontics, Leadership Track)

When a 7.3 magnitude earthquake destroyed Haiti’s infrastructure on January 12, 2010, it further devastated Haiti’s already minimal oral health delivery system. A majority of these oral health clinics and providers were located in the capital of Port-au-Prince; oral health clinics and oral health professionals in rural areas of Haiti were nearly nonexistent. Given Haiti’s urgent need for greater access to oral health care, especially in rural areas, the development of a sustainable academic oral health clinic would be a critical and welcome advance for this underserved population.

Previous attempts by US organizations at building oral health clinics in developing nations through private and public enterprises have generally not grown out of solid conceptual frameworks and detailed analyses. HSDM is taking a different approach. Under principal investigator Elsbeth Kalenderian, chair and associate professor of oral health policy and epidemiology, HSDM is undertaking a study that will formulate the first comprehensive strategic plan to successfully develop, operate, and sustain an academic oral health clinic in rural Haiti. The overarching hypothesis of the study, which is my doctoral research, is that an evidence-based and locally tailored academic oral health clinic can be successfully developed, operated, and sustained in rural Haiti through an innovative collaboration among HSDM, the nonprofit organization Partners In Health—which has deep roots in Haiti—and experts from the local Haitian community. The initiative will ultimately combine local knowledge and workforce with expertise from HSDM and Partners In Health to create a culturally competent and relevant environment. HSDM predoctoral (DMD) students, advanced graduate specialty residents, postdoctoral fellows, and multidisciplinary faculty, as well as faculty from the Harvard School of Public Health and Harvard Medical School, will participate in the project.

The study has the following goals:
1. Assess the current oral health status, physical infrastructure, available tangible and intangible resources, and cultural norms and values present in Haiti in order to understand potential opportunities to develop a successful, operational, and sustainable academic oral health clinic in rural Haiti.

Dr. Rose Dina Premier, oral and dental health coordinator at Partners In Health/Zanmi Lasante in Haiti, shows off her HSDM mug, given to her by HSDM orthodontics resident Rishi Popat, PD09 (DMSc 2014), who is conducting postdoctoral research in collaboration with Partners In Health as a foundation for developing a sustainable oral health clinic in rural Haiti.
2. Identify best-practice models by gathering qualitative and quantitative data through the use of semistructured interviews, physical and virtual focus groups, and the literature on existing oral health clinics.

3. Develop evidence-based and practical recommendations by means of a comprehensive strategic plan based on the information gathered from the baseline in goal 1 and understanding of the various practice models available from goal 2. This plan will consist of a vision statement, workforce model, market research, and a strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) analysis.

The results of this study will provide the foundation for a comprehensive strategic plan to implement the development of a novel, sustainable academic oral health clinic in rural Haiti. HSDM expects that this work will have profound implications in strategically improving global oral health and will be recognized as an innovative business model in the systematic planning of an academic oral health clinic in developing countries. In the absence of such a venture in Haiti, oral health status, associated systemic illnesses, quality of care, economic productivity, and social well-being will continue to deteriorate in a country that has already seen more than its share of poverty and natural disaster. HSDM intends to collaborate with like-minded partners to work toward a stronger and healthier future for Haiti.

HSDM is conducting a study that will formulate the first comprehensive strategic plan to successfully develop, operate, and sustain an academic oral health clinic in rural Haiti.

Dr. Samuel E. Prophete, dean of the Faculté d’Odontologie Université d’État d’Haïti, reflects on the research collaboration with HSDM toward a sustainable academic oral health clinic in Haiti.
Making Dental Communication EZ

On November 28, 2012, HSDM hosted an inaugural conference exploring the importance of standardization in dental diagnosis and the need for a diagnostic terminology in dentistry. The focus of the conference was the EZCodes Dental Diagnostic Terminology and its scientific underpinnings. Participants included government agency representatives, members of the professional board, payers, provider groups, electronic health record vendors, members of standards organizations, and dental school educators and deans. More than 65 attendees listened to eight speakers representing different areas in the health care professions, and participants took part in brainstorming group sessions, with the results of the groups’ discussions reported to all.

Using a dental diagnostic terminology both empowers clinicians to document types and frequency of conditions they encounter and enhances communication among clinicians, thereby enabling outcomes tracking and data sharing across sites. A standard terminology permits assessment of in-depth variations in health care, health care quality, costs of care, and treatment effectiveness and outcomes. Consistent use of a diagnostic terminology will also help hone diagnostic skills—an important benefit, as studies have shown that arriving at a diagnosis before planning a treatment significantly increases the quality of the treatment plan and, ultimately, patient care.

The EZCodes Dental Diagnostic Terminology was developed in 2009 by a diagnostic terminology research workgroup led by Elsbeth Kalenderian, chair and associate professor of oral health policy and epidemiology at HSDM. Catalyzed by the Consortium for Oral Health Research and Informatics (COHRI), a collaboration of 31 academic dental institutions, the EZCodes terminology has been adopted by 15 dental schools and numerous nonacademic institutions in the United States and Europe, creating diagnostic-centric care for more than 2 million patient visits per year. Kalenderian has published numerous manuscripts related to electronic health records, patient safety in dentistry, and dental education.
HSDM Receives NIH Patient Safety Research Grant

Although clinical adverse events exact significant tolls on the health of individual patients and burden the nation with massive, avoidable costs, currently little to no understanding exists about the type or frequency of patient safety issues in dentistry. Dentists, like physicians, routinely perform highly technical procedures in complex environments, work in teams, and use a multitude of devices and tools, but the patient safety revolution has bypassed dentistry. Only the grossest of dental care adverse events have been documented.

In order to reduce patient harm and improve the quality of care delivered, there is a critical need to define and identify adverse events in dental settings. In the long term, it is important to understand the causes of dental adverse events and develop interventions to minimize their occurrence. Elsbeth Kalenderian, chair and associate professor of oral health policy and epidemiology, and colleagues recently received a grant from the National Institutes of Health to develop the tools necessary to document dental adverse events and generate a classification scheme and repository that can help organize and link adverse events—both of which are entirely novel contributions to dental care and research. These steps will enable a new field of dental research that has broad and direct implications for patient safety, quality improvement, and health economics. As part of the project, five dental organizations, which together see more than 100,000 patients per year, will begin to systematically collect and analyze adverse events, thus creating a rich set of data to improve the quality of dental care. In addition, this project will greatly raise awareness of the importance of patient safety in dentistry.
PAHO Internships Benefit Students and Communities

In 2010, HSDM signed an agreement with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), which serves as the Regional Office for the Americas of the World Health Organization. The agreement, which will be renewed in February 2013, created PAHO internship opportunities in international oral health for HSDM students. These internships offer the students valuable field experience while advancing global oral health, particularly through PAHO’s Caries Free Communities Initiative. In addition, the establishment of an official relationship between PAHO and HSDM promotes awareness of oral health as an essential component of general health.

To date, four HSDM students have served as PAHO interns, with a fifth recently completing an elective rotation in geriatric dentistry in Brazil and two additional interns slated to participate in summer 2013. Below are reflections from the four students about their experiences working with PAHO.

“My internship at PAHO was remarkable in that everyone involved understood that oral health is everybody’s business, not just the business of the dentist. Instead of fighting professional turf wars, Dr. Saskia Estupiñán-Day, my supervisor, focused on bringing together stakeholders from academia, public health, professional associations, clinics, government, and industry to create a vision for addressing the oral health needs of vulnerable populations in the region.

While at PAHO, I assisted Dr. Estupiñán-Day, PAHO’s regional adviser on oral health, in designing and executing a community assessment for PAHO’s Caries Free Communities Initiative. This project seeks to implement community-based solutions that improve oral health in communities that have not seen the improvements witnessed more broadly in the Pan-American Region. After a summer in Washington, D.C., I traveled to Ecuador as a WHO technical assistant to perform community assessments in 17 communities across the country.

The experience fundamentally changed me. I came to understand that many innovations for health care delivery exist outside the United States, and that we must humble ourselves and explore how other societies are providing affordable, accessible, patient-centered oral health care in the face of resource limitations. Also, I came to discover that Ecuador had only recently implemented universal health care and placed oral health at the center of its primary care system (particularly in rural areas), something that has only happened on the margins of US health care.

Now that I am back in the United States, I cannot help asking if we have a unified vision for oral health in this country, particularly to reduce disparities for our vulnerable populations, which are growing in numbers. After my experience at PAHO, instead of asking, ‘How can I get into the system?’ I now ask, ‘How can I improve the system?’”

—Jason Outlaw (DMD/DMSc 2016), Summer 2009 PAHO Intern
“My primary objective as a PAHO intern was to develop an educational module for community health workers in Haiti on a neglected disease known as noma. Noma is an aggressive gangrenous infection that rapidly destroys orofacial tissues and primarily affects children born into conditions of abject poverty. Surprisingly, little has been done to prevent this deadly disease, which kills 70 percent to 90 percent of its victims. Those who survive are left with grotesque facial deformities that often lead to a lifetime of social alienation.

Although it is most prevalent in Sub-Saharan Africa, with cases estimated by some experts at more than 140,000 annually, noma was recently documented in Haiti. The urgency of addressing the problem of noma there was compounded by the earthquake that struck on January 12, 2010, which further destabilized a precarious environment in which the risk factors for noma were already prevalent.

My internship was based out of PAHO’s oral health department in Washington, D.C. To help me develop the educational materials, PAHO connected me with experts on noma from academic institutions, international health agencies, and the nonprofit sector. I had the privilege of working with Dr. Cyril Enwonwu, the world’s premier noma expert, and Dr. Priscilla Benner, director of MAMA Project Inc., both of whom were enthusiastic collaborators on my project.

In just eight weeks, I was able to see how public health policies are established on a global scale, befriend experts in my field of research, and write a tangible educational curriculum that was implemented on the ground to prevent a noma outbreak. It was everything I could have asked for—and more. The curriculum was a succinct, interactive, and engaging module about noma, which was incorporated into PAHO’s Train the Trainer program. It was designed to build awareness of noma and empower community health workers and families to engage in practices that will significantly improve maternal and child health. This curriculum addressed an unmet educational need for communities at risk of developing noma and is being used to prevent a potential outbreak of this terrible disease in Haiti.”

—Abraham Itty (DMD 2013), Summer PAHO 2010 Intern

It is common for rural communities in Ecuador to maintain 2-D and 3-D maps of the community. These maps pinpointed the health challenges faced by local residents. The photo was taken in Penipe, an indigenous community in the province of Chimborazo, during HSDM PAHO intern Jason Outlaw’s project.

Abraham Itty (DMD 2013) with Dr. Saskia Estupiñán-Day, director of the PAHO internship program, and Anna Scharfen, a summer intern from the University of California, Los Angeles.
“Last summer, I spent seven weeks as an intern at the PAHO in Washington, D.C. My mission was to promote the recognition of global oral health care issues and combat barriers to access of health care in vulnerable populations. I was working under PAHO’s Caries Free Communities Initiative, an eight-year plan that represents the sustained effort to reduce the number of infections and increase the coverage of services in vulnerable populations in the Region of the Americas by the year 2015. My internship consisted of researching ways to teach health care issues and using this research to design a program to train dentists and primary health care workers in developing countries to treat issues relating to oral health. The goal of the workshop upon implementation was to empower dentists to go into target communities and provide primary care workers with the skills and confidence needed to diagnose and treat oral diseases, as well as promote preventive measures.

Through this internship, I learned about health policy issues and their direct translation to population health, the ways in which decisions are made, and the impact of these decisions on individual lives. I learned how to apply principles of health care policy and epidemiology, such as finding the need, increasing access, and improving the delivery of health care.

I came to dental school knowing the ‘what’ and the ‘why,’ but the ‘how’ had always eluded me—how was I, as a future dentist, going to make a real impact? My experience at PAHO gave me an understanding of how I want to make my vision into a reality. It has allowed me to use my creative thinking to work directly on the problems I see in oral health. My project involved creating an oral health educational module that can be used to train dentists, who in turn will train primary health care workers, who in turn will treat and educate patients. The training workshop took successes from the problem-based-learning style of HSDM, the marketing strategies of the private sector, and the already established train-the-trainer model. Thus, my colleagues and I were able to design a workshop that we believe will bring closer the vision of integrating oral and systemic health.”

—Justin Nguyen (DMD 2013), Summer 2011 PAHO Intern

“My summer project at PAHO involved researching the effects that a United Nations ban on mercury would have on the availability of dental amalgam and on dental care worldwide. I attended the INC4 conference in Punta del Este, Uruguay, which dealt with making a globally binding treaty regarding the use of mercury. I sat in on plenary as well as small group sessions and saw firsthand the progress being made at the United Nations regarding mercury legislations in general and amalgam in particular. Upon returning from Uruguay, I conducted a literature review on the different forms of mercury toxicity and the specific ways in which mercury releases from amalgam can be harmful to the environment and to human health. I also reviewed the effectiveness and cost of alternative materials to amalgam. Based on my research, I came up with a number of recommendations for the safe use of amalgam and came to the conclusion that, although it is not currently economically feasible to limit the use of amalgam, certain precautions must be taken in order to protect human health.

My experience was amazing for a number of reasons. I learned about a topic that is becoming increasingly relevant to global oral health. I was able to attend a UN conference in Uruguay and learn about public policy and oral health and was able to attend conferences at PAHO. Most important, I had a number of wonderful mentors and was able to meet people involved in different oral health initiatives. The experience exposed me to the variety of ways one can affect global oral health, including through collaboration with governmental and nongovernmental organizations, research, and public policy. My internship broadened my thinking about how I want to be involved in global oral health in the future.”

—Eliezer Brecher (DMD 2015), Summer 2012 PAHO Intern

Justin Nguyen (DMD 2013) rejoices at the PAHO headquarters in Washington, D.C., at the start of his internship.
The Harvard Medical School Center for Primary Care held its second annual Primary Care Innovations Conference on October 10, 2012. The conference highlighted the exciting work taking place within the primary care community, facilitated knowledge sharing, and offered networking opportunities for primary care innovators and practitioners. Several members of the HSDM community were selected for poster presentations at the conference. One major focus of HSDM efforts is the integration of oral health and primary care, and HSDM representatives showcased many aspects of these efforts.

Above: Brian Swann, an HSDM instructor in oral health policy and epidemiology, presented his poster, “Maximizing Delivery of Oral Health Care Using Shared Appointments.”

Below: Dean Bruce Donoff, right, listens to Abraham Itty (DMD 2013) discuss his poster presentation, “Evaluation of the Influence of Home Visits in Altering Dental Students’ Perceptions of Individuals with Special Healthcare Needs.”

Sang Park, an HSDM senior tutor and assistant professor of restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences (left), explained her poster presentation, “Development and Implementation of a Patient-Centered Assessment System at Harvard School of Dental Medicine,” to Romesh Nalliah, HSDM senior tutor and instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences; Ralph Fuccillo, president of the DentaQuest Foundation; and Kimberly Ritrievi, chair of the HSDM Dean’s Advisory Board. Nalliah also presented a poster, “Initiatives to Improve Access to Oral Health Care for Homeless Individuals in Boston, MA.”
Alumni Trends in Dental Public Health

By Sawsan Salih (PD 2013, Dental Public Health)

In early 2012, as part of my residency training, I sent surveys to a total of 80 former fellows and postgraduate alumni who had received training in the Department of Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology (OHPE) at HSDM. Mary Tavares, director of the Advanced Graduate Education Program in Dental Public Health, was the faculty adviser for the project. We received 51 responses (63.75 percent) containing the professional and demographic information the respondents chose to share with us. Among other questions, the survey asked participants to indicate their current job titles and seniority level, year of graduation, and self-identified gender.

Of the 51 survey respondents, 47 currently serve communities across the United States, with one in Khon Kaen, Thailand. The data demonstrate the increasing interest in dental public health after the 1970s, as more professionals, most of whom are dentists, pursued training in that field. Many of the survey participants now hold professional positions of leadership and seniority.

While the majority of survey participants (44, or 86 percent) were dentists (with DDS, DMD, or BDS degrees), their professional backgrounds were diverse. Many had received training in multiple disciplines, including geriatric dentistry and oral epidemiology. Nearly half of all survey participants (25, or 49 percent), however, received certificates in dental public health (DPH Cert.), of which 12 (24 percent) also participated in postdoctoral fellowships. Seven of the survey participants (14 percent) received DMSc degrees from Harvard University, and 22 of the dental public health certificates were from HSDM.

The survey results also showed interesting trends, including a dramatic demographic shift in the number of males and females based on the decade of graduation (see graphs).

As the survey demonstrated, alumni from the Department of Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology followed many different paths after leaving HSDM. But whichever roads these individuals traveled, they took with them the strong foundation of their education at this innovative institution.
The graph at right not only demonstrates the demographic shift between male and female alumni who participated in the survey, but also shows a dramatic increase in the number of alumni from the 1970s to the 1990s, with the number of male alumni outnumbering females. While there has not been a significant change in the number of alumni from the 1990s to 2000s, the number of female alumni greatly surpassed that of males in the survey. In the 2000s, one individual did not specify gender.

The graph at right shows a dramatic shift in the number of male and female department alumni over the decades. Among survey participants, only one person, a male, graduated in 1979. In the 1980s and 1990s, the percentage of female alumni increased gradually (35.71 percent to 38.89 percent), and seemed to converge toward 50 percent. From 2000 to 2009, however, the percentage of female alumni more than doubled, as 88.24 percent of the trainees were female and only 11.76 percent were male.
Fundraiser Boosts Scholarships

On a lovely fall evening in late September 2012, Alan Perkin, PD68 (periodontology), and Donna Nicholas graciously hosted HSDM alumni and friends from the Massachusetts/New Hampshire area for a fundraiser at the Wentworth-by-the-Sea Country Club in Rye, New Hampshire. All proceeds from the event were directed to the HSDM General Scholarship Fund.

After brief remarks by Perkin and Dean Bruce Donoff, HSDM students Alan Carlotto (DMD 2014), Ashley Coulter (DMD 2014), and Diana Montagu (DMD 2013) spoke movingly to the group about their lives and the ways in which the scholarships they received from the School allowed them to pursue their dreams of becoming oral health professionals. Although these bright young people will have enormous debts when they leave HSDM, the scholarships have lessened that burden in some degree. HSDM is focusing major efforts on raising funds for scholarships, so that the School may be able to attract the most promising and outstanding students, regardless of their financial situation. The Wentworth-by-the-Sea event was a wonderful example of what can happen when like-minded and dedicated people come together for a common cause. HSDM is most grateful to Alan Perkin and Donna Nicholas for their generosity in hosting this event.

Fundraiser hosts Alan Perkin, PD68 (periodontology), left, and Donna Nicholas, right, flank (from left) Mrs. Mady Donoff; Dean Bruce Donoff; Johnny Chiou, MMSc02 (prosthodontics), left, greets host Alan Perkin, PD68 (periodontology), at the HSDM scholarship fundraiser.
New Hope for Treating Osteoporosis

By Kevin Jiang, Harvard Medicine News

Researchers have discovered a new role for a well-known signaling protein that regulates how bone marrow stem cells turn into either bone or fat. The discovery could potentially lead to new treatments for osteoporosis.

“It shifts the thinking about what controls the differentiation of stem cells to bone cells instead of fat cells, and how to make sure this mechanism stays active with aging,” said Bjorn R. Olsen, HSDM dean for research and professor of developmental biology and Hersey professor of cell biology at Harvard Medical School. The finding was published in the Journal of Clinical Investigation in September 2012.

Osteoporosis, a common bone disease characterized by thinning of bone tissue, affects one in five American women over the age of 50. In healthy individuals, bone is continuously formed and reabsorbed by the body. This balance is upset in osteoporotic patients. In their systems, stem cells that normally differentiate into bone-forming cells seem to become fat cells instead over time.

To study this process, Olsen, the senior investigator on the paper, and his team of two postdoctoral researchers, Agnes Berendsen and Yanqiu Liu, and collaborators, focused on the role of vascular endothelial growth factor, or VEGF, a common signaling protein vital to blood vessel formation in early bone development and skeletal maintenance in mammals.

The researchers developed a genetically modified mouse that lacked the ability to produce VEGF in bone marrow stem cells. They found that these mice developed an osteoporosis-like skeleton after birth, including reduced bone tissue and a buildup of fat in the bone. Stem cells isolated from these mice in culture were more likely to differentiate into fat cells rather than bone-forming cells.

Using a technique called RNA interference, the researchers switched off VEGF in the stem cells of wild-type mice. This produced the same result, verifying the importance of the protein for normal differentiation of stem cells to bone-forming cells.

Since VEGF is typically a secreted protein that works by activating receptors on the surface of cells, the team introduced extra VEGF protein to the cell cultures in an attempt to restore normal differentiation. They found no effect.

However, when they introduced a virus containing a coding segment of VEGF, the stem cells began producing the protein and differentiated into bone-forming cells at rates typical of normal cells.

This and other data provided strong evidence that the ability of bone marrow stem cells to differentiate into bone-forming cells relies on intracellular VEGF function, the researchers concluded. This unexpected finding was verified through additional biochemical and control experiments.

The team also determined that VEGF regulates key molecules that affect bone formation and fat cell differentiation, as well as a nuclear protein that has been associated with premature aging.

The researchers now plan on further characterizing the pathways involved with VEGF signaling in bone marrow stem cells and on discovering potential drug targets.

“We need to understand the mechanisms better and find targets that can allow us to increase intracellular VEGF function in these cells,” said Olsen. “If we find such targets, we’d like to examine whether increasing levels of VEGF in mouse models of osteoporosis can restore their bone formation to normal levels. That would be quite exciting.”
Dental Bites

HSDM News

DEAN BRUCE DONOFF, DMD67, MD73, published an article in the Summer 2012 issue of the Journal of the Massachusetts Dental Society concerning the need for a PGY-1 option for licensure. That issue of the Journal also included the Pathology Snapshot “Caliber-Persistent Labial Artery,” coauthored by HSDM’s SOOK-BIN WOO, DMD89, MMSc91, PD91 (oral biology), an associate professor of oral medicine, infection, and immunity and director of the Advanced Graduate Education Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology; MARK A. LERMAN, an instructor in oral medicine, infection, and immunity and director of the Predoctoral Program in Oral Pathology; and VIKKI NOONAN, a clinical instructor in oral medicine, infection, and immunity.

DEAN BRUCE DONOFF spoke in January 2013 at the Harvard Club of Washington, D.C., on “Oral Health in Primary Care: The Role of the Dentist.”

MEDHA SINGH, DMD, a clinical instructor in oral medicine, infection, and immunity at HSDM, was inducted as a fellow in the American College of Dentists at the American Dental Association annual meeting in San Francisco, California, in October. The American College of Dentists is the oldest major honorary organization for dentists, epitomizing excellence, ethics, professionalism, and leadership in dentistry. Fellowship symbolizes leadership and meritorious achievement, and only 3.5 percent of dentists in the United States are fellows of the American College of Dentists.

DONALD GIDDON, DMD59, PD62 (periodontology), an HSDM clinical professor of developmental biology, published the opinion piece “Oral Physicians” in the British Dental Journal in November. The paper examines the future role of oral physicians and patients’ need for dental professionals to play a larger part in overall health care. In October, Giddon was one of four members of a panel discussion at the American Dental Association’s (ADA) Open Clinical and Science Forum on screening for medical conditions in the dental office. Giddon presented the results of his recent work at the Cambridge Health Alliance on the oral physician. The forum took place at the annual meeting of the ADA in San Francisco. At the second ADA Open Clinical and Science Forum, an expert panel that included HSDM faculty members THOMAS DODSON, DMD84, MPH84, a professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, and SOOK-BIN WOO, DMD89, MMSc91, PD91 (oral biology), an associate professor of oral medicine, infection, and immunity and director of the Advanced Graduate Education Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, focused on medication-associated osteonecrosis of the jaw. This is a major topic in dentistry and one about which few definitive answers have been discovered. An article about Dodson’s presentation appeared on DrBicuspid.com.

BJORN R. OLSEN, dean for research and professor of developmental biology at HSDM and Hersey professor of cell biology at HMS, spoke in May at the Harvard Club of Cape Cod on the topic “Understanding and Treating Osteoarthritis.” Olsen was also a keynote speaker at the Cold Spring Harbor Asia 2012 Symposium “Bone and Cartilage: From Development to Human Diseases,” held in Suzhou, China, in June.

VICKI ROSEN, chair and professor of developmental biology, was an invited speaker at the symposium.

ROSEN was also a keynote speaker, presentation judge, and panel speaker at the fourth Tissue Engineering Symposium of the Sydney University Tissue Engineering Network. The symposium, titled “Programming Stem Cells for Bone, Blood, and Cartilage Regeneration:

Representatives from Sunstar, a company concerned with oral care, among other areas, met with Dean Bruce Donoff (second from right) in August 2012. Sunstar personnel pictured are, from left, Krish Raman, senior executive director, Sunstar Suisse SA; Dr. Richard Demke, director of clinical and technical affairs, Sunstar Americas Inc.; and Masakazu Nakamura, CEO, Sunstar Suisse SA.
Current State and Future Prospective,” was held in August at the University of Sydney, Australia.

RISHA M. DE LEON, an HSDM senior tutor and instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences, was recently named one of Ten Under 10 by the Massachusetts Dental Society. The honor celebrates dentists who have graduated from dental school within the past 10 years and have made a significant contribution to the profession, their community, and/or organized dentistry. (See page 6 for an article about her community work.) De Leon is also president of the Women’s Dental Society of Massachusetts.

XIU-PING WANG, an assistant professor of developmental biology at HSDM, received a 2012 Eleanor and Miles Shore Fellowship, the Harvard School of Dental Medicine Fellowship in Honor of Aina M. Auskaps, DMD. Auskaps, DMD55, was the first woman DMD graduate of HSDM. The Eleanor and Miles Shore 50th Anniversary Fellowship Program for Scholars in Medicine is designed to help junior faculty “at the point in their careers when they must teach, do research, compete for grants, publish, or practice (if a clinical faculty member) at the same time they may be assuming increased family or other responsibilities.” Wang heads the Wang Laboratory at HSDM, which studies the molecular genetics of craniofacial and tooth development and the regulation of stem cells in teeth.

HSDM was among the 11 dental schools selected to participate in the American Dental Education Association/University of the Pacific Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry Dental Pipeline National Learning Institute. The institute is a new training program dedicated to increasing recruitment and retention among low-income and underrepresented minority students at dental schools, with the goal of creating a diverse workforce of dentists who understand the oral health care needs of patients from underserved populations. Under the direction of BRIAN SWANN, a public health dentist and instructor in oral health policy and epidemiology, and RISHA M. DE LEON, an instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences, HSDM plans to eventually establish a sustainable site on the Massachusetts island of Martha’s Vineyard to both bridge the disparity in oral care access for the Wampanoag tribe and enhance HSDM students’ clinical experience working with this underserved population.

MARY TAVARES, director of the Advanced Graduate Education Program in Dental Public Health, was appointed to the Council on Dental Education and Licensure’s Continuing Education Recognition Program Committee (CERP) of the American Dental Association. Tavares was nominated by the American Association of Public Health Dentists to represent the dental public health specialty on the committee. The group is charged with reviewing policies and other matters related to continuing dental education and reviewing applications from providers of continuing education applying for CERP approval.

Several HSDM faculty members were featured in a variety of media outlets. BRITTANY SEYMOUR, an instructor in oral health policy and epidemiology, was quoted on everydayhealth.com in an article about controlling the caries-causing bacterium *Streptococcus mutans*. DAVID KIM, MMSc85 (periodontology) an assistant professor or oral medicine, infection, and immunity and director of the Predoctoral Program in Periodontology, was quoted on MensHealth.com Singapore in an article about the benefits of flossing. DOLRUDEE JUMLONGRAS, PhD03, a pediatric dentist and instructor in developmental biology, was quoted in an article in the *New York Times* that discussed a new multimedia public service campaign to promote oral health among children. MARC NEVINS, an assistant clinical professor of oral medicine, infection, and immunity, was interviewed by Dental Implantologie & Parodontologie International, a German media outlet, about a new international study on the incidence of peri-implantitis with different implant systems.

Members of HSDM Prosthodontics posed at the Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics (GNYAP) meeting in December 2012. As part of the GNYAP mentoring program, five DMD students from HSDM attended the meeting. Dental students from all schools in the Northeast are able to attend as a guest of a GNYAP Fellow. Robert Wright, director of the HSDM Advanced Graduate Education Program in Prosthodontics, served as the host for these students. *Front row, from left:* Lauren Kai (DMD 2014), Tien Ha-Ngoc (DMD 2014), Victor Chiang (DMD 2014), Caleb Kim (MMSc 2013, prosthodontics). *Back row:* Jin Lin (DMD 2014), Bernard Boback (DMD 2014), Wright, David Kim (MMSc 2013, prosthodontics), and HSDM prosthodontics alumnus Siamak Abai, MMSc11.

continued
The late summer always brings exciting energy and fresh perspectives to the School with the arrival of the new classes of DMD students and advanced graduate residents. Below and on the following page are the most recent members of the HSDM community.

Surface Treatments on Shear-Bond Strength of Interim Restorative Resins” at the New England Section of the ACP and went on to compete nationally at the ACP in Baltimore. This presentation represents joint research between DMD and advanced graduate prosthodontics residents and faculty, as well as global research among HSDM advanced prosthodontics residents, Seoul National University, and Korea University. JASON LEE (MMSc 2013, prosthodontics) presented “Maxillary Ceramo-Zirconia Opposing Mandibular Acrylic-Titanium Prostheses on Guided Immediate Loaded Implants.” CHAN CHEONG (DMSc 2014, prosthodontics) presented “Effects of Surface Characteristics of Denture Base Resins on the Adhesion of Candida Albicans to Prevent Denture Stomatitis: A Case Study.” STEPHAN YOON (DMD 2013) presented “Total Occlusal Convergence of Crown Preparations by Dental Students” at the ACP Annual Session.

At the Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics meeting in December 2012, DAVID S. KIM (MMSc 2013, prosthodontics) presented the poster “Two-Visit CAD/CAM Denture with Immediately Loaded Implant Supported Bar.” A presentation and a submitted publication are required for HSDM graduation. Kim’s poster presentation represented HSDM at the national/international meeting.

HAWAZIN ELANI (MMSc 2015, prosthodontics) presented the paper “Socioeconomic Inequalities and Oral Health in Canada and the United States” in the Journal of Dental Research in July. Elani also discussed the article in the Journal of the Canadian Dental Association in December.

JEFFREY T. SLOVIN, a member of the HSDM Dean’s Advisory Board, was appointed chief executive officer of Sirona Dental Systems Inc., a leader in dental technology, effective February 20, 2013.

KEYVAN SOHRABI (MMSc 2013, dental public health) was selected by the board of directors of the American Dental Education Association to serve on the ADEA PASS (Postdoctoral Application Support Service) Task Force for a three-year term beginning in March 2013.

COLLEEN GREENE (DMD/MPH 2013), president of the American Student Dental Association, was profiled in the Summer 2012 issue of the Journal of the Massachusetts Dental Society.

continued
Alumni News

Last fall, LEONARDO BUCK, DMD42, of Bath, Maine, was honored by the Maine State Golf Association for his long service to golf in the state and other organizations, including the United States Golf Association. Buck, 96, had a long career as a dentist in Bath.

ALEXANDER ANTON, DMD42, an orthodontist in Portland, Maine, passed away on October 28, 2012, at the age of 93.

DANIEL J. FARRELL, DMD51, passed away on October 18, 2012 (a profile of Farrell appears on page 4).

JAMES E. MULVYHILL, DMD66, PD69 (periodontology), received the Sanctae Crucis Award from his undergraduate alma mater, the College of the Holy Cross, for his “dedication to healing and commitment to the health and welfare of a nation, for his expertise and skill, and his tireless support and loyalty to the College and community.”


MARJORIE JEFFCOAT, DMD76, PD78 (periodontology), was appointed expert content editor for Medscape.

RICHARD VALACHOVIC, PD82 (pediatric dentistry), executive director of the American Dental Education Association and president of the ADEAGies Foundation, was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine, of which he is a 1977 DMD graduate. Valachovic was a faculty member at HSDM for many years, as well as dean for clinical affairs and director of postdoctoral education.

GARY LINDNER, DMSc83 (orthodontics), was the subject of a profile in the Bedford Patch, of Bedford, New Hampshire, where Lindner and his wife, ROCHELLE LINDNER, DMD82, have had a practice since 1985. Lindner Dental Associates recently welcomed BRADLEY FIELD, PD12 (pediatric dentistry), to the practice.

NINETTE RAYJI BANDAY, SDM84, DMSc96 (oral epidemiology), is head of dental services at Ambulatory Healthcare Services in Abu Dhabi and Al Ain in the United Arab Emirates. She writes: “My training at HSDM has contributed tremendously to this leadership role I have now.”

The American Dental Association (ADA) installed ROBERT A. FAIELLA, MMSc85, PD85 (periodontology), as president during a meeting of the ADA House of Delegates in San Francisco in October.

TIMOTHY S. MARTINEZ, DMD86, was recently appointed by California Governor Edmund G. Brown to the Dental Hygiene Committee of California. Martinez has been associate dean for community partnerships and access to care.
MICHELLE GREENBERG
HUTCHINSON, DMD87, MPH87, president of wordhelper.com, writes: “I have edited 13 books, including 2012’s Dear Kate: Reflections on Risk and Rewards after the Storm by Brad Fortier. Nobel Prize–winning economist Dr. Harry Markowitz calls Dear Kate ‘inspirational’ and says, ‘Between its covers, you will find wisdom about life in general and financial planning in particular.”

DEBORAH A. HIMELHOCH, MMSc90 (orthodontics), has been appointed a clinical assistant professor of orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics at the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dentistry. She has also received a staff appointment at Franciscan Hospital for Children in Boston and will be supervising orthodontic treatment provided by both orthodontic and pediatric dental residents as they rotate through the hospital. Himelhoch maintains a full-time private practice in both orthodontics and pediatric dentistry in Framingham, Massachusetts.

MINDY GREENBLATT STREEM, DMD05, and SASHA ROSS, DMD08, are organizing a Women in Dentistry dinner in Cleveland, Ohio, to be held March 14, 2013. The dinner, a fundraiser for The Wellness Institute at Cleveland Clinic, will feature keynote speaker Dr. Michael Roizen.

ROBERT L. SMITH, DMD07, reports that he is an orthodontics resident at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

LISA DeLUCIA, PD10 (pediatric dentistry), was honored in October by the Golisano Foundation with a 2012 Leadership Award for Exemplary Healthcare Services for “extraordinary work to improve healthcare and access to care for people with intellectual disabilities.” DeLucia is a dentist in private practice in Webster, New York, and teaches pediatric dentistry residents at the Eastman Institute for Oral Health at the University of Rochester Medical Center. DeLucia was profiled in late December in the “This Week’s Women to Watch” section of herRochester.com of the Rochester, New York, Democrat and Chronicle website.

ANNA YUAN, PD12 (general practice residency), is profiled in the Student Life section of the Penn Dental Medicine website. Yuan received her DMD degree from Penn Dental Medicine in 2011.

MICHAEL N. HATTON, PD83 (oral and maxillofacial surgery), received the Humanitarian Award from the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine.

MORTON SOBEL, a former assistant professor at HSDM, writes: “I’m delighted to report that I have recently had my book Aux Tros Saisons—An Inn in Burgundy published and invite all of my former students, colleagues, and friends at Harvard to join me in the tale of my life after I left HSDM. It has been eventful, satisfying, and I have enjoyed, and continue to enjoy, every moment. My website is mortsobel.com.”

above: “Jack Dillenberg’s presentation at the Greater New York Dental Meeting was enjoyed by all,” writes Richard Black, DMD84, MPH84. Dillenberg, MPH78, left, posed with Black at the meeting. below: “The largest health care event in the United States is the Greater New York Dental Meeting,” writes Black. “It provided a venue for the smallest reunion of the Class of 1984: Quynhchi Van Lang, DMD84, and Richard Black.”

HSDM: A Step Ahead in Justice

HSDM has long been at the forefront of embracing diversity when other schools would not. Robert Tanner Freeman, DMD 1869, who had been rejected by other dental schools, was the first African American dental school graduate in the country. HSDM Dean Paul Goldhaber was the first Jewish dean at Harvard University. Among those rejected by another school was Norman Trieger, DMD54, who graduated from college at Emory, in Atlanta, but was rejected by the Emory School of Dentistry. “We don’t want too many New York boys down here,” he was told. In fact, Trieger was not alone but one of the many Jewish students who was either rejected outright or was flunked and humiliated at Emory’s dental school between 1948 and 1961, in a campaign of anti-Semitism led by the school’s then-dean John E. Buhler. After receiving his DMD at HSDM, Trieger became an oral surgeon with an illustrious career, including serving as chair of dentistry at the University of California, Los Angeles, and joint chair of dentistry at Albert Einstein Medical School and Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx, as well as author of numerous publications.

In October 2012, Emory University brought together surviving members of that discrimination and their families for an evening of apology and remembrance. Trieger attended the event and passed away three days later, at the age of 83.
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 www.hsdm.harvard.edu.

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Address (home) ___________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________________________ State ______ Zip ______

Is this an address change? □ Yes □ No  Preferred address? □ Yes □ No

Address (office) __________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________________________ State ______ Zip ______

Is this an address change? □ Yes □ No  Preferred address? □ Yes □ No

Phone (home) __________________________ Phone (office) __________________________

Preferred e-mail __________________________________________

Harvard degrees and year __________________________ Specialization __________________________

News ______________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

Nondental activities and hobbies _________________________________________________________________

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Back cover: Risha M. De Leon, senior tutor and instructor in restorative dentistry and biomaterials sciences, helps a young girl learn how to brush her teeth with the help of a furry friend. Photo by Peggy Chang.
Developing and fostering a community of global leaders advancing oral and systemic health.