

Winter 2009

# Explorer, Winter 2009

College of Dental Medicine

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Winter 2009

# THE EXPLORER

*Focus: Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery*



NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE

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## ALUMNI REUNION FEBRUARY 20-21, 2009 NSU COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE

**Friday:**  
5:00 pm - Reception

**Saturday:**  
8:30 AM course with Heidi Jackson  
1:30 - Alumni Advisory Committee  
6:00 PM - Dinner

**For Registration**  
**Contact Margie Bell**  
**t: 954-262-7302**  
**email: bmarjori@nova.edu**

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## Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine Fort Lauderdale, FL <http://dental.nova.edu>

THE EXPLORER  
Winter 2009

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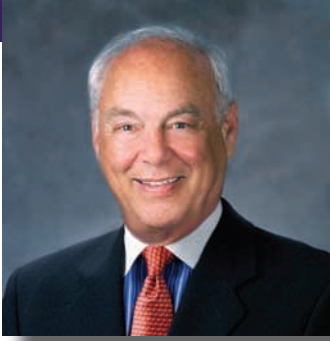
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Programs in dentistry, advanced education in general dentistry, endodontics, orthodontics, periodontics, pediatric dentistry, prosthodontics, and oral and maxillofacial surgery are accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, telephone number 404-679-4501) to award associate's, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees.

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## Dean's Letter



With the start of the New Year and a new President taking office in Washington, I think everyone is optimistic that 2009 will be a better year. As educators, we are looking to the future of dentistry and dental education. NSU College of Dental Medicine is currently working on the development of a strategic plan that deals with some very important issues that we will face in the next few years.

One of the concerns that our Strategic Planning committee continues to realize is most important are faculty related issues. In order to provide the best education for our students, we need to attract and retain quality faculty. Salaries continue to be a huge obstacle and can't compete with the salaries that dentists can earn in private practice. On the plus side, education is and will continue to be an excellent, stable job field.

Our next concern relates to students and the financing of their education. The number of AADSAS applications, while still strong, is down nationally compared to the same time last year. There are currently about 11,000 applications to dental schools nationwide in particular, but we are seeing a decline in the number of minority applicants. While there are plenty of qualified candidates, the dilemma is ensuring that they will be able to finance their education. With the cost of tuition in private schools averaging \$50,000 a year, students max out on the amount of federal money that they can borrow. Private financing is becoming more difficult for everyone and almost impossible for international students. As a young school, NSU does not have the scholarships and endowments that older schools enjoy. This is something that we are addressing. The University and the College of Dental Medicine will soon be embarking on a major financial campaign to begin to fulfill this need.

As evidenced by the number of applicants still applying to NSU, the dental profession is strong and is still one of the most sought after health professional careers. We must, however, continuously be looking to the future so that we can be proactive rather than reactive.

Access to care is a concern nationwide. We have been fortunate to receive several grants recently, which will allow us to help some of these populations. We have a new clinic in east Fort Lauderdale that provides treatment to AIDS/HIV patients and we are finalizing plans to open a clinic in Pensacola to provide care to underserved children in that area. An agreement with the local Boys and Girls Clubs of Broward County will allow us to treat children who have no other means of care. There are so many others who need dental care and can't get it!

By encouraging programs that address access to care, by placing graduates in rural areas of service need by, assisting with loan repayment is a win-win. New graduates face huge loan repayments and job opportunities, particularly with the changing economy, are not as abundant or as lucrative as they once were. By providing an opportunity and an incentive for these new graduates to work in rural health centers and county health departments everyone will benefit.

We hope that Alumni and friends, who have enjoyed success in the profession and realize the value of the education they received, will give back not just to NSU but to dentistry. Whether it is through donations to help new students, volunteering in your community or getting involved in some other manner, this is dentistry's future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert A. Uchin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Robert A. Uchin, D.D.S., Dean



# Chancellor's *Letter*

This past year, NSU's College of Dental Medicine has expanded its services to the medically underserved, while continuing to be a leader in cutting-edge research.

I am pleased to announce that the college has initiated services at the NSU Community Dental Center in Ft. Lauderdale and a pediatric special needs dental clinic that opened at Joe DiMaggio's Children's Hospital in Hollywood.

The pediatric clinic was made possible by a federal grant from the U.S. Bureau of Health Professions to train dental students to treat pediatric patients with cleft, cranial facial, and other special needs. The grant provides the college with \$1.3 million over three years.

Other grants the college has received include \$184,747 from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration to support a Community Based Dental Partnership Program under the direction of Dr. Stephen Abel, assistant dean of the college's extramural affairs.

The college received a \$256,145 grant from Health Foundation of South Florida to provide oral health services to more than 600 uninsured children and adults in south Broward County. With this grant support, we are able to provide dental services for two years beginning in the fall.

We are partnering with Memorial Healthcare System's Health Intervention with Targeted Services (HITS) program to provide oral health services such as exams, fluoride application, oral hygiene instruction, and restorative services.

Dental researchers Drs. Peter Murray, Kenneth Namerow, Sergio Kuttler, and Franklin Garcia-Godoy were awarded a \$125,000 research grant from Dentsply Tulsa Dental, the world's largest dental materials supplier. The award will help them develop future dental treatments involving stem cells. Drs. Garcia-Godoy and Murray were also awarded \$201,450 from the National Institute of Health to help deliver safer dental materials.

Dr. Garcia-Godoy and his team of talented investigators have brought in \$2.7 million of research funding in the last three years. One member of the team, Dr. Jeffrey Thompson, received a \$1.7 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for his research on ways to make dental ceramics stronger. Thompson hopes to produce tougher ceramics that will make dental products stronger and longer lasting for patients.

By 2010, research at the College of Dental Medicine and throughout the University will expand with the opening of the 208,000-square-foot Center for Collaborative Research. This new research facility will provide opportunities for the college, Health Professions Division and an interdisciplinary NSU research team to continue making groundbreaking discoveries.

In the classroom, the college continues to attract the best and brightest dental students from around the world. As one of the most selected colleges in the country, we receive approximately 4,000 dental school applicants to fill 105 spots for our incoming class. The numbers are reflective of our quality educational outcomes and the efforts of the faculty and college as a whole. Our students go on to become dental providers who are making significant contributions to their communities.

We thank you for your continued support and we looking forward to updating you about the success of our college, which has been providing top-notch education and research, as well as being a leader in community outreach.



Fred Lippman, Ed.D, Chancellor  
Nova Southeastern University  
Health Professions Division





# Faculty Spotlight

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## Highest professional honor bestowed on NSU Founding Dental Dean



Dr. Seymour Oliet, the founding Dean and Dean Emeritus, of the NSU College of Dental Medicine was awarded the Edgar D. Coolidge Award, in recognition of his achievements and service. The award is the highest honor the American Association of Endodontists (AAE) can bestow. The award to Dr. Oliet was made at the annual AAE conference in Vancouver, Canada. A special lunch award ceremony attended by 4,000 Endodontists from across the world was held on April 12, 2008, to honor Dr. Oliet.

Dr. Seymour Oliet  
Dean Emeritus

## Congratulations to Dr. Stephen Abel

Dr. Abel was inducted into the American College of Dentists at their annual meeting in San Antonio in October, 2008.

Dr. Abel is currently the Associate Dean of Extramural Affairs at NSU-CDM. He joined the NSU family in 2005. He serves on numerous advisory committees including the Dental Alliance on AIDS/HIV Care and the Ryan White Title III Oral Health Care Advisory Committee and was a member of President Clinton's Advisory Council from 1995-2000.

Dr. Abel is an advocate for the underserved populations and has a special interest in the area of treatment of AIDS/HIV patients.



Dean Uchin and Dr. Stephen Abel

# Faculty Spotlight



Jennilyn Estell, Dr. Mark Romer, and Jill Edwards

## ***Dr. Mark Romer Receives Educator of the Year Award***

Dr. Mark Romer was selected by the students as the FDA 2008 Educator of the Year and was presented with the award at the Florida Dental Association in June at the Gaylord Palms Hotel.

Dr. Romer has been actively involved in organized dentistry for over 25 years and is a strong advocate for the students encouraging them to join and become involved in ASDA and the FDA.

His dedication and commitment is ongoing and his enthusiasm for organized dentistry is contagious to the students making him an ideal recipient of this award.

## ***Dr. Walter Askinas Honored as First Professor Emeritus at the College of Dental Medicine***

Samuel Walter Askinas, DDS was honored as the first Professor Emeritus of the College of Dental Medicine on December 7, 2008 before an audience of 168 friends, relatives and colleagues. Dr. Askinas has a 60-year career steeped in excellence and dedication to the Dental Profession, Prosthodontics, the Air Force and two dental schools, Tufts University, School of Dental Medicine and Nova Southeastern University, College of Dental Medicine.

During the ceremony, after introductions by Dr. Robert Uchin, Dr. Sharon Siegel, Chair of the Section of Prosthodontics presented Dr. Askinas with a plaque from the entire faculty stating "S. Walter Askinas DDS Professor Emeritus in grateful appreciation for his untiring, selfless dedication to the students and faculty of Nova Southeastern University, College of Dental Medicine, Prosthodontics and the Dental Profession." He was also presented with a Captains Chair with an engraved plaque stating "S. Walter Askinas DDS, Professor Emeritus, 7 December 2008" as well as the Nova Southeastern University Logo. This was an honor well deserved.



Drs. Buddy Krasne, Walter Askinas, and Tony Gottlieb



Dr. Timothy Hottel

## ***Dr. Hottel Accepts Deanship in Tennessee***

Timothy L. Hottel D.D.S., M.S., M.B.A. may have had the longest title of anybody else at Nova Southeastern University (NSU). According to the sign by his office door, he was the Executive Associate Dean Associate Dean for Academic and Financial Affairs Division Chief, Primary Care Interim Chair, Cariology and Restorative Dentistry Professor, Section of Prosthodontics College of Dental Medicine (CDM). However, after ten years of service at CDM, Dr. Hottel has been appointed to a position with only one title: Dean at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Dentistry in Memphis.

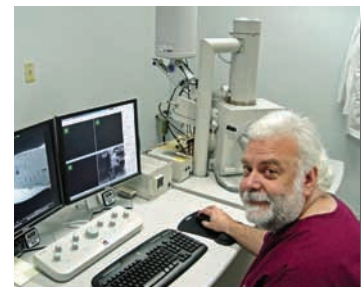
Nearly everybody in the Dental School knew Dr. Hottel whether it be faculty, students, or staff. "I've gotten to know many individuals on both a professional and a personal level," he said. "In addition, the support that I received from the Dean and administration allowed me to facilitate many responsibilities."

Congratulations on your new position, Dr. Hottel. You will be missed.

## ***NSU's Cutting-Edge Research Reaches South America***

Dr. Sergio Kuttler, Assistant Dean for Postgraduate Education, and Dr. Peter Murray, Associate Professor, in NSU College of Dental Medicine were invited guest speakers at the COSAE 2008 dental conference - XIV Congreso de la Sociedad Argentina de Endodancia, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Thousands of dentists based in Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Brazil, and other South American countries attended the conference. Dr. Kuttler presented his research using NSU's new Micro-Computer-Tomography Scanner and scanning electron microscope, which are at the forefront of high-tech imaging technology to evaluate the effectiveness of instruments used in dental treatment. Dr. Murray presented his latest tissue-engineering research advances from NSU's laboratories, which will help revolutionize future dental treatments, by regenerating teeth and replacement body tissues.



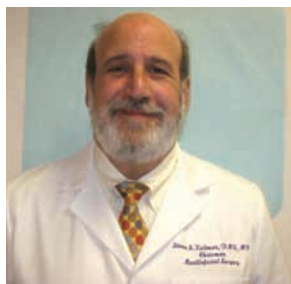
Dr. Sergio Kuttler working with the Scanning Electron Microscope



# Focus *Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery*

## *Saving Faces, Changing Lives*

It's eight o'clock on Monday morning and all other departments at Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine (NSUCDM) are heading to work. However, the faculty and residents Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) may be just going to bed after being on call all weekend. Or they might be scrubbing to go into surgery. "Unfortunately, our department doesn't work eight to five," says Steven Kaltman, DMD, MD, Professor and Chair of the Department of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery. "But, we aren't complaining." In fact, this faculty and their residents thrive on what they do. It seems to be all about caring and commitment for their colleagues, the program, and most of all, the patients.



Dr. Steven Kaltman  
Professor and Chair of the Department  
of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery.

### **The History**

Dr. Kaltman, a Graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine also received his residency training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Dr. Kaltman has served as Chair and Program Director of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Residency Programs and Departments at three different institutions; The University of Pittsburgh, Allegheny General Hospital (MCP/Hahnemann Medical School) Pittsburgh Campus and MCP/Hahnemann Medical School

(Philadelphia Campus). He also maintained an active Private Practice in Pittsburgh until 1997. "When Dean Olet contacted me and related he needed to start a Residency Program in OMFS I was instantly intrigued and interested." I welcomed the challenge to start a new program and build it from the ground floor and nurture its development in an ideal way."

Soon after he was hired by CDM in 2000, he along with Dean Seymour Olet (now, Dean Emeritus), Dean Robert Uchin, and Dr. Fred Lippman, HPD Chancellor, worked very hard to make the OMFS program happen. Dean Uchin, the Associate Dean of Extramural Programs at that time, played a key part in negotiating contracts with the hospitals. Dr. Kaltman recalls the challenges it took to pull everything together. "I remember riding in Dean Uchin's car, driving from hospital to hospital, trying to negotiate deals with the administrators." Finally, in 2002, the four-year OMFS program began with six residents. At that time, there was only one clinic at the dental school and one hospital affiliation.

*"The alumni residents laid the foundation," Dr. Kaltman said. "They have paved the way for the ones who are now in the program just as the current residents will make it easier for the next group."*

### **The Alumni**

The program has grown in its six-year history and has graduated eleven residents. All are board certified and working throughout the country. To date, six graduates are in private practice, one is doing a Cosmetic Facial Fellowship, another is a full-time attending surgeon in the Department of OMFS at UCLA, and one more is a Residency Program Director in the OMFS Naval Training Program in Portsmouth, Va. Dr. Kaltman commends them for their hard work when the program first started. "The alumni residents laid the foundation," Dr. Kaltman said. "They have paved the way for the ones who are now in the program just as the current residents will make it easier for the next group."

### **The Present**

The magnitude in the number of surgeries is phenomenal. Over 600 major surgical cases are performed a year and they see over 9,000 outpatients per year. CDM is the only OMFS service in Broward county and only one out of five that do head and neck cancer surgery with micro vascular flap reconstruction in the country. Out of those five, the program is only one of two who perform these procedures without a fellow, enabling the residents to be trained in these surgeries.

### **The Residents**

This year's program has ten residents who are on-call nights, weekends, and holidays at Broward General Medical Center, Memorial Regional Hospital, Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital, all level I Trauma Centers. They also train with Joseph McCain, DMD, Associate Professor and Director of the Minimally Invasive Maxillofacial Surgery program at Baptist Hospital in Miami. "No shenanigans when it comes to business," says Fred Petroletti (PGY3). "But, a great group of friends and unreal surgical training."



L to R: Dr. Eustorgio Lopez, Dr. Daniel Torres and Dr. Steven Kaltman discussing options with a patient.

The residents see more trauma and tragedy than they might have expected in their four years at CDM. They have to deal with the emotional aspect as well as the physical. It comes with experiences such as repairing the face of abused victim while her abuser sits in the waiting room or telling a patient with cancer that he's not going to make it. However, the rewards are there as well as the misfortune.

For instance, the high school basketball star who broke his jaw during a game and discovered a tumor. Unfortunately, because of the family's religious beliefs, the parents didn't seek medical help until it was growing out of his mouth. Although it happened seven years ago, Dr. Kaltman remembers it well. "I sat down and told them that Jesus has sent them to NSU and wanted us to care for him. From that point on, there was no problem."

"I have seen the positive impact the specialty makes in improving a person's life," says Dr. Shrinivas Rangarajan. (PGY2) "It boosts their self-esteem and changes their outlook. After all, the first thing most people do in the morning is look in the mirror. It is an honor to help them regain their self-confidence."

### **The Staff**

The OMFS faculty unanimously agrees that a department is only as good as their administrative and clinical assistants. The OMFS staff has the same passion as the faculty and considers this their program is theirs as well... a patient's success story is their success, too.

Tanya Gress, a CDM employee for many years, is the Executive Administrator for Division and the new clinic in Broward General Medical Center. Since the opening, Tanya and her staff have worked diligently setting up the office and the clinical area, answering non-stop phone calls, checking patients, and sorting out insurance issues. "It was a privilege working with everyone at the dental school and



Tanya Gress, Dr. Steven Kaltman, and Dr. Evelyn Arellano

# Focus *Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery*

transferring to the hospital has been bittersweet,” says Tanya. “The new position definitely comes with its own set of challenges that I have welcomed. So far it has been a rewarding experience working with the OMFS team and has brought me to a whole new level of respect for what they do.”

## The Future

Predoc students might have misconceptions about their class rank not being high enough to be accepted into the program. However, when the OMFS faculty interview students, they look beyond grades, for a certain quality, a certain passion, and most importantly, the commitment of the individual. In the OMFS program, the grades matter little without these traits.

Dr. Kaltman and Dean Uchin are extremely proud of the accomplishment of the program, the Dental School, and the University. The application pool grows every year and they come from all 50 states.

When one resident was asked what he would say to encourage a student to apply for the OMFS program, he replied, “The journey is vigorous, intense, demanding and requires perseverance, sacrifice, and commitment to excellence. Our residency program provides an outstanding learning and training opportunity. When you finish the program, in conjunction with your character and dedication, you, too, will have the privilege to become a skillful Oral Maxillofacial Surgeon and continue the mission of “Saving Faces, Changing Lives.”



Front row: Fred Pedroletti, Daniel Torres, Richard Rolle, Dr. Shawn McClure; Middle row: Brad Johnson - Chief Resident, Dr. Gary Hill, Director of GME, Jordan Kaltman; Back row: Omar Solomen - Chief Resident, Shrinivas Rangarajan, Dr. Steven Kaltman. Not in photo: David Thurber, Steve Best, Drs. Eustorgio Lopez, and Joseph McCain.



Figure A: Patient with large tumor (preoperative)

*A high school basketball star broke his jaw during a game and discovered a tumor. Unfortunately, because of the family's religious beliefs, the parents didn't seek medical help until it was growing out of his mouth (Figure A).*

*After three major surgeries, the patient is doing well (Figure B).*



FIGURE B: Patient after three major surgeries

## Once a Tourist, Now a Predoclor Director

In the Winter of 2005, when Dr. Evelyn Arellano visited the United States for the first time, she had no idea she would wind up as a faculty member at Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine (NSUCDM).

Dr. Arellano, an Oral Surgeon and Professor from Venezuela, came to South Florida as a tourist until she heard about a teaching position available in Oral Surgery at CDM. She met with Dr. Kaltman, Chair for the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) and found the curriculum she was teaching in her present position at Santa Maria University (Caracas, Venezuela) was exactly the same as the one at the NSU. “Dr. Arellano was a perfect match for our predoc program, so I hired her as the Predoclor Director,” Dr. Kaltman said.

Trained in Venezuela at Universidad Central De Venezuela Dr. Arellano did her OMFS residency in Colombia at San Martin University, then went back to Venezuela and taught seven years in Santa Maria University and also worked in private practice.

At NSU, she teaches courses in Oral Surgery and Anesthesia to the second and third year students. In the clinic, Dr. Arellano oversees the students (D3 and D4s) as they do simple and complicated extractions, small biopsies, gingival flaps, and corrective alveoloplasties for prosthetic purposes.

Dr. Arellano has a teaching permit and demonstrates procedures when she is overseeing the students. “I want to enter NSU-CDM's Advance Education in General Dentistry program one day, as a way to expand my knowledge in comprehensive treatment of the geriatric patient,” says Dr. Arellano. But, for now, she is enjoying her current position. As for her tourist status, she still enjoys the Fort Lauderdale beaches whenever she has the time.



L-R: Adjunct faculty - Drs. Damone Smith and Eugene Blanck; Dr. Evelyn Arellano, Predoc Director; Drs. Jeffrey Stevens, Paul Richmond, and Mel Krohn. Not in photo: Drs. Theodore Splaver and Anna Ospina.



# Focus *Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery*

## *Making a Difference*



Dr. Shawn McClure

When you mention Dr. Shawn McClure at the College, most people ask, “Who’s that?” But, if you are one of his cancer patients, you definitely know who he is and what he does. Because mostly likely, he’s had an enormous affect on your life.

As an oral maxiofacial surgeon (OMFS) Shawn McClure, DMD, MD, primarily focuses on cancer of the head and neck and is one of only six seven doctors in the country that specialize in micro vascular reconstruction. “I do it because I can’t imagine something more devastating than cancer on the face,” says Dr. McClure.

Dr. McClure performs what is known as a free flap procedure to cover an area in need of tissue. Unlike a graft, a flap contains blood vessels, tissue, muscle, skin, fat, and fascia<sup>1</sup>. It is used to reconstruct face and neck wounds caused by oral cancer, head and neck injuries, and facial tumors. The success rate using this procedure has been phenomenal in recent years with most institutions recording a 95-98% success rate.

This young man of blue-collar roots from Scranton, Pa. wasn’t sure what he wanted to do with his life. Most of his family were police officers or factory workers. However, Dr McClure was born with a hearing disability so it was necessary to seek a career where this impairment wouldn’t be an issue. It wasn’t until his final year in college as biology major that he thought about something in the medical field.

Although, he was uncertain about dentistry, he went on an interview at Temple University School of Dentistry in Philadelphia. During the interview while taking a tour of the school, he walked by the OMFS department noticed before and after pictures of a patient who had undergone surgery. “They told me this is for medical doctors, but I thought maybe this is something for me.”

After graduating from Temple University in 1999, he entered an OMFS residency at Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn, NY and obtained his medical degree at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Downstate Medical College, also in Brooklyn. After medical school, he completed a two-year fellowship in head and neck cancer in Baltimore, studying under Dr. Robert Ord, the Chairman of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department at the University of Maryland Medical Systems and Professor at the Greenebaum Cancer Center.

While doing his fellowship training in Baltimore, Dr. McClure had the opportunity to spend two months in Beijing, China where oral cancer is at a much higher rate than in America. It was here where he was able to refine his specialty in free flap reconstruction. “I would do two a day in China, where here in United States I might only see three or four in a three month period.”

Dr. McClure joined the faculty in 2007 and Dr. Steven Kaltman, Chair of the OMFS department, says he is thrilled to have such an extremely talented surgeon and gifted instructor to the residents.

Dr. McClure feels the OMFS program is the most well rounded one he seen in his experience and acknowledges the scope of his colleagues, Drs. Kaltman, Lopez, and McCain. “Compared to other programs throughout the country, our program is growing in leaps and bounds mainly because of the expertise of our faculty.”

According to the applicant pool, the word is getting out about the high quality of the college’s Oral and Maxiofacial program. Rather than applying because of the palm trees in the parking lot, candidates are now basing their choices on the program’s renowned reputation. After visiting the College, applicants are truly awed by the vast amount of knowledge they will gain both from the state of the art facility and the training they’ll receive from globally known experts in the field.

With the financial crisis along with the drudgery of long hours, many oral surgeons are choosing private practice rather than working out of hospitals. Dr. McClure mentions an article by Dr. James Hupp, Dean, East Carolina University, School of Dentistry, entitled: *Retreating Back to Our Cottages*<sup>2</sup>, in which Hupp perceives more and more Oral Maxiofacial surgeons retreating to their private offices. Dr. Hupp states the importance of making concerted efforts to maintain a strong presence in hospitals and teaching our residents as well as making sure OMFS is being considered a discipline worthy of continued status as a major surgical specialty.

*“Compared to other programs throughout the country, our program is growing in leaps and bounds mainly because of the expertise of our faculty.”*

It’s understandable why many residents who graduate from the program choose to open their own practices. “Why do eighteen hours of surgery when you can work nine to five in your office,” says Dr. McClure. However, he is concerned about upcoming residents missing out if the number of hospital-based surgeons becomes fewer. Luckily, OMFS residents have many hours of training at the four hospitals where they often participate in emergency procedures such as gunshot wounds, facial trauma from domestic abuse, and accident related injuries.

Dr. McClure, the residents, and other OMFS faculty are frequently on call and are often many miles from the College. However, even with the lack of sleep, the long hours in the operating room, and being away from their families, a career in Oral Maxiofacial Surgery can be very rewarding.

Dr. McClure explains this best by saying, “When the hospital calls at one in the morning and you haven’t seen your daughters or wife in three days, and you know you have to be up by five a.m. anyway, you say, why am I doing this? Then you see the patient leaving the hospital seven days later, and they are talking and eating. Their family hugs you and tells you how much they appreciate you. Then you know why you do get up at one in the morning - because you’re making a difference.”

<sup>1</sup> Source: Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. Michael E. DeBakey, Department of Surgery, Houston Texas

<sup>2</sup> Source: Hupp, James R., *Retreating Back to Our Cottages*. Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology, Oral Radiology, and Endodontology. Volume 99, Issue 4, Pages 391 – 393



# Focus *Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery*

## *Teaching is a Great Reward*

When you ask Dr. Eustorgio Lopez why he left a comfortable, executive position as Medical Director of the Hyperbaric Medicine and Problem Wounds department at Jackson Memorial hospital for a faculty position at the College, he will flash you big smile and tell you he's not crazy. "I love academics," he said. "And I want to share my experiences with the residents."

Dr. Lopez, Professor, and Program Director for the Postgraduate Department of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) earned his DDS at the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil. He came to the US and earned his Medical Degree at the University of Miami (UM) and Jackson Memorial Hospital's OMFS program. After receiving three years of fellowship training in Head and Neck Surgery and a year in Hyperbaric Medicine, Dr. Lopez stayed on at UM as a faculty member. "I enjoyed training fellows and residents at the hospital, but unfortunately the fellowship program in Hyperbarics has been recently discontinued and my position prevented me from being more involved with the OMFS residents", Dr. Lopez said.

In January of 2008, Dr. Lopez was invited to join CDM's faculty. He felt it would be a wonderful opportunity to give back what he learned during his twenty-year career in OMFS. And, he hasn't been disappointed. Being able to work alongside the residents and observe them as they work on a trauma patient has made him very proud.



Dr. Lopez overseeing a procedure

## *Finding a Balance*

The news of featuring the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) in this issue was received by their faculty and residents with joy and great enthusiasm. The general feeling was that this represented a unique opportunity to "close the gap" between us and the rest of the College by providing information about the nature of the specialty, type of work performed out of the dental school realm, and at the same time fulfill the requirements of resident education.

When Dr. Kaltman or any of the other faculty members is a half hour late for a meeting or doesn't show up at all, the faculty members from other departments might wonder why the oral surgeons can't make it on time. The fact is Drs. Kaltman, Lopez, and McClure and with them, an assigned group of their residents are usually in the operating room or attending to hospital commitments (rounds, inpatient consultations, etc.). Frequently, the oral surgeons and their residents spend sixteen to twenty hours in a single surgery at Broward General Medical Center (BGMC), Memorial Regional Hospital or they might be answering to an emergency call from Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital or Baptist Hospital in Miami.

According to Dr. Lopez, one of the challenges faced by oral surgeons in dental college based programs is finding a balance between administrative responsibilities and building and bond with other dental school residents. "Often our actions and that of our residents are misinterpreted by other faculty members, residents from other programs and dental students, as indifference or that the administrative or academic policies at the dental school are below us", says Dr. Lopez. "But, that is absolutely not true." Ultimately, Oral Surgeons at our

## *Down South (Baptist Hospital Center)*

Joseph McCain, DMD is a graduate of The University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine. After completing his training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Jackson Memorial Hospital and the University of Miami, he has been in private practice for thirty years.

Dr. McCain is an internationally known Temporomandibular Joint Surgeon, widely published and well-known lecturer. He served as program Director from 2004-2007, but still plays a key role in the department and resident training. Currently he is the Director of Minimally Invasive Maxillofacial Surgery for the Department and is primarily based at Baptist Hospital where he teaches the residents.



Dr. Joseph McCain

Dr. McCain thoroughly enjoys working alongside the residents where he can share his experience and watch them learn. His enthusiastic commitment to teaching is obvious, "They challenge me everyday," says Dr. McCain, "But my reward is taking pleasure in witnessing their growth as they develop into future surgeons."

college ask for understanding from their fellow faculty. "We would like to spend more time with our colleagues,"

Dr. Lopez said, "However, our commitments will just not permit it." Unfortunately, if a person with a gunshot wound were brought into the BGMC's emergency room at one o'clock in the afternoon, it would be difficult for the doctor on call to attend a meeting at the school at two o'clock.

The faculty and residents understand that a career in oral maxillofacial surgery can be a balancing act both personally and professionally. Although, they may love and want to be more involved in the academic workday that the College provides, it is often not possible. "This is about answering to our adopted commitments and responsibilities that not infrequently may represent saving somebody's life so we have to go," says Dr. Lopez. Therefore, the next time you notice an OMFS faculty member hasn't shown up for a meeting or an event, don't be too hard on them. It might be a matter of life and death and these dedicated doctors are much appreciated.



Dr. Eustorgio Lopez

## *A Star Researcher Joins the NSU*



Dr. Jeffery Thompson

The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) recently awarded Dr. Jeffery Thompson, a research Professor in our Department of Prosthodontics a \$1.7 million research grant for the project titled: Thin Film Surface Coatings for Toughened Dental Ceramics. This is the second renewal award, which extends the length of funding for this research project to 13 years in total.

The purpose of the NIDCR research award is to investigate and optimize the deposition of thin zirconia surface coatings on dental ceramics to be used in crowns. "Currently the project is in the basic science stage, at the end of the four year funding-period: I hope to create a practical application, of the coating process for use in dental clinics and assess its potential for commercial application," Dr. Thompson said. "Progress on this NIH-funded project and the new project he is beginning in the same field has the potential to improve the longevity and success of ceramic crowns through enhanced fracture and fatigue resistance.

Dr. Thompson's other duties within the College vary tremendously during any given week. He is currently course director for two

undergraduate Biomaterials lectures. His service activities include serving on the board for two scientific associations, reviewing manuscripts for approximately fourteen journals, serving as a member of a sitting study section at NIH, and giving scientific lectures periodically all over the country, all in addition to his research endeavors.

As a researcher, Dr. Thompson stresses that his major responsibility is to push forward the frontiers of basic science, which will eventually be translated into improved dental biomaterials effectiveness, which will benefit the dental profession and patients.

Dr. Thompson came to the college for several reasons. In 2005, he left the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to be the Interim Chair and Graduate Program Director of the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Texas at San Antonio. "The job was a good experience, and I enjoyed it a great deal, but my wife, Maria, and I were not cut out for Texas living, so we decided we would try to get back to Florida," Dr. Thompson said. After discussing options

*As a researcher, Dr. Thompson stresses that his major responsibility is to push forward the frontiers of basic science...*

with Dr. Franklin Garcia-Godoy, our Associate Dean for Research: Dr. Thompson packed up his wife and two-year-old twin girls and moved back to Florida to join our faculty in January 2007.

Dr. Thompson received two degrees from the University of Florida. In 1986, he received his BS in Chemical Engineering and in 1995, a PhD in Materials Science and Engineering. He is pleased with what he has achieved since his arrival at NSU. "I am proud of the basic and applied science findings, produced in my lab that have been disseminated to the general public in over 70 peer-reviewed journal articles, and cited by other scientific groups hundreds of times. That," he said. "Is very satisfying."

## *How Bad is the Oral Health of Nursing Home Residents?*

By Dr. Peter Murray

Little information has been available about the oral health status of residents in South Florida nursing homes until Dr. Diane Ede-Nichols decided to investigate, with the help of Peter E. Murray, Ph.D., Associate Professor in the Department of Endodontics, and Franklin Garcia-Godoy, Associate Dean for Research.

Dr. Ede-Nichols completed a study of the oral health status of 265 residents living in four local nursing homes. The youngest resident was 45 years and the oldest was 98 years of age, the mean age was 77.3 years. The dentition, oral hygiene scores, oral status, soft-tissue lesion type or dry mouth and the status of dentures of elderly nursing

home residents were investigated. More than half (50.6%) of the residents had untreated oral health problems, 36.6% had gingivitis, 26.6% had caries, and 15.9% had tooth fracture. Almost four-fifths (79.6%) of the residents had calculus covering their teeth.

The full results of the study were published in the October issue of Today's FDA. The results of the study suggest that a high proportion of elderly nursing home residents suffer from oral hygiene and oral health neglect. Clearly, the caregivers in nursing homes need more time and assistance to provide the daily oral hygiene care that the elderly residents need to maintain good oral health.



Dr. Diane Ede-Nichols

Maintaining the good oral health of the elderly has been demonstrated to improve their quality of life, increase their nutritional intake, help avoid illness, and improve their psychological state.



# CDM *Explorations*

## *NSU's Award Winning Residents*



Front row: Drs. Karla Ring, Sonia Chopra, Eugenia Johnson. Rear row: Dr.'s Maz Ebrahimi, Jamie Ring, and Matt Gebhardt

On June 20, 2008, the postgraduate endodontic residents of the NSU College of Dental Medicine made their final presentations at the fourth annual research presentation day, prior to their graduation. Fifty local dentists, faculty and students attended the research day. The residents completed two years of study at NSU, and headed off to all parts of the U.S. to practice. The residents were Drs. Karla Ring, Sonia Chopra, Eugenia Johnson, Maz Ebrahimi, Jamie Ring, and Matt Gebhardt. The prize winners for the best presentations were Dr.'s Sonia Chopra and Jamie Ring, who shared the 2008 *Dr. Robert A. Uchin award*.



Matt Gebhardt, D.D.S., M.S.D. research award grantee, and national prize winner in endodontic research.

During the year: Dr. Matt Gebhardt was awarded a \$6,630 research grant from the American Association of Endodontists. He was also awarded a \$1000 national research prize from the American Association of Endodontists at their annual conference held in Vancouver, Canada. His project was titled: A Histological Investigation of Tissue-Engineered Pulp Constructs to be used for Regenerative Endodontic Therapy. Dr. Gebhardt was also one of three residents from NSU College of Dental Medicine who graduated with a Master of Science in Dentistry degree. Dr. Gebhardt has begun his practice in Medford, Oregon.

## *Endodontic Residents Gain National Awards*

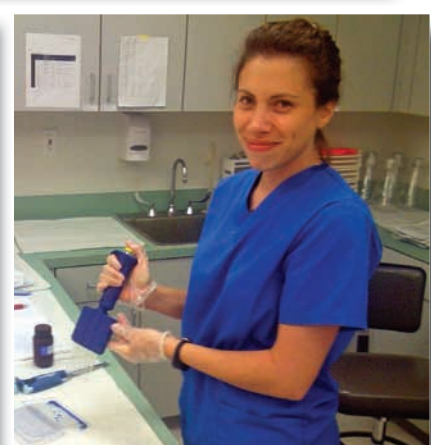
Drs. Karla Ring, Sheila Chandrasekhar and Glorimar Llavona, were awarded sponsorship from the American Association of Endodontists to complete their research projects. The titles: Comparison of cell survival and adherence to dentin following endodontic irrigation, Regenerative endodontics: Investigation of the reactions of the human dental pulp to three types of tissue engineering scaffolds in an ex vivo model, and Optimizing the survival of dental pulp stem cells within delivery scaffolds for regenerative endodontics.



Sheila Chandrasekhar, D.M.D., AAE research award grantee in endodontics.



Glorimar Llavona D.M.D., AAE research award grantee in endodontics.



Karla Ring, D.M.D., AAE research award grantee in endodontics.



# Alumni Report

**Reza Ardalan (02)** and his wife welcomed their first child, a baby boy, Aidan Dean, on September 10, 2008. Reza is practicing in Port St. Lucie.

Congratulations to **Brian Hanchett (05)** who was married in October in Colorado. He and his wife, Dusty, are living and working in Yakima, Washington.

**Carlo Litano and Marni Hansill Litano (05)** are living in Idaho. Carlo is working at the Snake River Correctional Institution in Oregon. Marni is working in both Oregon and Idaho for a family practitioner.

**Andrea DeCerce (06)** is currently stationed in Long Beach, Mississippi. She will be deployed to the Middle East after the first of the year.

**Kristin Cavanah Mirda (06)** won first prize in the 2008 Healthy Smiles, Healthy Children/Dentsply Research Competition during the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry meeting last May. Kristen graduated from the PG pediatric program at the University of Florida in June 2008. Kristin and Mike were married during the summer and she is currently practicing in the Melbourne area.

**Jason Portnof (02)** completed OMFS residency at New York Presbyterian/Cornell Campus. He began a one-year fellowship in craniomaxillofacial surgery in Melbourne, Australia. He was married on June 14, 2008 and he is looking forward to moving back to Florida to practice in September 2009 when he finishes the program.

**John Gallob (03)** is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Nevada school of Medicine and Dentistry. He teaches six residents in the GPR program. "As a faculty member for the last four years, I have been able to see the quality of education from many schools and Nova is doing great."

**Jeffrey Albert (04)** After practicing dentistry for four years, Jeff and his wife decided it was time to give back and spent seven months traveling around the world, volunteering with several organizations to provide dental care to underprivileged people. Their travels took them to Cambodia, India, and Vietnam. He has worked in private practice and is currently working with the Palm Beach County Health Department.

**Nicole Besu (04)** completed her periodontal residency in Memphis and she is currently practicing in several offices in S. Florida.



Drs. Seeberg, Lippman, and Krasne at NSU booth at FDA

## FDA meeting June 2008

Attendance continues to grow at our Alumni reception held each year during the FNDC in Orlando. It was wonderful to see so many Alumni and hear of their success. It was a great time to renew friendships and catch up on one another.



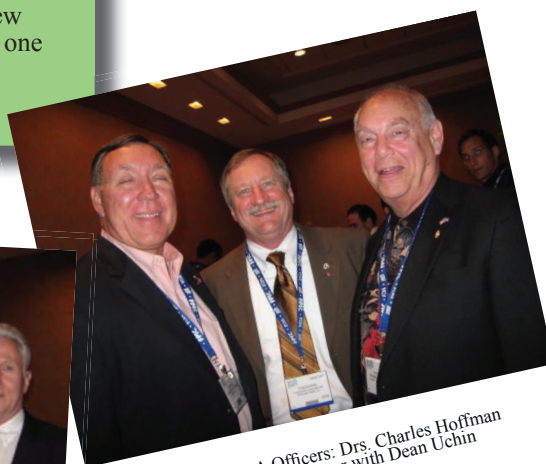
R-L: Sadeshe Kumar, TammyShu, and Clarissa Morales



Dr. Buddy Krasne and Karen Nong



Dr. Hal Lippman, Mike Gagaoudakis, and Dr. Jack Seeberg



R-L: FDA Officers: Drs. Charles Hoffman and Ted Hausner with Dean Uchin

# Alumni Report



From R-L: Dr. Abby Brodie, Mike Shelby, Henry Truong, and Dr. Wendy Hupp



From R-L: Loir Lazer, Chrissy Wiggins, and Jenna Zonneveld

## ADA Alumni Reception San Antonio October 17, 2008

We were pleased to welcome our many guests to our Alumni reception at the ADA meeting in San Antonio. Among those in attendance were Alumni, students, faculty as well as former faculty.



Alumni Attendees



From R-L: Dean Uchin, Dr. Hupp, Carlo Litnao, Mami Hansill, and Dr. Peter Keller.



From R-L: John Malin, Jesse Jakubowski, and Dr. Jakubowski



From R-L: Dean Uchin, Dr. Eyad Shehadeh, Reza Jabbar, James Wealleans, and Tequilla McGahee



From R-L: Dr. Brodie, Carlo Litnao, and Mami Hansill



# Student News

## *A Summer at the National Institute of Health*

by Michelle Mathieson ('09)

A summer spent researching doesn't sound like fun to most, but a summer spent researching at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is completely different. Each year the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) at NIH, awards approximately thirteen dental students the Summer Dental Student Award. I was one of the lucky thirteen to participate in an eight week research fellowship this summer.



Michelle Mathieson

I interned at the Sjögren's Syndrome Clinic of the Molecular Physiology and Therapeutics Branch of the NIDCR-NIH. One of the main projects I worked on was studying the salivary flow rates of patients with primary Sjögren's Syndrome (pSS) to evaluate the rate of decline of salivary gland function over time. The Sjögren's Syndrome Clinic has one of the largest patient databases in which to study pSS. I learned the different techniques for saliva collection and how to measure the salivary flow of patients in order to better understand my research. I assisted the dentists in the clinic with patients, and was able to see intraoral pathology

associated with Sjögren's Syndrome and dry mouth. The results of the study indicate there is a gradual decline in salivary gland function over time.

I learned the results from studies like this are important clinically because we can use the results to determine when the patient will benefit most from therapeutic intervention. For example, patients with pSS will benefit most if treatment is initiated as soon as the patient exhibits symptoms such as complaints of dry mouth. I was also involved with other studies that addressed the therapies used to treat patients with pSS. The protocols included several types of drug therapy, gene therapy, and even acupuncture.

All dental students can attest being in dental college is stressful and all you can think about is studying for the next exam or finding patients for requirements. Being at NIH was refreshing as it allowed me to see beyond dental school and opened my eyes to the diverse use of a dental degree. My experience showed me the importance of dentists in research and how we as professionals can play a role in helping others beyond placing a restoration or fabricating dentures. It was a great experience and one I will always cherish. It meant time off in clinic and being a little behind in requirements, but it was well worth it.

## *IHS Externship: An Experience of a Lifetime*

by Melvin Korattiyil ('09)

This summer has provided me with an eye-opening and life-changing experience with the Indian Health Service Externship. During the month of June, I embarked on a two week externship to the White Earth Health Center in Ogema, MN. I was accompanied by a D2 student, Avanthi Kopuri, who assisted me during the trip.



Melvin Korattiyil with IHS practitioner

The trip provided me with invaluable experience in Emergency Dentistry, Oral Surgery, and Restorative Dentistry. With the guidance of 3 experienced clinical practitioners at the White Earth Health Center, I was able to garner new clinical techniques which I know will aid me in excelling in the future as a practicing clinician. Furthermore, working in a community health setting allowed me to understand the impact access-to-care provides people in a struggling socio-economic class.

Due to lack of finances, many patients simply visited the White Earth Health Center on the basis of emergencies. However, with proactive care and community education, the clinic has been able to increase the number of patients that come in for regular clinical exams and cleanings.

One of the most useful tools that I have learned from this externship was clinical time management. During this externship, I saw an average of 6 patients a day. This was a stark contrast from the 1-2 patients a day that I am accustomed to back at my dental school. The primary reason why I was able to see so many more patients was due to the availability of dental assistants.

Experiencing, "Four-Handed" Dentistry allowed me to see how capable I truly am when given all the proper tools a clinical practitioner should have.

In addition to the clinical experiences that I have gathered, I have also had a great adventure exploring the "Land of 10,000 Lakes". Having never been to that part of the country, Minnesota revealed itself to be a hidden beauty that perhaps only a few knew about. During the weekends and free evenings, we were able to explore the local attractions. We visited Itasca State Park where we saw the origin of the Mighty Mississippi River. We hiked and biked various trails near Detroit Lakes, MN. We saw the beauty of the several lakes in the region and understood why so many people flocked to them during the summer. We attended an authentic Pow Wow hosted by the White Earth Indians. We attended a blues festival in downtown Minneapolis. And finally, we shopped till we dropped at the Mall of America. Our adventure in the State of Minnesota was truly a blast.

I am incredibly grateful for this experience with the Indian Health Service because I have gained so much out of this trip beyond just simply the clinical aspect. This trip truly opened my eyes to the need of community dentistry and public health. During the future of my dental career, I hope to dedicate at least a portion of my time to the public health sector.

Overall, I would recommend this externship to any of my fellow dental students. It truly is an experience of a lifetime.



White Earth Health Center in Ogema, MN.



## Snow in June

by Derek Gatta (2009)

Touching down at the airport was an extraterrestrial experience for me. Landing in Barrow, Alaska is the closest I have ever been to visiting another planet. The airport approach is over the ice sheets of the Arctic Ocean. I knew it was cold in Alaska, but I was not quite prepared for snow in June. I flew thirteen hours in order to participate in my Indian Health Service (IHS) externship.

The IHS engages third year dental students to address the access to care problem in this country by participating in an externship in an underserved region of the US. I first heard about the IHS through an ASDA lunch'n'learn. Dr. Tim Lozon spoke to a room of about a hundred students communicating the benefits of an IHS adventure. He told us that many rural parts of the country do not have a dentist within twelve hours driving distance from them. This presents a major problem in receiving dental care. The federal government financed the trip and I was sold on Dr. Lozon's vision.

*The IHS engages third year dental students to address the access to the care problem in this country by participating in an externship in an underserved region of the US.*

This was my first visit to Alaska and I had no idea how different life was in the most northern city in the country. I was stationed in the Samuel Simmons Memorial Hospital where four dentists worked. There are no roads connecting Barrow to the rest of the state. All supplies arrive on daily airplane runs. A gallon of milk costs \$10. When sugary soda is one of the cheapest beverages to enjoy, you start to understand part of problem the native population has with maintaining effective oral hygiene.

About 70% of the population is of native origin and many of the rest are involved with the oil companies or work at the arctic research station. Barrow is the second most northern city of at least 4,000 inhabitants in the world. I knew nothing of the indigenous population when I arrived and was eager to meet and treat my new patient base. The Eskimos are very proud of their heritage and eager to teach anyone willing to listen. As part of my cultural sensitivity training, the program director arranged for me to visit the Heritage Tourist Center so I could participate in some local traditions, such as the blanket toss and Eskimo dancing. My dance moves are pretty hot, but I could not quite get the hang of the local Inupiat or Eskimo movements. I learned that the Inupiat still rely heavily on hunting and fishing for subsistence. The



Derek Gatta



Derek Gatta with children from Atkasuk

locals invited me to a traditional feast called the "Nalukataq",

which celebrates a successful whaling season. I got a chance to try whale meat. It tasted like fermented blood pudding but I knew I would probably never again get a chance to try it.

After about a week, I felt like I was blending right into the community, despite being a foot taller than everyone else. The dentists in Barrow are also responsible for servicing several smaller villages on the northern slope of Alaska.

The second week we flew a small prop plane to Atkasuk; a village with about 200 residents. Most of the work I did ranged from extractions, restorations and education about oral hygiene. Many of the patients were children and we focused much of our time teaching them and their parents about the detrimental effects of sugary products. I was surprised at the isolation these people endure. I once made a comment to one of the natives about how they could live in such a cold and harsh environment and he quickly responded asking me how I could bear to live in such a hot state such as Florida that gets hurricanes. I learned a lot about one's perspective in that brief exchange.

We wanted to do something special for the children of Atkasuk. They do not get many visitors from the outside and rarely travel past the boundaries of their village. We had a pizza party. Getting pizza to this community was no easy task. We had it delivered on the next flight out of Barrow. I may have been happier than the kids to see that pizza come off the airplane. I had been living off bland hospital food up until then.

Not only was my trip to Barrow an incredible dental education, but I got a chance to study abroad while I was in Dental School. I made friends with people from a culture very different from my own. I also realized that Alaska has a very unique access to care problem. Because many regions of the state are so isolated, the best they can do is to have regional dentists fly in and service the community every 4-6 months. The Alaskan Dental

*Because many regions of the state are so isolated, the best they can do is to have regional dentists fly in and service the community every 4-6 months.*

Association allows the use of Dental Therapists against the wishes of the American Dental Association (ADA). These Dental Therapists complete a 2-3 year program in Alaska or New Zealand, and are allowed to perform basic surgical and restorative procedures. This is a very difficult issue to resolve. The ADA has a responsibility to protect the profession. Alaska has a responsibility to help alleviate the access to care crisis. The state has too many rural regions and it is unlikely these regions will be staffed with a DMD or DDS dentist. A dental therapist may not have as broad an educational background, but it appears to be a short-term solution for the Alaska natives' care.

The IHS has sites all across the country and I would definitely encourage participation in this program. Do not be afraid to seek out these and other opportunities. The experiences I gained those two weeks more than makes up for what I missed in Davie.

# Student News

## NSU Students selected for Postgraduate Programs

Congratulations to the following students who have been accepted into post graduate programs for next year:

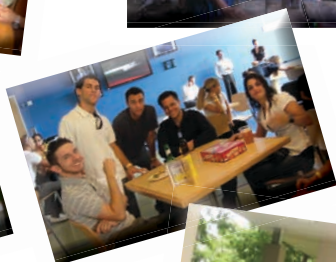
Clay Fuls	Orthodontics
Vanderbilt	
Elizabeth Dowd	Orthodontics
University of Minnesota	
Ira Rothstein	Orthodontics
NSU	
Michelle Mathieson	Orthodontics
University of Colorado	
Jared Young	Pediatrics
Detroit Mercy	
Jessica Shireman	Oral Pathology
UNC	
Julie Nullman	AEGD
Miami VA	
Melvin Korattiyil	GPR
Miami VA	

In addition, the following graduates were accepted:

Kyle Baker	Orthodontics
Vanderbilt	
James Nguyen	Orthodontics
NSU	

Jared Young (09) was elected to serve as the 5th District Trustee for ASDA at their annual meeting in Phoenix in September. Jared beat a competitive crowd and was elected in a tiebreaker vote. In the position of Trustee, he represents dental schools in five state including: Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana.

Anna Fedak (09) is completing her term as Editor in Chief for the ASDA national publications. She oversaw the publication of the ASDA journal.



## Student National Dental Association Nova Southeastern University Chapter

The NSU chapter of the Student National Dental Association was formed in November 2007 by a group of minority dental students. SNDA is one of the largest minority student organizations in the United States, whose parent organization is the National Dental Association (NDA).

Originally founded in 1970 at Meharry Medical College, SNDA promotes interaction between minority dentists and minority dental students. SNDA is committed to serving as a voice for minority dental students, and providing dental health for all, with an emphasis on minority and underserved populations. Since the start of the chapter, we have been actively working on establishing our organization through community service events, fundraisers, as well as attending national dental meetings.



Throughout this year, we have participated in Thanksgiving Basket Brigade community service events, held a Black History month fundraiser, and attended the SNDA national convention in Detroit, MI just to name a few events. We believe that exposing minority students at all grade levels to our profession will increase minority enrollment and retention in dental programs. For information about SNDA, visit [www.sndanet.org](http://www.sndanet.org). For more information about our chapter, contact Damian Black at [bdamian@nova.edu](mailto:bdamian@nova.edu).

## Student Attends ADEA Interim Meeting in Philadelphia, PA October 23-25, 2008

Domenic Aloise ('11) was NSUCDM's Council of Students representative at ADEA's Interim meeting in Philadelphia in October. He attended several informative meetings about how to increase ADEA's presence within the student community.

Since the meeting, Domenic's goal has been to create more awareness of ADEA within our student population and possibly gain enough student interest to create a small ADEA chapter.



"I would possibly like to 'buddy-up' with the ASDA membership and have students join both at the same time," says Domenic. "I am looking forward to attending the next annual meeting in Phoenix, AZ in March 2009, with a strong NSU presence."

From R-L: Domenic, Dr. Hal Lippman, Tracey Heiken, and Dr. Abby Brodie



## *Nova Southeastern University to Open New Pediatric Dental Clinic*

By Ken Ma

FT. LAUDERDALE-DAVIE --- Nova Southeastern University (NSU) will open a new pediatric dental clinic at Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital on Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2008.

The clinic will treat special needs patients with cleft, craniofacial, HIV, and other physical and mental challenges. It will be staffed with one faculty member and two pediatric residents from NSU.

"It's bringing available dental care closer to the people who don't have a place to go," said Robert Uchin, D.D.S., Dean of NSU's College of Dental Medicine, which will run the clinic. "Since the clinic is located at Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital, children will have access to special dental care as well as a full range of medical care services."

The clinic was made possible by a federal grant from the U.S. Bureau of Health Professions to train dental students to treat special-needs pediatric patients. The grant provides the college with \$1.3 million over three years.

NSU has dental clinics throughout Broward County that provide pediatric dental services for all children, including those who suffer from physical, developmental, mental, behavioral, cognitive, and emotional impairment. The challenges facing these children include autism, cerebral palsy, craniofacial disorder, among others.



From L-R: Pediatric Faculty - Dr. Romer Ocanto, Dr. Jose Larumbe, Dr. Harvey Beaver, and Dr. Oscar Padilla





# Continuing Education

February 14, 2009 Endodontic Alumni Day Presentation: Vital Pulp Therapy *Dr. George Bogen*  
February 22, 2009 2009 Pharmacology Update A primer for the dentist with implications for the therapeutic uses and for risks of NSAIDs *Richard Finkel Pharm.D*  
February 28 - Expanded Functions March 1, 2009 *Dr. Mark Greenberg*  
March 7, 2009 A Comprehensive Review Delegable Tasks and Supervision Levels for the Dental Auxiliary *Jane Weiner RDH*  
March 7, 2009 Real World Endo The Endo-Restorative Continuum *Dr. Richard Herman*  
March 14, 2009 Are You What You Eat? *Dr. Edye Groseclose*  
March 14 - 15, 2009 Tooth Waxing *Mark Hunt, CDT*  
March 16, 2009 Taking Impressions/Producing Casts: A Laboratory Technique Course *Mark Hunt, CDT*  
March 21, 2009 Dental Radiology *Dr. Gary Conover Dr. Maritzabel Gubler*  
March 21, 2009 Implementing Electrosurgery in General Practice *Dr. Joel M. Hauptman*  
March 27- 28, 2009 Protecting Your Patients, Your Practice and Yourself: Managing Risks in Today's Healthcare Environment *Linda Harvey, RDH*  
March 28, 2009 Improving Your Bottom Line Predictable & Profitable Aesthetics *Dr. Marvin A. Fier*  
April 4, 2009 Cardiology: Past and Future "The Art of Staying Alive" *Dr. Morton Diamond*  
April 18, 2009 The Treatment Plan, The Treatment and Establishing a Long Term Maintenance Program *Linnette Fuller RDH, Dr. Jung Sun Han, Nora Powell RDH*  
April 18, 2009 Considerations for Implant and Root Supported Prostheses *Gianni Storni, CDT*  
April 25, 2009 Review of Clinical Endodontics *Dr. Robert J. Seltzer*  
May 2, 2009 Dental Implant Training for the Restorative Dentist & Utilizing Patient Specific Abutments to Achieve Exceptional Results *Dr. Mauricio Hervas, Dr. Ethan Pansick*  
May 2-3, 2009 Nitrous Oxide-Oxygen Analgesia *Dr. Steven Kaltman, Dr. Ed Fellows*  
May 8, 2009 A Comprehensive Review Course For the Florida Laws and Rules Exam *Jane Weiner, RDH*  
May 9, 2009 Dental Risk Management and Record Keeping *Dr. Robert Jacobson*  
May 16, 2009 Dental Radiography *Dr. Gary Conover, Dr. Maritzabel Gubler*  
May 16, 2009 The Diabetic Dental Patient & Dental Patients with Bleeding Disorders *Dr. William Gibson, Dr. Michael Siegel, Dr. Steven Kaltman*  
June 20 - 21, 2009 Dental Laboratory Technique: Quadrant Denture Course *Mark Hunt, CDT*  
June 22, 2009 Taking Impressions/ Producing Casts: A Laboratory Technique Course *Mark Hunt, CDT*  
June 25-26 A Continuum: Predictable Techniques for & July 23-24, 2009 Total Aesthetics *Dr. Robert A. Lowe*  
July 11, 2009 Dental Radiography *Dr. Gary Conover, Dr. Maritzabel Gubler*  
July 18, 2009 Fabrication of Temporary Crowns and Bridges *Dr. Mark Greenberg*

**For more information or to register**

**please contact (954) 262-5327**

**[www.dental.nova.edu/ce](http://www.dental.nova.edu/ce) or**

**[dentalce@nova.edu](mailto:dentalce@nova.edu)**



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