Departmental Focus: ORTHODONTICS

Attention Alumni - help plan upcoming class reunions
See Page 14

Nova Southeastern University
College of Dental Medicine
As we plan to celebrate the 10 year reunion of our graduating class, we can reflect on where we were and how far we’ve come, culminating in our training of over 1,000 graduates who provide dental services in every specialty and in every part of the nation.

In 1997, we accepted a group of 29 students brandishing provisional accreditation by the American Dental Association (ADA). These students took a chance on us and were our “guinea pigs” as we started the first new dental school in the country in over 24 years. During the same time period, nine other schools closed their doors.

With a core of enthusiastic faculty members, many with years of experience in education but just as many without academic experience, we opened our doors and began our journey.

The College has evolved over the last ten years since the first class graduated. As a new school, we had no boundaries or history; we could take an idea and implement it without the red tape of some more established programs. Sometimes these ideas took off and exceeded our expectations, sometimes we had to step back and reevaluate. All of our pre-doctoral and post-doctoral programs are now fully accredited.

Even today, the College is ever evolving through our endeavors to be on the forefront of dental technology and education delivery. We have implemented paperless clinics with AxiUm, created a fully digital radiology department, and delivered textbooks to students on CD. Our graduates benefit from our ever more expansive teaching, through a deeper dental knowledge and greater range of clinical experience that none or few other schools can match. The College has treated over 600,000 patients and expects to treat its millionth dental patient within the next five years.

Our research continues to grow each year. We have gained an international reputation for developing dental stem cell therapies, novel dental materials, personal dental products, and multidisciplinary clinical trials. All of our postgraduate residents are required to complete an independent research project, at a standard suitable for publication before they graduate. Many of our pre-doctoral students are taking advantage of the opportunity to work with residents and faculty on research projects to gain an insight into the dental treatments, materials and products we are developing for the future.

We are pleased to announce the establishment of an endowed professorship in honor of Malcolm Meister, D.D.S., M.S.M., J.D. Dr. Meister was the previous Chair of the Department of Orthodontics and a key person in establishing the original Post-Doctoral Orthodontics curriculum in 1997.

A new class begins in August, the Class of 2013. When we compare this class to the Class of 2000, we find many of the same qualities - a group of bright, enthusiastic young adults who hope to complete their education, graduate and become excellent and successful, caring healthcare providers.

As we celebrate our success over the last ten years, we look forward to continuing to provide an outstanding education for our students. Together, we continue to contribute to the ongoing education of both the public we serve and our professional colleagues.

Robert A. Uchin, D.D.S.
Dean
In this issue

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Alumni -Share Your News With Us

Do you have news you’d like to share in “The Explorer”? Did you get married, have a baby, a publication, and/or start something new, we want to know. Photos are welcome and address changes are appreciated.

Name: ____________________________________________

Degree/year: _______________________________________

Address (indicate home or office):
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________

City: ________________________________

State: ___________ Zip: ____________

Telephone: __________________________

E-mail: ______________________________

Is this an address change or other change? _______ Yes _______ No

Comments (attach additional sheet if necessary):
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________

Send your Alumni news to:

The Explorer Newsletter
Attention: Margie Bell/Yvonne Kennedy
NSU College of Dental Medicine
Alumni Affairs/Communications
3200 University Drive
Fort Lauderdale, FL  33324
Phone: (954) 262-7380
FAX: (954) 262-1732
wyvonne@nova.edu

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

THE EXPLORER
Winter 2009

ROBERT A. UCHIN, D.D.S.,
Dean

Editor
Ms. Marjorie Bell

Co-Editors
Ms. Yvonne Kennedy
Dr. Peter Murray

Contributing Writers
Ms. Yvonne Kennedy
Ms. Margie Bell
Dr. Peter Murray
Dr. Mark Schweizer
D. Levi Haught
Nandita Lily
Sal Colombo
Damian Black
David Evans

Design
Yvonne Kennedy

Photography
Margie Bell
Yvonne Kennedy

ACCREDITATION:
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.

NSU POLICY OF NONDISCRIMINATION:
Nova Southeastern University admits students of any race, color, sex, age, non-disqualifying disability, religion or creed, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school, and does not discriminate in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.
Over the past year, Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine has continued to provide high-quality dental education and services to South Florida residents, while conducting cutting-edge research.

As you may have seen on television or in the newspapers, Drs. Peter Murray, Kenneth Namerow, Sergio Kuttler, and NSU dental residents have successfully used adult stem cells to grow new healthy replacement teeth. Their recent survey found that 96 percent of dentists expect to be using these stem cell treatments in the future.

Meanwhile, Dr. Jeff Thompson is using federal research grants to look for ways to make dental ceramics stronger. He is investigating the use of thin-film surface coatings, specifically zirconia-based films, to enhance the fatigue and fracture resistance of dental ceramic restorative materials. Dr. Thompson hopes to produce tougher ceramics that will make dental products stronger and longer lasting for patients.

In the classroom, our student dentists are excelling in their studies and patient care, while taking time to advocate issues to various policymakers to advance the dental profession. They are advocating better patient care and an efficient delivery of healthcare systems. As an example, a group of them went to Washington D.C. in April to visit the Florida Congressional delegation during the American Student Dental Association’s National Dental Student Day on The Hill.

Our student dentists are being taught by top-notch faculty members such as Dr. Dominick DePaola. I’m proud to announce that Dr. DePaola received the 2009 William J. Gies Award in March for outstanding achievement as a dental educator. Named for dental education pioneer Dr. William J. Gies, the award honors individuals and organizations exemplifying dedication to the highest standards of vision, innovation, and achievement in global oral health and dental education, research, and leadership.

Services provided by the College of Dental Medicine’s at its dental clinics in Davie and North Miami Beach appeared recently on the front page of The Miami Herald. The story highlighted the low-cost, high-quality services our dental clinics provide to the public. These services are especially critical during this recession when pocketbooks are not as deep as they used to be. Our clinics in Davie and North Miami Beach also provide our student dentists with hands-on experience working with patients.

In association with Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital in Hollywood, the college recently opened a 4-chair clinic to provide treatment for children with cleft palate and lip issues, as well as craniofacial, HIV, and other physical and mental challenges. The clinic expects to treat roughly 1,500 children during its first year. In North Broward County, the college operates an 8-chair clinic in Oakland Park that treats patients with HIV funded by the Ryan White grants.

Our dental clinics strive to provide more access to those that are in need of oral health services. Healthcare consumers have become all too familiar with the difficulties they face when it comes to the issue of access to care.

Coming soon to NSU’s Health Professions Division, which includes the College of Dental Medicine, are new opportunities to further the knowledge of dental medicine. This will be possible in the 208,000-square-foot Center for Collaborative Research that is slated to become one of Florida’s largest wet laboratories. It will provide opportunities for new discoveries through interdisciplinary research.

As always, we thank you for continuing to support the college and its mission to provide academic excellence and public service. We look forward to keeping you posted on the successes of our college, which has continued to provide the community with a steady stream of highly skilled dentists.

Fred Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D.
Chancellor
Health Professions Division
Faculty Facts

Publications


Awards & Appointments

December 2008

Dr. Abby Brodie, Associate Dean for Curriculum and Educational Affairs was awarded a Masters degree in Education Law.

2009

March

Dr. Audrey Galka, Chair for Cariology and Restorative was elected Member-At-Large for the ADEA Council of Sections, Section on Operative Dentistry and Biomaterials at the Phoenix meeting.

Dr. Mauricio Hervas, Department of Prosthodontics has successfully passed the American Board of Prosthodontics Examination

Dr. Michael Siegel, Chair for Diagnostic Sciences and Oral Medicine was elected Chair of the ADEA Council of Faculty

Dr. Sharon Siegel, Chair for Prosthodontics was elected Member-at Large for the entire Council of Sections for ADEA

The Council of Sections has 36 different sections and nine different special interest groups.

April

Dr. Sharon Siegel led a mini-workshop to work on the ADEA Foundation Knowledge document on behalf of the section of Prosthodontics.

Dr. Abby Brodie was accepted and inducted into the ADEA Leadership Institute, Class of 2010.

Dr. Phyllis Filker, Cariology and Restorative was appointed for a second term to the Test Construction Committee for Operative Dentistry which is part of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations.

Dr. Norman Zarr, Cariology and Restorative was appointed to the Commission on Dental Accreditation, Commission Consultant for 2009/10

May

Paul Bradley, Vice-Chair, Diagnostic Sciences, Director of the Orofacial Pain Clinic was awarded Honorary Membership of the World Federation for Laser Dentistry (WFLD) for “exemplary services to the field of Lasers in Dentistry and as an expression of high esteem” at the Congress of the WFLD European Division in Istanbul where he was principal guest speaker

June

Dr. Diane Ede-Nichol, Community Dentistry presented “Special Smiles: Oral Care for Person’s With Special Needs” and it has been accepted for the 11th annual Family Café Conference June 5-7, 2009. This is a joint effort with Dr. Tim Garvey from the University of Florida.

Dr. Anton Gotlieb, Prosthodontics was awarded the Golden Apple from the fourth year dental students.

Dr. Peter Murray, Endodontics was awarded the 2009 Postgraduate Endodontics Resident Choice Award.

Dr. Cameron Howard, Post-graduate Endodontics was appointed to the American Association of Endodontics Regenerative Endodontics Committee.

Dr. Mark Romer was recognized by the Florida Dental Association at their annual meeting in June in Orlando. He was presented with a Trustee Award for his eight years of service as a Trustee to the FDA representing the Atlantic Coast District Dental Association (ACDDA) from 2001-2009. Dr. Romer has been actively involved in organized dentistry since the early 1980’s. He has served as President of the Broward County Dental Association as well as President of the ACDDA. He represented these organizations as a Delegate for many years prior to be elected as a Trustee in 2001. In his over 25 years of service, he missed only one meeting of the House of Delegates.

Dr. Romer is the FDA’s greatest advocate for the students. His involvement and enthusiasm towards organized dentistry has sparked the interest of many students to become actively involved in ASDA.

EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

The Class of 2009 awarded Jung Sun Han, D.D.S., M.S. with the FDA’s Educator of the Year Award. Dr. Han joined the Department of Periodontology in 2007 as Assistant Professor.
No Retirement in Sight for Dr. DePaola

When Dominick DePaola, D.D.S., Ph.D., moved to South Florida a year and a half ago, his intention was to enjoy part-time retirement and work one or two days at the College of Dental Medicine (CDM). Within a few months, the Dean asked if Dr. DePaola would take on another day to help out while Dean Uchin completed his search for an Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. “Helping out” included reviewing the budget, handling student issues, and consulting the accreditation team. Given Dr. DePaola’s tremendous administrative background in dental education, Dean Uchin saw him as the logical choice for the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Dr. DePaola graciously accepted. “I have always loved academics,” Dr. DePaola said. “And this position affords me the opportunity to work with the faculty, students, and staff in assisting the dental college to realize its academic vision and mission.”

In his forty year career, Dr. DePaola has held positions several positions as dean: the University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio Dental School, the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and Baylor College of dentistry at Texas A & M health Science Center. In addition, he served for ten years as President and CEO of Forsyth Institute and has provided consulting services to a wide variety to institutions of higher learning as well as the federal, state, and private sectors.

In March of this year, Dr. DePaola was recognized for the remarkable success of his career at the ADEA Annual Session in Phoenix where he received the 2009 William J. Gies Award for Outstanding Achievement as a Dental Educator. The Gies Award, named after dental education pioneer William J. Gies, Ph.D., honors individuals and organizations exemplifying dedication to the highest standards of vision, innovation, and achievement in global oral health and dental education, research, and leadership.

“The Dental College will benefit tremendously from Dr. DePaola’s vast academic experience and senior leadership,” says Dr. Lippman, Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Admissions. “He has been invaluable in directing the strategic planning process, promoting collaboration on all levels, and engaging all participants for a common goal and vision for the College.”

As the new ‘fulltime’ Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Dr. DePaola is focusing on the development and implementation of the College’s Strategic Plan, which is the ‘blue print’ for the college’s future. “It is an exciting time to be in dental education, which is on the brink of profound change,” Dr. DePaola said. “The college has an unprecedented opportunity to provide leadership to dental education nationwide and perhaps globally.”

“I flunked retirement,” says Dr. DePaola. And the Dental College is glad he did.

Dedicating Time for the Underserved Aboard the USNS Comfort

by Dr. Mark Schweizer

A sturdy crew from Nova Southeastern University College of Dental School (NSUCDM) set in May with the crew of the USNS Comfort. This particular mission departed Norfolk, Va. April 1, beginning a four-month deployment to Antigua, Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Panama providing medical, dental, and veterinary services to the under-served people. On this mission, Dr. Mark Schweizer, Assistant Professor for the Department of Cardiology and Restorative Dentistry and Dental Hygiene, Ronny Charin accompanied students Elliott Jolley, Rheanna Hess, and Melissa Ngo along with her sister, a dentist from West Palm Beach.

The crew includes about 650 medical professionals from the Navy, Army, and Air Force, Coast Guard and U.S. Public Health Service, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and other international partners. The ship is operated and navigated by a crew of about 70 civil service mariners from the U.S. Navy’s Military Sealift Command. “Even though the accommodations were not on par with a Ritz Carlton Hotel, the food, friendship, and camaraderie was great,” Dr. Schweizer said. “Not all of the experiences were as expected, due to some legalities with the local governments however to see the great needs of this population was overwhelming.” Elliott and Rheanna lent a hand in assisting visiting dentists on oral surgery procedures and they brought a big smile to the patients they visited with. The group participated in both oral health screenings and home care instructions.

USNS Comfort

Elliott Jolley, ('10) Dr. Mark Schweizer, Melissa Ngo ('10) and her sister, Dr. Ngo
Departmental Focus: Orthodontics

Orthodontics is Letting No Grass Grow Under it’s Feet

History - It all began with a plot of land

When is the last time you heard of students enrolling in a dental college before the dental college was built? Amazingly enough, during their admissions interviews, five post doctoral orthodontic (ortho) candidates were happy to do just that. Dr. Malcolm Meister led them out of the Health Professionals Division’s (HPD) admissions office and over to an empty plot of land where the planned construction site for the College of Dental Medicine (CDM) was located. “I showed those students a patch of grass at the interview and described all the wonderful changes that Dr. Mort Terry had in mind for the site,” Dr. Meister said. “They were all very excited.”

It all started in the early 1990s when Dr. Morton Terry, HPD Chancellor and Dr. Arnold Melnick, HPD Provost (at that time) invited Dr. Meister, among others, to join a task force headed by Dr. Seymour Oliet to research the need for a Dental College in South Florida. Once the decision was made to build the College, the group asked if Dr. Meister would stay on and help create an Orthodontics program. Dr. Meister had retired from dentistry, gone to law school and was currently working as a public defender, however, he considered the offer to participate in the creation of a new dental college a unique opportunity.

Dr. Meister’s research took him to universities such as Tufts and New York University. There, he explored the resources he needed to build a curriculum for a solid two-year program for his post graduates. However, since it was only a two year program, and it usually requires more than two years to treat an orthodontic patient, Dr. Meister needed to find a way to have under treatment patients ready for the incoming students that had progressed at least six months in treatment. “Without the understanding and support of Drs. Melnick, Terry and Dr. Seymour Oliet, Dean of the future CDM, we couldn’t have produced a quality two year program,” Dr. Meister said. “Preparing paperwork, locating resources, providing funds for instruments, the use of a clinical facility, etc., I couldn’t have done it without them.”

By enlisting the help of area orthodontists to start cases eight months before the arrival of the first class we were able to produce in progress cases. The first orthodontics program began in August 1997 at Broward College (formerly Broward Community College) with 64 patients under treatment. Five orthodontic residents, for a few months, began their program at BCC and each treated fifty or more patients during the program and each managed to finish ten patients by the end of their two year residency.

“I still keep in touch with the first class,” says Dr. Meister. “They were an unusual bunch. There was no building and they had already been accepted into other ortho programs but they liked the idea of a brand new facility. I guess they were feeling kind of adventurous.”

Because of those five residents, the caring orthodontists of the community, and the intuitiveness of HPD administrators and others, the future for CDM orthodontic students is brighter, stronger, and, yes, still adventurous.

Predoctoral - Planting the Seed

It takes ingenuity to get to know 130 students personally in four years. But, one orthodontist devised a method to do just that. As the predoctoral enrollment increases Oscar Sotsky, D.D.S., M.S., Orthodontic’s predoctoral director since 1999, has put much effort into staying in close contact with his students. By dividing the D2’s into groups of ten, Dr. Sotsky meets with them once a week and let’s them talk about anything and everything related to orthodontics. The students are more likely to ask questions when they are in smaller groups where speaking up in a class of 130 might be a bit more intimidating. “It’s in a win, win, for my students and for me,” Says Dr. Sotsky. His association continues to grow as they move on to the third and fourth years.

Also the Director of the Honors program, Dr. Sotsky’s charge is to select five D4 students who show an interest in specializing in Orthodontics. They meet with ortho residents one day a week at the diagnostic case conferences which exposes them to actual treatment plans. They also attend seminars with lecturers who specialize in ortho. “Completing the Honors program looks very good on their application,” Dr. Sotsky says. “Postdoctoral programs are very competitive.”

Almost since the beginning of his nine years at the dental college, Dr. Sotsky has been part of the postdoctoral orthodontics and predoctoral admissions committee. Therefore, it only makes sense to appoint him as the director of the Orthodontics Externship program where he invites four to six students from various dental schools who wish to see how our program operates. They shadow and assist residents with their patients and get a general sense of how the ortho program works. “I try to find students from several schools in different geographical locations of the country,” Says Dr. Sotsky. “It’s been a great way to spread our name around the country.” As a result, applicants for the postdoctoral ortho program increases every year.

In conclusion, Dr. Sotsky as well as other faculty is extremely dedicated to the predoctoral orthodontic program. Their commitment to the students is very strong and they take great pride in the educational process. Dr. Sotsky comments are reflected by everybody in his department. “I feel very satisfied to import my knowledge to someone else. That’s what I enjoy about teaching.”
Post-Doctoral – Growth and Development

In July 2009, after twelve years as a two-year program, the new Orthodontics residents will be entering the new 30 month program and will graduate with both a certificate and a Masters Degree in Dentistry. Dr. Jeffery Godel shares in the thrill of the program’s evolution as the department’s postdoctoral and clinical director. “The extra six months will give the residents the opportunity to start and finish their patients which will make a huge difference in the learning progress,” says Dr. Godel. “The residents will have time to examine at their patients more critically and conduct more comprehensive research on their cases than in previous years.”

In July 2006, Dr. Meister hired Jeffery Godel, DDS to take over as the Postdoctoral and Clinical Director for the Ortho Program. Dr. Godel owned a private practice in New Jersey for nearly 24 years and taught as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania at the same time. “It has always been a career goal of mine to be involved in full time academics,” Dr. Godel said. “Being involved with the growth and development of these fine young dentists has been a very rewarding experience.”

The program is growing in many respects such as more in-depth research the use of cutting edge technology in the clinic. Temporary anchorage devices (TAD), which are fairly new in this country, are now used by the residents. The difference between TADs and old method is that we are now able to establish absolute anchorage. In the past, adjunctive head gear was used for maximum anchorage. “TADs in simple terms are comparable to a dry wall screw,” Dr. Godel explained. “We’ll find a site in the mouth and insert the TADs in the roots. Once we get through the soft tissue there are no nerves so the patient only feels pressure.”

TADs are a valuable technique, especially when treating adults and has become an entirely new learning curve for both residence and faculty. The requirement and responsibility for patients to wear headgear is taken away with TAD.

Residents will also be focusing more on the under-served population. They will be sharing a partnership with pediatric residents at Caridad Center in Boynton Beach and will also be expanding their patient population referred by Children’s Medical Services. “It’s important for the residents to learn how to give back to the community,” Dr. Godel said.

The first year residents will initiate treatment on 40-50 patients. However, following one of Dr. Malcolm Meister’s initiatives, the faculty and residents meet for a diagnosis case conference four days per week where each resident presents a diagnostic and treatment for the case they are currently treating. Having interaction each other at the conferences, they are actually exposed to hundreds of patients by the end of the year. On the fifth day, they have a progress conference where a second year resident presents a case which was previously presented in a diagnostic conference this allows everyone to witness the progress of the treatment.

The residents are receiving a vast amount experience because of the diverse faculty. Dr. Randy Shultz has his masters and PhD and has been very helpful in mentoring. He brings a lot of good philosophies and has also taken over the orthodontic surgical didactic program which we were a bit lacking before. Dr. Jim Morrish teaches the Damone system which is a very specific bracket system and treatment system that was not taught in the past. Another new faculty member is Dr. Abraham Lipshitz taught in Mexico before coming to the Dental College. “We wouldn’t have a program without our faculty, assistants, and patient care coordinators.” Dr. Godel says. “The road to success is constantly under construction but our program continues to grow in leaps and bounds.”
Enriching With Research

James G Burch, D.D.S., M.S., orthodontist, periodontist, anatomist came to the faculty in early 1999 when Dr Meister’s first class of Orthodontic (Ortho) residents were about to graduate with their specialty certificates in Orthodontics. At that time, Dr Burch began advising a few of the postgraduate Ortho students with small research projects, research literature review, and Ortho-Perio seminars. The research undertaken was not usually of an in-depth level.

Richard Singer, D.M.D. M.S, who previously held the position as postdoctoral director in the Department of Orthodontics, left NSU in 2006 to rescue a fellow orthodontist’s practice that was in distress. Three years later when the practice was back on track, Dr. Singer decided to return to academics. “I could have purchased the practice from my colleague,” Dr. Singer said. “But, I decided that since I’d owned a practice for 22 years, I was ready for fulltime academics.”

Now with the initiation of a 30 month Orthodontic Graduate program leading to a Masters’ degree, Drs. Burch and Singer will be mentoring and advising seven graduate students each year to Masters’ level research studies along with a variety of other qualified mentors. They are looking forward to facilitating this opportunity for all Orthodontic Graduate students. “Orthodontic research will be accomplished at a greater depth and validity,” Burch says.

As the masters’ degree program gains momentum, one of the most exciting aspects for the residents will be the exposure to stem cell research and other biological research as it is tied in with study of growth and development, biology of tooth movement, cleft palate, and other dentofacial deformities. Biological background will become much more sound and solid in the thirty month program and hopefully shatter the stigma of orthodontics being only a technical training program to straighten teeth. The critical literature review class will also be expanded this year. More papers are required than in previous years which will increase the student’s written communication skills.

In their new roles, Drs. Burch and Singer will guide each student in the right direction from the research standpoint in completing her/his thesis. “Having a Masters degree opens up many professional avenues such as teaching, research, academics, administration, material sciences, government, health care in general, as well as in the daily practice of Orthodontics,” Dr. Burch says. “When they finish their masters degrees, the graduates will have an overall better education and be better problem solvers in general.”

Broadening orthodontic research is becoming the wave of the future and Drs. Burch and Singer are excited to be a part of the extended thirty month masters program. Their commitment is clear in guiding the students toward making the most of their educational journey.
Overview – Guidance and Nurturing

In January 2007, Jan Kronmiller, DDS, PhD was appointed as Professor and Chair of Orthodontics. He came to the college with approximately 25 years of academic experience in orthodontics and pediatric dentistry. Prior to the College of Dental Medicine (CDM), Dr. Kronmiller was Professor and Dean of the College of Dentistry at The Ohio State University and had previously served in orthodontics as Chair, Section Head and Program Director at two other universities including nearly nine years at the Oregon Health and Sciences University. In addition, Dr. Kronmiller’s experience includes several years of NIH-funded research in craniofacial growth and development.

A year ago, the college was reorganized into three divisions and orthodontics is now one section of the Division of Developmental Sciences along with pediatric dentistry and community dentistry. Dr. Kronmiller serves as Chief of the Division of Developmental Sciences.

Dr. Kronmiller is particularly appreciative of the breadth and depth of expertise that the faculty in orthodontics brings to the programs of the section. Drs. Jim Burch, Jorge Coro, Arthur Kapit, Stan Kessel, Nhat Le, Barry Matza, Sergio Real, Vickie Rothman, Dennis Tartakow, and Jay Singer have served on the faculty for several years. Drs. Burch and Kessel received their orthodontic training at The Ohio State University and Dr. Le was trained at Case Western Reserve University. Drs. Kapit, Matza, and Jay Singer trained at Boston University, Tufts University, and Fairleigh Dickinson University, respectively. Dr. Tartakow received his training at Tufts and University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Coro completed his at the University of Tennessee and Dr. Rothman is a NSU orthodontics graduate.

Significant changes have also been made in the pre-doctoral program to enhance the experiences of the dental students. Conjoint courses in the division with the sections of pediatric dentistry and community dentistry are being implemented and also planned for the future. Dr. Oscar Sotsky serves the section as Director of Predoctoral Orthodontics.

Dr. Kronmiller’s goal in coming to the CDM was to continue to develop the department and its program’s including its collaborations with other disciplines in the Health Professionals Division and the university as a whole. Shortly after his arrival Dr. Kronmiller conducted a review of the post-doctoral program and worked with the faculty in a strategic planning process that outlined several new initiatives. These new initiatives included the conversion of the post-doctoral certificate program into a 30 month Master of Science in Dentistry (MSD) and certificate program. Dr. Kronmiller had previously worked with the faculty in such a conversion at OHSU and feels strongly that this is the future direction of post-doctoral education in orthodontics with the majority of programs nationally offering an MSD and the average program length of 30 months.

The establishment of an endowed professorship in honor of Dr. Malcolm Meister is another priority that Dr. Kronmiller brought to the CDM. Dr. Kronmiller is pleased that the university has recently approved the establishment of this endowment and looks forward to working with the alumni and friends of the section to fully fund this endowment.
2009 Distinguished Alumnus Award Winner
Dr. Jeffrey Albert

Jeffrey Albert (2004) was selected as the College of Dental Medicine’s (CDM) Distinguished Alumnus recipient for 2009. He was selected because of his volunteerism and commitment to helping underserved people.

Following graduation, Jeffrey practiced general dentistry for almost four years in West Palm Beach when he decided it was time to start giving back. Dr. Albert and his wife spent eight months traveling and volunteering in several countries such as Cambodia, Vietnam, and India providing dental care to the underserved. These experiences were very inspirational for Dr. Albert and also gave him the opportunity to establish long-lasting relationships with foreign dentists and community organizations that focus primarily on underprivileged people of all ages.

As a general dentist, Dr. Albert is providing endodontic treatment to patients at the Palm Beach County Health Department. In addition, his dental team spends time visiting local elementary schools providing dental education and a much needed sealant program. Currently, Jeff serves as an adjunct professor for the College working with our predoctoral students at one of our satellite clinics treating medically compromised patients. He also volunteers at two facilities which offer endodontic treatment to the underserved. He has initiated a program that involves other local endodontists to assist him in providing treatment to patients who otherwise can not afford these services. Jeffrey has applied to post graduate endodontics and hopes to pursue his goal of specializing in this area.

“Dr. Albert exemplifies the characteristics of a caring, giving healthcare provider,” Ms. Margie Bell, CDM’s Director of Student Services said. “And we are proud to be able to recognize him for his public service.”

If you know an alumnus who has shown exemplary service and may be deserving of the 2010 Distinguished Alumnus Award, please email Margie Bell at bmarjori@nova.edu for a nomination form. The deadline is November 1, 2009.

Eric Gotlieb, DDS (PG ’07) Gives Back to Community

Dentist heroic for injured local 11-year-old boy

Several weeks ago, our son of 11 years found himself in an awkward and painful situation, the kind of scenario only young persons could find themselves in. At least we hope this is the case.

Athletic and strong for his age, he was outdoors one cool winter day dunking his basketball into our neighbor’s hoop from a 3-foot-high snow bank all while envisioning KG or Paul Pierce, streaming Jordan-like through the air. A vision every young basketball fan experiences. What could possibly happen, you ask? The unthinkable! Just like the scene from “The Christmas Story,” when the little boy got his tongue stuck on the frozen flag pole. Only this episode didn’t include a flagpole and that little boy wasn’t related.

Our son had managed to get one of his front teeth (central incisors) caught on the net of this basketball hoop and suffered what we labeled significant trauma to his mouth. Bleeding and bruised, the tooth had all but fallen out. Our family was horrified when he came running into the house screaming and crying with a tear-filled face. Initially we thought for sure he would need a prosthetic tooth.

Why am I sharing this story with the public? Because there is a nice ending thanks to the contributions of two local medical practitioners. Very soon after the incident occurred, Janis Krauss Krieger, DMD, and staff recommended we drive our son to Exeter Endodontist Eric Gotlieb, DDS, to help thoroughly diagnose and treat his injury.

Knowing our dental insurance didn’t cover the type of treatment (root canal) our son required, we were expecting to pay “out of pocket” for this service. It just so happened that the next day, when we brought our son to Dr. Gotlieb, he was conducting his annual “Giving Back” community program by offering free dental coverage for all treatments. Soon upon converting my disbelief, Dr. Gotlieb was busy at work walking us through his procedures that would later facilitate a quick and nearly pain-free recovery for our son.

We would like to express our fondest gratitude and thanks to Dr. Krauss Krieger for making the initial visit readily available and Dr. Gotlieb and his staff for treating our son’s injury with such care and expertise. We are also grateful that we were one of the recipients to receive the benefit of Dr. Gotlieb’s community service program. Dr. Gotlieb was professional, comforting, informative and very knowledgeable in his field of practice, and it sure helped having a flat-screen TV arm’s length from our son so he could watch the highlights of his beloved Boston Celtics while receiving his medical treatment.

Sincerely thanks.

Ed and Marylee Nasser
Hampton, Massachusetts
Our annual Alumni reception continues to grow each year. It was enjoyable to see so many graduates both at the reception or stopping by our booth in the exhibit hall.

Among those who joined us were:
- Joe Ata (08) Orlando
- Bill Keyes (08) Merritt Island
- Maya Georges Assi (07) Port St. Lucie
- Emanuel Kontos (07) Tarpon Springs
- Mical Slater (07), Lakeland
- Jennifer Van (07) Orlando
- Abdul Azizi (06) Sanford
- Kurt Bally (06) Jupiter
- Michael Gagoudakis (06) Ponte Vedra Beach
- Kristin Cavanah (06) Satellite Beach
- Patrick Ferry (05) Lakeland
- Tammy Hsu (05) Pembroke Pines
- Hai-Ming Peng (05) Lutz
- Anna Royzman (05) Tamarac
- Tarek Assi (04) Port St. Lucie
- Andre Grenier (04) Plantation
- Andriana Porter (03) Ormond Beach
- Reza Ardalan (02) Port St. Lucie
- Marnie Chall Bauer (01) Odessa
- Marc Chapkis (01) Orlando
- Alex Gaukhman (01) Nokomis

Recent 2009 grads included:
- Jill Edwards Ata
- Jennilyn Estell
- Anna Fedak
- Linsey Fleming
- Sakina Khambaty
- Mitesh Jivan

We’re proud to see some of our Alumni getting involved as delegates to the FDA: Michael Roseff (04), Marina Amelinckx (02), Irene Marron (03)
Alumni Connections

Alumni weekend
February 21, 2009

Mr. Kelly Schwartz, of the Schwartz Consulting Group, spoke during our Alumni weekend presentation. Mr. Schwartz lectured on his philosophy of practice management and the team approach.

Following the lecture and lunch we had an advisory committee meeting to try to plan the future of the Alumni Association. The group was very enthusiastic and had some great ideas.

Shane Roane (01) will be working to get some of the local alums together for a social gathering in the next few months. Chris Phelps (03) will look into setting up a Facebook fan page to help Alumni connect more easily. Angelica Cardenas-Manzur (03) is planning to host a reception at her house in October.

Help us plan our 10 year reunion for the class of 2000 and five year reunion for the Class of 2005. Everybody is is invited!
Contact Margie Bell: T: 954-262-7302; email: bmarjori@nova.edu. WE NEED YOU!!

Family Corner

Aaron Acres (08) and his wife gave birth to their second child, a little girl. Willow Elizabeth was born on April 18, 2009. Aaron finished his GPR and is now practicing in NY.

Summer Taylor Sawyer (08) and Shannon Sawyer (09) gave birth to their son, Ashton Taylor Sawyer in March. Summer is serving in the navy and stationed in VA. and Shannon will be practicing for a general dentist in the area.

Roger Pint (08) and his wife gave birth to their second child. Asher was born on July 10. Roger is back in Florida serving as the Dental Director for the Port St. Lucie Health Department.

Baby boom

Kristin Cavanah Mirza (06) is expecting her first child, a little girl, in September. Kristin and Mike live in Satellite Beach.

Gina Cozzarelli (07) and Ivan Moldaur are expecting their second child this August. Gina just completed our PG ortho program.

Saman Mowzoon Freedman (07) and Matt Freedman (07) are expecting a baby boy in August. They are practicing in the Naples area.
Healthy Practice, Healthy Patients, Healthy YOU
by Nandita Lily

Healthy Practice, Healthy Patients, Healthy YOU was the theme of the 88th annual American Association of Women Dentists Conference (AAWD). The annual conference, held in Hilton Head, South Carolina, was a weekend retreat filled with enrichment, excitement, and relaxation. The distinguished panel included insightful speakers, such as Drs. Anita Murco, Mary Aichelmann-Reidy and Regina Murcko, who discussed the special needs of women patients and systemic illness including heart disease, diabetes, and respiratory problems. In addition to educational insight, the conference also provided early morning exercise including a bike ride along the beautiful pristine Atlantic Ocean beach.

The dentists working at the clinic were very laid back. None of them seemed stressed. No one had anyone breathing down their necks to produce money and if their patients did not show up, they would relax and read a book or surf the internet. On the weekend, I did a lot of hiking to beautiful waterfalls and scenic views.

If you are interested, just Google “Dental Indian Health Services” and you will find their website with information on how to apply. It is for two weeks sometime in the months of April through September of your ending D3 year. The application deadline is usually around the end of February.

If I were to go again I would possibly do one thing different. IHS also has a program that allows D1s entering into their D2 year accompany you as your assistant. The D2 student would still gain a lot of experience assisting and the D3 student would be able to treat every patient that comes in and not have to trade places with the other D3 student.

The experience I gained was incredible but it also exposed me to the IHS in which I gained a greater appreciation for the program. And, I grew to love the people.

Many Native Americans need dental care and it’s a great career option for any new graduate.

Another keynote speaker and president of Posturedontics®, Ms. Bethany Valachi, presented an evidence-based seminar for female dental professionals to prevent pain and extend careers. Highlights of the research-based seminar included: proper selection and adjustment of delivery systems, essential ergonomic criteria for selecting loupes, and chairside stretching to prevent muscle dysfunction.

The AAWD annual conference came to a close with a special program for student members including keynote speaker: Dr. Connie Drisko, Dean of Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry. Dr. Drisko spoke about the past and future of women in dentistry. She discussed the many struggles she and many of her colleagues faced while paving the path for future women dentists.

Dr. Drisko and several other AAWD board members provided priceless information as to what we can expect when graduating from dental school including job opportunities, specializations, and family life.

The AAWD 88th annual conference brought together women dentists of different backgrounds and ages to build relationships, inspire and grow both personally and professionally.
Student Impact

Students Lobby for Meth Mouth Prevention and NHS Corps Funding

by Sal Colombo

On April 1, 2009, students from dental schools around the U.S. joined in Washington, DC for ASDA's National Dental Student Lobby Day. This event gives dental students the opportunity to become involved in dentistry at the government level. Students meet with senators and members of congress to discuss current legislation affecting dentistry. This year, students Jared Young (D4), Sal Colombo (D3), Lori Lazar, Kelly Munchel and Josh Sparks (D2) stormed the Hill to meet with the staff of Florida representatives Ron Klein, Debbie Wasserman-Schulz, Senator Bill Nelson along with Senator Patty Murray from Washington. We lobbied on behalf of two bills related to Meth Mouth Prevention and National Health Service Corps Funding.

The Meth Mouth Prevention and Recovery Act aims to educate teenagers and dental professionals about the dangerous consequences of methamphetamine use and early diagnosis, respectively. Methamphetamine is an addicting drug that can have devastating effects on the dentition. Drug users tend to have rotten teeth and damage so severe that extraction is the only option available.

The First Annual SNDA Impressions Program

by Damian Black

On Saturday April 4, 2009, the Student National Dental Association chapter of Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine hosted its first annual Impressions Program with 77 students – three of which are in high school – in attendance. The event began with a presentation from our Assistant Dean of Admissions & Student Services, Dr. Hal Lippman, and our Co-Director of Treatment Planning, Dr. Mark Schweizer. They gave the participants an introduction to dentistry, discussing the field in general and NSU’s involvement in community dentistry. They also discussed the process of applying and being admitted into the dental program at NSU. We then had a short presentation regarding financial aid and how to apply for it when attending dental school. One of our event sponsors, Kaplan, then gave a presentation on the DAT.

They discussed what the DAT is, different ways to prepare for it, why it is important to prepare for it. Kaplan was generous enough to donate a scholarship to take one of their DAT prep courses which they awarded in a raffle. We then had a segment in which a panel of SNDA members spoke to the participants on life as a dental student with respect to each year in dental school.

Military Commissioning

On Saturday, May 23, 2009 the College of Dental Medicine held a joint commissioning ceremony with the College of Osteopathic Medicine. Graduating student who will begin their military service were pinned by family members and sworn in to their respective branch of service.

We are proud to recognize those graduates who will be serving our country while providing healthcare to our troops.

Lara Carlson- Air Force
Richard Clark- Army
Jennifer Estell- Air Force
Daniel Fuhrman- Navy
Derek Gatta- Navy
Vinice Hutchins- Navy
Kevin Johnstun- Army
James McCann
Jason Rose- Air Force
Kelly Seebaldt- Navy

According to the participant surveys, we received an overall positive response to the Impressions Program. The participants felt that the faculty and students were very approachable. They felt that the mock interview session was the most beneficial portion of the event. We hope to have this much success at next year’s Impressions Program.
Comfort Navy Mission 2009

by David T Evans (D4)

When initially asked to participate in a dental service mission to South and Central America, Kolton Erickson and I thought we'd be doing extractions and fillings on a Navy ship. However, as we learned more about the mission, we received updates informing us that our volunteerism would span the realms of medicine, dentistry, optometry, or even physical labor based on the needs. Though disappointment set in regarding the chance to share our clinical dental education with the world, we learned the true meaning of philanthropy.

Arriving at the international airport in Panama City, Panama, the two of us were immediately picked up by military personnel and transported 100 miles to Colon, Panama. As we pulled into the pier and sighted the grandeur of the USNS Comfort, reality set in…we would be living on a Navy ship for the next 10 days. This floating hospital was truly impressive with state of the art equipment facilitating general surgery, oral surgery, same day dental prosthetics using the Cerec- cad cam system, and many other technologies. This was in addition to the military helicopters, high speed boats, armed personnel, and mess hall food.

Living in a large room with 70 other men, sharing one showering area added to the hardship of sleeping in a bunk where there were three beds within a seven foot ceiling. All of these details added to the excitement of what turned into a most significant and memorable lifetime experience for us!

When the alarm went off each morning at 05:30, I instantly thought of classmates back in the states enjoying their semester break. However, within a few minutes of walking the decks, eating with military personnel, and forming lifelong friendships with other civilian volunteers didn’t compare to any extra wink of sleep. After a 06:00 role call (muster as they call it), we boarded buses and headed offsite. We spent the days assisting on dental procedures including cleanings, restorations and extractions, seeing things we had yet to experience in our clinical exposure. Our commitment was to help in whatever area of the mission needed us. Kolton assisted on a couple of surgeries including first hand witness of a hysterectomy. I spent one day teaching Panama dental students on the ship. Each day was unique, but all included hard work, military food, and wonderful experiences interacting with the local people who were so grateful to have us there, as well as getting to interact with enlisted and high ranking military officers.

Though there were certainly challenges, and moments of discomfort, on the USNS Comfort. However, overall it was an incredible and unique experience, one in which we will always remember. I hope that I will be invited back in the future, to once again serve the underserved, remembering how blessed we are in this country.

2009 Elected ASDA Trustee
Christina Wiggins (D3)

Christina Wiggins will be serving a one-year term as the recently elected ASDA District 5 Trustee on March 14, 2009. The American Student Dental Association is the largest national student-run organization for dental students.

The goal of ASDA is to make dental students aware of the importance of organized dentistry and to promote dental student advocacy. As trustee, Christina will supervise the six dental school ASDA chapters in her district (Puerto Rico, Nova Southeastern, University of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana). Her duties will include ensuring that each chapter is run smoothly and assisting in communication between the dental schools and national ASDA. She will also be organizing a district meeting in New Orleans, LA and assist in planning a regional meeting in Indianapolis, IN, where dental students will be made aware of current issues and learn ways to improve their chapters.

“I am honored to be elected as District 5 trustee,” Christina said. “and will proudly serve ASDA to the best of my ability.”
Student Impact

ASDA Day

Third and fourth year students enjoyed annual ASDA day on February 20, 2009. The event started with a lecture in the morning featuring Mr. Kelly Schwartz of Schwartz Consulting Group.

Following the morning program, students were treated to a barbeque at the Miami Dolphins training facility. The Dolphin “bubble” served as the venue for over 30 exhibitors and vendors. All four classes of students were able to meet and speak to numerous companies to learn more about their products and services.

Dozens of prizes were raffled off throughout the day including I-pods, hotel stays, tooth brushes and ASDA Day duffle bags.

ASDA Day is the major fundraising event for the organization each year. The funds are used to support travel and other events for students.

Dentist Day on the Hill

Students traveled to Tallassee on March 31 for the annual meeting with State legislators. While weather prevented others from making the trip, the students, along with faculty and staff, trekked through horrendous rain to spend the day at the Capitol.

Student Awards

The College of Dental Medicine recognized the following graduating students at an awards ceremony on Wednesday, May 20, 2009. These students demonstrated excellence in the respective areas.

Alpha Omega- Daniil Libov
Alpha Omega award for Removable prosthetists-Eliseo Ruiz
Academy of General Dentistry- Judith Cruz and Denis Dospekhov
Academy of Operative Dentistry-Ty Griffiths
Academy of Osseointegration- Neil Baugh
American Association of Esthetic Dentistry-April Kern
American Academy of Implant Dentistry-Herman Leung
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology-Jessica Shireman
American Academy of Oral medicine Radiology-Jessica Shireman
American Academy of Oral Medicine-Eun Choi
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry-Javier Girardot and Marisabel Olivera
American Association of Endodontists-Helena Hellman
American Association of Periodontology-Amy Bouvier
American Association of Oral Biologist-Jessica Shireman
American Association of oral and Maxillofacial surgeons-Jesse Jakubowski
American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial surgeons dental implant award-Jesse Jakubowski
American Association of Orthodontists- Daniil Libov
American Academy of Public Health Dentistry- Hector Naranjo
American Dental Society of anesthesiology Horace Wells Award-Michael Grimes
American College of Dentists Essay winner- Allison Alexander
ASDA award- Jared Young
Eleanor Bushee award- American Association of Women Dentists-Michelle Mathieson
Hanau Excellence in Prosthodontics Award-Ty Griffiths
International College of Dentist –Leadership award-Jesse Jakubowski
Pierre Fauchard Academy Award-Anna Fedak

A few of our 2009 graduates

Joseph Ata, Jill Edwards-Ata, Skip Heidrich
Shannon Sawyer, Dr. Abby Brodie, and Summer Taylor Sawyer ’08
Blanca Fernandez, Linsey Fleming, Anna Fedak, Cory Fabrizio, and Jennilyn Estell
William Campbell and Luis Breton
#1 Rated Resident is from NSU!

Cameron Howard, D.M.D., a postdoctoral resident (PG2) in the NSU Endodontics program was rated as the #1 resident to submit a research project for sponsorship to The American Association of Endodontists (AAE). The title of his project was: “Regulation of Dental Pulp Stem Cell Migration and Regenerative Endodontics.” Dr. Howard was also appointed to the AAE Regenerative Endodontics Committee, and has written an article for AAE Endodontics Residents newsletter about the future direction of endodontic practice.

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Dental Stem Cell Therapy Survey

Ingrid Epelman, D.M.D., a postdoctoral resident who graduated from the NSU Endodontics program in June 2009, has published her survey titled: “A Practitioner Survey of Opinions Toward Regenerative Endodontics.” The article was published in the Journal of Endodontics. The results of the survey showed that 96% of endodontists thought that stem cell regenerative therapies would become more common as dental treatments. The majority of survey participants thought that stem cell therapies would be widely used within the next decade.

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Stem Cell Therapy to Replant Avulsed Teeth

Mohammed Elseed, D.M.D., a postdoctoral resident who graduated from the NSU Endodontics program in 2007, has published his research project which investigated the potential of stem cell therapy to replant avulsed teeth. His article was published in the International Endodontic Journal. The title of the article was: “Assessment of bioactive and bio-adhesive therapies to enhance stem cell attachment to root surface dentine.”

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Root Canal Retreatments

Jamie Ring, D.M.D., a postdoctoral resident who graduated from the NSU Endodontics program in 2008, has published his research project which investigated the fastest and most effective methods to perform root canal re-treatments in the June 2009 issue of Journal of the American Dental Association. His article was titled: “Removing Root Canal Obturation Materials: A Comparison of Rotary File Systems and Re-treatment Agents.”

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Proctor & Gamble Awards Two Grants

Dr. Cristina Garcia-Godoy was recently awarded two grants from Proctor & Gamble. The first grant provided funding for training on a special camera that is capable of reading color shades of teeth. The camera is used for whitening studies and is also capable of reading bleeding scores for gingivitis studies and plaque. The second grant will fund a study in August comparing different marketed products against gingivitis.
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<td>September 12</td>
<td>Assessing Anesthetic Options for Nonsurgical Periodontal Therapy</td>
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<td>PM Ultrasonics: An Evidence Based Approach To Nonsurgical Periodontal Therapy</td>
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<td>Renee C. Graham, RDH, Med</td>
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<td>September 12 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Nitrous Oxide-Oxygen Analgesia - Dr. Steven Kaltman and Dr. Edward Fellows</td>
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<td>Drug Abuse: A Way Out - Dr. Richard Finkel</td>
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<td>September 25</td>
<td>The Virtues of Profitable Dentistry - Dr. Howard Farran</td>
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<td>September 26</td>
<td>Dental Radiography - Dr. Gary Conover &amp; Dr. Maritzabel Gubler</td>
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<td>October 10</td>
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<td>October 10</td>
<td>Medical Complications: The Diabetic Patient and Patients with Bleeding Disorders</td>
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<td>Dr. William Gibson, Dr. Michael Siegel, Dr. Shawn McClure</td>
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<td>October 16</td>
<td>Extraction &amp; Immediate Placement Single Tooth to Full Mouth Featuring NobelActive</td>
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<td>Implant System - Dr. Charles Babbush</td>
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<td>October 23</td>
<td>Comprehensive Review, Florida Laws and Rules Exam - Jane Weiner, RDH</td>
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<td>Providing Dental Care for Women with Cancer: An Update on Breast and Ovarian Cancers</td>
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<td>Jo Ann Gurelian, RDH Ph.D</td>
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<td>November 7</td>
<td>Radiography Hands-on Workshop - Dr. Gary Conover, Dr. Maritzabel Hogge, &amp; Dr. Joel Slingbaum</td>
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<td>Expanded functions as Permitted by Florida Law - Dr. Mark Greenberg</td>
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<td>November 13</td>
<td>Cardiology What You Should Know For Yourself and Your Patients - Dr. Morton Diamond</td>
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<td>Implant Certification for Dental Hygienists - Lynn Mortillia, RDH</td>
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<td>Current Impression Taking Techniques, Concepts and Materials - Dr. Mark Gottlieb</td>
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<td>Dental Care for Apprehensive Patients - Dr. Mark Gottlieb</td>
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<td>December 5</td>
<td>Radiography - Dr. Gary Conover &amp; Dr. Maritzabel Hogge</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>Oral Sedation and Enteral Conscious Sedation - Dr. Steven Kaltman</td>
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For more information or to register, please contact (954) 262-5327
www.dental.nova.edu/ce or dentalce@nova.edu