

dental direct

THE BI-MONTHLY UFCD NEWSLETTER

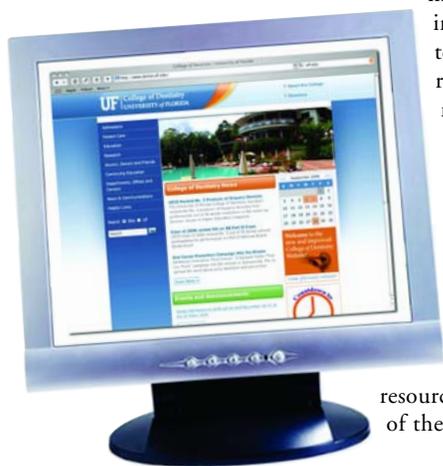
FALL 2006

UFCD New Web site

Our college's new Web site launched Aug. 24 to great fanfare and appreciation. The new look and easy navigation menus are a great improvement from the old site. But creating the new design took a lot of thought, planning and hard work with the goal of improving the site's visual appeal and providing effective navigation, usability, and functionality for the college's different audiences.

The Web redesign project oversight committee was established in March 2005 to develop a vision for the Web site and guide the planning process. The committee consisted of the dean, several departmental chairs, directors and outside IT experts. The committee's vision was implemented by the project work team, which was made up of stakeholders from information systems,

instructional technologies, research, communications and continuing dental education. The work team provided expertise from their respective areas to plan the logistics and resource management of the Web site



It is crucial for UFCD to have an effective Web site because it is the college's connection to the world. The Web site provides information for external as well as internal users.

redesign project.

To better understand how different groups use the Web site, the project work team surveyed faculty, staff, students and patients. The resulting information helped guide decisions regarding what online features and information to include in the redesigned pages.

Leslie Weinberg, our college's webmaster, said that the new Web site contains the same information just organized differently, and thus it might take a while for people to get used to it. She also said that the new Web site contains more text to make searching for content easier and to increase disabled accessibility.

It is crucial for UFCD to have an effective Web site because it is the college's connection to the world. The Web site provides information for external as well as internal users. Hopefully, you'll find the new Web site easy to navigate and pleasing to use.

staff spotlight



Leslie Weinberg, webmaster

Leslie is happy about working as the webmaster since coming to the college in August. She enjoys having lots of freedom to be creative on the Web site and glad that everybody is excited about it.

Leslie received her degree in graphic design from Santa Fe Community College in 1999. She has been working as a graphic and Web designer ever since. She is married to Scott Weinberg, also a Web designer, and has a stepson, Cameron, who started first grade this year.

Q. What's your ideal day off work?

A. It would be driving to springs with a lot of friends and food. We would just cook, eat and swim all day.

Q. What's your favorite guilty pleasure?

A. It would be shopping for fabric, either on eBay or Joann Fabrics. I love to sew. I sew little purses, bags, pajama pants and beanbags. I am working on sewing shirts now.

Favorite Book: All sci-fi books by Piers Anthony

Favorite TV show: Right now – Project Runway

Favorite Movie: A Christmas Story

Unknown fact: Leslie has an identical twin! But there is not much chance of running into her in Gainesville ... Her twin sister just got her real estate license and works in Alabama.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 19 – October 18

Benefits open enrollment for employees. More information go to: <http://www.hr.ufl.edu/benefits/openenrollment.htm>. The 'Choice Toolkit' link includes a 'cost estimator' to help with enrollment decisions.

Sep. 25-26

Benefits Fair, Reitz Union Grand Ballroom.

September 28

"Oral Cancer: A Tale of Growth and Survival" Dr. Nisha J. D'Silva, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m., Room: D1-26

October 6-7
Homecoming/Holiday!

October 26

"Dental Emergency Management at a Children's Hospital: Twenty Years of

Data Analysis" Dr. Barbara Sheller, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m., Room: D8-46

October 31

"Gene Expression Signatures in Periodontitis" Dr. Panos N. Papapanou, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m., Room: DG-41

November 10

Veterans Day/Holiday!

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
The Foundation for The Gator Nation

message
from the dean



I am pleased to present the redesigned Dental Direct staff newsletter and introduce its editor, Emel Ozdora. Emel is the college's communications graduate assistant, working part time in the communications office to produce the Dental Direct on a bi-monthly basis. The Dental Direct is Emel's primary responsibility, and she is dedicated to making it an interesting and useful publication for college staff.

In effort to integrate college communications, the Dental Direct is also posted online at www.dental.ufl.edu/news as part of the college's redesigned Web presence launched this August. The college's newly redesigned online home features an updated look and enhanced interactivity designed to become an information resource to provide directory info, a calendar of events and top of the hour college news.

There is a lot of good work taking place in the College of Dentistry, as I think you'll agree as you read this issue of the Dental Direct. Take a moment to catch up on what other college staffers are doing, and let us know what you think.

Best wishes

Teresa A. Dolan
Professor and Dean



Volunteering for a Cause

Christian Dental Society at UF - Fundraising for the Honduras Trip

We might be taking our dentists appointments for granted without realizing that for others going to a dentist might be a totally different experience. The members of the Christian Dental Society (CDS) at UF know this very well. Daniel Bass, a second year dental student and a member of the CDS, has been in situations in Honduras where he and his colleagues had to treat patients in churches and schools.

"In the villages we set up makeshift dental clinics in churches or schools using anything available for seating the patients and sunlight or flashlight to see," Bass said. "We were able to provide them with local anesthesia and remove terribly decaying teeth, which can prevent them from experiencing dental pain and systemic health problems."

The CDS has between 35-40 members at UF. The members raised over \$1,000 last year for their trip to Guaimaca, a small village in Honduras where they treated over 730 patients in the four days they worked, extracted

over 560 teeth and placed over 200 restorations.

Next year they are going to Honduras again with the goal of treating even more patients, but this time their goal is to raise \$2,500 to help pay for supplies. They plan to be in Honduras April 22 through 28. They have already raised close to \$700 in just two months and they hope to reach their goal.

They will use the money to purchase dental supplies for the trip, including: local anesthetic, flashlights, surgical instruments, gloves, masks, composite, amalgam, and some toys for the children.

Once in Honduras, they will split up into teams. One team will go into the hills of Honduras to the small villages for those who cannot reach the hospital. The other team will work at the hospital and Orphanage Emmanuel.

We wish them luck in their efforts. More information about the CDS can be found at <http://www.christian-dental.org/about-cds/index.htm>. Contact Daniel Bass at dbass@ufl.edu if you would like to help.

The FICA Alternative Plan

OPS employees have a new option in saving for retirement with the FICA Alternative Plan.

The contribution plan is authorized under Section 401 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code. The plan allows temporary employees of a government entity to deposit money into a private retirement plan instead of Social Security. The plan has been effective since the pay period beginning Jan. 13.

According to the plan, employees can contribute 7.5 percent of their wages to an investment account held in their name. Previously, employees contributed to the Social Security Administration and the amount contributed by the employee was matched by the university.

Once a contribution has been made to the plan, the employee will receive an enrollment and designation of beneficiary form, and an introduction letter from Bencor, the plan administrator. The Bencor forms are also available on the FICA Web site located at <http://www.hr.ufl.edu/benefits/ficaalternative.htm>.

These forms will allow employees to choose between a guaranteed pooled fund — an interest bearing account — and a variable investment option. If an employee does not direct the investments of funds, they will automatically be placed into the guaranteed pool fund with a fixed rate of 3.75 percent.

Who is eligible?

Employees that are not covered by the university's retirement plan and currently pay

According to the FICA Alternative Plan, employees contribute 7.5 percent of their wages into an investment account held in their name.

Social Security taxes will be eligible. Adjunct faculty, post-doctoral students, house staff and hourly and exempt OPS employees are eligible to participate in the FICA Alternative Plan.

Who is not eligible?

Faculty, TEAMS, and USPS employees participating in a university retirement plan are excluded from the FICA Alternative Plan. Students, graduate assistants, fellows, phased retirees and rehired retirees are also excluded.

Advantages of the FICA Alternative Plan

- Participating employees are not subject to Social Security taxes while covered by this plan, and Social Security taxes are never due on these funds.
- Any benefits previously earned under another retirement plan, including Social Security, will not be reduced by participation in this plan.
- The account balance is portable and there are no administrative fees.
- Contributions to this plan are pre-tax. Therefore, the total amount of taxes paid will be reduced. No taxes are paid on the contributions until they are withdrawn.

For more information, visit

www.hr.ufl.edu/benefits/ficaalternative.htm

SPOTLIGHT ON

Prosthodontics

A department or satellite clinic will be featured in each issue of the Dental Direct. This issue's featured department is prosthodontics.

Having a mouth full of healthy teeth is not standard for all adult Americans. According to a recent study, approximately 47 million people in the United States — almost one-fourth of the adult population — wear some type of removable prosthesis.

Prosthodontics has become an important area of dentistry due to increasing demand caused by an aging population and popularity of aesthetic procedures. The specialty repairs and restores teeth lost or damaged due to disease, injury or wear.

“Patients first need to learn how to take care of their teeth and change their bad habits before we can start repairing or replacing their teeth.”

Prosthodontics deals with fixed and removable prostheses. Fixed prostheses are semi-permanent placements that include post and cores — placement of a post in the root canal to support a crown — crowns, bridges and implants. Removable prostheses, full and partial dentures are designed to be placed in and removed from the mouth by the patient wearing them.

The four UFCD prosthodontic clinics include faculty practice, maxillofacial prosthetic services, graduate prosthodontics, and the pre-doctoral student comprehensive care clinic.

“Patients first need to learn how to take care of their teeth and change their bad habits before we can start repairing or replacing their teeth,” said A.E. “Buddy” Clark, D.M.D., Ph.D., chair and professor of prosthodontics. “If they do not change their habits, the replacements will not last for long.”

Clark emphasized the prosthodontics department does not work alone, but teams with the Parker E. Mahan Facial Pain Center and orthodontics for facial pain problems. Before prosthodontics can start treating a patient, periodontology and operative first treat patients to address existing disease and to educate patients about healthy oral hygiene.



The graduate program of prosthodontics, directed by Edgar O’Neil, D.D.S., M.S., clinical associate professor of prosthodontics and program director, trains dentists to be specialists and collaborates with the implant center in the department of oral and maxillofacial surgery and the graduate periodontology program when treating patients who need implants.

One largely unknown service the department offers is prosthetics to replace facial body parts through its maxillofacial prosthetics service. Maxillofacial prostheses are life-like prostheses for whole parts of the head and neck including eyes, ears and nose. This service, directed by Glenn Turner, D.M.D., M.S.D., associate professor of prosthodontics, is critical to the self-image of patients who have lost facial structures to trauma or major surgery due to a disease.

Clark defined the main challenge in prosthodontics as teaching students the philosophy that the most expensive treatment may not be the best for the patient.

Clark suggested that a dentist should present patients with different options and fees, and let the patient make the choice. “Instead of focusing on increasing income, a good dentist should focus on building his or her reputation as a good healthcare provider,” he said.

PROSTHODONTICS FACULTY:

Dr. A. E. “Buddy” CLARK (Professor and Chair), Dr. Lucius BATTLE, Dr. Jonathan BAXTER, Dr. Luisa ECHETO, Dr. Josephine ESQUIVEL-UPSHAW, Dr. Jack JONES, Dr. Andre MAUDERLI, Dr. Arthur NIMMO, Dr. Ajay OJHA, Dr. Edgar O’NEILL, Dr. Steven RILEY, Dr. Luis RUEDA, Dr. Paivi SAMANT, Dr. Venita SPOSETTI, Dr. Glenn TURNER, Dr. Boyd WELSCH, Dr. Fong WONG.

PROSTHODONTICS STAFF:

Reesa DIXON, Harriet HAYES, Michelle HOPKINS, Kunjan KAKAR, Kelley LEWIS, Robert MANN, Amanda MILLS, Karron MORROW, Barry NICHOLAS, Nikki NICHOLAS, George OROBITG, Mitch SALISBURY, Amanda STEPHENS, Gary WEITEKAMP, Dwayne WILLIAMS, William A. WILLIS, Carrie WOODY.

training information

► Fall Training Courses

Fall training courses are now open for enrollment. Information for courses may be found at <http://www.hr.ufl.edu/training/>. Just go to the Web site to look at the different courses you can take. You can achieve personal development through taking these training courses and they are free of charge! Learn how to create Web pages, take the self defense class offered just for women or enroll in the life plan sessions and make a long-term plan for yourself. Enroll and make a difference in your life.

► GatorJobs

There is a training course on the upcoming transition to GatorJobs. Employees who initiate job postings will want to register for this training as soon as possible. <http://www.hr.ufl.edu/gator-jobs/default.htm>.



Silent Auction for the University of Florida Community Campaign. September 27, 12 p.m -1 p.m. in Room D8-46

Donations for this event can be brought to Gene Templeton (352) 273-6747 in Oral Surgery D7-6 or Kathy Cannon (352) 273-5692 in Orthodontics D7-19.

Congratulations to Denise and Jim Webb!

Shane Pack, son of Denise Webb, received a full scholarship for school starting this fall. This is a scholarship the university offers to 50 students each year whose parents are UF employees. It is something we can be proud of.



Accreditation Self-study Program

In preparation for the February 2008 pre-doctoral accreditation site visit by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA), the College of Dentistry has established an accreditation self-study process to evaluate the educational process in relation to its mission and compliance with CODA standards.

"The DMD program is the heart and soul of our college," said William McArthur, Ph.D., professor of oral biology and the chair of the accreditation self-study program. "Everyone, staff, students and faculty are major stakeholders in the program and, their involvement in the self study process is crucial to a comprehensive and complete report for the accreditation application." Dean Teresa A. Dolan encourages employees to take part in the self-study ad hoc committees listed below. Staff members who would like to get involved should review the description of the different ad hoc committees on the college's new Web site and contact Jean Sweitzer if you would like to be involved. Find more information about the ad hoc committees at <http://www.dental.ufl.edu/Accreditation>.

Accreditation Ad Hoc Committees

Institutional Effectiveness, Admissions, Instruction, Curriculum Management, Information Management and Critical Thinking, Biomedical Sciences, Behavioral Sciences, Practice Management, Ethics and Professionalism, Clinical Sciences, Faculty and Staff, Facilities and Resources, Student Services and Student Financial Aid, Health Services, Patient Care Services, Research

NEW HIRES | JULY-SEPTEMBER



Cannon



Fansler



Krisek



Miller



Morrow



Virtusio

Richard L. Cannon
Senior Biological Scientist,
Dept. of Oral Biology

Ann E. Keating
Senior Clerk,
Dept. of Oral Surgery

Karron W. Morrow
Dental Assistant,
Student Clinic

Jessica M. Eddy
Dental Assistant, Endodontics
Resident Clinic

Thomas Krisek
IT Specialist, IT

George O. Ororbitg
Dental Assistant, Prosthodontics
Resident Clinic

Carol Eugene
Sr. Clerk, Periodontics,
Resident Clinic

John M. Mosley II
Dental Assistant, Jacksonville

Kathrina L. Virtusio
Biological Scientist,
Dept. of Community Dentistry
and Behavioral Sciences

Richard L. Fansler, Jr.
HR Support Specialist,
Dean's Office

Meri Miljanic
Dental Assistant, St Petersburg

Leslie V. Weinberg
IT Expert, Webmaster, IT

Caitlin E. Miller
Biological Scientist,
Dept. of Oral Biology

for more
information

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