

# CREIGHTON

School of Dentistry Dean's Newsletter

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## Dean's Message

### Thank You for Your Support

As I step down from my second appointment as Dean of the Creighton School of Dentistry, I would like to sincerely thank the Creighton community – our alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends – for making us one of the premier dental schools in the country.



I consider it an honor and a privilege to have served as Dean for nearly 13 years. Creighton University and the School of Dentistry are like home for my family and me. I cherish the friendships made and the strides we have taken together to move the School forward.

I want to thank our students, past and current, for choosing Creighton, and our faculty and staff – including our part-time faculty practitioners – for their dedication to our students' success. The fact that our students continue to score well on national boards and their licensure examinations is a testament to the quality of our student body and our faculty.

I have enjoyed the opportunities to visit with our alumni, and I very much appreciate their hospitality and financial support. And I would like to thank my executive assistant, Pat Beacom, whose professionalism and competency have kept this office running smoothly.

I am very confident that Dr. Mark Latta will continue to build on our strong traditions of clinical and academic excellence. We are very fortunate to have someone of his background and experience.

I plan to return to the faculty and continue with research, teaching and special projects for the School. So this is not farewell, but rather a heartfelt thank you for all you do for Creighton's School of Dentistry.

*Wayne W. Barkmeier, D.D.S., M.S.  
Dean, School of Dentistry*

## Dr. Latta Named Dean of the School

Dr. Mark Latta, Associate Dean for Research and Professor of General Dentistry, has been named Dean of the School of Dentistry effective July 1.

Dr. Latta, who has been on the Creighton faculty since 1995, becomes the 18th dean of the School since its founding in 1905. He succeeds Dr. Wayne Barkmeier, who will support the transition and continue as a Professor of General Dentistry.

Dr. Latta has been awarded more than 100 research grants on prosthetic dental restorative materials, adhesives and bonding and dental material clinical trials. A speaker and lecturer of international renown, he has published more than 50 manuscripts and 170 abstracts and presented at numerous state and national dental association meetings and throughout the world. He has served as a clinical supervisor of junior and senior students, lecturer on dental materials and course director for Evidence-Based Dentistry.

"Both the Rev. Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., (Creighton's incoming president) and I agree that Creighton is fortunate to have an outstanding current faculty member with the vision, academic credentials and values-centered approach to teaching that make Dr. Latta the right person to lead the school," said Creighton President the Rev. John P.



Schlegel, S.J.

"I also want to express my gratitude to Dr. Barkmeier for his outstanding leadership and contributions to the School of Dentistry, filling the role of dean twice in his 30-year career," Fr. Schlegel said.

Prior to joining Creighton, Dr. Latta served as Director of Research and Development for the Trubyte Division of Dentsply International in York, Penn.

He has served as the immediate past president of the Dental Materials Group, International Association for Dental Research, is a Fellow in the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists and is a member of Omicron Kappa Upsilon, the national dental honorary society.

"For more than 16 years, I have seen the impact Creighton and our School have had on students, alumni and the community, and our ability to provide vital Catholic, Jesuit values-centered health care," Dr. Latta said. "I embrace the School's mission and I am truly honored and humbled to be serving this institution in a new capacity and helping to shape the future of our institution."

A graduate of Lafayette College in Easton, Penn., Dr. Latta earned his dental degree at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, and his master's degree in oral biology from the University of Maryland Baltimore College of Dental Surgery. He also spent one year in hospital general practice residency at York Hospital in York, Penn. He and his wife, Victoria, have two daughters, Megan and Mary Kathryn.

## Alumni Advisory Board Named for 2011

Dr. Terry Bolamperti, DDS'76, is chair of the School's Alumni Advisory Board for 2011, while Mike Meehan, DDS'92, is the vice-chair. Dr. Bolamperti has a private practice in Omaha specializing in general dentistry. Dr. Meehan is an orthodontist and is in private practice in Palos Heights, Ill.

Other recently elected members of the Alumni Advisory Board for 2011 are:

- James Smith, DDS'64, a general dentist and an attorney in private practice in Omaha.
- Pat Kelsey, DDS'06, a periodontist in private practice in Omaha.
- Dennis O'Meara, DDS'78, a general dentist in private practice in Des Moines, Iowa.
- Stephen Coffey, DDS'04, an oral surgeon in practice in Omaha.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** The 2011 School of Dentistry Reunion Weekend and Dental Assembly will be held Sept. 15-17. We look forward to seeing you there!

# Dental School Welcomes Dr. Wee

Alvin G. Wee, D.D.S., M.S., M.P.H., began his Creighton career in the School of Dentistry on March 1 as Associate Professor of Prosthodontics.

Dr. Wee comes to Creighton most recently from the University of Nebraska Medical Center, where he

served as Associate Professor and Director in the Division of Oral Facial Prosthetic/ Dental Oncology in the Department of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery. Dr. Wee also held a courtesy Associate Professorship in the Department of Oral Biology in UNMC's College of Dentistry.

With a research focus on early detection and quality of life for head and neck cancer patients, the Creighton professor has investigated patient-related and health care-related determinants relevant to late stage diagnosis of oral cancer. Both determinants are part of a web-based educational



intervention for primary care physicians to promote early detection of oral cancer.

In June, Dr. Wee is scheduled to complete a Ph.D. program at UNMC in a clinical and translational research medical sciences interdepartmental area. His research there focuses on "Promoting Oral Cancer Examinations to Medical Healthcare Professionals in Rural Nebraska: A Pilot Study."

Born in Singapore, Dr. Wee holds the equivalent of a D.D.S. from the National University of Singapore, Republic of Singapore.

He completed his residency in prosthodontics at the University of Iowa, where he also earned a master of science in prosthodontics.

Dr. Wee's fellowship was based at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in maxillofacial prosthetics.

He is a fellow of the American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics and served on the board of directors of the American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics from 2007 to 2010.



Dr. Lanphier



Dr. Jergenson

## Professors Selected for Leadership Institute

Terry Lanphier, DDS'82, Assistant Professor in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and Dr. Margaret Jergenson, DDS'82, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Oral Biology, were selected to participate in the American Dental Education Association's Leadership Institute for 2011-2012.

This year-long program is intended to develop the nation's most promising dental faculty and administrators as future leaders in dental and higher education. Since 1999, more than 200 fellows from predoctoral, allied and postdoctoral dental education have participated in the ADEA Leadership Institute. These fellows hold positions ranging from department chairs to program directors to deans of dental schools.

The ADEA Leadership Institute meets five times during the course of the year. Meetings were held in March and June, and additional meetings are planned for September 2011 and January and March of 2012.

Through the ADEA's flagship career enhancement program, fellows explore leadership styles, emotional intelligence, organizational theory, team building, stress management, work-life balance, strategies for leading change, giving and receiving feedback, and engaging in self- and peer-assessment.

The Institute also provides dental educators with perspectives about oral health policy and legislation, organization and financing of higher education, the dental school's role within the parent institution, budgeting and fundraising, legal issues, recruiting faculty, and opportunities to acquire and practice skills associated with effective leadership.

## Alpha Sigma Nu Induction

The following students were inducted into Alpha Sigma Nu, the national Jesuit honor society, during the Alpha Sigma Nu Annual Induction Luncheon on campus in February: Matthew Eusterman, Luke Sharpe and Cole Weaver.

## Graduates Honor Faculty and Staff at Banquet

The Department of Prosthodontics, chaired by Dr. Dennis Nilsson, was named the "Department of the Year" during the 2011 Senior Awards Banquet in April.

The seniors selected Dr. Scott DiLorenzo (clinical) and Dr. Frank Dowd Jr. (lecture) as instructors of the year.

Dr. W. Thomas Cavel and Dr. Randy Stout were selected to place the doctorate hoods on each senior during the Hooding Ceremony, with Dr. Jared Smith being selected to serve as Master of Ceremonies.

Other awards and honors from the banquet are listed below.

- Dr. Theodore J. Urban Memorial Award for outstanding dedication to preclinical education – Dr. Stephen Hess
- Outstanding Part-Time Clinical Instructor – Dr. J. Terry Sullivan
- Sara K. Susman Memorial Award to an

outstanding staff member – Tom Mendoza

- Dr. Ann M. Garred Award for outstanding dedication to providing dental education – Dr. Cavel
- Dr. Frank J. Ayers Spirit of Compassion Award for outstanding compassion shown to students in personal and academic need – Dr. Greg Davis
- The Rev. James J. Quinn, S.J., Award, presented by the senior class to a faculty member who has made a positive impact on students over the course of their education – Dr. Terry Lanphier
- Dr. Raymond W. Shaddy Memorial Award for outstanding clinical faculty – Dr. Stout
- Instructors of the Year – junior, Dr. William Carney (clinical) and Dr. R. Scott Shaddy (lecture); sophomore, Dr. Hess; and freshman, Dr. Margaret Jergenson.

## Faculty Present at Ignatian Event

Dr. Terry Wilwerding and Kelly Gould, M.A., presented at Creighton University's first All Things Ignatian poster presentation in February. The event, sponsored by Creighton's Jesuit community, invited faculty, administrators and staff to present on recent initiatives that implement Creighton's Ignatian mission.

Dr. Wilwerding presented two posters:

"ILAC Dental: Creighton Dental Students and Faculty Provide Dental Care in the Dominican Republic" and "One World – Creighton Dental Clinics: Creighton Dental Students and Faculty Provide Dental Care in Volunteer Evening Clinics."

The title of Ms. Gould's presentation was "Dental Student Perspectives of Ignatian Values through Service-Learning."

# Dr. Knowles Establishes Scholarship to Honor His Wife

Former faculty member Dr. Kenneth Knowles recently established the Harriet J. Knowles DAR Scholarship in the School in honor of his late wife, Harriet Knowles, and her many years of service to the Daughters of the American Revolution, Creighton University School of Dentistry and her compassionate attention to the needs of others.

Harriet Knowles died on July 16, 2010. She and Dr. Knowles had been married for 46 years.

After the two married in 1965, Dr. Knowles joined the Air Force and they traveled to various assignments around the world. After a 25-year career in the Air Force, Dr. Knowles retired from the military, was appointed to the faculty at the School of Dentistry and the couple settled in Omaha.

Mrs. Knowles then became very active in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and held numerous local and state offices. She also held a National DAR appointment: VAVS (Veteran Administration Voluntary Service) at the Omaha Veteran's Affairs Medical Center and was the Omaha Chapter's Chairman for Immigrant Naturalization Ceremonies.

Mrs. Knowles was active in other lineage



*Harriet and Dr. Kenneth Knowles*

groups, and, at the time of her death, was the Nebraska State President of Colonial Dames 17<sup>th</sup> Century, a national organization dedicated to the preservation of American history, historical colonial research, and the support of charitable projects and education.

The fund will consist of an annual gift from the Omaha Chapter of the DAR for

support of the scholarship, presented to a senior student who displays above-average skill in the area of endodontics. A preference will be given to students who exhibit lineage connection to the DAR.

"We are extremely grateful to Dr. Knowles, the DAR and their gift to our School," said Dean Wayne Barkmeier. "This gift is a wonderful way to honor Harriet and provide funds for deserving students."

Dr. Knowles was a full-time faculty member in the School from 1991 to 2006, and chaired the Department of Endodontics for six years. He was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor *Emeritus* at the President's Convocation on Feb. 8, 2011.

"Dr. Knowles worked tirelessly to ensure that students received a dental education that was contemporary in scope with ample patient experience," said Dr. Barkmeier.

Dr. Knowles' contributions to the body of knowledge about endodontics earned him local and national recognition. During his tenure, Creighton students presented him with 11 awards for excellence in teaching. In 2004, he was recognized nationally with the Stephen H. Leeper Award for Excellence in Teaching by Omicron Kappa Upsilon, a national dental honor society.

## Bolamperti Serves School for Over Four Decades

Theodore "Ted" Bolamperti, DDS'65, Adjunct Professor of General Dentistry, has worked part-time in the Creighton School of Dentistry for 44 years.

Dr. Bolamperti was born and raised in Omaha. He graduated from Creighton Prep High School and received his undergraduate degree from Creighton before earning his DDS from Creighton in 1965.

His service to the School stretches beyond teaching. Dr. Bolamperti is a charter member and two-time past chairman of the School's Alumni Advisory Board, and, today, maintains *emeritus* status on the board.

Dr. Bolamperti has a private practice in Omaha specializing in general family dentistry. He operates Bolamperti Family Dentistry with his brother Terry Bolamperti, DDS'76, and his niece Talia Bolamperti-O'Malley, DDS'08, and her husband, Bob O'Malley, DDS'10.

The Creighton dentist is known for his love of family and service to the University and the Omaha community. Dr. Bolamperti and his wife, Jeaniene, have seven children, three of whom graduated from Creighton. His son



Tony, DDS'95, works part-time in the School. His brothers John, DDS'64, and Richard, MD'58, are also Creighton graduates.

He is active in religious, social and community activities and has received numerous citations and awards.

Dr. Bolamperti is the co-founder of the American Italian Heritage Society and director of the annual Italian heritage festival in Omaha. He has been active in Nebraska Special Olympics, Knights of Columbus, Omaha Chamber of Commerce, Metro Right to Life and Catholic Social Services.

In 1995, Dr. Bolamperti was presented with the School's Alumni Merit Award for his "outstanding commitment to his alma mater, and his service to his community and his profession."

## Dr. Erickson Serves as Hillenbrand Fellow

Alumnus R. Todd Erickson, DDS'89, of Gig Harbor, Wash., participated in the American Dental Association's Hillenbrand Fellowship program in 2009-2010. As a Hillenbrand fellow, Dr. Erickson created a web-based assistance program to aid members seeking non-clinical careers in dentistry and addressed awareness of the potential for noise-induced hearing loss in the dental office.

## OKU Honors Jacobsen, Elects New Members

The Creighton chapter of Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU), a national dental honor society, presented junior Matthew Jacobsen with the Dr. William S. Kramer Award of Excellence during its annual banquet in May.

Jacobsen was chosen for the Kramer Award based on his demonstrated scholarship, character and his potential promise for the advancement of dentistry and service to humanity.

In addition to Jacobsen's award, several recent graduates and one faculty member were inducted into OKU.

Alumni memberships were presented to Drs. Morgan Bybee, Natalie Frost, Andrea Holtz, Adam Inaba, Luke McMahon, Katarzyna Piekarska, Kyle Smith, Aaron Smith and Christopher Vanderbeek. A faculty membership was presented to Dr. Takanari Miyamoto.

## Dr. Franco Celebrates 25 Years

Joseph Franco, BA'80, DDS'84, Adjunct Associate Professor of General Dentistry, was honored for 25 years of service to Creighton University during the President's Convocation in February.

## Student Drives Successful Toys-for-Tots Campaign

May graduate Dr. Jessica Peterson presented Toys-for-Tots with a check for \$1,124, as part of the School's service drive.

Dr. Peterson would collect daily from donation boxes set out around the clinic and on the desks of patient scheduling coordinators.



"*Cura personalis* is alive and well in Jessica Peterson," said Dr. Gerald Brundo, Dean Emeritus and Professor of Prosthodontics. "What began slowly, with her urging e-mails to all of us to get involved, ended as a huge success."

## Cruise Offers CE Credits

Dr. Charles Wilcox, Professor of Prosthodontics, will present "Prosthodontics Redux: What we knew then, What we know now, and What it means ..." for continuing education credit aboard Holland America's *MS Eurodam* on a 10-day cruise of northern Europe.

Dr. Wilcox is a Diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics. He joined the Creighton faculty after retiring from U.S. Air Force Dental Corp in 1995. Some of the areas Dr. Wilcox will address include: Combinations Syndrome, occlusal analysis, functional occlusion, facial harmony, esthetics, advanced treatment planning, implant loading, implants in kids and mini-implants.

The cruise departs on Thursday, July 21, out of Copenhagen, Denmark. Other ports of call include Warnemunde/Berlin, Germany; Tallin, Estonia; St. Petersburg, Russia; Helsinki, Finland; Stockholm, Sweden; and Kiel/Hamburg, Germany.

For more information, call Cruise and Travel Partners at 877.884.7447 or visit [www.cruisetravelpartners.com](http://www.cruisetravelpartners.com). For other upcoming Continuing Education courses, visit the School of Dentistry website ([www.creighton.edu/dentalschool](http://www.creighton.edu/dentalschool)) and click on Continuing Education.

## NDA Appointments

Dr. Ken Hermsen has been named President of the Nebraska Dental Association. Dr. Gary Westerman serves as Treasurer of the NDA. Also named delegates to the 2011-2012 Nebraska Dental Association were Creighton faculty members Drs. Gene Gaspard, Ben Hardy, Mike Hermsen and Stuart McNally.

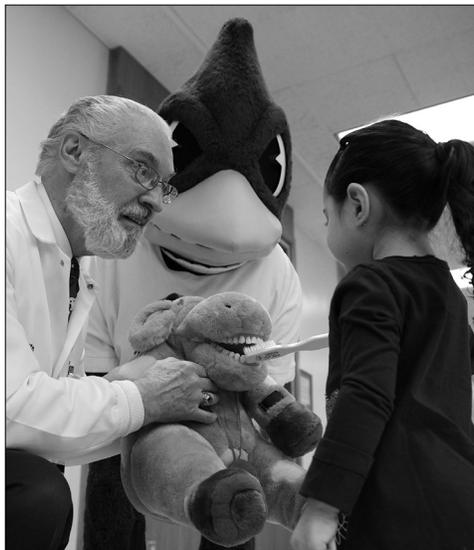
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## IN BRIEF



Dr. Gary Westerman and Billy Bluejay give a young patient some brushing tips during the Give Kids a Smile event at the School.

## Creighton Host Give Kids a Smile

The School held its 11th annual "Give Kids a Smile Day" in February.

The event provided free dental exams, X-rays, cleaning, fluoride, dental sealants and dental education to metro-area children who are uninsured. About 75 children were treated this year, each receiving a bag of dental supplies.

Student, faculty and staff volunteers from the School participated in "Give Kids a Smile Day." Even Billy Bluejay, Creighton's mascot, made an appearance.

"These are challenging economic times, and uninsured children do not have access to regular dental care. We hope to help educate the children and their parents on

the importance of proper dental care," said Dr. Gary Westerman, Professor, Dr. Philip Maschka Chair for Ethics in Dentistry inaugural chairholder and Chair of the Department of Community and Preventive Dentistry.

## Creighton Assists at KidzExplore Dental Booth

Creighton University School of Dentistry students and faculty helped hand out more than 2,000 toothbrushes at the Omaha District Dental Society booth at the annual KidzExplore family festival in Omaha in February.

## Dr. Norton Promoted

Creighton University President the Rev. John P. Schlegel, S.J., conferred upon Dr. Neil Norton the rank of Professor of Oral Biology (primary) and Professor of Pharmacology and Biomedical Sciences (secondary) in the School of Medicine during the President's Convocation in February.

## Dr. Stormberg Heads Dental Society

Alumnus Kurt Stormberg, DDS'91, is the President of the San Diego County Dental Society for 2011, the second largest dental society in California and one of the largest in the United States.

## Dr. Shaddy Named ADA Fellow

Dr. R. Scott Shaddy, Assistant Professor of General Dentistry, was named to the American Dental Association's 2010 Fellowship Class, Nebraska Section, at the ADA's annual meeting in Orlando in October 2010.