



Billy Bluejay recently visited the School of Dentistry for a temperature screening. Approved to come to campus? Be sure to complete your daily screening through the #CampusClear app and visit a COVID-19 Temperature Check-In/Screening Station. [Learn more.](#)

### From the Dean



Dear Dental Alumni, Faculty, Staff, Students and Friends,

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all of our lives professionally and personally. As we in the School of Dentistry have navigated a substantial shut-down of clinical operations and in-person learning since spring as a result of state and county mandated health directives, I could not be prouder of the dedication of our faculty, staff and students as we re-opened. Our first priority has been the safety of our community and the safety of the scores of patients we serve. With significant alterations in schedules and adjustments to the teaching and learning environments, we strive to maintain our high standards of a quality education and outstanding care for our patients.

The last member of the Class of 2020 completed graduation requirements in late June, and the new clinical students entered a bit later than normal in July. We've shifted to hybrid models of didactic learning for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students. We have been operating our clinics since May 11 non-stop to make up for the lost time in the spring. Again, the commitment of our staff and faculty is inspirational in these difficult days.

Last month, I announced my desire to step down as dean effective July 31, 2021. I have been honored and blessed to have been able to serve the school for these 10 years and to have had the chance to engage and collaborate with so many outstanding supporters of Creighton. I believe that the school is well-positioned for the future to continue as one of the preeminent dental schools in the country. I'm very much looking forward to a sabbatical to re-energize my research and scholarly interests and to return to the faculty to contribute to the school's bright future.

May this note find you and your families safe and healthy.

In gratitude,

Mark A. Latta, DMD, MS  
Dean

### FACULTY FELLOWSHIP



#### Special Care Honor

Teryn Sedillo, DDS, associate professor in Community and Preventive Dentistry, was awarded the Fellowship in the Special Care Dental Association (SCDA) in April and presented with the distinction in August at the SCDA's virtual conference.

Special Care Dentistry Association (SCDA) is a unique international organization of oral health professionals and other individuals who are dedicated to promoting oral health and well-being for people with special needs.

Fewer than 5% of members receive this distinction.

### FACULTY AWARD



#### Service Award

Neil S. Norton, PhD, professor in the Department of Oral Biology and associate dean of Admissions, was [recently awarded](#) the R. Benton Adkins Jr. Distinguished Service Award by the American Association of Clinical Anatomists (AACA). The AACA advances the science and art of clinical anatomy by encouraging research and publication in the field and maintaining high standards in the teaching of anatomy.

### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



#### Larsen's Journey

Persistence and a thankful heart are central to Maggie Larsen's successful journey through the School of Dentistry. Her [dedication and generous scholarship support](#) from alumni and friends have prepared her to graduate in May with a wealth of knowledge, compassion for her field, and an unmatched level of professionalism.

### DEPARTMENT GRANT



#### Geriatric Care

The Department of Community and Preventive Dentistry [was awarded](#) a \$100,000 grant from the board of directors of the Gary and Mary West Foundation to support the Geriatric Collaborative Care Project. This grant has doubled its support from 2018 and is now investing in programming directly.

### Alumni Meetup with the Dean

Please join us for a virtual meetup, Thursday, Nov. 19, at 5:30 p.m. (CST) with your fellow alumni in the School of Dentistry. The evening will be a terrific chance to reconnect with old friends and the dental school itself! Dean Mark A. Latta, DMD, MS, will join us to give a school update and to conduct a Q&A. You can submit your questions when you register. For more information and to register please [visit here](#).

### School of Dentistry Cookbook

Creighton's chapter of the American Association for Women Dentists is putting together a cookbook of favorite recipes, and we would also love to have contributions from our alumni!

Please select as many of your favorite recipes as you would like in any of the following categories:

- Appetizers
- Breads
- Soups
- Salads & Sides
- Main Dishes
- Desserts

Please provide a **typed** version of recipes and ensure all ingredients/steps are accurate prior to sending. Deadline to send recipes is TBD but will likely be sometime in January with a preorder period to follow. More information is forthcoming. All recipes and any questions may be sent to [TaylorEnsrude@creighton.edu](mailto:TaylorEnsrude@creighton.edu).

### New Rooms Enable COVID-19 Safe Dentistry



Sometimes, dental pain is so severe, or the consequences of delaying treatment so profound, that neither COVID-19 nor any other obstacle can stand in the way. With such cases in mind, Mark Latta, DMD, MS, dean of the Creighton University School of Dentistry, [successfully applied for a \\$100,000 federal grant](#) that permitted the construction of two "negative pressure rooms" at the dental school.

### Inaugural Position in CEREC CAD/CAM

Jared R. Little, DDS'07, assistant professor, was promoted to the inaugural position of director of CEREC CAD/CAM programs effective Sept. 1. His knowledge will help the school develop a digital dentistry curriculum for integration into multiple departments within the school. This was made possible through his investment of considerable time developing his background through multiple continuing education and advanced training programs in CEREC CAD/CAM through courses offered by Sirona and Spear Education.



### Coming Soon: Dental Alumni Business Directory

Did you know that one of the most frequently asked questions of the Office of Alumni Relations is, "Where can I find a Creighton dentist in my hometown?" To help alumni connect with a Creighton dentist in their community, we are pleased to announce that an online directory for dental alumni-owned practice listings will launch in early 2021. Details on how to list your alumni-owned practice in the directory will be available soon.

### Chaplain Passing



The School of Dentistry mourns the loss of the Rev. Steven Ryan, 68, who served as chaplain from 2013 until his passing on July 2. He had shared with his dental colleagues in May a diagnosis of metastatic pancreatic cancer. For faculty, staff and students, Fr. Ryan was [a beloved presence in the school and clinics](#).

### Faculty New Hires

On June 1 of this year, [Douglas J. MacDougall, DMD](#), brought the knowledge acquired during 30 years of dental practice to Creighton University. A well-regarded dentist in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, a city of more than 130,000 residents, MacDougall says he deems it an honor to be charged with mentoring and coaching a new generation of dentists at the Creighton University School of Dentistry, where he now serves as assistant professor.

The rigors of teaching are unlikely to faze [Greg Samuelson, DDS, MSD](#), a newly named member of the dental school adjunct faculty. Samuelson has visited all seven continents, climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, bathed in the 28-degree waters of Antarctica, climbed a Congolese volcano while communing with gorillas, snorkeled off Australia's Great Barrier Reef, climbed inside the Great Pyramid of Giza and even survived a subway bombing in Moscow.



Left to right: Douglas MacDougall, DMD, and Greg Samuelson, DDS, MSD

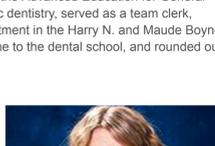
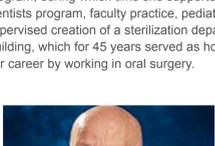
### Faculty and Staff Retirements

Eight has been great for [Jared Smith, DDS](#), who retired from the Creighton University School of Dentistry after 32 years — 20 of those as chair either of the Department of Prosthodontics, or its predecessor, the Department of Removable Prosthodontics.

[Lucinda "Cindy" Carroll, BS'80, DDS](#), began her 23-year career at Creighton University in 1997, to retire to join the faculty of her alma mater by a joint desire to train a new generation of dentists and to pursue a love of art that matched her enthusiasm for science.

[Leslie Sanders, RDH](#), caught the dentistry bug after her first visit to the dentist. Growing up at a time when only a toothache or other dental pain justified a trip to the dentist, she and her parents learned that she had 11 cavities at age 11. This discovery provided her with her first exposure to a career that would define her life for nearly four decades.

[Beverly Dawson](#) retired after 29 years of service to Creighton University's dental program, during which time she supported the Advanced Education for General Dentists program, faculty practice, pediatric dentistry, served as a team clerk, supervised creation of a sterilization department in the Harry N. and Maude Boyne Building, which for 45 years served as home to the dental school, and rounded out her career by working in oral surgery.



Left to right: Jared Smith, DDS, and Cindy Carroll, DDS



Left to right: Leslie Sanders, RDH, and Beverly Dawson

