

# A MESSAGE FROM YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



## *Dear Alumni and Friends:*

As someone who is very involved in the dental profession throughout Baltimore and Maryland, I know that our professional community is a closely-knit group. Since ours is the only dental school in the State, I'm also aware of the many questions those in our community have about the School's Alumni Association.

As president of the Alumni Association of the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, I'd like to give my opinion of what an Alumni Association should provide to alumni and to the school.

An alumni association exists to support and promote its school, and to provide social and professional opportunities for its members. Support can simply mean attending events and CE that the School and your Alumni Association sponsor. You can show your support as a volunteer in the clinic, on a committee, or as a mentor. And yes, support is also financial. What you contribute monetarily allows students and faculty to receive and provide the best dental education possible. We each, no doubt, benefited from those who came before us, and we are obliged to give back.

An alumni association should ask, "How can we improve upon the successes of the School?" Each of us, as graduates, has a stake in the reputation and performance of the Dental School. After all, it's where we got our start, professionally. An alumni association....*our* Alumni Association....has a vested interest in what happens at the Dental School. Influence comes with involvement.

I invite you to be involved with your School and with your Alumni Association. I invite your input, as well. There is full-time staff, including a Director of Alumni Relations, who are there to work with us. The staff relies on constructive ideas from alumni to plan reunions, CE programs, regional socials, and other events, as well as improve on communications between the School and alumni. It's up to us to provide these ideas, to volunteer, and to be involved. Join us in continuing to make the BCDS Alumni Association the best in the world!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mel Kushner DDS". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Mel Kushner, DDS '66, President  
*Alumni Association*  
*Baltimore College of Dental Surgery*