

## SCHOOL RECEIVES LARGEST GRANT TO STUDY PAIN

### \$6.8 Million Awarded

*Randy Fillmore, Office of External Affairs, UMB*

Dr. Ronald Dubner, professor and chair of the Department of Oral and Craniofacial Biological Sciences, and colleagues have received a \$6.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to study how the body's response to pain is shaped by previous experiences with pain. It is the largest research grant ever received by the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery.

Over five years, researchers will use rat models to study how the development of the nociceptive system (the part of the nervous system that transmits pain signals) is affected by the pain experienced by newborns (neonates), especially



Dr. Ronald Dubner will study pain with a \$6.8 million grant—the largest grant ever received by the Dental School.

those born prematurely and requiring extensive, painful procedures.

“One of the big questions is whether neonatal pain experience has an impact on pain experience in adult life,” says Dr. Dubner. “Pain induces changes in the nociceptive system,

which in neonates is not fully developed. Neonatal tissue injury and pain might lead to changes in how pain is ‘modulated’ by the nervous system. What the effect of that modulation is on pain experience in adults is at the heart of our research.”

Current research suggests that infants may be more vulnerable than older children or adults to the negative effects of pain. Because their pain may be under treated in a nervous system still forming and more ‘plastic,’ adult relationship to pain may be greatly affected. Although their research is not on humans, Dubner says that their research will have an impact on how adults suffering from chronic pain, and from pain-related diseases may find more relief.

## NEW MEMBERS APPOINTED TO BCDS BOARD OF VISITORS

### Mary M. Littleton, RDH, BS

*South East Schools and Institution Manager  
Hu-Friedy Manufacturing Co., Inc.*



Ms. Littleton has worked with Hu-Friedy Manufacturing for five years and is currently responsible for managing their business with

dental schools and dental hygiene programs throughout the southeast United States. Prior to Hu-Freidy she was a practicing dental hygienist for 13 years, and with Sullivan Dental as a sales consultant to dental practices for 10 years.

Ms. Littleton received her RDH and BS from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA.

She is active in several associations including the American Dental Education Association and the American Dental

Hygienists' Association. She has served as president of the Western Shore Dental Hygienists' Association and on many committees for various professional associations.

### Paul R. Warren, LDS

*Vice President of Dental Affairs and Clinical Research, Oral-B Laboratories, a Division of The Gillette Company*



Dr. Warren is responsible for oral care clinical research and dental professional relations worldwide for the Gillette Company.

He represents Gillette's Oral Care Business to the dental community, governmental agencies, dental professional organizations, dental academics and opinion leaders.

Dr. Warren graduated from the University of Sheffield, England. He practiced academic dentistry and general practice for 16 years before joining industry in 1986.

From 1986 to 1993, Dr. Warren was dental advisor at Zeneca (formerly ICI) Pharmaceuticals in England. In 1993, he joined The Gillette Company's Braun business unit in Germany where he initiated the clinical trial program for power oral care products. He performed a wide variety of clinical studies, published in dental journals and presented results at major dental meetings. In 2001, Dr. Warren was appointed Vice President of Dental Affairs and Clinical Research for Oral-B Laboratories. He is now based at Gillette's corporate headquarters in Boston, Massachusetts.

## ANOTHER FIRST FOR THE FIRST DENTAL SCHOOL

*Dr. Lawrence Freilich, conference coordinator and volunteer faculty member in the Department of Periodontics*

How wonderful it is to “reach out and touch someone.” The Dental School has done just that by holding what is likely the first trans-Atlantic teleconference in dentistry in cooperation with the Institute of Dentistry of the Medical College of Lodz in Poland.

On November 14, over 600 members of the Polish dental community were treated to a five-hour, “real-time” teleconference on modern dental implantology. The conference was presented live on the UM Baltimore campus as a CE course. The program, entitled “Implant Dentistry 2001: Surgical and Prosthetic Considerations,” included topics such as implant-bone healing, single-stage surgery, anterior implant restorations, among others.

All five of the speakers were expert clinicians who are also faculty and alumni of BCDS. As the program was presented to the local audience, all of the presentations were simultaneously televised and transmitted across the Atlantic over fiberoptic telephone lines to the Polish audience. There were live, two-way interactions during the question and answer sessions.

Reaction to this pioneering step in dental education has been positive. Dean Stanislaw Suliborski of the Institute of Dentistry in Lodz stated that the interest in Poland “was enormous” and that “the idea of a teleconference is a brilliant method of sharing knowledge across the ocean.” There seems no doubt that a valuable new tool for international dental education has now arrived. The event was sponsored by 3i - Implant Innovations, Inc.

## DENTAL SCHOOL STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF RESPOND WITH SPIRIT AND EXPERTISE TO THE SEPTEMBER 11 TRAGEDY

**SPIRIT RIBBONS RAISE FUNDS FOR THE AMERICAN RED CROSS.** Students and staff of the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery responded quickly to the tragedy of September 11 with patriotism and pride through the distribution of Spirit Ribbons. A School staff member, Bonnie Baldwin, made dozens of red, white, and blue ribbons immediately following the tragedy. She gave them out to staff, students, and faculty. Within a few days, the Student Dental Association (SDA) picked up on the idea and with the ribbons from Ms. Baldwin and ones they made, they had them available for a donation, with the proceeds going to the American Red Cross.

“We felt a need to do something, as many people did,” stated Janelle Scollick, DDS '03, who spearheaded the Spirit Ribbon effort. “We were able to fulfill that need by making ribbons nearly every evening for two weeks to raise money and awareness.”

“Many of our students and faculty continue to wear their spirit ribbons today,” she continued. “They’re like part of the uniform around the school.”

The SDA donated \$781 to the American Red Cross.

**CARETAKERS OF HEROES.** Dental School faculty were also called to assist in the relief effort. Warren Tewes, DDS '75, was called to the Pennsylvania crash site on September 13. Dr. Tewes, an assistant professor in the School's restorative dentistry department and a forensic odontologist, joined other members of the Disaster Mortuary Operations Response Team (DMORT), a part of the National Disaster Medical System. This team set up temporary morgue operations in the local National Guard armory to make the identification of human evidence collected at the crash site by the FBI. Several days later, his wife, Ligouri Tewes, RDH, BSDH '81, a dental hygienist and instructor in the Department of Periodontics, joined DMORT and assisted in victim identification.

“We were only 2 or 3 days into the recovery and identification operation, when the last few minutes of the flight began to come to light,” stated Dr. Tewes.

“Almost immediately, the passengers were named Heroes of Flight 93, so the people of Shanksville and Somerset County began to call us the Caretakers of Heroes,” he continued. “It made us very proud.”

Mrs. Tewes, upon return, summed up her experience by telling everyone to live each day to the fullest.

*(Editor's Note: The efforts put forth by BCDS students and faculty have been recognized in the ADEA Bulletin of Dental Education, the ADA News, ASDA News, and the ASFO News.)*



Janelle Scollick, DDS '03, and George Garbis, DDS '02, set up in the lobby of the Dental School to distribute Spirit Ribbons.

## A NEW YEAR The Faces of the Class of 2005

Every year begins with a buzz—a buzz of new faces and voices—as the new students enter Hayden-Harris Hall. This year was no exception.

The entering class of DDS students was chosen from an applicant pool of

1339 candidates. Of the 97 new students, 51 are males and 46 are females. The students' academic credentials are impressive, and include an average GPA of 3.33 and a DAT Academic Average score of 19.1.

As is expected, over half of the students graduated from college with a biological sciences



The Class of 2005 sold t-shirts during Family Day.



First-year student, James Vandre (right) and his family enjoyed the buffet breakfast and presentations made during Family Day, which is celebrated every year to welcome the incoming DDS class. James graduated from Brigham Young University.

degree; however, 46 percent represent many other undergraduate and graduate majors including business, humanities, chemical engineering, and chemistry to name a few. Collectively, the students bring a wide range of life experiences

that will enrich the BCDS community and the dental profession.

Total enrollment in the Doctor of Dental Surgery Program is 387—217 male and 170 female.

The 21 new dental hygiene students were selected from a pool of 46 applicants. The degree completion program for dental hygienists has nine students in the entering class. Total enrollment for the traditional dental hygiene program is 48 students (including 43 females and 5 males), and 12 students in the degree completion program.

Two students are currently enrolled in the Dental School's DDS/PhD program. Two students are completing graduate work in the Department of Diagnostic Sciences and Pathology and 13 PhD students are enrolled in graduate programs under the guidance of faculty within the Dental School's Department of Oral and Craniofacial Biological Sciences and the Graduate School. We also have ten students enrolled in the graduate program in dental hygiene, working toward the Master of Science degree.

Our Advanced Dental Education programs have 89 students enrolled in seven specialty and two general dentistry training programs.


## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

**AS I COMPLETE MY FIRST ISSUE OF THE FORUM** I look back at it as both a challenge and a joy. My position as Director of Marketing and Communications for the Office of Development and Alumni Relations began in July 2001. One of my first goals was to look at the *FORUM* and assess its content and cost. I believe we have had two successes since evaluating these two items. One, the magazine continues to bring you news from the school and faculty and we want to increase the news from alumni over the next few issues (this issue does include an increase in alumni news, but we want more) and two, we are saving money because of the expertise I bring to the job with over 15 years of publications experience. The results—we'll let you be the judge.

Please feel free to send your comments and thoughts to us and let us know what you think. Also, send us news of what you are doing in your life since venturing beyond the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, Dental School. We want to know and so do your fellow alumni.

Email us at [alumni@dental.umaryland.edu](mailto:alumni@dental.umaryland.edu) or use the enclosed envelope to respond.

Best regards,

  
Kelley Ray

## THE MESSAGE: PRACTICE GREAT DENTISTRY

*On May 25, 2001, the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery honored 26 candidates who earned a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene; one who received a Master of Science in Dental Hygiene; 89 candidates who received the Doctor of Dental Surgery degree; one candidate who earned the Doctor of Philosophy degree; and 45 candidates who received certificates for completion of Advanced Dental Education programs. At the Dental School's Honors Convocation ceremony, Gary Holt, DDS '01, president of the Student Dental Association, addressed the graduates with wit and wisdom. Following are excerpts from Dr. Holt's speech.*



"They [Deans and faculty] taught us skills with which to heal the wounded and reduce the pain of our patients. They have taught us the skills to effectively earn a living and hold a place of respect in the community. We, as students, are deeply indebted to the faculty who have taught us the art and science of dentistry."

"...all of us have been very fortunate to have been helped, pushed, prodded, and supported along the way..."

We will show our appreciation and gratitude for this day by practicing dentistry and dental hygiene to the highest possible levels and by being caring, loving, and ethical practitioners. May we all move forward and honor the school and all those who helped us get here by practicing great dentistry."

"...all of us have had mentors or people who introduced us to dentistry or dental hygiene. These people have been good role models and showed us all the positive aspects of dentistry and encouraged us to follow our dreams into the world of oral health care."



## FIRST BLOCK SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED



Josh Rubin was named the first recipient of the Drs. Stanley E. Block, Philip L. Block, and Joanne Block Reif Endowed Scholarship during a presentation this past spring. The scholarship, established by the family in 1997 to benefit a BCDS student, honors the family members who attended BCDS: Dr. Philip Block, the first of the family to graduate from the Dental School in 1933; his nephew, Stanley Block, DDS '58, who has been very active with the University of Maryland serving on both the Board of Visitors for the School and the Dental Museum; and Joanne Block Reif, DDS '86, Dr. Stanley Block's daughter, who like her father and great uncle has remained very supportive of BCDS.

## FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION

**FOUNDER'S DAY AT UMB** took place in November and culminated with a gala featuring entertainment by students from each of the professional schools on campus. The Dental School was proudly represented by Class of '02 DDS students Maya Alqueza and Dan Petersen, class president (shown right).



(L to R) Dr. Margaret Wilson, associate dean for admissions and student affairs, Hilda Golen, Harry Dressel, Jr., DDS '45, and Dr. Jane Atkinson, assistant dean for clinical affairs.



(sitting) Dr. Robert Deery, DDS '73, Elizabeth Morais, development office, Pat Ranney, Dr. Richard Ranney, and Dr. Jane Atkinson, assistant dean for clinical affairs (standing) Marshall Reif, Joanne Block Reif, DDS '86, Stanley Block, DDS '58, Frances Block, and Quay Parrott, DDS '02, SDA president.



## 2001 FOGARTY LECTURE



Dr. Donald Wilson (left), dean of the UMB Medical School and featured speaker at the Eighth Triennial John E. Fogarty Memorial Lecture, poses with Dean Ranney.

### *The Annual* **Stephen E. and Jeffery A. Kleiman Lecture in Dentistry & Medicine**

Thursday, April 18, 2002  
10:15 a.m.

*Featuring*  
**REED E. PYERITZ, MD, PHD**

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## Alumni Weekend

MAY 30-JUNE 1, 2002

Class Reunions

AGD Reunion

Young Alumni Social

Continuing Education

Grand Classes Luncheon

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(see inside back cover for more details)