

DENTAL ALUMNI



Spring/Summer 2019



In this issue: 2019 Alumni Weekend in Review + Capital Campaign Goal Achieved

DENTALUMNI
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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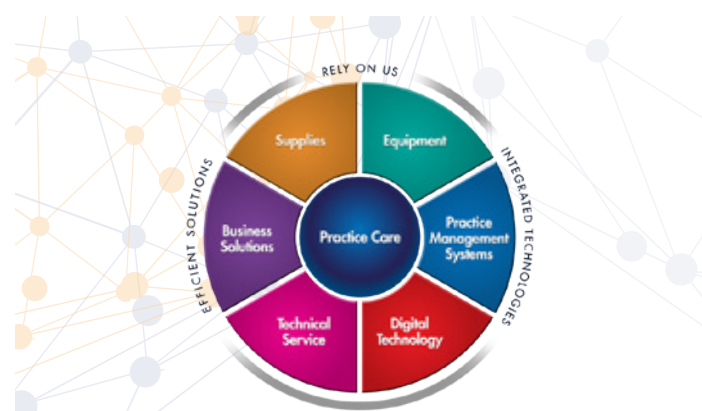
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UPCOMING EVENTS

| | |
|---|---------|
| White Coat Ceremony in Birmingham, AL | Aug. 22 |
| ADA in San Francisco, CA – Dean's Reception | Sept. 5 |
| AGD in Destin, FL – Dean's Reception | Sept. 6 |
| UAB Cares Community Day | Oct. 9 |

ON THE COVER:

*2018 Distinguished Dentist Dr. Ken Kendrick &
 2018 Outstanding Young Alumnus Dr. Matthew Litz*



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 to help you succeed.*



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Alumni,

I am so honored to serve as your alumni president for the coming year. You have all been so supportive of the School, the faculty, and this organization, that we have been able to accomplish so much in the past several years. We have just completed our Campaign for UAB and raised over \$25,000,000 for our dental school. This would have never been possible without your dedication, your benevolence and your generosity. Thank you all. You should have so much pride in being a part of this wonderful institution and enjoy all the benefits that it has to offer.

One of our most recent events was the Alabama Dental Alumni Association Alumni Weekend in Birmingham. We had record attendance, lively social events and outstanding continuing education...not to mention our largest number of vendors ever. Dr. Lori Gearhart has been our program chairman for the past 12 years and I can not offer enough kind and supportive accolades about her dedication, devotion, and untiring efforts to bring us the finest speakers and academicians year end and year out. She is a rare jewel and we are so fortunate to have her on our team.



As president-elect, I was invited to attend several of the class reunions that are held in conjunction with our meeting.

I was especially intrigued by the Class of 1969, celebrating their 50th reunion. I was so impressed with their attendance, their enthusiasm and, most of all, by their accomplishments. Just to mention a few - Dr. Howard Jones was the president of the American Dental Association, Dr. Warren Arrasmith was awarded The Thomas Jones Endowed Professorship and UAB Excellence in Teaching Award (not to mention serving two years as the president of the SOD Leadership Council), Dr. Tony Dollar served as president of the AGD and president of the Alabama Dental Alumni Association, Dr. Lynn Reeves represented us on the State Board of Dental Examiners, Dr. Billy Bishop was also president of our Alumni Association, and Dr. Bill Hallman was chairman of the Department of Periodontics at the University of Texas, San Antonio. Two of the members of this Class of 1969 played college football, Dr. Butch Henry for the "Bear" at The University of Alabama and Dr. David Rawson at Auburn University. On a personal note, I was most fortunate to have known six members of this class who practiced in Montgomery, who welcomed me, supported me and served as my mentors throughout my dental career: Dr. Buddy Foy, Dr. Tommy James, Dr. Bill McCarty, Dr. Steve Phelan, Dr. Roland Porterfield and Dr. E. Ward Smith. What an incredible Class of 1969 – we should all try to reach such lofty goals!

One of the highlights of this year's meeting was the Dean's Reception on Friday night, hosted by our most capable and impressive interim dean, Dr. Michelle Robinson. We were also honored to welcome our new and incoming dean, Dr. Russell Taichman, as well as three former deans of the dental school, Drs. Scotty McCallum, Mary Lynne Capilouto and Mike Reddy. I feel that the presence of these past, present, and future deans indicates the devotion and respect that we all share for our wonderful school. One other aspect of the reception that I always enjoy is the raffle. There are always so many wonderful gifts and such great trips that are offered, you are almost assured of winning something if you buy just 10 tickets – that always works for me. I have been to Big Sky, Montana and Panama City, Florida compliments of the raffle – not to mention gift baskets, audio speakers and even a Nick Saban autographed football. Please do your best to make this an annual tradition for fun and fellowship that can not be beat. One other event that does not receive nearly enough publicity or attention is the dental students' talent show. These young people are so gifted and so talented and always have such a wonderful time performing, you miss a rare treat if you fail to see their presentation.

Our generous corporate sponsors and our many vendors are the financial backbone of our meeting. Without them, there would be no meeting or the cost would be prohibitive. Please make it an absolute obligation to thank all those who participate and help to sponsor our meeting. Thank your dental reps who come by your office and encourage them to join us for Alumni Weekend.

Immediate Past President Dr. Stanley Beard has worked tirelessly in his efforts to attract more dentists to the rural or less populated areas of our great state. He has helped initiate several programs in support of this effort and I will certainly continue to emphasize and further these programs. There is such a wonderful opening for you, aspiring dentists to avail themselves of this unbelievable opportunity. Many of the dentists in these areas are retiring and desperately need new replacements to provide for those who truly need and appreciate your ability and your professional care. Please help us as we recruit new dentists for this most crucial need in our state.

In closing, I would be remiss if I did not mention how fortunate we are to have Scott Huffman and his incredible staff, Charlene Phillips, Abby Vinson and Christy Peters who provide invaluable service to the School of Dentistry and to you as an alumnus of our school. Not only do they plan and coordinate many of the activities sponsored by the School, they also assist in membership recruitment and retention, and of course, procure funding for all the many scholarships, professorships and renovations that have made our dental school one of the best in the nation.

Once again, let me express to you what an honor it is to serve as your president and to encourage each of you to become more involved with your school and its many activities. Please feel free to contact me or the Alumni Office if you have any needs or questions and your suggestions are always welcome.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Benjamin J. Cumbus, DMD". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Benjamin J. Cumbus, DMD
Class of 1972
2019 UA SOD Alumni President

DISTINGUISHED DENTIST RECEPTION

Thursday, February 7



DISTINGUISHED DENTIST AWARD WINNERS

**Dr. Ken Kendrick – 2018 Distinguished Dentist Award**

Dr. Kendrick retired from his full-time practice in Fayetteville, Georgia, where he practiced with his son, Jeff, for several years. According to his staff and his patients, he had a passion for being the best dentist he could be. He was active in the American Dental Association, the Georgia Dental Association, the Northern District Dental Society, and the South Metro Dental Study Group, among many other dental organizations. Although he has moved back to his home state of Alabama with his wife, Yvonne, he still travels back to Georgia occasionally to help with the practice.



The honoree is a 1968 honors graduate from the UAB School of Dentistry. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Alabama. When presenting his award, Interim Dean Dr. Michelle Robinson noted Kendrick had not missed a single Alabama football game in 35 years.



Upon graduating from the School of Dentistry, Kendrick spent three years in the U.S. Air Force. He was one of the first out of state representatives for the Alumni Association, and hosted numerous alumni receptions through the years. Not only has he volunteered his time to the School, he has also been a tremendous financial supporter. Dr. Kendrick is member of the School of Dentistry's Volker Society, which means he has given more than \$100,000 back to the School of Dentistry during his lifetime.

**Dr. Matthew Litz – 2018 Outstanding Young Alumnus Award**

Dr. Litz of Birmingham, AL completed his periodontal residency at UAB in 2007. Originally from Baton Rouge, Louisiana and a graduate of Auburn University, he earned his dental degree from LSU in 2004. Since completing his periodontal residency, Dr. Litz has had a successful periodontics practice in Birmingham and served as an adjunct Assistant Professor in the School of Dentistry's Department of Periodontology.



He is heavily involved in organized dentistry on a state and local level. He has served as the statewide Educational Director for the Alabama Dental Hygiene Program, and coordinated all didactic instruction for individuals seeking a preceptor-guided RDH certification in Alabama. He is a past president of the Birmingham District Dental Society and a past president of the Alabama Society of Periodontists. He also serves on the Alabama Conscious Sedation Review Board, and on multiple committees for the Alabama Dental Association. He was recognized in 2012 with the AAP's Educator Award for outstanding teaching and mentoring in Periodontics, and he was recently appointed to the American Academy of Periodontology Anesthesia committee.



Matt and his wife, Ashley, have a son, Sebastian. When he's not running around his practice, the School's clinic, or with his camera, he's literally out running. Dr. Litz completed the Chicago Marathon last October.

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2019

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8



PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION

Friday, February 8



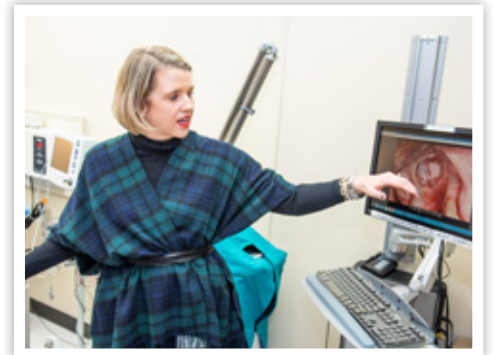
SPECIAL AWARDS & RECOGNITION



Alumni Association President Dr. Stanley Beard presents Interim Dean Dr. Michelle Robinson and Alumni Association Treasurer Dr. Ben Ingram with special awards for acknowledgment of their service to the Alumni Association.

Dr. Nico Geurs presents Dr. Michael Reddy with the appointment of dean emeritus of the UAB School of Dentistry.

UAB SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY OPEN HOUSE



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9



CLASS REUNIONS



Classes of '52-'68 Medallion Club



Class of '69



Class of '74



Class of '79



Class of '84



Class of '89

CLASS REUNIONS



Class of '94



Class of '99



Class of '04



Class of '09



Class of '14



Dental Hygiene

INTERIM DEAN MESSAGE

Passing the Torch

As another busy academic year winds to a close, the phrase, “passing the torch” seems a fitting metaphor for our impending transitions. The expression refers to the ancient Greek race in which an illuminated torch was handed from one runner to the next.

In a way, our graduating students are like those early athletes who nurtured the flame as they strove toward the finish. Each class supports and transitions their patients to the next with the utmost of care as they pass along the light of knowledge and clinical excellence. Our newest graduates will soon join the ranks of countless alumni who, through their support, help us maintain the highest standards for the next generation.

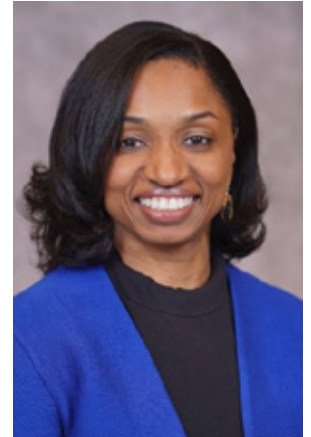
Our deans judiciously pass the torch as well, sharing unending leadership and guiding the school throughout the years. I was honored to have been joined at Alumni Weekend by former deans Drs. Scotty McCallum and Mary Lynne Capilouto, two revered leaders who laid the foundation of our excellence. Another weekend highlight was introducing our immediate past dean, Dr. Mike Reddy, as Dean Emeritus. Mike joined me to tour our state-of-the-art new Comprehensive Care Clinic. Fittingly, it was Mike’s strategic and collaborative leadership and his uncompromising commitment to academic and clinical excellence that helped make the clinic renovation a reality. I hope you will enjoy these and many other Alumni Weekend highlights in this issue.

As we close out the year, it has been a true honor to work with so many committed alumni and friends while serving as your interim dean. I thank each and every one of you for your invaluable support in the transition. In addition to keeping our many current initiatives going, we also rolled out a few new ones this year. These include a TeamSmile outreach event, a healthy workplace program, and a mini externship in partnership with the dental practice community.

We will soon welcome our incoming dean, Dr. Russell Taichman, whom many of you met at Alumni Weekend. We look forward to great things in store for our school under his leadership. He, along with a wide-eyed group first year dental students, will carry our torch proudly into the future.

Let’s keep things moving...

Michelle Robinson, DMD, MA
Interim Dean



FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

Kyounga Cecilia Cheon



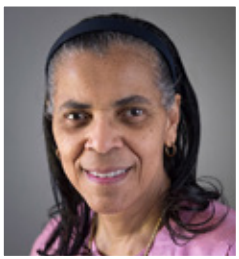
Dr. Kyounga Cecilia Cheon, Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, was one of 24 faculty campus wide to present her poster, *Antibiotics and Nitric Oxide Releasing Biomimetic Nanomatrix Gel*, as part of a UAB faculty gathering. Dr. Cheon outlines the potential effectiveness of a new therapeutic gel filling for root canals that releases nitric oxide and antibiotics into the treated tooth canal, instead of the standard blood clotting that is typically used to fill the empty canal post-procedure. Dr. Cheon's presentation was part of the UAB Faculty Development Grant Program, which enhances the effectiveness by providing funds to undertake new efforts where resources are not otherwise available.

George Ford



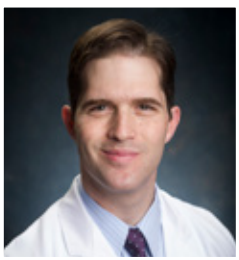
Dr. George Ford, Assistant Professor in the Department of Restorative Sciences, received the 2019 American Student Dental Association Advocate Award for UAB. This award recognizes faculty who have shown a commitment to dental students' involvement in ASDA and organized dentistry.

Janice Jackson



Dr. Janice Jackson has been named Chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. Among her many roles, Dr. Jackson will serve as chair, postdoctoral program director as well as Director of Dental Services for Children's of Alabama and is an associate scientist in two UAB School of Medicine research centers -- Civitan International Research Center and Minority Health & Research Center. She is the recipient of a number of awards and honors, the most recent of which were the AAPD "Manuel M. Album" and the BDDS "Dentist of the Year" awards.

Anthony Morlandt



Dr. Anthony Morlandt, Associate Professor and Chief in the section of Oral Oncology in the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery and **Drs. Yedeh Ying** and **Michael Kase**, Assistant Professors in the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, were featured in UAB News for their development of a surgical and prosthodontic treatment plan for a reconstructive jaw surgery. It was the first of its kind in the state of Alabama and one of a handful done in the country — a radical mandibulectomy, fibula free flap reconstruction, with simultaneous 3D-guided dental implant and immediate previsualization in one sitting. It is coined as "jaw in a day." For the UAB OMFS team, the completion of the "jaw in a day" surgery sets a new standard of surgical care that will help other oral oncology and oral surgery patients.

Yedeh Ying



Dr. Anthony Morlandt was among several dignitaries and representatives who participated in the Alabama Governor's Proclamation Ceremony in Montgomery declaring April 2019 as Oral Cancer Awareness Month. Alabama ranks fifth in the U.S. for oral cavity and pharynx cancer incidence and is seventh among the states for deaths from these cancers, according to the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Governor Kay Ivey's proclamation will draw attention to the need for regular oral cancer examinations and other prevention efforts.

Michael Kase



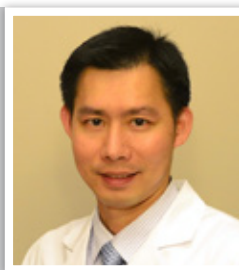
Dr. Wen-Chou Wu was appointed to Assistant Director of the Advanced Education in Prosthodontics Program in February 2019. In addition to his role as Faculty Group Manager, Director of Pre-Doctoral Implant Program and Course Director of D4 Fixed Prosthodontics, Dr. Wu will be responsible, in part, for assisting the Director of Advanced Education in Prosthodontics with patient assignments, review of residents' progress, conducting literature review and managing the implant parts inventory.

Dr. Shirin Khoyneshad became an alumnus of a yearlong program of the Emerging Academic Leaders Program at the 2019 ADEA Annual Session. She delivered an oral presentation of the ongoing research project on the topic of "burnout", which is a work related state of chronic stress among faculties of dental schools. Burnout is one of the main psycho-social problems that affects both dental students and faculty and this study represents an important step toward development of an effective preventive and interventional program to promote wellness and stress resilience.

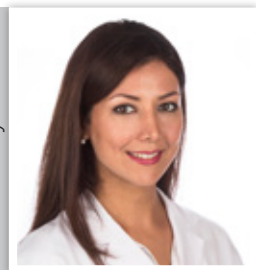


Anthony Morlandt

Wen-Chou Wu



Shirin Khoyneshad



STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

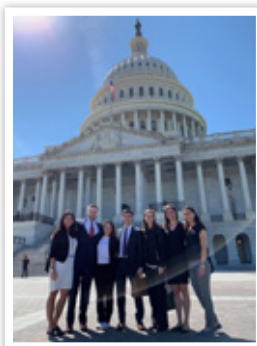
National Dentist and Student Lobby Day

Several students, including **Hamilton Behlen, Kai Huang, Nhu Nguyen, Daniel Peterson, Emily Roig, Tanya Saikaly (all D3)** and **Kelsey Gwin (D2)**, attended the National Dentist and Student Lobby Day where they lobbied three different bills on Capitol Hill. Pictured below are alumni Drs. Lew Mitchell, Gordon Isbell and Zack Studstill, involved with ALDA and organized dentistry, who supported the students and their efforts. The bills that were lobbied that day include the following:

McCarran-Ferguson Repeal for Health Insurance: helps create more competition among health care insurance companies.

ELSA (Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act): requires private insurance companies to cover all congenital anomaly surgeries. Currently insurance will only cover the first surgery and not cover the rest because they are deemed "cosmetic".

Reauthorization of Higher Education Act: protects the rights of students to take out federal loans, helps to lower interest rates and gives students a chance to refinance their loans.



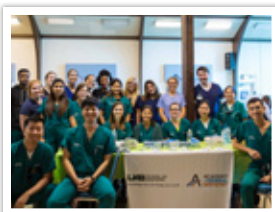
UAB SOD Student Research Group on Capitol Hill

In February 2019, members of the School of Dentistry's Student Research Group, participated in the American Association for Dental Research (AADR) and Friends of National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (FNIDCR) Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. They participated in training sessions, networked and listened to remarks from federal officials, including the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) Director Martha Somerman, U.S. Reps. Jeff Van Drew, Mike Simpson, and Dave Loebsack, and stranger things actor, Gaten Matarazzo, amongst others.

Tanner Godfrey (D1, DMD/PhD), Edwin Rojas (DMD/PhD program) and **Chijioke Ulasi (D4)** shared personal research stories and emphasized the benefits of increases in federal research funding during their Hill visits with members of Congress and/or staff, particularly, Rep. Gary Palmer, Rep. Terri Sewell, Senator Richard Shelby, and Senator Douglas Jones. School of Dentistry's Student Research Group at UAB is an affiliate of the AADR/IADR National Student Research Group. Their mission is to promote research skills and opportunities related to oral health, craniofacial biology, and biomaterials for student researchers at UAB.



STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS



The AGD Foundation Grant

ALAGD Student Chapter received the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) Foundation Grant for the 2019 grant funding cycle. The Academy of General Dentistry Foundation board of directors approved a \$2,909 grant for the UAB School of Dentistry Student Chapter AGD for the program titled: *UAB School of Dentistry Student Chapter AGD*. The grant money will be used to provide oral hygiene kits to the underserved populations, referral clinics for dental treatment at no cost or a reduced fee and other necessary items for volunteers and services oral cancer screening events.

Bright Chang



Bright Chang (D4) has been selected as one of seven finalists for the inaugural 2019 411 Rapid Research Competition in Clinical Science/Public Health during the IADR/AADR/CADR General Session in June 2019 in Vancouver. Student competitors will have 4 minutes and 1 slide to explain their research and then the students will be asked 1 question. This competition will allow students the opportunity to present their research to a lay audience.

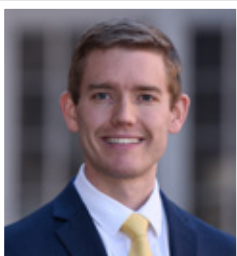
Kai Huang (D3) has been elected vice president of the American Student Dental Association's House of Delegates, which represents all 66 United States dental schools and 30 university pre dental chapters. Previously, Kai served as a trustee on ASDA's board as national pre dental consultant, as vice president of the UAB's ASDA chapter and as pre dental committee chair for ASDA District Five. He has also written for several ASDA publications and has presented in conferences locally and nationally. Kai endured a rigorous election process and is the first person from UAB to be elected to this position.

Kai Huang



Tanner Godfrey (D1) was featured by the American Association for Dental Research in a recent AADR Strides in Science. He is currently enrolled in the DMD/PhD program and will be President of the AADR National Student Research Group (NSRG) in June 2019. NSRG is a student-run organization that fosters an environment in every dental school whereby students can enrich their dental education through research. Tanner's research interests include investigating the role of chromatin remodeling in osteoblast differentiation, bone formation and maintenance.

Tanner Godfrey



Farah Jiwani (D2) and **Aileen Jong (D2)** were awarded Dean's Scholarships by the UAB National Alumni Society. This scholarship was specifically nominated by Interim Dean Michelle Robinson.

Chelsea Killingsworth (D3) was awarded a Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Scholarship.

Lisa Shi (D4) was selected by the American Association of Women Dentists to receive a 2018 AAWD Colgate Research Award. The award recognizes academic distinction and excellent in dental research. With Dr. Mia Geisinger as principal investigator, Lisa's research was entitled *Periodontal Inflammation Changes in Women with Pregnancy Gingivitis*.

Farah Jiwani



Aileen Jong



Chelsea Killingsworth



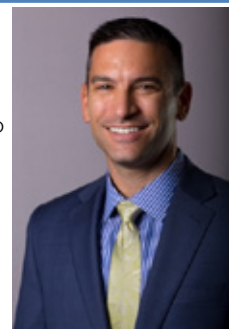
Lisa Shi



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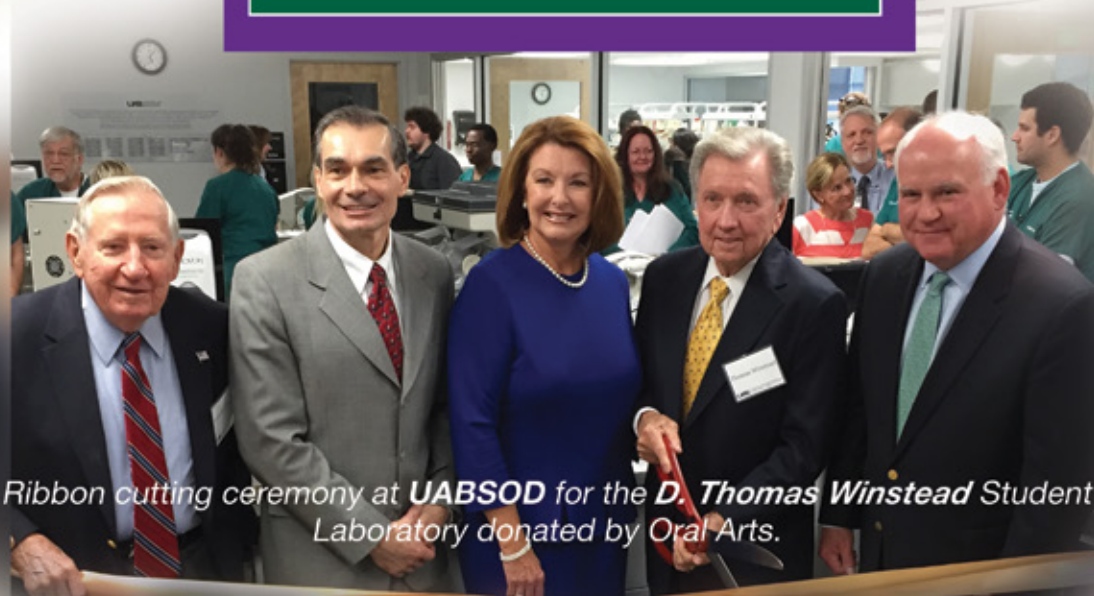


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Taking a Victory Lap

There was cause for celebration at the 2019 Alumni Weekend in Birmingham, Alabama. In case you missed all the signs, newsletters, speeches, etc...let me brief you. The UAB School of Dentistry successfully concluded its philanthropic campaign by raising more than \$25 million. Technically, we were successful at the \$20 million mark because that was the original goal. Thanks to Dr. Ben Cumbus, the goal was increased to \$25 million. Thanks, Ben. No, really, thanks. Your leadership as Campaign Chair was a catalyst and continuing force for our success. Co-Chair Dr. Joel Hearn and Honorary Chair Dr. Charles "Scotty" McCallum counseled me throughout our efforts and I owe them my gratitude.



It's impossible to thank everyone who had a hand in our achievement. Obviously, we are indebted to the many donors who contributed to the campaign. Some of you gave multiple times, and for that we are more grateful. Of course, our Development and Alumni Relations staff deserves a hearty thank you. Our current staff of Charlene Phillips, Abby Vinson, and Christy Peters worked tirelessly and should receive accolades. I don't want to forget former staff members Jessica Lane, Lauren Spalding, Sommer Thompson, and Jeremy Ward who were also instrumental in our success.

The School's leadership included Drs. Mike Reddy and Michelle Robinson. Without their involvement, support, and tenacity, we would not have achieved our goal. Our faculty and staff contributed in so many ways. UAB President Ray Watts and Vice President of Advancement Tom Brannan also provided the overall leadership for our campaign. Of course, the UASOD Alumni Association had a huge hand in the campaign's success. As you may know, the association endowed a professorship and contributed to several renovations. The various officers and executive council members through the years have been the heartbeat of the organization. I would especially like to thank Dr. Ben Ingram of Piedmont, Alabama for his service as secretary and treasurer the past several years. His fiscal stewardship and attention to detail built the association a great foundation for the future. Dr. Ingram will move through the officer positions, starting this year as vice president.

So, we will take a brief moment for our victory lap, but only one lap. There is much to be done. Our new dean, Dr. Russell Taichman, takes over the reins July 1. We are currently raising funds for the Prosthodontic Clinic Renovation Fund, the Endodontics Alumni Endowed Professorship, and the Peter Waite Endowed Professorship to name just a few of our on-going projects. There will be new challenges and opportunities. As I have stated in the past, the UAB School of Dentistry no longer enjoys the support it once had from the state of Alabama. Approximately twenty percent of our operating budget comes from state funds. It's a testimony to our great leadership, our alumni, and our donors that we have continued to ascend in the rankings and quality of dental education. Here's to a bright future!

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Scott Huffman".

J. Scott Huffman, CFRE
Executive Director of Development
Executive Director of the Alumni Association

ALL SMILES

School of Dentistry exceeds goal with \$25-million fund-raising effort

By Cary Estes

The UAB School of Dentistry faced an intriguing choice midway through 2017. It had just completed a \$20-million fund-raising campaign a year ahead of schedule. So the school could either declare victory and celebrate an early and successful end to the effort—or press on and try to bring in another \$5 million before the original 2018 deadline.

“We decided to go for it,” says Benjamin J. Cumbus, D.M.D., a 1972 graduate and chair for the fund-raising campaign.

The extra push paid off, with the school reaching a total of \$25 million near the end of 2018. It marked the culmination of a five-year drive that is helping the school improve its facilities and provide important funds for student scholarships and faculty excellence.

“We extend our deepest gratitude to each and every donor for helping us achieve our ambitious \$25-million campaign goal,” says interim Dean Michelle Robinson, D.M.D., M.A. “The strength of our school lies in our valued alumni and friends whose philanthropic support has transformed our facilities and our people, and set the stage for our continued excellence and success.

The donations have been impressive in terms of overall number and the wide range of financial support. The school received more than 1,500 individual gifts or pledges between \$1,000 and \$10,000 each. More than 250 donations exceeded \$10,000, with approximately forty that topped \$100,000.

“We have been overwhelmed with the response from our alumni and friends to the campaign,” says Scott Huffman, executive director of development and executive director of the School of Dentistry Alumni Association. “The outpouring of support has been gratifying to everyone associated with the School of Dentistry.”

The funds already are being put to good use, with much of the money going toward three major areas—building renovations, faculty excellence, and student support.

The biggest change has been the transformation of the Comprehensive Care Clinic, a multidisciplinary student facility offering services such as cosmetic dentistry, operative dentistry, and restorations. The school replaced the original 1970s appearance with an ultramodern space featuring new dental chairs, equipment, flooring, cabinetry, and lighting.

“That’s been a huge renovation,” Huffman notes. “The Comprehensive Care Clinic is now the most advanced general-dentistry clinic at any educational institution in the United States. It’s breathtaking. So our students are able to learn in an advanced, comfortable environment, and our patients get to come to a facility that can rival a private practice.”

“Everything is fresher, better, and cleaner,” says Jackie Bates, a third-year student from Vestavia Hills, Alabama. “The new dental chairs are more comfortable for both patients and students, and there’s more light. The whole place just looks newer.

“You want to work in a place that looks good and makes you feel better, instead of in a cramped, dark clinic. It helps boost the attitude in the clinic. It’s something we can be proud of and want to show off to people.”

School of Dentistry donors have endowed a number of professorships and faculty scholars. This type of support helps supplement salaries, enabling the school to recruit and maintain the best faculty possible.

“We’ve had professorships endowed in general dentistry, periodontics, pediatric dentistry, and prosthodontics, and we’re currently working on one in endodontics,” Huffman says. “The faculty of pretty much all of the residency programs have benefited because of this campaign and the donors who have stepped up.”

One example is the 2013 establishment of the Thomas W. Jones Endowed Professorship in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, which Huffman says was made possible primarily by alumni contributions. Warren W. Arrasmith, D.M.D., a 1969 graduate, was named the inaugural holder of this professorship.

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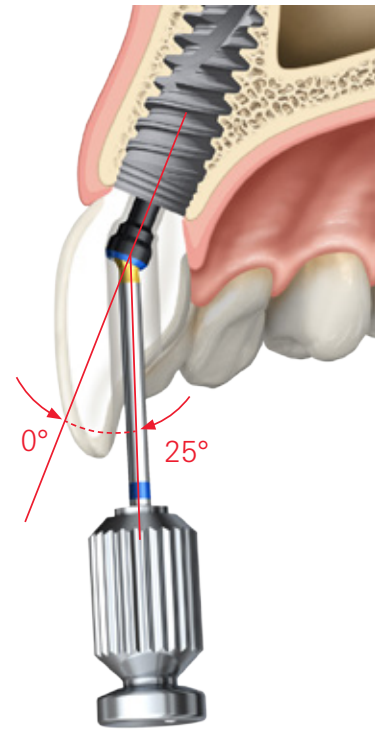
“Having an endowed professorship is a huge benefit,” Arrasmith explains. “It allows the department chair to have some flexibility in moving finances around to attract someone whom they might not have otherwise been able to attract, by supplementing salary or grants. So, it’s an essential part of our school being able to have good, quality faculty. And all of this is possible through fund-raising. It’s an extremely important part of what we do.”

Fund-raising also helps endow student scholarships as well as provide contributions to the school’s student travel fund. And while these benefits might not offset all the expenses of dental school, they often are enough to allow students to concentrate on academics and clinical work without the pressures of a part-time job or excessive student loans.

“More than the financial support, the scholarships I received encouraged me emotionally and mentally,” says Mechay Gray, a 2018 graduate who now works at a group dental practice in Fort Payne, Alabama. “You’re working hard in dental school, but a lot of times you don’t see the results of your work yet. The scholarships made me feel like somebody believed in me and that my hard work would pay off. It was huge for me to receive that kind of support.”

Huffman says some of the funds from the campaign will go toward programmatic support for the school’s various residencies—such as endodontics, orthodontics, and oral surgery—along with supporting outreach programs. The goal of all of this, of course, is to make the School of Dentistry even better and ensure that future students receive an education of the same quality that the school has provided for 70 years.

“The amount of money raised speaks very highly of the UAB School of Dentistry, the leadership we have, and the benevolence of our graduates,” Cumbus says. “People are thrilled to give back. If not for the education and guidance and leadership we got at UAB, none of us would be where we are, and none of us would be able to give back like we have. This fund-raising campaign shows the quality and dedication of the UAB School of Dentistry, the loyalty of the alumni to our school, and their appreciation for the education they received.”



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ON THE ROAD

Joel Terry Alford ('78) receiving his UAB Top 25 in Business Award – Bradenton, FL



Jennifer Hirsch Doobrow (Perio '10) with Todd and Hampton vacationing in Vietnam



Reynold Gaubert ('72; Endo '79) in Baton Rouge, LA



Sam Holland ('72) in Scottsboro, AL



Charlie Moore ('99) at Tampa Bay Lightning hockey game – Tampa, FL



Michael Scherb ('88) at the National Championship Game in Santa Clara, CA



Melodie Jones ('92) with sons, Cody and Justin, on a mission trip in the Dominican Republic



WHERE ARE THE 2018 GRADS NOW?

Dr. Dakota Clark is an associate at Jacksonville Comprehensive Dentistry with **Dr. Bruce Cunningham ('76)**.

Dr. Marteki Codjoe is completing a general practice residency at the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois. She has fallen in love with the city and plans to continue to live in Chicago as a general dentist.

Dr. James Cunningham lives in Hoover, Alabama and is working in private practice at Luma Dentistry in Montevallo, Alabama.

Dr. Victor Cheng is completing an AEGD residency in St. Petersburg, Florida and returning to Birmingham. He is also getting married in July.

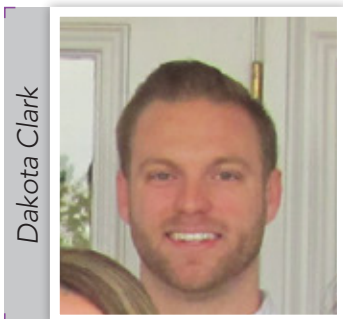
Drs. Josh and Maria Dorsett got married in June 2018 and grew their little family when they got a chihuahua named Bean in December.

Drs. Nathan and Mechay Gray moved to Fort Payne, Alabama to serve in a group practice called Wilson and Fiquett, DMD, PC. The people of Fort Payne have welcomed them warmly and the scenery isn't too bad either. The Grays enjoy hiking at Desoto State Park, fishing in the Little River, and spending time with their church members at Grace Presbyterian Church, PCA. They have recently signed a contract on a house and plan to settle down in Fort Payne.

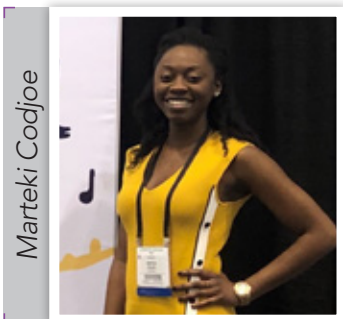
Dr. Austyn Grissom has been working in private practice in Springville, Alabama with **Brant Haynie ('11)**. Austyn and his wife, **Maggie ('19)** will be relocating to Houston, Texas in June for Maggie to begin a 26 month residency in orthodontics. Eventually, they plan to settle back in northeast Alabama.

Drs. Kenneth Liu and Elyse Dengler recently got engaged and will be married in October 2019. Elyse is finishing her GPR residency at UNC in June and moving back to Birmingham to work at Christ Health Center. Kenneth is finishing his first year of perio residency at UAB.

Dr. Hailey Park moved to the suburb of Detroit area (Troy) after graduation and got married in November 2018 to an amazing man, Richard Pearlman. They are planning to stay there until June of 2021 until Richard finishes his Radiation Oncology residency but hope to return to Alabama.



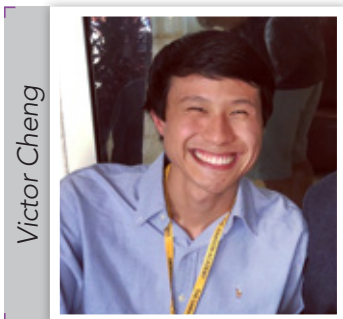
Dakota Clark



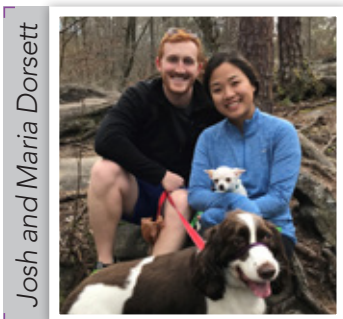
Marteki Codjoe



James Cunningham



Victor Cheng



Josh and Maria Dorsett



Nathan & Mechay Gray



Austyn Grissom



Kenneth Liu & Elyse Dengler



Hailey Park

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WHERE ARE THE 2018 GRADS NOW?



Sarah Potter

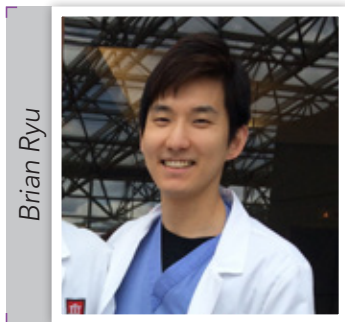
Dr. Sarah Potter purchased Vestavia Smiles from **Dr. Robert M. Ramsay ('76)** in August 2018. The private practice is located on Morgan Drive in Vestavia, Alabama near Vestavia High School.

Dr. Brian Ryu is finishing up his first year of OMFS residency at Indiana University. He is currently in the anesthesia rotation, so he puts people to sleep day in and day out. The apartment he is living in right now is too loud, as it is very close to a big street, so he is in the process of moving as well.

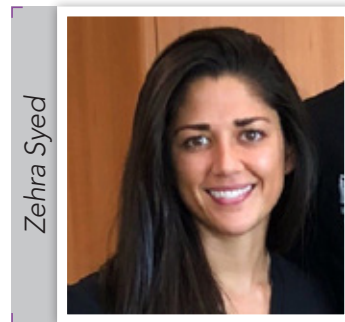
Dr. Zehra Syed moved to Charleston, South Carolina and is completing her first year of orthodontic residency at MUSC. She will graduate in 2021 and hopes to return to Alabama.

Dr. Morgan Taylor and her husband welcomed a baby girl, Aria Caroline Taylor, on December 11, 2018.

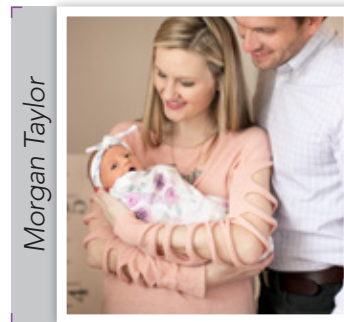
Dr. Donielle Williams is beginning her 2nd year of residency in pediatric dentistry at the University of California, Los Angeles. While in residency, Donielle is also pursuing an MPH at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.



Brian Ryu



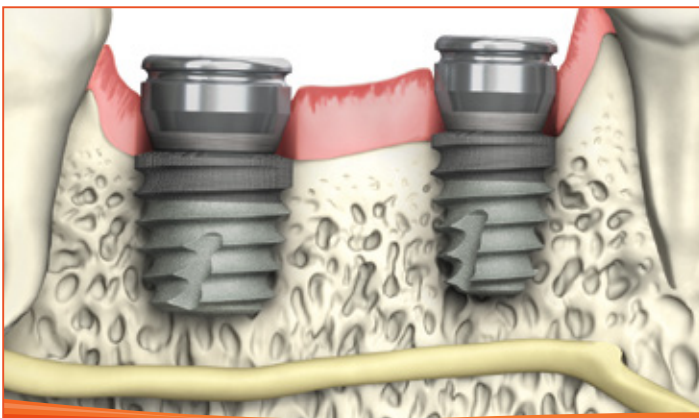
Zehra Syed



Morgan Taylor



Donielle Williams



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17P1030 (4/17)

(‘53) Dan Edgar Douglas of Mountain Brook, Alabama passed away peacefully at his home on March 18, 2019. He attended Birmingham-Southern College and The University of Alabama where he received his BA, MA and DMD degrees. After graduation he worked at US Steel Dispensary for 2 years before being called into the Navy where he served 2 years active duty at Parris Island, South Carolina, and then in the Reserves, attaining the rank of Lt. Commander. He opened his own private dental practice in 1956 and practiced in the Southside area for 34 years.

(‘53) William “Bill” M. Lawson passed away on January 1, 2019. After serving in the United States Marine Corp. for 3 years, he graduated from Birmingham Southern College in 1949 and The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry in 1953. Following graduation, Bill practiced dentistry in Birmingham for 52 years. He was president of both the Birmingham District Dental Society and the Alabama Dental Association. He served as a delegate to the American Dental Association for 37 years and was a member of the International College of Dentists.

(‘54) Eason K. Wood passed away on November 24, 2018. Known as "E.K." to all, he graduated from Birmingham Southern College in 1950 and The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry in 1954. E.K. served two years in the United States Air Force and then moved his family to Tuscaloosa in 1956 to open his dental practice, which he continued for 55 years until his retirement in 2011. Dr. Wood loved his patients and always knew his dental practice was his opportunity to serve others and was God's purpose for his life.

(‘56) James Calvin McCulloh, Jr. died on Thursday, May 2, 2019. Dr. McCulloh earned his Doctorate of Dental Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry. He served in the United State Air Force for two years and rose to the rank of captain. Dr. McCulloh served as President of the Alabama Dental Association, the Birmingham District Dental Society, and the Birmingham Society for Advanced Dentistry. He had fellowships in the American College of Dentists and the Academy of General Dentistry. He also earned a Masters in the Academy of General Dentistry. During his year as President of the Birmingham District Dental Society, the organization was awarded the appellation "Dental Society of the Year" by the American Dental Association. Dr. McCulloh was a long-time member of the Admissions Board of the UAB School of Dentistry, and a twenty-year delegate to the American Dental Association. He was a Regent for the American College of Dentists Region 3 from 2002-2006. After retiring from practice, he was invited to serve as Adjunct Professor at UAB, supervising advanced students in clinical work. More recently, he was the recipient of the prestigious Fuller Award for Outstanding Service to Dentistry in 2015 from the University of Alabama Alumni Association School of Dentistry of which he was also a life-time member.

(‘57) Thomas Barry Whatley, Sr. passed away on January 30, 2019. Barry earned his undergraduate degree at The University of Alabama in 1953 followed by his Doctorate in Dental Medicine in 1957 from The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry. For two years following graduation, he was stationed at Eglin Air Force base as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force. He then returned to Opelika, Alabama where he practiced dentistry for the next 50 years.

(‘59) James “Duncan” Austin died peacefully on March 29, 2019, following a lengthy battle with Alzheimer’s. Dr. Austin graduated from The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry and worked as a staff dentist at Walter Reed Army Hospital. Dr. Austin transferred to Frankfurt, Germany to pursue the State Department employee bound for assignment in Brussels, Belgium. Two years later, he returned to the states. Dr. Austin retired in 1995 from the Veterans Administration Hospital in Birmingham as the Chief of the Dental Clinic and Professor of the UAB School of Dentistry.

(‘59) Thomas Oakley Kennemer, Jr. died November 29, 2018. He attended The University of Alabama, where he earned a degree in chemistry. He earned his DMD from The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry before joining the U.S. Army. While in the military, he attended the University of Missouri at Kansas City dental graduate school, where he studied orthodontics and earned his MS degree. After 26 years in the Army, he retired as a colonel and began private practice at dental offices in Birmingham and Tuscaloosa. While in private practice, he taught for eight years at the UAB School of Dentistry. He retired from private practice in 2010. He was a member of the Alabama Dental Association, the American Dental Association, the Alabama Orthodontic Association, the American Association of Orthodontics, the World Federation of Orthodontists and the Retired Officers Association.

(‘62) Samuel L. Horton, Jr. passed away on April 5, 2019. He earned his Bachelor of Science from Jacksonville State University, a Bachelor of Arts from Emory University and his DMD from the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry. After dental school, Sam joined the United States Air Force dental corps and served at Perrin Air Force Base. He moved to Birmingham to work in private practice. He then moved to Bedford, Massachusetts where he began practicing at the Veterans Administration Hospital. He transferred to the VA Hospital in Coatesville, Pennsylvania, where he practiced and served as director of dental services until retiring in 1997.

(‘65) Earl H. Pate passed away on March 26, 2019. Dr. Pate practiced dentistry in the Bessemer area for 47 years.

(‘69) Maxwell Lynn Reeves of Canton, Georgia passed away February 13, 2019. Dr. Lynn Reeves was a star athlete at Andalusia High School and a scholarship athlete at The University of Alabama. Lynn proudly served in the Air Force for four years. After his service, he returned to Alabama and graduated from The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry. He practiced dentistry in Daleville, Alabama for 30 years. Dr. Reeves served on the Board of Dental Examiners for the state of Alabama for five years and President of the Board for one year.



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