School of Dental Science

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Dear Alumni,

Welcome to the Summer edition of our Alumni Newsletter. This is a busy yet exciting time for the School as we see the results from the examinations for our students and see many new dentists, dental hygienists, dental nurses and dental technologists begin their professional careers. We hope that all of our new graduates will join our ever-growing alumni community and look forward to welcoming them back to the School for reunions and social events throughout the coming years.

We have a lot of news to share with you this quarter, focusing on research news and internationalisation, two areas we hope you will find interesting. We have also included a regular feature in our newsletter, where you can meet a fellow alumnus and read their story. We hope that you will want to keep in touch with the School and participate in our public events and should you wish to have your story featured in our newsletter or on our website, please let us know. We are always delighted to hear from you.
Alumni Funds contribute to Lectureship in Emergency Dental Care

In September 2012, a one-year lectureship was commissioned in order to reduce waiting lists in the A&E department. This post was partially funded by alumni monies, namely the Jones Bequest.

Dr Stephen Anderson, BDS MFDS RCSEd, was appointed to this lectureship in September 2012 and has worked with colleagues in the oral and maxillofacial surgery specialty to reduce the new-patient waiting list. The waiting lists for a first appointment have been reduced from over two years to approximately twelve months.

Dr Anderson has also worked to formalise the delivery of undergraduate teaching in A&E, completely revising the curriculum and creating an innovative student e-portfolio for the area. He has been involved in scholarly activities and research and he is working on an algorithm to assist general dental practitioners with the management of radiopaque lesions in the jaws.

This post is a valuable one, making use of an underused teaching and research environment. The teaching and direct clinical supervision have received positive feedback from the dental students, and the lecturer’s availability in A&E has reduced the demand on lecturers from other departments. The research generated from this post will provide important and novel information on the topic of teaching emergency dental care to undergraduates in the dental team; the oral surgery assessment clinics have seen patient waiting times reduce significantly, neither of which would have been possible without the Jones Bequest.
The Jones Bequest

A legacy gift from Margaret Mimie Jones was received in 2011. This gift is specifically for “the provision of prizes, scholarships or research in the School of Dentistry.” Mrs Jones was the widow of Dr Richard Dudley Jones, deceased, who was an alumnus of Trinity College. Dr Jones qualified in 1939. After setting up practice in Dalkey in 1940, Dr Jones and his family moved to the UK where he worked for the rest of his professional life. The School of Dental Science is extremely grateful to Dr and Mrs Jones for their most generous contribution and is very pleased to be able to provide some wonderful news about how effective this bequest has been to date.

Remember.
The power of a legacy to Trinity

There’s an old saying that the true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade one does not expect to sit. When you leave a legacy to Trinity, however big or small, you’re planting a tree which will grow to provide shelter to many. You’re empowering ground-breaking research which will benefit people in Ireland and all over the world. You’re supporting students from all backgrounds to access a Trinity education. You’re helping preserve our unique campus and heritage for new generations.

When you remember Trinity in your will, you join a tradition of giving that stretches back over 400 years – and reaches far into the future. For more information about leaving a legacy to Trinity, please contact Eileen Punch.

Alumni Appeal Thank You

The Alumni Appeal was launched in March 2011 to raise funds for student scholarship and access programmes. Alumni donations raised through the Alumni Appeal are split between the school from which the alumnus has graduated (75%), and the Trinity Access Programmes (TAP) (25%).

The School of Dental Science will use the funds to bring a guest speaker to the School to speak to a group of students and alumni on the topic of Head and Neck Cancer in September 2013. We will also award the Alumni Association’s 'Perpetual Teaching Award' to a past or present member of the teaching staff who has made a significant contribution to the dental teaching programme.

For more details please see our Up and Coming Events section.
**Access to the Dental Library**

Members of our alumni community may wish to come back to use our library services. Alumni can apply for external membership. Please note that this is a limited scheme with an associated cost.

External members may:

- Access the library & information service in the Dublin Dental University Hospital
- Access our print collections
- Avail of our current awareness service
- Use our self-service photocopying service (additional charges apply)
- Use our document supply service (additional charges apply)

Please contact our Librarian by phone or e-mail for further information.

[www.dentalhospital.ie/education/library/](http://www.dentalhospital.ie/education/library/)

**What Hides Beneath**

Ms. Catherine Waldron and Ms. Aoife Crampton were involved in the development of a public information leaflet on the topic of the relationship between oral and general health issues. The leaflet, entitled 'What Hides Beneath', was developed in cooperation with the Royal College of Surgeons, the Irish Dental Hygiene Association and the Dublin Dental University Hospital and was sponsored by Pamex. The leaflet has been very well received by both patients and healthcare professionals and a second print is currently being considered. [http://tinyurl.com/whathidesbeneath](http://tinyurl.com/whathidesbeneath)

**New programme - Orthodontic Therapy**

The School is pleased to announce a new Postgraduate Diploma in Orthodontic Therapy. The course will take its first students in January 2014, pending TCD and Dental Council approval. Applicants with qualifications in Dental Nursing or Dental Hygiene will be eligible for this year-long programme. The programme involves one month full-time tuition, followed by one day per month in the Dublin Dental University Hospital. For the remainder of the programme, students will be based in their orthodontic practices and clinics and will be mentored by orthodontic consultants/specialists.
Forthcoming School Events

Trinity College Dublin Alumni Weekend - Alumni Coffee Morning

Re-live your student days by visiting the School of Dental Science, and Dublin Dental University Hospital, Lincoln Place for a special alumni coffee morning at 10.30am on Friday, 23 August 2013. Celebrate your lifelong connection to Trinity by taking a trip down memory lane with old friends and academics.

To book your place online, log on to: www.tcd.ie/alumni/weekend

Annual Alumni Event

In conjunction with National Mouth Cancer Awareness Day, the School is hosting an alumni event on Thursday, 19 September 2013. Three key speakers will address an audience of Dental School alumni on the subject of Head and Neck Cancer.

This will be followed by the presentation of the perpetual teaching award.

For more information please email: alumni@dental.tcd.ie

Front Gate Online

Stay in Touch

Get connected with Front Gate Online. Update your details, search and contact fellow alumni, register for events, join the career network and other groups, all in one place!
Register today at: www.tcd.ie/alumni/frontgateonline. *check if you are eligible for this service on the ‘about’ page.

Awards

O’Mullane prize

The Irish Society of Dentistry for Children recently held their annual scientific meeting in Dublin. There was exceptional interest in the O’Mullane prize, which encourages presentations from any dental team members related to the provision of dental care to children in Ireland.
Four of the finalists represented the DDUH and the winner of the competition was Sultan Ahmed (5th year Dental Science) pictured here accepting the prize from Professor Dennis O’Mullane.
GRSA Award

Dr. Jennifer McCafferty received the GRSA award from the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. This is a prestigious award for research done as part of her DChDent programme supervised by Dr. Anne O’Connell. Jennifer presented her research orally in Orlando last week.

Students on TCD Dean of Students’ Role of Honour

Congratulations to our four students Aodh MacGrainne (4th Year), Rebecca Doyle (4th Year), Chloe Kelly (4th Year) and Mervyn Huston (5th Year) on making this years Roll of Honour. Trinity College are extremely proud of the extracurricular activity undertaken by students which ensures a vibrant campus and offers students diverse and multidimensional opportunities for learning, social development and personal growth. The Dean of Students’ Roll of Honour serves to celebrate and recognise student volunteering in clubs, societies, publications and the wider community.

For more information on Student Achievements please see http://tinyurl.com/studentachievements
For more information on Student Sporting News please see http://tinyurl.com/DDUHsportsnews

Internationalisation

DOVE Dental Voluntary Overseas Elective

Where to this year?

The voluntary overseas elective forms an integral part of the fourth dental year, with many students contributing time and hard work to the Dental Overseas Voluntary Elective, or DOVE society, in a bid to raise funds to help finance what will no doubt be a life-changing experience.

To find out what DOVE are doing this year, go to www.dentalhospital.ie/alumni/dove/.
Visit from the Kuwait Minister of Education

Representatives from the Embassy of the State of Kuwait and the Kuwait Cultural Office in Dublin met recently with several heads of department within the Faculty of Health Sciences, including Professor June Nunn and Dr. Ebrahim Al-Awadi from the School of Dental Science. Professor Waleed Shuaib, Head of Kuwait Cultural Office, Dr. Maisaa Al-Wohaib, Cultural Attache, and Mr. Abdullah AL-Naimi, Academic Advisor from the Kuwait Cultural Office, met with staff from Trinity to discuss the possibility of increasing links between Trinity and Kuwait. This was following the visit to the Trinity School of Dental Science and Dublin Dental University Hospital from the Kuwait Minister of Education in February 2013. [www.tcd.ie/globalrelations](http://www.tcd.ie/globalrelations)

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RESEARCH

Latest News

Aisling Miller among the first class of innovation and entrepreneurship students to graduate the Innovation Academy

Ph.D. student Aisling Miller, from the Microbiology Unit, Division of Oral Biosciences, was among the first class of innovation and entrepreneurship students to graduate from the inter-university (TCD & UCD) Innovation Academy.

[http://tinyurl.com/aislingmiller](http://tinyurl.com/aislingmiller)

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Research into role of Oral Staphylococci in Health and disease

Phillipa Cashin, a Ph.D. student from the Microbiology Research Unit, Division of Oral Biosciences, successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis on Tuesday 28th May 2013. Phillipa was supervised by Professor David Coleman from the Microbiology Unit.

[http://tinyurl.com/phillipacashin](http://tinyurl.com/phillipacashin)
Population Analysis of MRSA from Irish Hospitals

Orla Brennan, a Ph.D. student from the Microbiology Research Unit, Division of Oral Biosciences, successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis in April 2013. Orla was jointly supervised by Professor David Coleman and Dr. Anna Shore from the Microbiology Unit.

http://tinyurl.com/orlabrennan

Summer Research

Several undergraduate students are beginning research projects over the summer. Dental Science undergraduate David Naughton was recently awarded a summer studentship from the Biochemical Society to continue his oral cancer research with Dr. Jeff O'Sullivan. Three undergraduate students have been awarded scholarships from GSK to carry out summer research projects on Obesity and Oral Sedation (Deirdre Coffey), Dental Hygiene (Connor Curran) and Special Needs Dentistry (Ruaa El-Helali).

Undergraduate Research

As part of Mouth Cancer Awareness Day in September 2012, our 2nd year dental hygiene students set up a smoking cessation and awareness stand in the foyer of the Dublin Dental University Hospital. The Students asked visitors to the stand to complete a survey, which was designed to assess the prevalence of smoking as well as the history of smoking and quit-attempts of the participants.

The results showed that 18.3% of those surveyed were smokers, 25% were former smokers and 68% of the smokers had their first cigarette within 30 minutes of waking, indicating high dependence.

The public are well disposed to receive information regarding the health impact of smoking and on smoking cessation, both of which dental hygienists are well positioned to deliver. To find out more about Cancer awareness day 2012, go to http://tinyurl.com/mouthcancerawareness2012.

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