



## School of Dental Science Alumni Newsletter

### Spring 2013

Welcome to the Spring edition of our Alumni Newsletter. We have a lot of news to share with you this quarter so we hope you enjoy reading and reminiscing with us. We aim to build a vibrant and dynamic alumni community, with plenty of news stories to share with you. Please do get in touch as we would love to hear from you. We look forward to seeing you at some of our alumni events in 2013.



Professor June Nunn,  
Dean of Dental Affairs

### MEET GILL SMITH

We were delighted to hear that a member of our Alumni community, Dr Gillian Smith, was awarded the Sensodyne Sensitive Dentist of the Year Award 2012 for her treatment of a special needs patient.

Gillian completed her Postgraduate Diploma in Conscious Sedation in Dentistry with us in 2012, having finished her undergraduate degree in 2008.



Gillian comments: "Treating patients with special needs is an important part of general dental practice. In order to meet this patient's dental needs and take into account his understanding of treatment we developed a specially tailored plan. Conscious sedation, with nitrous oxide, was a great asset, helping him to feel relaxed and comfortable in the dental chair. I am thrilled that we could help this patient restore his oral health and keep him smiling!"

### EXPANSION OF THE SCHOOL OF DENTAL SCIENCE ALUMNI WEBSITE

In order to reflect the growing nature of the alumni community within the School and Hospital, the alumni section of our website has been expanded. We hope you visit our site, check out some news items relevant to alumni, read some alumni stories as submitted by you and see a few photographs of days gone by: [www.dentalhospital.ie/alumni/](http://www.dentalhospital.ie/alumni/)

Please keep abreast of developments in Trinity College and connect with your friends by registering with Front Gate Online [www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/TDD/](http://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/TDD/)

## HEAD AND NECK CANCER – SERIES OF LECTURE EVENINGS



The Division of Restorative Dentistry and Periodontology hosted a highly successful series of lecture evenings on Head and Neck Cancer in February & March. The lecture evenings brought clinicians, academics, students and members of the wider community to the Dublin Dental University Hospital for these events. The lectures took us from “**Diagnosis and the Journey of the Head and Neck Cancer Patient**” through “**Radiotherapy in the Management of Head and Neck Cancer**” and “**Surgery, Chemotherapy and Prosthodontic Rehabilitation in the Management of Head and Neck Cancer**” to conclude with “**Rehabilitation during and post treatment for head and neck cancer**”.

Pictured(L-R): Dr Sarah Brody (Organiser), Ms Yvonne Leydon, Senior Clinical Nutritionist St James’ Hospital, Allison Connolly, Counselling Psychologist, St Luke’s Hospital, Dublin. Noreen O’Regan, Senior Speech and Language Therapist, St James’ Hospital, Dublin. The Dean and Dr Denise MacCarthy (Organiser).

Podcasts of these lectures were recorded so if you would like to view the lecture podcasts, please contact [lena.doherty@tcd.ie](mailto:lena.doherty@tcd.ie). Further details on this lectures series can be found on our website: [www.dentalhospital.ie/education/cpd/headneck2013/](http://www.dentalhospital.ie/education/cpd/headneck2013/)

## RESEARCH NEWS

Dr Garry Fleming, Head of the Materials Science Unit, recently secured funding of €309,617 over 48 months from the Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Investigator Projects (IvP). The Project entitled “**DENTAL** glass-ionomer restoratives: **Development of an Enhanced Novel Tailored Aesthetic Ligand-based glass-ionomer restorative**” aims to deliver a cost effective and predictable novel aesthetic posterior filling material to be placed in minimal intervention cavities with no associated loss of sound tooth structure. It is suggested that in principle re-intervention of like with like (GI with GI) could allow a tooth to survive indefinitely and eliminate the expense of crowing providing a major cost saving for the patient or relevant health service provider e.g. Health Services Executive. The project is a collaboration with Dr Wolfgang Schmitt (Senior Lecturer in Inorganic and Synthetic Materials Chemistry) in Trinity College Dublin.



The first report of livestock-associated ST398 MRSA strain from a patient in Ireland was reported in October 2012 by researchers at the National MRSA Reference Laboratory at St James’s Hospital in collaboration with the Oral Biosciences Microbiology Research Unit at the Dublin Dental University Hospital (Epi-Insight Volume 13(10) 2012 (<http://ndsc.newsweaver.ie/epiinsight/1c8fwftl674?a=1&p=28075745&t=17517774>))

The School of Dental Science is pleased to announce that it was awarded three 1252 research studentships for 2013-14.

## INTERNATIONALISATION



Representatives from the Embassy of the State of Kuwait and the Kuwait Cultural Office in Dublin recently visited the Dublin Dental University Hospital for a meeting with School of Dental Science staff. Dr. Mustafa Alawi, Academic Advisor, Embassy of the State of Kuwait and Professor Waleed Shuaib, Head of Cultural Office, Embassy of the State of Kuwait visited on January 23rd last. The visit brings us one step closer to establishing links between Kuwait and the School of Dental Science.

A delegation from Malaysia will visit the School and Hospital in April 2013.

## STAFF NEWS

Dr Osama Omer, Senior Lecturer Consultant in Restorative Dentistry, has been appointed Vice-Dean at the Faculty of Dentistry, RCSI. We would like to congratulate Dr Omer on his appointment.



### HARRIET CELENIA (ENA) BROOKS

#### TRIBUTE TO A FORMER COLLEAGUE AND ALUMNA



Ena on her 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday, August 2001

Ena was a long-standing member of staff within the Dublin Dental University Hospital. She began her time with us as a student of Dentistry in 1945. Ena completed postgraduate studies in Paedodontics in Norway before returning to DDUH in 1953 as a House Surgeon. Ena retired in 1986 after 33 years of service and went on to enjoy 25 years of retirement, during which she regularly met with former colleagues and reminisced about her time in DDUH. In her youth, Ena was an active sportswoman, winning many golf competitions and representing Ireland several times. It is with great sadness that we bring news of Ena's passing in January 2013. Our thoughts are with Ena's family and friends at this time.

#### REMEMBERING A FORMER COLLEAGUE, PROFESSOR LIAM MC DEVITT, WHO PASSED AWAY IN AUGUST 2012

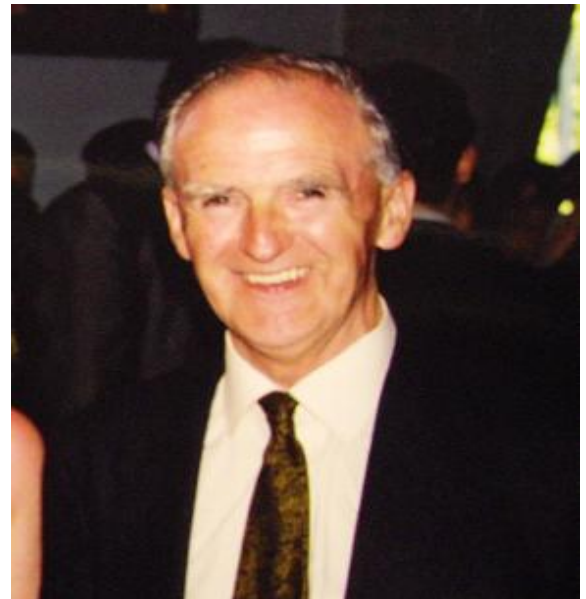
Professor Liam McDevitt is fondly remembered by generations of dentists as a hugely enthusiastic and generous teacher with a passion for clinical excellence and uncompromising standards. The mention of articulators, gold coloured handouts, bicycles and boxty could only be attributed to one man. His pioneering restructuring of the teaching in Restorative Dentistry will form a significant part of his legacy for some time to come.

Liam graduated as a dentist from NUI in 1959 and in his final examinations won the Hyland Prize for best all-round student, the Ash Prize for Clinical Restorative Dentistry and second prize for Clinical Conservative Dentistry. After ten years in general practice he joined the Eastman Dental Hospital in London as a Clinical Assistant and completed his Fellowship in Dental Surgery from the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1972.

He returned to the Dublin Dental Hospital in 1973 and worked as a Senior House Officer, Senior Registrar, Lecturer, Consultant, Senior Lecturer and ultimately Professor/Consultant in Prosthetic Dentistry in 1997, a post he held until his retirement in 2000. After that he generously continued to work *pro bono* as a part-time clinical teacher in his beloved Occlusion and Function Course until just before his death.

Liam completed his Doctorate in Philosophy, TCD entitled "An investigation of the clinical reference position of centric maxillomandibular relation in the context of the sagittal envelope of movement" in 1992; He was Head of Department on three separate occasions and was one of the main contributors to the new Dental School Curriculum 1982-4; He was centrally involved in both undergraduate and postgraduate education. In the period 1993-6 he undertook major revisions of the Department of Restorative Dentistry and Periodontology and the Dental Laboratories of the then School of Dental Science.

After retiring Liam continued his love of bird-watching and photography with his usual enthusiasm and high standards. *Ní bheidh a leithead arís ann truly applies to Liam.*





## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

**Lisa Boland**, Dental Science year 4, presented her project entitled "Irradiation-protocol Effects on Cuspal Deflection and Microleakage of Experimental RBCs" at the recent International Association of Dental Research (IADR) meeting in Seattle (19-23 March 2013) as the Irish Division representative. The project was supervised by Dr Garry JP Fleming from the DDUH and Dr William M Palin from the University of Birmingham and was selected at the Pan European Region meeting in Helsinki in September to represent the Irish Division in the Unilever Junior Hatton World Prize in Seattle. Although not successful in Seattle, we would like to congratulate Lisa for representing the Irish Division of IADR the most prestigious prize worldwide for undergraduate students where 17 countries participated.

**Nessa Finlay**, Dental Science year 4, presented her project entitled "Monomeric-resin and Filler-characteristics: The Impact on Resin-based Composite Wear Behaviour" at the recent BDA Dentsply Student Clinician Awards held in London on 21st March 2013. The project was supervised by Dr Garry JP Fleming and the research has just been published in the premier Dental Materials journal (Finlay et al. The in vitro wear behavior of experimental resin-based composites derived from a commercial formulation. Dental Materials 2013; 29(4): 365-74). We would like to congratulate Nessa for representing the School and Hospital in such a prestigious prize and for publishing in a recognised, high impact publication while still an undergraduate student.

**David Naughton**, Dental Science year 3, has been awarded a summer studentship by the Biochemical Society. David will return to the Dublin Dental University Hospital in the summer to work under the supervision of Dr Jeff O'Sullivan. David's project title is "Can modulation of amine oxidase derived H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> play a role in abrogating oral squamous cell carcinoma progression?" This is a highly sought after award which will lead to a written report being published in the Biochemical Society Journal.

**Ruaa El-Helali**, Dental Science year 4, has been awarded a Health Research Board (HRB) summer studentship for her project "An analysis of the oral health profile of the participants in the Intellectual Disability Supplement to The Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing (IDS TILDA) and what they have to say about looking after their oral health?" Ruaa will be based in the Dublin Dental University Hospital for the summer, under the supervision of Dr Caoimhin MacGiolla Phadraig. We wish Ruaa every success with this project

**Orla Malone**, Dental Science year 5, has been awarded joint first place in the Irish Faculty of Primary Dental Care (IFPDC) Bursary Award. Orla will receive this award at the meeting of the IFPDC in April.

**Dental Hygiene** year 2 students recently visited a variety of community settings and delivered Oral health Presentations. The audiences included nurses caring for the elderly, carers and clients in an Alzheimer's Society day centre, disability and healthcare support workers, childcare providers, recovering drug addicts and children attending a preschool and their parents.

## SPORTS NEWS

**Julian Bradley**, Dental Science year 1, and **Rachel O'Hagan**, Dental Science year 4, represented Trinity at the Lawn Tennis Intervarsity Competition. **Julian Bradley** also represented the Dublin University Lawn Tennis Club at the World University Championships in Nice in December.

**Michael Doyle**, Dental Science year 3, played wing-back for Trinity in the All-Ireland hurling quarter final in February. Trinity won this match and went on to play in the semi-final in March where unfortunately they were beaten. Michael was awarded *Man of the Match* in the semi-final.