

Cornhusker Impressions

for alumni & friends of the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry



A Year in Review: Reflecting on our history & continuing our tradition of excellence

From the Dean

Greetings alumni and friends!

The end of the year is an opportune time to reflect on what you are thankful for and celebrate all you have accomplished throughout the year. At the College of Dentistry, we have much to be thankful for and much to celebrate.

This year we've had an opportunity to reflect on the history of dentistry and the history of the College of Dentistry with the July 2021 opening of the Stanton D. Harn, Ph.D., Dental Gallery in the UNMC Wigton Heritage Center. In this issue of Impressions, you'll find photos and information about this incredible exhibit that showcases the shared history of our past, present and future students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the college. Understanding our history is important — it helps us gain an appreciation for how far we've come and helps us forge a path to where we want to go.

In this issue of Impressions, you'll find stories about what we've accomplished this year — accomplishments that are now part of the great history of the college. For example, our students, faculty, staff and alumni all had important roles in helping the college emerge as a leader among our peers in our response to the pandemic.

You'll find stories about how the people of the College of Dentistry every day continue to make important contributions to the history of the college and the future of oral health care. For example, we were thrilled to partner with the UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute to open the Caring for Champions Dental Clinic in August 2021 for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

You'll also meet the individuals we welcomed to the College of Dentistry family this year, including 122 new students and many new faculty members. Our new students bring great enthusiasm and will leave their own marks on the college. Our new faculty members bring new expertise, excitement and passion to the college. They will become part of our shared history as they help us continue to advance our educational programs, outreach, research and patient care.

Our alumni and friends of the college share in our history, our accomplishments and our future. I speak on behalf of the entire college when I say we are thankful for your support and your dedication to the college's future. No matter how you support the college, know that you are making a lasting impact — a profound difference in the lives of our students and faculty — and impacting the care we provide to our patients and our pursuit of scientific advances.

I wish you and your family a very joyous holiday season and a happy and healthy New Year.



Janet M. Guthmiller, D.D.S., Ph.D.

Professor & Dean, College of Dentistry, University of Nebraska Medical Center

Cornhusker Impressions

Fall 2021

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On the cover:

*The Stanton D. Harn, Ph.D., Dental Gallery
in the UNMC Wigton Heritage Center.*

Continuing Education

Register for the following courses at: unmc.edu/dentistry/continuinged

Weeth Lecture

State of the Art Topics & Techniques in Implant Dentistry to Increase Precision, Productivity and Ideal Patient Care (6 CE)

Friday, January 7, 2022

8:15 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Live Online (Zoom) & In Person at the UNL City Campus Union

Presented by: Dr. Robert C. Vogel

This science-based presentation will cover cutting-edge topics, components and techniques in implant prosthetics and will provide a realist private practice approach to digital work flows, from planning to intraoral scanning to fabrication of the final restoration. The newest components, technologies and implant designs will be presented to simplify decision-making and expand treatment options and immediacy.

What's New in Dentistry

Geriatric Dentistry (6 CE)

Friday, March 4, 2022

8:15 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Live Online (Zoom) & In Person at the UNL East Campus Union

Presented by:

Drs. Allison Dering-Anderson & Larry Crouch

This presentation will cover a variety of drugs and drug adverse events that are used in dental care and that confound dental care. Special emphasis will be placed on treating pain and dry mouth. Discussion items will include prescription, over-the-counter drugs, herbal products and dietary supplements commonly used by geriatric patients.



The UNMC College of Dentistry in conjunction with the Association for Continuing Dental Education (ACDE) is offering a new webinar series featuring university-based key opinion leaders. Presentations are available to meet every dental health care professional's interests and schedule. See schedule and register at: unmc.edu/dentistry/continuinged

Support the College of Dentistry Innovation Fund



The UNMC College of Dentistry Innovation Fund was created to support the work of the College of Dentistry in partnership with the College of Dentistry Alumni Association.

The fund supports:

- scholarships and other student support activities that encourage students to continue on their educational paths and keep working toward achieving their goals;
- emerging college priorities, including offering students the most innovative learning technology that allows them to build cutting-edge dentistry skills and expanding the college's educational, research and outreach programs;
- and the annual White Coat Ceremony where incoming students are welcomed into the College of Dentistry family and the post-commencement reception where students are welcomed into the College of Dentistry alumni family.

Your support is greatly appreciated by the students and the college. Please consider making a gift today at: unmcfund.org.



Behind the scenes at the May 2021 Commencement — Members of the Dental Hygiene Class of 2021.



Therin Baum, '21, receives her COVID-19 vaccine from a UNMC College of Nursing representative at the College of Dentistry in January 2021.



Sinan Akkoseoglu, '21, receives an award from Dr. William W. Johnson, professor, at the college's Senior Celebration held in May 2021.



The college transformed the clinical environment and operations so students and residents could resume treating patients.



The college partnered with the UNMC Division of Infectious Diseases to create a clinical manual to use as a guide for treating patients during the pandemic.

College of Dentistry led peers during pandemic

The college's journey through the pandemic led to unique accomplishments.

In March 2020, as the UNMC College of Dentistry moved to remote learning and halted routine dental care, efforts began to adapt the educational experience.

Prior to the pandemic, UNMC dental and dental hygiene students and residents worked with approximately 70,000 patients annually in the college's dental clinics and on extramural rotations to build their clinical skills. One of the first steps the college took to ensure educational continuity was to become the first dental school in the nation to purchase mobile dentistry equipment, called Optima units, that students used at home to continue building their clinical skills.

Students used the mobile handpiece systems to complete hands-on clinical exercises like preparing a tooth for a crown or treating a cavity.

"The Optima units were incredibly helpful," said dental student Brooke Appelhans. "I was so glad that the college provided us with a solution so that we could get a clinical learning experience from home."

In April 2020, the college's clinical reentry task force partnered with the UNMC Division of Infectious Diseases to create a clinical manual to use as a guide for treating patients during the pandemic. In May, when the Nebraska Dental Association recommended that routine dental care could resume, the college transformed the clinical environment and operations, including changing treatment approaches, redesigning the patient experience and utilizing COVID-19 testing for certain dental procedures. The testing data was used and continues to be used to help further drive decisions on clinical operations and safety.

"The College of Dentistry has gone above and beyond in adapting to the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic," said dental student Nick Hofmaier. "Faculty and staff have gone the extra mile to make sure that our education has not been impacted."

Throughout the pandemic, the college has stood out nationally. All 2020 and 2021 dental and dental hygiene graduates successfully finished all of their educational requirements, graduated with their class and secured employment or started advanced education programs. As UNMC adjusted COVID-19 safety measures in the fall, 100% of dentistry students were onsite for lab classes and to treat patients. First-year students had a 100% in-person classroom and hands-on educational experience. These accomplishments were uncommon among dental schools.

In addition, an evening clinic was started in October 2020 to offer students as many clinical educational experiences as possible and offer patients convenient, after-hours care.



"As this challenging time has shown, the College of Dentistry has and always will offer students the best possible educational experience. The UNMC College of Dentistry community will never falter from our shared commitment to excellence in education, patient care and research, no matter what challenges we face."

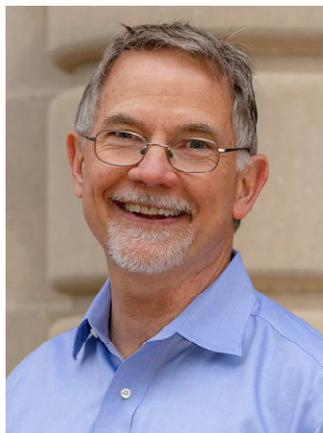
— Dean Janet Guthmiller

Alumni Awards

The College of Dentistry Alumni Association recognized the alumni award winners during a virtual continuing education program held in October 2021. The program also featured continuing education presentations from two new faculty members — Anne Williamson, DDS, MS, director of postgraduate endodontics, and Renato Roberto, DDS, MSc, PhD, chair of the department of adult restorative dentistry — and a college update from Janet Guthmiller, DDS, PhD, dean.

Alumni Achievement

The Alumni Achievement Award is given on the basis of outstanding dental or dental hygiene career achievements and/or civic involvement.



Charles Genrich, DDS '83 and Jon C. Asbjörnson, DDS '87

For their work with Clinic with a Heart

Dr. Charles Genrich graduated from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1983. He has been providing compassionate dental care for over 30 years. His passion for dentistry has led him to become a member of the American Dental Association, Nebraska Dental Association, Lincoln District Dental Association and the Capital Study Club. He is a part-time clinical instructor in the department of adult restorative dentistry at the UNMC College of Dentistry and a Fellow in the American College of Dentists. Dr. Genrich volunteers regularly at Clinic With A Heart where he provides much-needed dental care to Lincoln's underserved community members. His help and expertise has been vital to the ongoing success of the organization.

Dr. Jon C. Asbjörnson graduated from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1987. After graduation, Dr. Asbjörnson joined his father's private practice (Don Asbjörnson, DDS '62). Not only does he feel blessed to have four daughters (Amy, Molly, Katie and Madeline), he has the good fortune to work with two of them in his current dental office — Molly Asbjörnson Regelean, RDH '12 and Katie Asbjörnson, DDS '15. Dr. Asbjörnson is a part-time clinical instructor in the department of adult restorative dentistry at the UNMC College of Dentistry. He volunteers locally at the People's City Mission and Clinic With A Heart and internationally with Southwood Lutheran Church in Honduras, Central America, with the College of Dentistry in Columbia, South America, and with the East Meets West organization in South Vietnam. Dr. Asbjörnson's career is a shining example of how dentists can use their skill and compassion to help those in need.

Byron Tullis, DDS '58 — Posthumously

Dr. Byron Tullis was a polio survivor who went on to graduate from the University of Nebraska College of Dentistry and serve his country in the United States Air Force. Dr. Tullis grew a private practice in Lincoln, Neb., and practiced for more than 60 years, serving generations of patients with great care and a friendly chairside manner.

Throughout his life he was dedicated to helping others. He helped set up the People's City Mission Dental Clinic. After he retired and well into his 80s, Dr. Tullis came to the People's City Mission twice a week to volunteer. He exhibited his dedication to service throughout his entire life.

Distinguished Service

The Distinguished Service Award is given on the basis of contributions to the UNMC College of Dentistry Alumni Association and contributions made to the dental profession.



David G. Brown, BSc, MLS, PhD

Dr. David G. Brown became chairman of the UNMC College of Dentistry Department of Oral Biology in 1981 – 1987. He served as the director of research from 1982-1984, the assistant dean for research and administration from 1984-1989, and became the associate dean for academic affairs in 1989.

In 2000, he became executive associate dean and earned his master's degree in legal studies from the UNL College of Law. For the past 20 years, he served the college as a professor of oral biology focusing on community outreach. He retired on Dec. 31, 2020, after 39 years at the College of Dentistry.

Dr. Brown was instrumental in helping thousands of Nebraskans receive oral health care and education through the college's outreach events and through building partnerships with organizations like Clinic with a Heart. Additionally, due to his efforts, the college participated in community events where thousands of Nebraskans received oral health education and screenings. Dr. Brown taught generations of students the importance of helping the underserved.

During his long and distinguished career as an educator, Dr. Brown was the course director for dental research, ethics, public health and oral medicine. He also taught biochemistry and pharmacology to dental hygiene, dental, nursing and postgrad students.

Dr. Brown served on more than 85 UNMC, UNMC College of Dentistry, University of Nebraska and Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services committees; received 40 grants; and worked with countless national, statewide and local nonprofit organizations.

Dr. Brown received many awards for community outreach, including the Dental Public Health Award from Nebraska Health and Human Services, the American Dental Association's Presidential Award for increasing access to dental care for special populations, Clinic with a Heart's Community Partner Award, and the Nebraska Rural Health Association's President's Award.



Janet Guthmiller, DDS, PhD

Dr. Janet Guthmiller became the dean of the UNMC College of Dentistry on Sept. 1, 2014. She is a nationally recognized leader in dental education and an accomplished researcher, author and teacher.

Dr. Guthmiller has led numerous initiatives to advance the mission of the college, including:

- a \$4.8 million renovation to create a state-of-the-art learning environment. In the new clinical and virtual simulation laboratory, students use the most advanced 3D, virtual reality and haptics technology to build their clinical skills and in the new digital design studio, students build cutting-edge digital dentistry skills;
- the development of two educational programs – the advanced education in general dentistry residency program and the advanced standing dental program for internationally educated dentists;
- increased outreach to rural Nebraska, including a \$4 million, 10-year contract from the State of Nebraska to increase oral health services and the number of dental graduates practicing in rural Nebraska;
- a \$2.6 million renovation to the college's clinic in the Durham Outpatient Center;
- a 32.2 percent increase in research funding;
- and the development of a highly effective clinical model that has transformed students' patient care experiences.

Dr. Guthmiller has received multiple awards for achievement in leadership and education. She is the author of two books, seven book chapters, 45 journal articles and online educational modules, and 66 journal abstracts, and the recipient of multiple grants from organizations including the National Institutes of Health, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

Dr. Guthmiller is a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and Fellow of the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists.

Outstanding Educator

The Outstanding Educator Award is presented to an individual with significant accomplishments in the dental profession and a sincere dedication to dental education.

Darlene Carritt, RDH



Darlene Carritt graduated from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1978 and has been an instructor in the college's department of dental hygiene for over 35 years. She has been instrumental in the implementation of many new technologies for the College of Dentistry. In addition to her role as course director for three courses per academic year, she also provides guest

lectures for classes and programs. Presenting is natural for Ms. Carritt and she enjoys the opportunity to educate others about oral health.

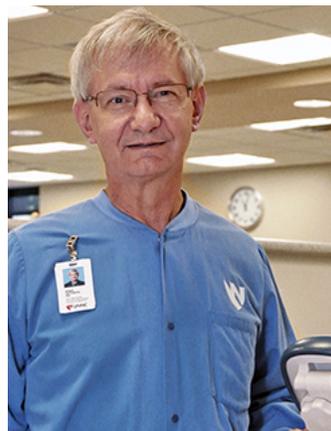
Ms. Carritt has received grants to educate health care professionals in the state of Nebraska on nursing home / assisted living oral health care. She created an oral health educational DVD for primary care givers of IDD (intellectual and developmental disabilities) teenagers and adults. She advocates for access to care for the citizens of Nebraska and participates in many outreach events throughout the year, including Nebraska Mission of Mercy, Special Olympics, UNMC Dental Days and UNMC SHARING Clinics.

Ms. Carritt supervises students in nursing homes and teaches them how to provide dental hygiene treatment, including the use of silver diamine fluoride. She also mentors dental and dental hygiene students on research projects.

A few of Ms. Carritt's additional service activities include serving on the Nebraska Board of Dentistry for 10 years and as the president of the Nebraska Dental Hygienists' Association and serving the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) for 30 years in various roles, including a dental hygiene examiner, coordinator and member of the steering and executive committees.

Many alums of the UNMC College of Dentistry Dental Hygiene Program have said that Ms. Carritt was the most influential instructor they had during their time at the college.

Robin Hattervig, DDS



Dr. Robin Hattervig is an assistant professor in the UNMC College of Dentistry Department of Adult Restorative Dentistry and is a member of the University Dental Associates Practice.

Dr. Hattervig graduated from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1984. He practiced general dentistry for 32 years in rural South Dakota while serving as an adjunct professor for

the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. He taught dental students on rotations in his dental practice.

Since joining the UNMC College of Dentistry faculty in 2016, Dr. Hattervig has been one of the most beloved faculty members. His teaching assignments include serving as a clinical color group leader, cariology for D2s, and integrated biomaterials, cariology and operative for D1s.

Dr. Hattervig stands out for earning four consecutive teaching awards: Faculty Recognition Teaching Awards in 2017, 2018, 2019 and the 2020 Kenneth Battenhorst Teaching Award.

He is involved with numerous community service activities including UNMC SHARING Clinics, UNMC Dental Days, Nebraska Dental Mission of Mercy, People's City Mission and Clinic with a Heart.

Dr. Hattervig sets an example of professionalism and service for College of Dentistry students. He is a gifted educator.

He is a member of the American Dental Association, International College of Dentists, Nebraska Dental Association and the Academy of General Dentistry.

Lifetime Membership

The Honorary Life Membership Award is given to an individual who is not an alumnus but who has demonstrated a dedication to, and support for, the UNMC College of Dentistry.

Joan Sivers, DDS



Dr. Joan Sivers started at the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1983 as an assistant professor of fixed prosthodontics in the department of adult restorative dentistry. She became an associate professor in 1989 and the assistant dean of clinics in 1998. Starting in 1995, she served as the Carlson Professor of Dentistry, an endowed position.

Dr. Sivers retired on December 31, 2020 after more than 37 years at the UNMC College of Dentistry. She was instrumental in helping thousands of students develop clinical knowledge and skills as an administrator, a teacher and course director.

She contributed significantly to the tripartite missions of the college: teaching, research and service. Dr. Sivers served on more than 65 college and UNMC committees, including the gender equity committee and the faculty senate.

Nationally and locally, Dr. Sivers established a legacy of service and leadership. She served as president of multiple organizations, including the American Association for Women Dentists, American College of Dentists - Lincoln Section, American College of Prosthodontists - Nebraska Section, International College of Dentists - Nebraska Section, Lincoln District Dental Association and Omicron Kappa Upsilon - Alpha Alpha Chapter.

She served on the American Association of Dental Boards and as site coordinator for the college's regional boards and was president and on the executive committee of the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) testing agency.

Dr. Sivers received multiple awards, including the American Association of Women Dentists Certificate of Appreciation, the UNMC Service with Distinction Award, and she was featured 17 times in the Consumers' Research Council of America's "Guide to America's Top Dentists."



Nebraska Innovation Campus Hand Sanitizer Team:

Hunter Floodman
David Martin
Jerry Reif
Max Wheeler
Terry Howell Jr.

In the early summer of 2020, as the first wave of the pandemic was surging, a planning team at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln estimated that, when the campus fully reopened in fall 2020, more than 100 gallons of hand sanitizer would be needed per day.

A team identified 1,000 locations that would benefit from a hand sanitizer dispensing station, including student housing, Campus Recreation, Nebraska Unions, athletics, 83 Nebraska Extension offices and one wall dispenser in every elevator on campus.

Under the leadership of Jim Jackson, associate vice chancellor of university operations, a team was formed to solve the problem of efficiently distributing hand sanitizer across campus. They invented a large-capacity, free-standing hand sanitizer dispenser station that was in large part produced at Nebraska Innovation Campus.

The team of David Martin, Jerry Reif, Max Wheeler, Terry Howell Jr. and Hunter Floodman sprung into action. Through their efforts, persistence and innovation, the need for hand sanitizer was not only met, but exceeded.

Hand sanitizer was made available to the College of Dentistry for use when supply was short and in high demand.



May 2021 College of Dentistry Graduates

Dental Graduates

Spencer D. Adams, Lincoln*
 Cameron Mathias Aitken, Dannebrog
 Sinan Faruk Akkoseoglu, Omaha
 Colton Alexander Lynn Allen,
 Cheyenne, WY
 Mariah Danielle Allen, Alma***
 Brooke Ashley Appelhans,
 Sterling, CO
 Therin Jo Baum, Lincoln
 Kristin E. Beck, Grant
 Rebecca M. Beckler, Friend
 Amanda Jean Boender, Waverly
 Sydney J. Burianek, Sioux Falls, SD
 Autumn Rishel Chapman,
 Saratoga, WY
 Grace Ellen Dickerman, Cody, WY
 Alivia G. Focken, Litchfield
 Cory Franklin Foland, Grand Island
 Kylie Paige Graney, Casper, WY

Katie M. Griffith, Spangle, WA
 Allison Christine Hurlbut, Lincoln
 Gabriella R. Hurov, Blair
 Cole E. Johnson, Kearney
 Tyler Joseph Juhlin, Norfolk
 Matthew Michael Karloff, Hastings
 Brianna Kay, Norfolk
 Zachary John Jirovec Keating,
 Kearney
 Allie Jean Koth, Sioux Falls, SD**
 Valerie L. Largen, Creighton
 Yike Li, China**
 Melanie L. Lorenz, Dighton, MA
 Alex M. Madrahimov, Omaha
 Maddison A. Mcconnaughay,
 Hastings
 Jai Kumar Mediratta, Omaha**
 Mary Katherine Mercier, Omaha
 Devin Ardean Mitchell, Lincoln

Briley L. Moates, Lincoln
 Brook Aryn Mroczek, North Platte
 Samantha Elise Nelson, Lincoln*
 Natalie Ann Nuckolls,
 Alpharetta, GA
 Zachary C. Pederson,
 Thief River Falls, MN
 Tracy Ann Peitz, Hartington
 Ali Kate Poeppel, Rapid City, SD*
 Devyn J. Prodoehl, Brookings, SD*
 Abigail R. Schoening, Lincoln
 Ann Elizabeth Skradski, Omaha
 Olivia L. Straka, Omaha
 Brandon James Toscano, Omaha
 Kevin Vakizadian, Lincoln
 Jason Wahidi, St. Louis, MO
 Hannah Lynn Wilken, Eagan, MN
 Andrew R. Wilson, Rapid City, SD
 Scott P. Zach, Norfolk

Dental Hygiene Graduates

LINCOLN DIVISION

Samantha Karen Beal, Columbus
 Ciarra Dawn Benes, Roca
 Cassidy Elizabeth Borgmann, Norfolk
 Caylynn Marie Cruse, Blair
 Elizabeth Ann Donner, North Platte
 Abby Duffy, Duvall, WA
 Kellse Mae Embretson, Falls City
 Haritareddy Gujjula, Bend, OR**

Noni Janelle Henderson, Omaha
 Emily Brooke Houtby, Wolbach
 Abigail Rose Johnston,
 Clay Center, KS
 Abigail Marie Jonas, Elkhorn
 Callie McCall Kenning, Shelton
 Vicky Thuy Nguyen, Lincoln

WEST DIVISION

Toni Doescher, Chadron
 Shelby Richards, Brule
 Aspen Wallace, Mitchell
 Taylor Whetham, Morrill

* with Distinction
 ** with High Distinction
 *** with Highest Distinction

Where are they headed?



Immediate career plans for dental graduates:



31

Private practice

18 in Nebraska communities of Crete, Fremont, Grand Island, Kearney, Lincoln, Norfolk, North Platte, Omaha, Valentine, West Point



15

Advanced education residencies



4

U.S. military

Immediate career plans for dental hygiene graduates:



24

Private practice or other



2021 Graduate Spotlight



Maddison McConaughay, DDS

Dr. McConaughay is currently completing a pediatric dentistry residency at the UNMC College of Dentistry.

"My best memories of my time as a member of the class of 2021 were celebrating successes with my classmates. I want to thank our faculty for being wonderful mentors and also being colleagues and friends. I am so grateful for my experience and I am so excited I am continuing my education at UNMC. I am growing more as a clinician and continuing to learn from my mentors at the college."



Harley Ray, RDH

Ms. Ray is currently working at Gleason's Dental Clinic in Beatrice, Nebraska.

"One of my best memories of my time as a member of the class of 2021 was being elected the president of the Student American Dental Hygiene Association my senior year. I want to thank all my faculty for teaching us, inspiring us, and supporting us — for being shoulders to lean on. You were always there to listen. It was always my goal to work at Gleason's Dental Clinic and my dream came true because of UNMC."



Olivia Straka, DDS

Dr. Straka is currently completing a general practice residency at the UNMC College of Dentistry.

"For my faculty, you deserve the greatest thank you. We saw how much effort you put into helping us succeed. For my classmates, I look forward to being colleagues, getting to collaborate on cases and ask questions, and continuing to learn from each other. I'm so grateful that I was a member of the class of 2021."



Andrew Wilson, DDS

Dr. Wilson is currently completing a pediatric dentistry residency at the UNMC College of Dentistry.

"My best memories of my time as a member of the class of 2021 were hanging out with my classmates, whether it was 10 minutes between classes or in the preclinical lab learning together. I'd like to thank our faculty who went above and beyond to help us succeed and were always there for us."



Behind the scenes at the May 2021 Lincoln Commencement.



Behind the scenes at the May 2021 Gering Commencement.



Fall 2021 Incoming Students

Dental Class of 2025

Bobbie Adair, Omaha
 Madyson Anglim, La Vista
 Natalie Benoy, Osceola, WI
 Delaney Carlson, Rapid City, SD
 Yiwen Chen, Daqing, China
 Therese Cooney, Winnetka, IL
 Gabriel Crocker, Kearney
 Baylor DeVries, Sioux Falls, SD
 Anna Edet, Elkhorn
 Kinsley England, Kearney
 Gage Fenski, Mitchell, SD
 Delaynie Field, Colorado Springs, CO
 Juan Gonzalez, Miami, FL
 Peyton Halverson, Cando, ND
 Gisselle Hernandez, South Sioux City
 Claire Janecek, Omaha
 Hannah Janecek, Omaha
 Lucas Jarecke, Columbus
 Payton Kidder, Holdrege

Samuel Kline, Omaha
 Carter Kocian, Gretna
 Morgan Lashley, North Platte
 Tyler Lutt, Wayne
 Adam Mackley, North Platte
 Joshua Madsen, Wheatland, WY
 Huy Khoi Mai, Lincoln
 Ella Majerus, Lincoln
 Megha Mathur, New Delhi, India
 Jonathan Mitzel, Aberdeen, SD
 Trent Nguyen, Lincoln
 Riley Nitsch, North Platte
 McKenzie Nutter, Malcolm
 Bailey Peckham, Benkelman
 Ellie Petersen, Yutan
 Lauren Peterson, Montrose, CO
 Nicholas Peterson, Bemidji, MN
 Kimberly Pierre, Miami, FL
 Ryan Rawlings, Lincoln

Alec Redwine, Grand Island
 Trent Roth, Columbus
 Sierah Samway, Mitchell
 Harrison Sanny, Kearney
 Laura Shaw, Omaha
 Lydia Sigler, O'Neill
 Delaney Springer, Lincoln
 Taylor Steiner, Indianola, IA
 Jacob Stewart, Lincoln
 Nicholas Stolze, Norfolk
 Emily Swanson, Hoople, ND
 Yuliya Vaniurskaya, Minsk, Belarus
 Benjamin Wetovick, Cozad
 Emma Wilkinson, North Platte
 Justin Willson, Derby, KS
 Ryta Wodzinski, Sioux Falls, SD
 Luke Wordekemper, Omaha

Dental Hygiene Class of 2023

LINCOLN DIVISION

Vicky Bongomin, Omaha
 Shaylie Brown, Omaha
 Madison Buss, Gretna
 Daegan Dey, Gresham
 Carley Elznic, Ohiova
 Jazmin Esquivel, Lexington
 Kelsey Faust, Columbus
 Alexa Fenn, Omaha
 Lucille Hill, Berryton, KS
 Johanna Jimenez-Ambriz, Lexington

Emily Klosterman, Omaha
 Savannah Kobza, Rulo
 Lilia Kusek, Bellevue
 Claire McCoy, Aurora
 Hannah Nemeck, Burchard
 Hannah Nutter, Hickman
 Kawthar Sami, Lincoln
 Stephanie Slater, Omaha
 Brandon Tong, Lincoln
 Chelsea Villa, Lexington

WEST DIVISION

Cailyn Jameson, Thedford
 Madison Kahl, Riverton, WY
 Shelbi Mills, Alliance
 Jadie Rother, Wolbach

About the dental class of 2025:

- 37** Nebraska
- 17** Non-residents
- 29** Female
- 25** Male
- 32** From rural areas
- 22** From urban areas

About the dental hygiene class of 2025:

- 22** Nebraska
- 2** Non-residents
- 23** Female
- 1** Male
- 12** From rural areas
- 12** From urban areas





From left: Dr. Brett Thomsen, president of the UNMC College of Dentistry Alumni Association, gives Yiwon Chen, dental student, his white coat; Kawthar Sami, dental hygiene student; Justin Willson, dental student; Savannah Kobza, dental hygiene student.

New students welcomed into the College of Dentistry family

A White Coat Ceremony was held in August 2021 for the Dental Class of 2025 and Dental Hygiene Class of 2023. Speakers were Janet M. Guthmiller, DDS, PhD, professor and dean; Brett Thomsen, DDS, president, UNMC College of Dentistry Alumni Association; and Shelby Rose, dental student, class of 2022.

A White Coat Ceremony was also held for the Dental Class of 2024 and Dental Hygiene Class of 2022. The ceremony was postponed from 2020 to 2021 due to the pandemic.

New Student Orientation was held to give the new dental and dental hygiene students the information and tools they need to start their educational journeys at the College of Dentistry.

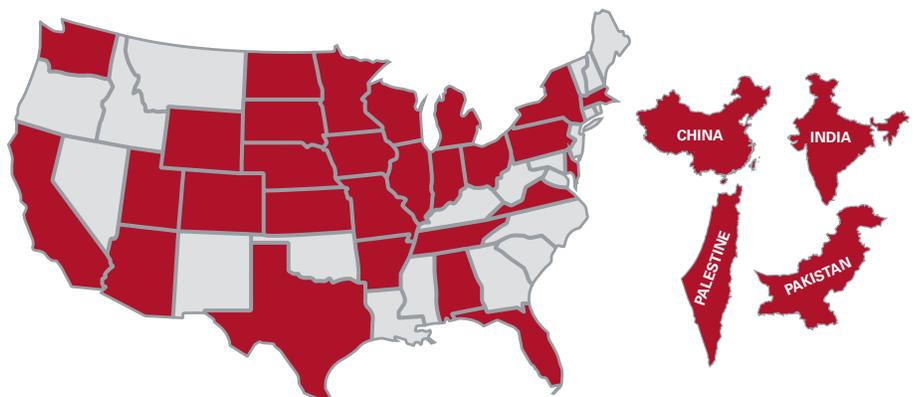


New dental students Ellie Petersen, Emily Swanson, Morgan Lashley, Gisselle Hernandez and Anna Edet at New Student Orientation.



New dental hygiene students Vicky Bongomin, Brandon Tong, Kawthar Sami and Claire McCoy choosing their first pair of loupes.

Where the new students and residents are from





Caring for Champions dental clinic opens

College of Dentistry partners with the UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute to provide oral health care to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The College of Dentistry partnered with the UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute (MMI) to open the Caring for Champions Dental Clinic in August 2021. The Caring for Champions Program, inspired by Special Olympic athletes, was established to serve the health care needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The Caring for Champions Dental Clinic is located in the Munroe-Meyer Institute's new home near the University of Nebraska at Omaha's Scott Campus. The new building is more than double the size of MMI's former home, providing critical room for growth of existing programs and the development of innovative new ones. The building opened in June 2021.

Claire Koukol, DDS, an assistant professor in the department of growth and development, is the director of the dental clinic.

"The College of Dentistry is very excited to be returning to MMI," she said.

The UNMC College of Dentistry has a strong history of collaboration with MMI - the college's postgraduate residency program in pediatric dentistry was located in the original MMI building before moving to Children's Hospital & Medical Center in 2011.

Dr. Koukol said the clinic initially will be staffed by herself and pediatric dental residents. In the future, the clinic will increase the days of operation and add general dentists and residents.

"The goal of this clinic is to care for patients across the lifespan and be their dental home, a place for routine care as well as treatment and emergency care," Dr. Koukol said. "Pediatric dentists routinely

see patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). That is part of our day-to-day practice. But it can be hard to find general dentists who are trained to see patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Our other goal for the College of Dentistry is to teach dental students and residents how to care for people with IDD."

"We're eventually going to have dental students and dental hygiene students, as well as other dental residents, rotate through the clinic and provide care to these patients. It's going to be a great opportunity for everyone."

Dr. Koukol called the new MMI home a "dream building."

"It's nice that all the providers are in one building, and we can talk to each other and understand how to treat these patients in the best way possible," she said.

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities are a high-risk population in terms of dental caries and oral health problems, Dr. Koukol said.

"This clinic provides a dental home for them," she said. "And if it's far from where their actual home is, I hope we can train our dental students and get dentists in the communities comfortable caring for these patients."

Patients receive the best care in an outstanding clinical environment at the MMI clinic, Dr. Koukol said.

"It's a beautiful clinic. The rooms are large and provide space for

families, guardians and caregivers to stay with the patients during the appointment.” The dental appointment rooms also are negative pressure rooms, which provide the safest possible environment for treating patients with infectious diseases.

Dr. Koukol said her residents, who have been serving patients at Children’s Hospital & Medical Center, talk to parents and caregivers who are excited about the new MMI clinic.

“I’ve already noticed that we have some new patients of all ages, and we’re excited to work with the other providers at MMI to provide a dental home and care for them,” Dr. Koukol said.

Janet Guthmiller, DDS, PhD, dean of the College of Dentistry, is thrilled to reignite the college’s partnership with MMI.

“Our College of Dentistry team is looking forward to providing the most positive and comprehensive dental care experience for patients of all ages and abilities,” she said.

Karoly Mirnics, MD, PhD, said the dental clinic was an important step in MMI’s vision for the Caring for Champions program.

“MMI’s mission is to transform the lives of the people we serve, and our collaboration with the College of Dentistry allows us to offer an important service to our clients,” he said. “As we take advantage of the opportunities offered by our new home to explore new initiatives and collaborations to positively impact the IDD community across the lifespan, this clinic is an exciting example of the type of innovations that now are open to us.”

Design thinking used to craft a unique patient experience

An interprofessional group of faculty, staff and students from UNMC, Nebraska Medicine, the University of Nebraska at Omaha and Clarkson College took part in a Design Thinking Boot Camp in October 2020 to help the College of Dentistry determine “how to provide the best dental patient experience in the country for people with disabilities.”

Design thinking is a way to solve complex problems by first developing deep empathy for the target audience by understanding who they are and what is important to them.

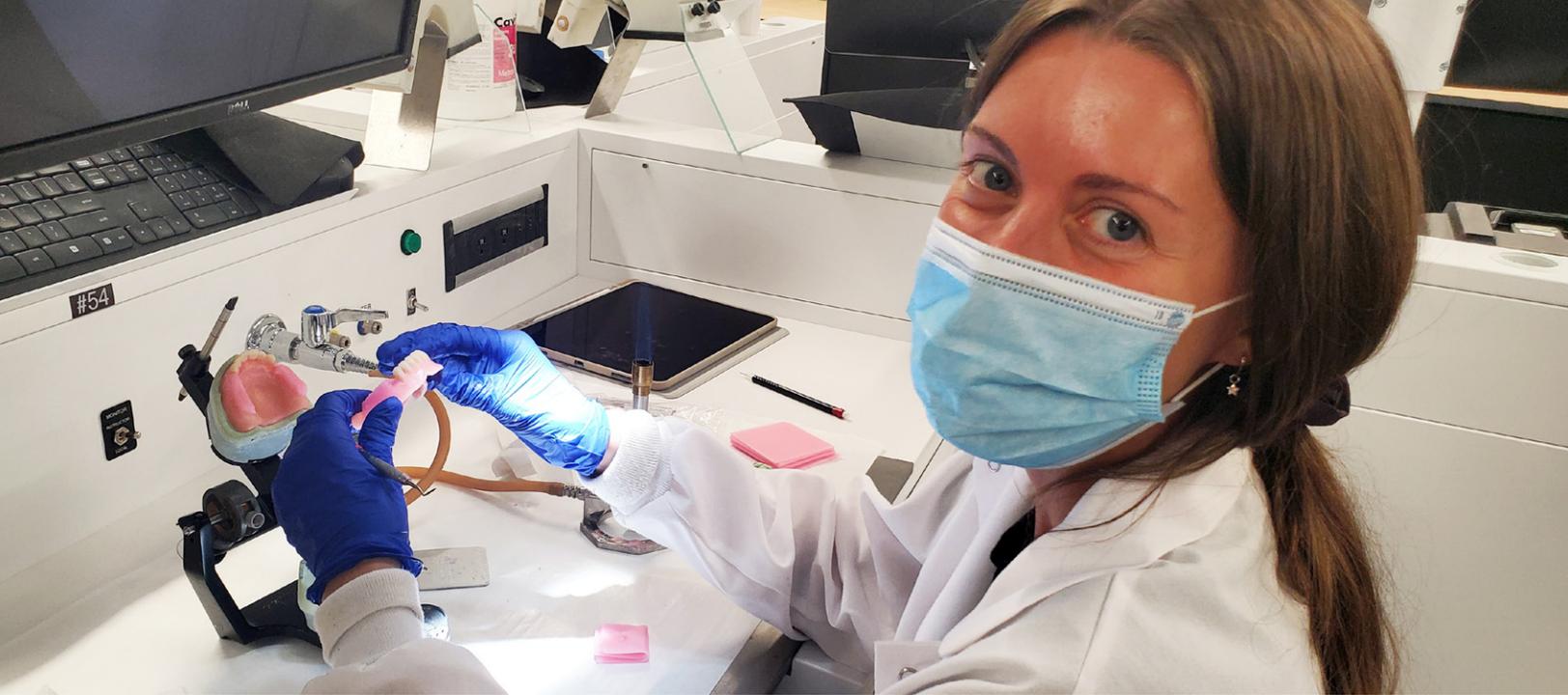
Participants were broken into teams and met with caregivers of children with disabilities to understand their experiences and beliefs concerning dental care. The teams then created and tested solutions. A common theme among the final solutions was customizing the patient experience to the unique needs of the patient.

The winning solution involves working with the patient and their family to develop a personalized care and transition plan that spans the patient’s life with the goal being to preserve the patient’s dignity and independence. The college plans to integrate the solution into the patient experience.



Above: Celebrating the first day of seeing patients in August 2021. From left: Nancy Becker, dental assistant, Drs. Allie Koth and Molly Cawley, pediatric dentistry residents, and Dr. Claire Koukol, clinic director.

Left: The clinical environment can be altered for patients’ unique needs and preferences. The clinic has been designed to provide a low sensory environment — the dental operatories can be darkened and lighting colors altered, dental equipment can be concealed in cabinetry until needed, and the physical environment can easily be adapted for patients in wheelchairs.



Katie Whittaker, a second-year dental student, building her clinical skills in the clinical and virtual simulation laboratory.

Around the college: Clinical and virtual simulation laboratory

In the clinical and virtual simulation laboratory, completed in October 2019, students are immersed in innovative educational experiences. The College of Dentistry stays at the forefront of dental education by leading the country in innovative learning technology.

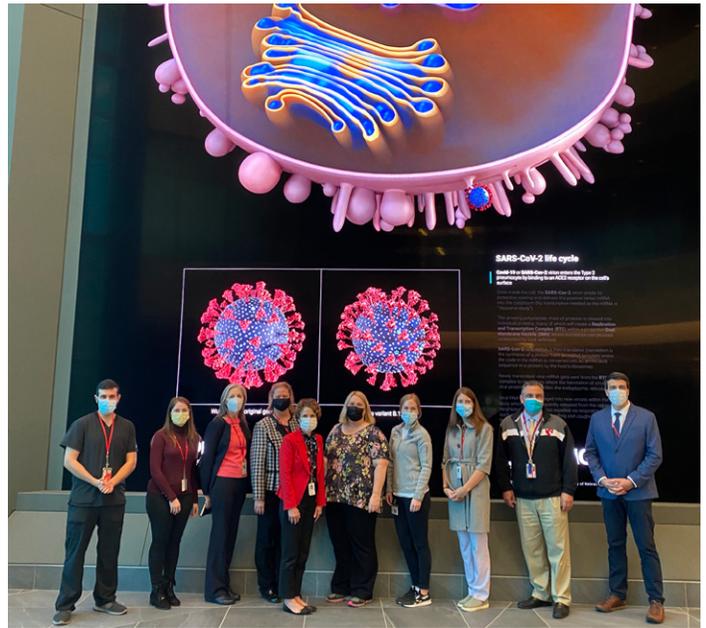
Left: A student uses a Simodont, a highly realistic virtual reality dental trainer that combines detailed 3D visuals with the experience of touch.

Below: In the cutting-edge clinical and virtual simulation laboratory, students build their clinical skills using clinical simulators that mirror the private practice experience.





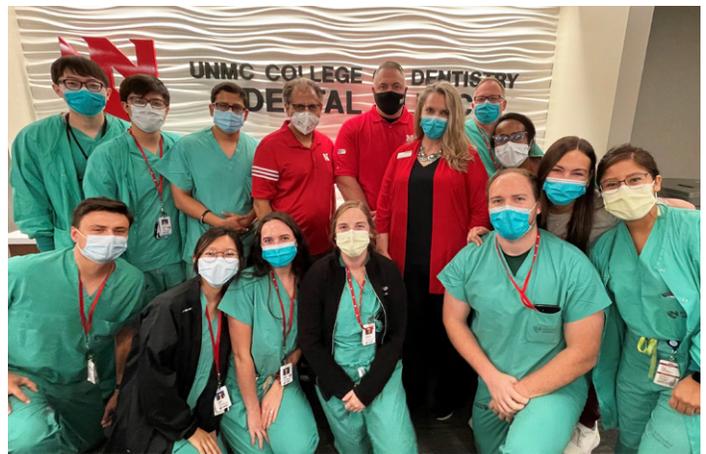
The college's chapter of the American Student Dental Association sponsored a Rangoli display in October 2021 to teach the college community about Diwali. Pictured from left: Dental students Ben Kincaid, Khushbu Ijner, Deepthi Kollipara, Sneha Suresh and Prabhiljit Singh.



Some of the college's new faculty members toured the UNMC Davis Global Center, a highly advanced clinical simulation facility designed to foster the practice of patient care in interprofessional teams, in October 2021.



At the college's Dental Opportunities Fair, held in September 2021, potential employers were able to meet dental and dental hygiene students and help teach them about the wide variety of career opportunities available to them.



The GPR and AEGD residents participated in an Academy of Laser Dentistry course taught by Ed Kusek, DDS, a 1984 UNMC College of Dentistry alum, in September 2021. The course included hands-on training with various types of lasers in dentistry.



Left: Lotte Sjulín, a fourth-year dental student, was elected the 2021 – 2022 chair of the American Dental Education Association Council of Students, Residents and Fellows. In this prestigious position, Lotte represents and advocates for all students, residents and fellows in the dental education community by addressing the issues that shape the present and future of dental education.

Right: Logan Kludt Lawrence, a fourth-year dental student, received the 2020 Excellence in Leadership Award from the American Student Dental Association (ASDA). Logan was recognized for her significant contributions in leadership to ASDA.

College receives 'Employer of the Year' award

The UNMC College of Dentistry was recognized as the "2021 Employer of the Year" by the Nebraska Dental Hygienists' Association (NDHA) in May 2021. Criteria for the award includes creating and maintaining a supportive workplace for dental hygienists, displaying respect and recognition of the dental hygiene profession and serving as a mentor and advocate to dental hygienists.

Lisa Moravec, RDH, assistant professor and site coordinator for the UNMC West Division Dental Hygiene program, nominated the college for the award.

"Gwen Hlava, chair of the department of dental hygiene, is a mentor to all hygienists within the department. She, along with Dean Janet Guthmiller, have encouraged and supported faculty involvement within our professional associations," Lisa said.

"We are proud to have faculty serve in national and state leadership positions, including Heather Hessheimer, assistant professor, who served as the president of the NDHA, and myself, serving as president of the American Dental Hygienists' Association. Without employer support, it would not have been possible."



Lisa Moravec, RDH, Gwen Hlava, RDH, and Heather Hessheimer, RDH, department of dental hygiene.

"The College of Dentistry was honored to receive the award," Ms. Hlava said. "We are proud to support our faculty members as they serve and lead professional associations and we are proud of the important work they do for our profession."

"We are incredibly honored to receive this award," Dean Janet Guthmiller said. "We are pleased to encourage and support faculty involvement within professional associations."

Peng and Oakley awarded funding to study oral cancer progression

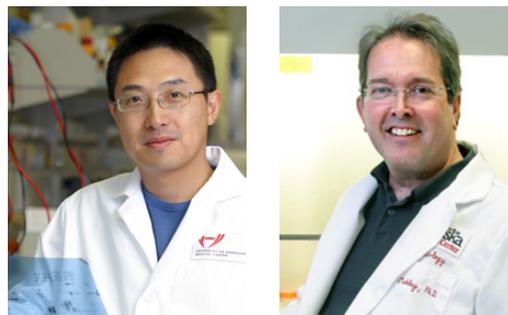
Aimin Peng, PhD, associate professor in the department of oral biology at the UNMC College of Dentistry, received grant funding from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research for the project "Greatwall in replication stress/DNA damage responses and oral cancer resistance."

Gregory G. Oakley, PhD, associate professor in the department of oral biology at the UNMC College of Dentistry, is the project's co-investigator.

Oral cancer, including cancer of the mouth and the back of the throat, is the sixth most common cancer worldwide. In the United States, approximately 50,000 new oral cancer cases are diagnosed each year.

"First-line treatments for oral cancer typically include surgery, radiation and chemotherapy. Unfortunately, the prognosis of oral cancer remains relatively poor, calling for a better understanding of how these treatments work and why some tumors are resistant, and accordingly, developing more effective treatment options and combinations to overcome drug resistance," Peng said.

Peng and Oakley will characterize a protein kinase named Greatwall



Aimin Peng, PhD, and Gregory G. Oakley, PhD.

as a potential drug target to improve the treatment outcome of cancer, including oral cancer.

"This project will characterize new mechanisms of how the oral cancer cell responds to radiation and therapeutic drugs, and thereby significantly impact our understanding of oral cancer progression and drug resistance," Peng said.

This project is a collaboration among many researchers at the UNMC College of Dentistry, lead by Peng and Oakley.

Guthmiller sixth UNMC faculty member to serve as OKU supreme chapter president

Dean Janet Guthmiller, DDS, PhD, was installed as supreme chapter president of Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU), the national dental honor society, during the American Dental Education Association's Annual Session held in March 2021. As supreme chapter president, Guthmiller will lead the organization in continuing to promote scholarship and character among dental students and educators.

"I am truly honored to have the opportunity to serve this extraordinary organization that recognizes dental students and educators who have distinguished themselves by excellence in scholarship while demonstrating exemplary character traits and potential for professional growth and achievement," Dr. Guthmiller said.

The UNMC College of Dentistry - Alpha Alpha Chapter has a longstanding history of leadership in OKU. Guthmiller is the sixth UNMC faculty member and the fourth College of Dentistry dean to serve as supreme chapter president. The other College of Dentistry deans who served as supreme chapter presidents were Richard Bradley, DDS, Stephen Leeper, DDS, and John Reinhardt, DDS, and faculty members were William Kramer, DDS, and Curtis Kuster, DDS.

Additionally, Jan John, a former administrator in the college's dean's office, served the supreme chapter for over a quarter of century. She supported UNMC's OKU leaders and organized the annual meetings.

Two prestigious national OKU awards were established to honor UNMC faculty members' leadership and commitment to the organization's mission.

The "Stephen H. Leeper Award for Teaching Excellence" recognizes dental educators who have implemented innovative techniques or displayed excellence in dental education, and who have instituted creative and unique methods of educating and engaging students, faculty and administrators.

The "Dr. William S. Kramer Award of Excellence" recognizes a junior dental student who has demonstrated scholarship, character and the potential promise for advancement of dentistry and service to humanity as embodied by the dedication and service of Dr. Kramer.

"I am honored and humbled to follow in the footsteps of my UNMC predecessors and serve as supreme chapter president," Dr. Guthmiller said. "In this role, I will work with the OKU leadership team to touch the lives of hundreds of dental students and educators across the country and continue to recognize and celebrate tomorrow's leaders in dentistry."



In addition to serving as supreme chapter president of OKU, Dr. Guthmiller serves as the secretary of the American Dental Education Association (ADEA)'s Council of Deans. She will ascend to the positions of chair elect, then chair of the council. The council works with dental educators, students, residents and fellows across the country to address issues that shape the present and future of dental education.

Dr. Guthmiller was also chosen as one of eight North American educators to serve on the steering committee for ADEA's "New Thinking for a New Century" to prepare a vision for the future of dental education.

Community Outreach Spotlight

College helps produce 25,000 early dental starter kits

The College of Dentistry partnered with the Nebraska Community Foundation and the DHHS Office of Oral Health to produce 25,000 early dental health starter kits that are packed with unique oral hygiene items and education for children from birth to 6 years old.

Since February 2020, the early dental health starter kits have been given at no cost to new parents and caregivers across Nebraska with the goal of reducing dental disease. The kits also emphasize the need to establish a dental home by age 1.

"This is an opportunity to positively impact the oral health outcomes of children and introduce students to the critical need for public health preventive dental services," said Charles Craft, DDS, the Nebraska state dental director for the DHHS Office of Oral Health and Dentistry.



The early dental starter kit project was featured on 1011's "Pure Nebraska" in September 2021.



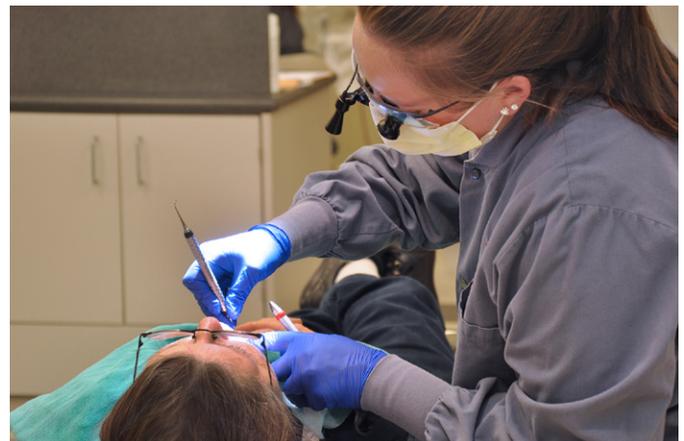
First-year dental hygiene student Kawthar Sami talks with community members about oral health at the Asian Community & Cultural Center of Lincoln's Harvest Moon Festival held in September 2021.



1,063 children were screened and/or received treatment through the department of dental hygiene's Sealant Program during 2020. Pictured are West Division dental hygiene students at a screening.



When faced with pandemic-related challenges, the college found innovative ways to continue outreach, including partnering with 16 organizations to distribute oral health items to 6,000+ Nebraskans and producing educational videos.



During the 2020 - 2021 academic year, dental and dental hygiene students put in 1,215 volunteer hours at Clinic with a Heart, an organization in Lincoln that serves the uninsured and underinsured.



Members of the Student American Dental Hygienists' Association (SADHA) with their farm-themed trunk.

Trunk or Treat event held for children with special needs

The UNMC Student Alliance for People of All Abilities (SAPA) hosted their second "Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat" event for children and young adults with special needs and their families at the College of Dentistry in Lincoln in October 2021.

Participating organizations included Autism Family Network, Down Syndrome Advocates in Action, Nebraska Transition College and Special Olympics. The volunteers created a magical, safe experience for the 100+ children who attended.

SAPA is a UNMC multidisciplinary interprofessional student interest group devoted to outreach and education about working with individuals that have varying motor, emotional and cognitive abilities.



Members of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) with their Sesame Street-themed trunk.



Dr. Amy Killeen, associate professor, with her family.



Dr. Jennifer Marshall, assistant professor, and Dr. Julie Marshall, associate professor.

Alumni Spotlight

Ben Lashley mentors dental students

For over thirty years, the College of Dentistry has been sending fourth-year dental students into established dental practices with a preceptor - a professional dentist who acts as a mentor and directs students in their practice - for firsthand experience in running a private practice.

Ben Lashley, DDS, a UNMC College of Dentistry alum, has served as a preceptor for many years. He owns Maple Park Associates in North Platte, Neb. Dr. Lashley grew up in North Platte and received his bachelor of science degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and his DDS degree from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1999. Dr. Lashley has been in private practice in North Platte for 21 years. His special interests include oral surgery, sedation and implants.

Why did you decide to be a preceptor? When I was a student at UNMC, I had a great experience during my extramural rotation with Dr. Mike Bryson in Kearney, Neb. I learned at an accelerated rate and the real-world experience helped me better understand the knowledge and skills I learned at the college. I wanted to provide dental students the same type of experience and teach them things that they can apply to their own practices, including how a dental office operates and how to perform different procedures efficiently.

What have been some of your most rewarding experiences thus far as a preceptor? Many of my students have gone on to their own private practices and they still call me with questions. Those strong relationships built on trust are very rewarding. Some of my students have chosen their dental career paths because of their experiences with me. In fact, two of my current partners, Dr. Daniel Woodburn and Dr. David Perry, did their extramural rotations here, as well as one of our team members, Dr. Lindsey Petersen.

What are some of the things you taught your most recent student? My student had a hands-on experience learning how to run a practice and assisting me in certain procedures. She had a great experience and will be coming back to work with us.

What are some of the qualities you've seen in your students that will most help them become extraordinary oral health care providers? Preparedness and an understanding of what's going on. My students have understood processes and procedures even if they're seeing them for the first time. Additionally, the students who have gotten the most out of their extramural rotations have asked good questions and been eager to jump in and engage quickly.



How, and how often, do you give your students constructive feedback? I regularly give my students feedback. We talk about what we've accomplished, and I hope that by having them share in accomplishments, that helps lead them to their own success.

What have your students taught you? Being a mentor motivates me to make sure I know what I'm doing - that I'm keeping up on my continuing education and keeping my own skills sharp.

How do your students benefit your practice? Four of the students I've mentored have come back and joined my practice, so being a preceptor has had a significant impact on my practice's growth. I've been able to build relationships with students who have an interest in practicing in western Nebraska and help them discover that rural Nebraska has a wealth of opportunities.

How do your patients react to having students at your practice? Our patients enjoy talking with the students. Our patients see that UNMC trusts us to help further the students' education, so that sends a very good message and helps our patients build more trust in us.

What advice do you have for other oral health professionals who would like to become preceptors? I encourage anyone to consider becoming a preceptor! It's an extremely rewarding experience, gives you the opportunity to participate in educating today's students, and allows you to build relationships that can help grow your practice.

Bradley Krivohlavek receives prestigious teaching award

In his short two years at the College of Dentistry, Bradley Krivohlavek, DDS, a clinical instructor in the department of adult restorative dentistry and alum of the college, has already built a reputation for being an exceptional teacher and mentor.

As a testament to his outstanding teaching efforts and the respect he has gained from students, the dental class of 2021 recognized Krivohlavek with the college's prestigious teaching award, the Dr. Kenneth Batenhorst Memorial Faculty Award.

The award is given to a faculty member who has made a significant contribution to students' education and has shown great dedication to preparing them to be leaders in dentistry.

Zach Pederson, president of the dental class of 2021, presented Krivohlavek with the award at the college's Senior Celebration, held in May 2021.

"It's awesome to have faculty like you who can join the college and immediately connect with the student body. Some people get it and some don't. You definitely fall into the category of getting it," Zach said. "The way you handle clinical situations, never making a student feel inept while also encouraging them through sharing your own personal experience, is something that is very valued among the students."



Zach Pederson, dental class of 2021, and Bradley Krivohlavek, DDS.

Krivohlavek has been a clinical instructor at the college since January 2020. He graduated from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1979 and owned a dental practice in Norfolk, Nebraska, before retiring. He says that his time at the college after retirement has been a blessing.

"I thoroughly enjoy working with all the students," Dr. Krivohlavek said. "I was honored and humbled to receive the Batenhorst Award. To be chosen by the students was a pleasant surprise, and I look forward to continuing to work with these outstanding students."



Jacqueline M. Miller receives Humanitarian Award

Dr. Jacqueline M. Miller, an alum of the UNMC College of Dentistry Orthodontic Residency Program, received the Greater St. Louis Dental Society's Humanitarian Award at the Society's Annual Installation of Officers and Awards Ceremony in April 2021. Dr. Miller and her father, Dr. Frank Miller, were founding members of the Washington Overseas Medical and Dental Mission. She has made 24 mission trips to Peru, Venezuela and Honduras delivering dental care to the underserved and participated in Give Kids A Smile, the Missouri Mission of Mercy, and helped coordinate a mobile dental van for central Missouri.



UNMC co-residents reunite after 40 years

Drs. Chung Ho Chen (left) and Alex M. Kordis (right), were co-residents in the UNMC College of Dentistry Pediatric Dentistry Residency Program from 1978-80. They reunited for the first time in March 2021 at the home of Dr. Chen in Florida. Dr. Chen is recently retired and Dr. Kordis is a full-time faculty member at East Carolina University School of Dental Medicine in Greenville, N.C.

Student Spotlight

ASDA helps students become better leaders and dentists

The UNMC College of Dentistry's chapter of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) has made a profound difference in students' lives.

ASDA is a national student-run organization that protects and advances the rights, interests and welfare of dental students. This year, when faced with COVID-19 pandemic-related challenges, the UNMC chapter took the organization's mission to heart and offered their members new opportunities to become better leaders and dentists.

"One of our greatest accomplishments was holding a week of virtual events focused on diversity and inclusion," said Logan Kludt Lawrence, a fourth-year dental student and past ASDA chapter president. "We reached out to every College of Dentistry student organization to get as many voices involved as possible, and every student organization partnered with us and held an event."

The kick-off session for the diversity and inclusion week, held in February 2021, featured students in the UNMC College of Dentistry Advanced Standing Program who shared their stories about their journeys to dental school. Other sessions included: ADEA provided information about working with translators, the Student Alliance for People of All Abilities (SAPAA) gave a lesson on American Sign Language, and the Christian Medical and Dental Society (CMDS) gave a presentation about integrating religion into dentistry. Additionally, the Student National Dental Association (SNDA), an organization that supports the academic and social environment of minority students, held their first meeting to introduce others to their organization.

In April, ASDA held a "Wellness Week" where they offered virtual events on different aspects of wellness.

"Some of the topics we focused on were the importance of mental wellness and showing gratitude. We encouraged students to reflect on their lives and what's most important to them," Logan said. "We also shared mental health resources, emphasized that it's common to seek help and made sure our members know we are here for each other."

Importantly, ASDA offers members opportunities to advocate to advance the rights, interests and welfare of all dental students.

"This past year, my involvement in ASDA got me a seat at negotiating



tables," said Benjamin Kincaid, a fourth-year dental student and current ASDA chapter president. "I have been involved in advocating for mannequin-based licensure exams for students during COVID-19 and speaking on behalf of students to lower annuals fees for new dentists to join the NDA."

Each year, ASDA offers their members opportunities to get involved in community outreach. While this year outreach was more challenging, ASDA found creative ways to keep helping others. They held the "Mr. Molar" male talent show and raised \$3,000 for the Nebraska Transition College, a nonprofit that helps young adults with disabilities gain independence in Lincoln, collected 500 food items for the Lincoln Food Bank, and made paper flowers for local nursing homes.

ASDA also offers a wealth of professional development opportunities at the national, district and local level.

"Participating in ASDA has opened many doors, both personally and professionally," said Jessica Arland, a second-year dental student. "At this year's leadership conference, I gained valuable knowledge relative to networking, legislature, leadership, dental economics, work-life balance and my practice ownership, to name a few."



Bo in the College of Dentistry's clinical and virtual simulation lab.

My UNMC journey: Bo Chao

Fourth-year dental student Bo Chao has grown both professionally and personally; attributes her success to the College of Dentistry's collaborative learning environment.

Bo Chao was finishing her third year of her master's program in dentistry at Jilin University in Changchun, China, when she decided she wanted to see the world and experience a different culture while improving her dentistry skills.

"I applied to the China Scholarship Council (CSC) program and felt lucky to get an interview at the UNMC College of Dentistry. I was impressed by the college's dental program and their focus on hands-on learning," Bo said. "I was excited that the college provided ample hands-on training in patient care, which is the main difference between my dental education at UNMC versus my dental education in China."

"I was also impressed by the college's focus on technology. I've learned a lot about digital dentistry and have been able to practice my clinical skills in the college's new clinical and virtual simulation laboratory using the latest hands-on learning technology," Bo said.

Bo grew up in Hohhot, the capital of Inner Mongolia in northern China, and received both her bachelor's and master's degrees in dentistry from Jilin University. Now a fourth-year dental student at the College of Dentistry, Bo is excelling in the dental program.

In 2019, Bo received a competitive UNMC E-Learning program award to create a tool to help dental students study more efficiently. She worked with Safia Rauf, a fourth-year dental student, and Dr. Sung Kim, their faculty advisor, to create an E-Learning module, "Guess My Age from Dental Radiographs," that will help students learn dental anatomy.

Not only is Bo shining in the classroom, she goes above and

beyond to provide exceptional patient care.

"Every day, I am learning so much while I'm treating patients, especially how to evaluate a patients' medical history and how to build a good dentist-patient relationship," Bo said.

Bo's patients enjoy working with her. One patient said, "I really enjoyed my appointment with Bo and thanked her teacher for having her involved in my treatment."

Bo is quick to attribute her success to the College of Dentistry's collaborative learning environment.

"Everyone is always willing to help each other. I am learning from everyone - all the faculty, staff and students. By assisting different students, I learn how to communicate with patients and be more efficient," Bo said.

Bo's experience at the College of Dentistry has been overwhelmingly positive. While initially she was anxious about being immersed in a different culture, she now describes UNMC and Lincoln as her "second home."

"I've learned that no matter our background or where we come from, we all have more in common than we think," Bo said.

When she graduates, Bo is interested in applying to residency programs to gain more dentistry experience in the United States. She also hopes to work with digital dentistry and credits the college's faculty with helping her realize her interest in digital dentistry.

Achievements

Annual student and faculty awards

The professional and scholarly accomplishments of faculty, staff and students were recognized at the College of Dentistry's All College Conference held in August 2021.

Summary of awards:

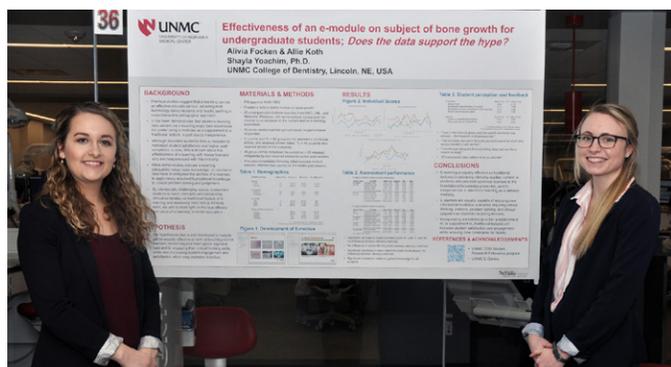
- **Student Academic Scholarships** — 89 dental students received 124 awards valued at \$1,467,983 and 29 dental hygiene students received 49 awards valued at \$131,377. The awardees thank the thoughtful and generous individuals and organizations who make these scholarships possible.
- **Student Awards** — 37 awards for outstanding achievement were given to graduating seniors. 83 awards for high academic



achievement were given, including being in the top 10% or 15% of their class, being recognized for high academic achievement each year, or graduating with honors.

- **Grants and Contracts** — Faculty members received \$1,922,136 in extramural funding for teaching, research or service projects.

Students receive national award for research poster



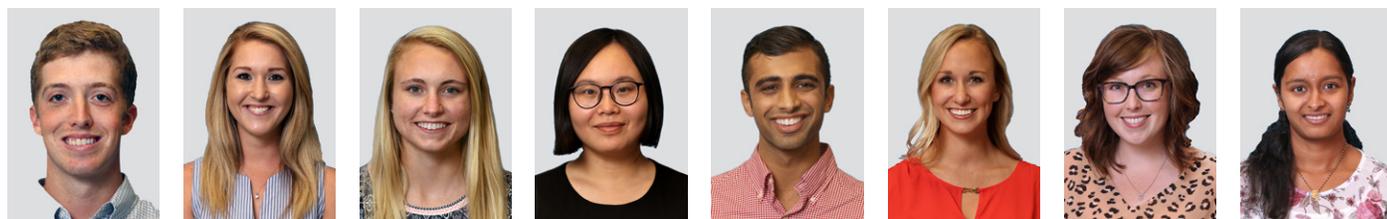
Alivia Focken and Allie Koth at the College of Dentistry Research Day in February 2020.

Alivia Focken and Allie Koth, '21, received second place in the American Dental Education Association (ADEA)'s 2021 national student poster competition held in March 2021. Their poster was titled "Effectiveness of an E-module on the subject of bone growth for undergraduate students."

"It was an honor that our efforts were recognized on a national level. The research skills I gained are very helpful as I continue my education in a residency program," Allie said. "Our research mentor, Dr. Shayla Yoachim, helped us create a unique scientific research design that is relevant to enhancing today's dental education experience."

Honor Society Inductees

The following students were inducted into the Alpha Alpha chapter of Omicron Kappa Upsilon, a national dental honor society, and Sigma Phi Alpha, a national dental hygiene honor society. **From left: Omicron Kappa Upsilon:** Spencer Adams, Mariah Heft-Allen, Allie Koth, Yike "Amy" Li, Jai Mediratta, Samantha Nelson. **Sigma Phi Alpha:** Samantha K. Beal, Haritareddy Gujjula.



Student Research Day winners

The College of Dentistry's annual Research Day was held virtually in February 2021. Third-year dental students, fourth-year dental hygiene students and postgraduate students presented their research projects. The presentations covered a wide range of topics from clinical and basic sciences to educational research. The event also included a presentation from Dr. Mark Herzberg, the president of the American Association for Dental Research, titled "Developing calprotectin-specific mRNA as an antimicrobial therapy."



Dental First Place

Jason Jurca, "Noncarious cervical lesions prevalence and related risk factors: a pilot cross-sectional study of post-orthodontic patients."

Mentor: Dr. Luana Oliveira-Haas

"I learned a tremendous amount on my topic and also learned about the process of conducting research, drawing associations, interpreting data in a meaningful way, and discovering the limitations of a study."



Dental Hygiene First Place

Elizabeth Dowling & Abigail Johnston, "Comparison of sodium fluoride dentifrice and nano-hydroxyapatite dentifrice in re-mineralization of carious lesions: An in vitro study."

"It was incredible to be on the frontline - to be the one figuring out how well an idea would fit into the clinical setting. We set out to see if a new toothpaste was worth all the hype (as advertised on Instagram) when compared to products we recommend to our patients. We work in an ever-evolving field and it's priceless to know how to look for the facts amongst all the claims made by manufacturers."

— Elizabeth



Post-Grad First Place

Dr. Paul Pumilia, "The efficacy of an apex locator in detecting working length measurements in extracted teeth with the aid of the protrain device."

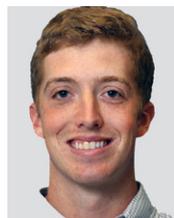
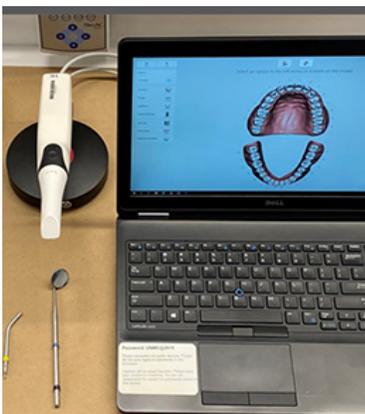
Mentor: Dr. Hany Makkawy



"All of our classmates put so much time and effort into our research, and I am extremely proud of all of us. I want to thank our wonderful faculty mentor, Amanda Dolen, who was there for us every step of the way."

— Abigail

Team receives second place for e-learning module



Dr. Gregory Bennett, Spencer Adams '21, Cameron Aitken '21, Selam Carlson '22, Isaac Langan '23.

The above College of Dentistry student and faculty team received second place in the 2021 UNMC Innovators in Education E-Learning Showcase, held in April 2021, for their interactive e-learning module, "Digital Design — Occlusal Splint." E-modules are interactive curricula utilizing technology to better fit the learning style of millennial students. The winning e-modules received the most votes from the UNMC community.

Honoring Past Faculty

The College of Dentistry recognizes and thanks the following retired faculty members for their contributions to education, patient care and research.

Ernie Sigler, DDS



After an illustrious career in academic dentistry, Dr. Ernie Sigler retired from his position as assistant professor in the department of adult restorative dentistry on June 30, 2020.

Dr. Sigler started at the college in 2005 and taught courses on assessment and treatment planning and patient centered comprehensive care. He also served as an associate group

leader for junior and senior dental students. He received numerous faculty recognition awards from multiple College of Dentistry classes, was a two-time recipient of the Dr. Kenneth Batenhorst Memorial Faculty Award, and received the College of Dentistry Alumni Association's Outstanding Educator Award.

Joan Sivers, DDS



Dr. Joan Sivers retired on December 31, 2020 after 37 ½ years of service to the UNMC College of Dentistry. She started at the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1983 as an assistant professor of fixed prosthodontics in the department of adult restorative dentistry and became an associate professor in 1989.

She became the assistant dean of clinics in 1998, served as a graduate faculty member and was the interim chair of two different departments. Starting in 1995, she served as the Carlson Professor of Dentistry, an endowed position in the department of adult restorative dentistry. Dr. Sivers contributed significantly to the tripartite missions of the college: teaching, research and service.

David Shaw, PhD



Dr. David Shaw retired on July 31, 2020 after 51 years of service to the UNMC College of Dentistry. He served as a professor and chair of the department of oral biology and as interim associate dean for research.

Dr. Shaw accepted a full-time faculty position at the College of Dentistry in 1969 as one of the first to be hired in the newly established department of oral biology. He

rose through the ranks to professor and in 1987 was appointed as chairperson of the department, a position he held continuously for 33 years. Dr. Shaw directed all the pharmacology courses offered to dental hygiene, dental and graduate students for most of the 51 years of his tenure. He served as chair of many university and college committees and was the recipient of numerous awards, including the UNMC College of Dentistry Alumni Association's Honorary Life Membership Award.

David Brown, BSc, MLS, PhD



Dr. David Brown retired on December 31, 2020 after 39 years of service to the UNMC College of Dentistry. In 1981, Dr. Brown became chairman of the Department of Oral Biology, a position he held until 1987.

He served as the director of research from 1982 – 1984, assistant dean for research and administration from 1984-1989, and became the associate dean for academic affairs in 1989. In 2000, he became executive associate dean and for twenty years he served as a professor of oral biology focusing on community outreach. Dr. Brown has been instrumental in helping Nebraskans through the college's outreach events and educational activities. He taught generations of students the importance of helping the underserved and received many awards for his community outreach work, including the American Dental Association's Presidential Award for increasing access to dental care for special populations.

30 Year Service Awards



Mark W. Beatty, DDS, MSE, MSD, MS

Dr. Beatty is a professor and the director of the biomaterial section in the department of adult restorative dentistry. He has taught countless students about dental ceramics and polymers and has accumulated hundreds of thousands of dollars in research funding.



Dona J. McCanlies, PhD

Dr. McCanlies teaches biomedical and dental sciences, human physiology, general oral histology and introduction to oral biology. She has acquired significant grant funding for research on nutrition supplements and their effect on muscular strength.



Hany M. Makkawy, DDS

Dr. Makkawy is an assistant professor and director of the predoctoral endodontics program in the department of surgical specialties. He teaches endodontics, advanced endodontics and clinical endodontics.



Jeffrey B. Payne, DDS, MDentSc

Dr. Payne holds the F. Gene and Rosemary Dixon Endowed Chair in Dentistry and is a professor in the department of surgical specialties. He has dedicated his research to clinical periodontal pharmacologic interventions, periodontitis and systemic diseases.

New Part-Time Clinical Instructors



Rob Cline, DDS

Clinical Instructor
Department of Surgical Specialties

Dr. Cline was a chemist and plant manager for the Valspar Corporation before receiving his DDS from the Baylor College of Dentistry and his periodontics certificate from the UNMC College of Dentistry.



Michael Sullivan, DDS

Clinical Instructor
Department of Surgical Specialties

Dr. Sullivan received his DDS from the UNMC College of Dentistry and is currently a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army with 22 years of service. He owns and operates a general dentistry practice in Lincoln and a satellite practice in York.



Richard Williamson, DDS, MS

Clinical Instructor
Department of Adult Restorative Dentistry

Dr. Williamson received his DDS from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and his MS in oral biology and certificate in prosthodontics from the UNMC College of Dentistry. He taught at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry for 20 years.



Chase Pruitt, DDS, MD

Clinical Instructor
Department of Surgical Specialties

Dr. Pruitt received his DDS from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 2010 and his MD from the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine in 2013. He completed a general surgery internship and oral & maxillofacial surgery residency at Mayo Clinic Hospital.

New Faculty



Zaid Badr, DDS, MS, MFDRCSI Assistant Professor, Adult Restorative Dentistry

Hometown: Amman, Jordan

Research/professional interests:

- Bonding in dentistry
- Dental implants, materials and zirconia
- Digital dentistry
- Operative dentistry

How I fell in love with dentistry: When I graduated from high school, my father encouraged me to follow in his footsteps and study engineering. I was doing very well, and physics and mathematics were two of my favorite subjects. However, a year later I felt that something was missing. It was when my mother began having dental problems that I was first introduced to the fascinating world of dentistry. You can say it was meant to be.

Education:

- DDS, University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan, 2014
- Internship, Jordan University Hospital, General Dentistry, Amman, Jordan, 2015
- Comprehensive Clinical Program, University of Jordan & German Association of Oral Implantology, Oral Implantology, 2015
- MFDRCSI, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Diploma of Membership, 2016
- MS, Operative Dentistry, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2021
- Certificate, Operative Dentistry and Biomaterials, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2021



Jane Broekemeier, RDH, BS Clinical Instructor, Dental Hygiene

Hometown: Wisner, Nebraska

Research/professional interests:

- Systemic impact of periodontal disease/inflammation

How I fell in love with dental hygiene: Witnessing the miraculous healing capacity of the oral cavity once irritants are removed!

Education:

- BS, Dental Hygiene, UNMC College of Dentistry

Background: For 35 years, I worked at Family Dental Center of West Point with Drs. Dave Mlnarik, Shawn Kralik and Jesse Carr.

For several years, I provided dental education programs and screenings to kindergarten, third grade and junior high students for the Elkhorn Logan Valley Public Health Department. I also served as president of the Nebraska Dental Hygienists' Association.

I have had a desire to teach dental hygiene since I was a student at UNMC. Dreams really do come true!

Professional memberships:

- American Dental Hygienists Association



Bradley J. Krivohlavek, DDS

Part-Time Clinical Instructor, Adult Restorative Dentistry

Hometown: Norfolk, Nebraska

Research/professional interests:

- Fixed prosthodontics
- Implants
- Esthetic / cosmetic dentistry
- Developing relationships with patients and students
- Enthusiastically sharing my knowledge and experience to aid and develop the next generation of dental professionals

How I fell in love with dentistry: I always wanted to go into the health sciences. Dentistry was the perfect fit since I am detail oriented and like to work with my hands. I also had a great dentist as a child who was always happy and in a good mood. Dentistry is a great profession because you get to help people and improve their quality of life while developing long-term relationships for generations.

Education:

- DDS, UNMC College of Dentistry

Professional memberships:

- American College of Dentists
- American Dental Association
- Nebraska Dental Association



Sarah G. Lowman, DDS, MPH

Assistant Professor, Growth and Development

Hometown: Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Research/professional interests:

- Public health
- Geriatrics
- Oral health in long-term care settings
- Community engagement
- Oral health equity
- The oral-systemic connection
- Health care quality and outcomes
- Health care communication and decision-making

How I fell in love with dentistry: While working in clinical research, I observed oral health disparities and unmet dental needs among older adults and people with life-limiting illnesses. These experiences ignited my passion for improving oral health among the underserved.

Education:

- BA, Art History, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, New York
- MPH, Gillings School of Global Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- DDS, Adams School of Dentistry, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Professional memberships:

- American Association of Public Health Dentistry
- American Dental Association
- North Carolina Dental Society

New Faculty



Renato C. Roperto, DDS, MSc, PhD

Chair & Associate Professor,
Department of Adult Restorative
Dentistry

Hometown: Sao Paulo, Brazil

Research/professional interests:

- Dental material science
- Adhesion to dentin

How I fell in love with dentistry: My family and friends encouraged me to pursue a health care profession. Dentistry was my choice and I absolutely love it.

Academic background: I joined the University of Manitoba, Canada, in 2009 as an assistant professor and I was responsible for the disciplines of operative dentistry and CAD/CAM. I moved to the United States in 2013 and I became an associate professor at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, where I was the director of CAD/CAM and operative dentistry courses.

Education:

- DDS, University of Ribeirao Preto School of Dentistry, Brazil
- MS, Operative Dentistry, University of Sao Paulo USP, Brazil
- PhD, Restorative Dentistry, University of Toronto, Canada & Sao Paulo State University UNESP, Brazil

Professional memberships:

- American Association for Dental Research
- American Dental Education Association
- Brazilian Federal Council of Dentistry
- International Association for Dental Research
- Royal College of Surgeons of Canada



Stacy L. Solomon, DDS

Assistant Professor, Department of
Adult Restorative Dentistry

Hometown: South Sioux City, Nebraska

Research/professional interests:

- Private practice
- Oral pathology
- Periodontics
- Working with the hearing impaired

How I fell in love with dentistry: I earned my bachelor's degree in biological sciences from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1992 and then taught high school biology and chemistry. I hadn't considered dentistry until I was a patient at the UNMC College of Dentistry. During a dental appointment, I was talking with a faculty member and they thought dentistry would be a good fit for me and encouraged me to consider a dental career.

Background: I worked as a dental assistant for a Lincoln dentist before entering dental school in 1996. After graduation, I bought an existing dental practice in Tea, S.D., where I practiced from 2000 – 2004. I built a practice in Merna, Neb., (a converted Catholic church) and started practicing in 2004. I relocated my existing practice from Merna to Broken Bow in 2012 and sold it in 2020.

Education:

- DDS, UNMC College of Dentistry

Professional memberships:

- American Dental Association
- Nebraska Dental Association
- Southwest District Nebraska Dental Association



Anne E. Williamson, DDS, MS

Professor and Director of
Postgraduate Endodontics,
Department of Surgical Specialties

Hometown: Lincoln, Nebraska

Research/professional interests:

- Endodontic microbiology
- Biofilms

How I fell in love with dentistry: I originally wanted to be a physical therapist, but one day my dad asked why I didn't consider dentistry. I hadn't because at the time there were very few female dentists.

Academic background: I was in private practice in Lincoln from 1989-2001, then completed an endodontics residency in 2003 and received a master's degree in oral science in 2004, both at the University of Iowa. I was the director of advanced education in endodontics at the University of Iowa from 2003-2021.

Education:

- DDS, UNMC College of Dentistry, 1988
- Residency, General Practice, UNMC College of Dentistry, 1989
- Certificate, Endodontics, University of Iowa, 2003
- MS, Oral Science, University of Iowa, 2004

Professional memberships:

- American Association of Endodontics
- American Board of Endodontics, College of Diplomates
- American Dental Association
- American Dental Education Association
- International College of Dentists
- Iowa Dental Association



Amanda Ribeiro Wobido, DDS, MS

Clinical Instructor, Department of
Adult Restorative Dentistry

Hometown: I grew up in Brasilia, the capital of Brazil.

Research/professional interests:

- Adhesion
- Cariology
- Ceramics
- Composites
- Dental materials
- Light-curing units
- Non-carious lesions
- Operative dentistry

How I fell in love with dentistry: When I was a kid, I always thought going to the dentist was fun. My love for dentistry grows stronger every year because it's my passion to take care of people and make them smile with confidence!

Academic background: During dental school, I was a teaching assistant for three years and was involved in many research projects. After I graduated, I started my master's degree in operative dentistry and was a member of the Non-Carious Lesions Research Group in Uberlandia, Brazil. I was a visiting research assistant at the UNMC College of Dentistry in October 2019 and worked with Dr. Luana Oliveira-Haas. For the last three years, I worked in a private practice office in Brazil and taught continuing education courses in operative dentistry.

Education:

- DDS, University of Brasilia - Brazil
- MS, Clinical Dentistry, Federal University of Uberlandia - Brazil

Donor Spotlight

Jessica Meeske & Todd Pankratz teach students to use their voices to make a lasting impact on health care

Jessica Meeske, DDS, MS, and Todd Pankratz, MD, are dedicated supporters of both the UNMC College of Dentistry and the UNMC College of Medicine. Their impact on UNMC is immense - they have helped countless students understand how to use their voices to make a lasting impact on health care.

Both native Nebraskans, Todd is from Henderson, attended Hastings College and the UNMC College of Medicine, and currently practices obstetrics and gynecology in Hastings. Jessica is from Murray, attended Hastings College and the University of Missouri- Kansas City School of Dentistry, and completed a residency at the University of Iowa in pediatric dentistry and dental public health.

Jessica is a senior partner at Pediatric Dental Specialists of Greater Nebraska, which has locations in Hastings, Grand Island, North Platte and Omaha. She has been a preceptor for 23 years, mentoring students and giving them firsthand experience in running a private practice. She offers the UNMC students rotating through her practice a unique, hands-on learning experience that leads them to becoming better health care providers and better leaders.

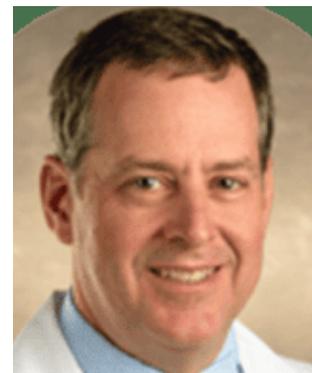
"When you give students the opportunity to really get their hands wet and start interacting with patients and doing procedures at a fast pace, you see their skill level build and their confidence really increases," Jessica said. "Being a preceptor, you not only have the opportunity to teach them the clinical side of dentistry, but how to be a leader and effect positive change."

Jessica encourages students to use their voices to help others.

"For example, this past spring I was talking with a student about how to see patients with Medicaid. The student shared with me that as a child growing up in South Dakota, her mom was a single parent and relied on Medicaid and other public programs," she said. "The student shared her personal story on a webinar we did for the American Dental Association on rural health equity and why it's important for all dentists to engage in caring for underserved patients, particularly those with Medicaid."

Jessica also inspires students to use their voices to stand up for what they believe in.

"I teach students that if you don't like something, you have an obligation to speak up and go in front of a group of policymakers.



Jessica Meeske, DDS, MS, and Todd Pankratz, MD.

Sometimes positive change must happen on a policy level, not just an individual decision-making level for your patients," she said.

"Students rotating through my practice very quickly find themselves testifying in front of a school board, a city council or even the Nebraska Legislature. I think those soft skills are really important for students to gain."

For example, a few years ago Jessica encouraged two students to testify on a student loan repayment bill.

"I told them, 'Tomorrow we're going to go down to the Nebraska Legislature because I think it's critical we're there to show how important this bill is. Since you're both students and you have a high level of debt, I think you should testify on this,'" she said.

Even though their first time testifying can be nerve-wracking, students are grateful for their experiences.

Todd, a past president of the Nebraska Medical Association, also feels it's important to help students understand that "if you want to effect positive change on patient care, you have to actively take part in initiatives outside the clinic or hospital."

"Stepping up when you're needed is an extension of what it means to be a health care professional and a leader," Jessica said.

Students who have rotated through Jessica's and Todd's practices have been grateful for their experiences. They gain an understanding of the importance of outreach to underserved populations, and many gain an interest in practicing in rural Nebraska.

For example, this past spring, students at Jessica's practice were involved in providing care to underserved children in rural Nebraska who may otherwise have gone untreated. During this outreach event, the students also learned how to assist parents who may need dental care but don't know how to apply for assistance.

"Todd and I feel strongly about giving students a positive clinical experience in a rural practice setting. Recruiting has never been an issue for us. We always have more people interested in coming to Hastings to practice than what we necessarily have the capacity to take on," Jessica said. "We are so thrilled that we have such an abundance of talent right here in Nebraska that we can recruit directly into our practices."

Jessica and Todd also established scholarships for both College of Dentistry and College of Medicine students. The scholarships are given to students who have an interest in becoming leaders within their profession or their specialty.

"The students who are chosen are doing really innovative things," Jessica said. "They are willing to step outside of their comfort zone

and figure out how to advocate for positive change, whether that be within their college, working with the underserved, reforming Medicaid policies, etc."

They are also key supporters of the College of Dentistry's new Clinical and Virtual Simulation Lab.

"When I was in dental school, we didn't even dream of being able to have a simulator. For students to have the opportunity to learn in a situation that closely mirrors clinical practice, that will really accelerate their learning," Jessica said.

Jessica and Todd encourage others to invest in the future of health care, whether with time, talent or treasure.

"If we want the next generation of health care providers to be ready to tackle all the real-world problems that we face, each of us just needs to step up and give where we can," Jessica said. "We can give in several ways. For me, early in my career, it was easier for me to give my time. Now I can give at different levels and reinvest in students."

Dan & Sharon Dymerski help student achieve her dreams

When Dan Dymerski, DDS, reminisces about his time as a member of the UNMC College of Dentistry Dental Class of 1972, he distinctly remembers how he felt right after he graduated.

"I was very confident in myself and my skills. If you did the work that was asked of you, the faculty and staff made sure you succeeded," Dan said. "The College of Dentistry has always had a reputation for how well they prepare students for dental careers, which is one reason why I'm proud to be a graduate."

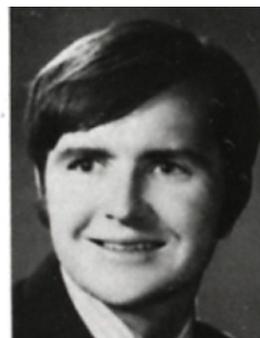
His time at the College of Dentistry prepared Dan for a wonderful, rewarding dental career. After graduating, Dan and his wife, Sharon, moved back to Colorado, where they grew up. Dan started his career at a private practice in Denver. After one year, he bought an office suite below the practice and spent the next 35 years doing what he loved.

The Dymerskis established a scholarship that is given to one student that they stay in touch with throughout the student's time in dental school and after graduation. Creating a scholarship has been very rewarding for the Dymerskis and has allowed them a unique opportunity to support the future of dentistry.

"It's fulfilling to be able to follow a student through their educational journey and see how our support is helping them achieve their dreams," Dan said.

Their current scholarship recipient, Amanda German, is a fourth-year student. Dan and Sharon visit with Amanda on the phone and receive letters from her.

"It's fun to hear how school is going for her. We hope to be able to meet with Amanda in person soon," Dan said. "It's rewarding



Dan Dymerski, DDS, '71, & Amanda German, scholarship recipient.

to be able to help a dental student offset some of her educational expenses."

Dan says Sharon, a retired schoolteacher who taught French in Lincoln, Brainard, Neb., and Denver, is the inspiration behind why they give.

"Sharon is a real giving person. She thinks more about other people than herself," Dan said. "And I wouldn't be where I am today if I hadn't experienced the college's supportive learning environment, so I am happy to give back."

By helping Amanda achieve her dream of attending dental school, the Dymerskis have a part in helping her make great memories during her time at the college, just as Dan did.

"I have very fond memories of my time at dental school and I don't hear that a lot from other dentists," Dan said. "When I think about the college, I always have a smile on my face and I'm reminded of how proud I am to be a College of Dentistry graduate."



Stanton D. Harn, PhD, Dental Gallery in the UNMC Wigton Heritage Center.

Stanton D. Harn, PhD, Dental Gallery features part of the college's dental museum collection

We are pleased to announce that now more people will be able to experience the college's remarkable dental history collection. The Stanton D. Harn, Ph.D., Dental Gallery opened in the UNMC Wigton Heritage Center in July 2021.

The exhibit, curated by Dr. Stanton D. Harn, makes the history of dentistry come to life. Visitors can examine over 100 individual artifacts drawn from the Dental Museum collection via an interactive screen, learn about the evolution of the UNMC College of Dentistry, and view a recreated 1870-1880s dental office. This incredible gallery is a fitting tribute to a man who is held in such high esteem by our alumni and friends.

The 13,110-square-foot, three-level Wigton Heritage Center celebrates and memorializes UNMC's history, while also serving as a campus welcome and event space. The university's special collections come alive to educate and engage visitors about people who have affected the lives of countless Nebraskans and others around the world.

For information about visiting the Wigton Heritage Center, visit: unmc.edu/wigton.



The Stanton D. Harn, PhD, Dental Gallery makes the history of dentistry and the UNMC College of Dentistry come to life.

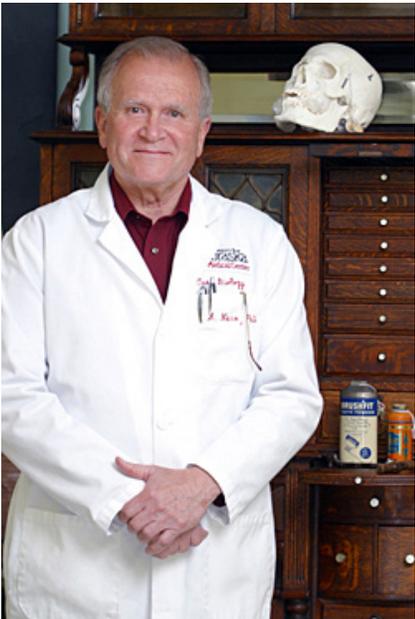


**Stanton D. Harn, PhD,
Dental Gallery**



A behind-the-scenes look at creating the exhibit.

The Stanton D. Harn, PhD, Dental Gallery features interactive screens.



An interview with Dr. Harn

Excerpt from video interviews that can be viewed at:
unmc.edu/wigton/about/multimedia

“Some people have said, Why did you pick that specific time period, 1870-1880s? I did a study in Nebraska years ago, looking at all the county and city museums, and the most common display was a turn of the century time display, 1890s-1900s. We wanted something that would be a little bit different than that, a little bit older than that.

When you consider that the first dentist was in Nebraska in about 1859, we wanted something to push that boundary, realizing that there wasn't much in the way of commercial dentistry in the 1850s. So we wanted to get to the point where we had more commercially-based dental cabinets and so forth. So we picked the 1870-1880s as being an earlier display than what you'll most often see and we

thought most aesthetically pleasing.

If you know where you're coming from, you can follow where you're going. But if you don't know the history of everything, you just don't have that appreciation of where you're going. I have often said that every student that graduates from UNMC should know the history of their profession. With this display, they'll gain an appreciation of seeing what they could have gone back to in the 1870s.

The UNMC Wigton Heritage Center is all about yesterday - looking at the past and the history of our institutions and our professions. And that makes it quite a unique building. We are very appreciative of being included in the center and having a display that hopefully people will appreciate.”



Greetings from Theresa Brown, director of development

Dear UNMC College of Dentistry Alumni and Friends — Over the past year, I have greatly appreciated the warm welcome and getting to know so many of you. The stories you have shared with me are simply incredible and I look forward to hearing more. I am so inspired by how dedicated and committed our alumni and donors are to supporting the College of Dentistry and to making it the best dental school in the nation.

I plan to travel more in the future so I can get to know more of you. If you need help with determining how you may want to support the College of Dentistry, please let me know. I can be reached by email: theresa.brown@nufoundation.org, or phone: 402.209.1429.

College of Dentistry Remembers

Michael O'Patrick Duffy, DDS, '10, St. Louis, Mo., died October 11, 2020. Dr. Duffy graduated from the University of South Dakota in Vermillion in 2006 and the UNMC College of Dentistry in 2010. After graduation, he moved to St. Louis, Mo., and began his dentistry career with Locum Tenens Dentist, filling in when other dentists vacated a position. Dr. Duffy was licensed in five states and traveled often. He did pro bono work for schools in Missouri and Illinois and for many nonprofit organizations.

Reginald "Reg" Lynn Gartner, DDS, '67, Fredericksburg, Texas, died on June 22, 2021. Dr. Gartner graduated from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1967, then entered the U.S. Air Force Dental Corps where he served as an oral surgeon at Forbes Air Force Base in Topeka, Kan. He was honorably discharged in 1969 at the rank of captain. He moved to Grand Island, Neb., where he practiced general dentistry for 35 years. He was an active participant in the Nebraska Dental Association and was a Fellow of the American College of Dentists and International College of Dentists. After retirement, he taught clinical dentistry part time at the UNMC College of Dentistry. He also taught at Central Community College for the dental hygiene program.

John F. Hines, Jr., DDS, '67, Limon, Colo., died January 13, 2021. Dr. Hines attended Colorado State College in Greeley and graduated from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1967. After graduation, he moved to Eads, Colo., where he practiced for 24 years and served as Coroner of Kiowa County for 12 years. He moved his dental practice to Limon, Colo., where he practiced for 19 more years and retired in 2010. After 43 years of practice, he was not only a dentist but was also a friend to many.

Robert Allen Ruff, DDS, '89, Parker, Colo., died October 19, 2020. Dr. Ruff graduated from the University of Nebraska-Kearney in 1984 and the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1989. After obtaining his DDS, he served four years in the U.S. Army at Fort Hood, Texas, and 16 years with the Indian Public Health Services - three years on the Rosebud Indian Reservation, three years at the Alaska Native Medical Center, and ten years at the Anadarko Indian Health Center in Oklahoma. Dr. Ruff earned several military awards throughout his years of service to our nation. After he retired from Public Health Services, he worked at the Fort Sill Allen Dental Clinic in Oklahoma for 11 years. For the last six weeks of his life, he worked with Access Mobile Dentistry, a mobile dental care service for nursing home residents in Parker, Colo.

Elmer H. Seale, DDS, '55, Marion, Minn., died Feb. 7, 2021. Dr. Seale graduated from Southwestern Junior College in Keene, Texas, in 1943. He served in the U.S. Army for three years before he enrolled as a pre-dental student at Union College in Lincoln, Neb., and graduated in 1951. He graduated from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1955 and moved his family to Bassett, Neb., where he served as the town's only dentist for four years. In 1959, he moved to Brainerd, Minn., where he practiced until his retirement in 1987. He loved his work and his patients were also his friends.

Harry Tolly, DDS, '66, Lincoln, Neb., died April 22, 2021. Dr. Tolly attended Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire for one year before receiving a scholarship to be the starting quarterback for the University of Nebraska Cornhuskers from 1957-1959 under coach Bill Jennings. He also was a pitcher for the Husker baseball team in 1959 and 1960. Dr. Tolly was the first Husker to receive the National Football Foundation's Scholar-Athlete Award and also received the Tom Novak Trophy. He earned his bachelor's degree in math and master's degree in education. Dr. Tolly graduated from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1966, moved to Honolulu for a one-year externship at Queens Hospital, then moved back to Lincoln and practiced general dentistry for 40 years in University Place. During his career, Dr. Tolly served as president of the Lincoln District Dental Association and the UNMC College of Dentistry Alumni Association.

David T. Taylor, DDS, Parker, Colo., died October 26, 2021. Dr. Taylor was a faculty member in the UNMC College of Dentistry Department of Adult Restorative Dentistry.

Wilbur Andreson, DDS, '68, Eugene, Oregon, died January 20, 2021.



Michael Molvar was “a dedicated leader”

Michael Peter Molvar, DDS, MS, Lincoln, Neb., died December 27, 2020. He retired from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 2010 after 30 years of service. Dr. Molvar served as the assistant dean for patient services and quality officer from 1993-2010. He started at the college as an assistant professor in the department of adult restorative dentistry and his subsequent roles included serving as the director of operative dentistry and chair of the department of adult restorative dentistry.

Dr. Molvar received many awards during his time at the college, including the College of Dentistry’s Outstanding Teacher Award in 1985, the UNMC Chancellor’s Gold ‘U’ Award in 2003, and the University of Nebraska Board of Regents Meritorious Service Award in 2003.

Dr. Mike Molvar was an outstanding, dedicated leader who excelled at planning and managing complex logistics during challenging periods of improvements at the College of Dentistry. He led us through the selection and development of our first electronic patient record system and a 24-month period of renovations during which the entire upper floor (including clinics) and much of the lower floor underwent total reconstruction.



Vernon Rinne remembered as “a superior clinical teacher”

Vernon W. Rinne, DDS, Lincoln, Neb., died April 23, 2021. Dr. Rinne was a former chair of the UNMC College of Dentistry Department of Adult Restorative Dentistry.

Dr. Rinne graduated from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1953 and became a faculty member the same year. He served the college for 38 years and held the positions of instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, professor and chair of the department of adult restorative dentistry.

Dr. Rinne was highly regarded by his students and colleagues for being a superior clinical teacher and was the recipient of the college’s Outstanding Teacher Award thirteen times. He served as course director for several courses, was an active committee member, and was president of the local chapter of Omicron Kappa Upsilon.



Mansoor Jabro dedicated his life to helping students succeed

Mansoor H. Jabro, DDS, MSD, '70, La Jolla, Cali., died December 25, 2020. He graduated from the UNMC College of Dentistry in 1970 and was a full-time professor at the Creighton University School of Dentistry for 36 years. He served as chair of the department of periodontics and professor emeritus of periodontics. He also had a dental practice in Omaha.

Left: Dr. Jabro going to the Nebraska football game on September 29, 2012.

College of Dentistry Honor Roll

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1957 DDS

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1961 DDS

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1962 DDS

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1963 DDS

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1964 DDS

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1965 DDS

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McLey, Lanny L.

1966 DDS

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Hunter, Ronald D.
Kalkwarf, Kenneth L.
Maxwell, Paul J.
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Schreiber, William L.
Thomas, Raymond F.
Whitten, Terry D.
Zartner, Robert J.

1971 DDS

Deboer, James
Geddes, David H.
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Kuster, Curtis G.
MacPherson, Stuart C.

1972 DDS

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Parker, Robert S.
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Post, Chris A.
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Lehn, Gary M.
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Pruitt, Chase A.
Pruitt, Christina L.
Schliep, Bronsen R.

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Krienke, Abbey K.
Piskorski, Noah L.
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