Dr. Tim Durham: ‘Fresh new start, fresh new year,’ and totally electronic dental records see page 4
The Purpose of a Goal

What is the purpose of setting a goal? For many years the goal of running a mile in less than 4 minutes was thought to be unattainable, as people believed the human heart could not survive the stress. In 1954 Roger Bannister ran a mile in 3 minutes 59.4 seconds at the University of Oxford, and once that psychological barrier was broken, others have repeatedly surpassed that record (currently 3:43.4).

Eight years ago the University of Nebraska set very ambitious fund-raising goals. The University initiated the Campaign for Nebraska to challenge and inspire us to dream of new goals. Partnering with the NU Foundation, the University set a goal to raise $1.2 billion across the four campuses over a 10-year period to bring many areas of the University to new levels of excellence.

I’m proud to report that, thanks to Susan Norby (senior director of development at the Foundation), a very dedicated COD Campaign Committee, and many generous alumni and friends, the College of Dentistry has exceeded its goal of $12 million in gifts, pledges, and bequests for future gifts. This goal, which many of us thought impossible to reach, was attained as of November 30, 2012—nearly two years before the campaign’s conclusion on December 31, 2014.

Like other University of Nebraska units, the COD developed an overall plan and specific areas of need for the campaign. We focused upon raising support for the college’s people and programs, including scholarships for students; endowments for faculty; program support for postgraduate, departmental and collegiate programs; equipment and furnishings for clinics, labs, and classrooms; leadership training for our students and faculty; and other targeted programs.

Because the college had never raised more than $2 million in previous focused fund-raising campaigns, a goal of $12 million seemed to be a stretch, maybe as unattainable as a four-minute mile. In addition, the public phase of the campaign was launched in 2008 at the height of a national economic recession. But with your help, we did it.

I am humbled by and thankful for the incredible generosity of our alumni and friends who have contributed to this campaign. To ensure an even brighter future for the college, we intend to push forward and raise our sights even higher.

I hope that those who have not yet contributed to the Campaign for Nebraska will consider how you can help make our college a true dental school of distinction. The purpose of a goal is to provide inspiration and motivation to achieve a dream. With your enthusiasm and support, we can achieve even more than we first dreamed possible.

John W. Reinhardt, DDS, MS, MPH
Professor and Dean
2013 Calendar

April 4
SHARING Clinic
UNMC College of Dentistry
6 p.m.

April 5
Soft Tissue Diode Laser
Dr. Alan Swett, DDS, Adjunct Faculty
University of Iowa College of Dentistry
UNMC College of Dentistry
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

April 12
Professionals’ Day and Student Scientific Program
Wentz Memorial Lecture
East Campus Union
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

May 1
Senior Salute
UNL Champions Club
6 - 8 p.m.

May 2
OKU/SPA Honors Banquet
UNL Wick Alumni Center
6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

May 3
UNMC Commencement
UNL Lied Center for Performing Arts
2 p.m.

May 4
UNMC Commencement
Omaha and Scottsbluff

May 6-7
Dental Continuing Education Caravan
Radiology for Dental Auxiliary
Dr. Shawneen Gonzalez, DDS, MS
Assistant Professor, Department of Oral Biology
UNMC College of Dentistry and UNMC Western Division Dental Hygiene Program, Gering
7:45 a.m. – 5 p.m. CDT both days

May 30 - June 1
Dental Day XXIV
Nebraska Panhandle

June 7
Preceptors Training Conference
UNMC College of Dentistry
7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

June 18 - July 19
Summer Medical and Dental Education Program
UNMC in Omaha and UNMC College of Dentistry

June 27
SHARING Clinic
UNMC College of Dentistry
6 p.m.

August 23-24
Nebraska Mission of Mercy
Pershing Center, Lincoln

October 3
Dean’s Club Dinner
Champions Club

October 4
Dental Reunion 2013
“Oral Art and Design: The Synergy of Esthetics and Function”
Dr. Michael Sesemann, DDS, Nebraska Institute of Comprehensive Dentistry
Embassy Suites Hotel

For more information on CE events, contact Dr. Mary Lynn Froeschle at 402-472-7993 or by email at codce@unmc.edu.

“It was a fresh new start with a fresh new year,” said Dr. Timothy Durham, assistant dean for patient services who oversaw the final stages of the implementation of the complete Salud Dental Information Management System. “The first patients started checking in at 12:30, and everything was electronic. A few even registered early.”

Faculty, staff, and students “were mentally prepared and the system was ready to go for them. They did a beautiful job,” Durham said. He said the college chose to introduce the system at the start of the academic year when the clinical pace is slower and the conversion would cause the “least ripple effect.”

He attributed the smooth transition to the “very bright and wonderful employees” at the dental college and their willingness to attend training sessions and practice the new procedures.

Impressed by college’s spirit
Dean John Reinhardt said he was impressed with the spirit of the faculty, staff, and students. “Other dental deans say they have dreaded the first day when electronic dental record systems went live, but our faculty, staff, and students were well prepared and open minded. As a result, the implementation went remarkably smoothly.”

To help ensure a smooth transition, key consultants, administrators, and staff members wore color-coded visors and circulated throughout the clinics the first few days to answer questions and offer guidance.

The addition of electronic patient records is the last piece of the college’s electronic clinic information system. The college had been using the electronic system for patient demographics, patient scheduling, digital radiography, student grading and evaluation, and billing and collections.

This latest addition provides daily chart entries for patient care including examination findings, diagnostic information, and procedures performed. Also added were electronic patient signatures, student requests for faculty consultations, and prescription tracking.

The advantages of electronic records include immediate access, greater accuracy and consistency, greater clarity and readability, greater security, and reduced space required for records storage. “The new system has enough flexibility and space built in so that additional detail can be provided in the progress notes section as needed,” Durham said. The information is encrypted and stored on secure servers.

Electronic records also are more portable, Durham said, making it possible for patients to request and receive copies of their records, printed or in an electronic PDF format. Some also say the electronic system eventually will make record entry faster, once students and faculty become more familiar with the system.

Predecessor’s knowledge, experience cited
Durham credited his predecessor, Dr. Michael Molvar, with laying a strong foundation for the new clinic information system. “His knowledge of the system and his clinical experience were all vital,” said Durham. “He put us in position. I just had to build on that.”

Molvar said the smooth transition to the electronic dental records system was the result of thorough planning, regular communication, hands-on training, and thousands of hours of very detailed work. He specifically mentioned the process of identifying and entering thousands of user-defined entries from which students and faculty could choose when recording patient information by pointing and clicking on the computer screen.
For instance, when administering local anesthesia, a student must record how the anesthesia was delivered, how much was delivered, what kind, and any reactions. “That level of detail was entered into the system for every specialty and every procedure. A dental record is exceptionally complex for a dental school because it includes not only billing, but also has an evaluation system built in,” he said.

“Dr. Durham was the most critical person there in making this come to fruition,” Molvar added. “He understands the system. He put in a tremendous amount of work.” Durham, who has been with the college since 1988, became assistant dean in 2010 when Molvar retired. Durham previously was director of the General Practice Residency Program and chair of the Hospital Dentistry Department in Omaha.

‘A collaborative effort’

Durham emphasized that the College of Dentistry’s electronic information system was a collaborative effort involving faculty, staff, and students. “We tried to do things that were inclusive... and would allow people to take ownership,” he said, such as conducting open forums, meeting with individual sections, and seeking opinions from people throughout the college. As the implementation date drew closer, a team at the college conducted weekly conference calls with the Salud software designers at Two-Ten Health headquarters in Dublin, Ireland.

When faculty, staff, and students pull up the Salud software system, they are likely to find features reflecting their own input, Durham said. Many will be able to say, “The screen looks like this because I suggested it.”

Four working groups within the 18-member Clinic Information System Committee were instrumental in the transition to the electronic system. Each work group focused on a different aspect of the complex project: forms, workflow, power users, and patient visit progress notes.

Durham said Mary Kramer, a database analyst, knew how to configure the system to reflect what the college needed and to make the system user friendly for clinicians. And Kevin Marquette, a programmer analyst, understood hardware needs and was able to incorporate ideas and suggestions into the functionality of the system.

Tom Dunn, director of IT, was instrumental in negotiations with Salud developers and in collaborations with other schools using the software. “He was extremely knowledgeable about what was going on in the industry and where it was headed. His knowledge and vision created momentum for the project,” Durham said.

“The key to getting it done was the hard work of all those people,” Durham said. “We built it together.”

Initially no features for billing, insurance

When an electronic patient record system was first being explored at the UNMC College of Dentistry more than a decade ago, now retired Assistant Dean Michael Molvar remembers asking software developers for what later became Salud how their system handled insurance billings.

“We don’t have anything like that,” representatives of the Dublin, Ireland, company told Molvar. The dental school that the company had worked with in Ireland didn’t bill patients or collect insurance.

“Actually we turned them down at the time. We told them we couldn’t use their product because we had to have billing and insurance features,” Molvar said. “As it turned out later, we were probably in the forefront of U.S. universities in helping Salud get the billing and insurance system working for the way business operates in the United States.”

Molvar met Two-TenHealth/Salud executives in the early 2000s. He was impressed by the company’s innovative ideas and invited representatives to visit Nebraska.

“The company was very responsive and willing to adapt their system to how the University of Nebraska did its work, and they were better at that than anyone else in the market,” Molvar said. “For the most part we could do what we wanted to do with the system. That’s why it took a lot of time.”
For Dr. Paul Hansen, the Dr. Jack B. and Marena Larson Faculty Fellowship is welcome recognition of the hard work, time, and effort that go into teaching and overseeing students in clinical settings.

“I have been doing clinical dentistry for almost 40 years now, and I try to bring this experience to the students,” said Hansen, associate professor and prosthodontics section director at the UNMC College of Dentistry. “I appreciate the recognition that the Larson fellowship brings. The fact that alumni like the Larsons recognize the importance of dental education for our students is significant.”

The fellowship also helps make up some of the difference between private sector earnings and the financial realities of university teaching, he said.

Hansen, a 1975 graduate of the College of Dentistry, identifies with the students and knows many of their parents and grandparents, uncles and aunts. He reminds students that he comes from a similar background, having grown up in Lincoln, graduating from Lincoln Northeast, and working as the first student research assistant in Dr. Stan Harn’s anatomy lab. Hansen’s wife, Joyce, grew up in nearby Raymond, Neb.

“We have the brightest students who are well motivated and extremely intelligent. It’s lots of fun to be a part of their education. It’s exciting,” Hansen said.

Hansen received his graduate degree in prosthodontics in 1984 from Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. He previously taught at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and later worked in private practice in Kansas City, Kan. After his three children finished college, he sought the opportunity to return to teaching. “And we came back to Nebraska. This is my home,” he said.
When Susan Norby of the University of Nebraska Foundation announced the UNMC College of Dentistry’s newest endowed faculty fellowship at the 2012 Dean’s Club dinner in September, she had a surprise for the donor.

“You epitomize what it means to receive benefits from higher education and then give back to higher education,” she told Dr. Jack Larson, a 1956 graduate of the college, as she announced the establishment of the Dr. Jack B. and Marena Larson Faculty Fellowship in Dentistry Fund.

She then shared that the Larsons’ first contact with the NU Foundation came just a year after Jack graduated from dental school. In September 1957, the couple donated $2. “Thank you for that gift, Jack and Marena,” she said. “This is what it means to care about your roots, the places that help make you what you are.”

Since then, the Larsons of Corona del Mar, Calif., have been long-time, generous supporters of the University of Nebraska. Their support has been “incredibly strong and broad,” Norby said. The Larsons were the lead donors for the purchase of the i-CAT cone-beam imaging unit installed at the College of Dentistry in 2006. Their gift to the Digital Radiology Equipment Fund was given in honor of the Class of 1956.

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They also endowed the Dr. Irving E. Larson Memorial Scholarship Fund at the Foundation in honor of Jack’s late father, a 1921 dental graduate. And they have made deferred giving arrangements at the Foundation through a Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust. Their deferred gift will provide support for scholarships at the College of Dentistry and the UNL College of Business Administration.

The recently announced Larson fellowship gives first preference to a faculty member who is engaged in teaching and research related to implant dentistry in the College of Dentistry’s Department of Adult Restorative Dentistry.

Larson has said he and his wife contribute to the dental college out of a sense of gratitude. “I am grateful for the high quality education I received. I like to repay the college as I can,” he said. “Dentistry has done a lot for me.” He also said contributing to the college is a way to remember and recognize his father, Irving, who was an outstanding practitioner.

Irving Larson and his brother, Ernest—two ambitious farm boys from South Dakota—came to Lincoln and finished high school. Ernest went to medical school and practiced medicine in Jamestown, N.D. Irving went to dental school and practiced first in Adams, Neb., and later in Beverly Hills, Calif.

“The University of Nebraska can turn out dentists who practice in Beverly Hills as well as in rural towns,” Jack Larson noted.

Norby recognized the Larson family’s long and loyal connection to the University of Nebraska at the fall Dean’s Club dinner at the Embassy Suites. Other Nebraska graduates in the family include son Bruce (MBA, 1985) and daughter-in-law Jackie (BS, 1984; master’s, 1985). Bruce and Jackie’s daughter Kelsey is a current UNL student.
ADEA Board asks, ‘What do the students think?’

Serving on the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Board of Directors has given Dr. Ryan Hajek, first-year pediatric dentistry resident at UNMC College of Dentistry, a chance to learn about dental education and to offer a student’s perspective.

His service during the past year has also allowed him “to show off the great things that are happening at UNMC,” he said. Hajek, who received his dental degree from the College of Dentistry in 2012, is the only student representative on the 10-member board. The board meets a half dozen times a year, usually in Washington, D.C., and hosts monthly conference calls.

Hajek said his position as vice president for the Council of Students, Residents, and Fellows is unique because students and residents are the core of dental education. “Making sure the crucial issues are being addressed has been the focus of my term,” he said. “Often at board meetings, the question is raised, ‘Well, what do the students think?’”

Sitting at the table with deans, administrators, faculty members, and corporate executives at first was intimidating, even for Hajek, who had been president of his dental class all four years. He became more comfortable as he learned about the issues and how to collaborate with board members coming from different perspectives. “They were all friendly and receptive to me. It’s a good environment,” he said.

The cost of dental education and the implications of student debt in practice decisions are among the issues before the Council of Students, Residents, and Fellows, Hajek said. Other issues facing the council include the post-graduate admissions process and live-patient boards.

Hajek said his leadership roles have been influenced by his father, Dr. Tom Hajek of Huron, S.D., a 1976 College of Dentistry graduate and past president of the South Dakota Dental Association. “The commitment and passion my father exhibits in organized dentistry has directly led me to pursue positions that can better help dental education,” he said.
Fourth-year dental student Rob Bundy of Ashland was one of four students recognized at the 18th annual Hinman Student Research Symposium for the most outstanding presentations in basic science research. Bundy’s presentation was titled “Interferon Regulatory Factor (IRF) Responses During Macrophages Infection with Theiler’s Virus.” His faculty advisor is Tom Petro, PhD.

Bundy said his research, which he completed during his second and third years of dental school, looked at how to regulate chronic inflammation as seen in periodontitis. “We did this by seeing what was binding to the DNA that stimulates the production of certain proteins that are known to cause a state of chronic inflammation,” he said.

He has been accepted into the General Practice Residency Program at UNMC and plans to practice dentistry in Ashland after completing the program.

The Hinman Symposium features oral and poster presentations of research by dental students and graduate students from across North America. More than 100 students from 47 institutions presented at the symposium Oct. 26-28 in Memphis, Tenn.

Bundy is the fifth College of Dentistry student to receive Hinman recognition since 2000. Other winners from Nebraska are Denise Claridge, 2000; Jay McConnell, 2001; Mikala Genrich, 2004; and Al Burns, 2006. Katie Bush Goodwin, a fourth-year dental student, also presented at the 2012 symposium.
Congratulations to Logan Veath, D-2, who has been selected as a 2013 recipient of the ADEAGies Foundation/ADR Academic Dental Careers Fellowship. The fellowship enables dental and allied dental students at U.S. and Canadian institutions to learn about teaching and academic careers. Dr. Henry St. Germain will be Veath’s mentor.

Thank you to students, faculty, and staff who volunteered at the SHARING Clinic on Nov. 8. More than 250 volunteers assisted in donating the equivalent of about $30,000 in services to 93 patients who otherwise have nowhere to go for dental care. “Congratulations on a job well done and thank you for making the SHARING Clinic such a powerful tool for serving the less fortunate,” Dean John Reinhardt said.

Dr. Sundaralingam Premaraj, associate professor in the Department of Growth and Development and orthodontics program director, was inducted as a Fellow of the International College of Dentists at the college’s 83rd annual convocation in San Francisco. The International College of Dentists is an honorary organization that recognizes outstanding and meritorious service to the profession and the community.

Dr. Bill Johnson, associate professor in the Department of Adult Restorative Dentistry, was recognized for his long-standing support and participation at the 18th annual Hinman Student Research Symposium in Memphis, Tenn. Johnson is the Ameritas Nebraska Dental Student Research Group faculty advisor and has served as judge at the annual Hinman meetings.

A PhD graduate student, a research associate, and four faculty members were recognized at the 2012 Innovation Awards Ceremony in Omaha. They are Adam Mosel, a PhD graduate student in Medical Sciences Interdepartmental Area (MSIA) Oral Biology, and Jason Glanzer, PhD; Keith Johnson, PhD; Greg Oakley, PhD; Aimin Peng, PhD; and Jim Wahl, PhD.

UNeMed Corporation recognized outstanding faculty, students, and staff who advanced the UNMC research program during the last year through their inventions, patents, and commercial licenses. Congratulations to Greg Oakley, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Oral Biology, who will receive a $10,000 research grant award from UNeMed, the technology transfer office of UNMC. Each year UNeMed presents a New Invention Award based on a new invention notice submitted by a faculty member that shows high potential to attract commercial interest and make a positive impact on health care. Oakley’s disclosed technology is related to cancer research, specifically the identification of compounds that inhibit the interactions that affect DNA damage response in cells. The compounds have the potential to lead to new therapeutic treatments for cancer.

Dr. Clara Tao (DDS, 1981) of Colorado Springs, Colo., has been elected the 2012-13 president of the UNMC College of Dentistry Alumni Board of Directors.

The Vermont State Dental Society has awarded Dr. David Neumeister (DDS, 1969) of Brattleboro the 2012 Distinguished Service Award for 43 years of contributions to the practice of dentistry in Vermont. Neumeister is a past president of the state society, former vice president of the American Dental Association, and former chair of the ADA Strategic Planning Committee, the ADA Council on Dental Practice, and the New England section of the American College of Dentists.

Dr. Dana LeRoy (DDS, 1997) was featured in an article in the Spring/Summer 2012 inaugural issue of Destination Sheridan, a travel magazine published by The Sheridan Press in Sheridan, Wyo. The article featured Sheridan natives who had returned to their hometowns to establish professional careers. LeRoy spent the first eight years of her career in other parts of the country, returning to Sheridan in 2005. “I love the small town, and it is great to be around family,” LeRoy was quoted as saying.
Faculty lead by example:  
Department of Oral Biology

Student leaders have said the UNMC College of Dentistry faculty sets an example of service and outreach by being involved in dental and community organizations while at the same time maintaining busy schedules of teaching, research, and patient care.

This issue of Cornhusker Impressions highlights leadership examples set by faculty members in the Department of Oral Biology.

Faculty members who have made presentations and represented the College of Dentistry at home and abroad in the past year:

- **Dr. Peter Giannini**, poster presentation, International Congress on Oral Pathology and Medicine, San Pedro, Brazil.
- **Aimin Peng, PhD**, research paper, 14th Xenopus International Giens Peninsula, France.
- **Ali Nawshad, PhD**, presented at several international meetings including the 2012 Asia Pacific Development Biology Conference, Taiwan; 14th International Biennial Conference on Metastasis Research, Brisbane, Australia; and Fukuoka International Symposium on Pediatric/Maternal Child Health Research, Japan.

Faculty members in the Oral Biology Department who have been appointed or reappointed to boards and commissions or received awards recently include the following:

- **Greg Oakley, PhD**, and **Jason Glanzer, PhD**, presented at the Annual Midwest DNA Repair Symposium in Cincinnati, Ohio.
- **Tom Petro, PhD**, appointed to the Editorial Board of *International Immunopharmacology*.
- **Eric Fung, PhD**, reappointed to the ADA Council on Scientific Affairs.
- **David Shaw, PhD**, reappointed as a basic science consultant by the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation.
- **Ali Nawshad, PhD**, awarded a three-year National Institutes of Health research award as a co-investigator with the University of Michigan faculty.
- **Keith Johnson, PhD**, awarded a three-year Department of Defense Research Award on the pathogenesis of prostate cancer.

In Memory

**Dr. Paul Lepard** (DDS, 1969), 68, Lincoln, died October 18, 2012. He practiced dentistry for 36 years in Fremont and Lincoln and retired in 2005 to pursue a career in the ministry. He served five years at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church in Lincoln. He also taught part-time at the College of Dentistry.

**Dr. Robert B. Lytle** (DDS, 1939), 97, Lincoln, died August 31, 2012. He practiced two years in Osceola, Neb., before joining the U.S. Navy. He also taught prosthodontics at the Naval Dental School in Bethesda, Md. After retiring from the Navy, he taught at Georgetown University from 1963 to 1983. He continued a private prosthodontic practice in Washington, D.C., until 1999, sixty years after graduating from dental school.

**Dr. Herbert C. Q. Nelson** (DDS, 1952), 91, Sidney, Neb., died December 25, 2012. He served in the Civilian Conservation Corps and the U.S. Army. He practiced dentistry in Sidney for 50 years. A past president of the Nebraska Dental Association, he was inducted into the Nebraska Dental Association Hall of Fame and received the College of Dentistry’s Alumni Achievement Award in 2002. His son, Dr. Gayle Nelson, is a College of Dentistry graduate.

**Dr. John Sanders “Sandy” Pike** (Master’s Pediatric Dentistry, 1957), 84, Marietta and Atlanta, Ga., died August 27, 2012. Born in St. Charles, Ga., he received his DDS degree from Emory University School of Dentistry and his master’s degree in pediatric dentistry from UNMC College of Dentistry. He was an associate professor of pedodontics at the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry and later practiced in Atlanta and taught part-time at Emory University School of Dentistry. After practicing for 47 years, he retired in 2008. He was a past president of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry.
After you’ve read about all the great things happening at the UNMC College of Dentistry... help make it even greater.

To make a charitable gift or pledge benefitting the UNMC College of Dentistry, please contact:

**Susan Norby**  
University of Nebraska Foundation  
402-458-1183  
800-432-3216  
snorby@nufoundation.org

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**Dr. Tim Durham: ‘Fresh new start, fresh new year,’ and totally electronic dental records**


**Larson Fellowship: Well-deserved recognition for Paul Hansen, teacher and clinician**

For Dr. Paul Hansen, the Dr. Jack B. and Marena Larson Faculty Fellowship is welcome recognition of the hard work, time, and effort that go into teaching and overseeing students in clinical settings.

**Rob Bundy recognized at Hinman Symposium**

Rob Bundy of Ashland was one of four students recognized at the 18th annual Hinman Student Research Symposium.