BEYOND THE DRILL:
THE ART OF COMMUNICATING
The past year has been an incredible one in terms of the progress made moving forward with the Faculty’s new clinical teaching, administration and research facility. We have now been given an official date for when we must leave the Montreal General Hospital, which has had the positive effect of galvanizing efforts to ensure the Faculty has a new home.

Architectural plans have been drawn up, quotes were obtained and negotiations are well underway for a new facility next to the McGill campus. The heart of the Faculty will join the new dental teaching clinic, bringing together the Dean’s office, student affairs, classrooms, pre-clinical simulation labs, offices, equipment and the Faculty’s Division of Oral Health and Society research team.

Our move comes in challenging times, as Quebec’s universities are facing a difficult period. Following the cutback of promised tuition increases, the government has made further budget cuts, resulting in a drastic reduction in the operating funds of the University – and our Faculty.

We are extremely fortunate to have had ongoing support from our alumni, as well as grants and funding for our research endeavours. All of this income has a specific purpose – be it to equip a teaching clinic, support students through scholarships, prizes and awards or build outreach programs – and the funds cannot be used for anything else. In other words, you can be sure that your donations will continue to support exactly their intended purposes, and despite the difficult financial times, we will be building an outstanding new facility.

Beyond the new facility, both of the Faculty’s professional programs (DMD and OMFS) recently faced the accreditation process. Every seven years, the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada intensively evaluates these programs as well as our GPR programs, and although the final report has not yet been issued, the feedback we have received so far is very positive.

In more good news, Dr. Fernando Cervero, Director of the Alan Edwards Centre for Research on Pain, has led the way in our application for a Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC), which would offer the Faculties of Dentistry and Medicine a great chance to attract top pain researchers, as well as bring in one of the world’s top pain researchers.

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BEYOND THE DRILL
Dentistry is no longer just about filling a cavity, it is about managing chronic disease. This starts with understanding patients’ realities and learning the art of communication.

FOR SALE: A DENTAL PRACTICE
What are the golden rules to selling or buying a dental practice? With many dentists on the cusp of retirement, now might be a good time to find out.

FACING PAIN HEAD ON
Despite glimpses of understanding, chronic pain remains an enigma. But new research reveals that it may be reversed by targeting memory traces in our genes.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS
Experts recommend taking a moment to reflect achievements – it builds confidence and attracts success.

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u cours de la dernière année, nous avons réalisé des avancées remarquables en ce qui a trait aux nouvelles installations de la Faculté. L’Hôpital général de Montréal nous a informés de la date officielle à laquelle nous devons quitter les lieux, ce qui a eu l’effet positif d’intensifier les recherches en vue de trouver une nouvelle adresse pour la Faculté.

Les plans architecturaux ont été dessinés, les devis obtenus et les négociations vont bon train en vue de l’aménagement de nouvelles installations en bordure du campus de McGill. Le noyau de la Faculté ira rejoindre la nouvelle clinique d’enregistrement, réunissant ainsi sous un même toit le bureau du doyen, les affaires étudiantes, les salles de cours, les laboratoires de simulation clinique, les bureaux, ainsi que l’équipe de recherche de la Division santé buccodentaire et sociétale.

Nous avons été extrêmement privilégiés de recevoir l’appui continu de nos diplômés et d’obtenir des subventions et du financement pour nos projets de recherche. Tous ces revenus sont affectés à des projets précis – qu’il s’agisse d’équiper la clinique d’enregistrement, d’aider les étudiants en leur octroyant des bourses et des prix, ou de mettre sur pied des programmes d’action communautaire – et ne peuvent servir à d’autres fins. Vous êtes ainsi assurés que vos dons soutiennent le projet particulier auquel vous les avez attribués. Enfin, malgré la période d’incertitude financière que nous traversons, nous construirons de nouvelles installations exceptionnelles.

Je tiens à remercier nos diplômés, tous les membres du personnel enseignant et non enseignant, ainsi que nos étudiants pour leur appui. Je suis très fier de ce que nous avons accompli et je me réjouis à l’idée de vivre encore de nombreux succès avec vous.

L’année qui vient apportera son lot de défis et, j’en suis sûr, de grandes réalisations. Enfin, soyez assurés que nous vous commu- nierons tous les détails au sujet de nos nouvelles installations dès que nous le pourrons.

Le doyen Paul Allison, Ph.D’98

The past year has been an incredible one in terms of the progress made moving forward with the Faculty’s new clinical teaching, administration and research facility. We have now been given an official date for when we must leave the Montreal General Hospital, which has had the positive effect of galvanizing efforts to ensure the Faculty has a new home.

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This edition of the newsletter also shines a light on the art of teaching communication skills. I strongly believe that students need to understand their patients well in order to provide the best quality care. To do so, they must communicate effectively and be open to the different realities people have – so we need to explicitly teach our students the necessary skills.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of our alumni, faculty, staff and students. I am very proud of what we have achieved and I am looking forward to building on our many successes together. The next year will certainly be filled with challenges and, I’m sure, accomplishments. As soon as we can, we will let everyone know details of our new facility.

Dean Paul Allison, PhD’98

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The authors would like to thank our students for their ideas, photos and support.

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We are always delighted to hear from you.
BEYOND THE DRILL: THE ART OF COMMUNICATING WITH PATIENTS

Students undergo communication and relationship skill-building training at McGill’s Arnold and Blema Steinberg Medical Simulation Centre.

"It’s about being human," says Dr. Ronald Fagen, BSc’66, DDS’68. "I think about how my mother, my father or I would like to be treated.

Dr. Fagen is a Faculty clinical instructor and a volunteer with the Dentistry Outreach Program. He also treats medically compromised elderly patients in nursing care homes through Service Dentaire Mobile.

In his daily practice, he often treats patients who cannot speak, and so he relies on other cues: "I sense pain and discomfort by the set of the mouth," he explains. "I look at their faces and their eyes."

"Body language is important," agrees Dr. Frances Power, BSc’77, MSc’80 and DDS’90 from UofT, Academic Program Director of Community Clinics and an assistant professor in the Division of Oral Health and Society. "You need to actively look and listen to a person."

Since joining the Faculty in 2008, she has been drawing on her experience of working with marginalized groups to cultivate dental students’ awareness of the nuanced aspects of providing care to patients from a variety of backgrounds.

"We’re trying to change the focus of care to involve the whole story of a patient," she says. This means leaving more time to get to know your patient.

How’s your communication?

Do you:
1. Schedule enough time to get to know your patient?
2. Listen actively and observe closely?
3. Share, repeat and pace information?
4. Use silence effectively?
5. Make time for questions?
6. Show compassion and empathy?
7. Remember personal details?
8. Review treatment options, fees and procedures?
9. Encourage patients to participate in their care?

There are barriers to sharing stories, like pride and fear," she observes. "Vulnerability isn’t always related to low socio-economic status.

The Faculty aims to produce more socially aware, culturally attuned and community-oriented practitioners. The emphasis on the importance of communication begins at the interview stage, where empathy and compassion are considered during the selection process.

"If we’re going to focus on a patient-centred approach, we also need to teach with a learner-centred approach," says Dr. Power. To this end, in their second year, students take a course in Dental Public Health which includes an introduction to theoretical and practical principles of communication, including four hours of hands-on communication and relationship skill-building training at McGill’s Arnold and Blema Steinberg Medical Simulation Centre.

"Theory needs to be engaged, it can’t just be taught," says Dr. Mary Ellen Macdonald, MA’95, PhD’03, a medical anthropologist and assistant professor in the Division of Oral Health and Society. She explains that by using an adapted version of the Calgary-Cambridge Guide to the Medical Interview (CCG), dental students have a starting point for understanding how to create collaborative partnerships with patients.

Using evidence-based research, the CCG integrates traditional clinical methodology with effective communication skills, so doctors and patients can explore, diagnose and manage treatment together.

Macdonald notes that while this training needs a theoretical foundation in the classroom, simulations and role-playing are an integral part of student instruction.

The training starts with the basics: introducing yourself to a variety of patients – from an elderly woman to a young, fit & healthy patient; it means reaching out to families and caregivers as well. "It can have a huge effect – just showing them how to brush a patient’s teeth can make a real difference."

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"Learning and practising person-centred care may be contrary to how institutions or enculturated practices are understood," he acknowledges. "But listening is not a soft skill – hundreds of errors could be prevented and many lives could be saved because someone listened."

The process starts by creating a space where conversation can happen and involves taking time for reflection about how students and practitioners can best relate to and communicate with their patients.

"It’s all about humanizing the communication checklist," Dr. Hovey notes, "and when working with a patient, remembering your own rough ground."

But we think about dental health has changed. How good oral health benefits a person’s general well-being should be taken into consideration. However, simply telling patients they need to make diet or behaviour changes isn’t always effective. Students need to understand the realities faced by their patients so that their suggestions for treatment are achievable – and good communication is key to doing this well.

For Dr. Fagen, good communication doesn’t stop with the patient; it means reaching out to families and caregivers as well. "It can have a huge effect – just showing them how to brush a patient’s teeth can make a real difference."

As he puts it, "For dentistry, good communication is a good business model. Who could disagree with that?"
Beyond the Drill: The Art of Communicating with Patients

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Since joining the Faculty in 2008, she has been drawing on her experience of working with marginalized groups to cultivate dental students’ awareness of the nuanced aspects of providing care to patients from a variety of backgrounds.

“We’re trying to change the focus of care to involve the whole story of a patient,” she says. This means leaving more time to get a better sense of who a patient is and to understand all the factors that could affect someone’s treatment, such as family income and daily living conditions. A patient’s situation should not prevent a dentist from explaining all the treatment options – even if the patient may not have the resources to pay for them.

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Macdonald notes that while this training needs a theoretical foundation in the classroom, simulations and role-playing are an integral part of student instruction.

The training starts with the basics, introducing yourself to a variety of patients – from an elderly woman to a young, flirty man, ensuring informed consent, establishing boundaries and building relationships. The simulations use actors and are videotaped, so students can watch themselves and provide feedback to one another.

“The video simulations are very revealing for the students,” Dr. Macdonald says. “They see very quickly how they interact and are sometimes shocked by their own behaviour.”

Providing exceptional technical instruction is a fundamental part of dental training, and the Faculty faces the challenge of how to integrate teaching communication and its evaluation into an already packed curriculum.

Dr. Richard Hovey, MA’89, PhD’07, an associate professor in the Division of Oral Health and Society, has been working with colleagues to co-create an understanding of the importance of patient-centred care in dental practice and to develop effective approaches to teach and evaluate students.

“Learning and practising person-centred care may be contrary to how institutions or enculturated practices are understood,” he acknowledges. “But listening is not a soft skill – hundreds of errors could be prevented and many lives could be saved because someone listened.”

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THE EVOLUTION OF DENTAL CHAIRS

It has been said that no other chair extracts more money than the one you sit in at the dentist—yet the furniture hasn’t been around nearly as long as the profession. Although dentists have been practising since as far back as 7000 BC, dental chairs have only been in existence since the late 18th century, evolving from simple wooden frames to velvet-lined decorative Victorian models, to space-age, high-tech pods. As this specialized piece of furniture evolved, it revealed the emergence of dentistry as its own distinct profession.

SIMPLE STURDY PRACTICALITY

Seen as an advancement on the widely used “barber-surgeon” chair, what is now commonly accepted as the first dental chair was invented by American dentist Josiah Flagg in 1790, by taking an ordinary wooden Windsor chair and adding a headrest and a tray for tools.

UPHOLSTERED RECLINING ELEGANCE

Plush velvet upholstery, cast iron detailing and adjustability were the last word in Victorian-era dental chairs— the quality indicating the wealth of clientele. The British dentist James Snell invented the first reclining chair in 1832.

HYDRAULIC LINOLEUM COMFORT

Replacing the hand-cranked mechanism, American dentist Basil Manly Wilkerson invented the first hydraulic dental chair in 1877. Much easier to adjust with a foot pump, it was also more practically upholstered in padded linoleum.

FULLY-EQUIPPED ELECTRIC-POWERED

In 1917, the Ritter Dental Company pioneered the invention of the first dental operating unit that brought together all the essentials: mounted drill, cuspidor, compressed air and water syringes. In 1928, the foot pump was replaced with an electric motor, and by the 1940s, every dentist’s dream was to have a fully equipped dental suite.

ERGONOMIC WIRELESS MODERNITY

Covered with antibacterial-coated thermo-upholstery, modern dental chairs are last word in ergonomic technology. Synchronized with the natural movement of the patient, these feature pressure mapping to reduce stress during long procedures and touch-screen user interfaces with wireless pedal controls for effortless manoeuvring.

RECLINING LOUNGE CHAIR

Although a chair had been invented in 1954 that allowed a dentist to sit while working, the patient’s feet would be up in the air when fully reclined. Four years later, John Naughton ushered in a chair with an articulated seat and back that became the accepted standard of the profession: the “lounge” dental chair.
THE EVOLUTION OF DENTAL CHAIRS

It has been said that no other chair extracts more money than the one you sit in at the dentist—yet the furniture hasn’t been around nearly as long as the profession. Although dentists have been practising since as far back as 7000 BC, dental chairs have only been in existence since the late 18th century, evolving from simple wooden frames to velvet-lined decorative Victorian models, to space-age, high-tech pods. As this specialized piece of furniture evolved, it revealed the emergence of dentistry as its own distinct profession.

SIMPLE STURDY PRACTICALITY

Seen as an advancement on the widely used “barber-surgeon” chair, what is now commonly accepted as the first dental chair was invented by American dentist Josiah Flagg in 1790, by taking an ordinary wooden Windsor chair and adding a headrest and a tray for tools.

UPHOLSTERED RECLINING ELEGANCE

Plush velvet upholstery, cast iron detailing and adjustability were the last word in Victorian-era dental chairs—the quality indicating the wealth of clientele. The British dentist James Snell invented the first reclining chair in 1832.

HYDRAULIC LINOLEUM COMFORT

Replacing the hand-cranked mechanism, American dentist Basil Manly Wilkerson invented the first hydraulic dental chair in 1877. Much easier to adjust with a foot pump, it was also more practically upholstered in padded linoleum.

FULLY-EQUIPPED ELECTRIC-POWERED

In 1917, the Ritter Dental Company pioneered the invention of the first dental operating unit that brought together all the essentials: mounted drill, cuspidor, compressed air and water syringes. In 1928, the foot pump was replaced with an electric motor, and by the 1940s, every dentist’s dream was to have a fully equipped dental suite.

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Buying an established practice can have many benefits. Starting out with staff, patients, equipment, and an established reputation seems, at first glance, much easier than launching a practice from scratch.

As its more intangible assets, such as staff and reputation.

A s of 2010, according to the Canadian Dental Association (CDA), nearly 20% of dentists in Canada were over the age of 60 – and with the average age of a dentist at 46, that number is rising. As the majority of dentists are in solo private practice (54% according to the CDA), many may be contemplating selling their business in the coming years.

Dr. John Badger, DDS’67, helps dentists do just that. He runs a busy practice in Pointe-Claire, Quebec, and is an associate with ROI Corporation, an appraisal and brokerage company specializing in dental practices.

“There is no one tricky part to selling a practice – but the number one thing a dentist should do is get a good business appraisal to know what is the fair market value for his or her practice,” he suggests. This includes reviewing the hard assets of the business, like equipment, lease agreements, patient lists and tax structure, as well as its more intangible assets, such as staff and reputation.

“Buying a brand, the existing reputation of the practice, is the most valuable asset the business could have,” says Robert MacKalski, a marketing specialist and McGill lecturer in the Desautels Faculty of Management. “The value of a practice is defined by more than just its tangible assets – like equipment and a patient list. A well-respected name means it can be easier to attract patients and affect access to partners, staff, investment and suppliers’ rates.”

Dentists practising for 20 years or more see 69 patients on average per week, while those in practice 5 years or less see 46 patients a week, says the CDA – and so clearly, one of the biggest assets a well-established practice has is its reputation.

“The seller always knows more than the buyer,” says MacKalski, “but all sides win if the succession is done properly.”

Although it may seem counter-intuitive, he also thinks it’s vital to have an exit strategy – even when starting out. Although some of us know when we’ll retire, it’s not always possible to anticipate a move or a change in life circumstances. To this end, think about choosing a name that’s transferrable.

Another important consideration is finding a good fit by matching the type of practice with the buyer by considering philosophy, skills and experience.

“It can happen that a retiring dentist sells to a younger practitioner who doesn’t yet have the experience for the type of patients on the list,” adds Dr. Badger. “It’s important to make sure you are comfortable handling the sort of services provided, as this will affect your relationship with patients.”

In fact, this cautionary note reflects a frequent concern of potential buyers: whether or not patients and staff will stay with the practice after the sale.

“Staff, especially hygienists, are an important part of the sale. Surround yourself with a well-trained team,” says Richard Schaak, a Managing Partner at Collins Barrow, Canada’s largest association of chartered accounting firms. “Another key consideration is the patient list, which represents the most significant asset that you are buying.”

He also suggests keeping an eye on patient demographics. “Apart from the number of patients, evaluate the quality of the list. For instance, if the prospect’s patient list is comprised of patients who are as old as he/she is, the value of the practice is negatively affected.”

All experts agree that if a sale is well managed, the only thing that should change after a sale is the dentist – but the trick is in managing the transition well.

That’s exactly what Dr. Andrew Toeman, DDS’66, did when he retired after owning his practice for 46 years. Selling up took a year and a half of planning – but it was worth it. “I feel extremely loyal to my patients who brought me to this point in my practice.” For him, it was important to ensure that his staff were happy with the transition. “If you don’t keep the staff, you’re dead in the water,” he notes.

He also recommends getting a practice evaluation and said staying on as an associate to help with the transition was key: to help both the new owner, the staff and the patients feel comfortable.

“The most important thing,” he advises, “is to have a plan – before, during and after.”

Dr. Anthony Iannella, DDS’88, teaches Practice Management to fourth-year students in the Faculty, and he makes it his business to know about the business of dentistry.

He notes that a growing concern when buying an existing dental practice for new or young dentists is whether to purchase the most up-to-date technology, which represents a heavy expense. However, this investment is well worth it. Recent surveys state that only 50% of existing clinics have digital radiography – and incoming patients are quite impressed by this type of high-tech equipment, although it represents a huge financial strain.

“Even though 40%-60% of new dentists buy existing practices, for it to be a success, there has to be a good fit – and a gradual transition.”

The role of mentor can play a valuable part. By helping to build the trust and confidence of patients and employees, the seller can ensure the legacy of the practice continues.

Have you sold your practice recently? Do you have any tips to share?
Let us know on our Facebook page.
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Tips for preparing to sell your practice

- Set up a good tax structure: it saves money
- Increase billings - the biggest factor in sale price
- Surround yourself with good, well-trained staff
- Consider investing in digital equipment

What to consider when buying a practice

- Assemble a team of experts
- Buy in the best location possible
- Consider value of intangibles
- Ask if the practice is a good fit for your skills, philosophy and experience

Dr. Badger’s 3 golden rules for a good transition

- Keep the staff
- Plan a gradual transition of at least six months
- Maintain good communication with employees and patients

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MEMORABLE DONATIONS TO THE FACULTY OF DENTISTRY

In order to cut McGill’s $79.5 million debt, the University decided in the early 1990s to close the Faculty of Dentistry. Thanks to an over-whelming surge of support from Alumni, Staff and Friends, an incredible $3.5 million was raised in a matter of months, and the Faculty was saved for all of us.

Generous endow-ments from Alan Edwards led to the creation of the Alan Edwards Centre for Research on Pain, where preeminent scientists like Dr. Fernando Cervero work with international collaborators to promote research that improves the treatment of chronic pain.

A visionary gift from Pierrette Wong in 2005 ensured that research into diseases of the bones, joints and teeth would continue by establishing the McGill Centre for Bone and Periodontal Research, where many Dentistry professors pursue cutting edge research.

To help keep oral surgeons involved in academia, Dr. Joel Berger, BSc’69, DDS’73, made a lifetime commitment in annual donations to fund the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Research Fellowship, helping students pursue a residency that links clinical practice with PhD research.

Want to know more about how you can support the Faculty of Dentistry? Contact Ioana Dumitru for more details: ioana.dumitru@mcgill.ca or 514.398-5510

Make an online gift today at www.mcgill.ca/give

COMING UP IN CONTINUING EDUCATION IN 2013

Friday, September 27, 2013
Clinical Applications of Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT) in General Dental Practice
Dr. Marie Dagaisan, Dr. Zouhair der Khatouchadoun, Dr. Jean-Marc Rétouvey, Dr. Michel El-Hakim, Dr. Matthew Miller, Dr. Ali Falhry
All-Day Didactic, Afternoon Panel Discussion followed by Wine and Cheese Tasting

Friday, October 4, 2013
Tooth Preparation: A New Twist to an Old Story
Dr. Samer Abi Nader
Morning Didactic, Afternoon Hands-On

Friday, October 25, 2013
Local Anesthetics and Analgesics: Old Drugs/New Drugs
Dr. Elliot Hersch
All-Day Didactic

Friday, November 1, 2013
Foundation for Endodontically Treated Teeth
Dr. Robert Loney, Dr. Richard Prices
Morning Didactic, Afternoon Hands-On

Friday & Saturday, November 8 & 9, 2013
Periodontal Symposium: Optimizing Teamwork and Enhancing Patient Care
Dr. Louis Drouin, Dr. Douglas Hamilton, Dr. Ali Falhry, Ms. Amilia Peskir, Ms. Catherine McConnell
Friday, November 8: Didactic; Saturday, November 9: Hands-On

Friday & Saturday, November 15 & 16, 2013
Foundation for Endodontically Treated Teeth
Dr. Robert Loney, Dr. Richard Prices
Friday, November 8: Didactic; Saturday, November 9: Hands-On

Friday, November 15, 2013
Content to be confirmed

Saturday, November 23, 2013
The Current Thinking Around Implant Maintenance: When to Intervene and When It is Too Late
Dr. Kirsten Warrer
All-Day Didactic, Event Jointly Held with Université de Montréal

Friday, November 29, 2013
Implant-Retained Overdentures: Hands-On Course
Dr. Samer Abi Nader, Dr. Jocelyne Feine, Dr. Ali Falhry
Morning Didactic, Afternoon Hands-On

Click here for more information: www.mcgill.ca/dentistry/continuing-ed

FOCUS | DENTISTRY – SPRING 2013 – MCGILL UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH MATTERS

CLOSER TO UNDERSTANDING PAIN

As we have done in the past three issues of our Newsletter, here we highlight the final research axis (of four in total) of the Faculty of Dentistry, where a critical mass of researchers is making a difference. This is not just “any old difference,” but a difference that cuts across all types of disease in essentially all tissues and organ systems.

The unique thing about pain research is that it transects almost every level of everything we do in research aimed at alleviating disease and the pain associated with it. That is why pain researchers can be found almost anywhere and in different Faculties and disciplines. However, at McGill, which is truly a pain research powerhouse, many innovative and world-renowned pain scientists are part of the Faculty of Dentistry.

Surprisingly (or perhaps not so surprisingly), certain dental schools have been real havens of pain research activity, and McGill Dentistry is no exception. But, with recent hires of new professors who bring with them whole new research teams, McGill Dentistry has really elevated its international stature in this field, and indeed McGill has one of the largest critical masses of pain researchers anywhere in the world.

As a Faculty, we are very excited by this, and needless to say, we follow closely and support in the very best way we can, pain research at McGill. Indeed, together with the Faculty of Medicine, a new Canada Excellence Research Chair in Personalized Pain Medicine will soon be established at McGill, bringing with it even more people and pain research infrastructure to ensure our world-leading position in this area.

Dr. Marc McKee, BSc’82, MSc’94, PhD’97

Prominent researchers in dentistry pain and neurosciences research (from left to right):

Dr. Fernando Cervero, Director of the Alan Edwards Centre for Research on Pain, Dr. Laura Stone,
Dr. Petra Schweinhardt, Dr. Ji Zhang, Dr. Ana Velly
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His book, Understanding Pain, was published last year, just in time for the 2012 World Congress on Pain in Milan. “Known to us by experience and described by illustration” is how the Welsh neurologist Thomas Lewis defined pain in 1942. In the decades since, Cervero notes that scientists are no closer to objectively measuring pain, which can still only be established by listening to a patient’s description of it. To all extents and purposes, it remains a biological enigma.

This is something that Cervero, and what he describes as “the largest concentration of pain researchers in the world,” are determined to change at AECRP.

At once variable and subjective, pain is divided into two broad categories: acute pain, which is linked with ongoing tissue damage, and chronic pain, which is generally understood as pain that has persisted for long periods of time.

“Pain doesn’t adapt,” explains Cervero, “it amplifies.” To demonstrate this to his students, he asks them to place a clothes peg on the soft tissue between two fingers during a lecture. At first it does not hurt, but as the hour progresses, the pain becomes too intense to keep the peg in place.

Picture living with this ache 24 hours a day and one can begin to imagine chronic pain – a condition that 50% of Canadians suffer in their lifetime, costing taxpayers between $10 billion and $15 billion a year.

Recognized as world leaders in pain research, AECRP is working to find answers for measuring and treating chronic pain by bringing together researchers from the Faculties of Dentistry, Medicine and Science.

The difficulties faced by scientists in objectively recording the experience of pain haven’t stopped them from trying to figure out how to measure it — and this means listening to what patients have to say. Recognized worldwide and translated into almost every major language, the McGill Pain Questionnaire was developed by Dr. Ron Melzak, MSc’51, PhD’54, in the 1970s. It uses adjectives to help patients describe the pain they experience, and numerical scores to assess its various aspects.

Brain imaging is another tool researchers are using to understand how the brain influences people’s experience of pain in different ways. Dr. Catherine Bushnell, formerly a Harold Griffith Professor of Anaesthesia and Professor in Dentistry and Neurology at McGill, was one of the first in the world to use brain imaging to study pain. By using MRI scans to watch how the brain processes pain, Bushnell – whose work and research continues in the AECRP with another researcher, Dr. Petra Schweinhardt – shows how mood state, empathy and distraction can affect our experience and perception of pain. This has direct implications for clinicians because a better understanding of what affects pain can help empower patients to better cope with it.

“We know that pain is affected by genetic and environmental factors,” says Dr. Jeffrey Mogil, who holds the E. P. Taylor Chair in Pain Studies at McGill. He is building a database of genes implicated in pain and his research has revealed that genes and sex differences play a role in pain perception – a discovery that could lead to personalized pain treatment tailored to an individual’s genetic profile.

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**POP QUIZ**

True or false:


**Pain is affected by genetic and environmental factors**

Earlier this year, the AECRP announced groundbreaking research that revealed a connection between chronic pain and epigenetics – the study of how our genes are affected by environmental factors such as diet, exposure to contaminants and social conditions like poverty. Dr. Laura Stone from the Faculty of Dentistry and Dr. Moshe Szyf from the Faculty of Medicine’s Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics have shown that it might be possible to reverse the effects of chronic pain by targeting memory traces in our genetic structure.

In his book, Dr. Cervero notes that most healthy young people in developed countries are exposed to very little pain and compares this with the story of one student’s description of the most intense pain ever experienced: having two teeth extracted without anesthesia.

“Today, thinking about having a tooth pulled without anesthesia makes us cringe, but not long ago that was a normal event not only in the remote parts of the world where it is still commonplace, but everywhere. Local and general anesthesia are relatively recent developments.” Although we still have a long way to go to understanding pain, what we have learned has gone a long way to easing the pain of millions.
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**POP QUIZ**

**True or false: How much do you really know about pain?**

1. Pain can’t kill you.
2. The colour of your hair affects how you experience pain.
3. Pain affects men and women in the same way.
4. How you experience pain is in your genes.
5. Distraction does not reduce pain.
6. A bad mood makes pain worse.
7. Placebos don’t work.
8. Watching someone experience pain is more painful than experiencing it.
9. People are more afraid of dying than pain.

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CHANTAL CZEREDNIKOW

4TH-YEAR DENTAL STUDENT

Inspired by childhood experiences at the dentist, Chantal Czerednikow realized early on that dentistry could give her the freedom to create her own work environment.

“I like the combination of working with people to improve their health and the intricate hands-on work,” she says. “Also, I find it rewarding that improving someone’s smile can affect their confidence, which can carry over into other aspects of their life.”

She chose McGill for its great reputation and the opportunities it offered to treat patients from different backgrounds. Czerednikow is very proud of a project she worked on with a youth centre called Share the Warmth. “We developed a few simple tools to motivate children to brush and floss and it was rewarding that the kids were so enthusiastic.”

What is most important – and most difficult to achieve is balance. “It takes daily effort to maintain a balance between work/play, family/friends, relaxing/being active but it’s essential for staying healthy.” Next year, she plans to complete her residency at the Montreal Children’s Hospital and then work on becoming a family dentist.

Never have too many: Friends
If you had a dinner party, what would you serve? Filet mignon barbecue
Most underrated virtue? Integrity
Favourite book: The Time Traveller’s Wife by Audrey Niffenegger
Bucket list: Learn to surf, Trek in Patagonia, Build a cottage

SINA HASHEMI

3RD-YEAR DENTAL STUDENT

Sina Hashemi was born in Iran and came to Montreal with his family when he was two years old. Dentistry attracted him because it offered a chance to directly influence a patient’s well being. “Someone’s smile is an integral part of their self-esteem and our ability as dentists to improve it can impact their quality of life.”

He chose to study at McGill for several reasons. “I enjoyed the idea of being in a small Faculty and I heard great things about its community involvement.”

Outreach is very close to his heart. He took part in a humanitarian mission in Espita, Mexico with Kindness In Action, providing much needed dental care to the local population.

He enjoys dentistry because it allows him to combine art and science on a day-to-day basis. “I find the human aspect of it the most interesting. I like the idea of being able to follow a patient throughout their life and essentially ‘grow up’ with them.”

After his DMD, he aims to do a General Practice Residency—but as for next year? “I’m going to make the most out of my last year at McGill and strengthen friendships with my classmates and future colleagues.”

Never have too many: Chicken wings
If you had a dinner party, what would you serve? Filet mignon barbecue
Most underrated virtue? Humility
Best movies: The Shawshank Redemption
Bucket list: Travel around the world, Get married and have children, Run marathons in different cities

EVE MARCoux

RESIDENT

Eve Marcoux was born and raised in Val d’Or in Abitibi-Témiscamingue and came to Montreal in 2007 to study dentistry at the University of Montreal.

“For me, it’s a very good way to combine things I like: sciences and art, and mental and manual manipulations.”

After completing her DMD, she chose to undertake a residency. “At that time, I didn’t feel ready to go directly work in a private office because I knew I could learn so much more. Dentistry is so complex.”

After visiting McGill, she knew she couldn’t go anywhere else.

What she finds most interesting is helping patients regain their confidence. “I can give back function and aesthetic to someone, which helps build self-confidence... when I am able to listen well to their needs, it’s very satisfying.”

After her studies, she plans to go work up North with the Inuit and take part in the Dentists Without Borders program. “I want to live many different experiences before I set myself up permanently in Montreal.”

Never have too many: Possibilities
If you had a dinner party, what would you serve? A gastronomic meal
Most underrated virtue? Integrity
Favourite song: Can’t Help Falling in Love With You by Elvis Presley
Bucket list: Travel around the world, Get married and have children, Run marathons in different cities
**CHANTAL CZERENNIKOW**

4TH YEAR DENTAL STUDENT

Inspirerd by childhood experiences at the dentist, Chantal Czereninkow realized early on that dentistry could give her the freedom to create her own work environment.

“I like the combination of working with people to improve their health and the intricate hands-on work,” she says. “Also, I find it rewarding that improving someone’s smile can affect their confidence, which can carry over into other aspects of their life.”

She chose McGill for its great reputation and the opportunities it offered to treat patients from different backgrounds. Czereninikow is very proud of a project she worked on with a youth centre called Share the Warmth. “We developed a few simple tools to motivate children to brush and floss and it was rewarding that the kids were so enthusiastic.”

*What is most important – and most difficult to achieve is balance. It takes daily effort to maintain a balance between work/play, family/friends, relaxing/being active but it’s essential for staying healthy.* Next year, she plans to complete her residency at the Montreal Children’s Hospital and then work on becoming a family dentist.

**NEVER HAVE TOO MANY:** Friends

If you had a dinner party, what would you serve? Something homemade

Most underrated virtue? Balance

Favourite book: *The Time Traveller’s Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger

Bucket list: Learn to surf, Trek in Patagonia, Build a cottage

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**SINA HASHEMI**

3RD YEAR DENTAL STUDENT

Sina Hashemi was born in Iran and came to Montreal with his family when he was two years old. Dentistry attracted him because it offered a chance to directly influence a patient’s well being. “Someone’s smile is an integral part of their self-esteem and our ability as dentists to improve it can impact their quality of life.”

He chose to study at McGill for several reasons. “I enjoyed the idea of being in a small Faculty and I heard great things about its community involvement.”

Outreach is very close to his heart. He took part in a humanitarian mission in Esipita, Mexico with Kindness In Action, providing much needed dental care to the local population.

He enjoys dentistry because it allows him to combine art and science on a day-to-day basis. “I find the human aspect of it the most interesting. I like the idea of being able to follow a patient throughout their life and essentially ‘grow up’ with them.”

After his DMD, he aims to do a General Practice Residency–but as for next year? “I’m going to make the most out of my last year at McGill and strengthen friendships with my classmates and future colleagues.”

*Never have too many:* Chicken wings

*Most underrated virtue?* Humility

Favourite movie: *The Shawshank Redemption*

Bucket list: Throw a goodbye party, Meet Morgan Freeman, Skydive

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**EVE MARCOUX**

RESIDENT

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“For me, it’s a very good way to combine things I like: sciences and art, and mental and manual manipulations.”

After completing her DMD, she chose to undertake a residency. “At that time, I didn’t feel ready to go directly work in a private office because I knew I could learn so much more. Dentistry is so complex.”

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What she finds most interesting is helping patients regain their confidence. “I can give back function and aesthetic to someone, which helps build self-confidence . . . when I am able to listen well to their needs, it’s very satisfying.”

After her studies, she plans to go work up North with the Inuit and take part in the Dentists Without Borders program. “I want to live many different experiences before I set myself up permanently in Montreal.”

*Never have too many:* Possibilities

If you had a dinner party, what would you serve? A gastronomic meal

*Most underrated virtue?* Integrity

Favourite song: Can’t Help Falling in Love With You by Elvis Presley

Bucket list: Travel around the world, Get married and have children, Run marathons in different cities
The eleventh annual White Coat Ceremony and Student Awards Evening took place at Redpath Hall on Thursday, September 12, 2012. The Ceremony recognizes the passing of our incoming third-year dental students from preclinical studies to clinical work, and honours prize winners in our Graduate Student Programs, as well as in our DMD Program. The late Dr. Timothy Head, DDS’76, MSc’80, gave the keynote address, and Sina Hashemi, DMD’14, and Robert Karanofsky, DMD’13, presented the student addresses. Laura Mancini, DMD’13, read a tribute to donors, and Dr. John Blomfield, DMD’74, led the pledge.

DDM 2013
- AAZAN AWAN
  Dr. William Berest Scholarship in Dentistry
- CHANTAL CZERZENKOW
  Dr. Janet Griffin-March Scholarship in Dentistry
- BRITTANY FLOOD
  Dr. Morton and Ms. Joan Porsch Scholarship
- ROBERT KARANOFSKY
  Rena and Marvyn Gerstein Scholarship
- LAURA MANCINI
  Dean’s Honour List
- OMAR SHAMJI
  Dean’s Honour List

DDM 2014
- ALAA ZAINI
  Dean’s Honour List
- LESLEY BERGMAN
  Ping Kwan Lau Scholarship
- SARAH FAGEN
  Dr. M. Donigan Prize
- SIMA HASHMI
  Dean’s Honour List
- ERICA KADER
  Dean’s Honour List
- SCOTT KIRBY
  Dr. W. C. Bushell Prize
- RUSAN LUI
  Dean’s Honour List

DDM 2015
- ALAN MEI
  Dean’s Honour List
- MOHAMMED YOUSSEF
  Dr. Maxwell and Betty L. Goldberg Prize
- LIAM ZHANG
  Dr. J. K. Lowry Prize

GRADUATE AWARDS
- BETTY HOAC, PHD CANDIDATE
  Dr. Lyman E. Francis Memorial Award
- ZAHIR JABOUR, PHD CANDIDATE
  Dr. and Mrs. I. N. Fisher Memorial Prize
- THOMAS HOUVEN, MSc CANDIDATE
  Dr. E. T. & Mrs. Marjorie Blunka Award
- VARIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS
  Postdoctoral Fellowships
- HUAIFAN ZHANG, PHD CANDIDATE
  Dr. James P. Lund Fellowship in Dentistry

MCGILL UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF DENTISTRY

CLINICAL STUDENTSHIPS
- Vamsaa Dhar Myres, PhD Candidate
- Zohair Elma, PhD Candidate
- Zohair Jabbour, PhD Candidate
- Khady Ka, PhD Candidate
- Salewa Maria, PhD Candidate
- Akihito Sano, PhD Candidate
- Akanksha Srivastava, PhD Candidate

MCGILL UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF DENTISTRY – SPRING 2013 – MCGILL UNIVERSITY

FOCUS | DENTISTRY – SPRING 2013 – MCGILL UNIVERSITY

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STUDENTS’ IMPACT

WHITE COAT ceremony

CLASS OF 2012:

CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH AND AWARDS CEREMONY


- ERIN WATSON
  Dean’s Honour List
- NICHOLAS THORPE
  Dean’s Honour List
- JOANNA LAMBERTS
  Graduated with Distinction
- MELISSA CERONE
  Dean’s Honour List
- ROBERT KARANOFSKY
  Dr. Jonathan Lang Prize
- BRITTANY FLOOD
  Dr. William Boroff Scholarship
- LAURA MANCINI
  Dr. Ernest R. Ambrose Scholarship
- MOHAMED YOUSSEF
  Dr. Howard S. Katz Excellence in Teaching Award
- ERICA ABBEY
  Dr. W. G. Leahy Prize
- JASMINE WRIGHT
  Dr. W. C. Bushell Prize
- ASHLEY TANG
  Dr. James P. Lund Fellowship in Dentistry
- AHMAD MANSOURI
  Dr. D. P. Mowry Prize
- KATHERINE ZHANG
  Dr. James P. Lund Fellowship in Dentistry
- LEONARD K. FEINE SCHOLARSHIP IN DENTISTRY
- ROBERT KARANOFSKY
  Dr. James E. G. Harrison Medal Award
- SINA HASHEMI
  Dr. I. K. Lowry Prize
- LAURA MANCINI
  Dr. Howard S. Katz Excellence in Teaching Award

STHENOS' IMPACT

Photos, from the top:
- Class of 2012
- Class of 2013
- Dr. Bob Clark (centre), the winner of the Howard S. Katz Excellence in Teaching Award, with (from left to right) Dr. Jeffrey Myers, Lucie Gagnon, Dr. Veranique Benhamou and Dr. John Blomfield

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The Howard S. Katz Excellence in Teaching Award is named after Dr. Howard S. Katz, a distinguished dentist and former dean of the Faculty of Dentistry. It recognizes outstanding teaching by a faculty member. This year, Dr. Bob Clark was honored for his contributions to teaching and mentorship. The award highlights the importance of education in dental professionals' development and the impact they have on their students and the future of dentistry.
The eleventh annual White Coat Ceremony and Student Awards Evening took place at Redpath Hall on Thursday, September 12, 2012. The Ceremony recognizes the passing of our incoming third-year dental students from preclinical studies to clinical work, and honours prize winners in our Graduate Student Programs, as well as in our DMD Program. The late Dr. Timothy Head, DDS’05, MSc’80, gave the keynote address, and Sina Hashemi, DMD’14, and Robert Karanofsky, DMD’13, presented the student addresses. Laura Mancini, DMD’13, read a tribute to donors, and Dr. John Blomfield, DMD’74, led the pledge.

**Graduate Awards**

**Betty Hoac, PhD Candidate**
Dr. Lyon Berovich Memorial Award

**Zaher Jabbour, PhD Candidate**
Dr. and Mrs. I. N. Fesner Memorial Prize

**Thomas Houten, MSc Candidate**
Dr. E. T. & Mrs. Marjorie Blanka Award

**Vahid Ravaghi, Postdoctoral Fellow**
Dr. Wah Leung Fellowship

**Huaifa Zhang, PhD Candidate**
Dr. James P. Lund Fellowship in Dentistry

**McGill University Faculty of Dentistry Internal Studentships**

Vamsaa Dhar Myrnes, PhD Candidate
Hazem Elmar, PhD Candidate
Betty Hoac, PhD Candidate
Zaher Jabbour, PhD Candidate
Khady Ka, PhD Candidate
Saleva Mule, PhD Candidate
Ali Al-Samaan Thakir Purkhal, PhD Candidate
Aakansha Sriavastava, MSc Candidate

**Teaching Awards**

**Dr. John Drummond**
W. W. Wood Award

**Dr. Bob Clark**
The Howard S. Katz Excellence in Teaching Award

**Champagne Brunch and Awards Ceremony**

The accomplishments of our fourth-year dentistry and graduate students were celebrated at the Convocation Champagne Brunch at the McGill Faculty Club on Tuesday, June 5, 2012.

**Erin Watson**
Dean’s Honour List
Dr. A. W. Thornton Gold Medal
Dr. W. G. Leahy Prize
Sunstar Gum Award in Dentistry

**Nicholas Thorpe**
Dean’s Honour List
Dr. J. K. Carver Award
Dr. A. L. Walsh Prize

**Joanna Lamerts**
Graduated with Distinction
Dr. James McCutcheon Medal

**Melissa Cerone**
Dean’s Honour List
Bisco Dental Products Canada Inc. Award
Dr. Marvin and Mandy Werbitt Award in Dentistry

**Kristina Dee**
C.D.A. Student Leadership Award

**Michelle Kornbluth**
Graduated with Distinction
McGill Alumnae Society Prize

**Dien Liu**
Dr. A. W. Thornton Prize

**Hardeep Asi**
Dr. Paul A. Marchand and Maurine McNeil Marchand Prize

**Jennifer Seidler**
Pro Micheline-Blain – ACDQ Prize

**Sarah Harib**
Graduated with Distinction
Pro d’Excellence Jean Robert Vincent

**Nikhil Sharma**
Graduated with Distinction

**Erin Watson**
Gold medal award winner

**Melissa Cerone with Mandy Werbitt and her son Jeremy, donors of the Dr. Marvin and Mandy Werbitt Award in Periodontics**

**Above, Dr. John Drummond, winner of the W. W. Wood Award**
A
fter graduating from McGill with a degree in Physiology, all Ioana Dumitru, BSc’59, wanted to do was become a physiotherapist – until she realized there are other ways to combine her passions for health and working with people.

After starting with Development and Alumni Relations (DAR) as a work-study student, she stayed on for five years. “While I was still a student at DAR, I was completely dumbfounded by the generosity of so many of our alumni. The main question that kept popping into my head was ‘What is it that pushes our alumni to give back to their alma mater so generously?’ I came to realize that I too feel tremendous head was ‘What is it that pushes our alumni to give back to their alma mater so generously?’ I came to realize that I too feel tremendous gratitude for where I am today, and it is due to the education and experiences I had at McGill.”

She started with the Faculty in January – in one of the coldest weeks of this year – and as an associate, she will be spending a lot of her time getting to know everyone. “My role is to reach out to our alumni and help them find the best way to support their Faculty,” she notes. “It is a very exciting time to join the Faculty, as we prepare to move into a new location and face all the challenges and opportunities that entail.”

As for what she’s hoping to accomplish in the next year? “I’ve seen the students and I know how hard they work. I’ve spoken with really amazing alumni who have been working at the Faculty for years and I can see how committed they are. The only thing left to do now is convey this image to those who aren’t here to see it for themselves.”

ONE DAY I HOPe TO: "Tell a really good story about my life to my grandchildren"
YOU CAN NEVER HAVE Too MANY: Laughs
WHAT I Do TO RELAX: Take pictures
Most Underrated Virtue: Tolerance
FAVOURITE BOOK: A Fine Balance by Rohinton Mistry

Dr. Tim Head

DR. TIM HEAD, DDS’76, MSC’80 (1948–2013)

I t is with profound sadness that we announce the tragic and sudden death in late March of Dr. Tim Head. He was the beloved husband of Nathalie, a loving father and stepfather, and a devoted grandfather. He will be deeply missed by his extended family, as well as his many dear friends and colleagues.

An accomplished surgeon, associate professor and former director of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) program at McGill University, Dr. Head will be remembered as an outstanding mentor and a dedicated teacher. Passionate about sharing his experience and knowledge and collaborating with colleagues, he has touched and enriched the lives of countless people.

Dr. Head started as a member of the Faculty of Dentistry in 1980, later heading the OMFS unit, including the OMFS residency program from 1998–2008. He maintained a leadership role in the Faculty and the broader dental community, serving as president of the Canadian Association of OMFS in 2000–2001, as International Team for Implantology (ITI) Fellow, and Chair of the ITI Section Canada, as well as an examiner for the Royal College of Dentists of Canada.

As an indication of the Faculty of Dentistry’s high regard for Dr. Head, he was the first internal Faculty member to be invited to participate as the keynote speaker at the White Coat ceremony in September 2012. The Faculty and the dental and broader community mourn the loss of this mentor and very special man. Dr. Head’s untimely passing will leave an enormous hole in the personal and professional lives of many of us.

DR. JOHN B. STIEVES, DDS’65 (1929–2012)

Dr. Steeves will be profoundly missed by friends and family. He practiced dentistry in Montreal and Calgary and retired in Stittsville to pursue his lifelong study and enjoyment of birds.

DR. RAYNOLD THIBAULT, DDS’56 (1929–2013)

Dr. Thibault passed away in March at the age of 84, at the Centre hospitalier de l’Université Laval in Quebec City. He will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

DR. HERBERT YUN WONG, DDS’62 (1931–2012)

After serving as a U.S. Marine, Dr. Wong practiced dentistry for 50 years in Los Angeles until his untimely passing. He had been looking forward to reuniting with classmates at his 50th class reunion and will be missed by his family, friends, patients and colleagues.
Aafter graduating from McGill with a degree in Physiology, all Ioana Dumitru, BSc’89, wanted to do was become a physiotherapist – until she realized there are other ways to combine her passions for health and working with people.

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As for what she’s hoping to accomplish in the next year? “I’ve seen the students and I know how hard they work. I’ve spoken with really amazing alumni who have been working at the Faculty for years and I can see how committed they are. The only thing left to do now is convey this image to those who aren’t here to see it for themselves.”

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NEW FACES

FACULTY
Joel Abikzer, Faculty Lecturer
Gerald Steven Abish, Faculty Lecturer
Firas Al-Khoury, Faculty Lecturer
Kristelle Bossé, Faculty Lecturer
Natasha Cassir, Faculty Lecturer
Jessica Edlyn Dobrinski, Faculty Lecturer
Fadi Kano, Faculty Lecturer
Shamim Ahmed Khan, Faculty Lecturer

STAFF
Nicole Brunelle, Manager, Dental Clinic, Student Health Services
Rosemary Cooke, Manager Administration & Finance
Chantal Desjardins, Interim Program Administrator
Ioana Dumitru, Development Associate

MOVING ON

This past year, we said good bye to some members of our Faculty. Join us in wishing them all the best of luck in their new endeavours.

Dr. Catherine M. Bushnell
Professor

DR. NORMAN AURLICK, BSC’63, DDS’65 (1941–2010)
A shining star and an incredible inspiration throughout her courageous battle with cancer, Dr. Nicopoulos will be dearly missed by her family and extended family, as well as countless friends and colleagues.

DR. JAMES E. HARRISON, DDS’51 (1918–2012)
An accomplished surgeon, associate professor and former director of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) program at McGill University, Dr. Head will be forever remembered.

DR. SCOTT MORRIS, BSC’74, DDS’81 (1950–2012)
A beloved husband and cherished father, Dr. Morris will be lovingly remembered by his family, his extended family and his many dear friends, as well as his colleagues and patients.

DR. MARTINE NICOPoulos, DDS’90 (1974–2012)
A shining star and an incredible inspiration throughout her courageous battle with cancer, Dr. Nicopoulos will be dearly missed by her family and extended family, as well as countless friends and colleagues.

DR. JOHN B. STEEVEs, DDS’65 (1929–2012)
A much loved and adored husband, father, brother and grandfather, Dr. Robinson will be fondly remembered by his extended family and his many friends.

DR. JOE RAYNald THIBaulT, DDS’56 (1929–2013)
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TREATING GROWING PAINS

Residency? Private practice? Internship? Volunteer? Students leaving McGill after years of intense studies can feel at a loss as to what their options are or what they ought to do next. Student advising is an important goal for the University and is encouraged by the Quebec government with student advisory programs, internships and community placements. Formerly an ombudsperson for the university and currently a Faculty advisor, Norman Miller, DDS’74, wanted to help build a program within the Faculty where students could find support on anything from discussing their well-being to choosing a career path. As an example of how alumni donations can directly and immediately impact the life of one, ten (or even 30) students every year for many years to come, Dr. Miller has created an endowment to provide new resources to the Faculty and offer support to third- and fourth-year students as they complete their clinical training. He began a pilot project almost a year ago and has been seeing students individually in a confidential and secure setting. Eventually, the goal is to provide all students with a forum where they feel comfortable discussing any aspect of their professional or personal decisions.

SHINE A LIGHT ON INSPIRATION

To shine a light on the personal commitment of alumni and to encourage and inspire others to give back to McGill, the Faculty has created a new award that recognizes both an alumnus and a promising resident. To be considered for the Courthill Foundation’s Outstanding Alumnus Award, graduates are nominated for their community or Faculty involvement, financial support or fundraising, teaching or volunteering. The winner will have his or her name attached to a $5,000 award given to a first-year resident who has demonstrated overall patient management skills, clinical care and judgment. The Outstanding Alumnus and first-year resident will be announced at the end of May during the McGill reception at the Journées Dentaires du Québec.

SEDUCING SURGEONS INTO ACADEMIA

One challenge that the Faculty of Dentistry has faced is encouraging oral surgeons to pursue a career in academia. The Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Research Fellowship was established to help persuade them to consider academia and to allow students to pursue a residency that links clinical practice with PhD research. This Fellowship has been generously supported by Dr. Joel Berger, BSc’69, DDS’73, through a significant bequest and a lifetime commitment of annual donations.

DENTAL HEALTH BUS

Dr. Peter Wallford, DDS’75, has worked out of a mobile dental clinic for 27 years. The 304 sq. ft. customized bus may be one of the smallest dental clinics in Canada. It travels by ferry between Hornby and Denman Islands, in B.C., located 100 miles north of Vancouver. In addition to his practice, he teaches innovative techniques, publishes dental articles, mentors study clubs (www.peterwallforddentistry.com) and operates a small organic farm. In his spare time, he builds boats and runs a summer sailing school. He hand-built his dental bus “between boats.” He will soon be stepping down from his practice and will have more time to spend with his four children and seven grandchildren. His father, Dr. Wally F. Walford, DDS’38, was a periodontist, professor and founding chair of Periodontics in McGill’s Faculty of Dentistry. Peter is a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Restorative Dentistry and Prosthodontics and is writing a textbook of composite restorative dentistry.

NOTES and HIGHLIGHTS

NEWS FROM ALumni CONNeCTIONS

Dr. Bruce Dobby and Mrs. Delight Dobby at the Annual Run for Outreach.

A glimpse of the mobile dental clinic run by Dr. Peter Walford on the Hornby and Denman Islands in B.C.

Several alumni joined Dr. Veronique Benhamou and her team of Faculty and students on a trip with Kindness in Action to Yucatan, Mexico, serving the Mayan population in the regions of Rapita and Holca.

The Kindness in Action team enjoy a well-earned break.

A glimpse of the mobile dental clinic run by Dr. Peter Walford on the Hornby and Denman Islands in B.C.

The class of ’72 held its 40th class reunion, bringing together a dozen or so classmates in 2012.
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CLASS REUNIONS

From October 17-20, 2013, we’re celebrating homecoming with events planned across the campus and within the Faculty:

- Class of 1988: 25th
- Class of 1987: 25th
- Class of 1984: 40th
- Class of 1986: 45th
- Class of 1983: 40th
- Class of 1985: 45th

- Michael Percio
- Michael Cronin
- Graeme Dyck
- William Pinkelstein
- Roy Foster
- Ross Jenne
- Robert Faith
It may seem rather old-fashioned, but there is something rather wonderful about receiving a letter – be it an email message or a handwritten note – that warms the cockles of our hearts. Have you had the good fortune to receive a heartfelt thank-you note from a patient, student or colleague? We would love to share it in our new feature, “Giving thanks.”

Please email your submission to carel.dose@mcgill.ca or send it to:

Faculty of Dentistry
Strathcona Anatomy and Dentistry Building
3640 University Street
Montreal, QC H3A OC7

WITH SINCERE APPRECIATION

We are very pleased to recognize the contributions from individuals, foundations and organizations. Each and every one of you enables the Faculty to continue to build on McGill’s tradition of innovation and to maintain a commitment to the highest levels of excellence in teaching, research and community outreach.

It is with sincere appreciation that we acknowledge the wonderful efforts of many volunteers who so generously share their time and skills. They are a source of inspiration to all and their contributions are essential to the Faculty’s mission, programs and standard of excellence.

Listed here are donations received between January 1, 2012 and December 31, 2012. Please note that only those donors who provided permission to be published are included.

Thank you for your continuing commitment to the Faculty.

Danniel Seiler, DDS’82, BDS’79
David R. Sharp, DDS’58
John Decker Sudbrock, DDS’73
Donald Taylor, DDS’74
Laurence L. Schwartz, DDS’66

DEAN’S CIRCLES: $50,000+ Aline Arnaud, DDS’82
Wayne Nelson Carr, DDS’83
Lori Aronson, DDS’72
Sharon-Anne Matheson, BDS’82
Laura King, DDS’74

Thank you for your continuing commitment to the Faculty.
I would like to take the time to thank the personnel of the McGill Faculty of Dentistry for their community outreach program. I am also involved in my community and appreciate the energy required to provide this type of care.

Thank you, again. I am so, so grateful.

Saying thanks may seem rather old-fashioned, but there is something rather wonderful about receiving a letter – be it a message or a handwritten note – that warms the cockles of our hearts. Have you had the good fortune to receive a heartfelt thank-you note from a patient, student or colleague? We would love to share it in our new Donor Circle.

Please email your submission to care@mcgill.ca and send it to:

Email received May 3, 2012
Complice de votre sourire!
Partners in smiles!

Dentisterie cosmétique
Couronnes en porcelaine | Facettes | Ponts | Incrustation

Cosmetic Dentistry
Full Porcelain Crowns | Laminates | Bridges | Inlays

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