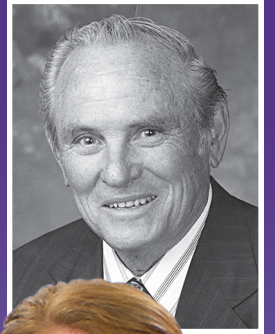
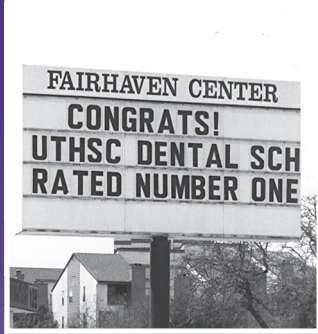


SALUTE

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY
UT HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER®
WE MAKE LIVES BETTER



**Celebrating
the past,
shaping the
future**



Save the Date

Friday, May 8, 2015

School of Dentistry 45th Anniversary Gala

*Celebrating the
Center for Oral Health Care & Research*

Grand Hyatt San Antonio
600 E. Market Street, San Antonio, Texas

There will be a reception, dinner and program
followed by a dance
with the current School of Dentistry students.



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FRONTLINE DEFENDERS

Dental care and research target patients' total well-being.

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TEXAS-SIZED ACHIEVEMENTS

Millions worldwide remember 1970 — the year The Beatles broke up — as the end of an era. In Texas, however, many recall the decade as the dawn of a new age in health care, especially in dentistry.

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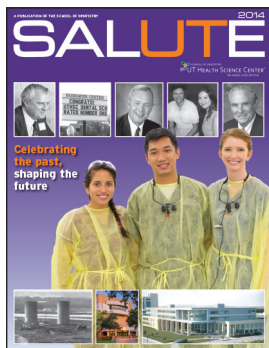
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ON THE COVER

TOP: (Left to Right) Pioneers James Bauerle, D.D.S., Kenneth Kalkwarf, D.D.S., Birgit Junfin Glass, D.D.S., M.S., Cynthia Banker, D.D.S., and Billy Rigsby, D.D.S., were among the many dedicated dentists and community leaders who helped shape the future of oral health care for South Texas by advocating for a dental school in San Antonio.

CENTER: (Left to Right) Dental students Stephanie Lomelli, Peter Dang and Lauren Flynn are benefiting from advancements in curriculum, research, clinical education, technology and hands-on training the School of Dentistry offers today.

BOTTOM: (Left) In 1959, the Joe J. Nix Dairy Farm — a wide expanse of grazing land, cattle pens and silos — was conveyed to the state of Texas to build a medical school. Soon, the

school was joined by schools of nursing, graduate biomedical sciences, health professions and the dental school. By 1972, the Texas legislature named the growing institution The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

(Center) The front of the current School of Dentistry building located on the university's campus.

(Right) A rendering of the Center for Oral Health Care & Research, which will house the clinical practices of the School of Dentistry. The building is scheduled to open in July 2015.

Cover design by Kris Doyle, Office of Institutional Advancement.

Cover photo of students by Lester Rosebrock, Creative Media Services.

DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dear friends,

I am proud to welcome you to the first edition of *Salute*, your new alumni magazine of the School of Dentistry at the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio.

This is a particularly exciting time in the 45-year history of our school as well as in our profession. Given the pace at which our school is growing and the scope of dentistry's transformation, we deemed the timing on target to introduce this new publication. *Salute* is for the alumni of the School of Dentistry. Our goal is to share exciting stories of our faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends and support greater alumni involvement. Alumni engagement is key to the success of our school, and we value your input and participation. As dean, I am exceptionally proud of each and every one of our outstanding graduates. They are truly making lives better through the education, research, clinical care and community service our institution provides the community and the world.

The name, *Salute*, acknowledges our roots and connection to the renowned University of Texas System, hence the U and the T in succession. It also celebrates our past and pays tribute to our future.

This first edition of *Salute* provides you with a glimpse of our new clinical facility, the Center for Oral Health Care & Research, scheduled to open in July 2015. This new building, highlighted on the cover, will be phenomenal both architecturally and functionally, allowing us to treat our patients in a warm and welcoming environment, with the same compassion and excellence, but with greater efficiency. Our students — the faces and future of our profession — will gain hands-on experience here in patient-centered care while training with the latest technology. They will be better prepared to practice in this ever-changing landscape of oral health care and to provide the utmost care to the citizens of our community and beyond.

With this and forthcoming editions, we will keep you informed of the many academic, research and clinical achievements of School of Dentistry students, residents, faculty and your fellow alumni. You will learn of groundbreaking research discoveries, academic advancements as well as profiles of faculty — many of whom you, as students or colleagues, view with extraordinary fondness and who have been instrumental in the school's development. And, we will chronicle the school's evolution from its infancy in 1974 to its top-tier status today.

Please take a moment to read the following pages of *Salute*. Rediscover your pride in and

excitement for your School of Dentistry. Engage with faculty, students and the School of Dentistry community. Please connect with us and let us know what you think.

Only with your involvement and continued support can the UT Health Science Center San Antonio School of Dentistry continue to thrive and grow.

Thank you for your partnership that will sustain our excellence for the next 45 years.

Sincerely,



William W. Dodge, D.D.S., Dean | School of Dentistry
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

P.S. Please give us your impressions of the first issue of *Salute* by contacting our editor at SaluteMagazine@uthscsa.edu. Your comments and suggestions are always welcomed and encouraged.



Alumni engagement is key to the success of our school, and we value your input and participation. As dean, I am exceptionally proud of each and every one of our outstanding graduates."

DENTISTRY IS FAMILY TRADITION AT HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

The School of Dentistry held its 40th commencement ceremony this past spring in San Antonio. The ceremony marked the graduation of 108 dental and 33 dental hygiene students, including four who received a Master of Science in Dental Hygiene degree.

In recent years, administrators have observed a growing tradition and legacy in which generations of families are attending and graduating from the school.

"We're delighted and encouraged to see more children of our alumni enrolling and completing their education through our School of Dentistry," said William W. Dodge, D.D.S., dean of the school. "We are honored that they have chosen to make their education here a priority and the dental profession a family tradition."

This year, Louis Orsatti, D.D.S., class of 1986, had the honor of placing the hood on his son, Matt, during the ceremony. Class of 1979 graduate Elizabeth McAllister also had the privilege of "hooding" her son, Travis.

Kenneth L. Kalkwarf, D.D.S., dean emeritus of the School of Dentistry, gave the commencement address. Dr. Kalkwarf, who served as dean of the school for 24 years, praised the graduates for their hard work and dedication. He also reminded them to "do their best to carry on the school's proud traditions and to give back, not only to their school, but to their communities and their profession."

Approximately 25 percent of the dental graduates will attend residency programs throughout Texas and the United States. Others will embark on private practice in general dentistry throughout the country including in Wasilla, Ala.; Fort Meyers, Fla.; Chicago, Ill.; and in San Antonio, while others will join the military or other federally-funded institutions.

Dr. Dodge expressed his pride in the graduates.

"Our students will surely make lives better for people across the world, and that is an accomplishment for which we can all feel honored and a sense of great success in our mission."

See related story *Making Lives Better Runs in the Family*, page 24.



TOP: Graduate Matt Orsatti (center) is surrounded by his family (left to right) Kristin Partida, Raul Guerra, Rosie Guerra, Louis G. Orsatti, D.D.S., and Debra Orsatti. **CENTER:** Say cheese! Dental graduates take a group selfie. **LEFT:** Graduate Nikhil Reddy receives love from proud mom, Jyothi Reddy.

Alumni and friends of the UT Health Science Center

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Reconnect with classmates and alumni using the **Alumni Directory**

Reach out to friends from your past as you engage in your university's present and help shape its future.
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FAR LEFT: (Left to right) Fourth-year dental students Ryan Angwin and Daniel Eaddy celebrate with Adriana Segura, D.D.S., associate dean for student affairs. **TOP:** (L-R) Alumnus Tom R. Watkins, D.D.S., second-year dental student Eduardo Vela, faculty member Spencer Redding, D.D.S., and alumnus Ridley O. Ross, D.D.S. take a break during the tournament. **BOTTOM:** Second-year dental students Josh Rudin, Justin Felkner and Darren Hallums take home the “dreaded bowling” trophies for placing last in the golf tournament.



10TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT BRINGS IN THE ‘GREEN’ FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Nearly 100 alumni, faculty, students and friends enjoyed a day of sunshine, golf and a celebration of groundbreaking achievements during the 10th Annual Dental School Scholarship Golf Tournament this spring at Canyon Springs Golf Club.

This year’s tournament raised \$12,000 that will directly benefit scholarships for deserving dental students. These funds bring the total raised by the annual event to \$116,000.

Participants also had the chance to meet the first recipient of the “Last Man Standing Scholarship,” the endowed scholarship for

which the tournament supports. Recipient Eduardo Vela is currently a second-year student from Laredo.

“The scholarship really means a lot to me and has been a tremendous help during my first two years. I am so grateful for this tremendous honor,” Vela said.

The tournament’s “Last Man Standing” competition will eventually result in the naming of the scholarship after one of the original 80 participants of the 2005 tournament. Currently 25 alumni, faculty and friends are in the race.

Next year’s tournament is scheduled for Friday, April 24, 2015 at the Quarry Golf Club. Planning is underway for what promises to be an exciting and fun-filled event. For more information, visit makelivesbetter.uthscsa.edu/dsgolf.



MEET KYLE KING, SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY AMBASSADOR SCHOLAR

Five students — each representing one of the five schools at the UT Health Science Center San Antonio — have been named 2014 Presidential Ambassador Scholars. Kyle King is the ambassador scholar representing the School of Dentistry.



“This recognition is a well-deserved honor,” said William L. Henrich, M.D., Health Science Center president. “It is apparent that these students’ efforts have been recognized by the deans who have chosen them for this significant award. They have been selected because of their excellence as student leaders.”

Each ambassador scholar received a scholarship from community donors and will represent their school and the Health Science Center at various functions throughout the year.

King is an Eagle Scout who graduated from Texas A&M University. He is in his fourth year of dental school and has been class president each year. In 2012, King was the

Student Advisory Council representative for The University of Texas System. He is a member of Xi Psi Phi International Dental Fraternity, the American Student Dental Association and the Christian Medical and Dental Association.

Actively involved in community service, King has participated in mission trips to the South Texas border and Mexico, and has volunteered with the Texas Missions of Mercy program, which assists the underserved in receiving dental care. King also was recently named the Tom C. and Patricia H. Frost Scholar in Dentistry.

Alumni interested in mentoring or providing shadowing experiences for outstanding students in the School of Dentistry can contact Sara Piety for more information at 210-567-6536.

Kyle King, a fourth-year dental student, volunteers to help underprivileged patients through the Texas Missions of Mercy program.

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ADVANCE YOUR CAREER.**

**Continuing Dental Education
at the UT Health Science Center San Antonio**

For **more than 40 years**, the Office of Continuing Dental Education has offered programs for oral health care professionals with the goal of updating and expanding their technical and professional skills and cultural enrichment. **More than 265 CDE programs** and **over 70 video streamed courses** are offered each year.

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The Office of CDE manages the affairs
of the Dental Alumni Association.

View our website at dentalalumni.uthscsa.edu



Your legacy

Please consider supporting the UT Health Science Center San Antonio School of Dentistry with a future gift in your estate plans.

Your commitment will create a healthier future for generations to come.

Your customized estate gift can provide for:

- World-class faculty
- Life-changing research
- Education of the next generation of dental health care professionals
- Meaningful programs or lectures that enhance the educational experience

We can help you create your future gift to support the School of Dentistry. Our gift planners will work with you, your attorney or other adviser to design the best gift plan for your individual situation and for those you love.

Our future



Contact Sara Piety at piety@uthscsa.edu or at **210-567-6536**.

Visit us at giftplanning.uthscsa.edu

The best way to give depends on your own personal situation and should be discussed with your professional adviser.



FRONTLINE DEFENDERS

DENTAL CARE AND RESEARCH TARGET PATIENTS' TOTAL WELL-BEING



Natalie Perez (right) and her sister Nicole, enjoy scrapbooking at home.

By **NATALIE A. GUTIERREZ**

By the time she was 13, Natalie Perez had experienced serious and painful dental problems. She risked losing a tooth — a premolar — that played a vital role in her ability to chew, eat and remain healthy.

Tooth decay was the culprit. Unfortunately, Natalie's case isn't an isolated one. Although largely preventable, tooth decay remains one of the most common diseases among children. It is five times as common as asthma and seven times as common as hay fever. If left untreated, it can lead to severe pain, infection that can spread to the blood stream and tooth loss.

In adults, periodontal disease is a silent epidemic affecting 9 out of 10 Americans and has a higher incidence in the Hispanic population. Also preventable, periodontal disease is as widely prevalent as cardiovascular disease and diabetes and can contribute to further complicating these disorders and others including stroke, respiratory disease, Alzheimer's, HIV/AIDS and premature birth.

At the School of Dentistry at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, faculty researchers and clinicians work together to develop new and enhanced preventions and treatments for widespread oral health disorders in children and adults such as tooth decay, periodontal disease, developmental disorders and oral cancer. As proven leaders in their fields, Health Science Center dentists not only treat a patient's mouth, they practice oral health care as the first line of defense against diseases that affect the patient's body as a whole.

LEFT: The Center for Oral Health Care & Research will house state-of-the-art facilities and technology for the dedicated clinical faculty practice of the School of Dentistry. The building is scheduled to open in July 2015.



The new facility was designed with the patient experience at the forefront. In addition to enhanced patient care resources, the building will offer natural lighting in care areas, comfortable waiting rooms, covered parking and patient drop-off zones among its many new features.

NEW CENTER TO ADVANCE CARE AND RESEARCH

This multidisciplinary and progressive approach to research and care will flourish and expand further with the opening next summer of the school's new Center for Oral Health Care & Research. The center will house the dedicated clinical practice facilities for the faculty of the School of Dentistry.

Consistently ranked as the top professional school within The University of Texas System and one of the most prestigious schools in the world, the School of Dentistry's new center will catapult the institution to loftier achievements and open up new opportunities in patient care, education, research and community outreach.

|| We feel really lucky to have the Dental Clinic right here in our hometown. Otherwise, we may not have access to this kind of care."

— Alexandria Santamaria, patient's mother

PATIENTS ARE THE WINNERS

Natalie Perez is just one of the many patients who is benefiting from the growing research enterprise and patient care programs the school offers.

Natalie's mom, Alexandria Santamaria, is a single mom on a limited budget.

"Natalie always seemed to have trouble with that particular tooth and decay. We had to opt for the least expensive treatment



Obadah Austah, B.D.S., FRCDC (center), from Saudi Arabia, is a graduate resident in the Department of Endodontics. Under the supervision of Dr. Anibal Diogenes, Dr. Austah has provided the benefits of regenerative endodontic procedures to many patients like Jessica Avelar (pictured here left with her mother, Leticia Avelar). This year, Dr. Austah earned the top honors for his research presentation at the American Association of Endodontists annual session in Washington, D.C. "I'm lucky to be in the premier endodontics program in the nation," Dr. Austah said. "It is rare that a program is superior in both the clinical and research aspects. Our program is in both."

when she was 10, which was a cap. But it didn't work. The only other option we found later would be root canal therapy or she'd lose her tooth," she said.

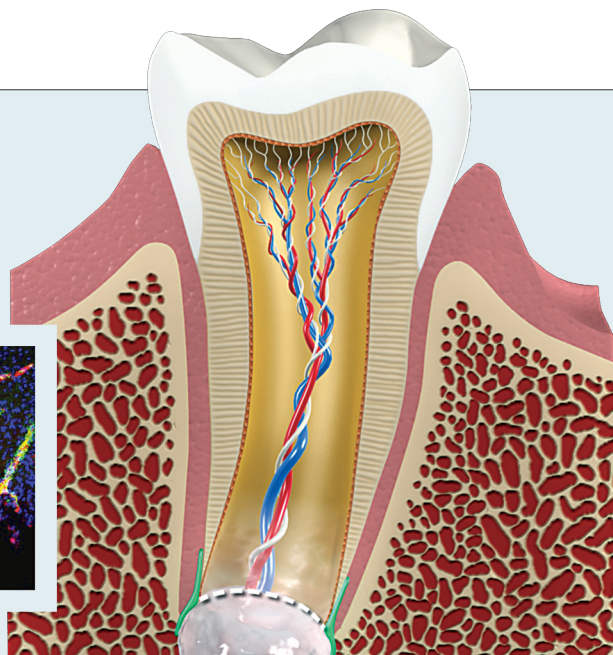
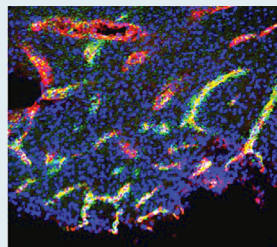
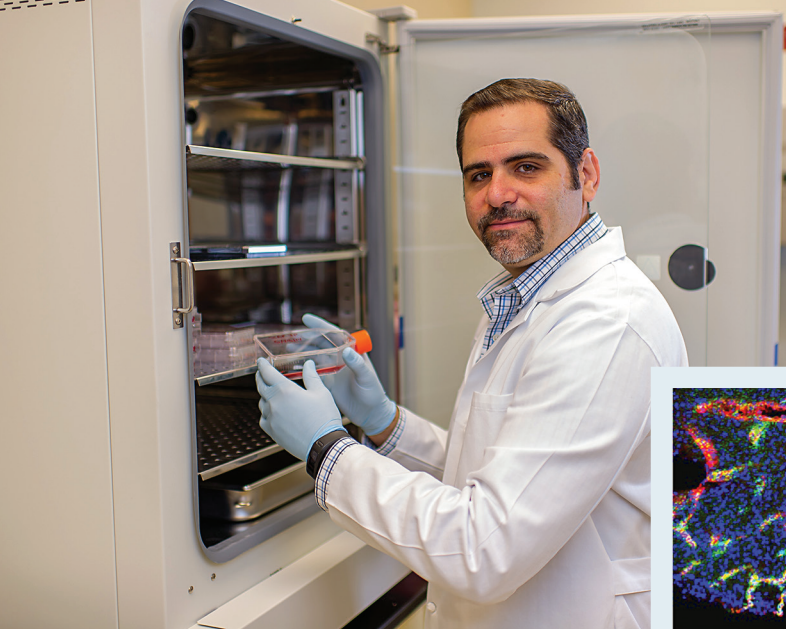
By the time Natalie turned 15, she was having problems with that very same tooth. Her lower-left premolar was infected and oftentimes so painful that she had trouble eating. The pain also affected her mood.

"We thought she'd lose her tooth. Being a teenager, that was a devastating thought for Natalie," her mom said.

Luckily, Natalie was right where she needed to be — in San Antonio. Researchers in the Department of Endodontics in the School of Dentistry at the UT Health Science Center San Antonio are the first to prove in a clinical setting that stem cells, abundant in the soft tissue of surrounding children's teeth, can be used in an endodontic procedure to regenerate the teeth's own tissue and cells. Researchers at the Health Science Center are world leaders in regenerative endodontics and are collaborating on findings with scientists at universities throughout the U.S., Europe and South America.

This research is just one example of numerous innovative studies underway in the five departments (comprehensive dentistry, developmental dentistry, endodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, and periodontics) within the School of Dentistry.

Natalie's mom brought her to the Dental Clinic at the UT Health Science Center in the spring of 2012 and enrolled her as a participant in the study that has been ongoing at the Health Science Center for three years.



Photos by Lester Rosebrock, Creative Media Services

Micrograph courtesy of Michael Henry, D.D.S., Ph.D., Department of Endodontics

AAEF AWARDS \$1.7 MILLION FOR RESEARCH

Anibal Diogenes, D.D.S., Ph.D., leads the stem cell study at the Health Science Center, which is part of a multi-center national clinical trial. Kenneth Hargreaves, D.D.S., Ph.D., chair of the Department of Endodontics at the university, is the project supervisor. Their study recently received a \$1.7 million grant from the American Association of Endodontists Foundation (AAEF) to supplement funding from the Health Science Center.

“If an affected tooth is not fully formed as is the case with children’s teeth, further development is not viable after conventional root canal therapy,” Dr. Diogenes said. During a root canal, dentists fill a tooth with an inert material. Therefore, the tooth can no longer develop.

“Only regenerative endodontics can restore vitality in the tooth,” he said. “Instead of having to live with tooth loss and limited therapy options, we may now be able to offer this minimally invasive procedure, which is less costly than root canal surgery.”

After treatment in the Health Science Center’s Dental Clinic, Natalie’s tooth is infection and pain free. Stem cells infused from



FOR MORE INFORMATION

about Dr. Anibal Diogenes and his stem cell research, see the video at www.uthscsa.edu/stories/chipped-tooth-root-canal.

her own tooth’s apical papilla, which is the soft tissue surrounding the end of the root in developing permanent teeth, stimulated the regeneration of tissues within her tooth. This process led to healing and the reestablishment of her tooth’s normal function. What was once dead tissue was brought back to life and no longer immunocompetent, meaning it can once again defend itself from infection.

LEFT: Dr. Anibal Diogenes monitors stem cells in his lab. **CENTER:** Under high-powered magnification, stem cells (in green) can be seen among the cells (in blue) of the apical papilla and the blood vessels are seen in red. The apical papilla stem cells are capable of mediating the regeneration of tissue and restore immune function to a necrotic tooth. (Micrograph courtesy of Michael Henry, D.D.S., Ph.D., Department of Endodontics)

ABOVE: The grey-colored structure at the end of the tooth’s root is the apical papilla, which is present in developing permanent teeth and is the precursor tissue to the pulp of adult teeth. Unlike the pulp in adult teeth that may undergo necrosis due to infection, the apical papilla resists advanced infections. (Illustration by Sam Newman, Creative Media Services)

DENTAL CLINIC “MAKES LIVES BETTER”

“We feel really lucky to have the Dental Clinic right here in our hometown,” Natalie’s mom said. “Otherwise, we may not have access to this kind of care that is supported by major research. Natalie can go back to being herself and doing the things she loves like practicing tennis, playing the viola, being with friends and enjoying the foods she loves. She’ll be able to keep her tooth and that is a big relief for both of us.”

Dr. Diogenes and his team’s research has been widely published in endodontics journals across the country. The American Dental Association has also created treatment codes for the new procedure.

“These results are a true testament to how far we have come in this field,” Dr. Diogenes said.

He hopes the procedure will become widely used in dental clinics across the country.

They are currently expanding their research to test whether the same process can be used in adult patients.

“Our goal is for this treatment to eventually become a standard and affordable option for all patients, children and adults, across the world,” Dr. Diogenes said. “Once the new Center for Oral Health Care & Research is open, we will treat patients in its modern clinics.”



ABOVE: Anibal Diogenes, D.D.S., Ph.D. (left), assistant professor in the Department of Endodontics, is an alumnus of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at the Health Science Center. He also completed his postdoctoral fellowship and residency programs in endodontics in the School of Dentistry. Dr. Diogenes recently was named director of the Advanced Endodontics Residency Program. He mentors dental students and residents such as Vanessa Chrepa, D.D.S., who recently became a full-time faculty member in the Department of Endodontics at the Health Science Center.

TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF DENTISTS

Vanessa Chrepa, D.D.S., of Athens, Greece, learned of the UT Health Science Center's track record of success and its reputation in regenerative endodontics while she was in private practice in Athens. Chrepa applied to and was accepted into the endodontics residency program at the Health Science Center in 2012. During her two-year residency, Dr. Chrepa performed research and treated patients under the supervision and mentorship of Dr. Diogenes. She also earned the prestigious Pulp Biology and Regeneration Group Award at the International Association for Dental Research annual meeting in Cape Town, South Africa. This year Dr. Chrepa joined the School of Dentistry faculty as a full-time assistant professor in the Department of Endodontics.

"The advanced education program in endodontics is one of the top-notch programs worldwide. I'm blessed to be able to complete my specialty here and to be guided and inspired by great minds like Dr. Diogenes and his contributors to the field," Dr. Chrepa said. "This program is strong in both its clinical and research aspects and it was exactly what I was looking for. Now I'm honored to join the department as a faculty member. I am excited to teach and practice in our brand new building in 2015!"

ALUMNI CAN SUPPORT DEPARTMENT OF ENDODONTICS



Carlos del Rio, D.D.S., professor emeritus

The Department of Endodontics is in the midst of a campaign to raise \$100,000 from alumni. These gifts will raise the Carlos E. del Rio Professorship in Endodontics to the next level — the Carlos E. del Rio Chair in Endodontics.

Carlos del Rio, D.D.S., professor emeritus, was the first director of the advanced education program in endodontics and the first chair of the Department of Endodontics at the UT Health Science Center.

In 2012, the American Association of Endodontics Foundation (AAEF) awarded a \$100,000 matching grant

to the department to elevate the professorship to a chair. This matching gift challenge inspired the generosity of alumni to give to their department to assist in raising \$500,000 to create the faculty chair to honor Dr. del Rio's legacy.

Dr. del Rio is credited with establishing the national reputation of the Department of Endodontics through his selection and development of faculty members, his administrative skills, his writing of an outstanding endodontics textbook, and his and the faculty's dedicated mentoring of endodontics residents that continued after Dr. del Rio's retirement following 16 years as an active faculty member.

"Modern endodontics evolved through the dedication, vision and research of the devoted professors whose commitment to resident education has inspired excellence. They shaped the future leaders among the specialties in dentistry and the future educators who continue the legacy of our exceptional endodontic program today. Endowments like this one make a real difference and contribute to the future of our specialty," Dr. del Rio said.

For more information or to make a gift, contact Sara Piety, director of development, at 210-567-6536 or visit makelivesbetter.uthscsa.edu/delrio.



Heading east about one mile up Floyd Curl Drive is the **JOE R. AND TERESA LOZANO LONG CAMPUS**. The School of Medicine, School of Dentistry, School of Nursing and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences are based on the Long central campus at 7703 Floyd Curl Drive, as are the Dolph Briscoe Jr. Library and most of the UT Health Science Center's administrative offices.

GREEHEY ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH CAMPUS
 A mile away from the Long central campus, three buildings at 8403 Floyd Curl constitute the Greehey Academic and Research Campus. The buildings are the Greehey Children's Cancer Research Institute, dedicated in 2004 and home to faculty researchers studying cancer, the Research Administration building and the Robert F. McDermott Clinical Science Building, home to the Research Imaging Institute.

RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

GREEHEY CHILDREN'S CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (GCCRI)

CANCER THERAPY & RESEARCH CENTER (CTRC)

SOUTH TEXAS RESEARCH FACILITY (STRF)

FLOYD CURL DRIVE



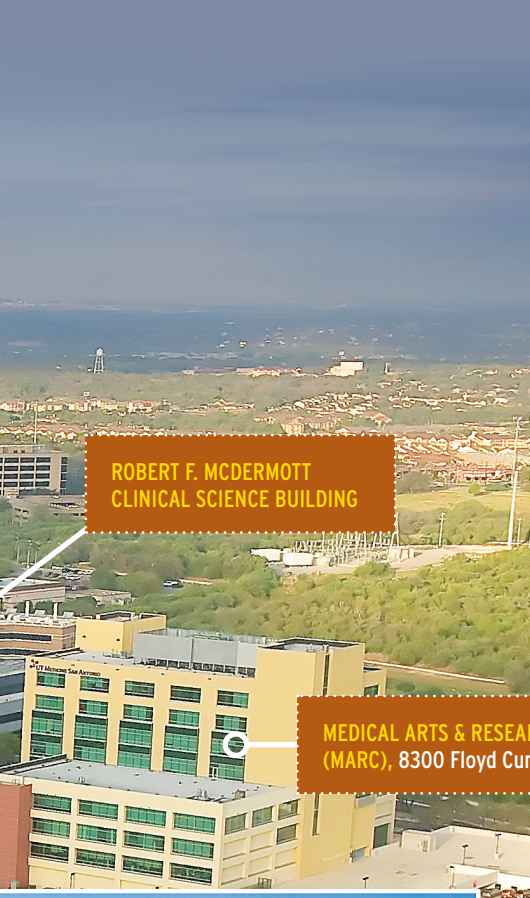
NEW ERA IN ORAL HEALTH CARE

CENTER FOR ORAL HEALTH CARE & RESEARCH OPENING JULY 2015

Construction on the new Center for Oral Health Care & Research, which began in the fall of 2012, is more than 50 percent complete. The new building will be located at 8210 Floyd Curl Drive on the university's North Campus adjacent to the Medical Arts & Research Center (MARC), the home of the clinical practice of the university's School of Medicine and in close proximity to the Cancer Therapy & Research Center (CTRC), the Greehey Children's Cancer Research Institute and the South Texas Research Facility (STRF). With these world-class facilities nearby, patients will have access to the finest inter-professional health care available that addresses not only the patients' symptoms or disease but their total well-being.



School of Dentistry leadership celebrate during the tree-topping ceremony for the Center for Oral Health Care & Research held this year. They are (left to right) Lydia J. Leos, assistant dean for administration; Birgit Junfin Glass, D.D.S., M.S., associate dean for academic affairs (Class of 1975); M. Elaine Neenan, D.D.S., M.S., M.P.H., associate dean for external affairs; Kenneth M. Hargreaves, D.D.S., Ph.D., professor and chair of endodontics; Spencer W. Redding, D.D.S., M.Ed., professor and chair of comprehensive dentistry; William W. Dodge, D.D.S., dean of the School of Dentistry; Adriana Segura, D.D.S., M.S., associate dean for student affairs; and Gary Guest, D.D.S., associate dean for patient care (Class of 1980).



ROBERT F. McDERMOTT CLINICAL SCIENCE BUILDING



MEDICAL ARTS & RESEARCH CENTER (MARC), 8300 Floyd Curl Drive



CENTER FOR ORAL HEALTH CARE & RESEARCH (COHCR) is under construction at 8210 Floyd Curl Drive next to the MARC



Left is a rendering of the Dr. Jeffrey P. Feingold Atrium in the Center for Oral Health Care & Research.

Below is a rendering of a patient treatment room in the new center.



CENTER FOR ORAL HEALTH CARE & RESEARCH BUILDING HIGHLIGHTS

- **Cost:** \$108 million, which includes \$62 million from The UT System Permanent University Fund, state bonds and university clinical revenue
- **Size:** 198,000 gross square feet
- **Stories:** Four
- **Patient treatment rooms:** 400 operatories
- To see a 3-D and 360-degree rendering of the building, visit dental.uthscsa.edu/CFOHCR.
- **Opens:** July 2015



"It is no accident that our new dental building is being built next to the MARC. We know that oral health

offers clues about patients' overall health. The close proximity of the two facilities will foster collaboration between medical and dental clinicians, educators and researchers who will advance research with the aim of ensuring the total well-being of the every patient we treat."

William L. Henrich, M.D., MACP, president of the UT Health Science Center San Antonio



"The new building will allow us to care for patients with the same compassion and tailored treatment we

have always provided but in a new state-of-the-art facility. Ensuring patients' oral health is an investment in their overall health and well-being. We pride ourselves on helping make their lives better."

William Dodge, D.D.S., School of Dentistry dean



"The new Center for Oral Health Care & Research will create new jobs, educate future oral health care providers

who are culturally aware, and help ensure San Antonio remains nationally recognized as a leader in the bioscience and health care industry."

Christina Meiners, D.D.S., immediate past president, Greater San Antonio Hispanic Dental Association and 2010 graduate of the School of Dentistry



"I'm excited about our new facility because it will house new dental equipment and advanced technology

that will enhance students' learning experience and improve patient treatment outcomes."

Teresa Nguyen, second-year dental student



LEFT: Bill Greehey with students and **RIGHT:** Jeffrey P. Feingold, D.D.S., M.S.D. (pictured left with UT Health Science Center President William L. Henrich, M.D., MPH), are helping ensure a bright future for education and oral health care in the community through their generosity to the School of Dentistry.

SUPPORT THE CENTER FOR ORAL HEALTH CARE & RESEARCH

The \$15 million community goal for the new Center for Oral Health Care & Research will equip the School of Dentistry's new home with the latest tools and technology to help ensure continued success for the next generation of students, faculty, residents and the thousands of patients who come to the Health Science Center from across the globe.



"The Dental School gave me everything I needed – an outstanding education, mentoring and experience – to begin what has become my lifelong passion and career in dentistry. I ask you to give what you can to continue this legacy for the next generation of students. Your gift will help provide the best equipment, technology and training for future dentists who will deliver the finest care to patients in our community and throughout the state and nation."

Warren Branch, D.D.S., School of Dentistry alumnus and chair, Campaign for the Center for Oral Health Care & Research

For more information

To make a gift or discuss a naming opportunity for the Center for Oral Health Care & Research, contact Sara Piety at piety@uthscsa.edu or 210-567-6536.

Or make a gift online at MakeLivesBetter.uthscsa.edu/COHCR.

THANKS to our Campaign Committee!

- M. Ray Scott, D.D.S., chair
- Warren Branch, D.D.S.
- Todd R. Ehrlich, D.D.S.
- Roy Gonzalez Jr., D.D.S.
- Scott Leune, D.D.S.
- David Little, D.D.S.
- Mark L. Littlestar, D.D.S.
- Elizabeth H. McAlister, D.D.S.
- John R. McDonald, D.D.S.
- Billy L. Morgan, D.D.S.
- Frank P. Ramos, D.D.S.
- Jack Shirley, D.D.S.

GREEHEY FAMILY FOUNDATION SUPPORTS STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE

Longtime UT Health Science Center champion Bill Greehey and the Greehey Family Foundation committed \$500,000 to the School of Dentistry's new Center for Oral Health Care & Research (COHCR) scheduled to open in July 2015. Greehey's gift is in recognition of the contributions made by dedicated dental students and faculty who staff clinics such as the Ricardo Salinas Clinic and Haven for Hope, which provide care for those in greatest need in the community.

"I am proud of the collaborative work [at the UT Health Science Center] that is providing good health and dental care to the working poor and homeless in our community," Greehey said. The example of service by the school inspired the transformative contribution.

JEFFREY AND BARBARA FEINGOLD MAKE LEADERSHIP GIFT

Jeffrey P. Feingold, D.D.S., M.S.D., founder, chairman and CEO of MCNA Insurance Company, recognized the importance of the state-of-the-art COHCR where students will gain exceptional training and patients in San Antonio and South Texas will receive compassionate oral health care.

He and his wife, Barbara, made a gift of \$250,000 to the COHCR. Dr. Feingold has a profound interest in the UT Health Science Center and particularly in the School of Dentistry. A licensed Florida periodontist since 1971, Dr. Feingold is a diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology.

William W. Dodge, D.D.S., dean of the School of Dentistry, expressed his gratitude for the gifts and for all support to the COHCR.

"The improved environment our new center will feature enables us to offer a superior multispecialty practice with the full scope of dentistry in one setting."

TEXAS- SIZED ACHIEVEMENTS

FOUNDERS, FACULTY, ALUMNI, STUDENTS
SHAPE THE FUTURE OF DENTISTRY

School of Dentistry at
The University of Texas Health
Science Center at San Antonio



On June 5, 1969 in front of the Alamo, Texas Gov. Preston Smith (seated) signed legislation authorizing the creation of the UT Dental School in San Antonio. He is surrounded by (left to right) Drs. Lynden Kennedy, James Porter Hollers, Morris Minton and Byron Coward as well as Rep. Guy Floyd and John Steen.

By **LISA A. BASTIAN** with **NATALIE A. GUTIERREZ**

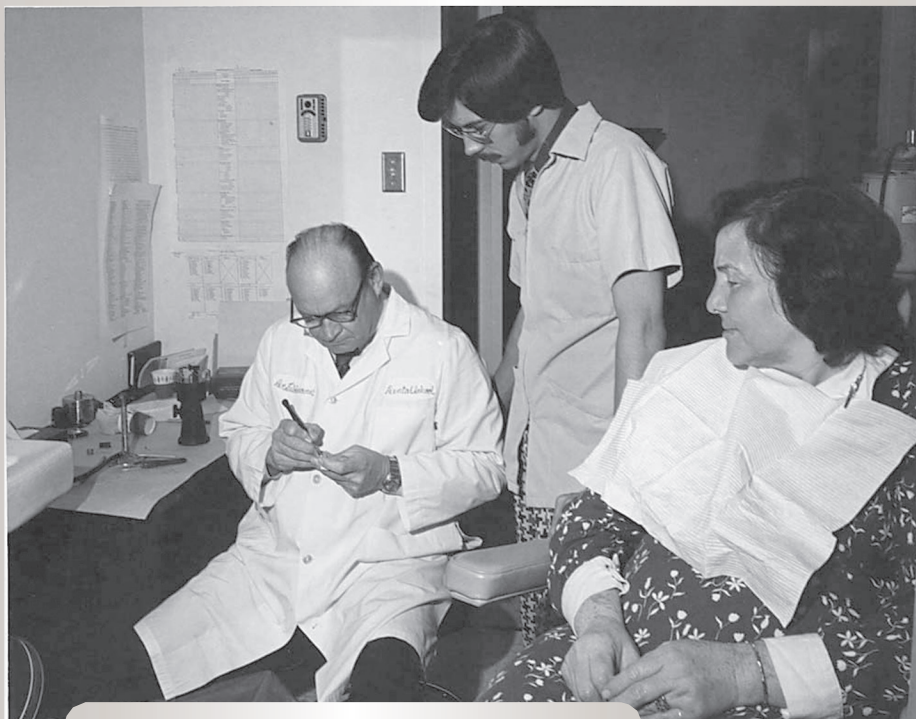
Millions worldwide remember 1970 – the year The Beatles broke up – as the end of an era. In Texas, however, many recall the decade as the dawn of a new age in health care, especially in dentistry.

By 1972 The University of Texas System Board of Regents reorganized its biomedical institutions in Dallas, Galveston, Houston and San Antonio into four health science centers and named well-respected Texas scientist Frank Harrison, M.D., Ph.D., the first president of The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

It was during this time that a new generation of rising stars set the stage for an academic research institution that would soon build a loyal following and a reputation world renowned in its own right.

With support from Dr. Harrison, several oral health care professionals in the community, who today are considered “rock stars” of the dental profession, sounded off. Their voices were heard and a legend was born — the Dental School at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

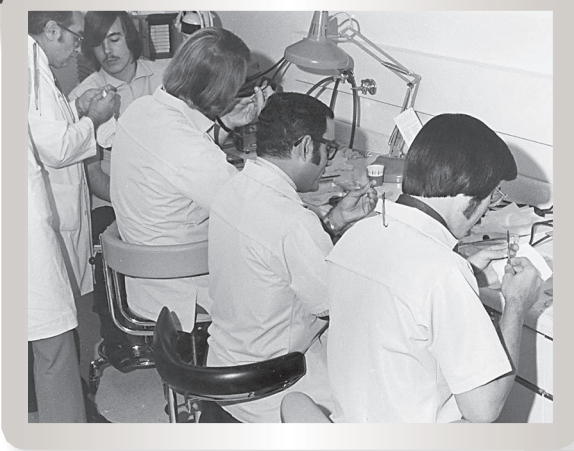
Today the school, recently renamed the School of Dentistry, remains a pillar of education, research, clinical care and community service that continues to flourish and benefit the citizens of South Texas and the world.



Just 45 years young, the School of Dentistry is world renowned as one of the finest dental education and research institutions in the world.

TOP LEFT: Student Rick Montgomery (center) observes prosthodontist Earl Feldman, D.D.S., while he cares for a patient in 1972.

CENTER: Dental students are hard at work in the labs.



EARLY BEGINNINGS

A small cadre of faculty welcomed an inaugural class of 16 dental students in the summer of 1970. In the ensuing four decades, the San Antonio-based school methodically grew by leaps and bounds in key areas of education, research, clinical care and community service. Since its inception, the school has graduated more than 5,700 oral health care professionals, attracted millions in grant funding and has contributed to countless groundbreaking research discoveries and treatments that benefit thousands of patients across San Antonio, South Texas and the world.

Just 45 years young, the School of Dentistry is world renowned as one of the finest dental education and research institutions in the world.

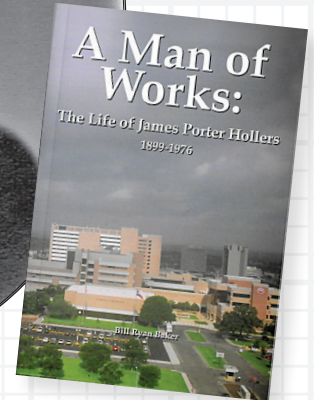
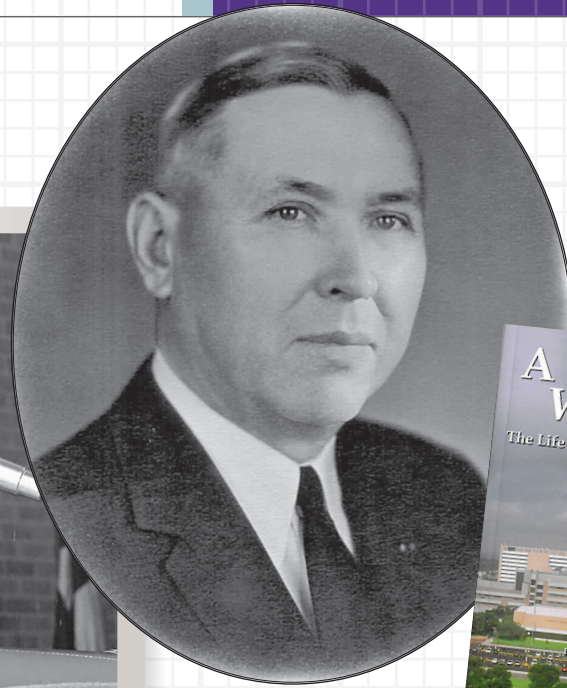
NEW CHAPTER

In July 2015 an exciting new chapter in the school's history will unfold with the opening of its Center for Oral Health Care & Research. This \$108 million, state-of-the-art facility will house all the school's clinical training and patient care activities in an environment that will further its commitment to excellence in educating the oral health care providers of the future. Located adjacent to the Medical Arts & Research Center (MARC) the faculty practice facility for the university's School of Medicine (UT Medicine), the new Center for Oral Health Care & Research is expected to increase the number of opportunities for dental and medical professionals and scientists to collaborate on research toward enhancing patient care.

U.S. President John F. Kennedy once said, "We celebrate the past to awaken the future." The following pages recall some of the hardworking pioneers as well as some of the achievements behind the school's success, and provide a glimpse of the many triumphs yet to come.



ABOVE: Faculty in the Department of Periodontics use innovative techniques and technology to prevent, diagnose and treat periodontal disease, which affects half of all American adults.



LEFT: Lynden Kennedy, D.D.S., speaks during the dedication ceremony of the new Dental School at the UT Health Science Center San Antonio in 1975.

ABOVE: The book "A Man of Works" chronicles the life and achievements of Dr. James Porter Hollers, one of the School of Dentistry's earliest pioneers and advocates.



Dr. Bill Baker

PIONEERS AND POLITICS

Among the best resources for understanding the history of the school, its visionaries and the politics behind its establishment is "A Man of Works: The Life of James Porter Hollers," by the late Bill R. Baker, D.D.S., D.M.D., M.P.H. Dr. Baker, who retired from his career as a UT Health Science Center professor of dental diagnostic science, died on Sept. 11, 2014.

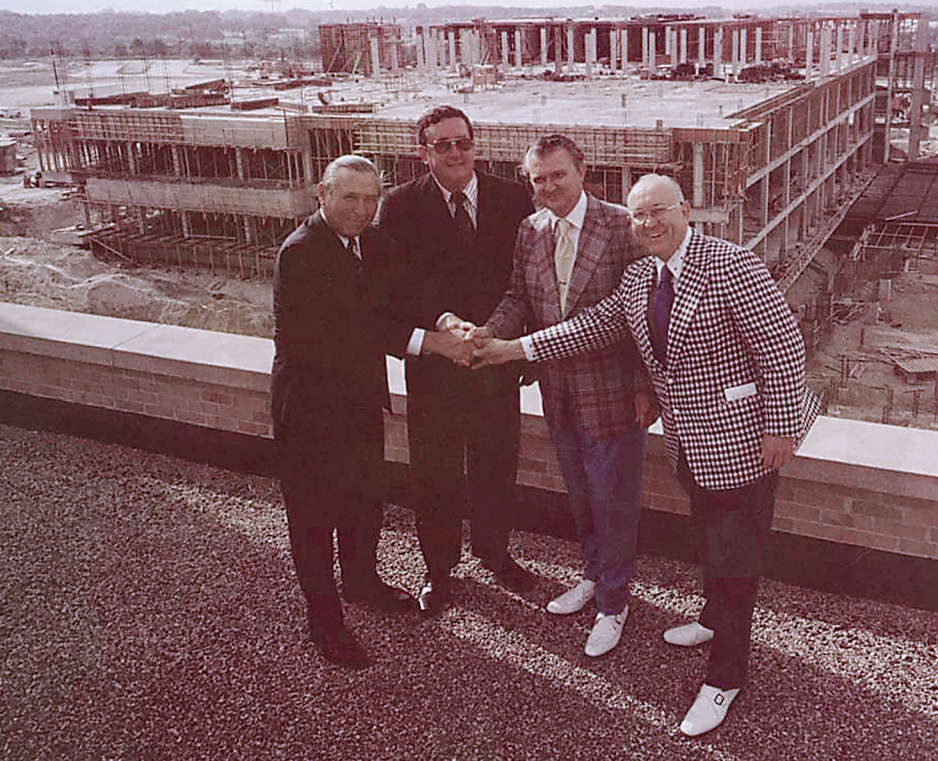
According to Dr. Baker's book, civic leader and periodontist James P. Hollers, D.D.S., had been a longtime advocate for establishing a dental school in San Antonio. Upon researching the history and aspects of dental schools across the nation, he discovered the best schools were affiliated with universities and were associated with accredited medical schools for support. In 1956, while serving as president of the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Hollers became the dynamic leader of efforts to secure a medical school in San Antonio.

Studies at that time had shown the existing two Texas dental schools, which were located in Dallas and Houston, would not have the capacity to graduate sufficient numbers of dentists to meet the state's future needs. These conclusions fueled the imaginations of Texas politicians, University of Texas System and community leaders and dentists who rallied around the concept of building a new

In the early 1960s, when plans were solidified to open the UT South Texas Medical School in San Antonio in 1968, Dr. Hollers knew the timing was right to advocate for a third dental school and establish it in the Alamo City.

dental school in Texas. In the early 1960s, when plans were solidified to open the UT South Texas Medical School in San Antonio in 1968, Dr. Hollers knew the timing was right to advocate for a third dental school and establish it in the Alamo City.

In April 1967 the Texas Dental Association's (TDA) outgoing president declared to the group's members, "we are going to build a new dental school in Texas." However, the state's political leaders selected Dallas, and soon the Texas Legislature was set to approve the bill created to solidify the Dallas location. Upon hearing of the impending vote, Dr. Hollers immediately kicked up a political dust storm with Lynden Kennedy, D.D.S., of Dallas, (a close ally of San Antonio oral surgeon James Bauerle, D.D.S., TDA president from 1967 to 1968). Their opposition to the bill resulted in its failure to pass, thus opening the door to establishing the school in San Antonio.



LEFT: Dr. James Hollers (far left) and Dr. James Bauerle (center) celebrate the construction of the Dental School, which began in 1972, with community leaders. **ABOVE:** Kenneth Rudd, D.D.S., was among the Dental School's first faculty members. He served as a professor in the Department of Prosthodontics and as a founding dean of the school's Continuing Dental Education program.

LEGISLATURE AUTHORIZES CONSTRUCTION

During Dr. Bauerle's tenure as TDA president, he established a TDA Dental School Committee to objectively look into both the need for and location of a new dental school. In addition to Drs. Hollers and Bauerle, its members included Drs. Bryon Coward of Corpus Christi, P. Earle Williams from Dallas, Jack Winston of Houston, Morris Barrington of Lubbock, W.C. McNeil of Silsbee and Dr. Lynden Kennedy.

William L. Henrich, M.D., MACP, president of the UT Health Science Center, said the School of Dentistry's success today was initiated by the dedication of its visionaries more than 40 years ago.

Their 1968 final report concluded that a school was indeed needed, and that "no Texas city met all the requirements as an ideal location, but the one that most nearly fulfills them is San Antonio." Eventually recommendations from the committee and other groups won over the 61st Texas Legislature. On Jan. 19, 1969, that body authorized the creation of the UT Dental School at San Antonio, and on June 5, 1969, in front of the Alamo, Gov. Preston Smith signed legislation authorizing the creation of the Dental School.

When the school opened in the fall of 1970 in the Medical School basement, John V. Olson, D.D.S., served as part-time acting dean as well as dean of Houston's University of Texas Health Science Center. Billy Rigsby, D.D.S., of Houston, one of the first faculty

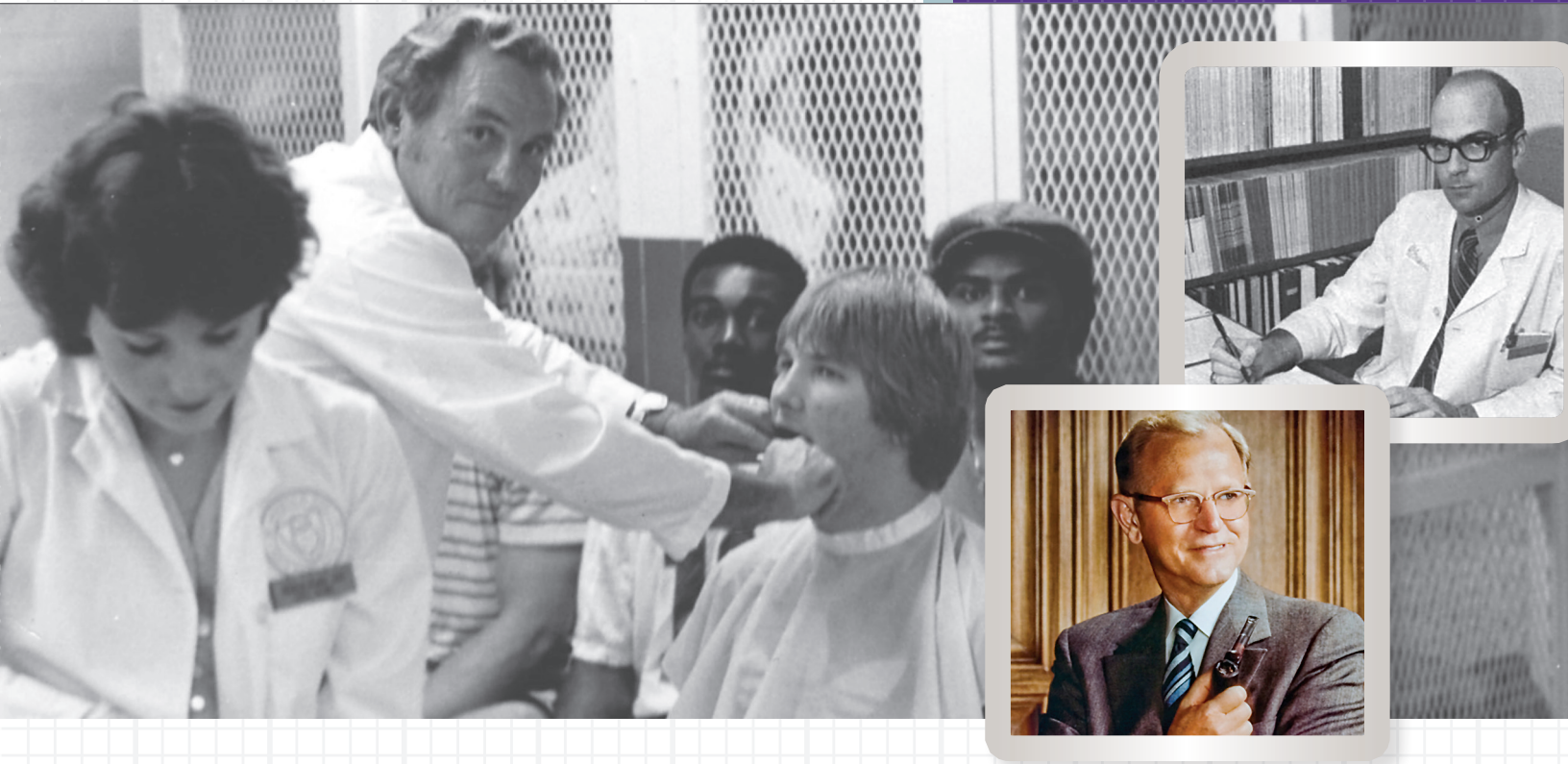
members who joined Dr. Olson, began as an instructor and became associate dean for clinical affairs and professor emeritus.

In 1974, Dr. Olson handed over the dean's post to Philip Boyne, D.M.D., M.S., who maintained a two-year tenure. The legacy of handing over a leadership baton to dentist visionaries had begun and set the tone for the school's future decades of phenomenal educational and research success. Subsequent deans included John Sharry, D.D.S., M.S., and Martha Wood, Ph.D., who, in an interim role, became one of the first women leaders in the school's history. Dominick DePaola, D.D.S., Ph.D., served as dean from 1983 to 1987 and Kenneth Kalkwarf, D.D.S., M.S., was the school's fifth and longest-serving dean. Dr. Kalkwarf served for 24 years and was responsible for many of the achievements that resulted in the school's high ranking as well as the growth of the school's research programs, innovations such as the group practice model for dental student clinical training, and the use of laptops for delivering curriculum

and accessing information in real time. William Dodge, D.D.S., is the school's current dean who was appointed in 2013.

William L. Henrich, M.D., MACP, president of the UT Health Science Center, said the School of Dentistry's success today was initiated by the dedication of its visionaries more than 40 years ago.

"Great schools like our School of Dentistry are shaped by the creativity, commitment and diligence of exceptional leaders such as Drs. Bauerle, Olson, Rigsby, Kenneth Rudd and Claude Nabers who anticipated the value of our institution in this community," Dr. Henrich said. "They paved the way for generations of faculty, students and patients who will benefit now and in future."



MAKINGS OF A MENTOR

Anatomist Vick Williams, M.D., Ph.D., professor emeritus and distinguished teaching professor, is among the original faculty members who welcomed the School of Dentistry's first 16 students in 1970.

The school hired the Texas native to write anatomy dissection instructions and to design and teach its human anatomy course. Prior to joining the faculty and moving to San Antonio, Dr. Williams had performed basic research and had taught anatomy to first-year medical students at Southwestern Medical School in Dallas.

For the next 41 years virtually every first-year dental student studied human anatomy under Dr. Williams until his retirement in 2011. He directed the course for its first 22 years and thereafter helped ensure its content and associated materials remained relevant to the evolving dental profession.

"This foundational course has consistently provided a very thorough grounding in the structure of the human body," Dr. Williams said.

"Although technology has transformed the school immensely over the years, it hasn't affected the teaching of anatomy as much as you'd expect," he explained. "Technology has not quite yet reached a level where it can fully instruct students about the body's 3-D relationships or replicate its myriad variations. That day will come but not in my foreseeable future. Nothing can replace the experience and benefit of one-on-one teaching and learning."

Now 77, Dr. Williams has no trouble remembering his first day of work in the school on Aug. 3, 1970. He was invited to an informal "let's get acquainted" meeting with the deans and a few fellow faculty members, who would later be remembered as founding fathers of the then nascent institution.

"I was the only new person," recalls Dr. Williams. "The others had been here for some time and already knew each other."

LEFT: Dr. Billy Rigsby (center) treats patients in the Dental School. **CENTER:** Dr. John V. Olson was the Dental School's first dean in 1970 when the school opened. **RIGHT:** Dr. Vick Williams was among the school's original faculty members who served for more than 40 years at the Health Science Center.

Early days at the school were exciting, and a completely new experience for Dr. Williams.

"At first I was frightened," he recalls. "I only had about a month to prepare and didn't have a clue about how to teach dental students. But Dr. Olson sat me down and advised me to concentrate on the head and neck, and then cover the rest of the body in the remaining time. And that's what I did," Dr. Williams said. "The resulting course wasn't that much different from what I had been teaching medical students, but was much more focused. Initially it was a job. Then I realized I had been offered a fantastic opportunity. Not very many people get to help start something like a dental school."

After Dr. Williams' first few weeks on the job, it seemed an additional person joined the faculty every other day or so, and soon the fundamental core of faculty was in place. Many of the founders were dentists who had proudly served in the armed services.

BUILDING THE FACULTY

The early basic sciences faculty included, along with Dr. Williams, Drs. A.J. Blankenship, Paul Hegstad, Mike Houston, Terry Mikiten, Jonathan Nishimura and Barbara Sanford. Early clinical faculty included Drs. Al Calomeni, Jim Childers, John Cornyn (father of Texas Senator Cornyn), Earl Feldman, Sam Hoskins, Don Hudson, Sydney Miller, Charlie Morris, Dan Peavy, Billy Rigsby, Hugh Tilson and Glen Walters.

DEVELOPING SPACE, CURRICULUM AND STUDENTS

The initial infrastructure of the school was a small unfinished space located under the Medical School auditorium. A floor and rooms had to be created to house dental labs, a couple of small classrooms and several offices. Half of the area was shared with the new School of Nursing. The first year, modest lab space also was created for Dr. Williams, who at the time was the only faculty member funded by an existing National Institutes of Health (NIH) research grant.

“The first class of 16 students was very capable, with all but two students graduating in 1974,” Dr. Williams recalls. “When we opened the current building in 1975, things changed dramatically. We later went from an entering class of about 32 to 152.”

In the beginning, the school focused on clinical education. Soon, new leadership instituted research policies that paid off well down the road for both students and faculty. “Today, the research mentality is engrained in the school,” Dr. Williams said.



Dr. Cynthia Banker (left) and Dr. Birgit Junfin Glass

ALUMNI SET TRENDS IN FIELD AND PHILANTHROPY

By **TINA LUTHER**

Upon entering the UT Health Science Center’s Dental School in 1971, Birgit Junfin Glass, D.D.S., M.S., and Cynthia Banker, D.D.S., M.A., didn’t consider themselves to be trailblazers.

They simply fell in love with the field of dentistry and shared the same vision of helping patients. Yet, the two were indeed pioneers of their profession as they became the first females to graduate from the Dental School in 1975.

With the school rapidly growing at that time, Dr. Glass was recruited as an instructor in the Departments of Dental Diagnostic Science and General Dentistry, and was one of the Dental School’s first female faculty members. Since 1995, she has served as the associate dean for academic affairs and continues her appointment as a tenured professor in the Department of Comprehensive Care.

After graduation, Dr. Banker worked in private practice and completed a pediatric dental residency at the Health Science Center. She also worked for several years as a clinical professor in the Department of Operative Dentistry. She was known for her compassionate care and expansive knowledge of pediatric dentistry. Today, she practices with her husband, Brett Mueller, D.D.S., at West Side Pediatric Associates and San Pedro North Pediatric Dental Associates in San Antonio.

Drs. Glass and Banker said they firmly believe in giving of their time and talent to further the field of dentistry and in supporting their alma mater. Additionally, they support the university through financial gifts. Dr. Glass is a member of the President’s Council and contributes to the Dental School’s Critical Needs Fund.

Dr. Banker is also a member of the President’s Council and she and her family established the Cynthia Banker Mueller Endowment and the Brett H. Mueller, D.D.S., Endowment for Pediatric Dentistry. Dr. Banker said she is proud that her daughter Christina Mueller chose the UT Health Science Center Dental School, which today is called the School of Dentistry, for her education. Christina is in her fourth year and is interested in public health and pediatric dentistry.

“Dentistry has made my life successful and fulfilled, so I believe that giving to my profession will give me a perpetual link to the future and allow my legacy to continue,” Dr. Banker said.

Dr. Glass agrees. “Why would anyone not give back to the Health Science Center, considering the quality education we received that has made us successful? We couldn’t have done it without that diploma!” she said.

“By giving back, we can play a small part in assuring that future graduates are as well prepared as we were, and that the future of health care in this community, including for our own families, will be in the best hands,” Dr. Glass said. “Indirectly, we continue to be rewarded as our diploma maintains the high value to inspire confidence in us from our patients.”

Get involved, engaged and invested. Join the School of Dentistry Alumni Association today! Visit makelivesbetter.uthscsa.edu/dental.



The first class of dental students graduated in 1974.

ELEMENTS OF EXCELLENCE

What made the Dental School successful so quickly? Dr. Williams believes some of the reasons can be attributed to the high number of research grants secured; the important discoveries made; the patient care and research opportunities offered to students; and the sheer number of high-caliber graduates who become successful health care professionals. Another factor is the unique culture supporting strong collaboration among excellent faculty and staff representing disparate disciplines.

Looking back over four decades, one of the greatest joys Dr. Williams recalls of his professional life has simply been the day-to-day interaction with students and the dental faculty. He also has fond memories of instructing the children of some of his former students and hearing stories about their parents who are now successful practicing dentists.

Since his retirement Dr. Williams has been living in Boulder, Colo., with his wife, Dorothy. But for the past two winters they’ve returned briefly to San Antonio so he can assist with some of the anatomy courses and enjoy living in a Hill Country cabin. “It really makes me happy to still be connected here.”



In 2004, the Dental School became one of only three universities and the only public university in the nation to receive a new 3-D Accuitomo Cone Beam Micro CT imaging system. The technology allows dentists to see images of a patient's mouth with nearly 10 times the resolution of average CT machines.



Dr. William Dodge (left) joined the Health Science Center in 1978 and was named dean of the School of Dentistry in 2013 when Dr. Kenneth Kalkwarf (right) retired after 24 years as dean. Dr. Kalkwarf was the school's longest-serving dean.

CELEBRATING 45 YEARS OF INNOVATION, DISCOVERY

CURRICULUM AND TECHNOLOGY

The School of Dentistry offers exemplary programs of study taught by faculty recruited from across the U.S. and the globe, many of whom are recognized internationally as authorities in their field. This commitment to curriculum excellence produces graduates well prepared for a variety of dental health care careers. Alumni have gone on to use their training and knowledge to advance the field of dentistry through research, teaching and prominent dental leadership positions.

Quality faculty, early and continued adoption of the latest technology and support of faculty initiatives are major reasons why the school continues to lead in dental education. In 2000 the school became one of the five U.S. dental institutions to establish an electronic curriculum support system. Faculty also pioneered the use of digital radiographs and cone-beam radiography (creates 3-D images).

Today, a variety of curriculum initiatives and technology applications enhance everyday learning experiences.

The Dental Hygiene program moved to the School of Dentistry in 2013. The blending of these two programs creates additional

training opportunities for dental students to become leaders of oral health care teams in private practice.

Students can easily view on-demand digital recordings of lectures on their laptops.

Computer-aided (CAD/CAM) technology teaches students how to create crowns and other dental restoration materials in the office, saving time and trips to the lab.

The commitment to curriculum excellence produces graduates well prepared for a variety of dental health care careers.

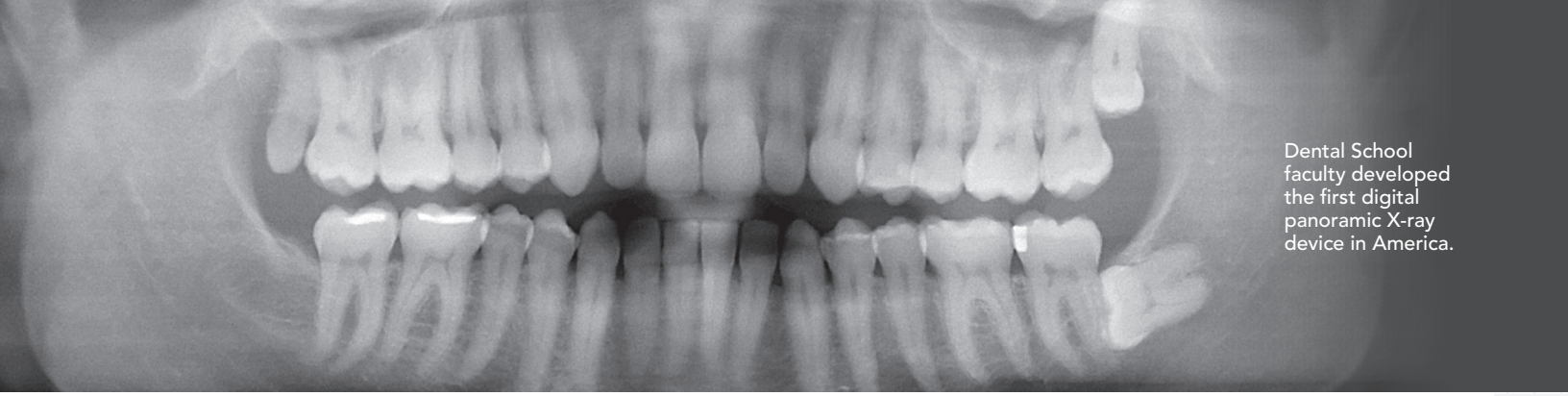
Students learn best practice techniques on how to access/manage increasingly important electronic patient records.

School-issued USB drives allow students to capture digital camera images for creating photos and/or dynamic digital presentations.

All students learn valuable cultural competency skills during South Texas clinic rotations that expose them to patients with diverse age, socio-economic and ethnic differences.

Innovative ExamSoft testing software not only improves student learning outcomes and engagement, but also helps faculty keep tests relevant, improve curriculum models and collect exam performance statistics.

Faculty are now evaluating curriculum changes designed to better integrate basic science and clinical sciences.



Dental School faculty developed the first digital panoramic X-ray device in America.



Within the last year alone, the groundbreaking research of Kenneth Hargreaves, D.D.S., Ph.D., has received more than \$12 million in grants. Dr. Hargreaves is professor and chair of endodontics and the first USAA Foundation President's Distinguished University Chair in Neurosciences. A substance similar to capsaicin, which gives chili peppers their heat, is generated at the site of pain in the human body. Dr. Hargreaves and his team discovered how to block these capsaicin-like molecules that could soon lead to a new class of nonaddictive painkillers. His research could hold the promise of impacting burn and cancer patients and others worldwide who suffer from severe or chronic pain.

Periodontist Thomas Oates, D.M.D., Ph.D., interim assistant dean for clinical research, is director of the Southwest Region of the National Dental Practice-Based Research Network, which awarded the School of Dentistry a seven-year \$4.5 million subcontract to strengthen regional collaboration on dental professionals on research and oral health care needs.

See a video about Dr. Hargreaves' research at uthscsa.edu/stories.

CLINICAL RESEARCH

School of Dentistry scientists conduct vital research providing a strong foundation for the education and training of future dental practitioners, teachers and other researchers. They add valuable insights to the field on how to better understand, prevent and manage oral diseases and preserve human health overall.

In March 1996, U.S. News and World Report ranked the institution as the No. 1 dental school in the nation

Researchers often work collaboratively with other schools and departments at the university representing broad disciplines toward accelerating scholarship and novel discoveries.

The list of research milestones and activities is long. Some include the following:

- School of Dentistry scientists enjoy a strong, successful record of securing sizable grants from the NIH, other federal/local agencies and industrial partners. Within the last decade alone, their projects have been awarded more than \$133,600,000 in funding from the NIH and other sources.

- In 2004 the school was ranked 4th in publications and 11th in scientific impact among the world's 760 dental schools (based on published research from 1998 to 2002) in a one-time study performed by Switzerland's Center for Science and Technology Studies (CEST).
- In March 1996, *U.S. News and World Report* ranked the institution as the No. 1 dental school in the nation, and the school maintained that position for every year the report was published.
- Faculty and students present award-winning abstracts at local, state, national and international meetings. Nearly one-third of those in each entering class accomplish summer research projects. For more than two decades the American Association for Dental Research has presented a significant number of research awards to the school's students.
- A faculty team developed the first digital panoramic X-ray device in America.
- Kenneth Kornman, D.D.S., Ph.D., editor of the *Journal of Periodontology*, was one of the first researchers to understand how genes can increase the risk of developing periodontal diseases.
- Researchers have conducted pivotal studies in the areas of pain and inflammation, salivary drugs, oral cancer and stem cell regeneration.



ABOVE: Through the Pediatric Dentistry Residency Program at the UT Health Science Center, dental residents provide compassionate oral health care to thousands of children each year in Laredo and Harlingen. **RIGHT:** As part of the collaborative effort sponsored by Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas Inc. (MHM) each year in February (Children's Dental Health Month), approximately 700 elementary students from the Edgewood Independent School District visit the School of Dentistry for preventive services.



SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Community outreach has been a hallmark of the School of Dentistry programs. Through direct patient care provided by oral health care professionals with advanced training, the UT Health Science Center improves the lives of hundreds of thousands of families in Bexar and Webb Counties.

In partnership with Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas Inc. (MHM), the school established in 2003 a Pediatric Dental Care Program at the Ricardo Salinas Clinic in San Antonio. The clinic records 5,000 patient visits per year and contributes significantly to students' pediatric dental training. Since 2005 MHM has donated more than \$2 million in funding to support the school's clinical education programs in Laredo, pediatric dental services at the Ricardo Salinas Clinic and other long-term programs. In 2012 the school began a MHM-funded rotation through the San Antonio Christian Dental Clinic at Haven for Hope to aid the homeless. More than 3,000 patient visits were logged there the first year.

In 2006, the A. R. "Tony" and Maria J. Sanchez Family Foundation gave a gift of \$1 million, which, combined with support from Laredo community partners, helped to establish what is now the Pediatric Dental Clinic at the Laredo Health Department.

In 2007, the UT Health Science Center's Regional Campus in Laredo received a \$2 million gift from the Lamar Bruni Vergara Trust to name its first Distinguished University Chair. Minerva Garcia, D.D.S., a Zapata native, was named the first holder of the prestigious endowment — The Lamar Bruni Vergara Trust Distinguished University Chair in Oral Health, in appreciation of The Honorable Solomon Casseb, Jr., and Mr. Joseph C. Martin, III, Trustees. Dr. Garcia directs the residency program in Laredo.

SERVICE IN ACTION

- The Dental Early Admissions Program, initiated in 1990, creates increased educational opportunities at 17 affiliated Texas colleges and universities for pre-dental students.
- The school's Hispanic Center of Excellence, recruits and retains under-represented Hispanic dental professionals and faculty.

- The Mobile Dental Van program, established in 1986, provides dental care to underserved South Texas children.
- Students staff preventive dentistry programs established at local schools, including one at Emma Fry Elementary School (begun in 1987) and another subsequently at Coronado Elementary School in the Edgewood Independent School District. Currently, the school-based prevention program has been implemented at Roy Cisneros Elementary School.
- Dental and dental hygiene students rotate to Head Start Centers to provide fluoride varnish to young children in conjunction with the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District.
- For more than 35 years, the Office of Continuing Dental Education (CDE) in the School of Dentistry has offered programs of education and training for oral health care professionals with the goal of updating and expanding their technical and professional skills and cultural enrichment. More than 265 CDE courses are offered each year.

SERVING SOUTH TEXAS

- Students provide preventive and primary health care services to patients from the colonias in Laredo that are served by Mercy Ministries of Laredo. Students also rotate to the colonias with Mercy Ministries of Laredo nurses and promotores to provide oral health education on-site.
- Students have rotated to affiliated community health centers in San Antonio and South Texas (Laredo, Eagle Pass, Del Rio, Harlingen, Brownsville, Raymondville, Santa Rosa) since the mid-1980s as part of their clinical training.
- Each year, since the early 1980s, students have participated in mission trips sponsored by the Christian Medical-Dental Association (CMDA) to border communities as well as in Mission of Mercy mission trips sponsored by the Texas Dental Association.
- When the Laredo Regional Campus was established, the School of Dentistry implemented a Pediatric Dentistry Residency Program and an Advanced Education in General Dentistry Residency Program based in Laredo with didactic training provided at the Laredo Regional Campus and clinical training provided at the Laredo Health Department.
- Specialty residency rotations in prosthodontics (1996) and periodontics (2006) were implemented at the Gateway Community Health Center in Laredo. Through these programs, patients receive specialty care.



Fourth-year dental student Leigh Martin-Veilleux (center) sees her mom, Camaron "Cami" Martin (left) and her aunt Clarian "Cara" Lannom, who both graduated from the School of Dentistry, as role models.

Photo courtesy of Dudley Harris.

MAKING LIVES BETTER RUNS IN THE FAMILY

By **NATALIE A. GUTIERREZ**

A combine, tractor, crops and animals. Camaron "Cami" Martin enjoyed farming alongside her husband and family in Clovis, N.M. Her younger sister, Clarian "Cara" Lannom, was more of an urbanite. Lannom, a working mom in Houston, had a successful career as an energy analyst for Enron Corporation, one of the largest electricity, natural gas, communications, and paper companies in the world.

But in the early 2000s, bankruptcy at Enron and shifting economics in the farming industry had the sisters rethinking their careers.

"As a mother of two young children and one on the way then, I wondered whether the corporate arena was really the right fit for me," Lannom said. "I realized that having time to spend with my family and the ability to help others was what I was missing."

Martin, a mother of three children ranging in age from 10 to 13, recognized that she too wanted a career. The sisters, who come from a close-knit family, supported each other throughout their transitions. Martin's husband, Chans, secured a position with Burlington Northern Santa Fe in Clovis, N.M., and the family made the move to Texas shortly thereafter.

"It was great to be closer to Cara because we could see each other and talk about our plans for the future," Martin said. "One day we were in Corpus Christi visiting our parents. I had just finished dental hygiene school and it just hit us! We went to dad's office and saw how excited he was to be there. There's an energy when he's there, and the joy he gains from his patients when braces come off is undeniable," she said.

"Mom and dad taught us we could do anything we put our minds to." With the support of their families, Martin and Lannom set their goals on dental school.

Their parents are John and Barbara Vondrak. Their father, John Vondrak, D.D.S., has practiced orthodontics for more than three decades in New Mexico and Texas. Their mother, Barbara Vondrak, holds a master's-degree in dental hygiene. She taught dental hygiene at the Universities of Nebraska and Maryland and worked for the American Dental Association as a consultant and a member of the dental hygiene accreditation team.

"Mom and dad have always been our mentors and examples," Martin said. Lannom added, "I've always admired my dad. He had a passion for patients, family and entrepreneurship that defined him as a person."

The sisters embarked on dental education together and chose the School of Dentistry at the UT Health Science Center for several reasons.

"The school's Dual Degree/Early Acceptance Program really helped because I was accepted early and assured admittance if I met the requirements academically. My prior degree in dental hygiene was also a great advantage," Martin said.

Lannom said she was aware of the school's reputation as one of the top in the nation and one of the most affordable.

"The school really lives up to its ranking," Lannom said. "I am so grateful for the outstanding job my professors did to prepare me. I admire them because they are so committed to their students."

Martin, who graduated from the program in 2012 and is currently a third-year resident in the Department of Orthodontics, agrees. "Our faculty is outstanding and constantly strives to find ways to improve. We practice evidence-based dentistry and have access to the most current techniques and equipment."

So when Martin's oldest daughter, Leigh Martin-Veilleux, decided to follow in her mom and aunt's footsteps, Martin was excited. In 2010 her daughter was accepted into the School of Dentistry.

By 2011, all three were learning and working side-by-side in the school's clinics and labs.

"I couldn't have been more proud," Martin said. "We all supported one another and helped guide each other. It was also fun."

When faculty and students noticed the sisters eating on campus together, they often would comment, "Look! It's a family reunion." Lannom said. "It has definitely been a unique experience."

Lannom graduated in 2014 and is now practicing general dentistry in the Hill Country. She said she is eager to see her niece graduate in May 2015.

"Cami will be able to place the traditional hood on Leigh during the ceremony," Lannom said. "This is going to be an achievement we'll remember and appreciate forever, especially for our kids."

Lannom's children are Ashlyn, 24; Kristen, 12; Parker, 10; and Lilly Kate, 8. Martin's other children are Sterling, 24, and Lindsay, 23.

"If any of our children decide they too want to pursue dentistry or any of the health care professions, we're glad to know the Health Science Center and its faculty will be here to support and prepare them well," Martin said. "That's a great feeling."

VONDRAK FAMILY GIFT ESTABLISHES CLINICAL PROFESSORSHIP

With a generous gift, John Vondrak, D.D.S., and his wife, Barbara, established the Barbara and John Vondrak Clinical Dentistry Professorship in the School of Dentistry. The professorship is the first endowment in the school dedicated to supporting the work of faculty clinicians. The funds will be used to recruit and retain exceptional clinicians to teach dental students and residents and to treat patients through UT Dentistry.

"Dentistry has been a gift to my family," Dr. Vondrak said. "The profession has changed significantly over the years. The training is intense and requires not just good dentists, but great dentists with a passion for their craft and to teach the next generation. Our daughters often speak of the outstanding faculty at the UT Health Science Center San Antonio. My wife and I want to help support the efforts of these faculty and ensure that they will be here for future generations."

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We are grateful for the continued and steadfast generosity and support of our alumni and friends. Our first Donor Honor Roll recognizes those who, over the years through total giving, have donated more than \$100,000 to education, research, clinical care and community service programs in the School of Dentistry. In addition, we highlight our donors over the past year for their support of our Campaign for the Center for Oral Health Care & Research. Thank you for helping us make lives better!

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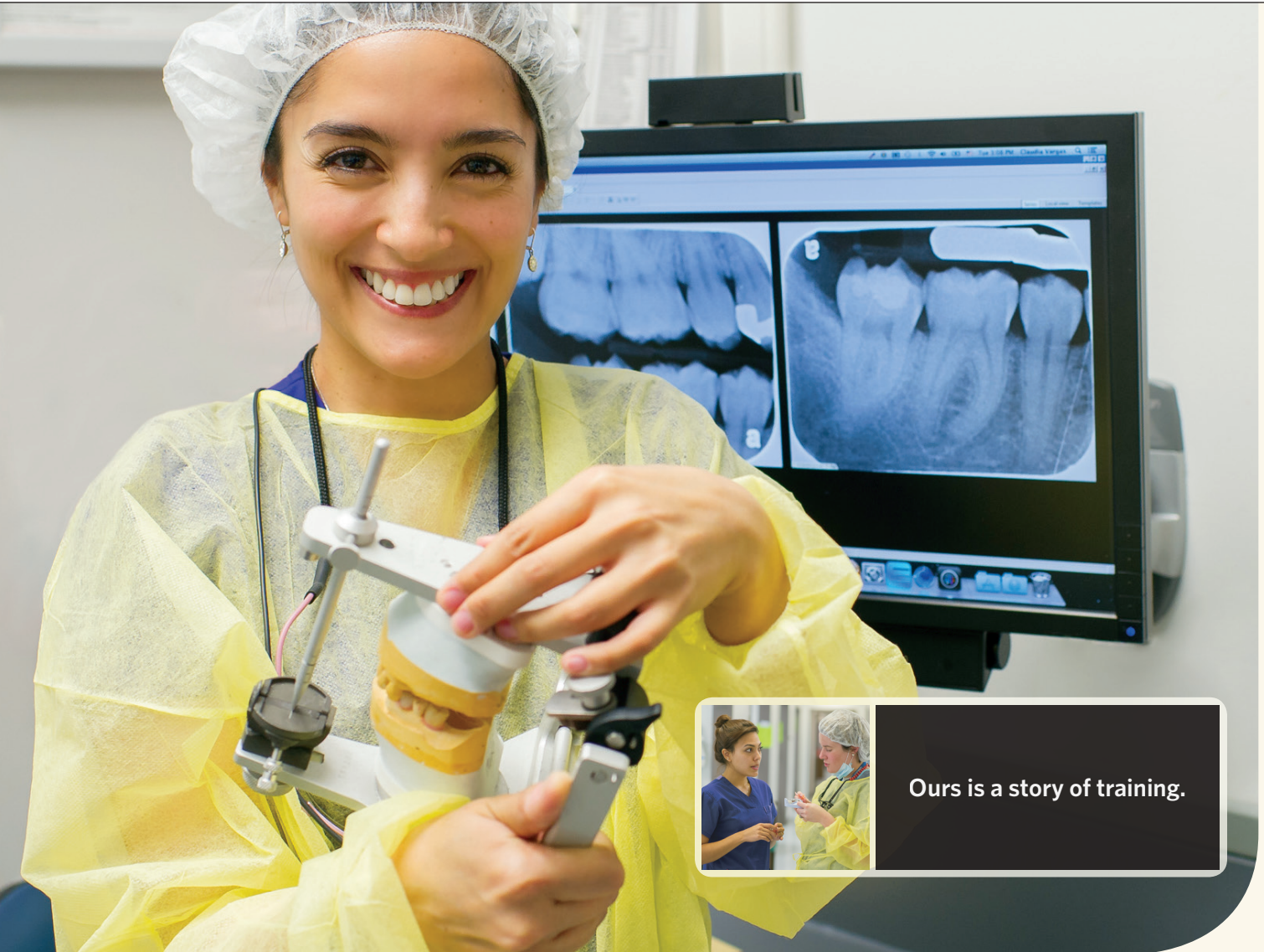
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