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## GIVE KIDS A SMILE

JAY FULHAM (DMD 2006)

Once again the community outreach branch of BU-ASDA participated in the nation-wide program, Give Kids A Smile. The event took place on February 6<sup>th</sup> in spite of inclement weather. BU sent its own contingency of dental volunteers to local clubs along with the thousands of other dental professionals and students that volunteered for this nation-wide event. Thanks to the time and energy donated by these generous dental students, many under-served kids at the boys and girls clubs of Roxbury and South Boston area learned about good dental care and basic nutrition.



BU students teaching the kids about oral care at GKAS

The kids from the two clubs ranged from 6-14 years of age and the presentations by the volunteers

included many interactive displays and demonstrations that kept them interested and involved. Even though most of the volunteers were just first and second year students, it gave them a chance to share the knowledge they acquired at school with the surrounding local community. The program was

well received by both clubs and everybody had a lot of fun.

Looking ahead to next year, the community outreach branch of ASDA is also hoping to be able to add oral screening to the Give Kids A Smile program.

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The participation of faculty and upperclassmen would be desperately needed to make this goal a reality. Special thanks should be noted to Crest and the ADA for sponsoring this second annual event and of course to all the BU students that donated their services, including: David Blackburn, Chris Kelson, Liz Walker, Riza Santos, Sharokina Eshaghi, Zeynab Barakat, Gabe, Khurram Sheikh, Josephine Lac, Rupal Karani, Stephanie Battaglia, Christina Banzon, Neetu Kainth, Priya Acharya, Misha, Ghazal

Mahjoubi, Pooja Panwar, Nikita Vakil, Thuc and Erik Reifentahl. Thanks again to all and we hope to see everyone next year along with many more new faces.

Special thanks to Christine McDonald for arranging the photography and publicity of the event.



This is the way we brush our teeth!



Learn while you play!



Teaching the kids how to brush right!



Kids learning the importance of oral hygiene

## EDITORIAL

*...many under-served kids at the boys and girls clubs of Roxbury and South Boston area learned about good dental care and basic nutrition.*



Spring is here!

Along with a fresh new look to Nature around us, the Explorer has a new look too. I hope all of you like it. As always, suggestions and comments are welcome and I look forward to living up to the high standards set by my predecessors.

It will soon be Graduation Day for our AS 2 and DMD IV students. The ASDA team wishes them all the very best for their future.

Enjoy this edition and I promise to be back with the summer edition soon.

- Meghna Dassani

AS 2005

## OUTREACH VAN PROJECT

ERIK REIFENSTAHL (DMD 2005)

One of the greatest challenges in dentistry is working to provide care to all segments of the community. Since 1997, the BUMC Outreach Van Project (OVP) has been working to “meet the people where they are”, providing medical services to the homeless in East Boston. Currently headed by GMS students Tad Lanagan and Atish Jaiswal, the OVP has successfully reached out to hundreds of people, helping them get the care they need. The Van travels to East Boston every Thurs-

day evening regardless of the weather or if it is a holiday and every week there is a group of people waiting to meet the Van in the same location at the same time. The community has come to depend on the Van and those who staff it. Traditionally, there has not been heavy involvement by students from the School of Dental Medicine. However, there is a great need for dental students to become involved and add an essential element of dental care health service to the Van. All students at BMC are eli-

gible to travel out with the Van. The only requirement is that all volunteers must attend a brief orientation conducted by the project leaders. This presentation reviews the history of the Van as well as policies and safety guidelines needed in the field. To get more information about these presentations, contact Tad and Atish at [outreach@bu.edu](mailto:outreach@bu.edu) or Erik Reifenstahl, DMD 2005 at [erikfr@bu.edu](mailto:erikfr@bu.edu).

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

DAVID BLACKBURN (DMD 2006)



The Massachusetts Dental Society’s (MDS) *Food for Thought* program is designed to provide a facet of dental education to students, which is typically unavailable in the dental school curriculum.

The *Food for Thought* program involves honoring a faculty member from Boston University

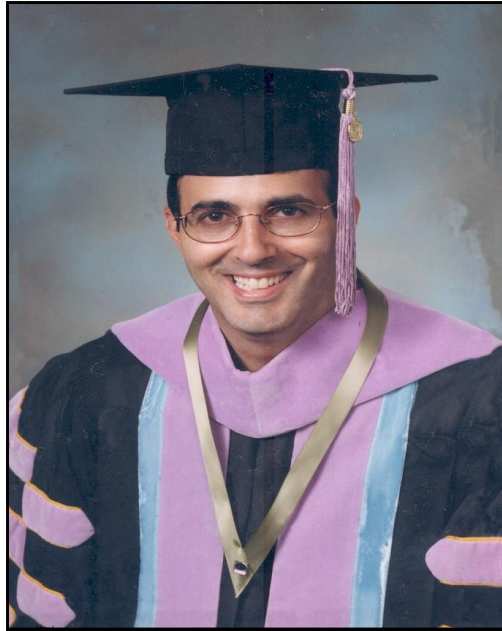
Goldman School of Dental Medicine, Harvard University School of Dentistry, and Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. On behalf of the student body, representatives from ASDA select an educator from their respective school who is held in high regard for his/her teachings.

Dr. Jeffery Hutter was selected to be honored at the faculty recognition *Food for Thought* program. The program was held on December 3, 2003 at the Boston Uni-

versity School of Dental Medicine. Dr. Hutter was chosen based on his dedication to the future of dentistry and personal involvement in dental education. At the *Food for Thought* event, Dr. Hutter lectured on antibiotics therapy and treatment planning. Students who attended the MDS *Food for Thought* program benefited from an intimate lecture from one of Boston University’s prominent faculty members.

*“Dr. Jeffery Hutter was selected to be honored at the faculty recognition Food for Thought program”*

**IN PROFILE: DR. MARK FERRIERO**  
 MEGHNA DASSANI (AS 2005)



Dr. Ferriero at the AGD Fellowship ceremony

*Dr. Mark Ferriero*  
*Assistant Clinical Professor*

*DDS, Georgetown University*

*Fellow, Academy of General Dentistry*

*“Students make us better teachers. They constantly challenge us; make us think outside the box.”*

**D**r. Ferriero’s fascination with dentistry began when he was 3 yrs of age. Intrigued with his Nonni’s (grandmother, in Italian) “teeth that came off at night”, he wanted the same. Ten years later, at a visit to his dentist’s office, he was enthralled with the “bells and whistles” of all the dental equipment. After catching him squirt the walls with the air-water syringe once too often, his dentist finally told him,” Mark,

you really should consider becoming a dentist!” That cinched it. That was the day he decided that a dentist is what he would be. An increased aptitude for the natural sciences (and a sweet tooth) were the final deciding factors in his choice of a career.

A double major in Chemistry and Biology from Brandeis

University, Dr. Ferriero is a dental graduate from Georgetown University, Washington D.C. While a senior in dental school, he studied for 2 months (in the summer of 1985) at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland at the School of Dentistry Dublin Dental Hospital. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of senior year, he was a student teacher in the Dental Materials laboratory. He graduated cum laude from both; Dental school and Brandeis University. At

graduation, he was inducted into OKU (Omicron Kappa Upsilon), the highest honor to be awarded in predoctoral studies. It is a national dental honor fraternity which inducts only approximately 10% of graduating dental students each year. He is also a member of Delta Sigma Delta and an honorary member of Alpha Omega fraternities.

After graduation, he went straight into private practice, first as an associate with a small practice which he eventually purchased and then owned for 10years during which time he also taught at Cape Cod Community College in the Dental Hygiene Program in the Division of Health Sciences where he taught Oral Pathology and Clinical Periodontology. He started teaching at BU in August 1998 and has been with the school as full-time faculty ever since. “Teaching is my love” says he.

Dr. Ferriero is also actively involved in the Academy of General Dentistry and got his Fellowship in the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) in July 2000. He is currently working on his Mastership.

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Besides his love for teaching, Dr. Ferriero loves music and the performing arts. He plays the piano, guitar as well as the banjo. In fact, he has been playing the guitar since he was 5 years of age and taught it at the young age of 14. He started his singing career in the basement of his family home and has sung with the Paul Hill Chorale of Georgetown University. He has sung at the Kennedy Center and has performed all over Cape Cod. Among is most memorable performances was at the Majestic Theatre in downtown Boston in "David-The Musical". He has been a church cantor for 20years. "If I'd not been a dentist, I would have pursued a career in live performance entertainment."

Among his favorite relaxation past times is traveling. His favorite destinations are Ireland and Maui. Dr. Ferriero enjoys bowling; loves to ski, play tennis and golf.

"Live performances, musical and theatrical, great speakers, my family (especially my parents) and my god children inspire me. My students inspire me. Students make us better teachers. They constantly challenge us; make us think outside the box. They make us strive to be better." says he.

"I love working with students and love the interaction with them. I derive great pleasure from seeing students' "light bulbs go off". That's why I teach."

His message to the students: "You are at a great facility. BU offers you

every educational opportunity including great faculty and staff. Afford yourself of all that BU has to offer. Enjoy the city of Boston. You are here to be the best dentist you can be. Grab as much knowledge as possible from faculty and staff. BU is one of the most diverse universities in the country. Make the most of your education!"

On a final note, I'd like to add that this year is Dr. Ferriero's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with ASDA. "Molto bene!"

*"You are here to be the best dentist you can be."*

## Humor In Scrubs.....

What does the dentist of the year get?...A little plaque

Seen in Readers Digest:

Newer version of emoticons: :- # I just got braces



What game did the dentist play when she was a child? Caps and robbers

# TRI-REGIONAL MEETING

ELISA SIN(DMD 2007)



developing unity on a regional and national level.

ASDA, being a channel for dental student concerns,

but the e-newsletter Accelerator is available on the ASDA website. On top of that, ASDA makes handbooks, guides, as well as test-prep materials. One could easily argue as not only being helpful but pivotal in furthering your career.

But it didn't end there. Each of the schools brought region reports, sharing what each chapter had accomplished, everything from fundraising to philanthropy. It felt good to have a good showing of our own accomplishments. But what was exciting was hearing what other chapters did, spurring us with ideas to take home and incorporate.

After attending sessions on how to grow pre-dental

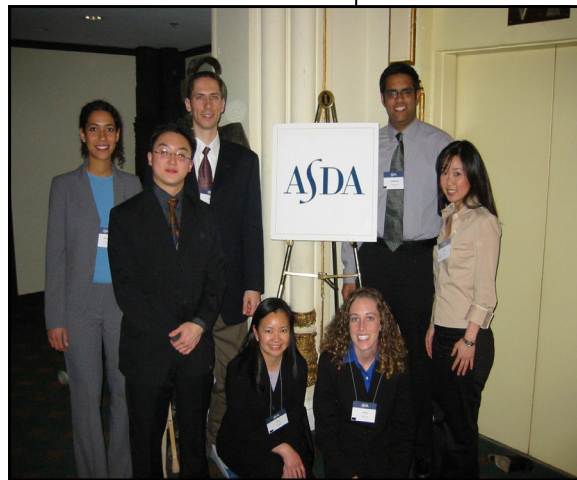
Just a few short days ago, I was at the Hotel InterContinental in Chicago, Illinois. In the midst of first year midterms and stumbling to learn operative techniques, did I run to the hands of Chicago-style pizza and the Oprah show to eat and cry my stresses away? No, but what I did experience, brought me what fellow attendees liked to refer to as a hearty dose of ASDA fever.

That last weekend of February, I was in Chicago, home to the American Dental Association headquarters, attending the ASDA Eastern Regional Meeting. I know, it sounds like a mouthful but what was it exactly? It was an opportunity, and an experience, a learning experience at that. ASDA delegates and chapter leaders from each of the 14 schools in the Eastern Region congregated for a jam packed schedule for improving each of our respective chapters and for

helps keep us abreast of the most current issues with its publications. Yes those monthly informative publications reaching your doors are just one of the many benefits of this organization. Getting involved and contributing is only an email away to your editorial board of the publication of your choice.

Joe DiBernardo, contribut-

societies in undergrad campuses, we learnt of the House of Delegates, the legislative and governing body of the As-



Zeynab, Leon, David, Riza, Britt, Khurram and Elisa

ing editor, keyed us on all the plethora of publications we are provided with. Not only do we receive ASDA News and Mouth,

sociation.

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*"we were oriented to ASDA's purpose, governance and activities."*

# ASDA WORLD TURNS-ARGENTINA

Yael Frydman (AS 2005)

**H**ey!!! Let's go visit Argentina!!!!

I invite you to take, with me, a virtual tour around Argentina, the country of *Tango* and the *gauchos*... But hurry, there's not much time and a lot to see!!!! Bring your backpack and put in it a bathing suit, a winter coat, a map—even though we might not open it—a thermos with hot water and a mate—no one travels without it!!! It's the characteristic infusion of the *portenos*, *yerba* herbs in a special pot and a metallic straw... a few *alfajores* for the road—Argentinean candy- and your camera!

We'll meet in downtown Buenos Aires, my hometown. And while we have our classic breakfast—coffee with milk and *medialunas* (croissants)—at Café Tortoni, one of the most traditional cafes there... we can start enjoying our journey: look at the people, rushing to their offices, traffic in rush hour, kids going to school all wearing white uniforms... And the architecture is amazing! High skylines, modern buildings which never seem to end, mixed together with French houses with black roofs and Italian monuments in every park. Buenos Aires

is a vibrant cosmopolitan city, with an incredible culture to offer.



Yael at Cataratas Del Iguazu (Iguazu Waterfalls)

Next, we'll jump north to Misiones, a province on the border with Brazil, to explore the rainforest and the unbelievable Iguazu Waterfalls. The water from the river falls from a height of 70 meters, through 275 falls, and over a 2.7 Km.-long area. The border with Brazil goes through the *Garganta del Diablo* (Devil's Throat), where many cascades produce sprays of water and colorful rainbows. It's incredibly powerful! Take your time, and just listen to the water We are surrounded by an overwhelming abundance of wild subtropical vegetation, hundreds of bird species and much more butterflies than you could ever imagine.

Now we are soaking wet! Let's walk a while in the sun towards Tucuman

while our clothes dry off. The capital of the smallest Argentine province and known as "the Garden of the Republic"

because of the richness of its flora, San Miguel de Tucumán preserves intact traces of its colonial history. Here, in the Casa de Tucuman, the independence of our nation was declared on July 9<sup>th</sup> 1816.

It's time for lunch! Lets meet some friends in Mendoza, at the top of the Aconcagua—the highest mountain in America—to have an *asado* (barbecue) with empanadas... We are famous for our meat. Believe me, it's the best!

Sorry, no time for siesta (nap) today... there's still a lot to see... Cuyo—"desert country" in the Indian language—is the region of the high peaks, the snow-covered

“...*Garganta del Diablo (Devil's Throat), where many cascades produce sprays of water and colorful rainbows.*”

volcanoes, and the large wilderness spreading from the Andes mountain

range and foothills to the steppe. This area is also famous for the grapevines and wineries. Don't

forget to try a glass of Malbec red wine.

Now we'll go rafting down the mountain and start our descending tour to the south; to the Patagonia. Walking down the Andes, the landscape starts to change. Millennial silent forests with native vegetable species are extended along the shores of glistening waters. It is starting to get

colder; we are approaching Perito Moreno Glacier. It's one of a group



Iguazu

of twelve sliding masses of ice. The glacier obstructs the normal flow of waters, but when the

pressure is high enough, approximately every three years, the ice walls, 60 m high, break and the water spills into the lake. It's astonishing, quiet and blue. Everywhere. The only thing we can hear is the ice breaking. The roar of the ice and the water is such that it is impossible to believe.

It's nighttime now; we'd better get heading back to Buenos Aires, where all

the fun is just about to begin. Buenos Aires has the spirit of keeping late hours – the activity by night is permanent and streets look animate, even on week days. There is a varied offer: concerts, music shows, dinners, theatre, cinema, outdoor activities, parties in discos, social meetings in cafés, pubs. So choose your favorite and enjoy it... 'till tomorrow morning!

*“Perito Moreno Glacier; It is one of a group of twelve sliding masses of ice”*

(Continued from page 6)

This meant having to learn how to follow parliamentary procedure and the agenda put forth by the house. This in turn puts forth important resolutions to get implemented thereby integrating the ideas of many dental students nationally into courses of action.

In total, we were oriented to ASDA's purpose, governance and activities. We were armed with tools for building strong,

cooperative relationships with dental administrators on dental education issues. We were informed on important issues such as access to care and licensure. Perks with being a member were also outlined as dental students love finding good deals and services. So on the endnote as you and I both rush back to our busy exam schedules and hectic lifestyles, I bring back to you the take home message on what

ASDA and the ADA for that matter is: organized dentistry helping you protect and maximize the investment you have made in your career.



## MDS AND NERB PATIENT REFERRAL PROGRAM

DAVID BLACKBURN (DMD 2006)

**N**eed a patient for your NERB exam? The Massachusetts Dental Society (MDS) wants to help!

After receiving feedback from dental students in Massachusetts about how difficult it can be to find a patient for the NERB Exam, the MDS has designed the NERB Patient Referral Program. This program is an online lottery system that is restored with patients' names through referrals from MDS member dentists in the Boston area and from applicants who were solicited through the public section of the MDS Web site.

By visiting [www.massdental.org](http://www.massdental.org), you will find a link to the MDS NERB Online Lottery. By registering, you may receive a potential patient's name from the

MDS NERB lottery system. A dental student may only receive one patient's name at a time. It is up to the student to determine if the patient qualifies for the exam. All the patients who have applied for this program have been informed that an initial screening must be completed in order to take x-rays and to make sure he or she is a suitable patient. This list is constantly updated as applications come in.

The MDS NERB Patient Referral Program is a pilot program that supplements the willing efforts of Dr. Stephen DuLong, Associate Dean, Clinical Affairs at Boston University, and staff to help find patients for students during the NERB exam.

Other sources for students to find patients for the NERB exam include:  
Alumni dentists: Connect

with an alumni dentist of your school and ask if he or she can offer you a patient who fits the NERB patient criteria.

Massachusetts Community Health Centers: The Massachusetts health centers may be able to suggest patients who come to them in need of reduced fees. Visit their website at [www.massleague.org](http://www.massleague.org) for more information.

MDS district dental societies: The Boston area consists of two district dental societies, the Metropolitan District and the Middlesex District (there are 13 districts state-wide). These districts may assist you with a more concentrated list of dentists in your area who may be willing to provide a patient of their own for use during the NERB exam.

*..a pilot program that supplements the willing efforts of Dr. Stephen DuLong, Associate Dean..*

## ASDA UPCOMING EVENTS....

**LOOK OUT FOR THESE EXCITING EVENTS:**

- ORAL-B LUNCH N' LEARN- JUNE 18
- GLAXO-SMITHKLINE LUNCH N' LEARN - JUNE 21



# The Artistic Dentist



*Redgirl- Drawing by a computer mouse  
Yuan Fu Shek (DMD 2005)*

*...And as the world was silent,  
she shattered the peace,  
she shattered the insanity,  
and told me how lucky she was.*

*She told me that  
I had helped her out  
of one of the worse times  
of her life.*

*She told me that I had  
treated her better than  
anyone else before,  
but I still think she deserved more.*

*And as we both sat there gazing  
through our tear filled eyes,  
seeing each others thoughts  
clearer than the night's gale sky;*

*We both shed a few tears,  
which is rare for me,  
I'd rather bottle it up inside,  
for a rainy day.*

*And I just don't know.*

*Thuc*

*When did I wish  
For my eyes to be drowned in tears*

*When did I wish  
for my voice to be lost in distant val-  
leys*

*When did I wish  
to tread a path across burning sand*

*When did I wish  
for my dreams to be shattered to pieces*

*When did I wish  
for my life to be covered with sorrow*

*Never.*

*I never did wish  
But He gave me these  
To make me stronger*

*So I may emerge a better person  
with grit of character  
To teach me to trust sparingly  
But to trust wholly  
So I may find  
true friends among all*

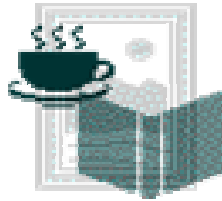
*And I thank Him for all that He's  
given me.*

*Anonymous*

## *And th'ASDA way it is...*

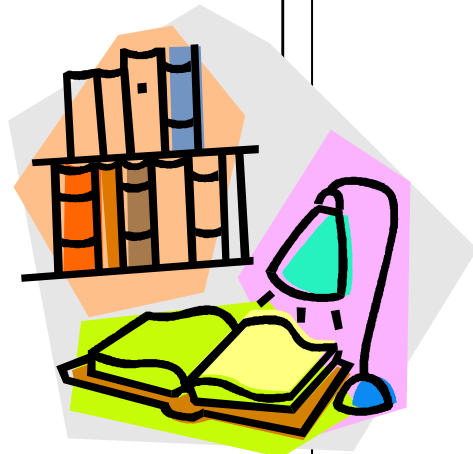
### What changes would you like to make to the cafeteria?

- A student lounge, televisions, and computer stations.
- Maybe we could have cocktail waitresses in Checkers
- Longer cafeteria and grill hours
- For the cafeteria, I would have healthier options. What is up with having donuts and cookies and preserved bars for breakfast? How about some fresh eggs and fruit options in the dental school.
- The menu needs to be expanded beyond a wrap and sandwich and some better coffee – the café staff are great; they are sweet and nice and very accommodating.
- Some of the seat cushions need to be changed. I know one of the ones close to the wall have been missing one for quite some time.
- STARBUCKS COFFEE!!!



### What is your favorite spot for studying?

- SPH student lounges
- Espresso Royal at main campus
- In conference rooms and medical library
- My favorite spot to study is at home b/c it takes just as long to get home (12 minute walk), that it does to the library at the med school b/c you have to walk there and wait for the elevators. The dental school needs a study place, even if it is an empty room with cubicles
- Barnes and Noble
- The Medical Library. Good lighting, most of the time quiet, and wireless Ethernet is available.



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**We're on the Web!**  
[http://dentalschool.bu.edu/  
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## Yankee Dental Congress®

January 29 - February 1, 2004 • Boston, Massachusetts

**M**ore than 800 volunteers, 500 exhibiting companies, and nearly 28,000 attendees all helped to make the 29<sup>th</sup> Yankee Dental Congress the success that it was.

As a Boston University dental student, your membership in the Massachusetts Dental Society (MDS) paid for your registration fees at Yankee. Here are some of the highlights that BU students enjoyed at this year's Yankee.

The Yankee kick-off reception attracted students from Boston, Harvard, and Tufts Universities to celebrate together

enjoying dinner, cocktails and dancing. Prior to the evening's reception, students attended the "You Look Too Young To Be A Dentist" lecture and learned patient management skills for the dental office.

Students enjoyed the free student-related courses at the Minuteman Lecture Series on Saturday. Topics included financial planning for young professionals, federal legislation and organized dentistry, and tax planning for students and new dentists. Saturday also offered students the opportunity to register for job placement services and to learn about post-graduate

programs at the GPR/AEGD Fair.

And several students from Boston University shared their research with Yankee attendees at the Student Research Table Clinic on Saturday. Students from Boston dental schools presented various research topics relating to clinical dentistry and basic sciences.



### ASDA FUNDRAISER : CREST WHITESTRIP SALE

**April 12 - April 23 12 - 2 PM Front Lobby**  
**The all - new SUPREME Whitening kits, sold only in - office,**  
**for only \$30**