Innovation in & Commitment to Research

Newly appointed Associate Dean for Research Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska heads up GSDM's premier centralized research facility.
Dear Alumni and Friends,

This past year has been very exciting and productive for our School. I continue to be gratified and inspired by the commitment and passion evidenced by our faculty, staff, and students. The collegiality and camaraderie on campus make my job a true pleasure.

Almost exactly a year ago, we embarked on an Applied Strategic Planning process. The plan has been finalized and reviewed by President Brown, University Provost and Chief Academic Officer Jean Morrison, and Medical Campus Provost Karen Antman. This plan has helped us to identify the goals which, once achieved, will enable us to become the premier center of excellence in oral health education, research, and patient care in this nation.

In conjunction with that planning process, we have been working with the architectural firm SmithGroup to analyze existing space and utilization, understand our future direction and needs, develop and present several facility solution options, and develop a master plan for the School.

In addition to these exciting initiatives, inside you will find news about our School, our students, the important research being conducted, and our work in the community. I hope you are as pleased as I am with all that we have accomplished during this past year.

Thank you for allowing me to update you on these important and exciting initiatives and again, thank you for supporting the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey W. Hutter
Dean
Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska
Appointed Associate Dean for Research

Effective October 4, 2010, Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter created the Office of the Associate Dean for Research at the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) and appointed Dr. Maria Kukuruzinska Associate Dean for Research. In this role, Dr. Kukuruzinska will serve as chair of the Research Committee and director of the Office of the Associate Dean for Research. She will work closely with counterparts at the other schools and colleges of the University to promote the research interests of GSDM and the University. Dr. Kukuruzinska will represent GSDM on the several research-related committees of the Medical Campus and University and also represent the School at the local, national, and international levels.

“I am confident that Dr. Kukuruzinska is the right person to transform our research efforts and create a robust Office of the Associate Dean for Research that will be on the cutting edge of research. This will benefit the profession and ultimately the patient and will also add to the University’s reputation as a great urban research institution,” said Dean Hutter.

Kukuruzinska has an extensive record of grants and awards. Her active grants include NIDCR; NIH-funded Regulation of Salivary Gland Development by Adhesion Receptors; and The Role of E-cadherin N-glycans in Oral Cancer. In addition to her research activities, Kukuruzinska lectures regularly and has an extensive body of published, peer-reviewed journal articles, reports, and edited books. Her seminal scientific contributions include elucidation of the interplay between protein N-glycosylation and E-cadherin-mediated adhesion, and—most recently—Wnt signaling. Her publications have been singled out by the website Faculty 1000 and selected for editorial Research Highlights in Nature Chemical Biology.

“My immediate priority is to establish new support mechanisms to facilitate predoctoral, postdoctoral, and faculty research. The goal is to encourage students and clinical faculty to participate in research via different training opportunities and programmatic initiatives,”

The goal is to encourage students and clinical faculty to participate in research via different training opportunities and programmatic initiatives. This will expand the pool of investigators and promote the establishment of collaborative research teams with a focus on translational sciences,” said Kukuruzinska. “I hope that this approach will enhance the School’s research accomplishments and educational programs as well as increase its scholarly visibility at the University, national, and international levels.”

Kukuruzinska received a BA in Chemistry and Biology from Bryn Mawr College and a PhD in Biochemistry from Johns Hopkins University, where she also served as a postdoctoral research associate. From 1984 to 1988 she was a Life Sciences Research Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Cancer Research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Since 1988, Kukuruzinska has held numerous positions at both GSDM and the Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM). She has served as assistant professor and associate professor and is currently professor in the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology at GSDM and assistant research professor in the Department of Biochemistry at BUSM.

Kukuruzinska has been a member—and served as chair—of numerous peer review committees and currently serves on the College of CSR Reviewers, at the Center for Scientific Review of the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the United States-Israel Bi-national Science Foundation, and the Special Emphasis Panels at the National Center for Research Resources of the National Institutes of Health. She is also a grant reviewer at the Institute of Molecular Pathology and Immunology at the University of Porto, a member of the editorial board for Cell Health and Cytoskeleton, and a reviewer for numerous scientific publications.

In addition to her membership in many professional organizations, she is currently co-chair of the Gordon Conference on Salivary Glands and Exocrine Biology 2013, and a founding member of both the Norwegian-United States Initiative on Sjogren’s Syndrome (NUSSIS) and the Life Sciences Research Foundation Alumni Board.

Loss of Dkk-1, a suppressor of canonical Wnt signaling, marks oral squamous cell carcinoma (OSCC). Fresh specimens of OSCC, including well-differentiated OSCC and the adjacent cytologically normal epithelium (AE) were processed for immunofluorescence localization for Wnt signaling and adhesive junctions, green) and nuclei (blue).

Kukuruzinska’s research includes elucidation of the interplay between protein N-glycosylation and E-cadherin-mediated adhesion, and—most recently—Wnt signaling.
Propetide’s Normal Role in Healthy Bone ID’d for the First Time, Shown to Help Bone Development

Professor Dr. Philip Trackman and his team identified for the first time the normal role of the lysyl oxidase propeptide (LOX-PP) in healthy bone formation. Oral Biology PhD graduate Dr. Siddharth Vora spent an additional postdoctoral year in Dr. Trackman’s lab and was a major contributor, and Dr. Matthew Nugent’s lab in BUSM’s Department of Biochemistry also collaborated on part of the research.

The critical finding is that LOX-PP naturally interferes with the effects of an important bone growth factor, effectively slowing the growth of pre-osteoblasts, cells that will ultimately make bone. Because these cells cannot multiply and make bone at the same time, Drs. Trackman and Vora think LOX-PP helps pre-osteoblasts stop growing to allow for further development so that they can make bone. Bone formation is a multistep process and the control of each phase, regulated by growth factors and apparently also by LOX-PP, is crucial.

Dr. Trackman and colleagues have already made huge breakthroughs studying how LOX-PP prevents tumor growth and tumor cell growth that can metastasize to bone. Growth factors made by tumor cells and by normal bone cells permit these different cells to “talk” to each other, encouraging tumors to grow in the bone. “By interfering with this communication, we think LOX-PP can treat or prevent metastasis,” Dr. Trackman says.

New Research Highlights Saliva’s Ability to Break Down Dietary Gluten

In June 2010, GSDM Associate Professor of Periodontology & Oral Biology Dr. Eva Helmerhorst received an R01 award from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), a division of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Her research, titled “Gastrointestinal Microbes Degrading Dietary Gluten,” is funded for five years at just over $2 million.

The research is related to the novel role of saliva in food digestion. Dr. Helmerhorst and her team have discovered oral proteases with unique specificities so far not identified in mammalian digestive enzyme systems. The discovery of bacterial proteolytic enzymes capable of degrading dietary proteins provides new insight into the capacity of the oral environment to impact food digestion.

Dr. Helmerhorst’s findings show that human saliva contains enzymes that specifically target dietary gluten for breakdown. The gluten family of proteins causes serious health hazards—including celiac disease—a digestive disease that damages the small intestines and interferes with absorption of nutrients from food—in certain genetically predisposed individuals. People with this disease have difficulty tolerating gluten, a protein found in wheat, rye, and barley. According to research published by The National Digestive Diseases Information Clearinghouse (NDDIC), more than 2 million people in the United States, about 1 in 133 people, have celiac disease.

“The discovery of enzymes with gluten-degrading capacity in the oral cavity may open new diagnostic and treatment avenues for patients afflicted with celiac disease,” says Dr. Helmerhorst.

Dr. Helmerhorst will collaborate on this research with Dr. Floyd Dewhirst, senior member of the staff at The Forsyth Institute. Functional studies pertaining to gluten neutralization in vivo will be carried out in collaboration with Professor of Medicine Dr. Detlef Schuppan of the Division of Gastroenterology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Additional key personnel include co-investigators Drs. Guoxian Wei and Erdjan Salih in the GSDM Department of Periodontology & Oral Biology, and consultants Drs. William Cruckshank, Fritz Koning, and GSDM Professor & Chair of Periodontology & Oral Biology Dr. Frank Oppenheim.

Before Using Drugs to Prevent Heart Disease, Try Better Oral Health

In a Boston University/University of Helsinki collaboration, the oral enzyme salivary lysozyme (SLZ) was proven a stronger marker of metabolic syndrome in people with heart disease than C-reactive protein (CRP), which doctors currently look at before prescribing preventive heart disease drugs. Metabolic syndrome is a risk factor for heart disease.

“This indirectly suggests that improving oral health may be a prudent approach before dispensing expensive medicines such as statins,” says GSDM Research Associate Professor Dr. Sok-Ja Janket. “But we need to look at changes in metabolic syndrome markers with dental treatment in a clinical trial.”

Along with Drs. Markku Quaasmu, Judith Jones, Raul Garcia, and Thomas Van Dyke, Dr. Janket co-authored an article titled “Association of Salivary Lysozyme and C-Reactive Protein with Metabolic Syndrome” in the September 2010 issue of Clinical Periodontology.

SLZ was significantly associated with metabolic syndrome, even after the effect of the systemic inflammation marker CRP was controlled. SLZ was also associated with an even earlier stage of heart disease than hypertension, another risk factor for heart disease.

Metabolic syndrome, also called Syndrome X, is characterized by three of five criteria:
- abdominal obesity
- elevated fasting glucose level or having diabetes
- high triglyceride level
- low HDL level
- high blood pressure

Dr. Janket was supported by the American Heart Association.

Weakened Antibacterial Immunity Linked to Obesity

Dr. Salomon Amar has linked obesity to weakened antibacterial immunity. Through experimental research, Dr. Amar and his team looked at how control and obese mice fought P. gingivalis infection. In order to study this, they infected the mice using silk thread that had been coated with bacterial broth and tied around their molars. It was determined that obesity acutely compromised the immune responses to gum infection as well as infection of the entire body based on the bone loss and bacterial counts of the mice.

“These findings are significant because they are the first to demonstrate an immune paralysis related to obesity,” says Dr. Amar. “Based on this knowledge, substantial attention to antibacterial immunity will now be required in the treatment of obese individuals.”

Dr. Amar and his team also assessed the chemical secretion profile of macrophages and found that levels of key signaling molecules were considerably lower in macrophages from the obese mice, and the expression profile of inflammation-related genes was altered. Exactly how obesity causes this reaction remains uncertain, but the results highlight one particular signaling pathway involving the transcription factor NF-κB.

In April 2010, GSDM Associate Professor Dr. Miklos Sahin-Toth was awarded a five-year R01 grant by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The grant totals $1,840,314 and will give him the opportunity to further study the role of chymotrypsin C in human pancreatitis.

“Together with my existing R01 grant, this new grant will allow me to continue studies toward the identification of new genetic risk factors and their mechanism of action in chronic pancreatitis, a debilitating human disease,” Dr. Sahin-Toth explains.
His existing NIDDK R01 grant titled, “Molecular Pathomechanism of Hereditary Pancreatitis,” was renewed last July until June of 2014. In 2007, Dr. Sahin-Toth’s team was first to suggest that the product of the CTRC gene, the digestive enzyme chymotrypsin C, plays an important role in the cause of chronic pancreatitis. Up to that point researchers had studied only trypsin’s role in chronic pancreatitis, but following this discovery, his team began looking at chymotrypsin C activity to help treat the disease.

Mutant CTRC Gene Has a New Way to Trigger Pancreatitis

Drs. Miklos Sahin-Toth and Richard Szmola of the Department of Molecular & Cell Biology at GSDM have found another way that CTRC mutants trigger pancreatitis.

Drs. Sahin-Toth and Szmola already knew from their previous work that CTRC gene mutations lead to pancreatitis. They showed in a Journal of Biological Chemistry paper that the activity of mutant digestive enzymes damages acinar cells (those that make and give out digestive enzymes). In this new study, they show that the misfolding of mutant digestive enzymes also kills acinar cells.

“Thus, different mechanisms converge onto a common endpoint, acinar cell death,” says Dr. Sahin-Toth. “This can suggest that perhaps we should target this endpoint for therapy rather than the individual pathways leading there, which may be more difficult to treat.”

The new way CTRC mutants are attacking acinar cells may not be unique, either. Dr. Sahin-Toth says other mutant digestive enzymes may be doing the same thing—misfolding in the endoplasmic reticulum (ER), causing ER stress, and killing the cell.

The GSDM researchers are the first to show that a mutant digestive enzyme can harm acinar cells through ER stress.

The research is part of Dr. Sahin-Toth’s ongoing investigation of the role of chymotrypsin C in digestive physiology and the role of chymotrypsin C mutations as risk factors for chronic pancreatitis in humans. He holds a grant, “Chymotrypsin C in Pancreatitis,” and recently received two American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) supplements.

Milo Hellman Research Award Presented to GSDM Student

The Council on Scientific Affairs (COSA) selected Susan Baloul ORTHO ’09, ’11 as the winner of the 2010 American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) Milo Hellman Research Award. She is the first GSDM student to receive the prestigious award.

Dr. Baloul was selected based on her research titled, “Mechanism of Action and Morphological Changes in the Alveolar Bone in Response to Selective Alveolar Decortication Facilitated Tooth Movement,” a topic she chose because of her interest and experience in both periodontics and orthodontics. Dr. Baloul worked on this research over three years while completing her DSc in orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics at GSDM.

Her research sought to test if corticotomy-induced osteoclastogenesis and bone remodeling underlie the orthodontic tooth movement, and how selective alveolar decortication enhances the rate of tooth movement. To better understand the mechanism, Dr. Baloul used t44 Sprague-Dawley rats separated into three treatment groups, including corticotomy alone, tooth-movement alone, and “combined” therapy. Changes in each therapy group were assessed using faxitron analyses, microcomputed tomography, histomorphometric studies, and quantitative-real time PCR (q-PCR) of expressed mRNAs.

Dr. Baloul developed novel assays for alveolar bone structures of the rats, isolated sufficient amounts of RNA to study numerous markers by q-PCR, adapted micro-CT measurement for the 3-dimensional changes in the alveolar bone, and generated large amounts of samples for future testing. The resulting data—which was consistent at all levels of analysis—suggested alveolar decortication enhances the rate of tooth movement during the initial tooth displacement phase. This results in a coupled mechanism of bone resorption and bone formation during the earlier stages of treatment and this mechanism underlies the rapid orthodontic tooth movement.

Conference Draws Leaders in the Field to Discuss Atherothrombosis

In September 2010, GSDM and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) presented a conference titled, “3Is (Infection, Immunity, Inflammation) and Atherothrombosis: New Directions for Improving Patient Care.”

The conference examined atherothrombosis disorders by assessing what is known about the role of infection, immunity, inflammation, and their interactions in the development and progression of atherosclerotic diseases. Speakers at the conference also reviewed emerging technologies in the field and identified research needs related to improving prevention and treatment of atherothrombotic diseases.

“I’d like to thank everyone who participated in the conference, especially Acting Director of NHLBI Dr. Susan Shurin, Dean Hutter, our keynote speakers Drs. Peter Libby and Joseph L. Witztum, and all the speakers who presented cutting-edge and broad-based basic and clinical data of utmost public health importance,” said Dr. Amar, the conference chair. “The conference served to increase integration between the 3Is in the context of atherothrombosis and highlight emerging technologies and applications that may help shape the field in the future. I am sure everyone in attendance was able to learn a great deal and I was pleased to host such an important event.”

Time for a Change in U.S. Oral Health Care Delivery System

In a paper published in a special edition of the Journal of Public Health Dentistry, Professor and Chair of Health Policy & Health Services Research Dr. Raul Garcia discussed enhancements needed for oral health care services in order to eliminate oral health disparities. The article, “Envisioning Success: the Future of the Oral Health Care Delivery System in the United States,” was co-authored by Drs. Ronald Inge, Linda Niessen, and Dominick DePaola—all members of the Santa Fe Group, a nonprofit organization committed to serving as a catalyst for innovations in health care.

The challenge for dentistry is to determine if innovative workforce solutions can be developed that will decrease disparities in access and improve the health of the nation as a whole,” writes Dr. Garcia. “Successful implementation of workforce innovations must include reducing resistance to change by organized dentistry, adapting current and creating new educational and training programs, reforming policy governing dental practice, and creating a financing system that will enable the success of these changes.”

The article goes on to define the metrics needed to evaluate success, including safety, lower disease incidence, lower prevalence of untreated disease, increased utilization of preventative services, decreased utilization of emergency services, enhanced access to needed services, and improved patient satisfaction and oral health-related quality of life.

Dr. Raul Garcia is serving as the new president of the Board of Directors of Health Care for All, a Massachusetts-based nonprofit working toward affordable, quality health care for everyone, focusing on the underinsured and uninsured.
Boston University Alumni Weekend 2010 was held October 29–31 and featured a wide range of events for GSDM graduates.

The weekend was special for the DMD class of 1990, which celebrated its 20-year reunion. Class members returned to GSDM from as far away as California and Florida to reconnect with each other. In addition to the scheduled Alumni Weekend events, many attendees took a tour of the School on Friday and gathered at Rustic Kitchen on Saturday night for a reunion dinner organized by Shadi Daher DMD 90, OMFS 94.

“It was wonderful to see so many of my classmates,” says Dr. Daher. “The last time many of us saw each other was at the five-year reunion. Everyone recalled fond memories of their time at the School, and many were impressed by the improvements that have been made since we were students.”

Do you have a reunion coming up in 2011, or just want to be part of the fun? GSDM is looking for alums to help plan the School’s Alumni Weekend 2011 activities. Contact Stacey McNamee at 617-638-4778 or smcnamee@bu.edu.
10. Ronald Weissman PROS 77 and Maria Weissman at the Dean’s Recognition Dinner

11. Jason Shroyer DMD 07, AEGD 08, ENDO 10 and Mercedes Mata FGSE 08 at the June 25, 2010 AEGD Alumni Reception in the Trustee Ballroom

12. (Left to right) Sheila Greenspoon, Arthur Greenspoon ENDO 72, Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter, Kathy Hutter, Cheryl Prankoff, Howard Prankoff ENDO 79, Eisen Borsuk, and Herb Borsuk ENDO 74 at the Alumni Reception during the ADA Annual Session in Orlando on October 9, 2010

13. (Top, left to right) Assistant Dean for Admissions Catherine Sarkis; Ramzi Sarkis AEGD 96, DMD 02, ENDO 05, MSD 08; Minoo Chaichian PEDO 80, DMD 85; and Celeste Kong PROS 84 (bottom, left to right) Zhimon Jacobson PROS 80, PROS 81, DMD 86; Kure Schnell DMD 81; Richard Short CAS 76, DMD 82; and Hideo Yamamoto PROS 90, DMD 92 at the Dean’s Recognition Dinner

14. Dong Lee DMD 04, ENDO 10 and Graham Nickerson ENDO 10 at the Department of Endodontics annual golf outing on May 13, 2010

15. Graham Nickerson ENDO 10 and wife Ginette at the Department of Endodontics graduation reception on May 13, 2010 at the Skywalk

16. Chair and The Herbert Schilder Professor in Endodontics George Huang ENDO 88, MSD 89, ORAL BIO 92; Dr. Ben Johnson; Thomas V. McClammy ENDO 99; Dr. Enrico DiVito; and Endodontic Alumni Association President Derrick Wong ENDO 00 in Scottsdale, Arizona at the Endodontic Alumni Association’s annual fall meeting, October 13–17, 2010

17. David Nissan PEDO 83, Karim Buchain Huesca AEGD 96, John Cassis PROS 86, DMD 88, Jaime Romanovsky PROS 78, Gerardo Girovsky ORTHO 79, and Saul Stirling PEDO 89 at a symposium held June 9 and 12, 2010, at the Universidad Tecnologica de Mexico in Mexico City

18. Golnaz Movaffaghi PEDO 10, Dr. Christopher Hughes, Lourdes Secola PEDO 84, and Magnolia Venegas PEDO 86 at the PEDO alumni reception held May 29, 2010, in Chicago during AAPD’s annual session

Save the Date for Alumni Weekend 2011!

Friday, October 28 to Sunday, October 30

Join us at the Four Seasons Hotel Boston on Friday, October 28 for the GSDM Alumni Reception and Saturday, October 29 for the Dean’s Recognition Dinner. University-wide events will include a Terrier Tailgate, alumni college sessions, and a President’s Panel discussion.

Stay in touch! To receive the latest news and updates on your fellow alums, send your email address to Camille Frazier at camillef@bu.edu.

Do you know a standout alum? GSDM is seeking honorees for the 2011 Alumni Awards. Make your nomination count by contacting Stacey McNamee at 617-638-4778 or smcnamee@bu.edu.
Craig and Nicole Allen
Paving Their Own Way, Side by Side

On a summer day in 1991, Nicole Paquette Allen DMD 95 was at Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine’s (GSDM) DMD orientation. She can tell you everything about that day—how sticky the weather was, how her dad had to practically push her out of the car because she was so nervous to start dental school—everything except, ironically, meeting her husband, Craig Allen DMD 95.

But Craig and Nicole did meet that day and are now married with two boys, Nicholas, 11, and David, 9; two Saint Bernards, sisters Molly and Zoe; and a family full of dentists and prospective dentists.

Craig and Nicole relive orientation each year as supporters of the GSDM ice cream social for incoming DMD students. They joke that Craig’s ice cream obsession and the famous BU Dental tee shirts are the draw, but they have another reason.

“It’s fun to go back and relive that first day when you’re awkward and have no friends and you don’t know what you’re doing,” Nicole says.

Both Craig and Nicole came from families of dentists (for both, a father and for Craig, a grandfather) but neither felt pressured into the profession and describe their parents as supportive of their career choices.

“I think my dad wanted my siblings and me to pave our own ways,” says Craig, who spent a year doing finance in New York before he decided to go to dental school.

Nicole chose dentistry after graduating with an undergraduate degree in biology and not knowing what to do with it. She didn’t really believe she would go to dental school until her acceptance came.

“I said, ‘Oh. My. God. Now I have to really go!’”

GSDM hooked both of them on dentistry right away. They point to faculty who made impressions on them, including Drs. Armstrong, Brown, Guarente, Kong, McManama, Polins, and Rosen.

The Allens are adamant about working in separate practices. “We are trying to stay married!” Craig jokes.

He works at Allen Dental Associates in Braintree, Massachusetts, in the practice his grandfather and father previously owned. Nicole works in her father’s former practice in Hudson, Massachusetts, Paquette Family Dental, with her brother David, DMD 98.

“It works because as dentists, we understand and help each other,” Nicole says, “but we are not too involved in each other’s practices that we are in each other’s face.”

As for working with their parents and siblings, they wouldn’t have it any other way.

“It’s great to have someone where if you’re having trouble, you know you can say, “You have to help me’ and you’re not worried they’re going to judge you,” Nicole says. “Even now, my father comes in and chats with patients and tells them what good hands they’re in.”

Craig enjoys the legacy of his practice. “People come to my practice who were my grandfather’s people,” he says. “I’m at the point where I’m seeing the “three-year-old” who’s in college now and it’s great. If you treat people well, they’ll stick around for 30 years.”

When she is ready, first-year student Jennifer Allen DMD 14 has a place in his office, but it will be her decision to take it, just as it was her choice to attend GSDM.

“I never felt pressure to do dentistry,” Jennifer says. “But then, I’m the oldest cousin so there are plenty of options after me.”

These include the Allen boys, who currently want to be firemen or football players, and Nicole’s young niece, who idolizes dental student Jenny.

Craig and Nicole show that even with the support of generations of successful dentists around them, it’s nice to know you can do it on your own. But it’s also nice to have your spouse by your side.
Dr. Daniel Thomas Moran, GSDM’s Poet

GSDM faculty member Dr. Daniel Thomas Moran has authored six volumes of poetry and is currently working on his seventh. He has read widely at libraries, schools, and universities, as well as at the Library of Congress and the United Nations. His work is internationally recognized and he is currently working on a translation of his love poems into Romanian. He instituted the Long Island School of Poetry Reading Series and has been Literary Correspondent to Long Island Public Radio, where he hosted The Long Island Radio Magazine. His work has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize on three occasions. All of this is especially impressive since Moran has no formal training as a poet. From the time he was in elementary school, Moran enjoyed writing. He started writing poetry during his first year at Nassau Community College, where a professor encouraged him and actually used his poems as teaching aids in poetry classes. That was the first time Moran realized that his writing was meaningful to others.

When Moran completed dental school in 1983, he began writing in earnest. While getting his practice on track on Shelter Island, New York, he attended and participated in an open reading at a local coffee shop, winning third prize. This encouraged him to continue writing seriously. As he began to publish and his poetry career took off, he tended to keep his dental career quiet, fearing that the two wouldn’t make sense to others.

In 2005, Moran was appointed poet laureate of Suffolk County in New York, the birthplace of Walt Whitman. He spent a great deal of time during that appointment doing public readings and met many wonderful people. When speaking with youths or students he would often end his remarks by telling them that he hoped they would find something to do that they were as passionate about as he was about writing poetry.

Moran firmly believes that art and medicine are connected and brings this perspective to his teaching. He notes the fortuitous timing of his appointment to the faculty and the tenure of relatively new Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter: “Dean Hutter is working day and night to completely reimagine GSDM and I have found him remarkably open to new ideas. It begins with Dean Hutter but the reality is that the entire leadership of the School and my fellow faculty members have been enormously receptive to my input. I feel very fortunate to have joined the faculty at this point in history.” Moran adds that he’s very impressed with the passion for the profession he sees in both faculty members and students.

Moran thoroughly enjoys bringing out the humanistic and creative side of dentistry to help students become better doctors and believes that his vast experience with people—both in his practice and in his travels as a poet—makes him intimately familiar with the humanity of patients. He spends as much time outside of the classroom speaking with students about life as he does in the classroom speaking about dentistry. He tries to teach them how to present to patients—and the world—in a way that makes the dentistry most valuable for the patient. Ultimately, he hopes to help make GSDM students better doctors. His students are intrigued when he shares his perspective as a poet and artist, and he feels this brings something unique and valuable to them.

Becoming a teacher has been a radical change for Moran. “A poet is what I am and dentistry is what I do,” he says. After teaching full time for a year, he feels this brings something unique and valuable to them.

“Training the Eye,” which teaches clinical diagnosis to medical students using principles of the visual arts and utilizing collections from the Museum of Fine Arts and the Gardner Museum. During a study of the efficacy of the course, students in the class showed a 38 percent improvement in accurate observations compared to a control group. Class participants also described images with a higher level of sophistication and complexity.

Intrigued and inspired, Moran met with Dr. Katz to discuss his interest, and Katz suggested that he consider joining the faculty at a dental school. Within days of contacting GSDM, Moran interviewed in the department of general dentistry. A volunteer faculty member for more than a year, Moran split his time between his practice on Shelter Island and Boston before being hired. He then sold his practice and moved to Boston; he now divides his time between the South End and a home in rural New Hampshire.

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Moran firmly believes that art and medicine are connected and brings this perspective to his teaching.
“There are no dental schools there yet, and very few dentists or dental therapists,” she says. “The need is huge!”

They connected with three key people at Dae Yang Luke Hospital in Malawi’s capital, Lilongwe: Sister Baek, a missionary nurse; You Keun Chung, a hospital donor and founder of DaeYang Shipping; and Medical Director Douglas Lungu, a western-trained Malawian doctor who, unlike most, chose to work in Malawi where the pay is lower. With their support and her fundraising efforts, Dr. Rocca set out in 2009, buying supplies for a small dental clinic in the hospital with plans to open in late 2010. But her October 2010 trip to Malawi yielded a new surprise—the hospital team decided to build a dental school to complement the hospital’s new nursing school and future medical school.

“To have this happen so quickly is a bit mind-boggling,” she admits. Both the medical and dental schools will open in about three years, and she has been asked to play a leading role in developing the dental school curriculum and new facility coursework.

The dental school will also include expanded clinical space. Dr. Rocca envisions 20 students per class in a three-year school, with specialty programs in the future. The curriculum will focus on operative dentistry and oral surgery, the areas of greatest need in Malawi.

Dr. Rocca hopes financial support for the school will come from foreign workers living in Malawi who can pay for treatment; the clinic will offer free care to villagers who cannot afford to do so.

“The people are very warm and caring,” Dr. Rocca says. “It’s the reason people call Malawi ‘The warm heart of Africa.’”

Dr. Rocca invites any students, dentists, or medical professionals who would like to participate in her work in Malawi to contact her at mfrocca@aol.com.
Liz Montero Makes the Most of Her Scholarship—and GSDM

Fourth-year DMD student Liz Montero makes the most of dental school through extracurricular activities. “They have really enhanced my experience here,” she says. “I feel like I did so much more than just attend dental school.”

During her time at Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM), Montero has been involved with numerous oral health outreach efforts in the local community and participated in student dental organizations, including the American Student Dental Association, the Student National Dental Association, and the Hispanic Student Dental Association (where she’s been the chapter president for three years). She has traveled to El Fuerte, Mexico, with Liga International for a weekend outreach mission and Teacapan, Mexico, with Project Stretch for a week. Montero also volunteered with Program White Coat for four consecutive years and served as the student organizer of the 10th Annual Blackstone School field trip in 2010, which brings four classrooms of third-grade children from a South End elementary school to the Dental School for a day. The field trip is designed to encourage the young students to continue their education and consider dentistry as a career choice.

Montero was so inspired by the children she interacted with through these outreach efforts that she decided to pursue pediatric dentistry as a specialty; she will begin a postdoctoral program in that area at Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine in July.

The Goldman School of Dental Medicine Scholarship Fund helped make Montero’s education possible. Founded in 1987 by generous donations from some of the School’s alumni, the fund provides merit-based scholarships to students identified by the Admissions Committee.

Montero was born in Mexico City, Mexico and grew up in Las Vegas, Nevada. She received a BA in Communications from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and during her senior year realized that a career in communications wasn’t going to make her happy. Armed with a general interest in medicine, she shadowed various doctors, looking for a specialty that would inspire her to take on medical school. Initially apprehensive when her neighbor and family dentist offered to let her shadow him, she learned what dentistry was all about and realized it was the field for her.

After unsuccessfully applying to a few dental schools, Montero discovered the Boston University Graduate Medical Science Program (GMS) from two former faculty members: Associate Professor and Director of Minority Affairs Dr. Gregory Stoute and Professor and Director of the Dental Public Health Program Dr. Ana Karina Mascarenhas. She enrolled and immediately excelled in the program, earning straight A’s. She reapplied to dental schools and began interviewing. Her stellar grade point average prompted the GSDM Admissions Committee to recommend her for the Goldman School of Dental Medicine Scholarship, which she was awarded for all four years.

“Receiving this scholarship definitely influenced my decision to attend dental school at BU,” says Montero. “After I completed the GMS program, the faculty and students here felt like family. I really wanted to stay at BU. It was a good fit for me.”

Now that Montero has almost completed her four years of dental school, she couldn’t be happier with her decision. She credits GSDM for teaching her compassion for others and allowing her to gain experience treating patients from a variety of diverse cultures and ethnicities.

“Liz has been a wonderful addition to the GSDM community,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “I am so pleased that she chose to attend dental school here, and I cannot stress enough how important the donations of our alums are in making a GSDM education possible for bright, wonderful students who may otherwise not be able to afford the cost. A donation to one of our scholarship funds helps our current students—your future colleagues—obtain the same wonderful education that you had.”

Montero has traveled to El Fuerte, Mexico, with Liga International for a weekend outreach mission and Teacapan, Mexico with Project Stretch for a week.
Student Activities Thriving

Throughout the year, alumni donations fund a variety of student activities.

1. Jay Patel DMD 14 won the raffle for a GSDM sweatshirt at the School’s ice cream social.
2. Members of the DMD Class of 2012 Neelishah Jiwani, Sybil Padavathil, and Cammella Shahram
3. Elizabeth Benz DMD 11 at the ice cream social
5. Alena Mehtani DMD 14 won the raffle for a GSDM umbrella at the ice cream social.
6. Elizabeth Benz DMD 11 and Megan Ryan DMD 10 get some sun at the First Annual BU ASDA Golf Tournament.

1. Yearbook Committee Chair Gary Nord DMD 10 (middle) with Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter and Dr. Gennaro Cataldo at the Senior Awards Lunch, where graduates received their yearbooks.
2. Photos 8–14 were taken at the Dean’s home during orientation.
3. Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter chats with a new student.
4. Gurshant Grewal DMD 14 with Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter
5. Theresa Guanci DMD 14
6. Felicia Annette Smith DMD 14
7. The dean socializes with new students.
8. Zara Nensey DMD 14
9. Brittney Barrow DMD 14

Thanks to Alumni Donations

Throughout the year, alumni donations fund a variety of student activities.
Dr. Joseph Calabrese Appointed Assistant Dean of Students

Effective July 1, 2010, Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter reorganized the Student Services Office into what is now the Student Affairs Office, comprised of the Division of Educational Resources and the Division of Career Services & Opportunities.

Dr. Joseph Calabrese was appointed assistant dean of students. Under Dr. Calabrese’s leadership, the Student Affairs Office provides a center for student advocacy within the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) community by fostering an environment that is supportive and respectful.

The office encourages students to engage in curricular and extracurricular activities that will enrich their time at the School, the Medical Campus, the University, and within the community.

“I am very pleased that Dr. Calabrese will be leading the Student Affairs Office,” said Dean Hutter. “Dr. Calabrese has a wonderful rapport with our students and I am confident that his office will provide supportive programming in order to help them to become better students and ultimately, better dentists.”

Dr. Calabrese is overseeing efforts to help students who are seeking information and direction regarding future life choices for private, military, research, public health, or postdoctoral and specialty training opportunities. The Student Affairs Office provides program planning and support services and resources that facilitate the application process or consideration for other future professional commitments. The office also works closely with the Extramural Programs Office regarding student and resident access to the Dental Career Network.

“My priorities at this point are for the Student Affairs Office to serve as a resource for all predoctoral and postdoctoral students during their tenure at GSDM. I have been charged with creating a career resources center that will help students prepare for the next professional step, whether this is preparation for graduate programs or immediate employment in the profession,” says Dr. Calabrese.

Dr. Calabrese joined the faculty of GSDM as a course lecturer in 1993. He was appointed assistant professor in the Department of Restorative Sciences/Biomaterials in 1994 and assistant professor in the Department of General Dentistry in 2001. He is also a clinical instructor at Harvard School of Dental Medicine and has been a guest lecturer at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Forsyth Dental Hygiene Program.

Dr. Calabrese received a DMD and CAGS in Advanced Education in General Dentistry from GSDM in 1991 and 1992, respectively. He completed a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Bureau of Health Professions Faculty Training Fellowship in Geriatric Dentistry at the Boston Medical Center/GSDM in 1994. Prior to enrolling at GSDM, Dr. Calabrese majored in chemistry at Manhattanville College from 1983 to 1987.

Dr. Calabrese has received many awards and honors, including the American Student Dental Association Faculty Award, honorary faculty membership in the Lambda Mu Chapter of Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honor Society, the Altshuler Family Award for Excellence in Geriatric Education, and the Massachusetts Dental Society Grant for Geriatric Fellowship Research Project. He is a member of the American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology and the American Society of Public Health Dentistry, and holds a Fellowship in the American College of Dentists.

You can read more about Dr. Calabrese and his role in providing an outstanding student experience in “The Last Word” feature in this magazine.
Applied Strategic Planning is the process by which the guiding members of an organization envision its future and develop the necessary procedures and operations to achieve that future. The vision of the future state of the organization provides both the direction in which the organization should move and the energy to begin that move. Implementation of the Plan is the final step of the ASP process. The Plan will be monitored and modified over the years until the School achieves its vision. Initially, an organization health assessment was conducted to determine what the community felt about the School’s strengths and weaknesses; an environmental scan or trends analysis, to determine opportunities and threats to the ASP; and a draft of a vision with the help of shadow teams.

On Friday, January 28, 2011, Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter attended the biannual meeting of the Alumni Board to share details about the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) Applied Strategic Plan (ASP).

shadow teams are an integral part of the ASP process, as they enable the committee to reach as many people in the School community as possible and secure feedback. The teams have helped create the School’s Mission, Core Values, Core Competencies, and our Goals and Objectives.

Alumni Association President and faculty member Tina Valades DMD ’84 introduced Dean Hutter to the Alumni Board at the January meeting and noted how inclusive the process has been: “All School stakeholders, including the alumni as represented by this board, have been participating in shadow teams to the process and contributing their perspective and feedback. Being on campus as a faculty member, I can say firsthand that all members of the faculty and staff, as well as the students, have been invited to participate fully in this process. This level of involvement has yielded a plan which is sure to help us become the premier center for oral health education, research, and care in the world.”

Over the past year, several retreats with a committee of faculty, staff, and students were facilitated by Dr. Bob Frazer of R. L. Frazer and Associates, the consulting firm GSDM hired to direct the ASP. The entire process was overseen by committee co-chairs Dr. Celeste Kong and Dr. John Guarente.

The mission of the first retreat was “To create a future of choice for Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine, its faculty, staff, students, patients, and all stakeholders. Through the process of Applied Strategic Planning, the School and its people will achieve their highest potential in service to others, resulting in increased effectiveness, fulfillment, success, and significance.”

In order to achieve this mission, the committee’s first task was to draft a vision of what they would like the School to look like in five, ten, and fifteen years. Throughout the process, the committee was constantly reminded that they would be putting together a draft that would not be finalized until input from all of the stakeholders—both inside and outside the School—was gathered.
To achieve this, the ASP Committee members formed shadow teams, which they briefed on the retreat and planning process. Shadow team members then contributed feedback for inclusion in the finalized vision of the School.

During the second retreat the committee drafted vision and mission statements and core competencies and developed a set of draft goals for GSDM. A subcommittee of the larger group conducted an environmental scan—which compiles factual and subjective information on a broad spectrum of social, political, economic, and marketplace trends that may affect change either positively or negatively in an organization—which was presented at the retreat by co-chair Dr. Celeste Kong and subcommittee member Dr. Neal Fleisher.

The draft documents were then shared with shadow teams and based on their input, were further revised. Dr. Frazer and co-chairs Kong and Guarente provided an overview of the ASP process and the draft documents to the Dean’s Advisory Board, which served as Dean Hutter’s shadow team throughout the ASP process.

SmithGroup, the architectural firm selected to work with GSDM on facility issues, attended and participated in the third ASP retreat. SmithGroup—the oldest continuously practicing architecture firm in the United States with a national network of offices—will work with the ASP Committee and a smaller GSDM steering committee to analyze existing space and utilization, understand future direction and needs, and develop and present several facility solution options. SmithGroup employees working on the GSDM project have spent their careers working in the health care, science & technology, and learning sectors of architecture, engineering, and interiors planning. “I am very pleased with our choice of SmithGroup,” says Dean Hutter. “I am confident that by coordinating the space planning process with the Applied Strategic Planning process we will achieve the very best possible outcome for the future of our School.”

SmithGroup also delivered a presentation to the Dean’s Advisory Board. “Both my Co-chair, Dr. Guarente, and I were delighted with the level of understanding that SmithGroup already has achieved concerning our School,” says ASP Co-chair Dr. Kong. “They have been researching GSDM, the Medical Campus, and Boston University and also reviewing all of the work that the ASP committee has done since the process began last fall and we were very impressed with their proactive approach.”

All of the feedback and information taken into consideration, the ASP was finalized and Integrated Action Plans (IAPs) were developed that outline how the School will achieve its goals. “Goal Champions” were identified to guide and monitor the implementation process.

The Committee also developed a strategic architecture, a high-level blueprint for the deployment of new functionalities; acquisition or the migration of existing competencies; and the reconfiguration or refinement of the interface with customers.

A final retreat was held to develop a balanced scorecard, a management tool that provides senior executives (such as the dean) with a comprehensive measure of the School’s progress toward achieving its strategic objectives. The scorecard is generally produced monthly and therefore requires accountability and constant monitoring.

“I shared our Applied Strategic Plan with President Brown and he was very pleased,” says Dean Hutter. “Based on what they have learned throughout the Applied Strategic Planning process, I am confident that the implementation team will do an excellent job assessing our progress and keeping us on track as we work to achieve the goals set forth by the Applied Strategic Plan.”

Ralph Hawkins ENDO 89 flew in from Singapore for the meeting. “I am quite impressed with the scope of the ASP and the impact it will have on our School once implemented,” he says. “Quite literally, our School will be completely transformed and I know that the entire Alumni Board is energized and enthused about being a part of this transformation.”

“There are no surprises here,” says Dean Hutter. “The ASP was the result of a comprehensive process that included input from all stakeholders. I am confident that we will achieve the very best possible outcome for the future of our School.”

From top to bottom: Dr. Negar Nasseripour Dr. Carl McManama Dr. Joseph Calabrese Dr. Frank Riccio
Ethics = Excitement!
Ethical Fitness Training a Big Hit at GSDM

On October 25, 2010, the Chair of the Dean’s Council on Ethics and Professionalism (DCEP) Dr. Carl McManama discussed the five core values that comprise the Code of Ethics—respect, truth, responsibility, fairness, and compassion—and presented an overview of what the GSDM community has to look forward to in the 2010-2011 “Year of Ethical Fitness.”

The celebration was split into two luncheon sessions hosted by Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter, Dr. McManama, and members of the DCEP. Institute for Global Ethics Director of the Center for Corporate Ethics Mr. Marty Taylor, who facilitated this process at GSDM, also attended the kickoff and commented on how pleased he was to see such an energized and enthusiastic crowd.

As students, faculty, and staff stepped off the elevator near the Hiebert Lounge and into the festive atmosphere, they were greeted by inspirational music and a very enthusiastic Dr. McManama—complete with coach’s whistle. Attendees were then encouraged to travel to each of the five stations highlighting one of the core values and featuring fun, complimentary gifts.

In January, ethical fitness trainers began conducting training sessions which will continue throughout the year.

“Our goal is to get everyone—students, residents, faculty, and staff—to participate in the fitness training sessions,” says Dr. McManama. “I like to compare ethical fitness to physical fitness, with the understanding that we’re already in pretty good shape, but should always be trying to get in better shape (or stay in good shape).”

Adds Dean Hutter, “I am very proud of the GSDM community for embracing this initiative with such enthusiasm. I also want to thank the members of the Dean’s Council on Ethics and Professionalism and the ethical fitness trainers for the time and energy that they have dedicated to developing our new code of ethics and to the time and energy that they will continue to dedicate as they work to extend ethical fitness training to the entire GSDM community.”

“I like to compare ethical fitness to physical fitness, with the understanding that we’re already in pretty good shape, but should always be trying to get in better shape (or stay in good shape).”
Converting to a paperless system was a School-wide effort coordinated by a task force comprised of faculty and staff members from all areas of the School and led by Clinical Professor and Director of Predoctoral Removable Prosthodontics Dr. Ronni Schnell and Executive Director of Finance & Operations Mr. Tim McDonough. Information Technology Consultant Mr. Ibrahim Kachouh and Associate Director of Facilities & Operations Mr. Andy Burke provided critical support.

Dublin-based Two-Ten Health (TTH) was also brought in by GSDM to oversee the transition to EDR. TTH representatives documented business flows and conducted interviews with GSDM stakeholders. They prepared a formal business analysis report from the information obtained through the interviews and through extensive consultation with Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter, Dr. Schnell, and Mr. McDonough, they configured the Salud system with maximum capability to best meet the needs of the School for the foreseeable future.

"GSDM worked with TTH on this comprehensive conversion from 2005 on, and we were very pleased with their willingness to configure the system to meet our unique clinical, patient, and business needs," says McDonough.

Dr. Schnell explained some of the major benefits of the new system: "EDR has put the patient chart and critical information in the hands of the treating student, resident, or faculty at the moment it is needed. It has allowed for a true universal treatment plan within GSDM. Anyone granted access to the patient chart can see who is treating the patient and what the proposed treatment plan is. And it can be interfaced with treatment from all other disciplines within GSDM."

Once the EDR system was in place, members of the GSDM community had to learn how to use it. A multiweek training schedule began in the summer of 2010, leading up to the September “Go Live.” First, more than 30 designated “Super Users” were trained, including faculty and staff from all treatment centers and departments of the School. The goal was for them to learn the system first so they could then assist others, and help support and troubleshoot during implementation and “Go Live.” Once the “Super Users” were trained, training began for all clinical faculty and students who would be providing patient treatment.

“I was extremely impressed with how comfortable everyone was with the new software during training,” says Dr. Schnell. “Seeing this level of comfort made me confident that my colleagues and our students would make the transition seamlessly.”

Now that EDR has been in use for awhile, students have noticed many improvements. “With the new system we don’t have to carry around a stack of charts,” explains Jay Theva DMD 12. “There’s a feature that allows us to access charts on our laptops, which means we are able to complete some of our work at home. In my opinion, this is a huge benefit of the new system.”

The benefit of accessing charts remotely is one example of the Salud configurations that were made specifically to meet the needs of the School. To allow for this feature, a secure network was created that complies completely with HIPAA regulations surrounding patient data security.

Students also appreciate the fact that the new system makes the quarterly record review process easier. “My mentor, Dr. Emrey Maskowitz-Porath, had set aside over an hour for my first record review. I came in with all of my information entered into the system and the review only ended up taking thirty minutes. She also went
over each of the treatment plan summaries I had written and suggested some additional options, which I was then able to type right into the chart,” says Katy Bednar DMD 12. “Having all the information electronically made it easy to change or add to, and it ended up making the record review even more of a positive teaching tool.”

Both Theva and Bednar also point out how helpful it is to them to be able to see all of the treatment a patient is receiving at any given time—including in both the pre- and postdoctoral treatment centers.

“With EDR,” says Bednar, “you can pull up the chart electronically at any time and immediately know the outcome of the patient’s treatment in another area. This way, you can book follow-up appointments or update your treatment plan for the patient without having to wait to get the chart back.”

“Implementation of EDR supports our philosophy of teaching the practice of dentistry while delivering and managing patient care through the electronic environment. Learning to use this practice tool, along with the basics of digital radiology, will enable our graduates to function as effective leaders in the oral health care delivery system,” Dr. Schnell stresses.

“An incredible amount of effort has been involved in this initiative—and now we can see that it has all been worth it,” Dean Hutter says. “EDR brings GSDM to a new level of excellence and separates us from our peers. We owe this to our students, our patients, our faculty and staff, our alumni, and our School. I could not be more pleased with this implementation.”

Robert Schmidt DMD 12, Dr. Ronni Schnell, and Katy Bednar DMD 12
One of the world’s most prolific dental entrepreneurs, Dr. Robert Ibsen founded DenMat Corporation and developed the Rembrandt teeth whitening system. Ibsen also developed Lumineers, a porcelain veneers product eventually acquired by Gillette, and authored the first textbook on aesthetic dentistry.

What he discovered along the way was a need for a broader view of oral health care that included the interest of many dental patients in cosmetic procedures—a field that has, thanks to Ibsen and others, grown tremendously in the last 30 years.

Ibsen is convinced that in the future, technologies may allow more aesthetic procedures in restorative dentistry to be done in a noninvasive way. It’s his mission to spread the word of the possibility of using noninvasive aesthetic procedures when clinically appropriate. His “next big idea” is margin-free porcelain restorations using reversible veneers. He is particularly proud of a case in which a 14-year-old female patient had severely misshapen teeth (due to a bout of cancer) when she was a toddler, and was not a candidate, because of her age, for traditional veneers. Ibsen placed noninvasive reversible veneers on her teeth, profoundly impacting her appearance during her high school years. It is these kinds of cases that he would like more dental students and professionals to observe.

The Robert L. Ibsen Family Fund in Restorative Dentistry will enable students and faculty to participate in professional development opportunities and clinical observations in noninvasive dental procedures. “As we’ve seen in the past twenty years, aesthetic dentistry has had a tremendous impact on the general field of dentistry. I am sure that in the future, new developments in noninvasive aesthetic procedures and technologies may have a similar impact. We are grateful for Dr. Ibsen’s support,” says Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter.

Dean’s Advisory Board member Dr. David Lustbader plays a critical role in strategic planning for the School

Dr. David Lustbader DMD 86, Dean’s Advisory Board member, oral surgeon, and current president of Caritas Carney Hospital, is greatly interested in the applied strategic planning process for the School. To that end, he and his wife Wendy SAR 83, 84 have pledged $50,000 to GSDM. Part of his financial contribution has already been utilized to hire a firm to undertake the first master space plan for the School.

“As the School moves forward under Dean Hutter’s wonderful leadership, we have an opportunity and an obligation to see how our current space and clinical settings meet the needs of our students both now and in the future. I am delighted with the progress of the School-wide applied strategic planning process and I know that there are great things in store for the School as an outcome of this process,” Dr. Lustbader says.
A New Tradition of Giving

We often hear students and alumni express their gratitude for the excellent education and opportunities the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) has given them. Last year, the Class of 2010 put their feelings into action when it presented Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter with the first class gift at the 2010 commencement ceremony.

DMD 10 Class President Gary Nord said:

“Dentistry is an ever-changing science and future change depends upon us. We have to give back to our families, to our communities, and to our School. In this spirit, the Class of 2010 has decided to make the first class gift in honor of our School, recognizing the amazing gift that the School has given us: the ability to practice dentistry. As the class president, I am honored to present Dean Hutter with this check to the DMD annual fund as a statement of our commitment to our School and to helping it to move forward into the future.”

This year, the Class of 2011 steps up to continue the new tradition. Here, members of the DMD and AS Classes of 2011 talk about what GSDM and the class gift mean to them.

Hanny Hamoui DMD 11
Hometown: Spring Hill, Florida

Hanny Hamoui DMD 11 will enter the advanced specialty education program in endodontics at GSDM this fall. He attributes this choice to three factors: the specialized training, which Dr. Schilder pioneered; cutting-edge research that will give graduates a competitive advantage; and the instant name recognition of BU endodontics.

What are you most thankful for at GSDM?
In my time at BU, I found the most valuable asset to be its students. My friends and classmates have been a big part in helping me wade through the many different challenges of dental school. There is a real sense of community among the students, regardless of graduation year. You’ll always find someone willing to help you, and this is a resource that I believe makes BU better than other dental schools.

What would you tell people who want to give back but don’t have a lot to give?
Even though it is cliché, it really is the thought that counts. The fact that you contributed indicates your gratitude for the opportunity BU has given you to study and become a dentist.

Paras Shrestha AS 11
Hometown: Kathmandu, Nepal

After earning a dental degree in his native Nepal, Paras Shrestha AS 11 decided to pursue a DMD at the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine. Following graduation, he plans to work in private practice for several years and then apply for postgraduate education.

Why did you choose BU’s advanced standing program for your DMD?
I chose BU because of its academic excellence and outstanding preclinical courses. My wife went to BU for the same program.

At GSDM, I had the opportunity to do research and meet and work with some of the faculty, whom I found to be very helpful.

Why are you giving to the class gift?
I am very proud of my class and my School and I will continue to give as an alum. This gift is my first step toward giving to my School, which gave me so much.
Why should others give to the class gift?
I think it’s the best way to show your thankfulness to the School and I believe all should start with the class gift.

Brad Woland DMD 11
Hometown: Originally from Bel Air and College Park, Maryland, Brad considers Boston home.

Brad has a unique perspective on GSDM. He started as a staff member working in prosthodontics before applying to dental school and will continue his GSDM education, pursuing a CAGS and MSD in the advanced specialty training program in orthodontics & dentofacial orthopedics this fall.

What are you most thankful for at the School?
I value the relationships I have created in six years at GSDM. When I worked as an entry-level employee in postdoctoral prosthodontics, I always felt I was part of the BU family and the faculty valued what I had to say. This is why I stayed at BU for dental school. At other schools, I just did not see the close relationships among the faculty, staff, and students that I had here. I decided to stay where I felt at home.

Why are you giving to the class gift?
Dean Hutter and Dr. Leone have created an environment that increasingly encourages student involvement and input in all aspects of the School’s operation. Although I can’t afford to give a lot, I want to give something to say, “thank you” for seeking students’ opinions so consistently.

Stephanie Trahan DMD 11
Hometown: San Vito, Italy; Washington, D.C.; Oxford, England; and upstate New York

A military child, Stephanie grew up all around the world. She will return to her roots in 2012 as a member of the United States Air Force Postdoctoral Periodontal Program in San Antonio, Texas and spend the year after graduating from GSDM working as a general dentist at Lackland Air Force Base, also in San Antonio.

Why are you giving to the class gift?
I spent a total of eight years at GSDM as a staff member, student, and researcher. I am very glad that the School not only gave me the chance to work, but also believed in my potential to succeed as a student and offered me a life-changing opportunity to better myself.

Why should others give to the class gift?
BU has given us an immensely important opportunity to learn and will be forever tied to us, from the diploma that hangs on the wall for patients to see to the “DMD” next to our names. Though it may seem tough to see when we’re frantically balancing patient care and course work, we will look back on our time at BU as extremely productive.

Trevor Neal DMD 11
Hometown: Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

Trevor Neal hopes to work as an associate general dentist in the greater Boston area after graduation. “BU has prepared me well for the real world,” he says. “GSDM has given me a solid foundation for treating any patient and dealing with any problem that I encounter.”

Why are you giving to the class gift?
I think that class gifts are a great way for us to leave a positive, lasting mark on the School for future classes.

What would you tell people who want to give back but don’t have a lot to give?
The fact that you contributed to the gift will mean more to you and the School than how much you gave. You can still look back on the gift and feel good knowing that you were a part of it.
Mohammed Nadershah OMFS 11 Heroically Saves a Life on Transatlantic Flight

Mohammed Nadershah OMFS 11 was on a flight from Boston to Frankfurt, Germany, when an announcement came through the cabin asking for any doctors on board to help with a medical emergency. Armed with the experience he had gained as a resident in the GSDM Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Residency Program, Dr. Nadershah made his way to just outside the plane’s lavatory where he encountered a 20-year-old female who had passed out after vomiting and hyperventilating.

At this point the flight was over the Atlantic Ocean. If Dr. Nadershah was not able to resuscitate and stabilize the woman, the pilots would have to turn the plane around or divert to another airport—and the closest one was more than an hour away.

Thinking quickly, Dr. Nadershah started basic life support and with the help of a German psychologist located the correct medication in the plane’s medical kit (the labels were printed in German), started an IV line, and gave the woman medication for vomiting. She recovered, and the flight continued on to Frankfurt. As Dr. Nadershah later learned, the woman—a student at the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at a luncheon during Yankee Dental Congress 35.


Dr. Seidberg is one of the founders of the GSDM Endodontic Communicat and currently serves as a dental legal consultant, president-elect of the Ondoyoga County Dental Society, and secretary and diplomat of the American Board of Medical Malpractice. He is also a diplomat of the American Board of Endodontics and a Fellow of the American College of Legal Medicine.

Steven Perlman PEDO 76 had a busy fall! He lectured at the International Association for Disability and Oral Health meeting in Ghent, Belgium, in August and the California Dental Association meeting in San Francisco in September. In October, he was the keynote speaker at the Mexican Academy of Pediatric Dentistry meeting in Torreón, Mexico, and visited Universidad Autonoma de Coahuila as a guest of the school’s dean, Dr. Raul Uriel Medina Martinez. In February, he received a Dr. Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial Education Fund Award.

Quincy Pearl Wang was born to proud parents Derrick Wong ENDO 00 and Cami Ferris-Wong ENDO 00 on April 2, 2010. Quincy weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and measured 19 inches. The Bonnares reside in Portland, Texas. Christopher is also the godson of Frank Bonner ENDO 76.

Wyatt Simons ENDO 01 and wife Tara welcomed son Nicholas Sebastian Simons on August 16. Nicholas joins brother James.

Steven Pinto DMD 02, ENDO 08 and his wife, Christina, welcomed a baby girl, Juliana, on August 7, 2010.

Ryan VanMorrele DMD 02, ENDO 07 and his wife, Amy, welcomed a baby girl, Beth, on February 16, 2010. She weighed 9 pounds, 7 ounces.

The International Endodontic publication ROOTS chose Chris Lampert ENDO 03 as guest editor. Upon accepting this position Chris said, “It became apparent to me that BU Endo continues to have a big presence in the world of endodontics. As I reviewed the submitted manuscripts, I was thrilled to see some familiar BU names. In this single issue of ROOTS, two authors—John Stropko ENDO 89 and Jose Hoyos ENDO 94—and myself are BU ENDO alumni. Dr. Schilder’s influence is all over the publication and respect for BU-trained endodontists is alive and well.”

Ed Hsu ENDO 04, DSD 05 and his wife, Heidi AEGD 08, welcomed a baby boy, Jonathan, on July 7, 2010.

Ali Salehpour DMD 06, ENDO 10 and his wife, Sara, welcomed a baby girl, Skylar Ariana, on August 27, 2010.

Sam Alborz ENDO 07 and his wife, Shaza, welcomed a baby girl, Nadia, on August 31, 2010.

Ann Marie Barussaud ENDO 08 and her husband, Roberto, welcomed a baby boy, Victor, on November 11, 2010. Dr. Barussaud resides in Quebec with her family.

Loubna Chehab Pla eNDo 08 and her husband, Philip, welcomed a baby boy, Alec, on August 18, 2010.

Cameron Braasch DMD 09 and Michelle Clemente SHA 04 were engaged on July 20, 2010 and will marry on September 10, 2011, in Boston. Dr. Braasch is currently enrolled in an OMFS residency at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Mark Manoukian DMD 01, AEGD 02, ENDO 04 and Varty Turbendian married on July 4, 2010.

Dean’s Advisory Board Chair Jonathan Levine DMD 81 debuted his GLO Brilliant™ Personal Teeth Whitening Device on the Home Shopping Network on February 1.

Hendrik De Waal PERIO 87 opened Bupa Solihull Centre for specialty dental care in the UK in January. You can reach him at solihull@dentalt@bupa.com.

On August 17, 2010 Bryan Beebe ENDO 93 and his wife, Anita, welcomed Hanna Jillian. Hanna joins big sisters Keira and Leina.

Farrah Soleimani ENDO 96 wed real estate developer/investor Mark Weinsten in Napa Valley, California, on November 14, 2009.

In February, the Massachusetts Dental Society (MDS) honored MDS Volunteer Heroes, including: Viktoria Talebian DMD 97, ORTHO 01, DeeDee Gurin DMD 97, Patricia Machulinsky DMD 90, AEGD 91, ENDO 93, and Deborah Almeida PERIO 87.

Eddie Bonner ENDO 98 and his wife, Maryellen, welcomed Christopher Samuel Bonner on December 10, 2010. He weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces and measured 19 inches.

The Bonners reside in Portland, Texas. Christopher is also the godson of Frank Bonner ENDO 76.

Farrah Soleimani ENDO 96 and Mark Weinsten

The Wong sisters

Steve Perlman PEDO 76 and Dr. Raul Uriel Medina Martinez

Mark Haddad ENDO 09 and Matthew Haddad ENDO 10 opened the doors to their own practice, Gulf Coast Endodontics & Microsurgery, in November. The practice is located in Houston, Texas.

Faheem Nasar DMD 09 joined Whitestown Dental Care in August 2010.

Prashanth Ravi DMD 09 and his wife Geetha welcomed baby Aadhya on May 2, 2010.

Jenn Williams DMD 09 is engaged to Michael Ruble. They will marry on May 21, 2011, in Miami, Florida.

Sam Cowgill DMD 10 joined Community Health Center of the Black Hills in Rapid City, South Dakota. He is one of just two dentists on staff and practices both in the Oral Health Clinic and General Beadle School-Based Health Center.

Fadi Kano ENDO 10 married Belinda Kosunl in 2010. Joining the festivities were Michael Dounel DMD 04, Rami Kano DMD 04, Samer Kano DMD 00, and Abdulrahad Kano DMD 98.


Michael Pauk DMD 10, ENDO 12 married Nina Dibona in New Hampshire on September 18, 2010. Many GSDM alumni were in attendance, including Michael’s uncle, godfather, and groomsmen Roger Desilets ENDO 71; Michael Russo DMD 96, MSD 97, ENDO 99; and Nina’s sister and bridesmaid Elizabeth Dibona DMD 97, AEGD 98. Dr. Pauk is a current endodontic resident and plans to practice in central Massachusetts and Mrs. Pauk is a registered dietitian in Boston. The couple lives in Newton, Massachusetts.

Robin Yamaguma DMD 10 is working at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation’s Kyle Clinic in Pine Ridge, South Dakota. She spent 10 weeks in 2010 living and working on the Reservation for her externship rotation.


Hongsheng Liu ENDO 12 and his wife, Min, welcomed baby Joyce on July 5, 2010, at 12:33 a.m. Joyce weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces and measured 18 1/2 inches.

Nathan Turley OMFS 12 and his wife, Jenna, welcomed baby Ada Leigh on April 5, 2010. She weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and measured 20 inches.

IN MEMORIAM

William F. Brennan ORTHO 70 of Warwick, RI, passed away on January 4, 2011. He was 76.

Dr. Brennan was a past president of both the Rhode Island Dental Association and the Rhode Island Association of Orthodontics.

GSDM Associate Professor of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics Dr. Victor Dietz writes: “I was shocked to hear about Bill’s passing and extend my deepest condolences to his family. Bill was one of those people who just lit up a room. I don’t think I ever saw him without a smile on his face. We will all miss him terribly.”

Dr. Brennan served as a captain in the U.S. Army and received the John P. Burke Scholarship, which provides financial assistance to golfers pursuing a college education and was created to honor Rhode Island residents who served in World War II.

Dr. Brennan graduated from LaSalle Academy, Providence College, and Tufts Dental School before enrolling at GSDM, and created the Brennan Family Scholarships at Tufts and Providence College.

He was passionate about golf and twice was the Rhode Island State Father-Son Champion.

He is survived by his wife, Ginger L. Moritz; daughters, Julie Ann Hubner and Elizabeth Adrian Howell; son, Jeffrey Judson Montz; stepsons, Kenneth Scott Fletcher, Hamlín Brett West, and Garrett Mitchell West; stepdaughter, Ginnie Bree Hunter; brother, Randy Montz; sister, Carla Moritz Houck; grandchildren, Adrian Howell, Troy Hubner, Sally Hubner, Sarah Ann Howell, and Wilkin Montz; stepgrandchildren, Cason Fletcher and Gage West; stepmother, LaRue Montz; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Donations may be sent to the Lowndes County Humane Society, Langdale Hospice House, or the American Cancer Society.

Jeffrey Moritz PERIO 71 passed away on July 21, 2010. He was 68.

Dr. Moritz graduated first in his class from the University of Tennessee School of Dentistry. He served two years in the U.S. Army, where he received the Bronze Star Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal, before enrolling in the advanced specialty program in periodontology at GSDM. In 1972, he started a private practice in Valdosta, Georgia, where he lived until his death.

One of his former patients wrote of him on the Valdosta Daily Times’ online guestbook: “Dr. Moritz was my periodontist and an artist in his field. He was a great man and I always looked forward to seeing him. He surely will be missed by me and, I’m sure, the rest of his patients.”

Dr. Moritz was closely involved in many dental organizations and examination development, licensing, and regulation. He was a former president of the Georgia Board of Dentistry.

He is survived by his wife, Ginger L. Moritz; daughters, Julie Ann Hubner and Elizabeth Adrian Howell; son, Jeffrey Judson Montz; stepsons, Kenneth Scott Fletcher, Hamlín Brett West, and Garrett Mitchell West; stepdaughter, Ginnie Bree Hunter; brother, Randy Montz; sister, Carla Moritz Houck; grandchildren, Adrian Howell, Troy Hubner, Sally Hubner, Sarah Ann Howell, and Wilkin Montz; stepgrandchildren, Cason Fletcher and Gage West; stepmother, LaRue Montz; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Received an award or promotion? Recently married or welcomed a new baby or grandchild? Send your photos and announcements to Stacey McNamee at smcnamee@bu.edu.
IN MEMORIAM
continued

Richard Cardiff PROS 74, DScD 75, MSD 75 passed away on January 16, 2011. He was 66. Dr. Cardiff attended the University of Massachusetts Amherst on a gymnastics scholarship and New York University College of Dentistry. He completed a dental internship at Staten Island Hospital in New York before completing postgraduate degrees at GSDM. Dr. Cardiff later served GSDM as assistant professor of prosthetic dentistry in the department now known as Restorative Sciences/Biomaterials from November 1976 to August 1980.

He designed mouth guards for the “Miracle on Ice” team and professional boxing champion Larry Holmes. He was also active in Yankee Dental Congress and the American Dental Association and served on the Board of Dental Peer Review and President and Treasurer of the Metropolitan District Dental Society.

A pilot, he enjoyed flying his plane, skiing, traveling, and spending time with friends and family.

He is survived by his wife, Kathleen (Petersen); two daughters, Kimberly and Kara; a sister, Paula Leopari and her husband Mark; three brothers, Edward and his wife Sharron, David and his wife Melanie, and Dennis; and many nieces and nephews.

Those who wish may send donations to the American Cancer Society at 30 Speen Street, Framingham, MA 01702.

Donna M. Romei DMD 78 of Woburn passed away on June 7, 2010. She was 63. She is survived by an aunt, Marguerite DeVito; several cousins, including Leslie Luongo; a niece and nephew; and many close friends.

Those who wish to make a donation in Dr. Romei’s name should contact the Boston chapter of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA), 350 South Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02130.

PROMOTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND RETIREMENTS (alphabetical order)

Dr. Liliana Bhattacharya appointed Adjunct Clinical Instructor of General Dentistry

Dr. Bhattacharya received her DMD from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine. She also holds MS and PhD degrees from the State University of New York at Albany, and BS and MS degrees from the University of Calcutta. In addition to working at GSDM, she serves as the dental director of Blackstone Valley Community Health Care, Inc., and is a dentist at PACE & CareLink Group.

Dr. Arthur Fertman appointed Clinical Instructor of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics

Dr. Fertman received his DDS from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine and a CAGS in orthodontics & dentofacial orthopedics from GSDM. In addition to serving on the faculty at GSDM, Dr. Fertman also has a private orthodontic practice in Burlington, Massachusetts.

Dr. Gabriela Ganoza-Duron appointed Adjunct Clinical Instructor of General Dentistry

Dr. Ganoza-Duron received her DDS from Cayetano Heredia Peruvian University Dental School. She went on to complete a certificate of advanced education in general dentistry, a certificate of general practice residency, and an advanced education program in pediatric dentistry, all at the University of Rochester. She is also a clinical instructor of pediatric dentistry at the Dimock Center.

Dr. Merelyn Hong appointed Adjunct Clinical Instructor of General Dentistry

Dr. Hong received her DDS from Gran Mariscal de Ayacucho Northeast University. She currently works as a general dentist at the Dimock Center.

Dr. Sunny Kandru appointed Adjunct Clinical Instructor of General Dentistry

Dr. Kandru received a DDS from Manipal Academy of Higher Education and both a MSD and CAGS in endodontics from GSDM. Currently, Dr. Kandru is the residency coordinator of the Lutheran AEGD Residency Program and AEGD residency coordinator at Dorchester House Multi-Service Center, and also works in a practice limited to endodontics at Hilltown Community Health Centers, Inc., and Dorchester House Multi-Service Center.

Dr. Gerard Keen appointed Adjunct Clinical Instructor of General Dentistry

Dr. Keen received his DDS from the University of Maryland. He then completed an oral surgery internship and residency at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, Connecticut, and later a postgraduate oral surgery program at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. He is currently the director of the dental department at Mid-Upper Cape Community Health Services and also practices at Ellen Jones Community Dental Center.

Dr. Yasser Khabbaz appointed Adjunct Assistant Professor of Periodontology & Oral Biology at GSDM and Assistant Professor of Periodontology & Oral Biology at Boston University Institute of Dental Research and Education Dubai (BUIDRE)

Dr. Khabbaz received his DMD and Certificate of Postgraduate Studies in oral and maxillofacial surgery from Damascus University School of Dentistry. He also received a MSD and certificate in periodontics from Saint Louis University Center for Advanced Dental Education. Dr. Khabbaz is a diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology.

Dr. Bassam Kinaia appointed Adjunct Assistant Professor of Periodontology & Oral Biology at GSDM and Assistant Professor of Periodontology & Oral Biology at Boston University Institute of Dental Research and Education Dubai (BUIDRE)

Dr. Kinaia received his DDS, certificate in conscious sedation, MS, and certificate in periodontology from University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry. He is a diplomate of both the American and Michigan Boards of Periodontology and also currently serves as an adjunct assistant professor of periodontology at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry.
Dr. Negaar Sagafi
appointed Clinical Instructor of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics
Dr. Sagafi received a DMD as well as a CAGS in general dentistry and a CAGS in orthodontics & dentofacial orthopedics from GSDM. In addition to serving on the faculty of her alma mater, Dr. Sagafi works in private practice at three locations including Waverly Oaks Dental Care Specialists, LLC, the private practice of Dr. Elbak Elakdy, and PostOrtho, PC, where she is the president.

Dr. Andrew Salama appointed Assistant Professor of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
Dr. Salama received his DDS and MD from the University of Maryland. He completed a general surgery internship, an oral and maxillofacial surgery residency program, and a fellowship at the University of Maryland Medical Center. Prior to joining the faculty of GSDM, Dr. Salama served as assistant professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery at University of Maryland Medical Center Baltimore College of Dental Surgery.

Dr. Steven Wolman appointed Adjunct Clinical Instructor of General Dentistry
Dr. Wolman received a DMD from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine and a MS and CAGS in endodontics from GSDM. He currently practices at Valley Dental Associates and is a faculty and staff endodontist at Holyoke Health Center.

Dr. Jason M. Zeim
appointed Clinical Assistant Professor of Endodontics
Dr. Zeim received both his DMD and CAGS in endodontics from GSDM. He teaches in the Predoctoral Endodontic Patient Treatment Center, postdoctoral endodontics, and AEGD. He practices endodontics at Boston University Dental Health Center and in private practice in Boston.

GSDM Pays Tribute to Exceptional Faculty and Staff
Last fall, Dean and Mrs. Jeffrey W. Hutter hosted a reception honing GSDM retirees and those who have served the School for 25 years.

“As we acknowledge and recount all that these individuals do to contribute to the success of our students, patients, and School, I am reminded how critical the contributions are of each and every member of our team to the fulfillment of our mission,” said Dean Hutter. “I truly appreciate and value each and every member of our Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine family and I am proud to honor the extraordinary contributions of these individuals tonight.”

Dean Hutter recognized Dr. Celeste Kong and Ms. Maria Isabel Canas for their dedication to the School for the last 25 years. Dr. Kong joined GSDM in 1984 as a clinical instructor of prosthodontics and currently serves as professor and director of predoctoral restorative dentistry. Ms. Canas began her career at Boston University in 1985 and came to the dental school in 1990. She has been head cashier for the Finance Office for the past 20 years.

Dean Hutter paid tribute to each of the recent retirees in attendance, including former Assistant to the Manager of the Supply Store Mr. John Manning, who retired in August 2009; Admissions Associate Dr. Sydell Shaw; Patient Accounts Coordinator for the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Ms. Louise Kimball, who retired in June 2010; and Patient Records Coordinator Ms. Joyce Snowden.

Recent retirees who were unable to attend were also recognized, including former Sterilization Assistant Ms. Cristina Damiani, who retired in July 2009; Professor of General Dentistry Dr. Jean Emerling; Research Technician in Health Policy & Health Services Research Ms. Linda Fariole, who retired in August 2010; and Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Administrative Coordinator Ms. Helen Doyle, who retired in October 2010. The honorees received a Boston University pen and pencil set engraved with their initials.

Dr. Jean Emerling Honored at Retirement Reception
Dr. Jean Emerling retired in 2010 after 35 years of service to the School. Since coming to GSDM in 1975, Dr. Emerling was a faculty member in the Departments of Prosthodontics, Restorative Dentistry, and General Dentistry. From 1981 to 2008, she served as the director of predoctoral removable prosthodontics. During her tenure at GSDM, she served on many influential committees for the School, and, in 2000, she received the Spencer N. Frankl Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Dr. Emerling received her BA in biology and DDS from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She completed her General Practice Residency at the Edward J. Meyer Memorial Hospital, now the Erie County Medical Center in Buffalo, New York.

Professor and Chair of General Dentistry Dr. Judith Jones said, “Dr. Emerling deserves all the superlatives: she is a passionate and exceptional teacher, she has mentored many students and faculty, and she has served the School with distinction. She always expected the best from her students, and she got it. More than that, she is an amazing role model for all of us. Congratulations and our best wishes for a healthy and really fun retirement. You deserve it.”

GSDM Recognizes Dr. Sydell Shaw’s 39 Years of Service
Effective May 31, Dr. Sydell Shaw retired from her position as admissions associate at GSDM. Dr. Shaw joined GSDM in 1971 as an instructor of endodontics and later served as clinical assistant professor of endodontics. In 1980, she became assistant to the dean for student affairs. Between 1984 and her retirement, she held the positions of director, assistant dean, and associate dean for predoctoral admissions and student services. Dr. Shaw received a DDS from New York University in 1953.

“On behalf of the entire GSDM community, I congratulate Dr. Shaw as she begins this new and exciting chapter in her life and I thank her for her many years of loyal service,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter.

GSDM Celebrates Joyce Snowden’s 29 Years of Service
Effective July 9, Ms. Joyce Snowden retired from her position as records coordinator at GSDM. She was a member of the GSDM staff for 29 years.

Snowden began her career at GSDM in 1981 in the Office of the Registrar. She later became a patient coordinator and ultimately, the records coordinator.

Members of the GSDM community gathered to honor a truly wonderful woman and her career at the School.

“How Joyce Snowden has been an extremely dedicated and valued employee over the years and we will certainly miss her presence at the School,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter.

Snowden is spending her retirement enjoying time with her children and grandchildren. She is also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and dedicates time to working with the organization.

AWARDS, DEGREES, AND ELECTIONS
Dr. Michele Henshaw Receives 2011 Gies Award
The ADEAGies Foundation honored GSDM Professor and Assistant Dean for Community Partnerships & Extramural Affairs Dr. Michelle Henshaw with the 2011 William J. Gies Award for Innovation in the Dental Educator category.

The Gies Awards, named after dental education pioneer Dr. William J. Gies, honor individuals and organizations exemplifying dedication to the highest standards of vision, innovation, and achievement in dental education, research, and leadership.

“Dr. Henshaw is an excellent choice given that from the onset of her professional career, she has been deeply committed to the integration of teaching, research, and service with community engagement,” said Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter. “The hallmarks of all of her efforts and many successes have been her creativity and innovation in driving institutional change.”
Dr. Henshaw has initiated and successfully fostered partnerships with a myriad of community organizations, resulting in more than 50 community-based service programs that provide oral health care to underserved populations throughout Massachusetts. The partnerships serve as the foundation for meaningful service learning experiences for students and are integral components of the GSDM dental education curriculum.

Dr. Henshaw’s efforts are not limited to GSDM. She has received national recognition as a tireless advocate for incorporating service learning and community engagement into dental education.

International College of Dentists Inducts Dr. Parviz Sadooghi
The International College of Dentists has inducted GSDM Clinical Associate Professor Dr. Parviz Sadooghi. In 1971, Dr. Sadooghi received a DMD from the National University of Iran. He continued his dental training at GSDM, receiving a CAGS in prosthodontics in 1977, a CAGS in periodontology in 1978, and a DMD in 1985. In 1998, Dr. Sadooghi was appointed clinical associate professor at GSDM.

Dr. Pushkar Mehra to Represent Massachusetts at AAOMS
The Massachusetts Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (MSOMS) elected GSDM Chair of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery and Boston Medical Center Associate Dean Dr. Jeffrey W. Hutter to serve as a delegate to the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS).

The more than 9,000 members of the AAOMS are represented by a House of Delegates—the legislative and governing body of the national association—comprised of 100 elected members. Dr. Mehra has been a member of the AAOMS since 1995.

“It is a great honor to represent Massachusetts in the AAOMS House of Delegates,” said Dr. Mehra. “I look forward to working at the national level to promote public health, lobby for legislation that is favorable for our patients and surgeons, and raise money for dental research and education.”

Dr. Mehra will serve a three-year term as a delegate. The Senior Delegate representing MSOMS at AAOMS is GSDM’s Director of the Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Residency Training Program/Advanced Specialty Education Program in Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery at Boston Medical Center and GSDM Dr. David Cottrell.

Patti Delorey Receives School’s Award for Distinguished Service
Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter presented the Henry M. Goldman Award for Distinguished Service to Orthodontic Clinic Coordinator Patti Delorey. Delorey began her career at GSDM in 1986 as an administrative assistant in the Department of Orthodontics.

“Patti supports and advances the mission of our School every day by ensuring that excellent patient care and dental education are delivered,” said Dean Hutter. “Perhaps what sets Patti apart from the many wonderful staff members we are privileged to work with here at GSDM is her willingness to serve as a de facto concierge for all who enter our building. She is constantly providing directions, guidance, advice, and reassurances to our patients, our students, and our faculty and staff. Patti truly embodies the ideal of excellence that is fundamental to our Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine and she is most deserving of the Henry M. Goldman Award for Distinguished Service.”

Dr. Paula K. Friedman Leads Massachusetts Dental Society
Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives Dr. Paula K. Friedman is serving as vice president of the Massachusetts Dental Society (MDS). She will advance to president-elect, followed by president. Each position is a one-year appointment.

Dr. Friedman has been involved with MDS on some level since 1978, but it was not until 2005 that she began pursuing leadership roles within the organization. In 2005, she was appointed to the Women’s Leadership Task Force, which recommended creating the MDS Leadership Institute in order to make MDS leadership more accessible to all members.

Dr. Friedman then took part in the Institute and later served as a guest member on the MDS Board.

“I have so much respect and admiration for the Massachusetts Dental Society,” said Dr. Friedman. “I am truly honored to have been elected to this position.”

EXCELLENCE
Gianelly/Schilder Symposium Presents Innovative Topics and Evokes Fond Memories for Participants
Last October faculty, students, alumni, and other dental practitioners came together for the Gianelly/Schilder Symposium on Orthodontic and Endodontic Excellence.

The event honored the innovative work of both the late Dr. Anthony Gianelly, former professor and chair of endodontics, and the late Dr. Herbert Schilder, former professor and chair of orthodontics. This is the third biennial symposium hosted by GSDM Continuing Education in honor of the two well-respected educators.

The endodontics program featured a wide range of innovative topics presented by renowned practitioners in the field. Dean Hutter addressed the participants, many of whom had the chance to learn from the late Dr. Gianelly during his long tenure at GSDM.

“I would like to thank all of you for coming to this symposium honoring Dr. Anthony Gianelly,” said Dean Hutter. “He was a giant in the field of orthodontics and I know that he would be very pleased with the impressive panel of speakers and all of the attendees assembled here today.”

Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Team Returns to Ukraine
Last fall, Dr. Pushkar Mehra led a carefully selected surgical team to Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine, where they performed more than 50 consultations and surgeries on underserved children affected with various facial deformities and developmental anomalies, including cleft lip and palate.

Team members included: Dr. Jim Bertz, an oral and maxillofacial surgeon from Scottsdale, Arizona; Boston Medical Center (BMC) Operating Room Nurse Joseph App; GSDM Oral Surgery Operating

The team poses with some of the Ukrainian children who received care.
Room Manager Wendy Little; Matthew Steuer OMFS '13; and BMC Family Nurse Practitioner Paula Surro.

“What a life-changing experience! I received so much more than I could ever give back. I look forward to continuing in such endeavors for the rest of my life,” said Dr. Steuer.

GSDM joined forces with the Smiles International Foundation’s Smiles of Ukraine program. For the past three years, the GSDM team has taken a leadership role in this outreach effort, training local Ukrainian surgeons to proficiency in complex oral and maxillofacial surgical procedures. They are thrilled to be able to offer the hope of a better life to many of the children they treat.

To volunteer, donate, or to learn more about the team’s involvement in this program, please visit www.smilesforchildren.org.

School Embraces New Technology for Restoration

Twenty-three GSDM faculty members participated in a three-day, on-site CEREC®—a Computer Aided Design/Computer Aided Manufacture (CAD/CAM) based system for analyzing the morphology of teeth, designing restorations, and manufacturing all-ceramic restorations—training course last fall.

“One of the advantages of the CEREC® system versus traditional ways for making crowns, veneers, onlays, and other restorations is that the complete procedure—from preparing a tooth to bonding the final restoration in place—can often be completed in one appointment rather than in two or more separate appointments,” explains Associate Dean for Clinical Services Dr. Stephen DuLong.

GSDM has used earlier versions of the CEREC® system for many years. Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter committed to upgrading and expanding the School’s use of CEREC® as a result of a generous school acquisition program offered by CEREC®’s makers, Sirona Dental Systems.

Key faculty members in Predoctoral General Dentistry, AEGD, Restorative Sciences/Biomaterials, and the Dental Health Center at 930 Commonwealth Avenue are now capable of fully implementing CEREC® technology; students and residents will receive revised and enhanced education in the clinical application of CEREC® within the curriculum.

GSDM Educational Innovation Highlighted at John McCahan Medical Campus Education Day

Faculty, staff, and students of Boston University Medical Campus (BUMC) gathered in Hebert Lounge and throughout the Medical Campus June 11, for the fifth annual John McCahan Medical Campus Education Day. The event showcased educational innovation and scholarship at BUMC while honoring former BUMC Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Dr. John McCahan.

BUMC Provost Karen Antman began the day by welcoming the participants and introducing the panel of Academic Deans, including GSDM’s Assistant Dean for Predoctoral Clinical Education Dr. John Guarante.

Post presentations followed, with three individuals representing GSDM. Clinical Associate Professor Dr. Mark Ferriero presented a poster titled, “The OSCE Examination: A Picture IS Worth A Thousand Words” Associate Director of Extramural Programs Ms. Meg Loadholt presented a poster titled, “Development of Critical Thinking Skills In Dental Students and Methodology of Evaluation.” Nisha Sundaragopal DMD ‘11 presented a poster titled, “Oral Disease—Educational Strategies to Address a Significant Health Issue in Children,” which she collaborated on with Professor and Assistant Dean for Community Partnerships & Extramural Affairs Dr. Michelle Henshaw and Oral Health Promotion Director Kathy Lituri.

The keynote address titled, “Teaching for Deep Learning: Promoting Intellectual and Personal Development,” was presented by Dr. Jeanette Norden, a neuroscientist and professor of cell and developmental biology at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. For more than 20 years, she has conducted research on nerve regeneration, focusing on GAP-43, a protein involved in nervous system development, regeneration, and plasticity.

Should Federal Nutrition Assistance Funds Be Used to Buy Obesity-Promoting Sugar-Sweetened Beverages?

“The soft drink industry receives a $4 billion subsidy from taxpayers each year, according to an American Journal of Public Health editorial written by GSDM Clinical Assistant Professor Dr. Jonathan D. Shenkin and Executive Director of the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) Michael F. Jacobson.

The editorial details how much carbonated soda is purchased with money from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the program formerly known as Food Stamps. And that total doesn’t include noncarbonated soft drinks. Considering that the over-consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages is helping fuel an epidemic of obesity that disproportionately affects low-income populations, the authors raise the question of whether it is time to exclude soda or other junk foods from the SNAP program in the same way that alcohol, tobacco, dietary supplement pills, and hot prepared foods are already excluded.

Efforts to limit SNAP purchases to healthier foods would draw intense opposition, write Drs. Shenkin and Jacobson. SNAP participants appear to purchase at least 40 percent more carbonated soft drinks than other consumers. At one major supermarket chain, SNAP participants bought 4.3 percent of carbonated soft drinks even though they only represented 1.8 percent of transactions. At another large chain, carbonated soft drinks accounted for 6.19 percent of the grocery bills of SNAP participants.

“The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is intended to help low-income families buy the foods they need to promote good health. It’s time to question whether the program should support the purchase of foods that promote disease,” Shenkin says.

If disallowing the use of SNAP funds to buy sugar-sweetened beverages proves to be politically unfeasible, as the authors acknowledge it might, a less controversial option might be to provide SNAP participants with a financial incentive to purchase healthy foods. Recipients’ Electronic Benefit Transfer cards could be credited with 30 additional cents for every dollar spent on fruits, vegetables, or whole grains, for example. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, for every 10 percent decrease in the price of fruits or vegetables, SNAP recipients would increase their purchase by 6 or 7 percent.

The federal government’s largest nutrition education program is also funded by SNAP. Called SNAP-Ed, the program gives almost $400 million in matching grants to states to encourage low-income consumers to adopt healthier diets. But Shenkin and Jacobson point out that the USDA actually prohibits the use of SNAP-Ed grants for campaigns that steer people away from junk foods. USDA stopped health officials in the city of San Francisco and the states of Maine, California, and Wyoming from using federal money for programs aimed at reducing soda consumption.

The federal government should be doing everything it can to reduce the consumption of soda and other sugar-sweetened beverages, which promote tooth decay, weight gain, obesity, diabetes, and other diet-related diseases,” says Jacobson. “SNAP should be oriented toward increasing the consumption of good, healthy foods. None of the $65 billion invested in nutrition assistance in 2010 should end up paying for Coke, Pepsi, or Mountain Dew.”

Shenkin and Jacobson also say that Congress should fund an Institute of Medicine review of the goals, successes, and limitations of the SNAP and SNAP-Ed programs. Such a report could identify ways that the programs could foster healthier diets and provide an authoritative basis for Congress to make changes.

The authors point out that another powerful means of discouraging soft drink consumption is taxation.

Faculty/Staff Progress Report
A federal excise tax of 12 cents per 12 ounces could raise upward of $15 billion a year and decrease consumption by about 10 percent. Taxes on that order have been proposed in New York State, Philadelphia, and nationally, but have been beaten back by well-funded industry lobbying and advertising campaigns. At least 24 states and the city of Chicago have special sales or excise taxes on soda that raise substantial revenues, but aren’t large enough to decrease consumption.

Though excluding sugar-sweetened beverages from the SNAP program is controversial, setting nutrition standards for government food programs is hardly new. The school lunch and breakfast programs administered by the USDA comply with strict nutrition standards that exclude soda and junk food, as does the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program, which is geared to pregnant and breast-feeding women and young children.

“Soda is already one of the cheapest things in the supermarket, and it promotes expensive-to-treat diseases and stark health disparities,” Jacobson says. “Short of cigarettes and alcoholic beverages, it’s hard to imagine a product less worthy of a government subsidy than soda. It’s time to put the ‘N’ back in SNAP.”

GSMD Responds to MassHealth Cuts with Revamped BUMP UP

In response to the MassHealth coverage cuts, GSDM has resurrected and restructured a program that was created the last time Massachusetts made cuts to MassHealth adult dental coverage. The program, Boston University MassHealth Patient Upgrade Program (BUMP UP), provides basic restorative services at deeply discounted prices to MassHealth patients with some ability to pay. All procedures must be paid for in advance, but the School is shaving the prices on these services as much as possible, virtually eliminating any profit margin. Members of the School who came up with this plan, including Assistant Dean for Predoctoral Clinical Education Dr. John Guarante, Associate Dean for Clinical Services Dr. Stephen DuLong, Dean Jeffrey W. Hutter, and Executive Director of Finance & Operations Tim McDonough and his team, feel that the plan is necessary in order to continue to provide a strong clinical experience for students and serve existing patients from the local community.

“We want to continue to take care of our patients and provide them with the basic services needed for good oral health at reasonable prices,” says Dr. DuLong. “In addition, BUMP UP will give GSDM a competitive edge over private dentists who can no longer afford to provide these services to MassHealth patients. Hopefully this will allow us to expand our patient pool to further the clinical experience gained by our students.”

Project White Coat Launches Undergraduate Mentoring Program

A new program within Project White Coat designed to expose undergraduate students to the fields of dental hygiene and dentistry was introduced this year that gives undergraduate students from various schools the opportunity to shadow dental students for the month of June at GSDM. The program is possible thanks to a $2.1 million Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Health Career Opportunities Program (HCOP) grant.

Mentees learn firsthand what to expect from their future dental school education. “Wearing the mask and gown, watching a dental student take impressions, and talking to patients has taught me what it feels like to be a dental student,” said Dominique Bernabeo from the University of New Hampshire’s class of 2011.

Being a mentor is also a learning experience, explains Maria Smoot DMD ’12. “Before dental school I would have really appreciated having a formal mentor who could have given me advice. Talking to undergraduate students interested in dental school gives me perspective and reminds me of why I decided to go into this profession.”

The program provides full days of enrichment, including intensive science courses, academic and professional workshops, field trips, clinical observations, and volunteer opportunities such as the Blackstone School Field Trip to GSMD. It is open to current residents of Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

IN MEMORIAM
Jean E. Ganley passed away on January 25. She was 84.

“Miss Ganley,” as she was known, worked at GSDM from 1969 to 1994, when she left as Supervisor of Sterilization. Well loved, she crossed paths with nearly every student and faculty member.

“Jean Ganley was my teacher when I was enrolled in the Dental Assistant Program,” said Dental Radiology Technologist Mary Ellen Sholes. “I consider her the ultimate in dental professionalism. She played such an important role in my career and the careers of countless other dental assistants. I am what I am today, largely because of her. She inspired me, counseled me, and taught me to take pride in my work…and here I am 40 years later.”

She is survived by a brother, William, and his wife Lucette; two sisters, Nancy (Ganley) Chandler and Priscilla (Ganley) Watson; nieces and nephews Amiee Munro, Douglas Ganley, Laura Countryman, Beth, Ricky, and Todd Feeley, and Bill and Debra Chandler; and 12 grandnieces and grandnephews.

Those who wish may send donations to The Needham Council on Aging, where Jean was an active member, at 83 Pickering Street, Needham, MA 02492.
Does it matter where you go to school? GSDM was an adventure full of unforgettable highlights—and maybe a few moments you wish you could forget! Over time you learn to laugh at your mistakes, and what feels like the worst thing you could imagine turns into nothing more than a punch line that only you and your classmates understand.

When you arrived smiling and happy, the hard work of our Admissions Office was evident as you floated through orientation. After a few weeks of being introduced to the curriculum by the Academic Affairs Office, you were suddenly led into the educational maze that is our Dental School, from the basic sciences, to pre-clin in the Simulation Learning Center or the sixth floor labs, and finally to the treatment center. You made stops at the Dean's Office, General Dentistry, and the Registrar's Office. Alternate routes took you to Extramural Programs, Alumni & Development, Communications, Continuing Education, and countless clinical rotations. You may have even made a trip down to the ground level to visit friends in Information Technology and the Supply Store. The goal of the Student Affairs Office is to guide you through this maze, starting with orientation and continuing through commencement.

While completing your journey may have seemed like a daunting task, you achieved it through perseverance, sacrifice, and dedication. For many, this was made possible with the help of a strong support system of family, friends, alumni, faculty, and staff. Our office is an integral part of that network and serves as the link to whatever students need. This is accomplished by our strong and talented team, which includes the entire Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) staff, faculty, and administration.

Our mission is to create a positive learning environment by advocating for all pre- and postdoctoral GSDM students and serving as a “first-line” point of contact for those students seeking assistance. This may include connecting students to various resources on the Medical Campus, within the University, or in the community at large. Our assistance begins by promoting physical and emotional wellness and focuses on working proactively to address student issues. We are available to coordinate personal counseling and academic advising for all students and encourage students to engage in School-wide curricular and extra-curricular activities to enrich their experiences at GSDM. We help coordinate activities for all student organizations by promoting interaction beyond the classroom and into the community, thereby extending the learning environment while encouraging intellectual, ethical, and professional development.

Over the next six months, our office will develop and implement a career services component with the goal of giving students direction and support in the postgraduate application process and various professional employment opportunities. We will assist all GSDM students applying to postgraduate programs by providing print and electronic information from our Career Resources Library. We will help students seeking employment and postdoctoral opportunities to sharpen their interview techniques and improve their curriculum vitae, personal statements, and letters of intent. Along with our colleagues in the Alumni & Development Office, we will work with Extramural Programs to increase and enhance the exposure and utilization of our Dental Career Network.

It is no secret that our students could not complete this journey without our alumni’s support. You can help us continue down the path of success by making an investment in your education and that of the GSDM students who will follow for years to come.

As a graduate of the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine, there are two things you know today that our students will soon learn:

Our School is a very special place and it really DOES matter where you go!

provide cutting-edge technology to our students

support more translational research

serve its patients—and the world—more effectively

The Boston University Planned Giving team can help you create a philanthropic strategy that fits your unique interests and financial situation. Once you know all the possibilities, you may discover that you can have a greater impact than you ever imagined.

Ready to start the conversation? We want to hear from you. Call us at 800-645-2347 or visit www.bu.edu/opg.