

The MULTICULTURAL MIRROR

One School  Many Cultures

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Welcome - Welcome - Welcome

 UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



Welcome Class of 2015!



Meet the Dental School Class of 2015

For the first time in our school's history, the D1 students started their first term before the July 4th weekend. When the 56 female and 52 male students arrived on their first day at the UoM-SoD, they were welcomed by the dean with breakfast in the Michigan Union. A roll call of their undergraduate institutions showed that they come from colleges and universities in most of the states in the US. Overall, 75 students are from Michigan and 33 are from out of state. They range in age from their early 20s to their late 30s, and in their educational experiences from having 3 years of undergraduate education to having Master's degrees (9 students) and even a PhD.

On their second day on campus, they participated in a 2 hour workshop entitled "Building community in times of diversity". At the end of this workshop, they received a short survey that asked them to answer some questions about themselves and tell us about their reasons for being in dental school, their hobbies and travel experiences, and anything else that might be interesting about them. Seventy-seven of the 108 students actually responded and the diversity of the answers shows how interesting these new D1s are. Of the 77 students, 10 have a spouse or partner, and 3 reported that they have children - one student has 2 children and 2 students have one child each. A total of 32 told us that they had close relatives who are dentists or dental hygienists such as their father (12 students), uncle/aunt (9), mother (7), grandfather (5), cousin (4) or brother (2). One student's wife and father-in-law are dentists.

Why dentistry?

Having one or more family members who are dentists or dental hygienists might have inspired some of our students to come to the

dental school. So it is not surprising that some D1s decided quite early - as early as 6 years old - that they wanted to become dentists. In response to the question why they chose dentistry as a career, the answers ranged widely. The most commonly named reason had to do with the fact that dentists can help others and serve their communities. Twenty-four students gave answers related to these reasons such as "I want to positively contribute to the lives of others and serve my community.", "Great occupation where you can provide care to people in your community.", or "Like to help people change their life in a positive way". Related to this issue is the desire of 18 students to have a career where they can interact with people on a daily basis. These students wrote for example, "I chose dental instead of medical school because of the relationship you build with patients.", "I like the fact that you have the opportunities to develop long relationships with your patients.", and "Because I wanted a profession where I work with people". Fourteen students described their own personal experiences with dentistry as the motivation to become dentists themselves. They mention for example, "I had headgear and loved it.", "I was a dental patient in the military.", and "I really admired my orthodontist". The type of skills needed was mentioned by several other students. For example, 6 students mentioned that they want to work with their hands ("Enjoy working with my hands"), and 6 students described that the science connection ("I like the science and technical nature of dentistry") made them want to become a dentist.

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D1 Student Notes continued...

On the whole, several students described that they saw dentistry as a rewarding and challenging career that allows them to have the life style they enjoy.

Free Time Fun

In order to get to know our new D1s a little better, we also asked them what they like to do in their free time. Nearly everybody mentioned at least one type of sports activities and nearly all types of sports were covered - from A to Z: Athletics, ballroom dancing, basketball, biking, bowling, camping, college football, dancing, exercise, fishing, golf, hiking, hockey, hunting, kickboxing, outdoors, ride my horse, rock climbing, rollerblading, running, skiing, snowboarding, soccer, swimming, tennis, trail running, volleyball, wake boarding, workout, zumba. The second most frequently mentioned activity was hanging out with friends and spending time with family members. Other activities were going to the movies or shows, shopping, travelling, watching TV, playing video games, reading, listening to or making music such as playing the piano, violin, a guitar, or the drums. Several other students described hands-on activities such as repairing

their vintage car, baking, cooking, gardening, painting or taking pictures. Drinking smoothies and writing poetry together with sleeping were also mentioned. We hope that our D1s will not stop with these activities - but will try to balance their work in dental school with the fun activities they like to do for relaxation.

Travel Time

Finally, we asked the D1s about their favorite travel experiences. The answers showed that our D1s covered a large part of the world during their travels. Not only did they visit most US states from Alaska to Hawaii, but they visited many countries in Europe (England, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Spain) and around the world (Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa, Syria, Thailand). Interestingly, they did not just visit these places as tourists, but in many instances they went to provide community service. For example, students wrote "In high school I traveled to Thailand with the YMCA...

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A World of Holidays Academic Year 2011/12

September

Sept. 5 - *Labor Day* - US and Canada

Sept. 7 - *Independence Day* - Brazil

Sept. 12 - *Chinese Moon Festival* (Lunar Calendar August 15-Full moon)

Sept. 15 - Oct. 15 - *Hispanic Heritage Month*

Sept. 16 - *Independence Day* - Mexico

Sept. 18 - *Independence Day* - Chile

Sept. 19 - *Respect for the Aged Day* - Japan

Sept. 23 - *Autumnal/vernal equinox* - worldwide

Sept. 28 - 30 - *Rosh Hashanah* - Judaism

October

In US: - *Filipino American History Month*

- *Breast Cancer Awareness Month*

- *Italian American Heritage Month*

- *Polish American Heritage Month*

Oct. 1 - *National Day* - China

Oct. 2 - *International Day for Nonviolence*

Oct. 3 - *German Unity Day* - German

Oct. 7 - 8 - *Yom Kippur* - Judaism

Oct. 10 - *Thanksgiving Day* - Canada & *Columbus Day* - US

& Oct. 10 - *National Day* - Taiwan

Oct. 13 - *Sukkot* - Judaism

Oct. 16 - *World Food Day*

Oct. 21 - *Simchat Torah* - Judaism

Oct. 23 - *Hungarian Revolution Remembrance* - Hungary

Oct. 29 - *Republic Day* - Turkey

D1 Notes continued.

This was a great experience because we stayed in orphanages with children from high risk homes.", "I lived in Argentina doing a service mission.", and "I went to Costa Rica/Nicaragua on a mission trip." Some students studied abroad and wrote for example: "I studied in Germany for 2 months; met people from all over the world, got better at speaking German." and "Japan, study abroad for 1 year. It was amazing to meet awesome people, to see the beautiful places, and to enjoy the life as a college student." It was also interesting that many students described that traveling with their family members and friends was especially rewarding because they got to know them better.

Interesting Tidbits

The last question we asked was about one interesting fact about their lives. The answers to this question were amazing and made us look through the class photos, contemplating who might have given some of these answers. Many answers were related to special bodily skills or characteristics such as "I sleep with my eyes partially open.", "I can move my ears.", and "My fingers are double jointed".

Some answers told us about prior surgeries such as "I've had two jaw surgeries" and "I have screws in my hand".

Other answers described talents the students had such as "I played Olympic development soccer for 4 years.", "I played division one college volleyball.", "I have a vintage car (1959 MGA) that I drive in rallies.", "I was in a hula hoop contest that lasted 2 hours.", and "I've climbed three mountains". The student who reported "I can eat a lot" might want to talk with the D1 who wrote "I went to culinary school." or with the student who was a Hagen Dazz ice cream cake designer. We felt really bad for the student who wrote "I missed in state tuition by 1 mile. (Sylvania, OH)" - but happy about hearing that students who went sky diving, scuba diving with sharks, or scuba diving down to 120 ft., or bungee jumping in Poland survived and are with us now.

Looking at all the answers of two thirds of the new D1s makes us wonder what the other third of the class would have added to this colorful picture. We want to welcome all of you and hope you share your talents and experiences with all of us during your next 4 years here at the dental school.

Shawn Stressman, Profile for Success participant & pre dental student

November

Nov. 1 - *All Saints' Day*- W. Christianity

Nov. 2 - *All Souls' Day*- W. Christianity

Nov. 2 - *Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)*- Mexico

Nov. 6 - *Eid al Adha*- Islam

Nov. 8 - *Election Day*- US

Nov. 11- *St. Martin's Day (Martinmas)* - Europe

Nov. 11 - *Remembrance Day* - Europe and the

Commonwealth of Nations Known as Veterans' Day in the

US - and Armistice Day elsewhere

Nov. 19 - *International Men's Day*

Nov. 21 - *Día de la Revolución*- Mexico

Nov. 24 - *Lachit Divas*- India

Nov. 24 - *Thanksgiving Day* - US

Nov. 26 - *Islamic New Year (Al Hija)* - Islam

Nov. 27 - *Start of Advent* - Western Christian

St. Andrew's Day - Scotland

December

Dec. 1 - *World AIDS Day*

Dec. 21 - *Hannukah* - Judaism

Dec. 5 - *Sinterklaas* - The Netherlands

Dec. 6 - *Independence Day* - Finland

Dec. 6 - *Constitution Day* - Spain

Dec. 7 - *Pearl Harbor Day* - US

Dec. 8 - *Feast of the Immaculate Conception* - Roman Catholic

Dec. 10 - *Human Rights Day*

Dec. 12 - *Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe* - Roman Catholic

Dec. 22 - *Winter solstice*

Dec. 23 - *Emperor's Birthday* - Japan

Dec. 24 - *Christmas Eve*

Dec. 25 - *Christmas*

Dec. 26 - *Kwanzaa* - US

Dec. 31 - *New Year's Eve*

List provided by Michelle Szewczyk & Paul Syriac, pre dental students

Class of 2015 White Coat Ceremony and Orientation

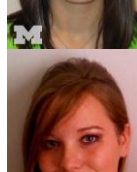


Students receive their white coats and eagerly await the beginning of classes.



Students listen intently as they go through orientation.

Meet the Dental Hygiene Class of 2014



Starting New

During an orientation session on “Building a community in times of diversity”, 31 incoming dental hygiene students filled out a short survey as a way to get to know each other. Their answers on this survey also are helping us to introduce these new dental hygiene students to the rest of the University of Michigan - School of Dentistry. Concerning their background, it might be interesting to know that this year we have two male dental hygiene students and 30 female students. Six of the students reported that they have a spouse or partner, and 3 that they have children – one student has one child, and 2 students have 2 children each. Also, a total of 9 students have a dentist or dental hygienist as a relative. One student has a mother, two each a father or an aunt, and 3 students have cousins in the field.

Why dental hygiene?

Having close relatives was listed as an inspiration for some students to follow a career as a dental hygienist. That finding might also explain why some students decided as early as 5 years old that they wanted to become a dental hygienist. In response to the question of why they chose a career in dental hygiene, a wide

range of other answers was given as well. The most commonly named reason had to do with the students wanting to help their community and take care of patients. About half of the students gave answers related to these reasons such as “I am fascinated with teeth. I think someone’s smile is the first thing you notice about someone.”, “I really enjoy helping people and I am concerned with their health.”, or “To be a part of a profession that helps the community.” Other answers included, “I’ve always loved science and want to help people receive great healthcare.”, and “To show and teach my patients how to properly take care of their oral hygiene.” Another common reason listed as motivation to become a dental hygienist was related to the personal experience of the students with dental hygiene. These students wrote for example, “I talked to my hygienist at check-ups and she said it was a great job and that this was an awesome program.”, “After having braces I wanted to help kids create their own smiles they will love.”, and “I always had a positive experience from the dentist so it helped me decide in dentistry as my career.” Some students even mentioned an indirect route to this career. For example, five students said they were working in dental assisting (“I kind of fell into dental assisting and decided to go further”) which inspired them to move forward with their careers. Overall, many students saw dental hygiene as a career that provided the opportunity to improve

[Continued on next page.](#)

Dental Hygiene Notes Continued

..the health of their patients and offer a valuable service to the community.

What do our new dental hygiene students like to do in their free time?

With school being very rigorous, it is important for students to find ways to relieve their stress. So we asked these students what they like to do in their free time. Many answered that they like a wide variety of sports and physical activities such as hunting, figure skating, canoeing, swimming, snowboarding, running, soccer, riding bikes, dancing, walking, volleyball, hiking, softball, baseball, football, basketball, and fishing. Probably the most common activity mentioned was hanging out with friends and spending time with family members. On another note, this group is also very artistic, listing craft-related activities like crocheting, knitting, sewing, painting, decorating, scrapbooking, and photography. Other activities were going to the movies or shows, shopping, travelling, watching TV, playing video games, reading, listening to music. Several other students described activities such as baking, cooking, gardening, or working on a farm. Attending concerts along with sleeping were also mentioned. We hope the dental hygiene students will find a way to balance these activities with their new workload in their program.

Travel Time

The next question we asked the incoming dental hygienists was about their best travel experiences. Many students mentioned wonderful trips locally in

Michigan, vacationing on Mackinaw Island, or biking from Ludington to Harbor Beach. Others had done a National Lampoon-esk vacation/road trip to California. As it turns out, the students had visited or had lived in many states in the US—ranging from California to Wyoming to New York. But they didn't stop there! Some had travelled to countries in Europe (Germany, France, Austria, Ireland, Scotland, Norway, Spain, and Sweden) and even around the world (Egypt, South Africa, Pakistan, Jamaica, Dubai, and Belarus). Interestingly, the students were not just vacationing at these places, but were many times there to experience another culture. For example, one student wrote "In my senior year in high school, we did an exchange program. My class went to Rio Vista, CA, and we stayed with another student. We went to a class with them, and toured Old Sacramento and San Francisco. I was surprised how different their life was than here in Michigan." Some students who studied abroad wrote: "A few summers ago I went to South Africa on a Safari. I learned about the culture there and their way of life.", "I was able to spend 2 weeks with a host family in Germany learning about their culture and two more weeks traveling all through the country." Another important note made by many students was that traveling with friends and family made the experience much more fun!

Interesting Tidbits

Finally, we asked for interesting facts

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Dental Hygiene Notes continued.

about the students' lives. The answers to this question were very interesting. Some answers included background information like "I'm an only child.", "I'm from a diverse background: Puerto Rican, Columbian, and Palestinian.", "I'm a farm girl.", and "I was born in Pakistan." Other answers were quite unique such as "I love pickles! Especially dill pickle soup.", "I don't like the feel of someone's feet touching my skin.", and "I sing in the shower, loudly." Many involved passions of the students: figure skating, meeting new people, traveling, fishing, church, photography, hockey, drawing cartoon characters and creating strong opinion images.

Other answers described personal details such as "I'm a very outgoing guy.", "I used to pole-vault in High

School.", "I have a dog named Buddy!", "I've lived on a lake all my life.", "I am a licensed cosmetologist.", and "I love giraffes and like going to the zoo with my friends to feed them." Maybe the student who is a "country girl" could find a new friend in the student who loves Rascal Flatts.

The answers provided by the incoming dental hygienist class clearly show how diverse and incredible the students are. This diversity will only continue to grow in the years to come with the opportunities presented while in school. We want to welcome all of you and hope you share your talents and experiences with all of us during your next 3 years here in our community.

Written by Brady Schneider, UofM '13, pre-dental student

Meet Some of Our New Faculty Members

Since the beginning of the new academic year, we had several new faculty members join our University's Dental School.

Two faculty members we will highlight are Dr. Sharon (Ron) Aronovich, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and Soong Ryong Jung, Prosthodontics Instructor for the D2 pre-clinical courses. We asked these faculty members a few questions to get to know them a little better.

Dr. Aronovich grew up in Montreal, Canada. He completed his undergraduate studies in Human Biology at the University of Toronto

(2000), attended dental school at McGill University, and spent a year as a General Practice Resident at the University of Vermont's Fletcher Allen Health Care, a Level 1 trauma center with a busy Maxillofacial Surgery service (2005).



Dr. Sharon (Ron) Aronovich

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Faculty and Staff, continued.

Dr. Aronovich completed his residency training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the Hospital of Saint Raphael/Yale-New Haven Hospital where he gained extensive experience in the fields of outpatient anesthesia, orthognathic surgery, dentolaveolar surgery, implantology, and maxillofacial trauma.

During that time, he also was principal investigator in a prospective study on wound healing in diabetics. After graduating from his residency, he continued on to practice in southern Connecticut and moved on to accept an accredited fellowship in Pediatric Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery/Craniofacial Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in 2010.

Dr. Jung is originally from Korea, where he lived with his wife and three children, until moving to the U.S. approximately 8 years ago. In Korea, he practiced as an Oral Surgeon. He then moved to the United States to continue his education by becoming a Board Certified Prosthodontist and Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry. He completed his prosthodontic residency from the University of Michigan and the John D. Dingall, Veteran Affairs Medical Center in 2008. Currently, along with serving as a D2 pre-clinical course instructor for Prosthodontics, he is an Attending Staff

Prosthodontist at the John D. Dingall Veteran Affairs Medical Center in Detroit.

Both have extensive research interests. Dr. Jung enjoys oral surgery, implantology, and prosthodontics, and would like to share his backgrounds in these areas with the students. Dr. Aronovich is interested in tissue regeneration, wound healing, and outcomes in the surgical management of TMJ disorders.

In their time here at the University of Michigan, they both look forward to the collaboration with students and fellow faculty on research opportunities, educational endeavors, and clinical cases. Both of these new faculty members are great additions to the University of Michigan's Dental School. And we want to welcome them!



Dr. Soong Ryong Jung

This issue was edited by: Brady Schneider, UofM'13, pre dental student.

Graphic design support was provided by our own Chris Jung