

# The MULTICULTURAL MIRROR

One School  Many Cultures



Multicultural Affairs Committee  
UM SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

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## Welcome!

 UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



 University of Michigan Dental School  
White Coat Ceremony • 2012

*Welcome Class of 2016!*

## Meet the Dental School Class of 2016



For the second time in our school's history, the D1 students started their first term before the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. A total of 108 students out of the 2,168 enrolled and arrived on June 25, 2012, for the welcome breakfast. Sixty-five of the students are Michigan residents and 43 students are non-residents who came from all over the U.S. and Canada. Their educational experiences range from a Ph.D., Masters and Bachelor's degrees to students with three or more years of college.



On their second day on campus, they participated in a workshop entitled "Building community in times of diversity" and then travelled to the Farmington Hill Holocaust memorial in the afternoon. On the bus to the memorial, they received a short survey that asked them to answer some questions about themselves such as why they want to become dentists, which hobbies and travel experiences they have, and anything else that might be interesting about them. Eighty-six of the students responded and the diversity of the answers shows how interesting our new D1s are. Twenty have a spouse or partner, and 3 have children with one additional baby on the way. Nineteen D1s have close relatives who are dentists or dental hygienists such as their father (7 students), uncle/aunt (8), mother (3), grandfather or grandmother (3), cousin (4) or brother (1).



### Why dentistry?



While having one or more family members who are dentists or dental hygienists inspired some of our students to come to the dental school, the D1s also offered a variety of other reasons why they chose this profession. In fact, many wanted to become dentists before they even went to college. The most commonly named reason for choosing dentistry had to do with the fact that dentists can help others and serve their communities, with 35 students mentioning this reason. Many of the other answers were related to



aspects of the profession as students looked forward to working with their own hands, being their own bosses, and having relationships with patients. Some entered dental school because they are interested in healthcare or had positive experiences when shadowing their dentists. In addition, a few students were excited about the possibility to use their artistic abilities in their work. Overall, the class has been drawn by past experiences and a want for the profession's work structure and opportunity.



### Free Time Fun

In order to get to know our new D1s a little better, we asked them what they like to do in their free time. When not in the library, the class seems to be very active. The majority of students reported to be active in at least one sport, including a wide variety from basketball and golf to kayaking and snowboarding. Many also mentioned exercising, whether it be working out in general or engaging in yoga and even triathlons. Many D1s expressed an enjoyment for being outside. The new class has also many movie lovers, readers and even has a few musicians and a photographer. Although a myriad of answers involved spending time with family and hanging out with friends, there was also an assortment of unique answers, such as spending time with carpentry and construction projects, visiting brewers, gardening, sewing, and babysitting. 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 go to many famous destinations across the United States, but they also visited many countries in Europe (England, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Spain, Sweden) and around the world (Australia, The Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Peru, Poland, South Africa, South Korea, Thailand). Most of the trips were with family and friends and some students had even travelled for dental community outreach trips. Overall, there was quite some enthusiasm for having made these trips and they are sure to stay forever memorable.

**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 past experiences or hobbies, such as skydiving endeavors or training for marathons. Other

students reported amazing talents and abilities, from belly dancing and the ability to speak Russian, to a D1 who claimed to “make the best instant ramen EVER.” Past careers and aspirations, including engineering and construction, were listed as well as interesting comments on students’ own bodies, such as having small ears and grey hair. While one student is expecting a first child in July, another is nine months in to renovating an 1860’s Victorian Farm House. Some answers focused on food preferences such as “love vanilla, don’t care for chocolate,” but other answers proved to be quite serious, as one student was mis-diagnosed with cancer and told to have only six months to live. The answers show a dental class that is both interesting and diverse and makes us look forward to getting to know them better.

By Richard Weiss, pre dental student

**A World of Holidays**  
Academic Year 2012/13

October

- In US:** - *Filipino American History Month*
- *Breast Cancer Awareness Month*
- *Italian American Heritage Month*
- *Polish American Heritage Month*
- Oct. 8 - *Simchat Torah* - Judaism & Oct. 8 - *Thanksgiving Day* – Canada & *Columbus Day* – US
- Oct. 10 – *National Day* - Taiwan
- Oct. 16 - *World Food Day*
- Oct. 23 - *Hungarian Revolution Remembrance* – Hungary
- October 26 - *Eid al Adha*- Islam
- Oct. 29 - *Republic Day* -Turkey
- Oct. 31 – *Halloween*- Many countries

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 - *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. 15 - *Islamic New Year (Al Hijra)* – Islam
- Nov. 19 - *International Men’s Day*
- & Nov. 19 - *Día de la Revolución*- Mexico
- Nov. 24 - *Lahit Divas*- India
- Nov. 24 - *Thanksgiving Day* - US
- Nov. 30 - *St. Andrew’s Day* – Scotland



## Meet the Dental Hygiene Class of 2015



### Starting New

During an orientation session in August, 23 incoming dental hygiene students filled out a short survey as a way to share with us a little bit about themselves. 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 three male dental hygiene students and 20 female students. Of the 20 students who responded to the survey, 4 reported to have a spouse or partner and two that they have children. Seven of the students have a family member who is a dentist or a dental hygienist.



### Why dental hygiene?

While there was a large range of ages at which the class decided they wanted to become dental hygienists, many of them made the choice for very similar reasons. The majority of responses to the question of why choose a career in dental hygiene revolved around a love for both the field of dental hygiene as well as wanting to help others and the community. Some liked the possibilities the field has, stating that it is has great "opportunity for advancement," and welcomed the prospect of becoming a dentist in the future. Others were excited for the continual benefits a career in dental hygiene had to offer, such as a stable job and, in many cases, the ability to interact with others and build relationships on a daily basis. What was noted as most



appealing, however, was the prospect of improving the health of others through education about proper hygiene as well as helping patients have a better, more confident smile. These desires were inspired for some by past employment in the field or simply a lifetime love of teeth and experiences going to the dentist.

### 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 to partake in physical activity in a variety of ways. While some enjoy running, swimming, biking, and exercising at the gym, others play sports to stay active. Among the incoming dental hygienists are a number of tennis players in addition to students who mentioned being fans of football and volleyball. There were also numerous responses related to more relaxed leisure activities such as sleeping. Many students also enjoy reading, watching television (including one Law and Order fan), seeing a good movie, or just being outside and boating. A few students also showed their passion for playing an instrument as well as many other hobbies, such as arts and crafts. Many students told us that they love to spend time with family or friends and, in a few cases, with their dogs. We hope the dental hygiene students will find a way to balance these activities with the workload in their program.

## Travel Time

The next question we asked the incoming dental hygienists was about their best travel experiences. The responses show that our new dental hygiene class has students who travelled to many places around the world. Some students travelled to Europe and esp. to Italy. Several others traveled even farther east, visiting countries such as Kuwait, Dubai, Jordan, and China. The Middle-East was not the only hot climate the class has visited as some have gone on more tropical vacations to areas such as the Bahamas, Jamaica, Punta Cana, Hawaii, and Miami Beach. In addition, many others reported about great trips around the U.S. such as to South Carolina, Kentucky, Colorado, Alaska, and the northern side of Michigan. The reasons behind the trips were equally diverse. While many went on family vacations or with friends, others used the trip for a specific cause, such as travelling to Honduras to help with dental work for a volunteer organization.

## Interesting Tidbits

Finally, we asked for interesting facts about our incoming dental hygiene students. The responses include many hobbies that some of the students have, such as boating, cooking, playing volleyball, and singing in a Romanian choir at church, as well as many past experiences, including traveling to Egypt. Some of the students proudly talked about their pets, as one has a Yorkie at home while another has three cats and four dogs. One classmate stated a love for sea turtles.

Dental hygiene seems like the perfect profession for our students because several students told us that they love to help people. Some students reported about having had previous professions, including an elementary school music teacher and a certified professional skating coach who skated professionally for thirteen years.

Quirky eating habits were shown through an allergy to blackberries and one student's continual attempt to only eat organic food. In addition to interesting facts such as being 100% Polish and having a one year old brother, one student is a former refugee to America as a result of the Bosnian War. The answers provided by the incoming dental hygienist class clearly show how diverse the students are. 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 school.

By Richard Weiss,  
Pre dental student

### December

- Dec. 1 - *World AIDS Day*
- Dec. 2 - *Start of Advent – Western Christian*
- 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. 9-16 - *Hannukah – Judaism*
- Dec. 10 - *Human Rights Day*
- Dec. 12 - *Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe – Roman Catholic*
- Dec. 21 - *Winter solstice*
- Dec. 24 - *Emperor's Birthday – Japan*
- Dec. 24 - *Christmas Eve*
- Dec. 25 - *Christmas*
- Dec. 26 - *Kwanzaa – US*
- Dec. 31 - *New Year's Eve*

*List provided by Richard Weiss, pre dental student*

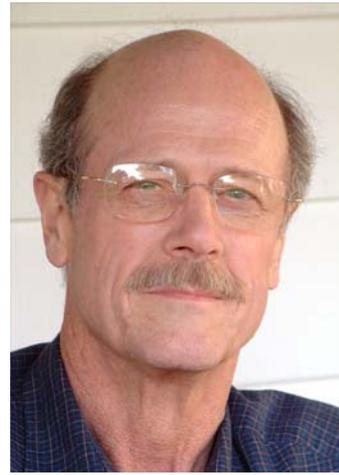
## *Meet Some of Our Newly Appointed Faculty Members*

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

Three faculty members who were willing to share some information with us are Dr. Eric Appleberry, Department of Periodontics and Oral Medicine, Dr. Stephanie Munz, Assistant Program Director in Hospital Dentistry, and Dr. Daniela Garcia. We asked these faculty members a few questions to get to know them a little better.

**Dr. Appleberry** grew up in Ohio and attended Ohio State University School of Dentistry, where he graduated in 1968. After graduation, he served as a dental officer in the US Air Force for four years, first in a dental internship at Travis Air Force Base in California and then at Yokota Air Base near Tokyo, Japan. After returning home, Dr. Appleberry came to the University of Michigan to attend its graduate perio program. After finishing the program, Dr. Appleberry began teaching full time in the school's perio department. He soon started practicing outside of the school, first half time until he eventually joined a full time practice in Southgate, Michigan, which allowed him to enjoy a new life in the countryside east of Ann Arbor. He also participated in organized dentistry activities in the Detroit District Dental Society and the Southwest Dental Society.

Unfortunately, an accident in 1998 forced Dr. Appleberry to retire from his clinical practice. However, he has since returned to our school and has become actively involved in research and teaching again.



Many of us know **Dr. Stephanie Munz** because she received her undergraduate degree here at our own dental school and has since then been with Dr. Zwetchkenbaum in the hospital dentistry department. Not surprisingly, Dr. Munz is a loyal fan of our Michigan football team. In her free time, she enjoys doing ceramics at the Ann Arbor Art Center, ballroom dancing, and kayaking on the Huron River.

Both of these new faculty members are well known to many of us and we are happy to have you join our faculty officially now in your new positions. A warm welcome!



## *Meet Dr. Garcia and Some of Our New Staff Members*

**Dr. Daniela Garcia**, our third newly appointed faculty member, is a clinical assistant professor in the Department of CRSE. After graduating from dental school in Caracas, Venezuela, in 2008, Dr. Garcia went to our Graduate Restorative program and, earlier this year, graduated with a Master's degree. Her draw to the University of Michigan stems from her maize and blue roots, as her father graduated from the same program thirty years before. In addition, her husband is currently a resident in the Graduated Periodontics program. She enjoys dental research and looks forward to teaching pre-clinic crown and bridge work.

We also welcome several new staff members who joined the University's Dental School since the beginning of the academic year.

**Ken Rieger** is our new multimedia designer. After receiving his BFA in Graphic Design from EMU in 1994, he worked as an in-house graphic designer in Ann Arbor and as a Sr. Graphic Designer at Pall Corporation for the past twelve years where he managed a global Creative Services department. Ken has a wife and two kids as well as a golden retriever. When not working, he enjoys volunteering in the community as well as outdoor activities and participating in sports.



**Shelby Simons** is the new staff member at the Information Desk on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

Her passion for dentistry began when she started at 15 as a co-op student in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. On her first day on the job, she received a pair of scrubs and began assisting the doctor. After being cross trained in the front office and working behind the scenes, she realized that she really enjoyed all the paperwork, hours of recall, scheduling, and the non-clinician relationship with the patient.

After becoming recently engaged, she decided to move to Ann Arbor to avoid the long hours of commuting to her previous job. When she is not working, she enjoys spending time with her 4 year old pug/rat terrier, Kobe, and her family, esp. her brandnew baby niece.

She also has a passion for cooking and sports, esp. Volleyball and Basketball. She enjoys meeting new people so if you are on or close by the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor please stop by and say hello!

**Courtney Poles** is our new HRSC member. She has four years of experience in the field of international education, two of which were at the University of Michigan. She also has experience with organizational and leadership development. Courtney is very excited about her for her new position at Michigan. She is an avid rock climber and cook and looks forward to sharing her sense of humor and love for the art of storytelling with her new maize and blue family.

By Richard Weiss,  
Pre dental student



### *Upcoming events*

#### **University of Michigan - School of Dentistry Multicultural Affairs Committee (MAC)**

#### **Disabilities CE courses - October 2012 to January 2013 (Noon to 1 pm)**

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Oct. 23, 2012 | Dr. Alexandre Dasilva, BMS:<br>"Tech innovations in orofacial pain research and treatment."                                     |
| Nov. 13, 2012 | Dr. Eric Appleberry, POM:<br>"Providing care for patients with spinal cord injuries."   |
| Dec. 5, 2012  | Dr. Neelon Patel, pediatric dentistry:<br>"Communicating with patients with limited oral health literacy in the dental office." |
| Jan. 15, 2013 | Dr. Stephanie Munz, Hospital Dentistry;<br>"Treating dental patients in a hospital setting."                                    |

#### **"Getting to know you" Brown Bags Time: Noon to 1 p.m.; Location: G378**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
Th, Oct. 11, 2012 <b>NOTE: G322</b>	Providing Care to Disabled American Veterans Below 200% Poverty Level - Wolverine Patriot Project	Jesse Edwards III, Tony Guinn Mariam Dinkha, Ameen Shahnam & Kevin Goles
We, Nov. 7, 2012	Dentistry and Dental Education in Ghana	
Th, Nov. 9, 2012	Dentistry and Dental Education in Kenya	
Mo, Nov. 12, 2012	Dentistry and Dental Education in Spain and England	
Tu, Nov 13, 2012	Dentistry and Dental Education in Mexico and Columbia	