Dental Images

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

BIGGER AND BETTER

Dental School Expansion Update

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY
A thoughtful plan of action

Lately, we at the Marquette University School of Dentistry are going about our daily work against a backdrop of noise from excavators, bulldozers and construction equipment needed for our building’s 40,000-square-foot expansion. While we’ve learned to ignore the din as best we can, we can’t ignore what this new expansion will mean for our school and our ability to provide the best possible dental education.

The expansion will enable us to increase incoming class sizes, educate more students and significantly address a growing need for more dentists both in Wisconsin and across the country. It will boost our ability to leverage state-of-the-art technology for simulation, continuing education and clinical training (see cover story, page 2).

However, there are also challenges that come with expanding our space, and these require thoughtful consideration and planning. We are engaged in discussion and strategizing around these key issues, which include:

* A need to recruit additional full-time and part-time faculty and staff to assist in the educational and patient care missions of the dental school. We are mindful of the extra effort and time it will take to proactively seek the best candidates, including getting the word out broadly about openings, conducting thorough, productive searches and making sure we have the right incentives in place to attract excellent faculty.

* Operational changes as we alter systems and protocols to meet the demands of expanded clinical and academic programming for a larger class size. With more clinical space and more patients required to accommodate the increased clinical needs of more students, we are looking at the logistics of our current system and the impact on our student practice groups and patient scheduling.

* Financial management and budgeting, which must take into account the additional students as well as the increased fixed and indirect costs associated with the change. These include payroll increases for more faculty and staff, added maintenance and custodial costs that come with a larger space, and utilities and equipment costs. Our expanded footprint also makes us a greater “percentage” of Marquette University, with appropriately increased assessments. We balance these cost considerations with the opportunity for additional revenue, generated by accommodating more dental patients.

A change in admissions planning and practice to increase the class size with additional qualified and motivated candidates. We need to consider a broader applicant pool, requiring more time and resources to interview candidates and otherwise manage the admissions process.

* Patient recruitment involving all age groups and case types. To provide our standard of dental education, we need to provide students with a spectrum of clinical cases and procedures that occur in a wide range of patients.

As the expansion moves our school forward, we understand that it is about much more than simply building a space — it is also about creating a plan for working in that space, and putting that plan into action. Though there is much to consider, I’m confident that our team will address and respond to these challenges with creative yet practical solutions.
The dental school expansion is well underway, as Marquette strives to remain at the forefront of dental education.

If all goes according to schedule, the class entering Marquette University School of Dentistry (MUSoD) in fall 2013 will walk through the front doors into a significantly expanded facility with a host of new state-of-the-art features. This D1 class will also be larger than recent incoming cohorts: current plans call for admission of up to 100 students. A critical advantage of the 40,000-square-foot expansion is that it will enable Marquette to meet a growing need for more highly trained dentists. With construction equipment onsite and the building project well underway, the vision for MUSoD’s future is becoming reality—thanks to the generous support of Marquette alumni, friends, supporters and the state of Wisconsin. [See box, page 5].

“The original building allowed us to innovate and develop a new curriculum,” Dr. William Lobb, dean of the dental school, says. “It cannot be complacent, and just keep doing what we’ve always done. We need to keep looking to the future, and continuing to innovate and enhance our education and patient care missions.”

Lobb has studied the horizon, and knows that the timing for this expansion is right. Baby boomers who have made a successful career in dentistry are headed for retirement. Lobb cites the results of a workforce study that found, for example, 52 percent of professionally active dentists in the state of Wisconsin are between ages 60 and 64.

“We need to fill those voids,” Lobb says, adding that the school has the means to feel confident that expanding originally planned to be built in stages, but budget constraints at the time of construction meant that certain aspects of the building originally envisioned had to be crossed off the list.

Construction of the current building moved the school from what Lobb calls “an aging structure, with aging equipment that was functional, but limiting,” and enabled implementation of Marquette’s award-winning curriculum in dental education. During the last decade, the need for additional components has become clear to Lobb and his team of administrators and faculty. One goal of the expansion is to help counter the fact that dental schools cannot simply turn over their equipment as quickly as more advanced products come to market. Schools have to stay on the cutting edge in more realistic ways. “We have a commitment to keep as current as we can, and offer the latest technology,” Lobb says. “That means we must have the capacity, infrastructure and space to do it. We need to expose our students to what is out there and what is on the horizon. We don’t want them to hear about something for the first time when they go to a dental meeting and see a demonstration.”

For example, the redesigned and expanded Simulation Lab includes space to accommodate advancements such as CAD/CAM technology, which uses a scanned image and a milling process to fabricate a restoration rather than traditional impressions and laboratory procedures. The number of stations in the Sim Lab will also grow from 80 to 104, making room for larger classes to practice clinical procedures and develop fine motor skills.

Each incoming class from 80 to 100 students will significantly address the problem. “As the economy improves and these [boomer] dentists start thinking of retiring and selling their practices, we want to be sure there are dentists there to take them over. We believe this modest increase in class size will help manage whatever the future will require.”

KEEPING CURRENT

The dental school building was not originally planned to be built in stages, but budget constraints at the time of construction meant that certain aspects of the building originally envisioned had to be crossed off the list.

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The new research space will include three dental operatories for clinical research involving live patients, to help faculty and students more easily translate what they uncover in research to clinical practice. Lobb says this offers students with an interest in research an opportunity to become more engaged, work closely with faculty to expand their knowledge base and ultimately present findings at national meetings. Although Marquette’s focus remains clinical, “This brings us to a level of being competitive and attractive to students interested in research, plus it adds to our faculty’s opportunities.”

ATTRACTING STRONG FACULTY

Recruiting and retaining the best individuals to teach future dentists is a high priority for Lobb. Marquette keeps things lean faculty-wise, and Lobb’s challenge is to find highly productive faculty who will come, stay and contribute for the long term. “It comes down to economics,” Lobb says candidly. “There are a lot of very positive intangibles about being a dental educator, but salary is a big differentiator between being a full-time academic and going into private practice. We could never approximate the salary of private practice, so we have to make...
For additional information from the ground breaking video, visit
http://www.marquette.edu/dentistry/
building-for-future-dentistry/
Erin Winn Franken, D ’10, has completed her residency in pediatric dentistry at Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin. She has passed the first of two board exams and currently practices pediatric dentistry at Smiles in Motion in Chippewa Falls, Wis.

CLASS NOTES AND ACCOLADES

Richard Guaccio, D ’67, received the Aaron Gerstleff Award for his contribution to implant dentistry from the American Academy of Implant Dentistry. The award — the highest honor given annually by the Academy — was presented at the organization’s annual meeting in Washington, D.C., in October. Guaccio practices at the Northwest Indiana Center for Dental Implants in Schererville, Ind.

FACULTY AND ACCOLADES

Terence Geary, Arts ’83, D ’87, received his Fellowship in the Academy of General Dentistry. Recently promoted to adjunct associate professor, he has taught at MUSoD for more than 25 years.

Brian Hodgson, Arts ’83, D ’97, associate professor, was one of 12 individuals recognized by the Wisconsin Dental Association for their outstanding children’s oral health and community water fluoridation programs.

Cesar Gonzalez, associate professor and director of the MUSoD Predoctoral Pediatric Dentistry program, recently completed his American Board of Pediatric Dentistry Certification process.

Department of Clinical Services

Promotion to Adjunct Professor
Dr. Mark Boettcher

Department of Surgical Sciences

Promotion to Adjunct Associate Professor
Dr. Nancy Barnett
Dr. Joseph Best
Ms. Eileen Donohoo
Dr. Barry Entin
Ms. Heidi Gaertner
Ms. Debra Pichaud

Promotion to Adjunct Professor
Ms. Colleen Wirth

Department of General Dental Sciences

Promotion to Adjunct Associate Professor
Dr. Michael Cahlamer
Dr. Gregory Custer
Dr. Timothy Hart
Dr. VaniAn Le
Dr. David Martyn
Dr. John Moser
Dr. Charles Peckhaus
Dr. Ronald Santilli
Dr. Jack Snesby
Dr. Clement Stecki
Dr. Kim Tran
Dr. Kenneth Zganjar

Promotion to Adjunct Professor
Dr. Barry Baumann
Dr. Louis Boroy
Dr. Thomas Forecki
Dr. Morgan Hamm
Dr. James Hove
Dr. Michael Karnzcwski
Dr. Gloria Lilt
Dr. Mark Mandel
Dr. Vito Marchese
Dr. Ralph Roba
Dr. Peter Shelkin
Dr. James Schwengel
Dr. Paul Smiglick
Dr. Charles Steinbach
Dr. George Vukmir

Department of Developmental Sciences

Promotion to Adjunct Associate Professor
Dr. Todd Connell
Dr. Nicolet DeRose
Dr. Jeffrey Olsen
Dr. Spencer Pope
Dr. Kevin Race
Dr. Kiran Singh

Promotion to Adjunct Professor
Dr. Jerome Oksiuta
Dr. Timothy Poser
Dr. Frank Urzt

PART-TIME FACULTY PROMOTIONS

Dr. Timothy Hart
Dr. VaniAn Le
Dr. David Martyn
Dr. John Moser
Dr. Charles Peckhaus
Dr. Ronald Santilli
Dr. Jack Snesby
Dr. Clement Stecki
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Dr. Terance Geary
Dr. Scott Jamieson
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Dr. Jeffrey Olsen
Dr. Spencer Pope
Dr. Kevin Race
Dr. Kiran Singh

Dr. Jerome Oksiuta
Dr. Timothy Poser
Dr. Frank Urzt

Please share your news! Send submissions to dentalimages@marquette.edu.

ALUMNI PROFILE

Dr. Rick Kushner has given generously to MUSoD as well as to patients in need, and was the 2009 recipient of the school’s Outstanding Dental Service Award.

Rick Kushner and Comfort Dental: A Win-Win Model For Patients and Practitioners

The founder of America’s largest dental franchise says there is something inside him that “makes me want to swim upstream.”

That independent streak and outside-the-box thinking has propelled Kushner, D ’77, to the helm of Comfort Dental, a proven model for successful dental practice that now boasts 350 dentists in 100 offices in 10 states.

The Colorado native (and first in his family to attend college) chose dentistry because “it was far as my parents could aspire — that was the profession they admired and respected,” he says. He chose Marquette because it is a Catholic and Jesuit university and “they accepted me.” Having gotten married about a week before classes began, he told his new bride, Cindy, that they would be honeymooning in Milwaukee.

At the time, Kushner reflects, he didn’t realize the advantages of Marquette. “I was focused on getting the degree. It was a means to an end,” he says. “In the years since, I’ve learned that the clinical background was outstanding, and the moral compass was outstanding.”

Opening his practice in suburban Denver, Kushner sharply observed that he was quite successful as compared with other dentists. “I didn’t think I was special. I just thought, ‘Well, dentists work hard, they help a lot of people — they should be successful,’” he says. But he began to realize that he was not only skilled in communicating with patients, he was also saying “yes” to the patients that others had been turning away, and offering affordable options for their care when they came in saying, “Dr. So-and-So was just too expensive.”

He decided to let other dentists chase the small percentage of high-end, cosmetic clients, and “I’d take the other 95 percent. I could be flexible on my fees, because I was well managed, profitable, and my overhead was low.” That focus on what he calls “bread-and-butter dentistry” eventually morphed into Comfort Dental.

In 1979, Kushner brought in a partner, who is still one of the four partners in the business today. Comfort Dental’s franchise model gives dentists equity and control in their own practices, yet allows them to take advantage of economies of scale in terms of labs and other vendors, as well as branding and marketing. The focus is essential and preventive dental care at an affordable price. Comfort even offers membership plans, where patients pay a flat rate for reduced fees on services.

Kushner says it’s the most successful practice model he knows of, with franchisees significantly out-earning their peers in traditional or corporate practice.

Success has enabled the Kushners to give back generously to Marquette. Their latest gift is $1 million toward the new dental school expansion (see story, page 2). It’s a worthwhile investment, he says, with the reward being “more students who get these valuable, who graduate with a sincere desire to help those who struggle and otherwise might not get proper dental care.”

With a fairly high number of Marquette graduates as Comfort Dental franchisees, Kushner observes these qualities firsthand. “We get more than our fair share of Marquette grads, so that relationship is working well, and we’d like to continue it.”

Though he hasn’t practiced since 2002, Kushner still makes the rounds to Comfort Dental practices, specifically each year on Care Day — Comfort Dental’s Christmas Eve tradition of providing free care to those most in need. Annual participation is required for every franchisee. Since 1984, Comfort’s professionals have provided more than $12 million in free dental services on Care Day.
GATHERINGS

REUNIONS

Henry Arndt, D ’52, Jennifer Arndt Kitson, D ’84, Carl, D ’52, and Jean Shuler

1962 classmates: Tom Roman, Donald Rosen and Fred Ross

Monica Hebl, D ’85, Therese Lenz, Barbara Klicka, Dent Hy ’81, and John Klicka, D ’82

2007 classmates: David Fischer, Amy Niedziela and Lindsey Graf

1957 classmates Perry Cohn and Fred Colomba

1992 classmates: Georgia Williams and Mary Karkow

2002 classmates: Rachael Rosenfeld Hogan, Anna Bell and Shana Quandt

1962 classmates: Terry Gavory and Craig Madsen

1982 classmates: Terry Gavory and Craig Madsen

John Wood, D ’02, Shaun Varghese, D ’02, Grad ’04 and Cindy Jakusz, Arts ’99, D ’02

2002 classmates: Rachael Rosenfeld Hogan, Anna Bell and Shana Quandt

1962 classmates: Tom Roman, Donald Rosen and Fred Ross

2007 classmates: David Fischer, Amy Niedziela and Lindsey Graf

1962 classmates: Tom Roman, Donald Rosen and Fred Ross

2007 classmates: David Fischer, Amy Niedziela and Lindsey Graf
As part of the ADA Annual Session in October in San Francisco, the School of Dentistry hosted a reception where more than 100 alumni and friends gathered to socialize, reconnect with colleagues and former classmates and receive an update about the school.
DEAN’S CIRCLE RECEPTION


WAYS TO LEAVE A LEGACY

Unrestricted Gifts are especially helpful, as they enable the Dean to allocate funds to the greatest priorities.

Restricted Gifts allow you to support a special program or purpose that reflects your personal or professional interests. For example:

Scholarship Aid —  Student scholarships remain a priority to help the Dental School attract and retain the best and brightest students, as well as reduce their debt load upon graduation. You can support these efforts by designating your contribution to the Dental School Scholarship Fund or other existing scholarship funds. Another option: With a gift of $50,000 or more, you can establish your own named and endowed scholarship fund.

Other Options — To help Marquette Dental School excel in today’s competitive environment, consider supporting the following programs and needs:

• Faculty Research • The Russ Kittleson Professorship in Orthodontics
• Endodontics Program • Capital Equipment Replacement
• Technology Upgrades • Prosthodontic Program
• Pediatric Dental Programs • North & South Side Clinics
• Rural Outreach Programs • Student Organizations & Class Funds

Types of gifts

Whether it is as simple as a bequest or as complex as a charitable lead trust, there is a gifting vehicle that is right for you. For a Goals and Gifts Chart, please contact Dave O’Neill (contact information below).

If leaving a bequest through your will or revocable living trust:

• Simple bequest language can be found on Marquette’s Planned Giving website, Marquette.edu/plannedgiving/gift_bequest. Be sure to designate Marquette University School of Dentistry as the recipient of your bequest.
• We encourage you to share your final will or trust provisions with Marquette so that your wishes will be properly followed and recognized. All requests for confidentiality and anonymity are respectfully honored.

We are here to assist you

Marquette is committed to providing you with accurate, relevant and thoughtful gift planning information. Our planned giving specialists are able to work directly with you and your financial and legal advisors to structure lifetime and legacy gifts that reflect your family’s values. Their professional and confidential services are provided with no cost or obligation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call Marquette University School of Dentistry Director of Development Dave O’Neill at 414.288.6245, by e-mail at david.oneill@marquette.edu, or through the website at Marquette.edu/plannedgiving. We look forward to hearing from you and appreciate your interest in supporting Marquette University School of Dentistry.
Rice Lake Native Plans to Practice Near Home

For Rachel Roberg Engel, Marquette University School of Dentistry (MUSoD) just feels right.

Hailing from the small town of Rice Lake, Wis., Engel, a D2, is thriving in the close-knit MUSoD community and finds that “everyone here is really focused on the students and their education, and bends over backward to help us succeed.”

Engel first considered a dentistry career in high school, when her own dentist provided her the opportunity to shadow him during his workday and also arranged for her to visit different practices around the region. “I enjoyed seeing how dentists were able to do a lot with their hands, yet it was a science-based profession, too,” Engel says. “I liked seeing the patient satisfaction — and dentist satisfaction — that came with creating a healthy smile.”

The dentistry profession almost lost out to another one of Roberg’s passions — golf. She played on the golf team at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minn., and briefly considered a career in the sport — but she felt a stronger calling to dentistry.

At Marquette, Engel has appreciated the early clinical exposure and the opportunities for community service. “Ultimately, the reason we go into dentistry is to help other people,” she says. As students, “it’s easy to get bogged down with exams and book work, but being exposed to the actual service part of dentistry helps keep that commitment in mind.”

Service is in Engel’s blood. Her parents’ activities in Rice Lake revolved around rotary clubs, church, school, and city council. Engel was actively involved as well, and wants to continue that tradition, while working as a partner in a dental practice in or near her hometown.

Engel is well aware of the ongoing shortage of rural dentists, as well as the need for oral hygiene programs in rural areas like northeastern Wisconsin. Having participated in public health initiatives like Mission of Mercy and elementary-school Smile Days, and learning about public health initiatives such as Marquette’s programs through Seal-A-Smile (see story, page 18), Engel has been struck by the disparities in services between urban and rural settings.

“Being able to bring public health dental services to a community near my hometown of Rice Lake, Wis. would be a very big goal of mine.”

Engel says she looks forward to leveraging and learning from the newest state-of-the-art aspects of the dental school’s expansion (see story, page 2). She was selected to represent the student body at the groundbreaking this past summer, where she spoke about her Marquette experience, her professional goals and the alignment of Marquette’s education pillars with her own values.

As she said in her speech, Engel aims to “stay true to these values in the future, not only as a dental professional, but also as an individual in my community.”
HELPING KIDS
Marquette sealant programs bring preventive dental care to city schools

A pplying sealants to prevent decay in deep-grooved permanent molars has become a standard of preventive care in pediatric dentistry. Unfortunately, many low-income, uninsured children have no access to sealants through private practice dentistry, putting them at risk for oral health problems.

School-based sealant programs are making a significant difference in children’s oral health across Wisconsin, according to a 2012 report from the Children’s Health Alliance of Wisconsin. Two programs based out of Marquette University School of Dentistry (MUSoD) are serving approximately 39 Milwaukee elementary schools, primarily on the city’s south and north sides.

The Marquette University Sealant Program

More than 12 years ago, Dr. Cesar Gonzalez, associate professor and director of the MUSoD Predoctoral Pediatric Dentistry program, secured funding through the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for a school-based sealant program geared to Hispanic children. Gonzalez mapped out schools on Milwaukee’s south side and started calling principals. He explained the benefits of sealants, pointing out that while sealant application alone in private practice can cost up to $50 per tooth, this program could offer screenings, sealants and fluoride applications for free, right at school.

The response was positive, and since that time, the program has provided dental sealants to thousands of area children. Currently, it serves 23 schools.

Each year, according to Gonzalez and program reports, approximately 3,600 children in the second and fifth grades are screened as the focus is to seal the first and second permanent molars. Annually, approximately 1,660 children receive sealants on three to four teeth each.

Most programs are set up in a school’s gym or cafeteria, and are done in two phases. Gonzalez does a quick screening of the children and a fluoride varnish application; if he indicates a need for sealants, a permission slip goes home to the parents. The program’s hygienist and dental assistant then return another day to apply the sealants and an additional fluoride varnish.

While a pediatric dentist in private practice would perform a more detailed caries risk assessment in each patient, “This is a public health program, so we do a blanket approach,” Gonzalez says. “We seal every molar that doesn’t have caries.” He adds that if he sees infection or another urgent need for dental work, he refers students’ parents to MUSoD’s South Clinic, which accepts all patients and sees children on Wednesdays each week.

“[I] think the program is fantastic,” says Evelyn Resto, principal at Milwaukee’s Dzierzak Elementary School, whose student population is 81.6% and 97 percent Latino. “It provides (an advantage) for the students that are very poor and underprivileged to have the work done free. It’s an outstanding opportunity for kids to learn the importance of dental hygiene. The individuals that come here and work with the students are terrific, and really know how to work with children.”

Gonzalez’s wife, Adriana, is the program’s coordinator, and the program’s hygienist, Angie Rigalat, has been working with them for nearly 10 years. “With a program like this, you really need people that care about helping kids,” Gonzalez says.

The Milwaukee Children’s Oral Healthcare Program

Marquette’s newer sealant program is an outgrowth of MUSoD’s Program in Dental Public Health. Began in 2010, it is run by faculty members Pradeep Bhagavatula and Christopher Okunseri. Bhagavatula explains that he and Okunseri were interested in expanding Marquette’s preventive services to the schools on the north side of Milwaukee. With the help of funding obtained through the Children’s Health Alliance of Wisconsin, they were able to hire one part-time hygienist and an assistant.

In the 2011-2012 academic year, the program served 16 schools, the majority of which are Milwaukee Public Schools. In that timeframe, 1,368 children in second, third and fifth grade were screened, and 1,096 of them received sealants. All the children screened by this program receive a cleaning and a fluoride varnish application. The population reached was 66 percent African American and 17 percent Asian, with the latter figure owing to the inclusion of Milwaukee’s Hmong American Peace Academy charter school.

This program includes a dental student-rotation component, which provides D2 students with the experience of applying sealants on children as well as working in school-based settings. During the academic year, all 80 D2 students have the opportunity to participate in at least one session to apply sealants. “They love it,” says Bhagavatula. “I always have very positive feedback from the students.”

Bhagavatula says he and Okunseri are looking to expand the number of schools and children served, and have added an additional hygienist and assistant.

The program, he says, “is in perfect alignment with both Marquette’s mission of serving the community at large, as well as public health’s stated goal to prevent disease for people who need care.”
REMEMBERING OUR OWN

The Marquette University community joins in prayerful remembrance of those who passed away between July and December 2012. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Eternal rest grant unto them, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

1944
- Marvin C. Carmen
  New York, New York
- Carl L. Wilhelm
  Mason, Georgia

1945
- John E. Luick
  Milwaukee, Wisconsin

1948
- James L. Goblish
  Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- Terrance E. Netleton
  Mason City, Iowa

1950
- Howard L. Barton
  La Crosse, Minnesota

1953
- Martin L. Smet
  Kenosha, Wisconsin

1955
- William M. Sierrat
  Visalia, California

1956
- George I. Daugherty
  Lynn Haven, Florida
- David L. Kaulfer
  Ann Arbor, Ohio

1958
- James C. Boyd
  Milwaukee, Wisconsin

1961
- Charles L. Myers
  Grand Junction, Colorado

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- Sara J. Donagan
  Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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- Charles W. McCasley
  DeKalb, Wisconsin

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  Bay City, Michigan

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  DeKalb, Wisconsin

2012
- Eugene R. Goetz
  Bay City, Michigan

2013
- Timothy W. Crowley
  Penrith, Wisconsin
- John J. Fleming
  Little Chute, Wisconsin

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Continuing Education and Alumni Relations
For more information on these and other events, call 414.288.3093 or visit www.marquette.edu/dentistry.
From left: Trustee Emeritus John Bergstrom, Bus ’67; Rachel Roberg Engel, D2; University President Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, SJ; Dean William Lobb; and Wisconsin Dental Association President Steve Stoll, D ’76, all dig in at the groundbreaking for the expansion of the School of Dentistry in September 2012. The new space is expected to open in time for classes to begin this fall.