

Department of Family Dentistry



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Dear Colleagues, Alumni, and Friends of Family Dentistry,



Welcome to the third issue of the Department of Family Dentistry newsletter! I hope our newsletter finds you and your family, loved ones, and staff well and in good health and spirits as we begin 2024.

Is it just me, or has anyone else perceived that as we age, with each passing year time continues to accelerate faster and faster? Neuroscientists and psychologists have explored this phenomenon and attempted to explain it by various methods, postulating theories ranging from the slowing of neuronal firing in the brain and the relative perception of new and novel experiences declining with life experience, to the shrinking percentage that an individual event has relative to overall life experiences as potential explanations for this universal human phenomenon. Regardless of the primary cause(s) for this perception, in tandem with time accelerating, I'm consistently reminded that the pace of change also seems to accelerate with time. While we all know that change is inevitable, if we have a set of guiding principals as a guide, dynamic change can often be accompanied by feelings of excitement and anticipation, rather than apprehension and angst.

I'm happy to report that 2023 was in fact a dynamic year of positive, exciting change for our department and its members, as well as for our collective mission of research, service, and mentorship to our future profession of fourth year dental students. Some notable achievements this past year of our faculty include Drs. Bowers and Maharishi initiating their respective research projects funded via the Office of the Vice President for Research as part of the Early Career Scholars initiative. Dr. Maharishi was invited to speak in June at the Quintessence 26th International Symposium on Ceramics (ISC), held in San Diego, California as part of the #NewFaces segment, for which she was competitively selected in an international competition. Her program was entitled "Contemporary CAD/CAM Glass-Ceramic Restorative Materials for Natural Esthetics". Dr. Bowers had a notable year, being awarded the 2023 Student Research Mentor of the Year Award by his student mentees, publishing several manuscripts that were prominently featured in ADA PracticeUpdate, and capping it off by getting married in December. Dr. Syrbu was awarded Fellowship in the Academy of General Dentistry (FAGD), and Drs. Vargas and Saisho were invited to give many high caliber CE programs nationally and internationally. By next month, Dr. Saisho eagerly anticipates welcoming her first child, baby boy "Eiji" with her husband Luis! To top it all off, on December 29th we welcomed our newest full-time faculty member to the department, Dr. Chonghwa Kim; a prosthodontist with more than 20 years of clinical

experience. Between Drs. Maharishi, Saisho, and now Kim, the department is positioned formidably for the foreseeable future as it pertains to prosthodontics education for our fourth year students.

Positive change has also infiltrated our clinical educational pedagogy. Six new Primescan intraoral scanners were purchased by the College, facilitating greater opportunities for digital experiences by our D4 students for chairside and indirect tooth-borne and implant restorations. Also new this year was the conversion of all D4 student implant surgical guides to a stereolithographic, 3D-printed manufacturing protocol, enabling students to have enhanced communication and planning accuracy with their surgical resident referrals. The combination of digital workflows, adhesive technology, and ever more accurate manufacturing protocols continues to allow us to teach a conservative treatment philosophy to our D4 students.

We continue as a department to engage, broaden, and diversify our cadre of excellent adjunct faculty members, providing mentorship and experience to our D4 students. This year, we welcomed five new outstanding adjunct faculty to our team, which you can read more about in this issue. Our philanthropic efforts to support adjunct faculty members actively repaying student loans continues to progress, with the Iowa Family Dentistry Faculty Excellence Fund raising \$147,000 in cash just this past year. A huge THANK YOU to all of you who have contributed to this worthy endeavor, and for those of you interested in learning more about this fundraising effort, we encourage you to reference the last page of this newsletter.

It is important that we also remember those that have historically contributed to our program in meaningful ways, not only during the past year, but for many years before, that left us for one reason or another. Dr. Jessica Edwards departed us this past June to take a faculty position at Temple University Kornberg School of Dentistry, as her husband pursued his ENT residency in Philadelphia. We celebrated with Dr. Tim Michels his retirement after nearly 35 years of serving as an adjunct faculty member. And sadly, Dr. Mary Brummett, an adjunct faculty member for the past two years passed away in June.

Collectively, it was an overwhelmingly dynamic and positive year, in which we celebrated each other's accomplishments, supported each other when setbacks occurred, shared many laughs, and looked with anticipation to what the year ahead had in store for us. It is a team of people that I feel extremely fortunate to come to work with each and every day. Luckily, in a dynamic and rapidly changing world, that will stay the same.

Christopher A. Barwacz



Ms. Jean Redlinger, 2023 College of Dentistry Ambassador Award Recipient

In June of 2023, Jean Redlinger, Administrative Services Specialist for the Department of Family Dentistry, was recognized as the next **Ambassador** for the College of Dentistry. The Ambassador Award recognizes staff who have shown a special commitment in promoting excellence in the teaching, research, patient care, or administrative functions of the College of Dentistry.

Throughout her extensive career at the College of Dentistry, has been a shining example of these characteristics through her trustworthiness, dedication, selflessness, and a sense of duty to the work that she undertakes on behalf of our students, staff, adjunct and full-time faculty members.

What makes Ms. Redlinger a model for others is that there's never an issue brought to her that she's not willing to help constructively address in a positive manner. She is proactively polyvalent, possessing a multitude of skillsets without becoming diluted, which is rare and indeed special. As a department, we are constantly awestruck by her ability to manage multiple demanding tasks and projects simultaneously. Whether it be initiating one of our several recent national faculty searches, identifying a last-minute adjunct faculty to cover for another who is ill, organizing faculty teaching schedules, credentialing a dynamic pool of adjunct faculty, or IT issues that arise on a moment's notice, she is always willing to offer her knowledge and assistance with warmth and grace with the end goal of maintaining a world-class educational environment for our students. With such a large department, our staff, faculty, and students in Family Dentistry come from diverse backgrounds, and Ms. Redlinger has a unique ability to establish personal rapport with everyone that she interacts with. She is often the first face that our staff, adjunct, and full-time faculty members see upon arriving in the department, and she immediately puts those individuals at ease with her genuine warmth, friendliness, and supportive customer service-oriented attitude. She consistently inspires confidence to those around her through her effective, efficient, and knowledgeable work ethic, which is a sign of the pride she takes in her job and in the College of Dentistry.

Jean truly is Family Dentistry's rock, yet her effective and competent work ethos clearly benefits the entire Collegiate community. For these reasons, she is uniquely deserving of the College of Dentistry's Ambassador Club Award, **CONGRATULATIONS** Jean!



On July 10th, 2023, the Department of Family Dentistry gathered to recognize and celebrate Jean Redlinger's recognition as the Ambassador Award Recipient. Drs. David C. Holmes (Emeritus Professor, Dept. of Family Dentistry) and Jim Clancy (Emeritus Associate Professor, Dept. of Prosthodontics) serenaded Jean with "Daydream Believer" by The Monkees.

Rebuilding the strong legacy of prosthodontics support in the Department of Family Dentistry has been a significant priority these past two years. We are fortunate to welcome our third full-time prosthodontist to the department, starting in 2024!



Dr. Chonghwa Kim, Clinical Associate Professor

We are thrilled this January to welcome Dr. Chonghwa Kim, his wife Joohyun and two daughters Suhjin (15) and Yujin (13) to Iowa City from Seoul, South Korea, where he was previously in private practice for 20 years. Dr. Kim will be joining Family Dentistry as a clinical-track Associate Professor. He obtained his DDS degree from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry in 1997, and received both his master's degree

and certificate in Prosthodontics from the University of Minnesota, in 2004. Dr. Kim's professional appointments following residency include serving as an Associate Dentist at Nexden Dental Hospital, Seoul, Korea, from 2004-2006, an Associate Dentist in private practice (Korea) from 2006-2009, and the sole proprietor and owner of Michigan Dental Clinic, Seoul, Korea, from 2009-2023. In 2020, Dr. Kim received Board Certification in Prosthodontics (Korea).

Dr. Kim is the co-author of two dental textbooks related to esthetic dentistry (Atlas of Esthetic Dentistry, Jeesung Publishing Inc., 2001) and pre-prosthetic surgery (Minimally Invasive Sinus Surgery, Well Publishing Inc., 2017). He has also published 17 peer-reviewed journal manuscripts related to implant prosthodontics, zirconia biomaterials, and prosthesis design parameters. As recognition of his scholarly contributions to the art and science of esthetic dentistry, Dr. Kim was awarded the Grand Prize in Academic Achievement (2021) by the Korean Academy of

Esthetic Dentistry. Dr. Kim has been active in organized dentistry groups in Asia and beyond. Since 2009, he has served as Co-Director of the Global Academy of Osseointegration (GAO), which seeks to bring together surgical specialists and general dentists to evaluate emerging research, technology, and oral implantology techniques. Since 2014, he has served as a manuscript reviewer for the Journal of the Korean Academy of Esthetic Dentistry. Additionally, Dr. Kim has served as both Secretary (2019-2021) and Vice President (2022-Present) of the Asian Academy of Esthetic Dentistry, and Director of International Relations (2010-2011) for the Korean Academy of Esthetic Dentistry.

We are extremely fortunate that Dr. Kim will assume a leadership role in Family Dentistry pertaining to mentoring fourth-year students related to our prosthodontics and implant curricula, building on his robust clinical knowledge and experience.

He enjoys playing tennis and spending time with family. Before moving to Iowa City, his first daughter, Suhjin, studied Korean traditional aria in the Korean National Middle School for Traditional Music. She had a difficult time when she first realized she had to stop what she was doing but now looks forward to explore more opportunities in music in the United States.





Dr. Thomas Thul

- Davenport, IA -

Alumni: University of Iowa

Dr. Thul is a Class of 1981 alumnus of the UI College of Dentistry, and practiced for 41 years as a comprehensive general dentist in Davenport, IA before retiring from private practice in late 2022. Dr. Thul has been a wonderful addition to our team on Tuesdays, helping students in all phases of restorative and prosthodontics care. We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Thul to our department!



Dr. Anna Zak

- Bettendorf, IA -

Alumni: University of Iowa

Dr. Zak is a 2008 alumnus of the UI College of Dentistry, and practices in Bettendorf with her husband Dr. Stecher. She is a member of the ADA, IDA, Scott County Dental Society and the American Association of Women Dentists. Dr. Zak has been an amazing addition to the infamous Thursday group of adjunct faculty. We are so fortunate to welcome Dr. Zak to Family Dentistry!



Dr. Chong Shao

- Anamosa, IA -

Alumni: University of Iowa

Dr. Shao is a 2014 alumnus of the UI College of Dentistry and a native of Iowa City. He practices in office locations in Anamosa and Monticello with his wife, Dr. Nagel. He enjoys spending time with his two daughters, two very active dogs, and spending time in the outdoors and cooking. Dr. Shao has been a superb addition to our Friday team of adjuncts! Welcome Dr. Shao to Family Dentistry!



Dr. Meredith "Mimi" Marschall

- North Liberty, IA -

Alumni: University of Louisville

Dr. Marschall is a Class of 2016 alumnus of the University of Louisville School of Dentistry, and subsequently completed an AEGD Residency at Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine. She previously practiced in Orlando, FL where she provided dental care to the NBA Orlando Magic. She currently practices in North Liberty, IA and enjoys time with her husband, Dr. Jeff Marshall, a faculty in Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery at the UI CoD. Welcome to our team Dr. Marschall!



Dr. Mary Duffy

- Cedar Rapids, IA -

Alumni: University of Iowa

Dr. Duffy is a Class of 1983 alumnus of the UI College of Dentistry, and completed a General Practice Residency at Audie L. Murphy Veterans' Hospital. She practiced general comprehensive dentistry in North Carolina, and also served as the GPR Program Coordinator at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Durham, NC. She also held faculty appointments at Duke University Medical Center and University of North Carolina School of Dentistry. She enjoys biking and outdoor activities in her spare time, welcome Dr. Duffy!



Retirement: Tim Michels, DDS, Adjunct Associate Professor (35 years)

This past July, after nearly 35 years of service as an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Family Dentistry, we celebrated Dr. Tim Michels' retirement as a faculty member. A stalwart adjunct faculty since 1989, Dr. Michels is the consummate professional, kind-hearted, and generous to the generations of dental students that he taught and mentored. We were fortunate to celebrate Dr. Michels' accomplishments as a department, joined as well by his wife Kim and immediate and extended family. Dr. Heddens and Dr. Robert "Bob" Blew (Adjunct Associate Professor, 1986-2009) shared several hilarious stories of their multiple social outings with their spouses over the years, and memories of their time together in the department. Between Drs. Michels, Heddens, and Blew, there

was over 90 years of adjunct faculty teaching experience and commitment to the future of our profession! While we will sadly miss not having Dr. Michels with us on Tuesdays in Family Dentistry, we wish him and his wife Kim all the best in their retirement!



In Memoriam: Mary Brummett, DDS, Adjunct Assistant Professor

It was with great sadness that this past year we lost one of our weekly Wednesday adjunct faculty, Dr. Mary Brummett. Dr. Brummett graduated from UMKC School of Dentistry in 1988. She practiced in Hutchinson, Kansas for over 35 years, and provided her dental services to aid in forensics identification for local police departments. Upon the sale of her practice, she purchased an RV and worked locum tenens in practices all over the Midwest. The Covid-19 pandemic brought her to Iowa to be near her grandchildren, and we as a College and department benefitted from her teaching, camaraderie, and personal warmth the last few years. Mary was even tempered, generous

in spirit, and kind to those that she met.

She provided a wealth of experience and knowledge to our students, and always came to clinic with great enthusiasm and passion. Mary had a wonderful sense of humor, and didn't shy away from laughing, even when two years ago, by chance at the annual FAMD Holiday Party, both her and Dr. Marcela Hernández showed up in the same holiday dress! She loved nature, and in that spirit, we honored her memory with a tree for her family from Forever Green Nursery. Thank you Mary for all you did to contribute to our department and to our students, you will be sorely missed.





D4 Faculty of the Year Award

- Dr. Michael Santucci -

Dr. Michael Santucci, Clinical Assistant Professor, was awarded the D4 Faculty of the Year Teaching Award by the Class of 2023 for his outstanding efforts pertaining to student instruction, mentorship as a Group Leader, and his efforts to prepare students for their clinical board exams. Congratulations Dr. Santucci on this wonderful accomplishment!



D4 Part-Time Faculty of the Year Award

- Dr. Therese Ryan -

Dr. Therese Ryan, Associate Faculty, was awarded the D4 Part-Time Faculty of the Year Award by the Class of 2023 in recognition of her significant efforts for student clinical improvement throughout the year, as well as for her coordination of the collaboration between Kirkwood's Hygiene Program and Family Dentistry. Congratulations Dr. Ryan on all you have done for the D4 Class of 2023!



D4 Adjunct Faculty of the Year Award

- Dr. Amy Scallon-Geis -

Dr. Amy Scallon-Geis, Adjunct Assistant Professor, was awarded the D4 Adjunct Faculty of the Year Award by the Class of 2023. Each year the D4 graduating class selects a single adjunct faculty member who demonstrates conspicuous contributions to student instruction and mentorship. Dr. Scallon-Geis has served as an adjunct faculty since 2016, and continues to exemplify weekly what it means to be a true professional.



2023 Student Research Mentor of the Year Award

- Dr. Robert Bowers -

Dr. Robert Bowers, Assistant Professor, was competitively selected as the Student Research Mentor of the Year. Dr. Bowers was nominated by two students he mentored, Mr. Colton Curtis (D4) and Ms. Olivia Bartholomew (D3). Congratulations Dr. Bowers on this significant achievement!





Fellowship Award, Academy of General Dentistry (FAGD)

- Dr. John Syrbu -

Dr. John Syrbu was awarded Fellowship in the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) at the 2023 AGD Convocation Ceremony, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Becoming a Fellow is a recognition of a commitment to care that goes above and beyond traditional education and licensing requirements. Fellows have dedicated themselves to learning, growing and staying current in the field so that they can provide the best oral care to their patients. Eligibility for Fellowship consists of a minimum of 500 hours of ADA CERP-certified CE courses and passing of the written Fellowship exam. Only 6% of dentists nationally have earned their AGD Fellowship. Congratulations Dr. Syrbu on this prestigious accomplishment!



2023 Improving Our Workplace Award (I.O.W.A.)

- Dental Hygiene Standards Committee: Ms. Valerie Waterhouse & Ms. Jean Redlinger -

Two staff members from the Department of Family Dentistry, Ms. Valerie Waterhouse, Support Services Specialist, and Ms. Jean Redlinger, Administrative Services Specialist, participated in the College of Dentistry's Dental Hygiene Standards Committee, chaired by Mr. Kelby Scandrett, Nurse Manager, Department of Periodontics. The charge of the multidisciplinary committee was to help create Collegiate standards for hygiene visits and develop the inaugural College of Dentistry Hygiene Standards Committee.

As a result of their contributions towards this Collegiate effort, and the tangible positive outcomes that were borne out of their effort, the Improving Our Workplace Awards (I.O.W.A.) selection committee formally recognized their committee with the 2023 award.

At the "I.O.W.A." ceremony, Mr. Kelby Scandrett commented that Valerie and Jean "are wonderful individuals who provided invaluable resources and advice as we reviewed, drafted, revised, and rolled out the standards for future patient care. I appreciate all they do to promote patient-centered care. The I.O.W.A award represents their ongoing commitment to do their best for patients in the College and following through and actually making it happen. Thank you Jean and Val for all you do. It has been a pleasure to work with you and see you help champion this initiative."

Their efforts on the Dental Hygiene Standards Committee resulted in the following positive outcome measures for patient-care in the College:

- 99.7 % of all patients that receive vasoactive meds have their blood pressure taken.
- We have improved blood pressure measurement from 40% to 80% of all patients.
- This is still improving Perio documentation has improved by almost 150% across all of the CoD.



On May 25, 2023, Family Dentistry faculty & staff celebrated the achievements of graduating D4 students, who exemplified outstanding performance during their final year of dental school in various domains of general & restorative dentistry.



Dr. James Michael Leary Memorial Award -
Dr. Zachary E. Johnson



Dr. John C. Kois in Clinical Excellence Award -
Dr. William J. Gallaher



American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Award -
Dr. Megan J. Sabus



Brasseler USA Award -
Dr. Megan J. Sabus



Delta Dental of Iowa Treatment Planning & Documentation Award -
Dr. Indira Tikhonova



Academy of General Dentistry Senior Student Awards -
Dr. Allison M. Schollmeyer
and Dr. Ryan J. Moylan



American Association of Endodontists Achievement Award -
Dr. Chaz Konrath

Dr. Duane Schmidt Practice Management Awards -



Dr. Kyle A. Bennett (1st)



Dr. Jordan Sillman (2nd)



Dr. Megan J. Sabus (3rd)

The annual Department of Family Dentistry Faculty Retreat took place on Friday, July 21st, 2023. The didactic educational component took place at the College, and the evening social took place at the Elevate.

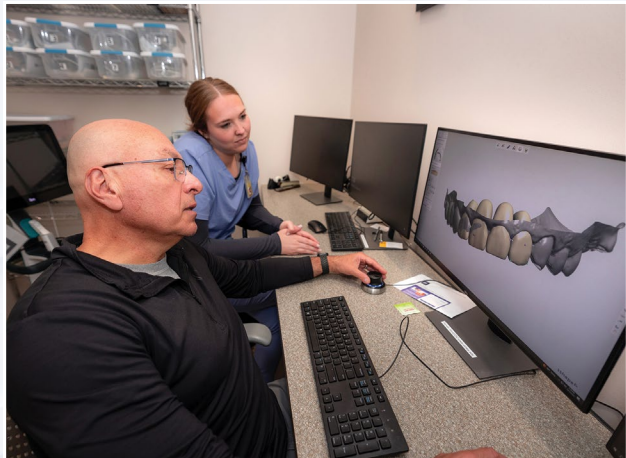
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Fabricio Teixeira

"Restoration of Endodontically Treated Teeth: Current Evidence & Paradigm Shift"

Dr. Fabricio Teixeira, Professor and DEO, Department of Endodontics was the keynote speaker for our department's full-day annual retreat. The focus this year was on endodontic therapy and restoration of endodontically treated teeth, based on best evidence-based research. Dr. Teixeira first shared research that his team and others in the field have conducted recently on evolving methods to perform endodontic procedures, from conservative access preparations, canal negotiation, irrigation dispersment, and obturation. He also discussed the connection between restorative protocols and long-term success of endodontically treated teeth. His presentation stimulated a lively discussion, and made us realize how much endodontic therapy has evolved in the past decade!



The Summer Retreat evening social was held at Elevate, where we celebrated Dr. Michels' retirement, shared many laughs, and caught up with old and new friends and colleagues.



Dr. Vargas mentoring a D4 student on a digital mock-up for an anterior esthetic case. Digital workflows are increasingly being utilized in Family Dentistry.



Happy B-Day Dr. Vargas! Love the toilet seat birthday cake! 🥰



Dr. Santucci being recognized by D4's as Faculty of the Year! 🎉



When you recognize someone else in the back hall with good style sense!



“Harry” and “Marv” from Home Alone...he came in looking to replace his lost gold tooth. 🤪



Dr. Saisho's pregnant “avocado pit” won our hearts! 🥰



Thank you FAMD Group Leaders for all you do to support our D4 students's growth and progression towards competency for independent practice! We are truly fortunate for each of you!



Dr. Santucci's Group 3 students celebrating their end of the year in FAMD by getting ready to throw Dr. Santucci in the lake! To be honest, it looks like he was enjoying it! 😊



Congratulations to Drs. Timm & Marschall on completing the IMT Des Moines Marathon!



Thank you Julie for hosting at your home the Mike Byson murder mystery! We had so many laughs! 😂



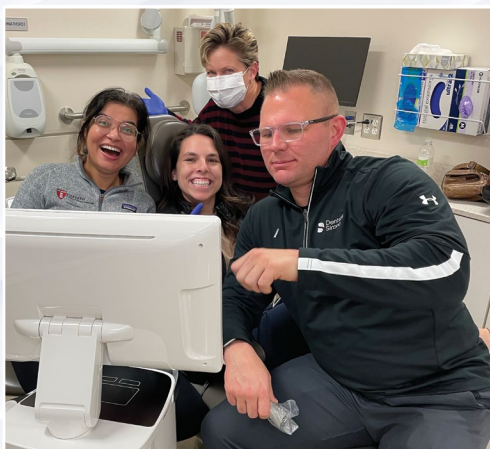
The "Thursday Group" relaxing together after a busy day in the FAMD clinic with Dr. Edward's dog Winston.



Certainly not as elegant as the lady's, we'll let you decide who the guilty "Mike Byson" murderer really was! 🤔



Enjoying an early warm spring day on the terrace! ☀️



Who said hands-on CE can't be fun? 😜



Thanks Jean for making the Holiday Party such a hit, what would we do without you?



Nice scrubs! 😊



Feliz Navidad! 🎄



Dr. Hernández with Dr. Duong and Dr. Smith from the Class of 2018 at Chicago Midwinter Meeting.



Dr. Saisho speaking at a CE program in Michigan.



We raised more than \$800 for our adopted FAMD family!



What FAMD Holiday Party would be complete without Dr. Gomez' rendition of "Feliz Navidad" and the Dogfathers band behind him!



Merry and Bright! 🦌



So happy and excited for your new family Hiromi and Luis!



Congratulations Dr. Bowers on your wedding to your beautiful bride Ellie! 💍





Iowa Family Dentistry Faculty Excellence Fund

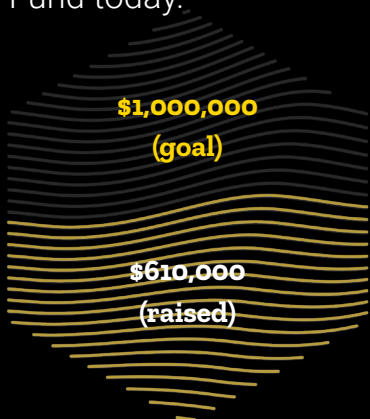
Family Dentistry is a unique and enriching experience for fourth-year dental students, in large part because more than 50% of their clinical education and professional mentorship is facilitated by adjunct faculty. Adjunct faculty are dentists from the community that practice in a variety of clinical settings and commit to teaching in Family Dentistry one day a week for ten months a year. The dedication and intrinsic value that adjunct faculty bring to Family Dentistry greatly enriches students' holistic dental education, and provides opportunities for students to learn how their dental school experiences and education fit into various practice models following graduation.

Recruiting exceptional adjunct faculty is more critical than ever in order to sustain a world-class dental program and continue building the next generation of dentistry leaders. Formidable demographic and economic challenges are beginning to jeopardize this legacy, including:

- Imminent retirement of "baby-boomer" adjunct faculty with long tenures of teaching and service
- Record levels of educational debt amongst early- and mid-career dentists who would like to adjunct, but are unable to serve due to student loan repayment obligations
- Continued decreases in state funding and support for public institutions of higher-learning

The Iowa Family Dentistry Faculty Excellence Fund will provide a sustainable base of funding for adjunct student loan repayment assistance, enabling our department to attract and retain early- and mid-career dentists who desire to mentor, teach, and serve the profession of dentistry through adjunct education in Family Dentistry.

This fund will help ensure a durable legacy in producing top-tier dental graduates and facilitate a new generation of Family Dentistry adjunct educational leaders to maintain the high caliber clinical education standards for which our department is known. Please consider a gift to the Iowa Family Dentistry Faculty Excellence Fund today.



Learn more about how your support will make an impact, contact:



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