

## Department of Family Dentistry



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Dear Colleagues, Alumni, and Friends of Family Dentistry, Welcome to the inaugural Family Dentistry department newsletter! I hope this finds you and your family, loved ones, and staff safe and in good health.

As I write this, I am reminded of how quickly things can change, conferring both loss and gain. A week ago it was balmy and almost spring-like in Iowa City, and as we ring in 2022, we have lost the warm weather, but have gained a beautiful first winter snow!



As with midwest weather, life can also change quickly, also bringing losses and gains. Over the last almost two years, we have all certainly been reminded of this as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, with no segment of society being left unaffected. However, as 2022 begins, the overall outlook appears more encouraging as the world, and life in general slowly start to creep towards some semblance of normalcy.

The College of Dentistry has not been insulated from change throughout the pandemic, but has met head on the many challenges put in front of it, and is stronger for it. Such changes include rapid modifications to patient-care and instructional delivery, increasing implementation of digital technologies in the predoctoral curriculum, and new appointments in positions of leadership at the College.

A national search for a new dean ensued this past fall to replace the previous dean, Dr. David Johnsen. Dr. Clark Stanford has been named as the next dean of the College, after serving as the dean of the College of Dentistry at the University of Illinois, Chicago. Dr. Stanford brings to the College a wealth of knowledge and experience as well as a strong commitment to the success of its students, faculty, and staff. I had the privilege of serving as a member of the dean search committee, co-chaired by Drs. Daniel Caplan (Head of Preventive & Community Dentistry) and Julie Zerwic (Kelting Dean, UI College of Nursing), who both did a stellar job of keeping the process and the Committee focused on the important task at hand.

Additionally, the departments of Orthodontics and Oral Pathology, Radiology and Medicine (OPRM) completed national searches for new Departmental Executive Officers (DEOs), appointing Drs. Lina Moreno and Trishul Allareddy, respectively. I have worked extensively with both of them in patient-care and research in the past, and couldn't be more excited to continue to collaborate with them both in their new roles. The departments of Prosthodontics and Periodontics are currently searching for new DEOs,

following the retirement of Dr. Julie Holloway and pending departure of Dr. Gustavo Avila-Ortiz this summer. We wish them both well in their new journeys ahead!

At the department level, the past year has also witnessed significant changes to personnel as a result of retirements. Dr. David C. Holmes, immediate past-DEO of Family Dentistry, retired in August, after serving as Head of Family Dentistry for 17 years. As a department, we will all sorely miss Dr. Holmes' warm and inviting persona, academic wisdom, and musical talents on a daily basis. On a personal level, he has been a steadfast mentor to me ever since I joined the department in 2014, and I aspire as his successor to carry his legacy forward for Family Dentistry. Additionally, the department also celebrated this past July the retirements of seven long-serving faculty and staff, who are highlighted in the coming pages of this newsletter.

While Family Dentistry witnessed the departure of many devoted and beloved faculty and staff this past year, we as a department are committed to, and taking concerted actionable steps towards, the recruitment and hiring of excellent new full-time and adjunct faculty, as well as staff to carry the department forward into it's next exciting chapter. Several new team members are featured within the pages of this newsletter.

Concurrently, I am very excited to share with you the establishment of the *Iowa Family Dentistry Faculty Excellence Fund*. As an endowment, it seeks to create a durable and sustainable legacy to support Family Dentistry adjunct faculty; who selflessly choose to mentor and teach fourth-year dental students, the ability to more expeditiously facilitate repayment of their student-loan burdens. Dr. Heather Heddens (FAMD adjunct faculty), Ms. Penni Ryan (former Director of Alumni Relations and Continuing Education), and Ms. Kelly Garvin (Director of Development, UI Foundation) have been invaluable in their efforts to raise funds for this critical effort. I'd also like to acknowledge the founding gift of \$100,000 from Dr. John Doering, without which we would not have been able to activate this endowment. Other donors are highlighted within these pages who have generously given to this effort.

I will close by saying that I am truly humbled and honored to have the opportunity to serve as the next DEO of Family Dentistry. We have a profoundly wonderful department, and as previous Dean Johnsen always says, "*it's all about the people*". We have incredible staff, dedicated and selfless adjunct faculty, and world-class full-time faculty, all positioned to continue to educate and mentor the next generation of first-rate general dentists for the state of Iowa, and beyond.

**Christopher A. Barwacz**

## David C. Holmes, DDS, MS, Professor & Department Chair (2004-2021)



Dr. David C. Holmes served as DEO & Head of the Department of Family Dentistry from 2004-2021. After completion of his DDS from The University of Iowa in 1978, he began his career by practicing general dentistry in Eldridge, Iowa, where he practiced until 1989. During this time, he became an adjunct faculty in the Department of Family Dentistry. In 1989, he returned to the College of Dentistry, subsequently completing his Certificate and Master's in Periodontics in 1991. He began his career in academics first as an Assistant Professor in Family Dentistry from 1989-1996, where he also served as a Group Leader. In 1997, he joined the faculty at the University of Colorado where he served as chair of the Division of Comprehensive Care. In 2004, he returned to Iowa as DEO of Family Dentistry.

Among his many academic service accomplishments in his 30+ year career, Dr. Holmes served as a clinical licensure examiner for the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) as well as a Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) site examiner. He is also a member of Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU) honorary dental society, the Pierre Fauchard Academy, the International College of Dentists, the American Dental Education Association, and the American Dental Association. He has also served as a longstanding manuscript reviewer for the *Journal of Dental Education*, the leading journal in dental education. In 2019, he was recognized by the University of Iowa Dental Alumni Association as the Educator of the Year for his dedication and contributions to curriculum development and design, educational outcomes assessment, and dental student mentorship.

However, if you were to ask Dr. Holmes what his biggest career achievement was, he would tell you that *"it was collaborating with the other professional dental educators in our department in the development and implementation of our collegiate process for determining and documenting the attainment of competency by our D4 students. That process served us well in our 2018 CODA Accreditation, and it adapted itself well to redefining clinical education in the age of COVID-19."* The entire department wishes Dr. Holmes a much-deserved, joyous retirement, filled with music, travel, and time with friends, family, and loved-ones!



On July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, the Department of Family Dentistry paid tribute to the achievements and record of service of five full-time faculty and staff that have contributed to the department in various capacities for a collective 98 years!

## **Reed Parker, DDS, Clinical Assistant Professor (2012-2021)**

Dr. Reed Parker practiced general dentistry in Keokuk, Iowa (1978-1984) and Iowa City, Iowa (1984-2008). Dr. Parker joined the Cedar Rapids Smile Center practice in 2009. Dr. Parker served as an adjunct faculty member in Family Dentistry from 1990 to 2012 and in the Geriatrics & Special Needs Clinic. Dr. Parker became a full-time faculty member in 2012 as a Clinical Assistant Professor and Group Leader in Family Dentistry. Dr. Parker was responsible for the content of the Grand Rounds curriculum during the COVID shutdown. Dr. Parker plans to spend more time at his cabin on Lake Grindstone during retirement and to return to adjunct teaching in FAMD when needed.



## **David Iglehardt, DDS, Clinical Assistant Professor (2017-2020)**

Dr. Iglehart was in solo private practice in Davenport for 30 years before joining the Department of Family Dentistry in 2014 as an Adjunct Assistant Professor. He became a Clinical Assistant Professor in 2017, teaching prosthodontics to Family Dentistry students. Dr. Iglehart was named Adjunct of the Year in 2015, Adjunct/Prosthodontist Instructor of the Year in 2016 and Family Dentistry Faculty of the Year in 2018, 2019 and 2020. Since his retirement, he enjoys golf, reading, delivering meals to homebound seniors, chairing the Start Line Committee for the Bix7 race and being a grandfather. He continues to lecture about his experience as an ameloblastoma patient.



## **Ms. Becky Powell-Rennekar, Dental Hygienist (1995-2020)**

Becky has been in the College of Dentistry since 1995 as Family Dentistry's Dental Hygienist. Becky continues to be a smiling face in the College as an Adjunct Clinical Instructor in Preventive and Community. Becky continues to volunteer to interview future dental students and will continue working with the International Dental student program this summer. She also maintains ties to the Kirkwood Dental Hygiene program as an adjunct, teaching local anesthesia. She hopes to be traveling more to see family and continue to "play" on their little farm. She will always drop by to see her buddies in Famd and enjoy the wonderful ties and friends at the College of Dentistry.



## **Ms. Lyda Broders, Clinical Dental Assistant (2000-2021)**

Ms. Lyda Broders came to the College of Dentistry, Department of Family Dentistry in 2000 from private practice. She assisted many faculty and students over the years, most recently working with Dr. Ana Diaz-Arnold. She has been spending time with family and friends and enjoying time at their cabin on the Cedar River since her retirement.



## **Ms. Becky Wageman, Clerk IV (1980-2021)**

Ms. Becky Wageman worked in the College of Dentistry starting in 1980. She started in Family Dentistry in 2006 in the Collegiate Lab Office as a Mail Clerk and Collegiate Lab Clerk. She enjoys the Iowa Hawkeyes, spending time with her family and biking, and is looking forward to her more flexible time for hobbies in retirement.



The start of the 2021-2022 academic year saw many new faces in the department, and we couldn't be more proud of the team that we're building. The next several pages highlight new additions to Family Dentistry faculty and staff.

### **Robert Bowers, DDS, Assistant Professor**

Dr. Bowers graduated from the University of Iowa with a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 2011 and DDS from the College of Dentistry in 2016. He practiced in the Indian Health Service from 2016 to 2020, serving as the Dental Director at the Meskwaki Health Clinic in Tama, IA while also serving as an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Family Dentistry. His research interests are in fear-based dentistry treatment involving chemo-pharmaceutical management of dental decay and local anesthesia techniques. He enjoys bike riding and playing tennis, and volunteers his time with Willis Dady homeless shelter as well as other non-profit organizations.



### **Therese Ryan, DDS, Associate Clinical Faculty**

Dr. Ryan graduated from the University of Iowa College of Dentistry in 1994. Following graduation Dr. Ryan associated in a general dentistry practice in St. Louis and taught as an adjunct faculty at Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine, in the Division of Comprehensive Care. She returned to Iowa City in 1997 and started her practice (T. Ryan, DDS), previously on Mormon Trek Blvd. Previous to joining this summer as an Associate Faculty, Dr. Ryan was an adjunct faculty in Family Dentistry for 13 years! She is married to Dr. Jim Dunne, and has two daughters (Clare & Maeve). Outside of dentistry she loves spending time with her family, reading, refinishing woodwork, Irish history, being outdoors, following the Hawkeyes (especially football and wrestling).



### **Michelle Burson, BA, DDS, MS, Associate Clinical Faculty**

Dr. Burson graduated from the University of Iowa College of Dentistry in 2018, and subsequently completed her master's degree and certificate in graduate prosthodontics from the College of Dentistry in 2021. A natural educator at heart, she has made an immediate impact in the mentorship of D4 students with their prosthodontics cases. She recently married Dr. Tim Albright (a 2016 DDS alumnus from the College of Dentistry) and enjoys traveling, camping, and various outdoor activities. She is looking forward to getting back into playing piano after an extended hiatus during her residency, and will soon begin her private practice, limited to prosthodontics, in Iowa City this spring.



**Congratulations to Drs. Michelle Burson and Tim Albright, who married at Wilson's Orchard on October 9th, 2021! We wish them all the best in their new life together!**



## **Ms. Michelle Lawless, Clinical Dental Assistant**

We are so thrilled to have Ms. Michelle Lawless join the department this past summer! Ms. Lawless brings with her a wealth of experience and knowledge, having been a chair side assistant for 23 years, 5 of which has been at the College of Dentistry. She possesses a warm and joyful persona, making patients feel at ease with their care. Originally from Marion, IA, she now resides in Tiffin with her husband of eleven years, Josh. Her daughter Melina is currently a freshman at UNI. She enjoys walking and hiking on trails and going to the Amana Colonies and surrounding events.



## **Ms. JoLynne Etscheidt, Clinical Dental Assistant**

Ms. JoLynne Etscheidt has been the quintessential team player since joining Family Dentistry, elevating the quality of care we provide patients. She has been a dental assistant for 12 years and has been at the College of Dentistry for a little over 2 years. She is married and has two children, Amber and Aaron, and one "fur baby", Louie. Her husband Bob and her love walking and craft beer. She also has a passion for crafting and cooking.



## **Ms. Megan Murphy, Support Services Specialist**

Ms. Megan Murphy also joined the Department of Family Dentistry this summer as a Support Services Specialist, bringing with her valuable previous experience in the healthcare field. Prior to joining the College of Dentistry, Ms. Murphy worked at UIHC's safety and security department. This past spring, Megan welcomed her first child, a son, named Finn, who she thinks is super cute (we couldn't agree more)! She originates from Arizona, and has traveled extensively prior to moving to Iowa. So far the midwest winters haven't scared her away. Thanks for joining our team Megan!



## **Mr. Carter Kline, Support Services Specialist**

Mr. Carter Kline joined the Department of Family Dentistry this summer as a Support Services Specialist, helping to manage the complex scheduling needs of our student, dental auxiliary utilization (DAU) rotation, and faculty patients. He brings a joyous presence to our front desk, and we're glad he has joined our family. Originally from Mason City, IA, Carter currently lives in Coralville with his puppy, Luna, who is a half husky half Pitbull mix. During his free time he enjoys golfing, boating, traveling, and just spending time with friends and family.



## **Ms. Tiffany Wellington, Collegiate Lab & Mail Clerk**

Ms. Wellington joined the Department of Family Dentistry this past year, working with Ms. Kelly Lindahl in the Collegiate Lab. She is married to her husband Skye, and has two children, a son (Hayden) who is 11, and a daughter (Esther) who is 4 years old. Her family recently relocated to Williamsburg, IA, and she enjoys sharing time outside with her family and friends. Additionally, Tiffany loves to sing and dance, scrapbook, and enjoys chocolate, pizza and Mexican food. If you ever need to brighten your day with a laugh, please stop down to the Collegiate Lab and ask for Tiffany!





**Dr. Mary Brummett**

- Tiffin, IA -

Alumni: UMKC School of Dentistry

Dr. Brummett was in both group and solo private practice for 30+ years in Hutchinson, Kansas, and recently moved to Tiffin, IA to be closer to family. We are thrilled to have Dr. Brummett teaching with us on Wednesdays, and for all the experience and wisdom that she imparts to our D4 students!



**Dr. Jessica Edwards**

- Urbandale, IA -

Alumni: University of Minnesota

Upon completing dental school, where she was closely involved with research, Dr. Edwards completed a GPR residency at University of Utah, and has since been in private practice in Urbandale, IA. We're so excited for Dr. Edwards to share her restorative dental expertise with our students on Fridays!



**Dr. Sundes Elfagih**

- Iowa City, IA -

Alumni: University of Iowa

Dr. Elfagih completed her M.S. in Operative Dentistry at the UI College of Dentistry in 2021, and recently joined Family Dentistry as an adjunct faculty teaching on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. We welcome Dr. Elfagih to Family Dentistry, and for her excitement to teach our D4 students!



**Dr. Jessica Lawson**

- Urbandale, IA -

Alumni: University of Iowa

Dr. Lawson is a Class of 2007 alumni of the UI College of Dentistry, and has been practicing in solo private practice for over a decade in Urbandale, IA. She enjoys her time with her family, her kids' activities, and cheering on the Hawkeyes! We couldn't be happier to have her come back to mentor our students in Family Dentistry!



**Dr. Tina Kao-Reasoner**

- Fulton, IL -

Alumni: University of Iowa

Dr. Kao-Reasoner is a Class of 2009 alumni of the UI College of Dentistry, and has been practicing as a partner in a group practice in Fulton, IL. She has a passion for teaching and mentoring students, and when not at work, she loves spending time with her family. We thank her for all that she has contributed to our Thursdays in FAMD!



**Dr. Megan Timm**

- Williamsburg, IA -

Alumni: University of Iowa

Dr. Timm is a Class of 2018 alumni of the UI College of Dentistry, and has since been practicing at Smiles Family Dentistry, in Williamsburg, IA. Outside of work, she loves listening to podcasts, baking, and spending time with her growing family. It has been a pleasure to have Dr. Timm sharing her knowledge with our students on Mondays!



## 2021 Educator of the Year Award

- Dr. Ana Diaz-Arnold -

Dr. Ana-Diaz Arnold has been awarded the prestigious *2021 Educator of the Year Award*, by the University of Iowa Dental Alumni Association. Dr. Diaz-Arnold has

been an invaluable faculty member in the department for 35 years, serving as a Group Leader, as well as mentoring countless students, adjunct as well as full-time faculty during her career at The College of Dentistry. In addition to sharing her expertise in prosthodontics with fourth-year students, she operated a successful intramural faculty practice for over 30 years, developing devoted patients who treasured her care. At the end of this academic year, Dr. Diaz-Arnold will retire, and is looking forward to spending time with her family. Congratulations Dr. Diaz-Arnold on this well-deserved award!



## 2020 Alumni of the Year Award

- Dr. Heather Heddens -

Dr. Heather Heddens has been recognized by the University of Iowa Dental Alumni Association with the *2020 Alumni of the Year Award*. This award recognizes Dr.

Heddens' robust accomplishments in serving her profession through organized dentistry, student teaching and mentorship, as well as her commitment to continued learning. After practicing in the Air Force, she returned to Iowa and practiced for 15 years in Columbus Junction and 14 years in Washington, IA. She has been an invaluable adjunct faculty in Family Dentistry for 35 years, mentoring and shaping countless D4 students, and serving as an advocate for organized dentistry. Her favorite quote to students is "*Don't be afraid to say I don't know, but I'll find out.*" We could not be more proud of Dr. Heddens and all she has accomplished!

## Executive Committee for the Coalition for Modernizing Dental Licensure

- Dr. Brian Howe -

In July 2021, Dr. Howe was elected to be a member of the Executive Committee for the Coalition for Modernizing Dental Licensure. As part of this group, he will be supporting and participating in the creation of the Dentist and Dental Hygiene Interstate Compact. This will be a strategic move forward for dental licensure portability. This has the potential to change how dentists are licensed and move around the country to practice.



## Richard E. Gibson Merit Staff Award for Innovation and Excellence in Customer Service

- Ms. Valerie Waterhouse -

Ms. Valerie Waterhouse, dental assistant III in the Department of Family Dentistry, on October 14, 2021 was awarded the *Richard E. Gibson Merit Staff Award for Innovation and Excellence in Customer Service*. This award recognizes Valerie's exceptional leadership and service accomplishments pertaining to clinic management of staff, patient-care, and student education. On a daily basis, Valerie manages our excellent team of clinical assistants in both the Family Dentistry faculty practice and fourth-year student auxiliary clinical practice. Among other duties, she assists faculty and students in direct patient care and completes associated laboratory work. In 2005, she took the initiative to become an expanded function dental assistant, allowing her to provide more service to patients. In her personal time, she learns the latest techniques in digital dentistry and has become a key partner in helping design prosthetic appliances. We thank Valerie for her excellent leadership, dedication, and passion in all that she does for Family Dentistry!

The annual Department of Family Dentistry Summer Retreat took place on Friday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. The didactic educational component took place at the College, and the evening social took place at Hancher Auditorium.



## Keynote Speaker: Dr. Marco Brindis

**“Decision Making in the World of Ceramics in Esthetic Dentistry:  
With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility”**

Dr. Marcos Brindis, former Chairman of the Prosthodontics Department at Louisiana State University, now in private practice, was the keynote speaker for our department's full-day summer educational retreat. Dr. Brindis provided an engaging, thought-provoking, evidence-based lecture on contemporary ceramic selection for tooth and implant-borne prosthetics. Using “superhero” analogies, he was able to humorously provide perspectives on indications and rationale for selection of various ceramics systems. We were fortunate to have him join us for our social retreat at the Stanley Café at Hancher Auditorium.



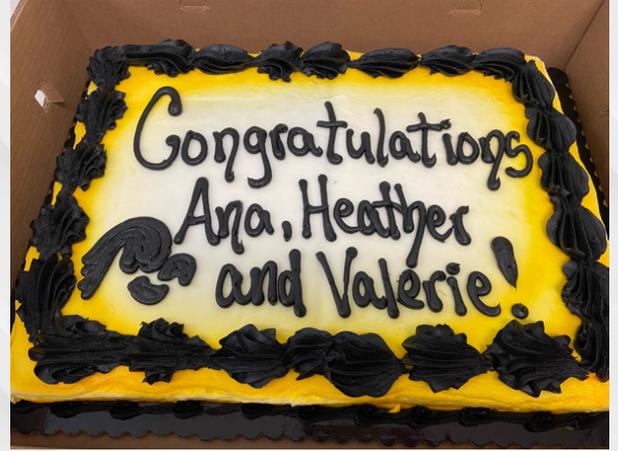
It was a beautiful summer evening to gather together as a department and share memories, laughs and catch up on all that has happened since the pandemic lockdown of 2020!



Jean & Shannon @ Halloween 🦇



Tiffany loving her new set of teeth 😊



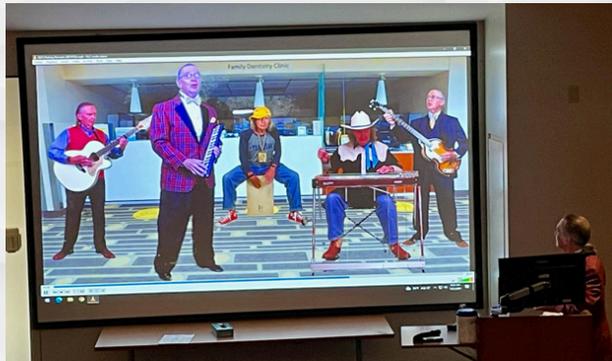
There's cake in the conference room!



Cast of "Matilda" @ Coralville Center for the Performing Arts - what great performances by all, including our own Shannon Knipfer!



Great minds think alike 😊



Dr. Holmes is truly a one-man band 🎵



When your phone is unattended...



Ohhhhhh Jean!!! 🙌



## Iowa Family Dentistry Faculty Excellence Fund

Since its inception in October, 1882 as the first school of dentistry west of the Mississippi River, The University of Iowa College of Dentistry & Dental Clinics has always sought to elevate and improve oral health education standards to not only meet the needs of Iowans, but also to advance the profession at large. Today, nearly 80% of the dentists practicing in Iowa are alumni of The University of Iowa College of Dentistry & Dental Clinics. These graduates provide over \$800 million in oral health care services to Iowans annually. Continuing to provide an adequate number of high-quality dentists to meet the oral health needs of Iowans in the future remains a strategic mission of the College of Dentistry.

An invaluable component of the four-year curriculum at the College of Dentistry is the refinement and reinforcement of comprehensive diagnostic and clinical skills during dental students' 4<sup>th</sup> year of training, which takes place in the Department of Family Dentistry. What makes Family Dentistry unique and enriching for students, is that approximately 50% of their clinical education and mentorship contact-time is facilitated by *adjunct faculty*. Adjunct faculty are dentists from the community that practice in a variety of arrangements 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 about how their dental school experiences and education fit into various practice models following graduation.

Recruiting exceptional adjunct faculty moving forward is more critical than ever in order to sustain a world-class dental program that continues to benefit Iowans, and builds the next generation of leaders. While a hurdle historically to obtain excellent adjunct faculty was professional engagement, more formidable demographic and economic challenges are currently in place that will jeopardize this legacy moving forward, including:

- Imminent retirement of "baby-boomer" adjunct faculty with long tenures of teaching and service due to age and COVID-19 exposure concerns
- Record levels of educational debt amongst early and mid-career dentists who would like to adjunct, but due to financial obligations, are unable to serve
- Continued decrease in state funding and support for public institutions of higher-learning



The financing of the *Iowa Family Dentistry Faculty Excellence Fund* will engender not only the recruitment of a new generation of adjunct faculty leaders to serve as invaluable educational mentors, but will provide a sustainable legacy to continue to yield world-class dentists in service directly to the state of Iowa and for the profession of dentistry for generations to come.

The central mission of the endowment fund is to provide sustainable financial support to attract and retain early and mid-career dentists that desire to mentor, teach, and serve the profession of dentistry through adjunct education in Family Dentistry, but may be prohibited by pervasive and overwhelming financial student-loan debt burdens. Facilitated by the sustainable endowment, student-loan repayment assistance resulting from the interest on the endowment's principal would be directed to adjunct faculty's loan servicing agency to more expediently facilitate repayment of student-loan burdens.

Financing the *Iowa Family Dentistry Faculty Excellence Fund* would create a durable legacy to provide Iowans with top-tier dental graduates. It would also facilitate a new generation of Family Dentistry adjunct educational leaders to maintain the high-caliber clinical education standards Family Dentistry is recognized for.



Please join our family of donors in fulfilling our mission!

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