Dental materials, patient management and improving communication with difficult parents and children will be the focus for a fast-moving day of presentations at the first annual University of Washington Pediatric Dentistry Update, Friday, Oct. 29.

Presenters are Dr. Barbara Sheller, chief of education & resident training, Children’s Hospital and Regional Medical Center, and Dr. Joel Berg, professor and chair, department of pediatric dentistry at the University of Washington. Their presentations are designed to update general and pediatric dentists as well as clinic team members. “This Update will become ‘must see CE’ for every Washington pediatric dentist,” said Dr. Joel Berg, department chair.

Along with education, recreation will be offered at the conference in Walla Walla, WA, heart of Washington’s wine country. A welcome reception at the restored historic Marcus Whitman Hotel featuring area wines from L’Ecole, Woodward Canyon and Basel Cellar will kick off this special weekend. In addition, optional entertainment includes Friday evening’s Winemaker’s Dinner and winery tours Saturday, Oct. 30.

Presentations cover latest techniques in diagnostic and patient assessment, behavior management, and the use of materials. Dr. Sheller will also discuss the importance of communicating with parents to improve many aspects of clinic practice. Dr. Berg will cover distinctions among various restorative materials available for children, and how to use these materials efficiently.

Dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants alike will benefit from the specific protocols provided during this day-long series of presentations.

Topics will include behavior management for the pediatric patient ages 0-6; the RIGHT dentist/parent relationship; sizing up a child’s behavior before starting; latest restorative materials for children; using glass ionomers successfully; new ways to deal with anterior esthetics in the primary dentition; and cementing stainless steel crowns with ease and durability.

Cost of the course (CEO410) is $250/dentist and $150/staff, including the reception Oct. 28 and breakfast and lunch Oct. 29. Room reservations at the Marcus Whitman Hotel are $65 per night. Registration information will be sent soon. And visit www.marcuswhitmanhotel.com to see the historic restored Marcus Whitman Hotel.

Save Oct. 29 for this ‘must-see CE’
Dr. Rebecca Slayton brings strong clinical skills

“We are delighted to have Dr. Rebecca Slayton join our Department,” said Dr. Joel Berg, department chair. “I look forward to introducing Rebecca to each of you in the upcoming year.”

Dr. Slayton, who joined the department in the spring, holds MS, DDS and PhD degrees from the University of Iowa as well as a specialty certificate and board certification in Pediatric Dentistry. Since completing her PhD in genetics, Rebecca focuses her research on genetic predisposition to dental caries.

In addition to her research activities, Dr. Slayton brings a versatile set of skills to the department. She is an experienced and skilled clinical teacher, has worked in two different faculty practices, and lectures extensively on various topics in pediatric dentistry.

With her background, Dr. Slayton provides a strong role model for future practitioners working with children and families.

In her other roles Dr. Slayton will:
• assess UW dental student extramural rotations and determine methods to enhance these clinical experiences for our students and residents;
• develop an initial agenda for research concerning our new program Early Childhood Oral Health (ECOH) and create a Center of Excellence; and
• represent the Department as the School of Dentistry explores new ways to manage the school’s faculty practice.

Recently, Dr. Slayton was named editor of the Journal of Dentistry for Children, a publication of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry.

Predoctoral program combines PEDO 520/525

The School of Dentistry’s support for changes in our preclinical curriculum helped us improve the pre-doctoral program in pediatric dentistry.

PEDO 520/525 provides students with basic concepts necessary for successful diagnosis and treatment of children in primary, mixed and early permanent dentitions. Lecture, laboratory and seminar experiences are combined to provide preparation for care of pediatric dental patients.

The Pediatric Behavior Management course (PEDO 525) moved to summer quarter, offered with our major Clinical Pediatric Dentistry course (PEDO 520). PEDO 525 was previously offered during the second year, winter quarter — too early for students starting their clinical experience in full quarter, third year. This change minimizes redundancy in our didactic teaching and offers students more experience in challenging areas.

In addition 10 hours were added to the Combined Pediatric Dentistry course (PEDO 520/525), allowing several new lectures, seminars, lab exercises and competency assessments. Students now receive more experience in space management, pediatric behavior management and infant and toddler dentistry. During summer all students are required to construct a band and loop appliance and a lower lingual holding arch appliance.
Pediatric dentistry hosts two back-to-back National MCH leadership training conferences

In April the Pediatric Dentistry Department co-hosted two consecutive conferences for the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB).

Trainees, faculty from 3 states attend

The first conference, organized by departmental faculty member Penelope Leggott, brought together trainees and faculty from the other two MCHB leadership training programs in pediatric dentistry — the University of North Carolina (Director, William Vann) and the University of Iowa (Director Michael Kanellis) — to discuss critical issues facing pediatric dentistry.

Two keynote speeches highlighted these issues: the UW’s Philippe Hujoel discussed Challenges for an evidence-based approach to pediatric dentistry and Jim Crall, chair of Pediatric Dentistry at UCLA followed with An evidence-based approach to children’s oral health policy.

Guest faculty included David Nash, former dean at the University of Kentucky School of Dentistry; Dominick DePaola, director of the Forsyth Institute in Boston; and John Rossetti, former dental director for MCHB. The conference helped broaden an understanding of the MCH vision to improve oral health for children and their families.

Pedo & public health co-host forum

The second conference, The Future of Maternal and Child Health Leadership Training, was co-hosted with the MCH Program in the School of Public Health and Community Medicine (SPHCM), with additional funding from the UW Center for Comprehensive Oral Health Research. The meeting brought together some 120 interdisciplinary faculty from MCHB-funded leadership training programs in 30 states in an unprecedented national forum.

This leadership training conference was organized and chaired by Wendy Mouradian and Colleen Huebner (Director of the MCH program in SPHCM), both of whom have faculty appointments in Pediatric Dentistry. The conference identified key leadership competencies, training strategies, and assessment methods. Outcomes will be discussed at a national MCHB meeting in Washington, DC, next spring.


Donations to Domoto Fund help underserved children

The first young patients were helped by the Peter K. Domoto Fund for Children last January. An uncompensated care fund, it was established in July 2002 to honor Dr. Domoto when he retired from the chair of Pediatric Dentistry after more than 25 years with the department.

Recent cuts in Medicaid caused 40,000 children in the State of Washington to lose dental coverage — making this fund more important than ever.

Children ages three through nine are eligible for this care if they meet the financial criteria. Funds cover the cost of preventive, diagnostic and restorative services as deemed necessary through screening and a comprehensive examination.

Donations to the fund can be made online at https://supportuw.washington.edu. Questions can be answered by calling 206-685-9350.

This Just In!

Alumni update

Glenn Short
Barrington, RI

I am now retired, but Larry Thomas and I were the first two residents of the “new” program based at Children’s under Mark Anderson way back in ’80 with Pete Domoto guiding from the Department at the “U”.

In retrospect it has been, all in all, a very rewarding and remarkable career choice and in most respects I will miss it very much. Especially the patients.

It is astounding how many lives we touch and what an influence we have on them as pediatric dentists. For example, I think my office calculated that we averaged three dental students per year out of our practice in the last decade. I always considered that my greatest accomplishment. One of my associates, in fact, had been one of my patients.

Before I went to dental school I was trained as a Burmese linguist by the government. In my retirement I have gotten the opportunity to relearn the language and I have been working on a video compilation of Burmese performance arts in Burma.

There is so much to do! Retirement is never boring.
glennbshort@yahoo.com
Changing of the (mouth) guard

Very classy, our grads of 2004:

Dr. Christopher Lugo (left), Dr. Jennifer Marshall, and Dr. Scott Rowley

The class of 2004:
where have all the graduates gone?

Dr. Christopher Lugo

Dr. Lugo will join Dr. Sidney Gallegos’ pediatric dental practice in Federal Way, WA., where he plans to work part-time and spend extra time with his daughter, Lizzy.

Dr. Jennifer Marshall

After taking some time off to visit her sister in Japan, Dr. Marshall will join Dr. Patrick Loughlin’s practice in Mount Vernon, WA. She will work part-time with him in his Mount Vernon and Oak Harbor offices. This will allow one day a week for Jennifer to continue her dental research project on children with autism at Children’s Hospital and Regional Medical Center, Seattle.

Dr. Scott Rowley

Dr. Rowley and wife Amy welcomed a baby girl, Ellinor Mae, into their family this May. The Rowley family will open “Grays Harbor Pediatric Dentistry” in Aberdeen, WA, this summer. Hoquiam, the neighboring town, is Dr. Rowley’s hometown while Aberdeen is Amy’s. Both towns are located at the Southwestern base of the Olympic Peninsula 20 miles from the Pacific Ocean and 50 miles from Olympic National Park.
UNE 25 the class of 2004 graduated. The department bid a fond farewell to the 2004 graduates Dr. Jennifer Marshall, Dr. Chris Lugo and Dr. Scott Rowley.

Before receiving their certificates and degrees, each made one last presentation of their research projects: Dr. Marshall (Autism), Dr. Lugo (Pulpotomies), and Dr. Rowley (Hospital Dental Emergencies).

Awards were given at the event to Dr. Barbara Sheller, Dr. Bryan Williams and Dr. Pat Fleege for their contributions to the program.

As affiliate faculty, Drs. Sheller and Williams were honored for their teaching and assisting the residents while at Children’s Hospital and Regional Medical Center. This support went beyond their duties at CHRMC.

Dr. Sheller, keynote speaker, described how the early life interests of each resident eventually led them to pursue pediatric dentistry. Many early childhood wishes and photos were shared — delighting the audience.

Dr. Fleege has been very generous in donating his time to clinic coverage and giving lectures to the residents. His assistance and input to the program are greatly appreciated both by the residents and Dr. Dennis Sipher, graduate program director.

... (and hello new residents)

New residents Dr. Kristi Linsenmayer, Dr. Mark Stapleton, Dr. Michael Jorgenson, and Dr. Leena Bitar (left to right) attended graduation.
“Children’s” dental office moves

Children’s Hospital Dental Medicine office moved temporarily in preparation for a major building project.

The hospital will construct a state-of-the-art ambulatory care center to better serve its pediatric patients. To make room, two wings of the hospital will be demolished. This required the Department of Dental Medicine to move temporarily to 4575 Sand Point Way NE, one block from the main hospital building.

The department is scheduled to be off-campus for two years, but the transitional clinical facility is a fully-functional operation, able to maintain its mission. Children’s Dental Medicine provides a major component of clinical training for the Pediatric Dental Residency program and this role will continue as before. Many residents have done clinical research with Children’s, a practice which also will continue as an active component of the training program.

The Dental Medicine Department has been an integral component of Children’s Hospital since 1914, focusing on dental management of children with major medical problems.

Predoctoral program adds coordinator

Jessica Mortensen joined Pediatric Dentistry as the new Predoctoral Program Coordinator in June. In this newly created position, Jessica works closely with Drs. Kaakko and Peterson on our new, joint Pedo 520/525 class this summer as well as organizing offsite rotations for fourth year students.

Before joining us, Jessica worked as an administrative assistant in professional relations for Philips Oral Healthcare. She also worked for World Education, Inc., a nonprofit organization that delivers educational development and training services worldwide. Jessica graduated magna cum laude from Whitman College in Walla Walla.

Study club organizes

The Pediatric Oral Health Study Club organized this year at the University of Washington under the direction of Dr. Joel Berg. With more than 40 student members, the club was developed to help students explore their interests in Pediatric Dentistry.

Dr. Steve Smutka shared his experiences with club members when they visited his practice. In addition, residents in the UW pediatric dentistry program shared their insights and described their research. The study club is intended to help students interested in specializing in pediatric dentistry gain valuable experiences early in their dental education.

UW Dentistry participated in the February American Dental Association’s Give Kids a Smile Day when 75 middle and high school students were fitted for free mouthguards as part of the “Mouthguard Clinic.” Dr. Joel Berg (right) showed dental students the proper method to make a mouth impression. Above, a dental student shows a young participant how to “open wide.” (UW Health Sciences Photography photos)
Research in Pediatric Dentistry

DIFOTI versus Radiographic Bitewings

by Dr. Sue Coldwell

This is the first in a series of articles highlighting the research activities of our faculty, residents, and students in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. Research interests in the Department range in methodology from basic research on the genetics of caries susceptibility to clinical trials aimed at preventing early childhood caries.

We are fortunate to have faculty with primary appointments at Children’s Regional Hospital and Medical Center as well as the Department of Dental Public Health Sciences. These affiliate faculty contribute to the breadth, depth, and quality of our research program. Research topics of interest to the Department include caries diagnosis, understanding emergency dental visits, program evaluation, behavior management, public health, pulp therapy, and much more.

In this and in each of the upcoming newsletters we will highlight one research activity in the Department.

Dr. Johannsen awarded research fellowship

We are pleased to begin this series with the announcement that one of our residents has been awarded an OMNII Postdoctoral Research Fellowship by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry.

Winners of the 2004-2005 OMNII Postdoctoral Research Fellowship were announced in May at the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Annual Session in San Francisco. Dr. Johannsen, rising second-year resident, is one of three recipients of the $7,500 fellowship.

Dr. Johannsen’s research topic is entitled “The Accuracy of DIFOTI versus Radiographic Bitewings in Diagnosing Interproximal Caries in Primary Posterior Teeth.” Her principal advisor is Dr. Joel Berg with Dr. Lars Hollender, Dr. Douglas Ramsay, and Dr. Lloyd Mancl making up the remainder of her masters thesis committee. Over the next year, Dr. Johannsen intends to image eight interproximal areas in each of 100 patients. The study will focus on the space between the first and second primary molars.

Dr. Johannsen will capture the images with bitewing radiographs and DIFOTI (Digital Imaging Fiber Optic Transillumination). Experienced observers will evaluate the images for evidence of caries. Dr. Johannsen will determine whether DIFOTI is at least as sensitive as the “gold-standard” bitewings at detecting interproximal caries. Should adequate sensitivity be observed in this study, future studies would examine specificity of DIFOTI. Potential advantages to the use of DIFOTI over bitewings are less radiation exposure and fewer behavior management issues.
No pulp(otomy) fiction—
We’re offering more opportunities to learn

It’s difficult to describe the many changes in your Department of Pediatric Dentistry, so I’ll start by listing some major developments.

- **Current Concepts in Pediatric Dentistry for University of Washington Faculty**
  
  Many of you attended the first annual *Current Concepts in Pediatric Dentistry* course in July. We hope you found this way of sharing our “uniformity of teaching content” useful when interacting with students here at UW and in our external partner clinics.

- **ECOH**
  
  We have added several more hours to our pre-doctoral curriculum primarily to allow the addition of a more comprehensive Early Childhood Oral Health (ECOH) program. In a subsequent issue of this newsletter, look for a detailed description of what we believe will become a “Center of Excellence” in this arena. We aim to teach UW graduates how to excel in managing children of all ages. Our grads will be able to educate families with infants and toddlers in maintaining oral health and its importance in preventing disease. With so many experts in the UW environment, I am certain that a blending of our strengths and efforts in ECOH will build our international reputation. Stay tuned for more exciting news on this topic.

- **Pediatric Dentistry Update (1st Annual)**
  
  Speaking of CE, I also hope you will join us for the first annual “Pediatric Dentistry Update in the Washington Wine Country.” With so much to offer in CDE from our faculty, and with so much culture and fun in our great state, we want to combine these into a well-known annual event. Look for details in this newsletter and in the UW CDE brochure you’ll receive soon. Plan to join us in Walla Walla for good learning and good fun October 28-30.

- **Law-Lewis Lecture**
  
  The Law-Lewis lectureship this year will be September 10. Our presenter, Dr. Marvin Berman, is an acclaimed and exciting speaker on behavior management. I hope you will plan to attend.

  There is so much more happening. I will reiterate my invitation to visit us so that I can tell you in person about the wonderful events in your department.

  And we’re extremely pleased to welcome Dr. Rebecca Slayton to our faculty. Please read her profile on page 2. And be sure to read future issues of the *Journal of Dentistry for Children*—which just named her editor!