

ALUMNI NEWS

pediatric dentistry

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\$5 million gift gives ECOH a dental home

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

(UW) School of Dentistry and Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center (CHRM) today announced they are joining forces to combat the growing crisis of childhood dental disease with the development of a new pediatric dental facility.

The new facility, located in Magnuson Park, will double the capacity of the dental programs at both institutions, expanding access to 30,000 pediatric dental visits per year for healthy children and those with urgent or special needs.

Washington Dental Service and the Washington Dental Service Foundation have provided a lead gift of \$5 million to build the facility which will house an innovative clinical, research and training program, the Early Childhood Oral Health (ECOH) program.

"There is no disease as widespread as childhood cavities, and the shame is, it is nearly always preventable with regular dental care," said Washington Dental Service CEO Jim Dwyer. "Washington Dental Service is committed to being part of the solution. We believe every child should have a chance to learn, play and grow up in good health. We are excited about the potential for the ECOH-WDS partnership."

Washington Dental Service Building for Early Childhood Oral Health at Magnuson Park



The old naval air station traffic control tower is the new home of ECOH. (Sara Paul photo)

Washington Dental Service's gift is the largest received by Children's for support of dental services. CHRM, Washington Dental Service and the UW School of Dentistry have a long history of collaboration, developing new models for pediatric dental care and advocating for improved access to that care.

Dr. Sanford Melzer, MD, Children's senior vice president for strategic planning, notes that "this generous gift from Washington Dental Service provides the basis for an important joint effort between CHRM and the UW School of Dentistry that will dramatically improve the dental care of children in our region."

In Washington, nearly 60 percent of elementary children suffer from preventable dental decay and more than one in five suffer from rampant decay—cavities in seven or more teeth.

'Children are not healthy if their mouths aren't healthy.'

— Dr. Joel Berg

"Children are not healthy if their mouths aren't healthy," said Dr. Joel Berg, director of the ECOH program and chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at the UW School of Dentistry. "Left untreated, dental disease can be

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GHCF funds pilot project

The pediatric dentist in the photos is Dr. Kimiko Kika doing a "knee-to-knee" exam: the dentist and caretaker sit facing each other while the child sits on the lap of the caretaker and leans back so the dentist can examine his or her teeth. Dr. Kika completed her pediatric dentistry fellowship with the University of Washington in 2007 and is currently acting assistant professor in pediatric dentistry.

Overcoming barriers to care: social worker joins the dental team

The Department of Pediatric Dentistry was awarded a Group Health Cooperative Foundation grant to identify barriers to oral health for children at Childhaven, a therapeutic child care agency.

The project adds a social worker, Heather Marks, to an interdisciplinary team to address barriers to care. Called "Oral Health for Vulnerable Children: An Integrated Approach," the six-month pilot project builds upon the innovative preventive pediatric dentistry approaches at the UW (such as ABCD and ECOH).

The project grew from Marks' experience working at UW pediatric dentistry while earning her Master's in Social Work degree and completing her advanced practicum at Childhaven, the Seattle-based non-profit agency providing therapeutic child care to abused or neglected children one month through five years of age.

The social work case management approach has been used successfully in many chronic disease medical model settings but not often in dental settings. It is consistent with the Surgeon General's emphasis on oral health as a part of overall health and the recommendation of better integration of all general health services. "We are very pleased the Group Health Foundation made this project possible," said Dr. Penny Leggott (PI)

Children at Childhaven's Broadway site receive dental examinations and fluoride applications from members of the University of Washington Department of pediatric dentistry faculty. In addition, Pediatric Dentistry faculty provide parent/caregiver education and oral health training for staff.

"Our families have so many stressors," said Vicki Nino Osby, MSW, Childhaven associate director, "the idea of getting to a phone, making a doctor's appointment and getting there can be like climbing a mountain."

The social worker will follow up to help families identify and overcome individual barriers to care, match the child to a dental provider, facilitate the first appointment, ensure follow-up, and troubleshoot other obstacles to care.

"This program — with its screenings and a first visit with a dentist in a familiar environment — will be a good experience for our children, and that's worth a lot," explained Osby. "Then, the social worker will help find a regular dentist for these youngsters and their parents. It's so great to know we have a partner in the pediatric dentistry world now!"

Other members of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry working on the project include Dr. Kimiko Kika and Dr. Amy Luedemann.

DOMOTO

Now is the time for all good dentists... **Your donations help underserved children**

IMAGINE you're the parent of an 11-year-old child, a child whose teeth are deteriorating badly. Your child has brushed her teeth, but the family dentist said it is serious—a genetic disorder, amelogenesis imperfecta. Extensive dental work is required. That work will cost thousands of dollars—but your health insurance doesn't include dental coverage. And your family income is just above the level to qualify the child for state insurance.

How do you help this child?

Donate to the Peter K. Domoto Fund for Children. 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.

The Domoto Fund mission is two-fold: to provide care for qualifying uninsured children and to provide an educational experience for students in the department.

Children must have substantial dental problems such as the genetic disorder amelogenesis imperfecta, requiring extensive dental work, or rampant caries needing extensive restoration.

Referred from a variety of sources, children qualify financially if they are ineligible for Medicaid or the Children's Health

Insurance Program (CHIP), if the family's income is not more than 300 percent above the poverty level (\$18,400), and any health insurance does not include dental benefits. UW Department of Pediatric Dentistry faculty will determine if the child's specific care needs fit within the range of services defined by the educational mission of the Department and the training needs of current students, residents and fellows in pediatric dentistry.

Cuts in Medicaid caused some 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.

Your donation can make a difference. You can donate online at <https://supportuw.washington.edu>. Questions can be answered by calling 206-685-9350.



Dr. Domoto oversees a knee-to-knee exam.

Students earn top honors in preclinical course

The top scholars in predoctoral pediatric dentistry were honored fall quarter by the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. The second annual awards ceremony acknowledged the academic excellence of predoctoral students after completing their preclinical coursework. The awards are granted to students with the highest academic achievement during their preclinical courses in pediatric dentistry.

Timothy Richardson received the 2007 *Most Distinguished Scholar Award*, designated for the student doctor with the highest academic achievement in preclinical pediatric training.

Another six classmates earned the 2007 *Outstanding Student Award* based upon their scholarship in preclinical pediatric dentistry. They are **Phong Dang, Rebecca Piha, Briel Loiseau, Braden Miller, Meghan Crawford, and Colby Eckland.**

This course is intended to prepare the student with an understanding of the basic concepts necessary for the successful diagnosis and treatment of the child in the primary, mixed, and early permanent dentitions. Lecture, laboratory, and seminar experiences are combined to provide the needed preparation for care of the pediatric dental patient. Dr. Peterson and Dr. Lin conferred the awards at a ceremony during fall quarter.



Timothy Richardson was awarded the *Most Distinguished Scholar Award* in the PEDO 520/525 course by Dr. Devereaux Peterson, course director.

Graduates this year are (front row left to right) Dr. Amy Luedemann, Dr. Geoff Ping, Dr. Leena Bitar King, (second row) Dr. Kimiko Kika, Dr. Kristi Linsenmayer and (top) Dr. Mai Le.



Class of 2007

First residents graduate from 2-year Yakima program

In June the UW added six graduates to the world of practicing pediatric dentists. This includes the first two from the two-year training program based at the Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic (YVFWC). Congratulations to the Class of 2007!

Two-year Certificate – Yakima

Dr. Geoff Ping, a University of Washington (UW) Dental School graduate, finished his two-year training program in June. He elected to practice at YVFWC and to join Drs. Dorantes and Rodriguez in supervising the current pediatric dentistry trainees. Dr. Ping and his wife, Dr. Asia Dela Cruz, a first-year pediatric dentistry trainee, live in Yakima. Their first child, a girl, was born in early November.

Dr. Kimiko Kika currently serves as full-time acting assistant professor in the department. She teaches residents and dental students in the pediatric dentistry clinic, at Children's Hospital and Medical Center and participates in didactic teaching. In December, her husband, Lucien Bellamy, will finish his residency training at the UW in Orthodontics and they will finalize their practice plans.

Two-year MSD - Seattle

Dr. Mai Le, a UW dental school graduate, works part-time in Dr. Christine Tweedy's practice in West Seattle. (Dr. Tweedy graduated from the UW Pediatric Dentistry residency program in 1999.)

After **Dr. Amy Luedemann** returned to Seattle from her four-month dental mission stay in sub-Saharan Africa, she joined the pediatric dentistry faculty as an acting assistant professor working with residents and dental students at the UW and at Children's Hospital and Medical Center.

3-year MSD/MPH - Seattle

Dr. Kristi Linsenmayer just returned from a trip to Turkey and divides her time between practicing at the Seattle Indian Health Board, the 45th Street Community Clinic, a private practice and providing care in an Alaskan Native/Inuit community in northern Alaska. She plans to continue to serve the urban Indian population in Seattle.

Dr. Leena Bitar King spent four months traveling through Europe with her husband. She now practices part-time with Dr. Rama Oskouian in Woodinville and may teach in the UW pediatric dentistry clinic.

Residency program grows: Seven join our resident ranks

Selected from more than 200 applicants, the seven new residents entered the pediatric dental residency program in one of three tracks in June.

Two-year Certificate program

Dr. Asia Dela Cruz graduated from the SOD in 2006 and completed a one-year general dentistry residency at the Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic where she developed an interest in treating children. As a dental student, she received the Leadership Award from the International College of Dentists, and a Student Recognition Award for Leadership given by the UW Student Council.

Dr. Lesley Moore graduated from the Oregon Health and Science University's School of Dentistry in 1999 where she earned the school's Dental Public Health Award. Since graduation, she has practiced at community health centers in rural Washington State (Kennewick and Okanogan) treating adults and children with a wide range of needs. Prior to dental school her oral health background includes making dentures in a dental lab.

Dr. Joseph Wilson is a Yakima native who worked the fields as a child, picking cherries and hops. In high school he grew interested in health care, volunteering in the Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinics and assisting local dentists as they performed restorative dentistry on children with special needs. He attended the Arizona School of Dentistry whose mission is the education of dentists with a focus on treating underserved populations. After completing this program, Dr. Wilson plans to provide care to the children and families of Yakima.

Two-year MSD – Seattle

Dr. Sultana (Suzy) Chatzopoulos graduated from Columbia University dental school in New York. In sixth grade, when she was asked to dress up as what she wanted to be in 2010, she was wearing a mask and holding a toothbrush and toothpaste and ready to treat the other kids. While in dental school, she founded the school's student (AAPD) chapter, held multiple leadership positions, organized volunteer children's projects, and edited the school's (ASDA) newsletter.



New residents are (left to right) Dr. Asia Dela Cruz, Dr. Joseph Wilson, Dr. Shukan Kanuga, Dr. Jessica De Bord, Dr. Suzy Chatzopoulos, Dr. Travis Nelson, and Dr. Lesley Moore.

Dr. Shukan Kanuga attended two dental schools and two residency programs – a testament to her aspiration to become a pediatric dentist. At her first dental school, Gujarat University in her native India, she earned multiple academic honors. At UCLA, her second dental school, she received Exceptional Performance Reports in 10 areas in the university's program for international dentists. After graduation from UCLA, she completed a year of GPR training at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center and provided care for developmentally disabled children and adults. She hopes to be an active member of an academic department and a leader in pediatric oral health care delivery.

Three-year MSD/MPH

Dr. Jessica De Bord grew up with two sisters – one biological and one adopted – who have Down Syndrome, and her experiences with them have influenced her interest in dentistry and her desire to serve children with disabilities. From an early age, she volunteered with adults and kids with disabilities in a variety of settings – classroom, recreational, rehab and health care. During dental school at UCLA, Jessica continued her community service and held several school leadership positions – including being a student representative on the Admissions Committee. After graduation, she plans to care for children with special health care needs.

Dr. Travis Nelson is committed to providing dental care to underserved children. He was influenced by his father's pediatric dental practice in California which covers Medicaid-insured children, many Spanish-speaking. Before starting dental school at Loma Linda, Dr. Nelson enrolled in a total immersion Spanish program because it would be beneficial to the population he intends to treat. While in dental school, he received academic and research awards, including second place in the California Dental Association's Student Research Competition. He plans to use his public health training to effect changes in access to dental care for poor children and families.

Faculty and staff update

Elizabeth Gaytán

In August Elizabeth Gaytán joined the department as ECOH Sr. Administrative Assistant. She also provides ongoing coordination for the ABCD provider training program.

Ms. Gaytán came to Pediatric Dentistry from the School of Dentistry administration where she was Coordinator for the Pipeline, Profession & Practice: Community Based Dental Education program, a collaborative effort among 15 U.S. Dental Schools working to reduce oral health disparities. Before that she was a program coordinator for the Office of Diversity and Retention at South Seattle Community College.

Carol Harvey

Carol Harvey started in September as the new manager for the pediatric dentistry clinic. Previously she was a supervisor in patient services. Ms. Harvey brings her extensive experience to the department, having worked for the School of Dentistry since 1989.

Dr. Kimiko Kika

Dr. Kimiko Kika, Acting Assistant Professor in the department of Pediatric Dentistry summer and fall quarters, was named a Richard C. Pugh Achievement Award Winner for 2006-2007. This distinction is given to the top three percent of residents and professionals from the United States and around the world who take their American Board of Pediatric Dentistry Qualifying Examination.

Dr. Simon Lin

Dr. Simon Lin has been promoted from Acting Assistant Professor to Assistant Professor effective October of this year. Dr. Lin has taken the Predoctoral Program Director reins from Dr. Dev Peterson's capable hands and is already a favorite with the students. Dr. Lin is well-known for his expertise in technology and has helped modernize the tools used in PEDO 520/525.

Dr. Amy Luedemann

Dr. Amy Luedemann, a 2007 graduate of our MSD/MPH program returned to the fold as Acting Assistant Professor. Dr. Luedemann spent this summer providing dental care in Africa. She will be working fulltime, dividing her time between our students and residents here and at Children's.

Heather Marks

Heather Marks, MSW, was appointed Social Worker in Pediatric Dentistry after graduating from the UW School of Social Work in June. Ms Marks is working on the GHC Foundation grant, identifying barriers to oral health for the population at Childhaven and helping find dental homes. Childhaven is a Seattle-based non-profit organization that provides daily therapeutic child care to abused, neglected and drug and alcohol impacted children from one month through five years of age.

Dr. Ana Lucia Seminario

Another addition to the faculty is Dr. Ana Lucia Seminario, a pediatric dentist, joining us as an affiliate faculty member. She will assume the title of Acting Assistant Professor early next year. Dr. Seminario moved here from Peru. She has her doctorate in epidemiology and will work in the department while pursuing her MPH at the UW.

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Elizabeth Gaytán



Dr. Amy Luedemann



Heather Marks

Dr. Peterson recognized for service to dental education

Dr. Devereaux Peterson, DMD, MSD, PhD, was acknowledged by the department academic staff, clinic staff and 2009 dental students, on June 20th, 2007. He was given a plaque in appreciation of his dedication to the Department of Pediatric Dentistry and his commitment to teaching and mentoring dental students and residents.

"We value your enthusiasm and your ability to engage students in the classroom and we are grateful for your contributions to our department."

Dr. Peterson has been with the School of Dentistry and Department of Pediatric Dentistry since 1982.



Dr. Joel Berg makes the presentation to Dr. Dev Peterson during a PEDO 520/525 class.

Faculty and staff update

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Kevin Psoter

Kevin Psoter, PhD candidate in epidemiology, will have a 50 percent research assistantship in Pediatric Dentistry. He will create a database that will list the past, present and planned research activities related to the Early Childhood Oral Health (ECOH) program for related research being done at the University of Washington and Children's Regional Medical Center. His work experience includes a variety of international and scientific research.

WDS gift builds ECOH clinic

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intensely painful, costly and lead to other serious lifelong health complications. The problem is even worse for the children living in low-income households and for those with special needs."

Added Berg, "This new venture will ensure our region's children receive the highest quality oral health care at an early age when disease can be prevented. The Washington Dental Service Building for Early Childhood Oral Health will bring nationally-recognized oral health care and medical professionals together under one roof to directly impact healthcare delivery models, research and education."

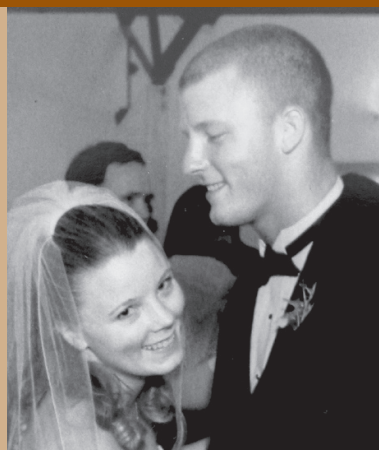
Then...

A mother says 'Thank you, Dr. Domoto'

In 1983, Clare VanAmerongen, Vashon, WA, heard on the radio that the UW Department of Dentistry was looking for volunteers for a new experimental preventive dentistry program. "I thought how wonderful to have children without cavities!" She registered her toddlers—son Hans and daughter Kate—in the program. "Thanks to Dr. Pete Domoto and his dedicated students, our kids still have good dental habits and great teeth, and that's a real blessing."



...and Now



Hans and sister Kate about 1983 (left photo) and at Kate's wedding several years ago.



Dr. Joel Berg
Professor,
Lloyd and Kay Chapman
Chair for Oral Health

‘Leadership’ defined by WDS & WDSF extraordinary gift to ECOH program

WHEN I WAS THINKING about writing this piece, Heather, who is responsible for the creation of this newsletter, told me that I could just state one word in my column in a 300-point font—and that word would be “Hooray!” I seriously thought about leaving it at that because it would depict our level of excitement and enthusiasm about the recent announcement of the major gift from the Washington Dental Service and Washington Dental Service Foundation of \$5 million to initiate the project of creating the Washington Dental Service Building for Early Childhood Oral Health.

Over the last couple of years I’ve explained our commitment to create a new program, Early Childhood Oral Health, or ECOH. This oral health program concept uses experts at the UW and Children’s Hospital, allowing us to serve more needy children. At the same time we can fulfill our core mission—educating dental students and residents in pediatric dentistry using the most effective and state-of-the-art techniques. This new clinic will also provide an opportunity for our faculty to engage in private practice, something important for recruitment and retention of faculty in these most competitive times.

We are thrilled to create a facility that will house all pediatric dental operations currently housed at both Children’s Hospital and the UW, including predoctoral, residency and faculty practice activities. This extensive program will include the latest technology and will be housed at Magnuson Park, in the old naval air station traffic control tower of the 1930’s, 40’s, and 50’s and beyond.

We are most excited about making a difference in the community, providing important access to care for the neediest children, those with special needs and who often require extensive dental services. Likewise, we are extremely excited about the research we are going to be able to do, combining the expertise of faculty and staff from the UW and Children’s.

You will hear more about the ECOH program and the new Washington Dental Service Building for Early Childhood Oral Health. We are very grateful for the generosity and leadership of Washington Dental Service in stepping forward, allowing the dreams of our local community to come true, putting the UW on the map where the most significant research and clinical care delivery in early child oral health happens. I look forward to discussing this with you in greater detail, and you will certainly hear lots more about the various events that will happen in the planning phases as we move into this beautiful new facility in the next few years.

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