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**PACIFIC**  
Arthur A. Dugoni  
School of Dentistry

contactpoint

San Francisco CA  
Summer 2008

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# Summer2008

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### Pacific Dental Education Foundation (PDEF)

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### PUTTING THE GIFTS TO GOOD USE

Continued support from alumni, faculty, staff, students, foundations and friends helps set the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry apart from other dental schools. Dr. Eric Curtis '85 explores philanthropy, and specifically the impact endowments from the school's capital campaign have had on the lives of many individuals.

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### A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR PACIFIC

The University is soaring to even greater heights thanks to its successful \$330 million fundraising campaign. Take a look at the changes taking place on the Stockton campus and discover how the institution has used the funds to "Invest in Excellence."

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### PASSION FOR PEOPLE

Dental school faculty and staff are dedicated to providing special needs patients with access to oral health care. Learn how their investment of talent and time is helping this underserved patient population throughout California and around the globe.



DEAN'S MESSAGE | **PATRICK J. FERRILLO, JR.**

My first two years as dean have been filled with pride, encouragement, accomplishment and awe. Our successful accreditation site visit, festive ADA Italian Night, inspiring Excellence Day, nationally recognized student leadership and community outreach projects are just a few of the highlights I have experienced.

Our strategic plan, Advancing Greatness, has been completed along with our implementation plan featuring six strategic directions:

- Lead educational innovation
- Develop professionals committed to improving the health of all people
- Build focused and valued research initiatives
- Build upon the Dugoni School's unique strengths to create and enhance revenue streams
- Create a resource rich, supportive and diverse culture to develop, retain and recruit outstanding individuals
- Optimize our facility assets and technology investments

We have identified and prioritized 109 action steps to help us implement these strategic directions. We will be able to take some steps immediately, some will occur over the next five years and some we may not be able to undertake. We have made tough decisions as we determined what we can get done in the next five to seven years considering the limits of both human and financial resources.

Strategic planning is by design an expansive process. Our strategic plan is aspirational, visionary and teeming with big ideas. Our purpose has been to think globally and long term—five to seven years. On the other hand, implementation planning is a reductive process. Our implementation plan includes action steps to address what we must do to carry out our strategic plan and what we must do over the next five to seven years in pursuit of the school's goals, mission and vision. It will be an arduous process, but I am confident that we will succeed and make the school even stronger than it is today. Please follow our progress by visiting the strategic planning Web page at [www.dental.pacific.edu/Strategic\\_Plan](http://www.dental.pacific.edu/Strategic_Plan).

The level of achievement, leadership, participation, generosity and dedication of our students, faculty, staff, PDEF board and Alumni Association are second to none. Thanks to all of you who make our school great and for your passion to make us even stronger.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your dean. It is an honor and privilege.

Patrick J. Ferrillo, Jr.

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### Students Shine During Excellence Day

Students showcased their clinical and research skills during the school's annual Excellence Day on May 21. Omicron Kappa Upsilon honor society's Delta Delta Chapter, Procter & Gamble and Western Dental Services, Inc. sponsored the event.



#### THE WINNERS FOR CLINICAL CATEGORIES WERE:

*Aesthetic Dentistry:* First Place, Saam Zarrabi; Second Place, Nate Porter; Third Place, Dan Haws  
*Implant Dentistry:* First Place, Kelly Heetland; Second Place, Diana Belli  
*Complex Restorative Dentistry:* First Place, Jason Matsushino; Second Place, Nick Morton; Third Place, Russ Homer  
*Removable Prosthodontics:* First Place, Christine Phan; Second Place, Rob DiVito; Third Place, Cynthia Wong  
*Supportive Therapies:* Beatriz Parra

#### RESEARCH CATEGORY WINNERS WERE:

*ADA/Dentsply Research Competition:* Cassidy Lavorini-Doyle, Class of 2009  
*CDA Scientific Session Awards:* George Kohout, Class of 2009; Robert Passamano, Class of 2009  
*Hinman Symposium Awards:* Jason Ouellette, Class of 2009; Beau Ulrich, Class of 2009  
*Senior Research Competition:* First Place, Andrew Michael; Second Place, Blake Kitamura; Third Place, Nicole Sakai

All winners are from the Class of 2008 unless otherwise noted.

*Left: Daniel Noll, sales representative for Dentsply Professional Division, ADA/Dentsply Research Competition Winner Cassidy Lavorini-Doyle, Class of 2009, Mark Pimentel, regional sales manager for Dentsply, and Dr. Nejat Duzgunes, student research coordinator and chair of the Department of Microbiology.*

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## California Assemblywoman Hayashi Visits the Dental School

California State Assemblywoman Mary Hayashi (D-Hayward) visited the dental school on January 11 to talk with students and faculty about children's oral health care legislation. Hayashi, with the support of the CDA, authored a bill during the 2007 legislative session to increase the reimbursement rates for low-income children under the Children's Dental Disease and Prevention Program. Gov. Schwarzenegger vetoed the bill in October, citing budget shortfalls.

Hayashi also spoke to students and faculty about the importance of becoming involved in the legislative

process, because state lawmakers regulate dental licensing and other issues that affect dentistry.

"Having a state lawmaker urge us as dental students to participate in the legislative process is encouraging," said Rob Passamano, Class of 2009 CDA representative. "By continuing Pacific's legacy of involvement in organized dentistry, we can be effective advocates for change."



*Rob Passamano, Class of 2009, Dean Patrick J. Ferrillo, Jr., Assemblywoman Mary Hayashi and Paul Rogers, Class of 2009, meet at the dental school to discuss children's oral health care legislation.*

## Dr. Wood Named President of Pediatric Dentistry Organization

The California Society of Pediatric Dentistry named Dr. A. Jeffrey Wood, professor and chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, as its 2008-2009 president. Wood will serve a one-year term and will help the organization in its mission to improve access to oral health care for children throughout California.

Wood is a distinguished educator in the field of pediatric dentistry and has been honored with the Golden Apple Award from the American Dental Association for outstanding mentoring of predoctoral dental students interested in academic careers.



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## Bay Area Seniors Smiling Brighter Thanks to SCOPE

More than 65 Bay Area seniors are on their way to better overall health, thanks to volunteers from the dental school. In celebration of Older Americans Month, the Student Community Outreach for Public Education (SCOPE) organization hosted its 14th annual Senior Smiles Health Fair on May 3.

Student and faculty volunteers teamed up with the Community Health Resource Center, an affiliate of California Pacific Medical Center, to provide complimentary oral health and vision screenings, nutrition counseling, and blood pressure, bone density, glu-

cose, hearing and cholesterol testing. In addition to free health screenings, the event offered an opportunity for Bay Area seniors to learn ways to enhance their oral health, such as dental implants and improved oral hygiene techniques.

Several neighborhood merchants donated to the outreach effort by supplying complimentary refreshments for fair participants. Event contributors included: The Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf, Costco Wholesale, La Boulange Café and Bakery, La Méditerranée, La Salsa Fresh Mexican Grill and Noah's Bagels.



Tim Cross, Class of 2010, takes a blood pressure reading for a Bay Area senior during the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Senior Smiles Health Fair at the dental school.



Stephanie Moniz, Class of 2009, Kseniya Gershberg, volunteer, and Magnus Yang, Class of 2009, pose with attendees at the Senior Smiles Health Fair.

## ADEA Recognizes Faculty and Students During Annual Session

Several students and faculty members were elected to leadership positions during the American Dental Education Association's annual session in Dallas in March: Dr. Douglas Young, associate professor, was elected chair of ADEA's Cariology Special Interest Group; Zachary Carnow, Class of 2009, was elected regional representative for the Pacific Division; and Eric Unger, Class of 2008, was elected representative at large.

ADEA also honored the student newsletter, *The Articulating Paper*, with the Outstanding Newsletter Award and Dr. James Milani, assistant professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry, earned one of the Outstanding Manuscript Awards for his article "Comments as Part of a Clinical Competency Rating System," featured in the *Journal of Dental Education*.



### Faculty Abroad

Dr. Lisa Harpenau, associate professor, visits with students in the oral surgery clinic at Mahidol University Faculty of Dentistry in Bangkok, Thailand, during a visit to the school in December 2007.

## Oral Surgery Grant

Dr. Ned Nix '95, president-elect of the California Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Foundation, presents Dean Patrick J. Ferrillo, Jr. and Dr. Thomas Indresano, chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, with a \$42,403 grant. The grant will support the school's Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Residency program and will help purchase educational materials and cover travel and training for oral surgery residents.





# Dr. John Joseph Tocchini

## 1912-2008

By Arthur A. Dugoni, DDS, MSD

Dean Emeritus John Tocchini was a 1937 graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons. A native of the San Francisco Bay Area, Dr. Tocchini grew up in the South Bay, and continued his quest for education by becoming a diplomate of the American Board of Pedodontics in 1951. He was deeply involved in education, first as a clinical instructor in operative dentistry, later as a professor of operative and pediatric dentistry and finally as dean of the dental school from 1953 to 1968.

Tocchini was responsible for moving the dental school from 344-14th Street in San Francisco to the new facilities on Webster and Sacramento Streets. It was through his perseverance, dedication and determination that federal grants were received, alumni support was generated and the dream of a new dental school became a reality. In addition, Dr. Tocchini formalized the merger of the College of Physicians and Surgeons with the University of the Pacific. He was also noted for his excellence in restorative and pediatric dentistry, and developed a restorative delivery system that eliminated the old standing dental units. It was a mobile system, one of the first of its kind.

Over a period of 45 academic years, Tocchini made a full circle from the private practice of dentistry, to teaching, to administration of a dental school and back again to private practice. During this time, he became a fellow of the American and International Colleges of Dentists, a member of Omicron Kappa Upsilon and Tau Kappa Omega honor societies, president of the American Society of Dentistry for Children, a deputy regent of the International College of Dentists, president of the Western Conference of Dental Examiners and Dental Deans and president of the Academy of General Dentistry, to name a few. He was listed in *Who's Who in*



PHOTO: ARNOLD EILERS

*America, Who's Who in the West, American Men of Science and Who's Who in American Education.*

Tocchini also served his community as chair of the Cerebral Palsy Committee of the San Mateo and San Francisco Counties and was appointed to the Crippled Children's Service Advisory Committee of the California State Board of Public Health.

A list of articles authored by Tocchini and involvement in various research projects covers more than 25 pages. His many honors and awards are a tribute to his skill and service to the profession. In 1982, the California Dental Association dedicated its Spring Scientific Session to Tocchini, "a man of action, dedication and accomplishment. He is one of the true leaders of our profession."

Tocchini was the author of three books on restorative dentistry and edited 24 publications. His list of presentations numbered in the hundreds. During his time as a faculty member, he developed the individual matrix band system for amalgam restora-

tions in 1949 and the mobile unit called Unit Cab, manufactured by SS White Company, which was used in the dental school clinics in 1962. He developed the automatic flushing and retractable cuspidor and a dental chair toe board for mounted tracking operating lights, both in 1962.

Tocchini was also a pioneer in bringing into dental education modern technologies such as overhead projectors and television-enhanced educational programs to name a few. He laid the foundation for what is today one of the premier dental schools in the world.

Indeed, John Tocchini continued to improve and change throughout his entire career. His legacy lives on within the walls of one of the world's great dental schools that he helped create.

Tocchini wrote in the *Southern Alameda County Explorer* in 1974:

"I find dentistry challenging, interesting, stimulating and frustrating. There is nothing that I would rather do than dentistry; whether it is a teaching or clinical practice. There are times, though infrequent, that it seems like a one-sided love affair. During my tenure as teacher and administrator, an active interest was maintained in clinical practice. My feeling was and still is that if a close kinship is maintained with the day-in, day-out programs of the 'wet fingered dentist,' dental education would remain viable and not abeyant. What words of wisdom could I offer to the profession four years after completion of the full circle?"

Dental schools should continue to be leaders in dental education, dental research (providing adequate funds are available), and in continuing education.

We are in a rapidly changing world. Sometimes it becomes frightening. As much as we would like it, the profession cannot sit still. It must move with the challenging times. We must lead the way. The private practitioner has a great deal more to offer than he realizes. He must use his potential to help and direct the way to practice to further benefit his patients.

You leave dental school on commencement day and this, in reality, is the beginning, and one must continue to improve and change with the times."