



MARQUETTE
Impressions

SUMMER 2016 ASDA NEWSLETTER



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Real world advice... real world wisdom

For 22 years, the Wisconsin Dental Association, Marquette University School of Dentistry and the Pierre Fauchard Academy, have helped guide students along their journey in dentistry.

The program builds lasting relationships among future colleagues, as well as allows students and practicing dentists to learn about obstacles facing the profession and how to accomplish dental goals.

Benefits of being a protégé



- Develop a mentoring relationship with a practicing dentist
- Build a professional network
- Build life-long relationships with mentors and other students involved in the program
- Learn more about the dental profession and how to run a successful practice
- Identify business associateships, partnerships and many other dental opportunities
- Socialize with practicing dentists
- Learn more about organized dentistry



Join us

Mark your calendar for this year's Mentor Program kick-off dinner:

- Sept. 26, 2016

MENTOR PROGRAM



Mentoring is for you!

"It's awesome to have a dentist in the area that you can reach out to for support, questions, or just reassurance that you can get through dental school!"

- Kaitlin, Class of 2017

"As one of the three other protégé dental students a part of Dr. Hebl's group, I feel like I have a little dental family. Dr. Hebl has not only advised me through my stresses in dental school, but has been a role model for me."

- Sally, Class of 2016

"The mentor program has given me the opportunity to learn about dentistry, business and relationships. A relationship we still maintain, and has been so valuable, I'm very fortunate to have had this experience."

- Tarah, Class of 2013

To become a part of this award-winning program contact MUSOD Department of Student Services:

- Ms. Linda Gleason, Director | 414-288-5408 | linda.gleason@marquette.edu
- Ms. Elizabeth Young, Office Associate | 414-288-6577 | elizabeth.young@marquette.edu

Editor's Note

Stephanie Zbin, '19, Content Editor



the future of this chapter. Moving ahead, Marquette ASDA will continue to challenge ourselves to put our best foot forward. We will do so much, so well, and in so many places and even the seemingly impossible will take place because we are working everyday with our biggest asset- **YOU!**

This is *your* chapter, so of course we have a place for *you*. I can say from my own experience that I could never have understood the impact of even the district level without personally attending a meeting; I invite you to at

least apply for everything that peaks your interest. Though I know you are likely using most of your precious spare time and running off to your next big appointment, I'll use this outlet to address the issue of engaging you and making an organization you are already a part of, *personal*.

This organization is exciting and moving in directions in which every member should be proud. However, its the behind the scenes action that makes these amazing events possible. Its also this time that builds true professionals and improves upon the networking skills of the highly active members that are involved at this level. I've given up a few Saturday mornings to meet (at a local, super hip coffee spot) with the other 2 leaders of our newsletter committee. These meetings are fun, but they are also hard work.

Flashy headlines, gleaming smiles, and illustrious claims of the power found within organized dentistry; these are all things you should not be surprised to find within any chapter's ASDA newsletter. I can guarantee you that as you keep reading you will even find those three things within this issue of Marquette's very own *Impressions*. Articles written by our members can both reflect upon their experiences and inspire other members to apply for the next opportunity. **Every accomplishment of the Marquette ASDA chapter is only possible because of its incredible members stepping forward. As we continue to push ourselves, the future continues to look brighter and better. This issue will focus on the future; we hope to bring you the very best articles on everything from the frontiers of technology available in dentistry today to the leaders that will direct**

The frustrations and sacrifices resulted in not only a publication to be proud of, but also 2 unique relationships that I may not have if I had not stepped up to this position.

It's common knowledge that dental students are some of the most accomplished students in the nation, both in terms of extracurriculars and academics. I'd be willing to bet that when applying to dental school you described yourself with words like "driven", "motivated", "confident", and "leader". You are so talented that an admissions committee gave you the chance to prove yourself among a community of extraordinary colleagues. 22,000 of those colleagues are members of ASDA, including every student at Marquette University School of Dentistry. Every single one of these students has an impact on ASDA's goals, plans, and decisions. Your attending an event is what deems it as a success and tells your chapter leaders

in which direction to move. Your unique interests and skills define our chapter. I am so grateful that you are a part of #MarquetteASDA because you are what makes us one of the top chapters in the nation.

If you are wondering what ASDA has to offer, I implore you to ask. Gather your friends and come out to the next ASDA event. If you open one of the many ASDA e-mails and think a trip could be a great opportunity, then the best next step is to send in an application. I'm confident that you are full of many talents (some of which you are yet to find!).

*The very best parts of
ASDA are a direct result of
someone just like you
simply saying yes.*

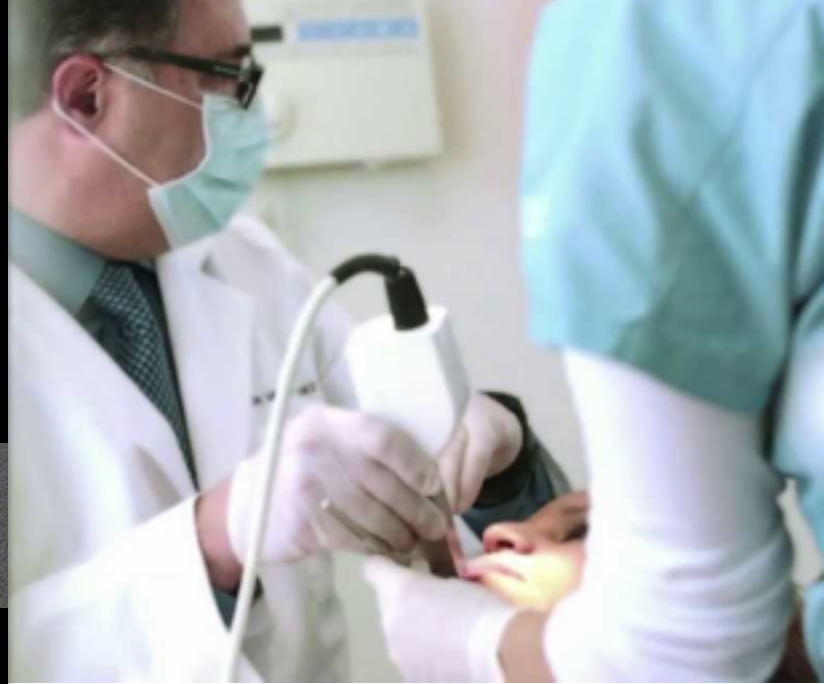


BRINGING *New Technology* TO MUSOD

Dr. Gary L. Stafford, DMD
Associate Professor and Chair
Department of General Dental Sciences
Marquette University School of Dentistry

It has been said that dental education is marked by both change and continuity and as such, maintaining a perfect balance between foundational instruction versus education in more contemporary methods is a near impossible task. As I indicated during the January 2016 Department of General Dental Science's Annual Meeting, my personal view is that our primary purpose is to provide our students with a *contemporary, clinically focused dental education*. While this view does not change the fact that research methodologies, service opportunities, and foundational knowledge are all critically important to your professional growth and development during your matriculation at MUSoD, it is my belief that we are obligated to also expose you to other, more contemporary approaches in the delivery of your dental care than are currently being offered.

The list of initiatives that make up the Strategic Plan to strengthen the curriculum and enhance your dental education is much too extensive for this brief article so I will focus on three major aspects that directly relate to how you deliver dental care for your patients. These three elements are part of a comprehensive digital dentistry/technology plan that was proposed to the Curriculum Committee on behalf of the Department of General Dental Sciences.



DIGITAL IMPRESSIONS

Intra-oral digital impressions are one of the most rapidly changing technologies in dentistry and recent research confirms that marginal accuracy is well within acceptable clinical limits (120 μ m). Regardless of whether we use a physical or digital method in the taking of an impression, they both require the ability to capture an accurate representation or image of what we wish to replicate. Educationally, the goal is to provide our dental students, as beginning users of this technology, with the opportunity to acquire the skills necessary to capture accurate scans as this skill set will translate to virtually any other system. The 3M™ Lava True Definition scanner was selected as MUSoD's clinical scanner of choice due to its portability, cost, and most importantly its open architecture, which saves files in the industry-standard STL format. This format can be used with most computer-aided design (CAD) systems, computer-aided manufacturing (CAM) systems, and 3D printers which in turn offers a great deal of flexibility for the end user. Our 3M™ Lava True Definition scanner was delivered on April 7th, 2016 and should be ready for clinical use by members of the Class of 2017 who have successfully completed their operative/single unit crown departmental patient-based skills examinations as an option when taking a final impression. APEX Dental Laboratory Group was specifically chosen to be our primary dental laboratory based on having the necessary infrastructure to work with the School of Dentistry as we transition towards making digital impressions a standard option for your crown and bridge procedures.



CAD-CAM

CAD-CAM has revolutionized every sector of the marketplace and healthcare is no exception. According to Millennium Research Group (MRG), the global authority on medical technology market intelligence, the global dental CAD/CAM system market will grow to reach a value of more than \$540 million during 2016. It is also predicted that the chair side system segment will see the strongest growth in this expanding market.

It is my belief that exposing our students to computer-aided design principles and chair side manufacturing techniques are a critical component of a contemporary, clinically focused dental education. Pre-clinically, the proposal is to acquire ten Dentsply Sirona CEREC Bluecam® intraoral scanners and ten CEREC MC® milling units. These would be used in conjunction with Sirona's proprietary PrepCheck® software which is a computer-aided training system that is designed to compare a students' scanned preparation against an ideal preparation and provide immediate, objective feedback.

The creation of a six-week technology module within an existing course during the D2 Spring Semester will introduce our students to design, milling, and finishing and polishing of these milled single unit crowns. Clinically, with the aid of a CEREC Omnicam®, we propose to allow students who have successfully completed their operative/single unit crown departmental patient-based skills examinations to have the opportunity to scan, design, and mill a PMMA provisional while electronically sending the scan to the laboratory for the fabrication of the final unit.

3D PRINTING

In the last few years there has been an explosive growth in the use of 3D printing for a variety of applications in the medical and dental fields. Although we are still in the early days of 3D printed medical/dental devices, 3D printers are becoming more commonplace for certain applications related to dentistry; specifically implant surgical guides, bite splints, occlusal guards, and orthodontic aligners.

At this moment in time, finding pre-doctoral opportunities for 3D printing in these clinical situations is both realistic and possible. The combination of our open architecture 3M™ Lava True Definition scanner when used in conjunction with a 3D printer would make this possibility a reality. As this emerging technology continues to evolve, it is my hope that we can be at the forefront in finding other opportunities for a 3D printers clinical use.

The incorporation of more advanced technology in our didactic, pre-clinical, and clinical courses is just one method by which we hope to update the School of Dentistry's curriculum, but is one that I am confident will help position our students for clinical success in the new millennium.



Dream Bigger:
Annual Session
Dallas Tyler Robers, '19

My first experience of dental school was an ASDA event in Louisville a few days before our Marquette School of Dentistry orientation. Ever since then I have caught the ASDA fever and have made it a mission to be "as involved as possible in ASDA."

I recently attended ASDA's 2016 Annual Session in Dallas, Texas and the entire event definitely inspired me to "dream bigger." The motivational speaker talked about being a world citizen, which sometimes requires stepping out of your comfort zone to succeed in your goals.

This event inspired me to plan a new event, a Marquette ASDA leadership conference, and even to run to become our chapter's next president elect. Having no previous delegation experience, and little knowledge on the current issues facing dental students, I was amazed at the efforts of the ASDA delegates in attempts to reform the licensure procedure and

helping students nationwide manage their student debt. The chance to be an alternate delegate and vote in the House of Delegates was a great experience that left me

with the realization that when our organization unites and represents all of the dental students nationwide, we have a lot of power and can affect change. We are definitely "dreaming bigger" and hoping for a brighter future for our profession.

The daily events also included breakout sessions where I learned how to become a clinic rockstar, how to manage student debt better, how to compile a great CV, and learned about my many options after dental school. After the daily meetings, the nightly activities gave me the opportunity to network with other

dental students from around the country. I think the networking events are just as important as the daily meetings, because it allows students to share ideas to make their local chapters stronger and reassures me that many students are facing the same challenges I am in dental school. Networking also allows me to make friends from other dental schools that I



stay in contact with, and it's great seeing familiar faces each time I attend an ASDA event.

I have been blessed to have the opportunity to get so involved with ASDA as a D1, and I know the experiences I've gained through participation in ASDA events have made my time in dental school easier and more enjoyable. Annual Session taught me many things, but the most important was that when dental students nationwide dream bigger together, they can affect great change.

Lasers in the Dental Office?

Dr. Frank Feng, DMD



I have been a practicing dentist for 37 years. In 2000, I started to incorporate laser into my practice. Laser allows me to perform hard and soft tissue procedures quickly and with ease. Laser treatments result in patient receiving less anesthetic injection when the laser is used at low level energy, which creates anesthetic effect. Low level laser therapy provides patient comfort and less complication.

This therapy allows me to provide higher quality of care with less stress and has rekindled my passion for dentistry.

The use of lasers for treatment in dentistry can be referred to by many names, such as PBM (Photo BioModulation), Laser Biostimulation, LLLT (Low Level Laser Therapy), and LILT (Low Intensity Laser Therapy). Using LLLT to treat patients can relieve pain, reduce symptoms, and promote healing.

The Diode laser, heat penetration of 1300 micro millimeter, is intended to provide topical heating for the purpose of elevating tissue

temperature for temporary relief of muscle and joint pain and stiffness, arthritis pain, muscle spasm, the temporary increase in local blood circulation and/or promoting relaxation of muscle.

The potential benefit of LLLT that have been demonstrated in many healthcare fields, that include reduction of inflammation, pain, swelling, symptom, and improve healing. LLLT is reliable, safe and a novel approach to treating a wide range of oral and dental disorders. This new cost effective therapy could elevate patient quality of life while reducing financial strains. I encourage dentists to incorporate lasers into practice and do low level laser therapy which can provide patients with comfort and provide easy and better dental care. LLLT can also provide more dental procedures to be performed in a dentist's own office. LLLT can provide more joy and less stress in a dental practice.

Physiological effect of LLLT include:

- Stimulation of immune response
- Lymphatic drainage is improved
- Histamine response is positively altered
- Increased production of growth hormone
- Body's natural healing processes are enhanced

The applications of LLLT are extensive and include the following, as well as related diseases/symptoms:

- Recurrent Aphthous ulcer
- Herpes Simplex infections
- Oral Lichen Planus
- Xerostomia
- Burning mouth syndrome
- Mucositis associate with cancer treatment or Peri implant disease
- Relieve Paresthesia
- Implant placement, reduce post-op complications
- Treatment of Peri-implantitis
- Periodontitis treatment
- TMD
- Accelerates orthodontic movement, speed up 30%
- Gingival depigmentation (gum bleaching)
- Wound repair
- Promotes healing for SRP and periodontal disease treatment
- Reverse Pulpitis
- Injection site discomfort
- Traumatic ulcer
- Reduce sensitivity
- Reduce post-operative discomfort
- Reduce discomfort of hyper occlusion



Mr. Molar 2016

Wes Chiasson, '18



“As a D1, I had never seen a Mr. Molar show. I had heard a lot about it, but nothing can really prepare you for it,” said first year dental student Kealey Neuville. And she’s right; Mr. Molar is an ASDA event unlike anything you’ve seen before. Where else can you see students, some mere months away from being licensed and practicing dentists, seductively dancing to “Hands to Myself” by Selena Gomez or wearing whatever the heck D4 Nathaniel Cook was wearing in the photo on the right? I’ll tell you where: Mr. Molar.

Host and Mr. Molar 2015, Kevin Schmidt, along with co-host Scott McNairy, led the festivities for the evening. Kevin and Scott’s opening monologue had the crowd rolling on the floor and had me crying alone in a bathroom stall continuously flushing the toilet to cover the sound of my audible sobs with their low-blow jokes regarding my loss to Kevin in last year’s competition. To that all I have to say is: well played, Kevin and Scott, well played indeed.

This year the competition was as fierce as it has ever been. New kid on the block Bryce Dunathan was determined to make a name for himself as a D1; and that name might as well be “Enrique Iglesias” with those golden pipes he showed off during the talent portion of the evening.

D2 contestant Pete Hebl showed us that even an iron pumping, self-proclaimed “baller” has an inner soft side with a beautiful and unique interpretive dance which one audience member, D4 Amar Pattani, said “moved [him] to tears.”

While Pete went for graceful and elegant, D3 contestant Kevin Holly went for sultry and provocative with a Magic Mike-esque strip tease (no worries, Dean Lobb, he kept it family friendly!)

And D4 contestant Nathaniel Cook proved to both the crowd and his parents that those years of violin lessons weren’t a complete waste, with a MUSoD parody of “The Devil Went Down to



Georgia” along with his accompanying band consisting of D4 classmates Jack Kessler, Jay Banez, Daniel Gerdes, and Sam Albiero.

Besides showing off their talents, these four brave men also performed a beautifully choreographed dance routine (by Marquette’s own Jonelle Doctor and Winston Feng!), went head-to-head in the lip sync battle of the century, and showed off their quick wit in a question and answer session in a game of Jeopardy. These contestants continued the yearly bar-raising of Marquette’s Mr. Molar competition; and we are excited to see how next years’ brave participants will try to top them!

INCOMING CLASS

2020

Class Size: 100



Applicant Pool: **2316**

*all 50 states + foreign countries



50 In State

50 Out of State

*WI, FL, IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, OH, TX, VA, WA and Vietnam

Male: **51**



Female: **49**

Overall GPA avg: **3.69**

Science GPA avg: **3.63**

DAT Academic Avg: **21**

DAT PAT Avg: **21**

GRADUATING CLASS

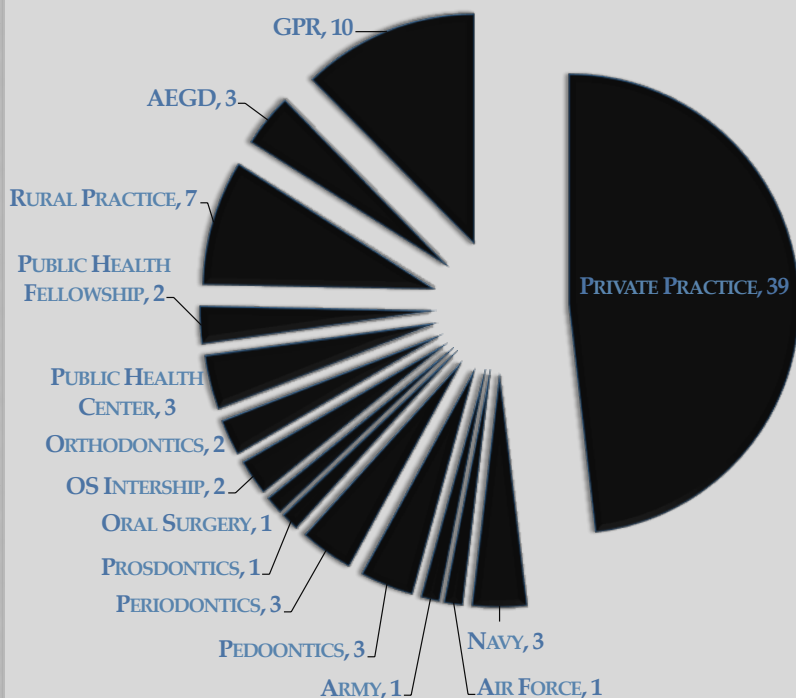
2016

Class Size: 81



30 Staying in WI

51 Going Out of State



PINKESH SHAH,

*Marquette University School of
Dentistry,*

*Receives Memorial
Award from American
Student Dental
Association*



CHICAGO — Pinkesh Shah, Marquette University School of Dentistry '17, has been selected by the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) Board of Trustees as the recipient of the 2016 Memorial Award. The award is presented to an ASDA member who has made significant contributions to his chapter and inspired other members to action.

Previously called the Ryan Turner Memorial Scholarship, the Memorial Award honors the memory of all ASDA members who have passed away during dental school, including recent leaders Jiwon Lee and Ryan Turner. It recognizes leadership and commitment to ASDA's core values of passion, community, engagement and integrity. In his three years at Marquette, Shah has served as D1 class representative and chapter president. At the district level, he has served as both communications chair and chapter services chair. He presented a session at the 2014 ASDA District 6/7 joint meeting and has been a panelist on national ASDA webinars. Shah has also established new programs and committees focused on health and wellness,

sustainability and advocacy for dental students at Marquette. In March, he was elected to serve a one-year term as District 7 trustee to ASDA's Board of Trustees.

"I have had the privilege of getting to know and work alongside Pinkesh in the past three years. I have observed his unbelievable work ethic, passion for ASDA and contagious personality. He has served in numerous ASDA positions, most notably, president for Marquette ASDA where he has taken an already-strong chapter and made it even stronger," said Erin Fraundorf, Louisville '16, 2015-16 District 7 trustee. "Pinkesh not only leads his chapter, but he empowers peers and future leaders on a daily basis. He is most deserving of the Memorial Award."

Shah received his award during the 2016 Gold Crown Awards ceremony at ASDA's 46th Annual Session on March 4, 2016, in Dallas, Texas.

Q&A

With Sarah Fodor



Where do you call home?

Clark Lake, Michigan

Did you have any pets growing up?

Australian shepherd, Lassie

What was your first childhood memory?

My first childhood memory was a game of make-believe when my sister, and cousin called the police because I had been “captured” and two cops showed up at our house which thoroughly enraged my grandpa... I was 3 yrs old and completely off the hook because of the whole captivity situation.

What is your guilty pleasure?

Haribo peach gummies... you get a cavity just being in the same room with them, but they're worth it.

What is your favorite thing to do in sim lab?

No contest... melting gutta percha. Nothing beats that smell!

What superpower would you like to have?

Apparition (Maybe also the ability to unsend emails... it seems unfair that they're so permanent, especially with the “reply all” feature hanging around.)

Which tooth would you be and why?

#22 I like the number, and it gets the job done without being too ostentatious about it.

What is your favorite thing about ASDA?

ASDA makes me a better dental student and a better person.

My favorite thing though is that I get to have a say in how ASDA helps MUSoD students. I care a lot about Marquette and the people in it and it is the most wonderful feeling to be able to give back to such an amazing group of people.

What are your pet peeves?

When people try and tell me that Wisconsin looks like a hand. Not only is this statement simply not true, Michigan unquestionably out-mittens Wisconsin in every way.

What is a fun fact about yourself?

For my sixteenth birthday my parents got me a magic bullet and a spongebob snuggie. I still own both... but I only use one regularly.

Why did you choose Marquette?

Honestly, I could tell the people here care about each other.



Implementing a Complete Electronic Record

Thomas Wirtz

The Dental School has embarked on a project to implement a complete electronic record. Basically, that means that the entire patient record will be stored electronically. Ultimately, we will eliminate the paper chart. MUSoD was an early adopter of the electronic health record; we were the first dental school in the US to use axiUm. We have implemented many features of the electronic health record over the years including treatment planning modules and digital x-rays. There are three major features remaining for us to implement – electronic consents, electronic forms, and medications and prescriptions. In this article, I will address electronic consents.

There will be two ways to acquire the patient's consent in the electronic health record. Both will be available in axiUm. In the first method, we scan the paper consent signed by the patient. This can become cumbersome scanning each consent,

so an alternate method is preferred. In the other method, the patient enters his or her signature with a signature pad, the same kind of signature pads used in retail stores for customers to sign for purchases. We have purchased signature pads for each operatory. We will have paper copies of each consent, both English and Spanish versions, for the patient to review before signing. Clinics will begin entering a few designated electronic consents in May. Most consents will be ready for use by the end of the summer term.

With this implementation of the complete electronic record, we are employing a new way to train users. Students have volunteered from each pre-doc clinic group to act as student trainers. The student trainers will be the “in-house” experts to disseminate new information and demonstrate the use of the new technology. We will also continue to offer “brown-bag” lunches to train as many faculty and staff as possible.



Great Places to Go in Milwaukee

Winston Feng, '18

New Found Treasures

Restaurants

La Masa Empanada Bars

Lower East Side, Brady Street

A new favorite late night munchies place on Brady Street. They offer pocket of flaky pastry filled with flavor. Fillings include black bean & chorizo, cheese curd & bacon, and Argentine beef, Chicken Tinga, Argentine Beef, Vietnamese Beef, Mushroom Truffle Parm, Cheese Curd & Bacon and chorizo. La Masa has a happy hour (3pm-6pm M-F), where select empanadas are \$2 and \$2 off taps (including wine and the specialty cocktails). There are also sides such as the must try jicama slaw and skinny fries to complete your meal.

Pro tip: Order the chimichurri and aioli sauce for dipping it makes all the difference!

Bars

Wauwatiki

Wauwatosa

The newest bar in Wauwatosa

They serve drinks such as the Nectar Of The Gods with Caribbean Rum, Jamaican Rum, St. Croix Overproof Rum, Falernum, Honey, Lime, Orange, Pineapple, Passionfruit, Bitters, & A Blood Orange Float. ROLL TURTLE! Serves 4-6.

Great atmosphere Bring you friends because you'll need some help!

Attractions

Yoga at the Museum

Lakefront

Get your Namaste on at Milwaukee's most beautiful art museum...you know that white one with wings. These classes are donation based so you pay what you want! Bring your mat and stretch out that achy back! classes start at 8:15 am so it's a great way to start your day. June 4, July 16, August 13, September 10, October 8

Oldies But Goodies

Restaurants

Guadalajara Mexican Restaurant

Walker's Point

An authentic Mexican experience then you have picked the right place. Located in Milwaukee's Mexican neighborhood is a white house converted into a restaurant. You'll feel right at home since the restaurant is basically in someone's living room. When you are here you should skip the tacos and burritos you can get anywhere and go for the Pazole. This hearty Mexican soup is their specialty. For those who never had this it is a rich broth enriched with hominy and tender pork garnished with crispy tostadas and julienned radishes. Muy delicioso!

Benji's Deli

ShoreWood

A Jewish deli in the north side. Pick from a wide selection of meats that are smoked to perfection. Make sure you order the pastrami sandwich the best matzo ball soup (Jewish penicillin) in town. Don't forget to wash it down with one of their classic soda's.

Protip: Get the sandwich with both pastrami and corned beef so you can try it all!

Bars

Estabrook Beer Garden

Estabrook Park

This is a BYOF (bring your own food) type of beer garden where you can picnic and grill out with friends. Don't forget to bring your boots and steins to this outdoor park and fill up with delicious German beer. This beer garden is associated with haufbrauhaus so you know it is quality. This is some of the most drinkable beer in Milwaukee. If you don't feel like bringing food don't worry...They also serve giant pretzels the size of your chest with a choice of mustard or cheese spread and grilled brats.

Protip: Buy the officiaal Estabrook stein and you get a nice discount each time you fill up on beer.

Foundation

Riverwest

A small tiki bar nestled in the Hipster heartland. This intimate candle lit bar is an ideal place to go to catch up with friends while sampling their artfully crafted Rum concoctions. Get there early since they do fill up to capacity very quickly.

Attractions

Urban Ecology Center

Hosts rentals for all your outdoor needs. From tennis rackets to kayaks and tents you can get it all. Memberships are only 33\$ for a whole year. They also host nature hikes and classes aimed for adventurers.

Protip: They have free treats and coffee from Collectivo in the mornings !





“Yo I’ll tell you want, what I really really want!”- What I Learned at Lobby Day 2016

Tessa Marx, '19

I was on a Government and Politics Debate Team in high school, and I’ve watched a lot of Scandal and House of Cards, so when I signed up to go to National Dental Student Lobby Day this year I was pretty confident I had a good idea of what I was getting into. But as it turns out, arguing with 17 year olds and Netflix originals have nothing to do with dental student lobbying and there were 3 significant lessons that I learned:

1. **Organized dentistry is powerful**

Arriving in D.C., I definitely felt like a small fish in a large ocean. Arriving at the convention with all the other dental students across the nation, I felt like a small fish in a slightly smaller ocean. But I quickly realized that everyone there was just like me—

passionate, friendly tooth lovers! All of us had then same values, goals, and voice. I learned that last year, successful lobbying (by dental students just like us!) was able to secure \$6 million for Military dental research funding, increase funding by \$5 million for the Indian Health Services Division of Oral Health, and expand funding by \$7 million for dental access prevention and research in 2016. Excuse me, what?? Just by meeting with ten people in D.C. I can help accomplish *that much*? I felt so empowered to be apart of this profession. I was even able to meet up with the University of Washington ASDA team to lobby to the representative from my home district. Which brings me to my next point....



2. Politicians *actually* want to know what you have to say

Especially if you're their constituent. Call me naïve, but I was shocked at how easy it was to talk to political representatives and how enthusiastic they were to hear from us. We lobbied for three bills on behalf of the ADA. Two were on reducing student loan debt (H.R 649 and H.R 4223) and one was on allowing oral health programs to be able to apply for federal support (H.R. 539). Most of the staff that we met with were around our age—young professionals who had just gotten out of school—and were super jazzed about the loan reform ideas.

They also had no idea of the impact that programs like Mission of Mercy and Give Kids a Smile Day can have. I didn't really think about how politicians need a lil' OHI too, ya know what I'm saying?! Which brings me to my last point....

3. *Y o u r voice is just as powerful as your hands (if not more!)*

I get it, as dental students we get pretty pumped

about those 6 restorations in the esthetic zone you artistically owned, or the rock star margins and anatomy on the crown you placed. Our hands skills are a gift, but it's not our only professional obligation. The oral health disparities in our communities are evident to us, but anonymous to our political representatives. Five seconds to sign an online petition or five minutes to shoot an email to your rep could mean additional funding and supplies to the next Mission of Mercy. It could mean a new sealant program in your hometown school. It could mean more saved teeth, and more beautiful smiles.



The Winds of Change: Dental Licensure in Wisconsin, and ASDA's New Stance

Emma Roy, 18'

Ryan Dodge, 18'

"The wind of change blows straight into the face of time. Like a storm wind that will ring the freedom bell." A song lyric from *The Scorpions*, one of the great "hair bands" that came out of the 70's, perfectly sums up what's happening in Wisconsin right now with dental licensure. These "winds of change" blowing in the face of licensure as we know it are certainly going to shake things up. There are four important questions you might ask about this issue: what's changing, who leads the charge, when is the change coming, and, of course, what does ASDA think? Excellent questions reader, almost like I wrote them myself...

Our first important questions: what is changing, and who is leading the charge? CRDTS is changing that's what. This year, Dr. Ryan Braden, the current president of the

WDA, met with Wisconsin dental leaders and the Dental Examining Board (DEB) to propose overhauling the current system of licensure exams. Specifically, the proposal spoke of eliminating patient-based exams, and replacing them with alternative pathways to licensure. There are many different "routes" being proposed as alternative pathways. Two examples of proposed alternatives are an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) mannequin/computer based exam, and a dental portfolio composed of various clinical cases a student presents to a board to earn a license. As of now, there is not a definitive answer as to which pathway Wisconsin will take, but Dr. Ryan Braden and other Wisconsin leaders have taken the first *steps* towards real change.

When is the change happening (you ask with a slightly manic look in your eye)? The timeline for change is rapidly approaching. The DEB was open to talking about alternative pathways to Licensure; thus, as early as next years' WDA House of Delegates there may be a resolution introduced to begin petitioning the state towards accepting these "alternative pathways" as valid paths to licensure. Also, to be clear CRDTS will not be immediately eliminated outright. Students will still be able to take CRDTS if they choose to, but students will also have the opportunity to explore other ways to earn a license. The "winds of change" were also howling this year at ASDA's annual session. History was made people! And, that history changing moment has everything to do with our fourth and final question.

What does ASDA think? In March at ASDA's National Annual Session, the House of Delegates voted to adopt a new stance on licensure, called the L-1 Policy. This policy explains ASDA's stance for the most ideal licensure exam. It does acknowledge that some current methods of licensure are better than others, but is currently advocating for what is considered the most fair and best measure of competency. (As an example, during the House of Delegates there was discussion on the superiority of the OSCE over more traditional exams like CRDTS, but according to the L-1, the OSCE alone is not the most ideal form of licensure.)

ASDA believes that an ideal licensure exam should include the following criteria: no use of human subjects, should be psychometrically valid and reliable, reflects the current scope of dental practice, and is universally accepted. Furthermore, ASDA believes that the licensure exams should be made up of several components to test both the hand skills and the clinical decision making competence of students. To test this, ASDA believes that licensure should be made up of three separate components: a manikin based kinesthetic assessment, an OSCE, and a portfolio with evidence of comprehensive patient care. This may seem like a more complex method of licensure however, it removes the most controversial part of current licensure exams--the live patient portion. ASDA believes that this method is the most ideal way to thoroughly examine future dental practitioners in a fair manner.

ASDA has taken a bold step forward with the recently passed L-1 Policy. Wisconsin may be on the cusp of being one of the few states to accept an OSCE licensure examination or a portfolio method to licensure. The "winds of change" are certainly blustering, both in ASDA's licensure policy and in Wisconsin's pathway to licensure. With hard work and advocacy on the part of dentists and dental students, the squall of licensure will be calmed and create a better pathway to licensure for all involved.

*The picture featured was originally published on the National ASDA website as a photo of their House of Delegates.

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