

UB DENTIST

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE **SPRING 2016**



NEW PRECLINICAL CENTER COMING

SEE PLANS FOR THIS SUMMER'S CONSTRUCTION

PAGE 13

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ON THE COVER:

The architectural rendering details the transformation of space in the basement of Squire Hall into the new Preclinical Simulation Center beginning this summer. Instructor Station is shown. More of the plans are on Pages 13-15.

UBDENTIST

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In this presidential campaign year, I'd like to call on a specific set of candidates to join our united state of graduates, the Dental Alumni Association. Namely, recent graduates.

While our organization boasts a dedicated, active membership, there is a great need to capture the new ideas of young dentists, and that can happen by engaging the invigorating energy of younger alumni.

As an SDM faculty member since 2002 and assistant dean for clinical affairs since 2012, I've noticed a particular cohesiveness in classes of recent years. Through social media, I've seen classmates often getting together at CE events and as groups at holiday gatherings, weddings and births, among other events. The classes are functioning almost as one. Such youthful unity and energy would be welcome in the Alumni Association.

We want you, recent graduate, to come back and be engaged with the alumni office. We want you to take part in what we're offering so that we can cater to some of your needs as young professionals.

We know that it's challenging for young graduates to establish their practices while tending to family and financial commitments. Being an active member of the Alumni Association can help. It's a way of getting together with your colleagues for the camaraderie and collegiality that is formed by working with alumni, to network and make contacts.

Mentorship looms large in our profession. The alumni is a huge network of mentors to help you gain knowledge as you enter your professional life. Ours is a network who will nurture you, care for you, and work with you as you progress. You need to take advantage of that.

It's also an opportunity to show pride in your school. The SDM is really on the move. As you'll see in this issue, we're getting set to start renovating the pre-clinics this summer. We're working toward a new electronic health record system. We're also involved in a wide array of community engagement projects.

The school is gaining momentum as we approach our 125th anniversary next year. You can be part of this momentum in promoting the school as one of the heralded fraternity of SDM graduates pictured on the walls of Squire Hall.

And so, recent graduate, I ask that you strongly consider this request to join our organization. Please contact me and let's talk about how you can participate. You can reach me at jeg9@buffalo.edu, or stop by my office at 325 Squire. My door is always open.

Join our campaign to expand the Alumni Association's base and knowledge with your thoughts and ideas.



Joseph E. Gambacorta, DDS '93, *President, UB Dental Alumni Association*

FROM THE PRESIDENT



NewsBriefs

Faculty and staff transitions

Since July 2015, the school has welcomed a number of new faculty and staff members:

Restorative Dentistry – Kevin Bolger, '13, Peter DeRose, '86, Maryam Mobarhan, '12, Pros. Cert. '15, and Zachary Teach, '14, AEGD Cert. '15 as part-time clinical faculty.



GUHA

Upoma Guha, BDS, MS was recruited to serve as a full-time clinical assistant professor.

After completing her BDS degree at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, she took advanced training in epidemiology at the University of South Carolina. She recently completed an MS degree in operative dentistry at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. While there she also taught predoctoral students in didactic, laboratory and clinical settings.

Roderick Stewart and Brendan Dowd, '86 were promoted to clinical assistant professor, and Jennifer Kuracina, '92, Pros. Cert. '95 was promoted to clinical associate professor. All serve as part-time clinical faculty. Dowd has also assumed the role of senior group director in the Predoctoral Clinic, assisting Joseph Gambacorta, '93 in his role as assistant dean for clinical affairs.

Periodontics and Endodontics

– Hytham Nasser Fageeh, MS Oral Sci. '15, Perio. Cert. '15, Isolde Rojas-Rudolph, and Sarah Sciarrino, '13, Endo. Cert. '15 as part-time clinical faculty.



ABDEL

Adham Abdel Azim, BDS was hired as the new director of the Advanced Education Program in Endodontics. He earned his BDS from Cairo University, and completed an endodontics certificate program at Columbia University. He comes to us from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center where he was assistant professor and director of the predoctoral program in the endodontics department. He is founder and chief editor of Endolit (www.endolit.com), the first mobile application dedicated primarily to endodontists.



BATTISTA

Patrick Battista, '09, AEGD Cert. '10, Endo. Cert. '12 was promoted from part-time to full-time clinical assistant professor. Battista completed his general dentistry and advanced dental education in endodontics here at UB and has worked as a part-time clinical instructor since August 2012. He will be transitioning into the position of director of the Predoctoral Program in Endodontics.

Oral Biology

– Deborah Dias as departmental office assistant; Oyelakin Akin Akinsola, Yongliang Cui, Han Du, Alyssa Gilmore, Megan Jones, Sangwon Min, Saeed Ur Rahman, Graham Stafford, Youbin Tu, and Shuting Yang as research staff.



ARANY

Praveen Arany, BDS, PhD is assistant professor coming from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research where he was an assistant clinical investigator. Arany holds a dental degree from India and a PhD in biological sciences in dental medicine from Harvard University. His research is focused on molecular mechanisms and clinical translation of light therapies for tissue regeneration. His other major interests include molecular dichotomy of wounds and tumors, cell signaling regulatory networks and stem cell biology.

Oral Diagnostic Sciences

– Bobbie Jean Taylor as research staff.

Orthodontics

– Thikriat Al-Jewair, BDS, MPH, Ortho. Cert. '12, MS Ortho. '13 was recruited to serve as clinical assistant professor and interim program director of the Advanced Education Program in Orthodontics. She was born in the U.S. but grew up in Saudi

Arabia, graduating from dental school there in 2003 and practiced for several years. Al-Jewair received a masters in dental public health from the University of Toronto, then moved to Buffalo to start her residency in orthodontics. Her area of research is primarily in evidence-based orthodontics.

Office of Information Resources

– Yvette Pardee as full-time secretary.

Clinical Dentistry

– David Horbinski as full-time clinical stores assistant. Mary Erickson and Pricilla Lamberty as assistants in AEGD.

Student Affairs

– Matthew Blum as full-time staff associate and director of Student and Community Initiatives. Blum replaces Sandra Flash who took another position at UB in the Graduate School.

Dean's Office

– Linwood Roberts as associate director of Community Relations

Retiring from SDM were:

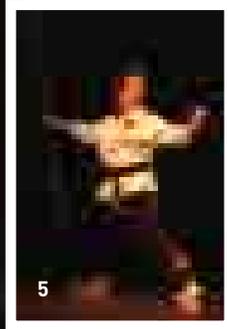
Louis Goldberg, professor and dean emeritus, retired after 22 years of service including that of dean from 1993 to 2000. He and his wife Carla have returned to California to be closer to their family.

Ann McClester retired from her position as dental hygienist after 12 years, Barbara Stuebel retired after nine years as keyboard specialist, and Julie Popple retired after 18 years as a stores clerk in clinical dentistry.

2 20th annual SDM Talent Show a rousing success

The 20th annual SDM Talent Show proved to be another great success featuring 20 dental students and three faculty and staff members and a few of their friends. Pat Anders, '86, GPR, '88, served as the master of ceremonies (in a throw-back jacket) for the show originated by

Dr. Alan Gross and Dr. Elaine Davis, and still supported by a fund established in Gross's memory. The evening ended with great refreshments organized by Emily Ianno, '18 and Marc Salme, '19. We will especially miss our class of 2016 performers – Winston Liu, Donna Scott and Winchester Stuart.



1 JILL UEBELHOER (STAFF), JOE RUMFOLA (FACULTY), MARIA RUMFOLA; ANDREW TROOEN, SEAN PARK, MARCUS SPERA, GRACE ZHANG (ALL CLASS OF 2017): **HOLD THE LINE**; **2** ANDREW TROOEN, SEAN PARK, MARCUS SPERA: **LAZY EYE**; **3** SJ NAM, SPENCER MARSH (BOTH CLASS OF 2018): **RAP/HUMAN BEATBOX**; **4** MEG KELLY (CLASS OF 2017): **LIFE ACADEMY**; **5** RACHEL METZGER (CLASS OF 2017): **BO STAFF KARATE ROUTINE** (PICTURED IN #2) JILL UEBELHOER: **WHEN WE WERE YOUNG/GIRL CRUSH**; **6** TAYLOR SQUIRES, SIMON WEINSTEIN, AMIR KARIMI, VINCE MARINO (ALL CLASS OF 2019): **D-WONDERS**; **7** WINSTON LIU, DONNA SCOTT (BOTH CLASS OF 2016): **ZIGEUNERWEISEN**; **8** ASHLEY SCOFIELD, GRACE ZHANG (BOTH CLASS OF 2017): **MY HEART WILL GO ON (AFTER DENTAL SCHOOL)**; **9** ANDY WAGH (CLASS OF 2019): **FEELING GOOD**; **10** WINCHESTER STUART (CLASS OF 2016): **THE AMAZING WINCHESTER**; **11** SARAH PINCHASSOV ('18), PETER GOODYEAR ('18), CARL FUSCO-GESSICK ('18), SIMON WEINSTEIN ('19), MIKE HATTON (FACULTY): **OLD MUSIC RULES!**

3 The hidden architecture of snow in Buffalo

Most of the covers for UB Dentist Magazine are photographed by Douglas Levere, who works at the University at Buffalo's Office of University Communications. But most cold snowy winter nights, this Amherst artist and photographer can be found outside his garage photographing snowflakes in the dark. His work has been published in *The New Yorker*, *The Buffalo News* and many other blogs and online publications. He is also president of Print Collection, Inc., a web-based gallery (printcollection.com) selling fine art prints of commissioned, licensed and public domain imagery.

A recent CEPA Gallery show in Buffalo was the first public exhibition of his snowflake photography.

Levere had this to say about this work.

"Snowflakes have become my passion. They avail themselves to me within the small window of time I have to photograph them and the short time that they exist. Their delicacy, strength and elegance keep me standing in the cold on endless black nights. Living in the Buffalo, NY area, there are so many negative identifications this city has with snow. I find it a joyous task to reveal these gems that are hiding in plain sight."

And how does he do it?

"Yes, it has to be cold and snowing to take good photographs of snowflakes. I work in my open freestanding garage photographing with a Canon Digital SLR, 5x microscope lens and an adapted microscope base. A flash usually illuminates the snowflake from below and most images require 10–50 exposures focused at slightly different depths. Then in Photoshop, these layers are brought together, finding the sharpest parts of each for the final resulting image."



DID YOU KNOW: There was a bowling alley in B28

OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS, B28 and other lower level spaces in the SDM will be transformed into a state-of-the-art lab and learning center for preclinical students.

Long before Squire Hall (formerly Norton Union) was renovated to accommodate the dental school, it was THE gathering center for the UB student body; North Campus, as we know it, did not exist until the early 1970s.

Norton Union was built in 1961 as a dedicated new building specifically for the student union. At the time of the building's dedication, the *Courier-Express* wrote: "Within the stately walls of the ultra-modern structure, students will study amid paneled walls while soft music emerges through ceiling outlets." (November 4, 1962)

While a great majority of the building was dedicated space for various student clubs and organizations, there was also adequate space for enjoyment too—especially the bowling alley that had been constructed in the footprint of what we now know as the Pantera Lab / B28.

It is doubtful that any remnants of the alley will be unearthed during this renovation. However, what once was a bowling alley will soon again be a place for students to gather; from 'ten pins' to 'pins and posts' all in the span of over 50 years.

—Robin L. Comeau



Student makes it her **business** to pursue **new** dual degree

When Jasmin Dhanjal was applying to dental school three years ago, she was immediately drawn to the announcement of a new dual-degree program. She became the first and only applicant accepted into the new DDS/MBA program.

By JIM BISCO | Photo by JASON CHWIRUT



“You can have all the dental skills you need but if you don’t have that core foundation of how to actually manage your business, your practice, you won’t be that successful.”

—JASMIN DHANJAL

With an interest in dentistry cultivated since her freshman year in Niagara Wheatfield High School, Dhanjal leveraged her strength in science into a 2013 UB undergraduate degree majoring in biological sciences, with minors in chemistry and medicinal anthropology. Through her school years, she shadowed dentists around the area and joined the UB Dental Observation Program as an undergrad assisting fourth-year dental students in the clinic.

While those first-hand observations sealed her interest in the dental profession, her extensive shadowing experience with dentists and dental students also allowed her to see the operational side of dentistry.

“I like the dental school’s educational aspect but not a lot of time is spent teaching how to run your practice, and that’s something I believe you really need when you’re opening your own practice or taking over somebody else’s practice,” she explains. “You can have all the dental skills you need but if you don’t have that core foundation of how to actually manage your business, your practice, you won’t be that successful. I think the MBA will help me to solidify my business knowledge.”

Dhanjal’s first year in the five-year program consisted strictly of MBA classes in the UB School of Management. She entered the dental school during her second year in the program and will remain here for the remaining three years.

Over the past two summers, Dhanjal obtained related experience in internships at the dental school, first in the business office working with

marketing, compliance and business operations, then in the dean’s office with projects analyzing tuition revenue and also analyzing the school’s effectiveness in reaching patients.

The transition between business and dental studies was daunting at first, she admits. “To be thrown into business was hard after the strictly sciences background. After the first year, I came to dental school and back to the sciences, so again the switch was a bit difficult, but ever since it hasn’t been too bad and I’m enjoying my time here.”

It turned out that Dhanjal excelled in the Data Modeling course in the School of Management, so much so that she has served as a private tutor in the subject to five executive MBA candidates. “Most are from a medical background, so there is kind of a connection there for me,” she relates.

So far in the dual-degree program, Dhanjal says she has learned a lot about teamwork and time management which have helped her. She is hoping to extend her business skills in the dental school for a third summer internship next year. She will finish her MBA commitments over the next two years and is set to receive her DDS/MBA degree in 2018.

“The first thought was to get an MBA so I could manage my own practice. But

that has changed. Rather than starting a practice from scratch, I would most likely take over an existing practice,” she says.

She is also leaning more toward the academic side, ever since her recent meeting with Murray Rosenthal, ’63, whose family scholarship Dhanjal was awarded during her sophomore year at the SDM. “He was intrigued by the MBA I am pursuing because when he was going to school, there was no real business foundation for dentists. He was encouraging to my ambition to manage a practice or go into academics.”

Dhanjal, a Phoenix, AZ native, moved with her family to Buffalo in 2003 to be close to relatives in Canada. The move proved inspiring to her ambition. “I was always strong in the sciences and very artistic. Even now I continue doing artwork (henna art on canvas). To me, dentistry seemed like an art. That appealed to me,” she recalls.

With a number of options ahead for her, Dhanjal is excited by the possibilities. She had just begun hands-on experience in the clinic the week before this interview. “I had my first patient for a cleaning which was nerve-racking, but once I got started, the nerves went away and I had so much fun doing it.”



Smiling FACES

Young mouths speak well of "Give Kids a Smile Day" experience



For the past 15 first Fridays in February, the halls are alive with the sound of... hundreds of happy kids having a field day in the lobby and first and third-floor clinics of Squire Hall, through the connecting tunnel to Harriman Hall where the Teddy Bear Clinic holds sway in a sensory experience of fun and games framing a visit to the dentist at the SDM and a lesson in the importance of mouth care.

By JIM BISCO | Photos by DOUGLAS LEVERE AND JASON CHWIRUT

The annual "Give Kids a Smile Day" lived up to its name

on the faces of more than 600 children—including nearly 400 Head Start students—who were greeted by hundreds of volunteers, including SDM faculty, staff, students, and private dentists and their staff, all donating their time to provide care.

Gary "Dr. Whiz" Wieczkowski, '69, associate professor emeritus, who returns to the SDM annually as a volunteer for the day, affectionately calls the day-long activity "organized chaos." A visit to the school on that day could make it seem like the high-spirited buzz of Disney World in a dental school. But, as Dr. Whiz pointed out, the zig-zag flow of kids through the

halls, clinics and the Teddy Bear land of tooth fairies, dental superheroes, and other amusement park characters and activities has a method to the seeming madness. The plan is in place, the volunteers are in position, and clinic personnel ease kids into the dental chair for a treatment and cleaning with tips on tooth care.

Held in partnership with the American Dental Association, New York State Dental Association and 8th District Dental Society, Smile Day is part of a national effort to teach children good dental health habits while they're young to avoid major oral health problems later in life.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12.



In their own WORDS

First-grader Kyaire said, "It was fun having the dentist look at my teeth." Your first visit to the dentist? "I've been there before." Afraid at all? "No!" What did you learn about taking care of your teeth? "To brush two times a day." Favorite part of the visit here today? "The games." Would you like to come back and see the dentist again? "Yes, my dentist is funny!"

.....

Omar in pre-K wasn't afraid of his first visit to the dentist. His favorite part of the day? "The music." *(The Teddy Bear Clinic had a popular dance corner with lighted disco floor.)*

.....

Gio, pre-K, said "Coloring" was the activity that he enjoyed most.

.....

Robert, pre-K, was happy to be given "the stickers" at the Teddy Bear Clinic.

.....

Amira, pre-K, said "Nope!" to the question of it being her first time at the dentist, and blurted "No way!" to the insinuation of any fear. She said she liked it when the dentist "painted her teeth."

.....

Kali, pre-K, said, "I go to a boy dentist and he's funny." What was it like having the dentist look at your teeth? "It tickled." What did you learn about taking care of your teeth? "I brush all by myself." Like to come back and see the dentist again? "Yes!"

.....

Olivia, pre-K, said, "I liked the dentist and I was helping with my mouth. I brush every day." Her favorite part was another vote for "the stickers!"

Give Kids a Smile Day

First-grader Debbie pointed out, "I like it when the dentist cleaned my teeth. The dentist was nice." What was your favorite part of the visit? "Coming here," she replied like any student enjoying a field trip.

Amelia, pre-K, said, "I like the dentist. He cleaned my teeth and it felt good."

Second-grader Kayahna noted that it was her first trip to the dentist. "I liked it when I got my teeth cleaned. I know how to take care of my teeth. I have to brush them every day."

Nathaniel, first grade, talked like he knew his way around a dental chair. "I've seen a lot of dentists." How was this experience? "Goo-ooo-ood!" Favorite part of the visit? "The dentist." The dentist? "Yeah, pretty fun."

Temperance, first grade, enjoyed her visit. "My teeth are nice and shiny. I like it, and I know how to take care of my teeth."

Jermaine, pre-K, agreed about his visit with the dentist and that "there was nothing to be afraid of," then echoed the response to the favorite-part question, "Everything was good!"

It was a feeling that seemed to speak on behalf of the dental school experience for the hundreds of youngsters who went back on their school buses with bright wide smiles.

M. Dian ChinKit-Wells, clinical assistant professor in the Department of Pediatric and Community Dentistry and Smile Day standard-bearer at the SDM, characterizes the effect of the outreach to an underprivileged community: "It means one less kid with cavities, one less teenager with a toothache and one less unhealthy smile."

And so, we went to the source of Give Kids a Smile Day—the kids—to get their perspective on going to the dentist in a playful but meaningful environment such as this.



As the school buses from six Headstart schools and several secondary institutions rolled up to the Squire entrance throughout the day to deliver the young patients, herewith are random responses from the young visitors about their experience.



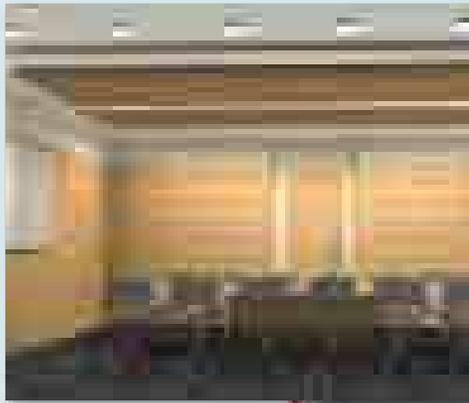
Construction of the New Preclinical Simulation Center Begins This Summer



AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION AND PLANNING, construction documents are ready and financing is secured for transformation of space in the basement of Squire Hall into a new Preclinical Simulation Center. The current B28 facility will remain in operation while space across the corridor is renovated as the first phase of construction to include teaching stations and modules of ten dental simulators. The new facility will be twice the space of the existing B28 laboratory and will necessitate relocation of several research laboratories, locker rooms, and other facilities prior to May 1. Phase I construction is scheduled to start by July 1 and should take about 9-12 months. Once completed, instruction will shift from B28 to the new simulation center and the existing B28 lab will be demolished and reconstructed with additional simulator modules, support labs, digital X-rays, a CAD/CAM laboratory and seminar rooms.



WET LAB



FACULTY ROOM

PLANS FOR THE PRECLINICAL SIMULATION CENTER



STORAGE

FACULTY

We are very grateful for the time, cooperation and efforts of those engaged in planning the new Preclinical Simulation Center. Except for technology upgrades, the B28 preclinical lab has remained essentially unchanged since the dental school moved to Squire Hall in 1985. Everyone is excited to see this work come to fruition in time to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the school in 2017!

The University has generously provided funds and personnel for planning and design. The new facility will be funded by a combination of University and School dollars in addition to a loan from the state construction fund. However, reserve funds from the operational budget can only go so far. As alumni and sponsors of the School of Dental Medicine, we seek your philanthropic support for this much needed capital project.

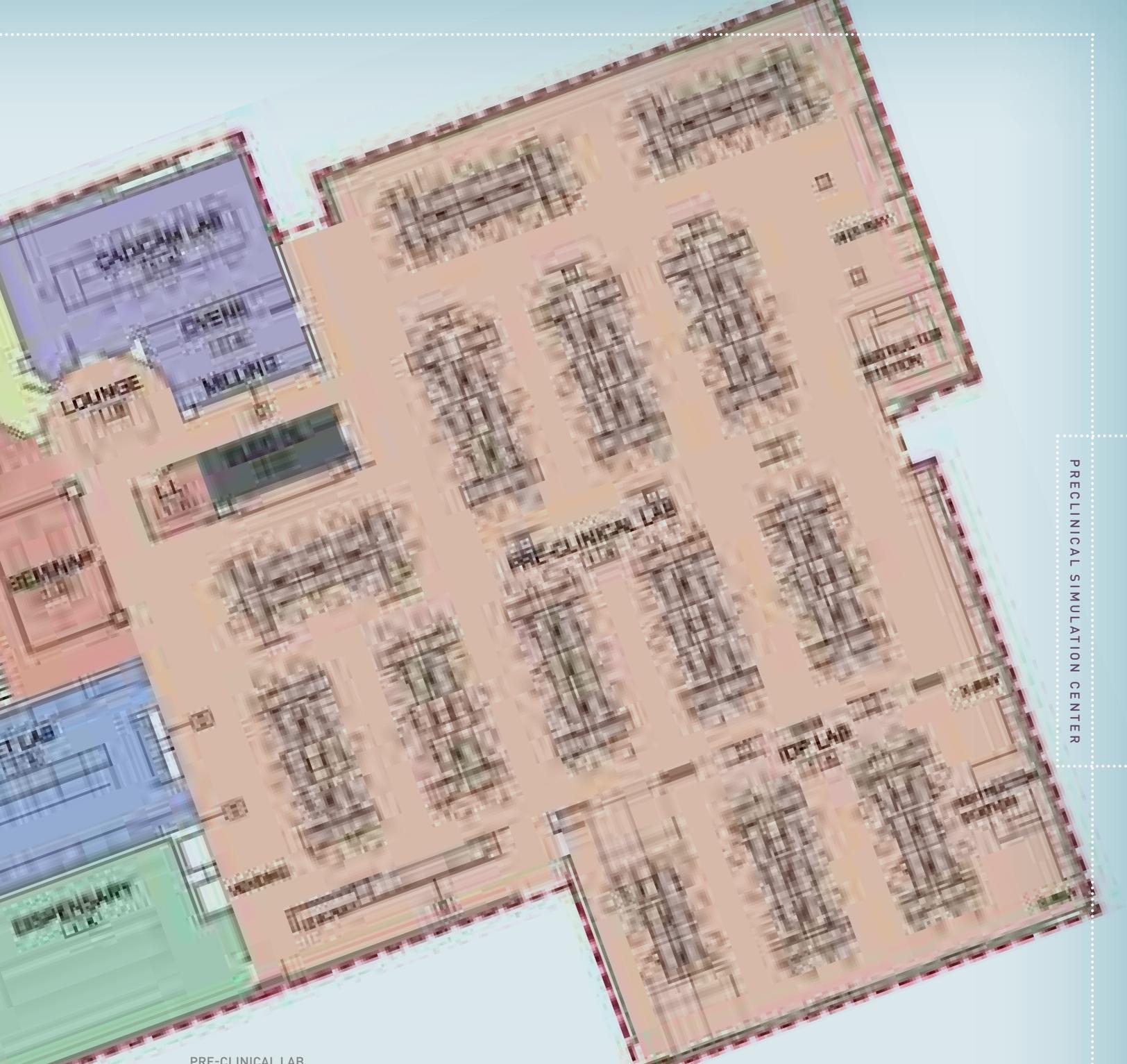
The Preclinical Simulation Center presents many opportunities to mark your legacy to the hundreds of dental students who will use this facility in the years to come—from funding the purchase of a dental simulator or an instructor station—to furnishing a seminar room or funding the mural that will enhance the esthetics of the space.

Gifts can be made by individuals, families, dental school classes, study clubs, corporations or other groups in memory or in honor of family members, dental school classes, mentors or faculty members. For more information on ways to support the new Preclinical Simulation Center, please contact:

DANIELLE MOSER
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INSTRUCTOR STATION



PRECLINICAL SIMULATION CENTER

PRE-CLINICAL LAB

