



Spring 2019

Contact Point Spring 2019

Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry

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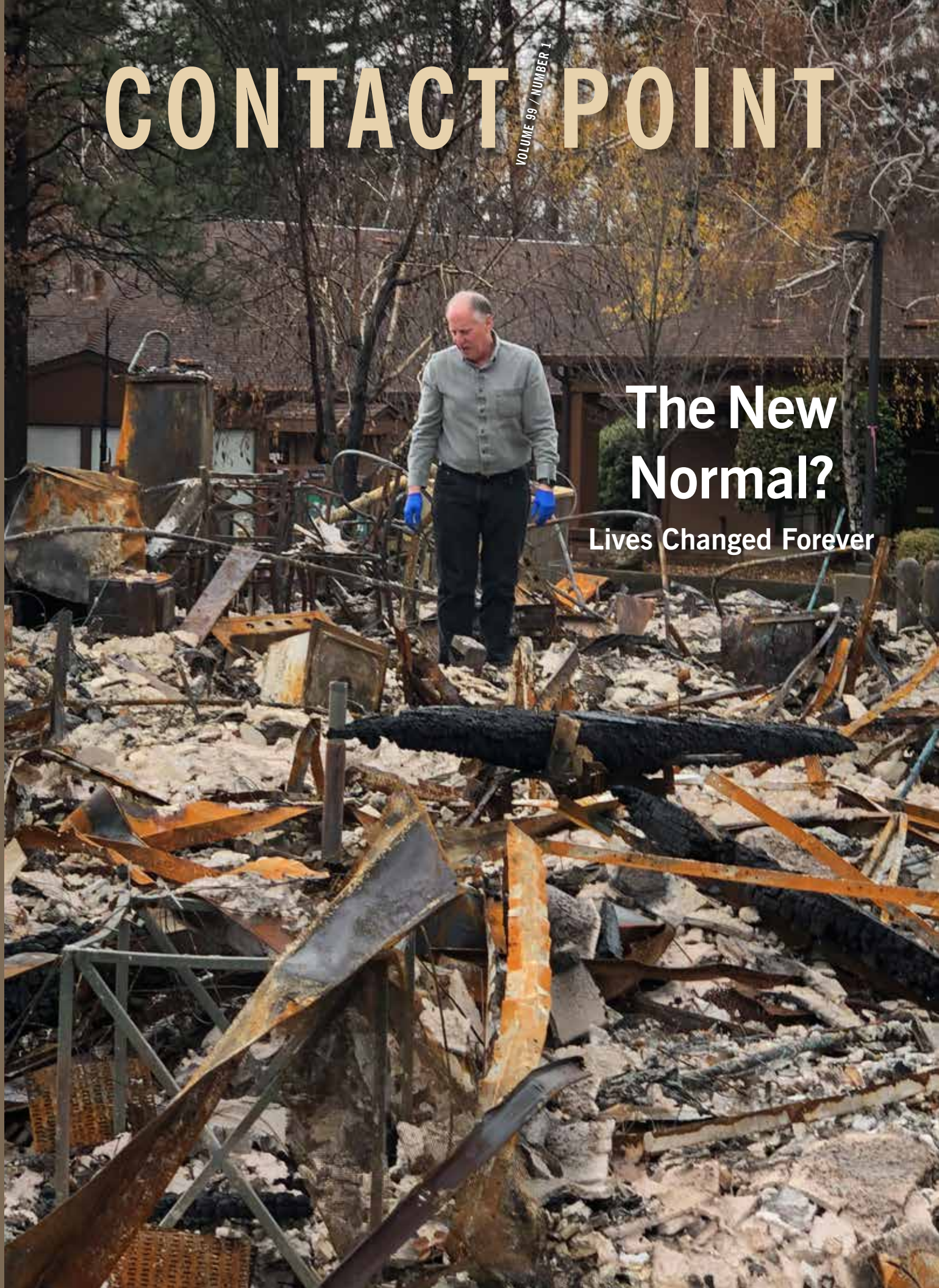
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CONTACT POINT

VOLUME 99 / NUMBER 1

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{Features}

EXAMPLES OF RESILIENCE

The 2018 California wildfires were the most destructive and deadly in state history. Writer Kathleen Barrows speaks with some dental school alumni who were impacted by the fires. These individuals are inspiring examples of resilience as they discuss how they are moving forward and how fellow dentists have rallied to support them.

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A CLASS DISTINCTION

Members of the Class of 2021 are a diverse, talented and exceptional group of students. And for just the second time in school history, women comprise 51% of the first-year class. Learn more about the changing demographics and diversity initiatives at the dental school. PAGE 20

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Many dentists have a creative side and express their talents in a number of ways. Four individuals—alumni and a student—from the Dugoni School of Dentistry discuss how their artistic skills have evolved and what experiences led them to become authors and illustrators of children's books. PAGE 24

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ON THE COVER Dr. Michael Viale '79 surveys the remains of his dental practice in Paradise, California. PHOTO BY SHEILA VIALE

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HELPING PEOPLE LEAD HEALTHY LIVES

NADER A. NADERSHAHI, DEAN

Resilience



PHOTO BY JON DRAPER

This past November, when smoke-filled air poured into the San Francisco Bay Area from the Camp Fire in Butte County, California, our school was forced to cancel clinic sessions and close our operations for two days due to the toxic air quality. Our disruption at the school, while inconvenient, was nothing compared to what was occurring in the fire-ravaged areas, where homes and offices were destroyed, lives were forever changed and entire towns were burned off the map, including the community of Paradise.

This issue of *Contact Point* examines the impact of the California fires on local communities through the eyes of dental professionals who survived the disasters. Our hearts go out to all who were impacted. As devastating as the conflagrations have been, these communities are showing their resilience as they take steps towards their “new normal” in the face of tragedy.

We also take a look at the changing face of dentistry in this issue. These changes are reflected in our student body. For example, our newest DDS class includes more female students than male. And our students have a growing interest in diversity and inclusion activities, as demonstrated by some of the many initiatives and events hosted by student organizations on campus.

Creativity is also on display in this issue. When they are not practicing dentistry, some of our alumni, residents and students have used their artistic talents to illustrate and/or author books for children and young adults.

We hope your spring is off to a positive start and that whatever ups and downs you may experience, your year is filled with growth and resilience.

Sincerely,

Nader A. Nadershahi '94, DDS, MBA, EdD
Dean

New Leadership Named for Orthodontics, Endodontics and Hygiene

The Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry recently named two long-time school leaders to serve in key chair roles for the Departments of Orthodontics and Endodontics. In addition, Dean Nader Nadershahi '94 appointed a new director of the Dental Hygiene program. All of these individuals bring extensive expertise that will support the continued advancement of these successful programs.



Dr. Heesoo Oh '01 AEGD, '05 Ortho is the new chair of the Department of Orthodontics. She succeeds Dr. Robert Boyd, former chair, who recently retired. Oh brings extensive leadership, clinical expertise, interdisciplinary research and other skills to her role in leading the program. She earned her DDS degree, certificate in pediatric dentistry and PhD in oral biology from Chonnam National University, School of Dentistry in Gwangju, South Korea. At the Dugoni School of Dentistry, she completed a certificate in Advanced Education in General Dentistry in 2001, received an MSD in orthodontics in 2005 and joined the Dugoni School as a faculty member upon graduation.

She served as program director of the Graduate Orthodontic program since 2010 and director of the Craniofacial Research Instrumentation Laboratory since 2017. Most recently, in partnership with Dr. Gabby Thodas '77, '94 Ortho, Oh served as interim co-chair of the Department of Orthodontics.

Oh is dedicated to working with orthodontic faculty, residents and staff members to grow and strengthen both the educational and research goals of the department. She also is enthusiastic about building interdisciplinary collaborations to support predoctoral and resident learning opportunities, while improving patient care outcomes.

PHOTOS BY JON DRAPER

A full-body portrait of a middle-aged man with short, light brown hair and glasses. He is smiling and looking directly at the camera. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a white dress shirt and a bright red necktie. He is standing outdoors on a paved area. Behind him is a black street signpost with several white directional signs. The signs are partially legible and include names like 'Südliche Stadt', 'Zentrum', and 'Bürgerhaus'. In the background, there is a modern building with large windows and some greenery. The lighting is bright, suggesting it is daytime.

A full-body portrait of a middle-aged man with short, light brown hair and glasses, smiling at the camera. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket, a white dress shirt, and a bright red tie. He stands with his hands in his pockets. Behind him is a black street signpost with several white directional signs. The background is a blurred city street with a modern building and some greenery.

A full-body portrait of a middle-aged man with short, light brown hair and glasses. He is smiling and looking directly at the camera. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a white dress shirt and a bright red necktie. He is standing outdoors on a paved area. Behind him is a black street signpost with several white directional signs. The signs are partially legible and include names like 'Südliche Stadt', 'Zentrum', and 'Bürgerhaus'. In the background, there is a modern building with large windows and some greenery. The lighting is bright, suggesting it is daytime.

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a blue scrub top, stands in a clinical setting. The scrub top has the text "University of the Pacific" and "Faculty" printed on it. She is holding a light blue envelope and has an identification badge around her neck.

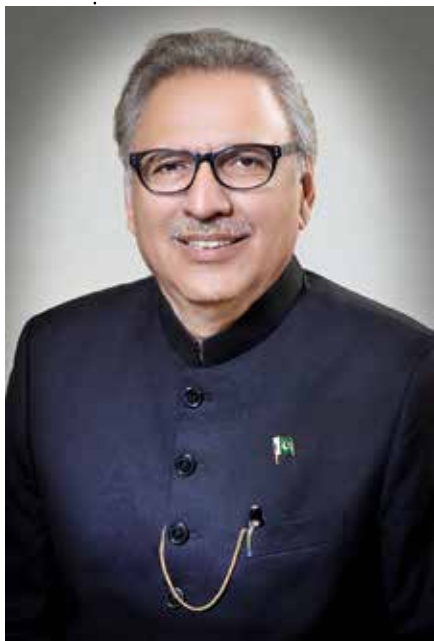
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Ortho Alumnus Becomes President of Pakistan

An Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry alumnus made international headlines late last year when he was elected president of Pakistan.

Dr. Arif Alvi '84 Ortho took a remarkable step onto the world stage through the election held on September 4, 2018. He defeated Pakistan Peoples Party candidate Aitzaz Ahsan and the Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) nominee Maulana Fazl ur Rehman in a three-way contest to become the country's 13th president.



One of the founding members of the ruling party Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and an ally of Prime Minister Imran Khan, Alvi is also a dentist and orthodontist who graduated from the Dugoni School of Dentistry's Graduate Orthodontic program in 1984. He also earned a master of science degree in prosthodontics from University of Michigan in 1975.

Alvi started his political career about five decades ago when he was a student of de'Montmorency College of Dentistry, an affiliate of University of Punjab in Lahore, Pakistan. In addition to his involvement in politics, Alvi has served the oral healthcare profession in numerous ways. He became a diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics in 1997. He is a past president of the Pakistan Dental Association and was the primary author of the association's constitution.

"Dr. Alvi is an inspiring example of how leadership can take many forms and can even propel us into new fields of service beyond health care," remarked Dr. Nader Nadershahi '94, dean of the Dugoni School of Dentistry.

Dentistry runs in Alvi's family. His father, Dr. Habib ur Rehman Elahi Alvi, served as a dentist to India's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, prior to Partition in 1947. The family then moved to the newly created nation of Pakistan.



In addition to his involvement in politics, Alvi has served the oral healthcare profession in numerous ways.

AAWD Honors Student Chapter

The American Association of Women Dentists (AAWD) honored the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry's AAWD chapter with the Student Chapter of the Year award during its annual conference held in Savannah, Georgia, in October 2018. The award recognizes chapters that have connected in a meaningful way with AAWD, while supporting its goal and mission.

During the past year, the Pacific chapter organized 16 events, donated more than \$1,000 to nonprofit organizations and charities and raised an additional \$600 for its chapter. AAWD supported organizations and causes such as Take Back the Night, Because Justice Matters, Habitat for Humanity, programs for North Bay fire victims and the Watermark Conference for Women in Silicon Valley. The chapter has expanded opportunities for leadership and mentorship not only among female dental students, but for the dental school community as a whole.

"The Dugoni School women of the AAWD are passionate, creative, energetic and motivated individuals who are committed to promoting women's causes," said faculty advisor, Dr. Lisa



Itaya '98, '99 and '00 AEGD. "Their efforts have contributed to recognizing our female faculty as role models at the Dugoni School and have raised awareness of women's issues in the Bay Area community. There is no end to their enthusiasm, and I am proud of their accomplishments!"

The Pacific Chapter was established in 2014 and was recognized as an official chapter of the national AAWD organization in 2017. The association supports women in organized dentistry and promotes the advancement of women in the field of dentistry.

Calendar of Events

Alumni Reception during CDA Presents
Friday, May 17, 2019
Hilton Hotel, Anaheim

Alumni/Graduate Banquet
Friday, June 14, 2019
The Ritz-Carlton, SF

Thanks a Bunch Brunch
Saturday, June 15, 2019
The InterContinental Hotel, SF

Commencement Ceremony
Sunday, June 16, 2019
The Masonic, SF

White Coat Ceremony
Saturday, July 20, 2019
Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, SF

Alumni Seminar & Reception
Saturday, July 27, 2019
Marina Del Ray, CA

Alumni Reception during ADA Annual Meeting
Friday, September 6, 2019
Dugoni School of Dentistry, SF

Dugoni School Gets Animated, Co-Produces Innovative Instructional Videos

In an effort to provide dental faculty and students with high quality instructional materials and to design rich learning experiences for students, the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry initiated an open educational resources (OER) pilot project in late 2017. Faculty members collaborated with medical educators and professionals at Osmosis.org to develop animated videos on foundational concepts in biomedical science and dentistry.



Osmosis.org is a medical and health education platform specializing in medical education videos. In the pilot for dental education content, Dugoni School of Dentistry faculty members collaborated with colleagues at Osmosis to review the scripts and provide feedback. Once dental faculty members gave the green light on the scripts, the Osmosis video team completed the animation and narration of the videos.

From September 2017 to November 2018, faculty members co-developed 21 videos in collaboration with Osmosis.org. Each video is about five to 10 minutes long and uses a whiteboard style, animated format for enhanced engagement. Videos have been produced on topics including gingivitis and periodontitis, tooth decay, temporomandibular joint dysfunction and dental abscesses. The videos, hosted on the Osmosis.org website and visible through the Osmosis YouTube channel, give the dental school exposure among a global audience

www.youtube.com/osmosis



of health students, educators and clinicians, and individual faculty members are acknowledged by name in each video.

What do dental students think about the videos? Formal and informal feedback from faculty and students has been overwhelmingly positive.

“Students report that the videos present difficult concepts in a way that is easy for them to understand and that the animation format is very effective and engaging,” said Meixun Sinky Zheng, PhD, assistant professor, senior instructional designer and faculty developer. “Students have asked for more videos to be developed.”

In addition to being used by more than 350 dental students, these videos have been viewed extensively by local, national and global audiences. For example, the 21 videos on the Osmosis YouTube channel have a total of 150,919 views. The total watch time is 480,000 minutes, equal to nearly 332 days. The videos have been shared nearly 3,500 times.

Given the successful collaboration and positive outcomes of the pilot project, leaders in the Dugoni School of Dentistry’s Office of Academic Affairs have decided to continue the collaboration with Osmosis.org. Over the next few years, the school’s goal is to create a total of at least 100 videos on the highest priority topics in basic science and dentistry.

View examples of videos on the Osmosis YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/osmosis.





Pharmacy Dean Announces Retirement

After 22 years as dean of University of the Pacific's Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and 46 years in academia, Phillip R. Oppenheimer has announced his plans for retirement.

"I have been blessed to work with many talented faculty, students and staff, as well as with dedicated alumni and donors as a part of the Pacific community" said Oppenheimer. "I am very proud of the pharmacy school and the professions we serve, and I am thankful for the opportunity to have served as dean."

Oppenheimer joined Pacific in 1997, and has led the Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy and Health Science's transformation to offer a robust set of fully-accredited academic programs. He has helped raise more than \$50 million for programs, scholarships, facilities, research and strategic initiatives, including the Biological Sciences Center, the Chan Family Hall and the Chan Family Health Sciences Learning Center and Clinics building. He has chaired numerous University search committees, including many search committees for the Dugoni School of Dentistry, task forces, external committees and advisory boards.

"Phillip Oppenheimer is an exceptional leader and dean," said Dean Emeritus Arthur A. Dugoni '48.

"For 22 years, he inspired not only his students, faculty and alumni, but also his fellow deans. He and his faculty developed creative and cooperative interactions with the School of Dentistry resulting in enhanced clinical care as well as innovative, therapeutic patient-focused research."

Oppenheimer is recognized as an experienced and innovative leader in the state and country. He was named California Pharmacists Association Pharmacist of the Year in 2004, American College of Apothecaries Dean of the Year in 2005 and American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists Most Outstanding Dean of the Year in 2014. In 2017, he was inducted into the California Pharmacists Association Hall of Fame.

He has mentored and influenced more than 12,000 health sciences alumni and hundreds of faculty, staff and administrators during his 46-year career. Oppenheimer has been instrumental in expanding the pharmacy school's experiential and co-curricular programs and has been a dedicated champion of student success.

The University will conduct a national search and Oppenheimer will remain in his position until a new dean arrives.

Jeremie DeZwirek '19 | Swimming to Success

By Marianne Sampogna Jacobson

From an early age, Jeremie DeZwirek's path was clear. At age four, he began swimming and, while still in middle school, decided to become a dentist. It's been head down, fins on and hard work ever since.

DeZwirek was raised in Northern California by French-Canadian parents, a software engineer and a physician, who migrated from Montreal to San Jose in the early '90s after falling in love with the weather and scenery during a visit. Their close-knit family includes four kids, all swimmers. "We attended my older brother's practices and complained about sitting and watching, until Mom agreed we could join the swim team too," he reminisced. All four siblings competed for years, some through college. Among their travels, a "bucket list" trip took the whole family to the Trans Tahoe Relay where they swam as a six-person team and won their division. "My father couldn't wait until my youngest sister was 18 so we could compete!"

In junior high, DeZwirek had two transformative experiences. First, on a three-week volunteer trip to South Africa, he noticed that parents of the kids they were helping were not smiling. He learned they were embarrassed by their teeth and it became his mission to attain the "power to help people smile." Second, as a kid he swam in a pool which made his teeth yellow due to residue from the chlorine. So, for a science fair project he tested different compounds to determine which would whiten his teeth best. He fell in love with dentistry while completing that assignment. He didn't win a ribbon, but he earned something better—a career goal.

His childhood dentist, Dr. J.J. Salehieh '92, '93 AEGD, consulted on the project which began a lifelong mentorship. Salehieh helped DeZwirek select the right classes in high school and college to prepare for dental school and he convinced DeZwirek that the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry was "the only one." Salehieh fondly

It's been head down, fins on and hard work ever since.



PHOTOS BY JON DRAPER

recalls encouraging the precocious 12-year-old to become a dentist. He is certain DeZwirek, whom he describes as “a person with a pure heart and a quest for knowledge,” will do something memorable in dentistry because he is so special.

DeZwirek trained intensely as a swimmer in high school at Archbishop Mitty in San Jose, California, (where he still holds records) in hopes of being recruited to college and possibly even making the Olympics. He was successful—he was recruited to swim at Columbia University in 2011. However, homesick and with a quest for more intense competition, better facilities and coaching, he transferred to University of California, Berkeley, where Coach Dave Durden invited him to join the Cal Swim team alongside many Olympic athletes.

DeZwirek thrived in the intensely structured and competitive atmosphere. There was very little downtime, with two workouts per day, a strict diet and sleep regimen, and only a small break for fun on Sundays. While his team’s prevailing mentality was that school was important, “our minds were always focused on how we could be better in the pool,” DeZwirek explained. The discipline paid off, with the team winning the NCAA National Championship in 2014. In 2016, DeZwirek narrowly missed qualifying for the Canadian Olympic team. Coach Durden was an influential role model for DeZwirek and his teammates, educating them about future career opportunities with expert panels and instilling the importance of discipline, professionalism and character.

DeZwirek’s time at the Dugoni School of Dentistry has been extremely busy since he began in 2016. In addition to his studies and extracurricular activities, he is a master’s swim coach at the Bay Club and a swim instructor for the Purple Patch Fitness Triathlon Team. His roommate Chris DeMeyer, Class of 2019, says, “Jeremie puts his heart completely into everything he does: work, friendship, dentistry, swimming.”

Some of DeZwirek’s most fulfilling dental school experiences have been participating in mission trips to Guatemala and the Philippines. He was one of a small group of students chosen by the faculty to serve as volunteer dentists. During these programs, student and faculty volunteers provided comprehensive dental treatment to hundreds of patients with limited access to dental care. At the Dugoni School of Dentistry he has earned many honors including election to the Tau Kappa Omega honor society, which is awarded to the top 20% of the second-year class based on scholarship and character.

Recently matched with the VA Hospital in San Diego for a General Practice Residency, DeZwirek is excited to participate in a postgraduate program as he says he is not quite ready to jump into a dental practice. “It makes perfect sense for me to learn more complex



procedures and how to apply the newest technological advances in dentistry before deciding where to settle and practice.” His group practice leader, Dr. Michelle Brady, knows DeZwirek will be a terrific dentist because “he excels at communication with his patients.” Fellow student Stuart Adam, Class of 2019, concurs that DeZwirek will be successful because of his “strong social skills, clinical judgment, critical thinking, adaptability, willingness to learn and dedication.”

After his residency, DeZwirek plans to enjoy a much earned travel break. Until then, for fun, he body-surfs in the ocean, rock-climbs at his gym and enjoys trying new restaurants in San Francisco. At age 25, DeZwirek has already accomplished much but, like the swimmer he is, has only just begun to glide into the next phase of his life.

AROUND CAMPUS

PHOTOS BY JON DRAPER



Diwali Celebration



Physicians Assistants



Community Outreach



Robin Williams Mural, Market Street



Cavanaugh Award Winner, Val Donald



New Strategic Plan Poster Series



Annual Give Kids a Smile Event ▲

PHOTO BY CHRIS WOODROW



Dixon IDS Scholarship Recipients



▲ Virtual Dental Home



▲ Veterans' Day Screening



Up in

CAMP FIRE (started Nov. 8, 2018; 100% contained Nov. 25, 2018)

Area Burned: 153,338 acres in Butte County

Fatalities: 86 civilian deaths, 3 firefighter injuries

Destruction: 13,972 residences, 528 commercial buildings, 4,293 other buildings

WOOLSEY FIRE (started Nov. 8, 2018; 100% contained Nov. 21, 2018)

Area Burned: 96,949 acres in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties

Fatalities: 3 civilian deaths, 3 firefighter injuries

Structures Destroyed: 1,500 destroyed, 341 damaged

Source: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Jan. 4, 2019

An aerial photograph of a large wildfire. A massive plume of white and grey smoke rises from a line of intense red and orange flames. The fire is consuming a landscape of green vegetation and brown, charred earth. The smoke spreads across the sky, partially obscuring the terrain below.

Flames

By Kathleen A. Barrows

The 2018 wildfire season in California was the deadliest and most destructive on record, and experts predict we are facing a “new normal.” What does this mean for the practice of dentistry?

We interviewed three alumni of the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry whose lives have been changed forever by last year’s wildfires: one who lost his home, one who lost his practice and another who opened the doors of his practice to the fire victims and dentists who lost their practices. Each offered valuable advice on how to prepare for the possibility of a destructive fire. They also spoke of the lessons they have learned, while expressing gratitude to their dental communities for the support they received.

NASA EARTH OBSERVATORY. IMAGE BY JOSHUA STEVENS

Dr. Michael Viale '79 | Dealing with a lost practice

As an assistant professor of clinical oral health at the Dugoni School of Dentistry, Dr. Michael Viale '79 tells his students that the advantage of a general practice over a specialty is the personal relationship you develop with your patients, watching them go through life's "trials and tribulations." But he never imagined a tribulation like the Camp Fire in Northern California. His was one of nine practices lost in the inferno, which he describes as "advancing by a football field every eight seconds." Today, he struggles to find his patients, all of whom have been displaced.



PHOTO BY JON DRAPER

One of his patients, who was part of the group trapped on the cement pad with helicopters above dropping water to save them, has already moved permanently to Oregon.

Though his home in Chico, California, was spared, four of his staff members' homes were either destroyed or badly damaged. They are now living in rentals and trailers. And his patients? An estimated 30% of the town's residents have left forever. One of his patients, who was part of the group trapped on the cement pad with helicopters above dropping water to save them, has already moved permanently to Oregon.

But the most devastating loss for Viale has not been his office, but all of his patients' records. Despite using a "reputable firm" that specializes in dental technology consulting to take care of his data backup, he lost all chart notes, X-rays and contact information for every patient. "I thought everything would be okay," he says, "but they've been unable to recover the data." Since Viale processed insurance claims electronically, he does have access to patients' names and addresses, but for many of those patients there is no longer an address. "For every patient I see, I need to completely start over," he says.

Viale is currently working out of the Chico office of Dr. Mark Truhe '99 and continues his weekly drives to San Francisco to teach his dental school classes. Fellow practicing faculty members have given him instruments. A Sacramento man, hearing of how the fire had consumed dental offices, called Viale and offered his retired father's dental chair.

The Dentists Insurance Company (TDIC) has proved invaluable. Representatives called all of their Paradise, California, policyholders to check on their welfare and a claims adjustor was working on Veterans Day while the fire still raged. The company is covering the salaries of Viale's dental hygienists and assistants.

Viale feels badly for those dentists in the early or middle parts of their careers who have also lost their practices. They have the expenses of raising families and paying down dental school debt, in addition to recovering from the fire. The decision of whether to rebuild or relocate is difficult for them.

Viale had already been contemplating retiring in a couple of years. There's an estimated year's wait for potable water from faucets and it's hard to know if the community will return. But for now, he says, "I just want to keep my patients comfortable for when Paradise comes back."

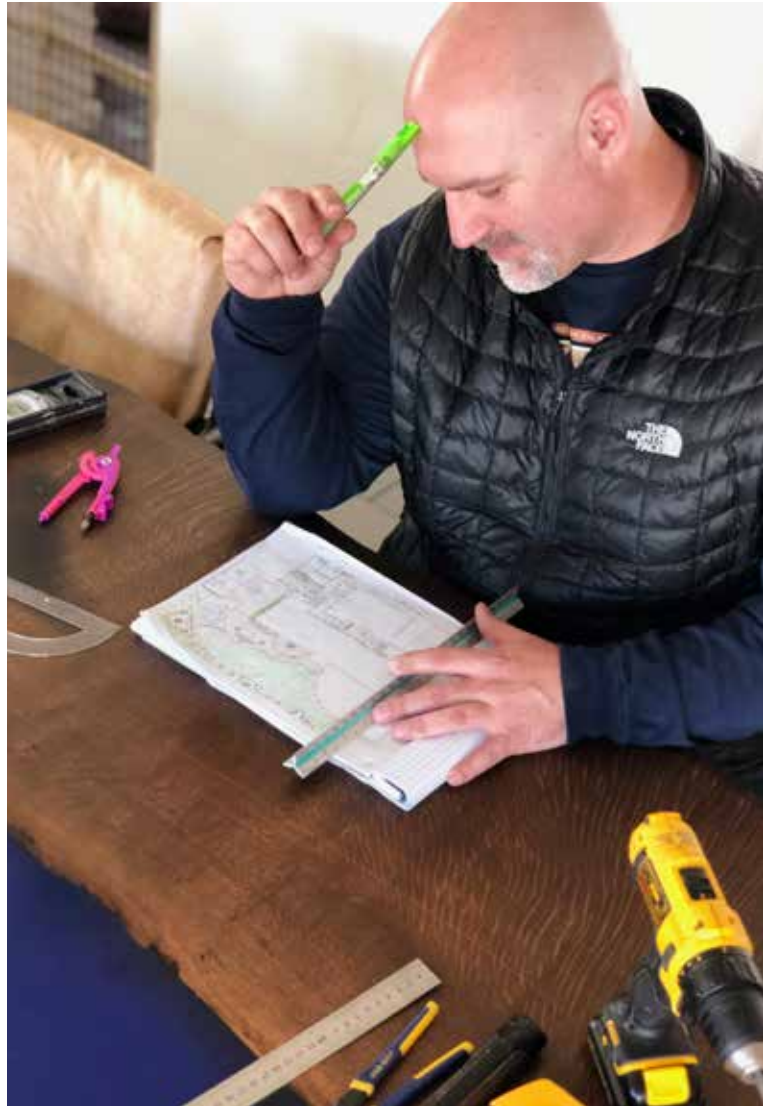
Dr. Dorian Dodds '06 | Helping the victims

Dr. Dorian Dodds '06, who has deep roots in Chico and strong connections to the Paradise community where he has close friends, was one of the lucky ones. He lost neither his practice nor his home to the Camp Fire. Today, he is busy helping the victims—both his fellow dentists who lost their practices and their patients who lost homes.

The fire came within one mile of the 70-year-old family home of his grandparents, which Dodds was in the process of remodeling. He describes the flames he saw while he evacuated with his animals—including three horses—as “surreal.” He has since given to his neighbors—who lost everything—a house he had been renting. Dodds and his teenage daughter, who volunteered at an animal shelter while her high school was closed, have also given furniture and household items to their neighbors to help them restart their lives.

In the first week after the fire, Dodds treated 20 patients who were left homeless, with only the clothes on their backs. He also immediately opened his office to other dentists who had lost their practices. His friend, fellow dentist Dr. Adam Stephens, brought the office computer server he had saved before the fire consumed his practice and linked it up in Dodds’ office so he could access his own files while treating his patients in Dodds’ office.

The flood of new patients from Paradise has affected his scheduling. Dodds sees people with broken teeth and people in pain as quickly as possible, free of charge, but hygiene appointments are now being booked six months out. And like most dentists in Chico, he is refusing to take the fire victims as his own patients, waiting to see if their original dentists will continue to practice. He trained his staff, all of whom live in Chico, the wording to use when patients from lost dental practices started calling.



Though he feels he’s now transitioned into “recovery mode,” he says the smell from a neighbor’s burning leaves can still trigger anxiety.

Like others, Dodds feels a deep sense of gratitude to the dental school community, where he taught for 10 years. Dean Nader Nadershahi '94 reached out to him immediately. Dugoni School alumni are stopping by, offering help. “I felt loved by the Pacific community,” Dodds says.

In the first week after the fire, Dodds treated 20 patients who were left homeless, with only the clothes on their backs.

Dr. David Pokras '97 | Facing the loss of his home

On the night of November 8, 2018, Dr. David Pokras '97 was glued to the television in his Agoura Hills, California, home, watching the news updates on the Woolsey Fire. When the fire jumped the freeway at 1:00 a.m., he knew it was time to evacuate. He, his wife, ex-wife and five children, together with the family pets—a dog and a lizard—hopped in the car and headed for his parents' house out of the area. Having taken measures such as vegetation clearance to protect his home, he thought he would see his house again. But tragically, it burned to the ground.

Pokras didn't take off from work after the fire, which closed his Westlake office (one of two of his endodontic practices) for a day. "I had patients to see," he says. But even the one-day office closure affected everyone, with the schedules falling apart. Though his staff did not suffer losses, several patients did.

Since then, Pokras finds himself going through the stages of loss: from shock and anger to gratitude. "At least we have our health and our lives," he says. He still reaches for things thinking, "I need that" and then realizes they are not there. The hardest part is the loss of the irreplaceable things—precious family photos, collectible items.

The family has moved from his parents' house to a hotel room and now a rented house. However, faced with many unexpected hidden costs, he doesn't plan to rebuild.

For Pokras, it's the little things that are making a difference. The dental school has already ordered a new diploma for him. The family lizard now has a new terrarium, thanks to one of his dental colleagues who took over pet sitting for the creature. And there is the generosity of other communities. He's been flooded with everything from gift cards to dinner invitations to funds raised by the local PTA.

Through it all, Pokras is full of gratitude for what he views as the goodness of humanity. He sees people in the community "pulling together," like offering a ride to a stranger trying to get to his burned property. "I feel lucky to be where I am," he says. "I have such wonderful support."



When the fire jumped the freeway at 1:00 a.m., he knew it was time to evacuate.



Lessons Learned and Advice

A summary of the advice these alumni offered:

- 1) MAKE SURE YOUR PRACTICE IS DIGITAL.** For your practice, do a weekly back-up, in the cloud or on a hard drive not stored at the office. At home, do the same for precious photos and documents. Back up everything on a server that you can carry out the door in one box in case of emergency. Viale and Pokras learned this lesson the hard way.
- 2)** In addition to safeguarding your records, **PREPARE YOURSELF MENTALLY**, recommends Dodds. Think about how you would want other dentists to respond if you lost your practice. What measures could you take to help and maintain your staff following a tragedy?
- 3)** As Pokras learned, **MAKE SURE YOU HAVE FIRE INSURANCE** which, in the case of homes, matches current home prices in your area. Don't rely on fire safes, which can withstand 10 minutes of 1,000-degree heat. His house heated up to 2,000 degrees for 30 minutes.
- 4)** Remember **THE IMPORTANCE OF ORGANIZED DENTISTRY**, in everything from the Alumni Association to the California Dental Association. It is invaluable when tragedy strikes, and is well worth the membership, advises Viale.

People pull together in times of tragedy, and every dentist interviewed spoke of his gratitude for the outpouring of support, from both the dental community and the community at large. The Northern California Dental Society of Red Bluff, for example, contacted more than 100 area dentists to locate patient records to help coroners identify missing persons. A special fundraiser in December, co-sponsored by University of the Pacific, San Joaquin County Supervisors Tom Patti and Miguel Villapudua and the American Punjabi Chamber of Commerce, raised \$60,000 for the victims of the Camp Fire.

As Dodds puts it, "It's all about having each other's backs" and for that they are all eternally grateful.

Kathleen A. Barrows, an East Bay freelance writer, is a contributor to Contact Point.



OUR **EVOLVING** DNA

Diversity and Changing Demographics at the Dugoni School

By Christina Boufis, PhD

When they arrived on campus, the Class of 2021 broke new ground at the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry. For just the first second time in the dental school's history, women comprised 51% of the matriculating class.

"We're happy about this," says Stan Constantino, director of admissions and San Francisco campus representative for the University Diversity Leadership Team. "We also have a huge Asian and Pacific Islander student population, which mirrors other dental schools in California, but is well above other schools across the nation," he says. "And we're making inroads with increasing the number of underrepresented minority students for the dental school, such as Hispanic, Native American, African American and Polynesian students." A smaller applicant pool, a limited number of scholarship opportunities and dollars and the higher cost of living in the Bay Area make this a bit more of a challenge, he adds.

Nationally, women comprise only 32% of dentists in the workforce, according to the American Dental Association. But the Dugoni School of Dentistry is helping to change this uneven percentage as women have comprised nearly 50% of dental school classes for the last several years.



Women
will comprise 51%
of the graduating
Class of 2021

But diversity at the Dugoni School of Dentistry is more than just increasing the numbers of historically underrepresented minorities and women on campus. In 2008, the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, a volunteer group, was founded with several goals: increasing diversity on campus, providing an advisory role to the administration about inclusivity and fostering a campus climate and culture that respects diversity in all forms. All of these goals are central to the dental school's core value of humanism and responsibility to humanity, according to Constantino.

To that end, the committee provides diversity and educational programming and events, such as Chinese New Year celebrations with student and faculty presentations, or hosting speakers for Black History and Women's History months. The committee is also developing and refining training and an onboarding process for new faculty, staff and students with a diversity component. "We've developed orientation modules for the incoming class, as well as a cultural overview of humanism to really lay the foundation for the incoming students and to share what the Dugoni School is about—our humanistic environment and how we support one another, learn from one another and respect differences," says Constantino.

Another way the dental school embraces diversity and inclusion is through the more than 30 student clubs and organizations on campus, many of them started by students with the goal of helping serve patients in their own language. The Chinese American Student Dental Association was founded in 2018 by Co-presidents Anna Duan and Mandy Chen, both from the Class of 2020, with the goal of improving communication with Chinese-speaking patients in the clinic. "For many of us who speak Chinese, while day-to-day communication comes easily, we often don't have a grasp of the terminology to adequately explain the implications of clinical procedures, risks and benefits, oral hygiene and lifestyle habits to our patients," says Duan.

The club welcomes both Chinese speakers and beginners. According to Duan, the group meets during lunchtime and topics have been organized around appointment types, covering stages of exams, pre-operative and post-operative instructions and informed consent for treatment. "More advanced speakers are able to learn supplemental terminology to be able to communicate with patients on a healthcare provider level," says Duan. Non-Chinese speakers learn the basics of the language, such as simple commands or descriptors for pain, and everyone participates in a supportive and fun environment.




Chinese American Student Dental Association Co-Presidents Mandy Chen and Anna Duan

In addition to the language aspect, the Chinese American Student Dental Association would like to branch out and include other activities. “Eventually, we’d like to work towards coordinating more cultural events, such as a Chinese New Year celebration, potlucks and other programs,” says Duan. “We believe that understanding cultural backgrounds is an important key to building a rapport with patients in the clinic and understanding why or why not they may choose to pursue certain avenues of treatment.”

Similarly, the El Dentista Club, was founded by Juan Ramirez, Class of 2019, to meet the needs of Spanish-speaking patients. “Not many students speak fluent Spanish,” says Ramirez, “but you don’t have to be fluent to talk with patients. Usually Spanish-speaking patients are really appreciative if a student dentist tries to explain something to them in Spanish so they can understand the procedure better.”

Using PowerPoint slides as instruction and breaking into small groups for conversation, the club teaches dental anatomy and medical Spanish so dental students can better communicate with patients and answer questions or explain upcoming procedures. “Communication is a major key for providing the best care possible for patients,” says Emilio Tapia, Class of 2020 and current president of El Dentista. “And, being able to communicate in your patient’s language is crucial.”

In addition, Ramirez has turned the PowerPoint materials from the El Dentista Club into a bilingual clinic guidebook, with procedures explained in English and Spanish, accompanied by images which are printed and given to the group practice leaders. “This way if you’re going to do a root canal on someone who speaks Spanish,” says Ramirez, “they’ll see a picture of the root canal and an explanation in Spanish of what’s going on, possible risks or alternatives to the procedure, as well as post-op instructions.”



*“Communication
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care possible
for patients.”*

El Dentista Club President Emilio Tapia and Founder Juan Ramirez



“I’m proud that the El Dentista Club has been able to help dental students with their Spanish,” says Tapia, “whether that’s via a phone call, translating during an appointment, learning new terminology in one of our meetings or with the various aids we have online. I hope to continue expanding the club and creating a better interaction between student dentists and patients.”

“Our students never cease to amaze me,” says Kathy Candito, associate dean for student services. “Their dedication to the school, to the profession, all the time and effort they put not only into the actual program, but also to volunteering and making sure they’re supportive of their fellow students and everyone in the school, is impressive. So many are also involved in student clubs and organized dental programs where they hold leadership positions. These talented young men and women continue to inspire me every single day.”

While the Chinese American Student Dental Association and El Dentista Club were homegrown

on campus, others organizations, such as the American Association of Women Dentists (AAWD) and the Student National Dental Association (SNDA) are national organizations with local chapters that also aim to help students succeed.

The dental school's SNDA chapter, founded by Drs. Jennifer Villalta '17 and Ashley Soliman '18, works to strengthen diversity and inclusion on campus in a slightly different way. According to its bylaws, the mission of the SNDA is to support the academic and social environment for minority students through academic and community outreach and leadership development among its members. SDNA also seeks to improve the delivery of dental health to all people, with an emphasis on minorities and the underserved. Being able to work with individuals from different backgrounds allows students to become culturally competent practitioners, a mission statement from the school website that applies to all dental students.

The Pacific Chapter of AAWD was started by Dr. Melissa Styles '14, and just last year became a nationally recognized chapter. "Our goals are to create a network of support and mentorship opportunities for women dental students," says Samantha Lee, Class of 2019 and current AAWD president. The group sponsors lunch and learns, such as one held recently with alumna, Dr. Kristina Svensson '12. Her presentation, "Things I Wish Someone Had Told Me," covered topics such as practicing during pregnancy and motherhood, paying off loans and working at a public health



clinic. AAWD also has a mentorship program on campus that pairs female students with practicing dentists or faculty members.

In addition to advancing women in the field of dentistry, the local chapter also holds extracurricular events—wellness programs, spring cleaning clothing drives to support women's and girls' community organizations—and partners with Student Community Outreach for Public Education (SCOPE) to visit women's shelters to provide oral health education, explains Lee. The Pacific chapter was honored last fall by AAWD at its national conference as Student Chapter of the Year for being an active chapter with events for members, mentorship opportunities and fundraising efforts to support women's and girl's organizations throughout the Bay Area. In 2018, the Pacific Chapter donated more than \$1,000 to nonprofits and charities, supporting organizations such as Take Back the Night, Habitat for Humanity and Napa Fire Victims.

AAWD has been busy since they first started at the dental school, says Lee, a bar set high by its previous president and one she aims to continue. Many people who aren't members, including male students, attend the events and lunch-time presentations. "We've been trying to get more people of all genders involved to create a culture where women are supported in dentistry," says Lee. "Even though our school tends to be half female, it's still important to have these resources to continue to support and empower each other."

What will classes in the future look like? "We believe that we'll continue to have about 50/50 male to female students," says Candito. "And, we hope to increase our numbers for an ethnically diverse class." One thing is certain. If future dental classes are like current matriculating students, they'll continue to foster a family environment where diversity, inclusion and support are just part of the Dugoni School DNA.

Christina Boufis, PhD, is a freelance health and medical writer from the East Bay.

*"Even though
our school tends to be
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Artistic Endeavors

From dentistry to doodling, alumni and students of the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry have a variety of creative interests and talents. Alumnus Ben Magleby '05, Graduate Orthodontic residents Christine '17 and Michelle Stepanek '17 and Bella Yu, a student in the Class of 2020, all express their creativity through writing and published children's books. Through exploring different mediums using their artistic abilities, their passion for writing has led these authors in directions they never expected.

By Ashley Musick

DR. BEN MAGLEBY '05, author of *Sugarbug Doug: All About Cavities, Plaque and Teeth* and *Dr. Ben's Dental Guide*, has always loved all forms of art. Originally from Portland, Oregon, he completed a bachelor's degree in visual arts at Brigham Young University before graduating from the Arthur A. School of Dentistry.

As a child, Magleby enjoyed drawing and reading books. Having never considered himself a writer, let alone a future author, Magleby was drawn to the emotion and story that illustrators could capture through an image or in the expression of a character. He was especially impressed by authors who illustrated their own work.

While earning his undergraduate degree as an art major, Magleby began to have doubts about a career as an artist or illustrator and began working as a teaching assistant for a Biology 100 class, where the professor asked him to illustrate handouts for the course. He loved how much easier it was to teach basic science ideas using diagrams, and began to look into science as a career. He soon discovered that dentistry would allow him to incorporate both art and science, as well as his passion for helping others.

It was Magleby's experiences in dental school that inspired him to write and illustrate *Sugarbug Doug*, a storybook to help teach dental disease prevention to children. Magleby recalls, "When I was in dental school, we learned all about the bacteria that cause dental caries. We called them 'sugarbugs' and would try to teach our pediatric patients about them, what foods grow cavities and why oral hygiene is so important. A friend organized a service project to an elementary school and asked me to draw a small pamphlet about sugarbugs. It really began then."

Starting with his original pamphlet from dental school, Magleby spent the next few years working on turning it into a book. When asked about the process, he commented, "Looking back, I am glad that it took so long—putting it down and coming back to it later offered a fresh perspective. The process helped me edit the book and end up with a better, cleaner result."

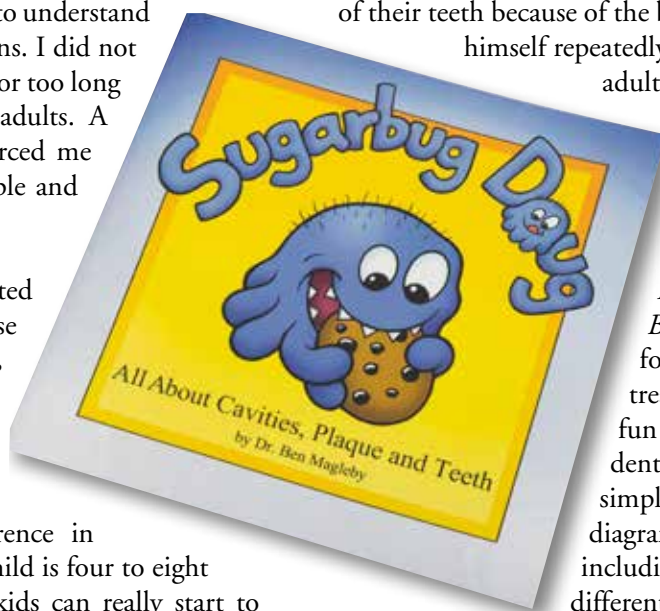
After deciding he was ready to publish his book, Magleby sent the manuscript to a few children's book companies, receiving about 10 rejection letters before deciding to self-publish through a subsidiary of Amazon. For Magleby, this was the perfect solution, as he could keep all the rights and print all the copies he needed for patients, and he wouldn't have to wait for an acceptance from a publishing company.

When asked why he chose to write a children's book, Magleby explained, "What I wanted to accomplish fit in a children's book format. I wanted it to be short, easy to understand and have lots of illustrations. I did not want it to be intimidating or too long to read, for children or adults. A children's book format forced me to keep things short, simple and to the point."

He also adds, "I really wanted to target children, because with dental hygiene, as with most areas in health care, prevention is key. Perhaps the most important time that you can really make a difference in someone's life is when a child is four to eight years old. That is when kids can really start to understand why oral hygiene is important, and can develop good habits that continue for their whole life. Hopefully, it is also before they have had any huge dental problems, and can prevent some expensive and scary dental experiences later in life."

According to Magleby, the most rewarding thing about writing *Sugarbug Doug* is that after people read it, they tell him that they learned something new, or that their kids want to take better care of their teeth because of the book. As a dentist, Magleby found himself repeatedly explaining the same things to his

adult patients. He notes, "Sometimes, I would find myself saying and drawing the same thing over and over again, so I thought, why not put that in a book?"

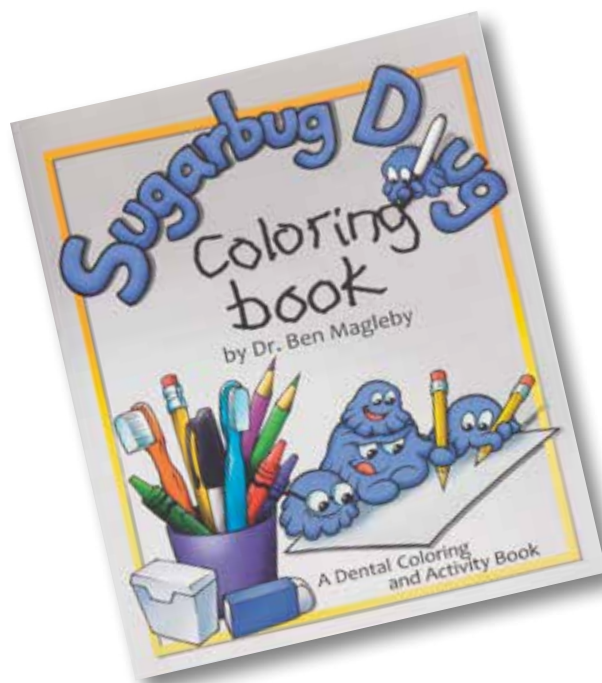


A few years later, he finished *Dr. Ben's Dental Guide*, a guidebook focused on explaining dental treatments to adults. He found it fun and refreshing to explain different dental procedures or problems as simply as possible, and enjoyed drawing diagrams, collecting pictures and including X-rays to accompany all the different procedures in the book.

After dental school, Magleby served as a dentist in the U.S. Navy, training in the military's Advanced Education in General Dentistry program and completing a tour in Iraq where he treated dental emergencies and visited local schools to teach children about oral health care. Upon finishing his military service, Magleby moved back to California to practice general dentistry in Fresno.



Magleby and his wife currently love living in the Central Valley with their three sons, where he continues to visit elementary schools to teach children about teeth, cavities and of course, sugarbugs.



FANGZHOU (BELLA) YU, CLASS OF 2020, has written and published a Chinese novel about a young girl's coming-of-age journey, entitled *The Mermaid and the Seaweed Palace*. Born in the Shandong Province of China and raised by two doctors—her father a cardiac surgeon and her mother working in endocrinology—Yu has always been interested in pursuing a career in health care.

Growing up, Yu loved to read and write in her spare time, though she never expected to become an author. Having written the novel between 2007 and 2015, Yu describes writing as something she loves to do, but doesn't want to feel pressured about—even if that pressure comes from herself. She mainly wants to enjoy the journey of the writing process, believing that the flexible schedule dentistry provides will encourage her to write more in the future.

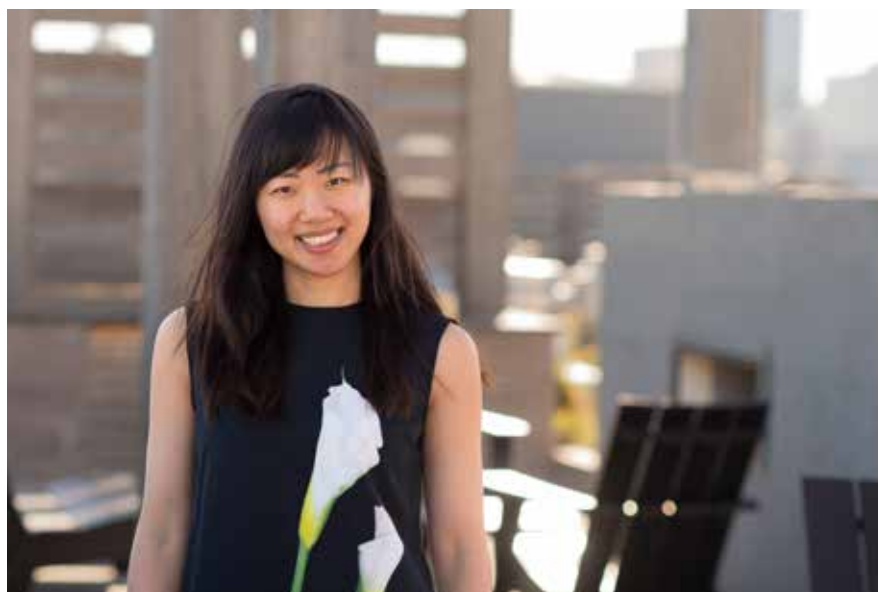
She completed her undergraduate degree in molecular biology at Johns Hopkins University in Maryland and her master's degree in biochemistry at Columbia University before enrolling in the DDS program at the Dugoni School of Dentistry. Yu also appreciates dentistry because of the hands-on experience it allows her and has enjoyed serving as the current vice president of the Global Exchange Club at the dental school. She plans to go into private practice immediately after graduating, but might decide to specialize once she has a better understanding of the different areas of dentistry through her studies and clinical experiences.

In addition to writing, one of her other hobbies is costume design—Chinese Qi Pao in particular. She designs and sews the traditional Chinese dresses herself and describes this labor-intensive endeavor as a great exercise in building patience.

When asked what inspires her to write, Yu replied that it is the people around her who spark her imagination. As she explains, "Each individual sparkles in his or her own unique way." She first decided to turn her inspirations into a reality during high school and began to write stories for pleasure.

Yu describes her writing process as consisting mostly of research, explaining that she spent twice the time researching her characters as she did actually writing. Though she did not change much between her first and final drafts of the novel, Yu describes the most rewarding part of writing is the process of understanding and growing with her characters.

When it came time to publish her novel, Yu found the process difficult but not unexpectedly so. She contacted an editor herself to



present the story, and it took several months before the novel could be published by Unity Press in China. Yu hopes to have the chance to write more in the future, and is still most interested in fiction.





DRS. CHRISTINE '17 AND MICHELLE STEPANEK '17, twin sisters and current residents in the dental school's Graduate Orthodontic program, have authored and illustrated *The Twin Teeth Trilogy*, a children's book series comprised of three stories: *Once Upon a Tooth*, *Special Smiles* and *Brace Yourself*.

Having learned Czech as their first language, the Stepanek sisters had a slower start when it came to reading and writing in English. Born in California but having spent summers in the Czech Republic, their passion for reading, writing and language drove them to quickly become fluent in English before progressing to learn Spanish as well.

The Stepanek sisters began their journey towards becoming orthodontists at an early age. Inspired by six years of braces that involved frequent visits to their orthodontist's office, the positive energy and artistry demonstrated during their visits solidified their passion for orthodontics at age 10. In sixth grade, they declared orthodontics to be their career of choice and have never looked back.

During their volunteer work while completing their undergraduate education at University of California, Los Angeles, the Stepaneks began to recognize the lack of dental educational material available for children in the Czech Republic as well as in underserved populations of the Los Angeles area. This inspired them to write three children's books focusing on dental education, each book influenced by different experiences.

The Stepaneks' first book about oral health education, *Once Upon a Tooth*, was based on their volunteer work through the University of Southern California, Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry where they provided oral hygiene instruction to underprivileged children. *Special Smiles* was a result of dental school research that motivated the sisters to write a book to improve the self-confidence

of children with cleft lip and palate. Their third book, *Brace Yourself*, is an orthodontic educational booklet influenced by their passion for becoming orthodontists and written as they began their residency applications.

For the sisters, the writing process involved a lot of brainstorming. Their books did not change much between the first and final drafts, as they carefully selected every word from the beginning so that only minor edits were needed before publication.

When asked to describe the most rewarding aspect of publishing their books, the sisters agreed that it was "seeing the faces on the children when they read our books. One of our favorite moments was when we were rotating through the Oral Surgery Clinic in dental school, and a boy with a cleft lip and palate was getting an extraction done in the clinic. He was very timid and scared, and as a distraction we read him the *Special Smiles* booklet, which he was fascinated by and which gave him the confidence to get the extraction without fear. Those moments make the hours spent writing and illustrating those books really worth it!"

Though they never anticipated becoming professional authors, the Stepaneks have always pursued creative outlets outside of academics. Their passion for drawing emerged during study breaks while in dental school, as they spent their free time illustrating what would eventually become their three published books. Extending this creativity to explore 3D design and printing,

Though they never anticipated becoming professional authors, the Stepanek sisters have always pursued creative outlets outside of academics.

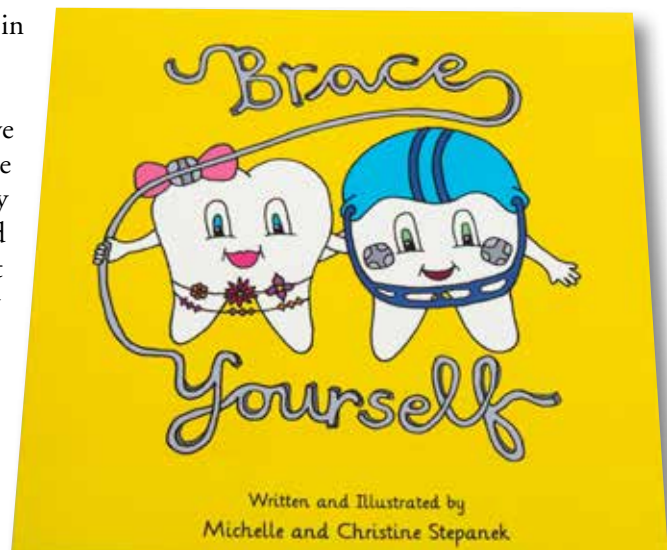


PHOTO BY JON DRAPER

the Stepanek sisters have used their skills to create children's finger puppet bite blocks that they are currently in the process of patenting.

The sisters have discussed writing a children's book to accompany their patent-pending bite blocks, with the hope that the pairing could help turn a dental examination into a more entertaining, less frightening experience for patients. They are optimistic that once they graduate from the orthodontic residency and have more free time in their schedules, their writing itch will be back in full force.

Though dentistry is not always viewed as a creative profession, Drs. Ben Magleby, Michelle and Christine Stepanek, and Bella Yu have certainly proven otherwise. By applying their artistic and academic talents to educate and inspire children, these individuals have demonstrated that creativity is an integral part of dentistry that can positively impact patients and young readers both inside and outside of the dental office.



Ashley Musick is a freelance writer from Los Altos, California.

ALUMNI SCENE

Alumni Association Hosts Annual Meeting

PHOTOS BY JON DRAPER

“Lifelong Learning: A Quest for Excellence” was the theme of the 120th annual Alumni Association Meeting, held March 1-2, 2019 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco. The meeting was dedicated to the memory of Dr. Dale F. Redig, former dean, who passed away in November 2018. The two-day meeting drew 1,300 people who attended an array of continuing education programs, the all-member cocktail reception, class reunion dinners at various venues throughout the city and the annual Alumni Recognition Luncheon.

During the luncheon, Dean Nader Nadershahi '94 presented the Medallion of Distinction to two individuals for their outstanding contributions to the dental school—Dr. Cindy Lyon '86, associate dean for oral health education, and Dr. Bruce Toy '80, former Alumni Association president and Dugoni Foundation board member. The Alumni Association honored Dr. Colin C. Wong '65 with the prestigious Arthur A. Dugoni Lifetime Achievement Award for his decades of service to the dental school, the profession and underserved communities here and abroad.

The Alumni Association also welcomed its new president, Dr. David Ehsan '95, and recognized outgoing president, Dr. Mary Turoff '77 for her leadership. During the luncheon, 14 reunion classes presented generous class gifts totaling almost \$3.2 million.





ALUMNI SCENE

Escape to Asilomar

Approximately 300 alumni, students and faculty members, along with friends and family, assembled together for the annual Asilomar Conference in Pacific Grove, on February 22 - 24, 2019. Dr. James Canton, a renowned global futurist, author and advisor, served as the keynote speaker. The weekend included reunion activities for the Class of 1999 and 2014 and a retreat for the third-year dental students.

Participants also attended a table clinic exhibition and had a chance to spend time with classmates and faculty members in a casual setting.



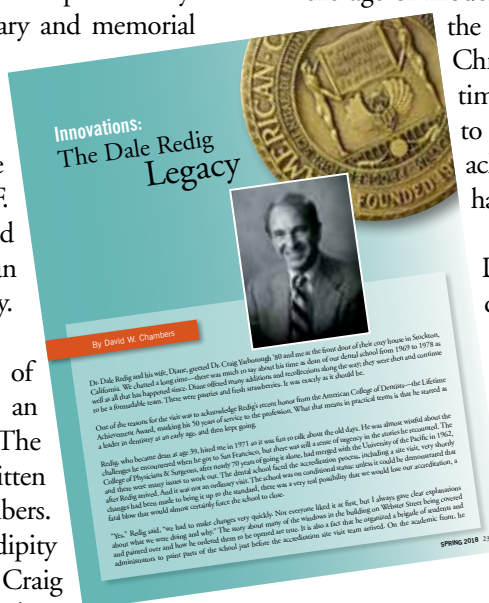
PHOTOS BY JON DRAPER

Celebrating a Significant Person in Your Life – In Honor and In Memory Gifts

Almost every day, the Dugoni School's Office of Development receives a gift in honor/memory of a colleague, classmate, spouse, parent, mentor or other inspiring figure. The act of honoring another person is a powerful celebration of one's significance to us. These people touch our lives and make the dental school and the world a better place. They should be acknowledged. Honorary and memorial donations extend the positive impact made by extraordinary people. This is the story of one individual, Dr. Dale F. Redig, who galvanized seven individuals to start an endowment in his memory.

The Spring 2018 issue of *Contact Point* featured an article, "Innovation: The Dale Redig Legacy," written by Dr. David W. Chambers. Earlier in the year, serendipity caused Chambers and Dr. Craig Yarborough '80 to travel to Stockton to reflect with Redig and his wife, Diane, on the effects of his innovations as a new dean of the then University of the Pacific School of Dentistry, a half century later. Little did we know he would pass less than a year later, in November 2018.

Seven individuals, all inspired and motivated by their various relationships with Redig, united to honor his memory by endowing the Dale Francis Redig, DDS, MS, Endowed Scholarship. Thanks to the University's Powell Match program, their gifts are being doubled in value, along with their impact on students. The funds generated by this endowment will go to a deserving dental student selected by Dean Nader Nadershahi '94.



Dr. Robert Christoffersen '67 was known as one of former Dean Redig's right hand men. He may have known Redig professionally the longest, enjoying a close relationship with him as well. Christoffersen felt compelled to make a gift in Redig's memory. "He is the person responsible for bringing our school into the age of modern teaching technologies including the concept of humanism," said Christoffersen. "Personally, he took the time to mentor me so that I was able to grow into the leadership positions I achieved during 42 of the 52 years I have spent in dental education."

Dr. Ray Doumanian '71 was a dental student when he first met Redig as the new dean in 1968. For Doumanian, the impact of Redig is all but immeasurable. "I became a dental educator because of Dale Redig. He embodied and lived the humanistic model of education," said Doumanian. "I personally lived and observed

the changes his philosophy made in my life and the positive impact that his philosophy has had on students and how it affected their lives."

Dr. Ron Sani '75 was educated in the middle of Redig's tenure as dean, seeing him in midstride. "Under Dean Redig, I always felt that I was a professional and was treated that way," says Sani. "He demanded that the school and faculty adopt this philosophy. His legacy has remained to this day."

Dr. Dennis Kalebjian '78 first met Redig as an incoming student before entering practice and organized dentistry where he served as president of the California Dental Association in 2003. He states, "I support this endowment because Dale Redig

Seven individuals, individually inspired and motivated by their various relationships with Dr. Redig, united to honor his memory by endowing the Dale Francis Redig, DDS, MS Endowed Scholarship.

had vision, focus and determination to innovate at both Pacific and the California Dental Association. No doubt, Dr. Redig continues to have a profound effect on my career as a dentist.”

Dr. Ron Borer left home and a thriving private practice in Cincinnati as well as a part-time faculty position at the University of Kentucky in 1971, beginning a three-decade career with Pacific where he served as one of the first group practice administrators and later as associate dean of clinical services. He recalls, “Dale Redig and Jim Pride (a dental school classmate of Ron’s at Loyola University in Chicago) convinced me to leave my big practice in Cincinnati for California for a few dollars a year. I never regretted the move!”

Redig was in his last year as dean when Yarborough entered dental school in 1977. By the time he graduated, Dean Arthur A. Dugoni was at the helm. “Dale Redig was the executive director of the

California Dental Association when he contacted me for the first time. He asked if I would treat his daughter who was moving to Lodi, where I practiced. It was the ultimate privilege. He defined the shortest distance between two points in his decision making. Get the facts efficiently, make the decision, communicate across all stakeholders, evaluate for success and change direction if necessary. He made time to mentor me, teaching me how to pay it forward.”

Chambers answered the question of why he wanted to honor Redig: “Dale invested in people. He hired me in 1971, a non-dentist with only two years of experience at the dental school in North Carolina, and expected me to make a difference. But he did not place restrictions on how it was to be done. He expected faculty development in teaching skills, curriculum reform, a learning center in the school that anticipated by decades the technology-mediated learning of today and the large Introduction to Comprehensive Patient Care course that was almost 20% of the first-year program. Dale said, ‘do that,’ and he looked for results while letting me grow by figuring out the best way to get the job done.”

The Alumni Association paid tribute to Dr. Dale Frances Redig at its 120th Annual Meeting in March, dedicating the Friday luncheon in his honor. There, Chambers recalled the accomplishments of Redig and the influence he had on thousands of lives in the profession and the Dugoni School of Dentistry.

If you too have been touched by Redig or what he has done for your profession, you can recognize him with a gift to the Dale Francis Redig, DDS, MS, Endowed Scholarship. Contact Kevin Wessler at kwessler@pacific.edu or 415.929.6406 and extend Dale Redig’s legacy to future dental students.

Dr. David W. Chambers gives a tribute to Dr. Dale Redig at the Alumni Meeting in March.



PHOTO BY JON DRAPER


He defined the shortest distance between two points in his decision making.

22nd Annual Kids in the Klinik Golf Classic Teed Up for July

One of the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry's most important fundraisers is gearing up for its 22nd anniversary of bringing smiles to children in need. Join Kids in the Klinik at the legendary Olympic Club on Monday, July 8, 2019 for a wonderful day of golf and philanthropy supporting children's oral health. You will enjoy 18 holes at the historic Olympic Club, Hot Dog Bills famous burger dogs (soon to be featured at the Golden State Warriors' new home in the Chase Center) and a fantastic charity auction, all in support of this worthy cause. "This year's event is shaping up to be bigger and better than ever," according to Dr. Doug Yarris '83, Dugoni Foundation board member and chair of the Kids in the Klinik Golf Classic Planning Committee.

Thanks to last year's success, the now \$2.7 million Kids in the Klinik Endowment provides critical funding for dental care, education and prevention to children who would otherwise be unable to afford it. Each year, the Dugoni School of Dentistry serves 1,500 children and adolescents via the school's Hutto Patterson Pediatric Dentistry Clinic and the Redmond Family Orthodontic Clinic.

Player and sponsor opportunities are available. For more information about participating in the Kids in the Klinik Golf Classic, contact Donor Relations Manager Matt Schueller at (415) 351-7179 or kidsintheklinik@pacific.edu or visit kidsintheklinik.org to view photos and videos from previous events.



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This list reflects memorial gifts from July 1, 2018 through February 1, 2019.

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DR. MASAKO MORIYA WIGGANS (1912-2006) was the daughter of Japanese immigrants, born and raised in San Francisco. She received her DDS degree in 1937 from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, becoming the first Japanese American woman to graduate from the college and to receive a dental license from the Dental Board of California.

She established a private practice in San Francisco's Japantown and served her community as a member of the Japanese American Citizens League. Her practice closed in 1942 by the forced relocation and internment of citizens of Japanese ancestry during World War II. In spite of this, she continued to provide dental services at her War Relocation Camp in Gila River, Arizona, as well as in the U.S. Army after enlisting in the Women's Army Corps once the ability to volunteer was restored to Japanese Americans. After World War II, she became a civilian dentist for the U.S. Army's Letterman Hospital in San Francisco. She subsequently pursued a second career with the U.S. Department of Treasury and retired in 1982 with more 37 years of private practice, military and civilian federal service.



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"The Dugoni School is about family. I graduated from the old school on 14th and Mission. Three of our sons graduated from 2155 Webster. We hope to have our grandchildren graduate from 155 Fifth. And so, the Dugoni School is part of our history, it's part of our present and we hope it's part of our future. We give back to help keep our school at the cutting edge of dental education."

—Dr. Joe Bronzini '66 and Leslie Bronzini