



Alan McDavid

What are your plans following graduation?

I'm searching for associateship opportunities in the Phoenix and Dallas/Fort Worth areas.

What is your favorite dental procedure?

The most rewarding procedures for me are operative dentistry and fixed prosthodontics. I enjoy the immediate gratification in operative, as well as the cosmetic opportunities in fixed prosthodontics.

What has been the most stressful part of dental school?

The most stressful part of the first two years of my dental education was mainly attributed to time management and juggling a rigorous test schedule. Each class presented its own individual challenge, and prioritizing studying material was quite difficult during midterms and finals. The last two years has presented a different form stress with patient management. It's hard to accept that a large portion of obtaining your graduation requirements lies within your patient's personal responsibility to make scheduled appointments, pay for performed procedures, and follow home care instructions. However, I think it's a great preparation for patient management within private practice.

What is the most important thing you have learned while in dental school?

Presentation is everything. Whether it's how your study models are mounted to how you dress each day, you patients and faculty take note and respond positively to the extra effort of taking the time to make things presentable.

Where would you like to see yourself in 10 years?

My generalized 10-year goal would include paying off my student debt, and have an established general dentistry practice in my ideal location.

What is your most memorable moment while in dental school?

On a lighter note, definitely a most memorable moment in dental school occurred when a dental student "streaked" one of my first year large lecture classes. That same year, a student actually "pied" a professor during a lecture (amazingly his identity was kept a secret for four years). It was such a grave occurrence in terms of professional demeanor that no one even wanted to know who did it. Needless to say, that was the last of the pranks from our class.

What led you to return to teach at UMKC?

When I graduated from dental school, I was offered a beginning faculty position in the department of Operative Dentistry. I was inspired by Dr. David Moore (Professor Emeritus), Dr. Norman Schwartz (Fixed Prosthodontics) and many other outstanding faculty who had made an impact on my professional development, as well as their contributions to the profession of dentistry. Also, I particularly value the opportunity to interact and collaborate with other faculty members, (dental and interdisciplinary) whose wide range of expertise is very stimulating.

Do you have your own private practice or work outside of this school?

I maintain a private practice, limited to prosthodontics. My husband, Dr. Kelly Deines has his dental practice (restorative dentistry) in the Brookside area, and I am fortunate to be associated with him in his practice.

Do you have any comments or concerns about where the dental profession is headed?

Scientific advancement has had a profound impact on the dental profession, and on our abilities as dentists to improve the quality of oral health care to our patients. But, with more complex treatment modalities being developed comes the possibility of aggressive over-treatment based on marketing hype and practice management sales techniques; so it becomes ever more important to consider evidence-based treatment with the patient's best interests at heart. It is very encouraging to see increased interest in different healthcare delivery systems to better address the needs of under-served patient population areas.

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vice president

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secretary

Joy Steen

fundraising

Emily McCoy

editor

Scott Driver

Don't forget to join our Facebook group!

coming up:

feb 7-9

2010 Lobby Day
Washington D.C.

feb 8

MDA Legislative Day
Jeferson City, MO

feb 10

MDA Lunch & Learn

march 17-21

40th Annual Session
Pittsburgh, PA

march 24

MDA Lunch & Learn

april 21

MDA Lunch & Learn

letter from the president

This semester has been busy and productive for the ASDA chapter at UMKC! Since the beginning of the summer, ASDA leadership has been hard at work recruiting new and old members, organizing service projects, scheduling lunch and learns, and attending national meetings. On Halloween weekend, about a dozen dental schools descended upon St. Louis for the Western Regional Meeting. It was a busy weekend to say the least, filled with informative speakers, the ability to reconnect with other members, and the chance to run around downtown St. Louis in your Halloween costume of choice. Most importantly, I saw the younger members at the meeting learning about the role ASDA plays in getting our point across on a national level concerning decisions about our profession.

One of my favorite speakers of the weekend, Dean Patrick Lloyd, from the University of Minnesota discussed their adoption of the non-patient based licensure exam and also the state's development of the Dental Health Aide Therapist (DHAT) program. The new licensure exam will start next spring, and is heavily modeled after the Canadian style exam. The DHATs have already started their training, so it was interesting to see how this plan is being implemented now. My own personal bias took a backseat as I listened to all the facts about the program, and realized I had a lot of misconceptions about the role DHATs fill.

At the meeting I showed off the achievements of our ASDA chapter this semester. I proudly displayed our fundraising t-shirt design which got quite a reaction from the other schools. We also discussed our service projects, such as our participation in the Health and Wellness Seminar at Musician's Friend, and also our work on becoming a charity partner with the Hospital Hill Run in June 2010, to raise funds for the KC Free Health Dental Clinic. Our Lunch & Learn Chairs have done an outstanding job of getting really informative

speakers that entice us with delicious lunches, and they are always looking for new, interesting speakers in all types of dental clinics to come and talk to students. I am also very proud of our VP and Membership Chair for leading an outstanding recruitment week at the beginning of school, and all her hard work on getting member information updated and fueling our membership numbers early on. The year is not over, and there are many events to look forward to such as the American Dental Political Action Committee drive, the MDA Legislative Day, and the National Dental Student Lobby Day next year. I encourage anyone with an interest in getting more involved with ASDA to talk to me or any of our officers. Also, I have many of the presentations from the regional meeting, and many are posted on the asdanet.org website. It is the members that drive each ASDA chapter and represent the student voice on a national level. As it reaches the end of the semester I wish everyone a relaxing, happy winter break, and hope everyone takes advantage of their 2010 membership privileges to the fullest!

-kristin kaelke



Dr. Donna Deines

Tell us about your recent Elmer Pearson Outstanding Teacher award nomination.

The Elmer Pearson award is given by the UMKC Trustees to a faculty member from each of the academic divisions, and the nomination is put forth by a committee of faculty members who have been past recipients of the award. I did not realize that I was being considered for this award, and so it came as quite a shock! However, it means a great deal to me that this group of distinguished faculty would recognize me, and I am truly humbled by receiving this honor.





by joy steen

“Amazing and empowering” capture my first experience at the ASDA 2009 Regional Western meeting.

While driving to St. Louis with Kristin Kaelke, our District 9 ASDA President, my initial expectations were of long meetings on inane material. I was delightfully surprised to learn how very wrong my expectations were. The information was very pertinent in almost every presentation, discussion, and breakout session. Subjects worthy of note included ASDA’s role and the numerous benefits of membership, changes to the National Board Exam, and a discussion of Dental Ethics which included the recent White Paper publication. Two topics that generated much conversation were Minnesota’s Non-Patient Based Licensure Exam and Dental Therapist program in Minnesota.

Overall the feeling of excitement and potential is difficult to describe to someone who has not experienced it. It was empowering to get a glimpse of how very real our input was valued by community legislative, and other dental leaders. Talking with other dental school students from around the Midwest opened a new perspective for me. It gave us me as a student government leader an outside look at how to improve our local ASDA chapter.

When we left on Sunday, I was driven to achieve more and a small sense of regret that I had not been more active in this wonderful organization earlier as a student. Therefore I encourage first and second year students to become actively involved with their local ASDA chapter. Come to a regional meeting to discover how you can impact future legislation concerning dentistry and be empowered as an ASDA member.

KDA/MDA meetings

by dustin kruse

There were a variety of issues presented at the KDA Board of Delegates meeting, but the issue that certainly overshadowed the others in terms of attention and interest in discussion was the impending development of a mid-level practitioner program in the state of Kansas.

Recently, Alaska adopted the DHAT model and Minnesota has passed legislation authorizing a variety of mid-level practitioners. In the very recent present, Kansas (one of five states) has been targeted by a private foundation to provide a significant amount of funding for development of a mid-level practitioner system. It is certainly noteworthy to add that while its development isn’t illegal, such practice is still illegal in the state of Kansas, and the KDA does not support the development of a mid-level in Kansas.

DHAT:
dental health aid therapist

currently used on Native American lands in Alaska. High school graduates from rural areas are educated for two years and return to their communities to provide oral health education, hygiene services, scaling, fillings, pulpotomies, steel crowns, and ‘simple’ extractions.

CDHC:
community dental health coordinator

advocated by the ADA. They are often characterized as oral health social workers. They are trained and intended to practice in underserved areas to provide education, hygiene, and temporary procedures under a dentist’s supervision. The CDHC model relies on the dentist to complete necessary treatment.

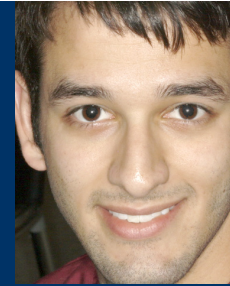
by danielle riordan

The MDA House of Delegates meeting was held this year on November 6-7. There were two resolutions that really affected us as a student body and I spoke in favor of both. One was entitled Resolution 2009-16: Seek funding for UMKC’s Unreimbursed Care of Medicaid Qualified Adults. This resolution addressed the need to seek legislation for the school to receive some form of reimbursement for the work they do and for the patients lost due to the loss of their Medicaid coverage. Currently UMKC writes off more than \$200,000 in unreimbursed work so the house decided it was time to try and lobby for more money for the dental school. This resolution did end up passing, so hopefully we will be able to lobby our legislators and see an increase in funds received and therefore, an increase in procedures we are able to do at the school.

The second resolution that directly affected us was entitled Resolution 2009-25: UMKC Student Outreach program. This resolution was proposed in hopes of restarting a program that offers 3rd and 4th year students a progressive dinner set up around Kansas City in different offices to familiarize students with how practices operate in the area. This resolution did pass as well and they plan to start the program this spring open to 4th year students.

So all in all the MDA House of Delegates meeting in Jefferson City was a great success and a wonderful learning experience for us as students. I have been a delegate to the house for the past three years and would strongly encourage others to pursue this position in the future if they enjoy parliamentary procedure or are just curious about how their organization runs from within. We definitely need someone representing us who is willing to speak up because the house members really value our opinion as students and it makes for a more exciting meeting when you are able to voice your comments and concerns.

Q: Would you join an Ethics Club?



“I think so. I think that dental ethics should be reinforced throughout school.”

Dan Pinkston
first year



“It could be difficult finding a time to meet considering all of the other organizations we are committed to.”

Paige Riddle
third year



“No, because I’d probably have to go to meetings and pay some money or something.”

Brian Niehaus
third year



“The ethics class (first year) and the honors council is the best use of the students’ time to address those issues.”

Jenni Rapini
fourth year



“Absolutely! We are going to face issues like this when we are out in practice.”

Jon Ehlers
fourth year

Ethics...Really?!?

by kristin kaelke

Let’s be honest, the word ethics conjures up boredom and indifference, much like the detailed map of the Krebs Cycle, and is capable of immediately curing the worst case of insomnia. Or, like myself, elicits a snooze effect stemming from the ethics drone being pounded into my head my entire life. In dental school, the topic of ethics might bring to mind that one class during first year where the discussion occurred about how wrong it was if a dentist “accidentally” removed the wrong tooth from a patient, and decided not to tell them it was a mistake. But recently, ASDA has been trying to show its members that this may not be what dental ethics should mean to dental students. It is foremost on the minds of ASDA be-

“...don’t hack into the CMS system with your homemade silicon mold thumb pass.”

cause of the increasing headlines dental students and dental schools continue to make on their failure to monitor and prevent unethical behavior. The concern is how this perception will plague the profession once these individuals leave the

schoolhouse and enter their salaried dental environment to represent the profession.

ASDA was so concerned with the profession and the issue of ethical practices that they decided to spend some time researching the matter and publish their findings. The ASDA Ethics White Paper was published earlier this year to address the growing concerns of ethics and dental students. To some, the idea of ethics meant, don’t cheat on a test, don’t turn in pre-clinical labwork that is not theirs, or don’t hack into the CMS system with your homemade silicon mold thumb pass. But those simple honor code violations are just a scratch on the surface at what dental students should demand from their schools concerning ethical practices and expectations. Stop and think about the last time we looked at a patient’s x-ray with faculty and identified the perfect board lesion to delay treatment on or thought of ways to acquire a patient that may already be assigned to someone else. Pressure to graduate might seem like a good reason to just let it pass for now, but later that fine line may be blurred for patient care because the dental office needs to make its overhead, or the three-day weekend/family vacation is about to kick off. Dental schools should be held accountable for upholding the value of ethical standards or students may never

appreciate learning the “right way” to conduct ourselves.

ASDA’s development of the Society on Professionalism and Ethics Clubs (SPEC) resulted from the issues addressed in the White Paper. These clubs act as an outlet for dental students to come together and address their ethical grievances in school. The clubs are not related or associated with either ASDA or the Honors/Ethics Committees at the respective school, but exist as a forum for small group discussion of problems heavy on the minds of dental students, and can work with those groups if necessary to voice concerns discussed in their meetings. Start up kits will be sent out to interested schools, and with the help of a faculty advisor, anyone can start up a SPEC chapter.

Hang in their future dentists, and check out the White Paper. Become a voice for ethical concerns, and ways to ensure that ethical issues don’t slip through the cracks. I’m sure if one person is frustrated with something, there are twenty other people also sick and tired of the same thing. Check out the information on the SPEC chapters, and care about the namesake of the profession remaining filled with professionals. Patients should not be given a reason to fear the dentist.