



SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

...the benchmark for dental education, patient-centered care, and groundbreaking research.

Dean's Message

Dear Alumni & Friends,

I do hope you and your loved ones are healthy and safe. The state, country, and world are dealing with a great disruption to our way of life, impacting the health of our population, the education of our young, and the delivery of care to our patients. It was only in January that the School of Dentistry finished its new strategic plan that would provide a road map for us to be “the benchmark in dental education, patient-centered care, and groundbreaking research.” As a graduate or friend of our noble institution, we know you encourage these positions and will continue to support us as we attain each standard.

Over one hundred of our remarkable D4 students were able to graduate on time despite moving to online instruction. For a third year in a row, the graduating class completed their essential experiences faster than in previous years. During this period, we joined the top 20 research-funded dental schools in the nation based on funding from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR).

On March 6, the first COVID-19 positive case was detected in Kentucky, and we suspended all elective care on March 16. We acted quickly and decisively to mitigate this pandemic. We moved our students off-campus and our non-essential staff and faculty have been working remotely from home. Our essential faculty and staff provided emergency dental services for all patients in Louisville. These terrific individuals were our frontline providers, placing themselves at risk to serve our community and prevent people from visiting and clogging our emergency medical services. The faculty pivoted from face-to-face instruction, to putting all their material online as we kept instruction going even as our students were at home. This has been a terrific accomplishment and I am so grateful to our faculty, staff, and students who made this a reality. We also have worked to develop new protocols for

Welcome New Alumni

We are thrilled to welcome the Class of 2020 to our alumni community! You are now an integral member of over 5,000 alumni who have graduated from the School of Dentistry. This is a robust community of graduates that support the school and each other. We recognize the final weeks of your time as a student were historically unique. This has created a strong bond between you and your classmates, and ignited a resiliency to withstand future obstacles as you begin your professional careers. We look forward to being together at a future alumni event to officially congratulate and welcome you!



Stay in Touch —>

patient care and aerosol mitigation—all part of the plan approved by Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear so non-urgent dental care could start again in May.

We are welcoming our students back in a thoughtful process. Residents returned in May; dental and dental hygiene students are on a tiered schedule in June. The phased returns will be complete in July. We are diligently working with different strategies on what the fall semester will look like and how we will welcome the class of 2024 to campus.

The journey has been a challenging one for us all—especially financially on the school. However, we believe we are on the road to recovery now, to begin again our vision to be “the benchmark in dental education, patient-centered care, and groundbreaking research.”

Go Cards,

T. Gerard Bradley, BDS, MS, Dr.Med.Dent.
Professor and Dean





ULSD Alumni Council

- Dr. Mark J. Schulte '77, *President*
- Dr. Kristen E. George '09, *President Elect/CFO*
- Dr. Gerald T. Grant '85, *Secretary*
- Dr. Babatunde O. Agbola '16
- Dr. Jacob R. Bishop '16
- Dr. Wood E. Currans '67
- Dr. Christina Delis-Chiambas '94
- Andrea M. Edelen, R.D.H. '97
- Dr. Angela L. Fleace '01
- Dr. Donald T. Frey '12
- Dr. Richard H. Lin, Jr. '82
- Dr. Marija Sasek '05
- Dr. Jenna R. Schulten '06
- Dr. Kelly A. Underwood '06

Student Representatives

- Nicholas E. English, *D.M.D. Candidate, 2021*
- Alexander M. Stewart, *D.M.D. Candidate, 2021*

Dental Hygiene Legacy Alumni Council

- Virginia L. Woodward '71, *Chair*
- Pamela D. Barnes '77
- Mary Ann Burch '68
- Sharon C. Carpenter '75
- Julia L. Drury '01
- Adam C. Hall '11
- Jennifer L. Hasch '13
- Linda P. Lewis '85
- Jacqueline A. Singleton, *Dental Hygiene Program Director*

Orthodontic Alumni Council

- Dr. David C. Small '95, *Chair*
- Dr. Jared O. Dean '09, *Vice Chair*
- Dr. Carl D. Gioia '11, '13, *1st Director*
- Dr. Krushan C. Patel '19, *2nd Director*
- Dr. Robert E. Spiller Jr. '80, '90, *3rd Director*
- Dr. Ralph J. DeDomenico '74, '77
- Dr. Amy B. Farnsworth '92, '95
- Dr. Eric W. Hickman '95
- Dr. John K. Newcomb '77
- Dr. Danielle L. Periago '05, '07
- Dr. Carmen A. Quirk '17, '19
- Dr. Justin M. Tristler '12

Faculty Advisors

- Dr. Nandakumar Janakiraman
- Dr. Anibal M. Silveira

Resident Representatives

- Dr. Jacob H. Britt
- Dr. Lauren K. Renaud, D.M.D. '18



A Student's Perspective

Bee-de-dee-deep, bee-de-dee-deep!

As the familiar sound of my alarm goes off each morning, for a moment, I expect to wake up in my Louisville apartment to begin another day as a second-year dental student.

Instead, for the past few months, I've woken to the soft, sunny hues of my childhood bedroom in Montgomery, Ala.

In the week leading up to spring break, on March 11, Gov. Andy Beshear instructed Kentucky school districts to be prepared to close on short notice amidst the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S. Following suit, University of Louisville School of Dentistry students, faculty, and staff received an email later that day announcing cancellation of didactic classes and labs for the remainder of the week. Many were excited to start their spring break early, but few could have foreseen the prohibition of in-person classes, labs, and clinical treatment that was to come in the days and weeks that followed. *Continued on page 5*

UofL and WKCTC Partner for Dental Clinic

A collaboration with West Kentucky Community and Technical College will allow students from both institutions to work together in a dental clinic while providing services to residents of the Jackson Purchase region.



Pictured are leaders from both institutions that worked tirelessly to bring the clinic to fruition: Dr. T. Gerard Bradley, dean, ULSD (left); Carrie Hopper, dean of the WKCTC Allied Health Programs and co-ordinator of the Dental Assisting Program; and Dr. Anton Reece, president, WKCTC.

[Read more.](#)

New Faculty



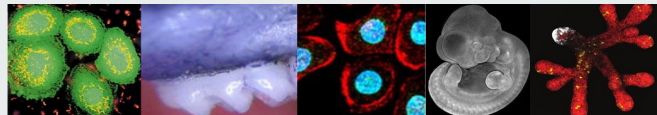
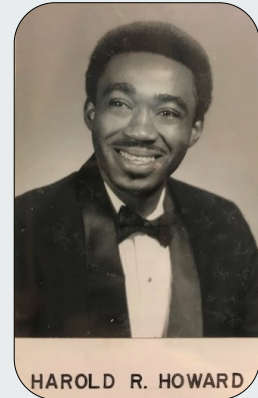
Timothy B. Followell, DMD, MS, FAAPD, is a board certified pediatric dentist who recently joined our faculty. A native of Paducah, Dr. Followell has returned home to Kentucky from Beaver Creek Pediatric Dentistry in Ohio. Dr. Followell previously served as the Dental Program Director of the Nisonger Center Dental Program (University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities) at The Ohio State University College of Medicine. He also served as an attending at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, and as a faculty member for the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities at OSU. Although he enjoys providing care for all children, Dr. Followell has a particular interest in treating children with special health care needs. In his leisure time, Dr. Followell is a practitioner of Brazilian jiu-jitsu. At ULSD, he will be involved in teaching both predoctoral students and residents. Dr. Followell's wife will be joining Norton Children's Hospital and UofL in August as a child neurologist. *Welcome to the Cardinal family!*

Dentistry in West Louisville: A Walk Down Broadway

By Sherry C. Babbage, D.M.D., 1981

Last month while I was taking a moment to say goodbye to our five African American graduates and wishing them well in their next adventure, I could not help but reminisce about my own graduation in 1981 and my plans to join a private practice. Take a walk down Broadway with me for a moment and remember (or learn about!) our rich African American alumni presence in West Louisville.

After graduation, I went into practice with **Dr. Vernon Graves '79** at 25th and Broadway. Across the street was **Dr. Harold Howard '70**, the first ULSD African American graduate. When Dr. Howard went to work at the Park DuValle Community Health Center, his practice was purchased by **Dr. Leon French '77**. Down the street on Broadway was **Dr. Susie Riley '79** and **Dr. Judy Green '87**. Six blocks away was **Dr. Phillip Williams '77**. Farther down Broadway was **Dr. Madeline Maupin Hicks '75**, ULSD's first African American female graduate. On that stretch of Broadway, we were all African American ULSD alumni proudly serving the community. [Read more.](#)



Marijuana, Oral Bacteria & Periodontal Diseases

By David A. Scott, Ph.D.

David Scott is a Professor of Oral Immunology and Infectious Diseases at the University of Louisville School of Dentistry. Many countries, or parts thereof, have legalized or decriminalized marijuana for medicinal and/or recreational use. Currently, only the cannabis-derived preparation, cannabidiol (CBD), is legal in Kentucky, as a walk along any large thoroughfare will readily illustrate. Several recent studies, however, suggest marijuana exposure predisposes to destructive periodontal diseases. Therefore, having spent much of his career investigating how tobacco use induces and exacerbates destructive periodontal diseases, Dr. Scott has of late branched out into the study of marijuana and cannabinoids.

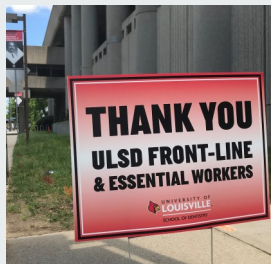
The mechanisms underlying identified cannabis-periodontitis associations remain unclear. In some of the first research in the field, Dr. Scott has identified multiple potential marijuana-disease axes. *Continued on page 5*



A Community of Care: Dean's Circle

Each year, many alumni and friends of the University of Louisville School of Dentistry choose to support the ongoing growth and success of the institution through philanthropic support. The current pandemic has directly impacted us by limiting the services we can offer through the school's clinic. We rely on the revenue generated from the clinic to help meet the budgetary needs of the school. While it is an uncertain time for many, we so greatly appreciate that many of you have continued in your giving to help us. If you haven't already, please consider making a gift to the School of Dentistry using the link below. Your support could qualify you for the Dean's Circle unlocking additional benefits, events, and exclusive communication from Dean Bradley throughout the year. [Learn more about the Dean's Circle and how to become a member.](#)

[MAKE A GIFT](#)



Proper Protocols

Faculty and staff have gone above and beyond the call of duty to service our emergency clinic while most were asked to stay at home during the early months of pandemic. Our frontline providers selflessly put patient needs first so our clinic could remain open to alleviate stress on emergency rooms. Created by Dr. Scarfe, this infection control video shows how the school adapted quickly to keep everyone healthy while developing new safety protocols for patient care.

[Watch the video.](#)

The school has made significant engineering improvements to mitigate aerosol generation. Three aerosol safe locations (Aerosol Pods) have been established and the building's medical-grade ventilation system has been adjusted. Additionally, numerous Medical Air Scrubber units will be added to the main clinic, Eastern Parkway, and ACB locations to create additional Aerosol Pods.



From Leather Bags to a Half-Million Face Shields

Appointments cancelled. Doors locked. Like so many others, **Tyler W. Jury, D.M.D. '16** suddenly had to close up shop to his busy dental practice, [Jury Family Dentistry](#). Unlike so many others, Dr. Jury had to close an additional business, [Clayton & Crum](#). Along with partner Clay Simpson, Clayton & Crum creates timeless leather goods handmade in Louisville. After they closed their workshop and sent employees home they had an idea. Soon they were opening their doors again and bringing their employees back. Thinking outside of the box, Dr. Jury and Simpson put their leather aside replacing the material with plastic, elastic, and foam. Clayton & Crum has since made over a half-million face shields to protect the medical community. [Read more.](#) [Watch their workshop transform.](#)



3D Print Lab Working Overtime

[Gerald T. Grant, D.M.D. '85, MS](#), Interim Assistant Dean, Advanced Digital Technology and Innovation, oversees the lab's production of 3D printed swabs to help fill the gap in COVID-19 test kits. Innovation at University of Louisville involving multiple departments has led to a promising solution for the shortage of swabs in test kits. In response to a request from the Commonwealth of Kentucky, UofL's Additive Manufacturing Institute of Science & Technology (AMIST), along with faculty and students in the Schools of Dentistry, Engineering, and Medicine have created a 3D printed swab made of a pliable resin material. The School of Dentistry operates a 3D print lab used in prosthodontic fabrication of dental implants, crowns, and even jaw bones. [Read more.](#)



A Community of Care: Responding to COVID-19

As we continue to deliver on our teaching and research mission in the midst of the current health crisis, you can contribute to our community of care to support students impacted by COVID-19 and to provide much-needed testing, personal protective equipment, and research to help drive the city, Commonwealth, and national response and intervention. **Be sure to indicate School of Dentistry in the comments section.**

[MAKE A GIFT](#)

A Student's Perspective

Continued from page 2

The Monday after spring break, the classrooms and hallways of ULSD were empty, and e-mails flooded students' inboxes from faculty and administration with tentative outlines of how the semester would proceed. These would be the first of many emails received as the COVID-19 situation continued to evolve.

Navigating online learning during this unprecedented time has been a challenge for students and faculty alike. Most of the instructors for didactic classes continued to present lectures via Panopto, a service that allows a presenter to record his or her voice along with PowerPoint slides, then post it online for students to review—the only difference was, these lectures were now being recorded by faculty members from the solitude of their homes, rather than in the dynamic classroom setting which afforded students the opportunity to ask questions if a topic was unclear or confusing. ULSD's administration also began using Microsoft Teams to hold meetings with representatives from each class, providing updates on the school's current outlook and plans for students to return for in-person instruction. While there were a few glitches and hiccups along the way, it seems that everyone adapted quickly to this novel way of teaching, learning, and test-taking (if Dr. Bernstein can administer a 225-question test remotely, anyone can!).

Another obstacle that comes with distance-learning is the change of environment. As most of America is now aware, working, learning, and studying exclusively from home is a major adjustment. While many students chose to return to their family homes to endure the shut-down, others opted to stay in Louisville. Those who remained in Louisville may not have had the option to go elsewhere, or they concluded that their residence in Louisville was a better studying environment than a house full of family members. Third-year student Laura Spence returned to her family home in Pennsylvania early on in the shut-down: "It has been nice to slow down and spend time with my family, but being in a household full of people who are also trying to work from home has been difficult. Most of all, I miss interacting with and caring for my patients in the clinic." These sentiments have been echoed by many students in recent weeks.

Like many of my classmates, my "Type A" personality does not thrive under the uncertainty of our current situation; however, I am reassured in knowing that ULSD's leaders are doing all they can to ensure that our transition back to conventional education is a safe and smooth one. Until then, I am content to enjoy time at home with my parents (and the free meals that come with it)!

Megan Karst, D.M.D. Candidate, 2022

LASDA | Cardinal Initiative Director & Newsletter Editor

Marijuana, Oral Bacteria & Periodontal Diseases

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Firstly, at high concentrations marijuana-derived cannabinoids (CBD, Δ -9 tetrahydrocannabinol [THC] and cannabidiol [CBN]) each exhibit direct toxicity to key gingival cell types, including epithelial cells. Further, these cannabinoids exhibit potent antimicrobial activities against select oral bacteria. Finally, phytocannabinoids, at concentrations relevant to those seen in the oral cavities of users, suppress the ability of innate immune cells to respond appropriately to periodontal pathogens. So, marijuana-induced susceptibility to periodontitis may be driven by (a) compromised epithelial barrier function and/or (b) cannabinoid-induced microbial dysbiosis and/or (c) compromised immune activity.

With the number of permissive jurisdictions likely to grow rapidly, the global burden of marijuana-associated periodontal diseases also is likely to increase. Periodontal health care professionals should contemplate the implications of marijuana consumption when considering patient education, disease prevention and treatment planning. Meanwhile, Dr. Scott continues his investigations in this area. [Learn more about the Office of Dental Research.](#)



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- October 2 [UofL Orthodontic Annual Meeting](#)
October 5 [ULSD Alumni Council Golf Scramble](#)

Please note that due to the circumstances surrounding COVID-19, events may change based on guidelines from university and/or local, state, or federal officials.



louisville.edu/dentistry/alumni



The University of Louisville is an equal opportunity institution.