



University
of Glasgow

School of Medicine,
Dentistry & Nursing

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Dental Mirror

The Newsletter of the Glasgow Dental School

Issue 15
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Lights, Camera, Action!

On Saturday the 10th December 2016, the final year students of Glasgow Dental School took to the stage to present 'FROZEN – A Disnae Hurt Anymore Production'. Months of commitment and determination from the cast, production team, band members and many others helped create a musical and theatrical night not to be forgotten.

Lawrence, Jayne and I worked together alongside an amazingly supportive team of individuals who made the night possible. From our scriptwriters to set designers, back stage crew to prop construction team, all of those off stage contributed to what seemed like an effortless performance on stage.

Yet let's not forget the names in lights. Who knew that the Class of 2017 held so many budding stars? With a

dental adaption of Disney's very own 'Frozen' in the hands of these talented final years, the cast really made it their own. Disney's Elsa transformed into 'El-la', LA for short, with her sister Anna becoming Annaesthetic. Not forgetting our evil Prince Sjoghans, who came all the way from Dundee Dental School in his attempt to overthrow the throne of Glasgow Dental School and Hospital. The cast, made up of around 30 members, lit up the Glasgow University Union producing a magical night supported and attended by parents, staff and former students. Rehearsals were held every Sunday with endless laughs but laughter aside why did we decide to do it?

Not only did the pantomime provide a night full of laughter, music and awful dental puns, it helped achieve one of our main goals in our final year – to raise money for and awareness of

three amazing charities close to all of our hearts. The pantomime has helped raise over £3,000 for 'UNHCR: The UN Refugee Agency', 'Alzheimer's Society' and our very own 'GOHISS: The Glasgow Oral Health Improvement Student Society'. We hope that the charities will benefit from the proceeds and that the money will help families around the world, as well as here in Glasgow.

Next stop ... Broadway?

Aoibheann Higgins, Lawrence Sharkey, Jayne Patterson and The Class of 2017



Praise for the cast on social media



The cast of 'FROZEN – A Disnae Hurt Anymore Production'

University of Glasgow: The Network

In recent years Glasgow Dental School has been working hard to establish and maintain a stronger relationship with its many alumni. Initiatives such as the Glasgow Dental School Big Band, which includes both current students and alumni, together with our joint working with alumni in the Faculty of General Dental Practitioners are examples of collaboration to cement these relationships, but communication remains an issue. However, this could all change as a result of an exciting University initiative called The Network.

The University's Development and Alumni Office and Careers Service

launched The Network in 2014 – an exclusive online professional networking site for Glasgow alumni, students and staff. The University has alumni in 180 countries around the globe, covering every sector and industry. The shared experience can help current students to step on the career ladder through to established alumni wishing to network with peers.

For those familiar with 'Linked In' and 'Facebook', The Network is similar to a cross between the two but with some particular features of great value to student – alumnus relations. One of these is the 'Mentoring' facility, which may be of particular value to recent graduates wishing to seek

career guidance from Dental School staff or alumni working elsewhere in the profession. It is also an excellent way for alumni to keep up with recent news and announcements of forthcoming events at the Dental School and wider University.

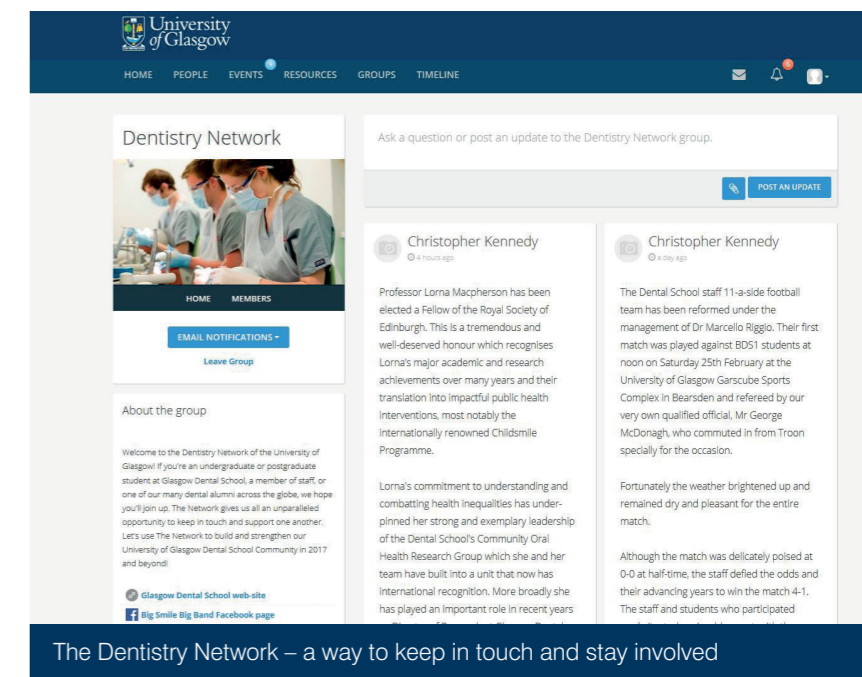
We have established a 'Dentistry Network' (see picture below) within The Network and would encourage as many staff, students and alumni as possible to set up a profile at www.gla.ac.uk/services/careers/thenetwork. The process is simple and takes about 5 minutes. If you are already on LinkedIn, you can sync your profile details and populate your Network page at the click of a button.

The Network gives us all an unparalleled opportunity to keep in touch and support one another. Let's use The Network to build and strengthen our University of Glasgow Dental School Community in 2017 and beyond.

If you have any questions or queries Kezia Falconer, the Digital Engagement Officer who oversees The Network, will be delighted to help.

Kezia can be contacted by e-mail: kezia.falconer@glasgow.ac.uk or by phone

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Glasgow Still Smiles Better – Big Smile Big Band

It has been over a decade since the BBC announced "Glasgow Smiles Better". In a Comic Relief study it was shown of Scottish cities that Glasgow was ahead in the "smiles per hour census". Now here in Glasgow we want to stamp our mark on another smile milestone. On the afternoon of Friday 9 June 2017, we will gather over 1000 people in a mass participation art project to set a Guinness World Record by creating the shape of a big smile at the Scottish Event Campus (SEC, formerly the SECC) in Glasgow. In the largest mass participation event of its kind, University of Glasgow Dental School staff, students and alumni, Glasgow area schoolchildren and teachers and staff from local dental practices will create the World's biggest smile.

You may be asking whether this is just being held to put a smile on peoples' faces? The answer is no. There is a much more serious aim underpinning this event - the promotion of an Oral Health improvement message and the celebration of the successes we have seen here in Scotland, especially in the excellent progress made in the oral health of children. As stated in Scotland's Oral Health Plan, a recent Scottish Government Consultation Exercise on the Future of Oral Health Services, "Dental decay is almost always entirely preventable, and by ensuring good oral health in children, we help safeguard the oral health of the future adult population". The Big Smile Big Band event will be taking place during National Smile Month a UK-wide event that has been organised annually since 1977 by the health charity the Oral Health Foundation.

The Scottish Event Campus as a major sponsor for the event is providing both the venue and manpower to support the event. In true Glaswegian style, this will be a fun packed event. The members of the Glasgow Oral Health Improvement Student Society will provide lively interactive Oral Health Promotion sessions for the school pupils in attendance. Live music will be provided by the Glasgow Dental School Big Band. Band leader and University of Glasgow Dental Alumnus Callum Wemyss has brought together over twenty musicians and singers to put on a musical spectacular during the attempt and in the hours following the record attempt. Two of the pieces that will be performed are original compositions. As part of the world leading Childsmile campaign, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde Glasgow each year invites primary school pupils from Glasgow Schools to take

part in the "Sparkling Star Award". The competition encourages pupils to write a song to accompany tooth brushing, raising awareness of good oral health habits and the profile of school tooth brushing programmes. The winning lyrics from last year and from 2017 will be put to music and performed by the school children at the Big Smile Big Band event.

So the challenge has been set! News of the event is spreading and excitement is building. You may have seen the Final Year Students promoting the event at the recent FGDP study day at the Science Centre. Are you ready to do some Record Breaking, and some Smile Making? Put a date in the diary for Friday 9 June 2017 and sign-up at <https://cpdscotland.org/big-smile-big-band>.



Students promoting the Big Smile Big Band event at the FGDP Study day 2016



New event to benefit GDPs and the Dental Appeal

On Friday 5 May the first-ever CPD Scotland (<https://cpdscotland.org/>) Core CPD Day will take place at the University of Glasgow's Wolfson Medical School Building. It is a unique collaboration between a range of not-for-profit dental organisations and the University of Glasgow. The goal – to provide six hours of quality CPD for dental practitioners while at the same time raising money for the Dental Appeal (www.gla.ac.uk/dentalappeal). Any profits will be used to support the development of a state of the art Dental Technology Training Suite at the Dental School. The programme has been put together by Professor John Gibson and features a range of local experts whose focus will be on the day-to-day issues faced by dental practitioners.

Professor Gibson commented, "Our speakers bring a wealth of experience and expertise in core CPD subjects. They will provide delegates with an essential update on medical emergencies, infection control, radiography, complaints handling, safeguarding and legal issues and oral cancer."

All delegates will benefit from a hands-on session dealing with resuscitation, defibrillation and anaphylaxis plus updates on oral cancer, infection prevention and radiography. Then they will be able to choose between different aspects of legal

and ethical issues and complaints handling and also between safeguarding issues for children and young adults or vulnerable adults.

The event is the first organised by CPD Scotland, an umbrella body which is supported by more than a dozen organisations including FGDP(UK) Scotland, the Glasgow Dental Alumnus Association, Glasgow Odontological Society, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, GGC-LDC and BDA West of Scotland.

Director of CPD Scotland, Conor O'Malley told the Dental Mirror, "The main intention of CPD Scotland is to raise awareness of the long-standing CPD programmes that are run often below the radar by the various professional bodies in Scotland. We realised that it was to our mutual benefit if we worked together to promote each other."

This is an important feature of the event because CPD Scotland, the organisation, is very much predicated on building a community of dentists who can share their experiences and work towards common goals. Mr O'Malley added that they had seen this approach succeed in other countries to great effect.

"We also acknowledged that in a changing world, the older professional bodies are maybe behind the curve with regards to advertising our courses. We intend to help that. As a result we have produced a website and timetable of events focusing primarily on CPD education in the west of Scotland."

CPD Scotland chose the Wolfson Medical School Building in the heart of Glasgow's West End to be easily accessible and provide a range of post-event social opportunities.

"The rate we are charging – £99 – compares very favourably to similar CPD events but the difference is that by attending delegates are directly benefiting the profession. Many CPD events are run by companies whose sole intention is to make a profit but for CPD Scotland the goal is to put something back in to the profession," said Mr O'Malley.

You can support the event and the aims of CPD Scotland by booking a place for the day at www.cpdscotland.org. In return delegates will benefit from six hours of CPDA on core subjects designed to help improve day-to-day dental practice.

INSPIRE Research Conference - 8th October 2016, Guys Hospital, London

On the 8th of October 2016 myself and three fellow students (Emily Davidson, Jim McMurray and Elizabeth Todd) from the University of Glasgow Dental School had the opportunity to present at the INSPIRE Research Conference UK held in London.

INSPIRE is a UK-wide initiative designed to engage medical, dental and veterinary undergraduates with research (<http://www.acmedsci.ac.uk/grants-and-schemes/mentoring-and-other-schemes/INSPIRE/>). The first INSPIRE Research Conference was held in 2015 and was the first of its kind aimed at budding dental professionals to raise awareness around potential careers in dental research. This Conference was particularly exciting to me and the other students as we had all very recently completed our own elective period projects before entering the Final Year of the BDS programme.

Our day began on one of the upper floors of Guys Hospital with a beautiful view over central London. We had the opportunity to meet staff of the hosting University (Kings College), the various speakers presenting at the meeting and Dr Rupert Austin who organised the event. The morning began with a number of talks given by experienced dental research

professionals, which provided the opportunity to gain insight into academic careers at different levels. The opening presentation was delivered by a newly qualified VT Dentist who was conducting a study in her own practice. It opened my eyes to how clinical research is manageable and can be incorporated into our career at any stage. We discussed career pathways, met Clinical Research Fellows and were able to fully understand how rewarding an academic career can be.

Attending the Conference we had the opportunity to share our own early experience in research through a series of oral and poster presentations. Our subjects ranged from analysing patient experience in Glasgow, the possibility of incorporating oral rapid HIV testing in primary care and investigating the effects of light therapy in pain reduction in child chemotherapy patients.

We engaged with other students from across the UK and discussed research topics. It was exciting and motivating to see the number of young dentists interested in an academic career.

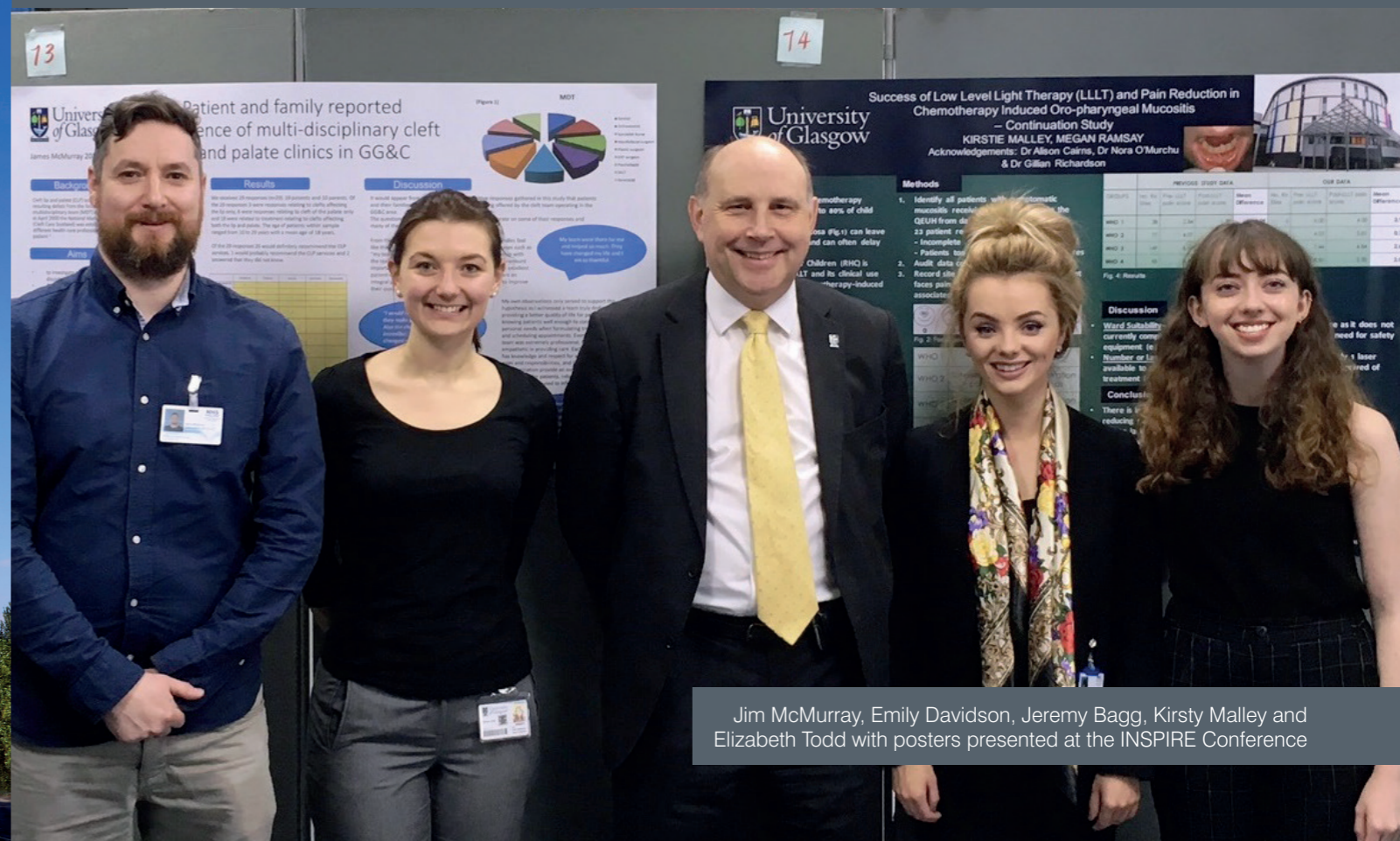
Elizabeth Todd said: "The conference gave me a great insight into the world of academic dentistry, and how it can be balanced with a clinical career."

We were very proud to be representing the University of Glasgow and particularly of Emily Davidson, who won an award for her work entitled 'The immune response to post-translationally modified antigens' that had been supervised by Dr Shauna Culshaw.

For me, the most valuable part of attending the conference was the realisation that my career, even at this early stage, can be exactly what I want it to be. I have found a new network of young dentists who share similar interests to me, allowing me to retain connections with research that I can use to assist my personal development upon leaving dental school at Glasgow.

I look forward to the INSPIRE Conference 2017 which is set to take place in Glasgow. With the engagement of increasing numbers of dental schools from across the UK I am sure the INSPIRE community will continue to thrive. I am thankful to my tutors at Glasgow for introducing me to INSPIRE and I look forward to returning in years to come, sharing my own experience and learning from those I admire.

Kirsty Malley BDS 5 Student



Jim McMurray, Emily Davidson, Jeremy Bagg, Kirsty Malley and Elizabeth Todd with posters presented at the INSPIRE Conference



Shauna Culshaw
Lead for Clinical Research Facility

Dental Clinical Research Facility

Did you know there is a new 'Dental Clinical Research Facility' on level 7?

We caught up with Debbie McKenzie (Research Hygienist), Clare Brown (Dental Research Nurse) and Shauna Culshaw (Lead for Clinical Research Facility) who are now working in our new Facility to find out what it's all about.

Shauna was first involved in discussions about this new Clinical Research Facility (CRF) in early 2014. Prior to that, an immense effort yielded a decision to include the CRF in a joint development with a state of the art Life Support Training Facility, resulting in completion of the Jim Rennie Suite. With funding for development from a variety of sources including NHS GGC R&D, the NHS GGC Oral Health Directorate, University of Glasgow Endowments, Glasgow Dental Educational Trust and NHS Education for Scotland, the suite was completed in October 2014 but the CRF was not fully operational until 2016.

The CRF launched in at the deep end with a randomised controlled trial of denture cleansers sponsored by GSK, which got underway with the invaluable guidance and help of Carol Malcolmson and Linda Wilson, experienced Research Nurses from the Glasgow Clinical Research Facility. In August 2016, Clare and Debbie joined the team as the substantive appointees to the Dental CRF and share their experiences below. If you'd like to find out more about what we're up to please get in touch!



Q. Tell us about the progress of the new facility

• Clare:

We are now seeing patients on a regular basis in the CRF but it feels like it's been a lot of preparation to get to this stage. We had to think about Good Clinical Practice training, safe and secure storing of patient records and study site files, processing and storing of subject samples, staffing, suitable screening of potential patients and lots more! The two-chair clinic has to be set up to the specific requirements of each study, whilst always maintaining the Standards for Health & Safety and Infection Control within the Dental School.

• Debbie:

The initial period involved setting up equipment, updating skills, team building and overcoming some of the challenging bureaucracies involved in research in order to offer excellent quality clinical studies. It has been very enjoyable being part of a new research team and being a part of developing a wonderful new facility, which will hopefully thrive in this new era of clinical research within Glasgow Dental Hospital and School.

Clare Brown
Dental Research Nurse



Q. What clinical studies have you been involved in so far?

• Clare:

When I joined the CRF, the GSK Denture Cleaning Study had already started and we had the help and guidance of a Carol, a senior research nurse who was showing us the ropes! This was a great starting point for us and has set a great example and good standard of how a trial should be conducted.

During the Denture Study I was involved in maintaining version control of study documents; telephone screening patients; taking informed consent; liaising closely with laboratory staff; recording data into electronic case report forms (eCRF); ensuring that samples were taken correctly and in accordance with study protocol; randomising study participants as to which treatment they would receive and when; ensuring patients received their travel expenses and making sure the cash float was always topped up; arranging final payments for participants that had completed the study and making sure that queries from data management were answered as quickly and as accurately as possible which sometimes involved a huge amount of detective work. This is a reminder of why it is so important to record data accurately during a research study!

We are now working on another study titled 'The Immune Response in Periodontal Disease', which comes with an exciting amount of responsibility as a dental research nurse. I have contributed to getting our site file set up which is the first time I had done anything like this. We are preparing sample collection packs, collecting and processing samples all whilst providing participants with Hygiene Phase Therapy. I think Debbie and I are thoroughly enjoying the science and laboratory work involved in this study. We are getting a lot more familiar with sample processing and will be pros by the end of the study! We are still in the process of identifying and screening suitable participants, we are informing them and then able to obtain informed consent and get them booked in for their first visit.

• **Debbie:**

We have just completed our first commercial study sponsored by GSK – a denture cleaning study. We have just started a non-commercial study on 'Periodontal disease and the immune system'.

Q. What's different about working in the research facility?

• **Clare:**

The biggest and best thing for me as a dental nurse is the amount of responsibility that I have been given in my new role. I have been given the chance to develop in my career whilst still maintaining my skills and patient contact.

By successfully completing Good Clinical Practice Training I am now able to identify study participants and their suitability for a study and then obtain valid consent for their participation in a study, whilst keeping them well informed at all times.

I have learnt that there is a lot more to a Research Study than you might think. It's a great new challenge and the hard work pays off and is really rewarding.

• **Debbie:**

Something that's strikingly different to my normal job is taking and processing samples for example, blood/plaque/GCF. We worked through training and competency assessments - but it still feels like something completely different!

There are many surprising problem solving challenges. For example, I had to find a shop in Sauchiehall Street to change £80 (all in pound coins) into notes to give a patient their expenses owed as the cash office had no notes! Apparently most banks won't exchange coins unless you bank with them. A big thanks to Primark for their help with this one!

The experience has been rewarding as patients have given us great feedback on how delighted they are to be able to help us with research - especially some of the patients' comments that they have been given great treatment in GDH over the years.

It's been challenging at times overcoming and learning all the NHS and research policies as well as learning new research skills in addition to setting up a new facility. It certainly keeps you up to date with 'Best Practice'!

Q. How can our colleagues get involved / support this exciting new facility?

• **Clare:**

The Clinicians and Dental Nurses have been great in providing us with potential study patients and have all been really welcoming on clinic while we've been recruiting patients. During recruitment, Team Leaders have allowed us to display study specific posters, which was a great help in identifying suitable patients, so thank you!

• **Debbie:**

We received fantastic support from all staff in all clinics involved during our recruitment for our GSK- denture study and for our current periodontology study which has, and continues, to help the study to be a success, so thank you for all your time and efforts!

We would warmly welcome any input/support into the CRF. Please feel free to contact us any time. We would love to hear from you.



Debbie McKenzie, Research Hygienist

Debbie, Clare & Shauna

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Glasgow Dental School Establishes a TELT Partnership

The Dental School has been developing its portfolio of Technology-Enabled Learning and Teaching (TELT) tools and resources for a number of years, culminating in the presentation of a University of Glasgow Teaching Excellence Award to six staff members in 2016 for their work in this area.

In order to build on this success, Robert McKerlie has established a Dental School TELT Partnership Group with membership from both the student body and staff members.

The group aims to:

- Oversee the utility of technology within the BDS curriculum to enhance the learning experience of students studying at Glasgow Dental School
- Advise, engage with and provide feedback on TELT projects undertaken within Glasgow Dental School
- Provide the Glasgow Dental School voice in TELT projects within the College of Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences and wider University

There are currently eleven projects underway, six of which have significant student involvement. As an example, one of these projects is to develop a Dental School app. The significant differences between school and university

life can make the first year at university overwhelming for some students. This project aims to provide school leavers with key information before their arrival, which should enhance their transition. School leavers have grown up with smart phones and tablets and are accustomed to having access to digital resources, particularly mobile apps, for their learning. The project will leverage this mobile literacy by creating a mobile app containing the key information required to support students transitioning from school into the BDS programme. The staff-student project team includes Jo-Anne Murray, Professor of Educational Innovation within the MVLS College, who has extensive experience of digital education. Collaborations of this type to enhance the student experience are at the heart of the TELT Partnership philosophy.

Robert McKerlie TELT group Lead.

Mahmoud Amir Alagha tells the story of his journey from Syria to MSc (UofG)

My name is Mahmoud Amir Alagha and I am a Syrian citizen who has endured the path of uncertainty for an extended period of time. During this time I've learned key life lessons and at the top of the list is the fact that at some points life can become chaotic. Plans we've taken for granted start to fall apart. Our entire being shakes such that we don't know what life has kept for us, but endurance, combined with help from those people who care, can result in miracles. Here I reveal how my story has unfolded and explain how the University of Glasgow has changed my life.

My journey before Glasgow:

I hold a Bachelor's degree in Dentistry, with excellence, from the University of Kalamoon in Syria. It was awarded in 2011, just a few months after the uprising against the Al-Assad regime had started in March 2011. Soon after, I joined the University of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates where I completed a one-year internship programme in general dentistry followed by almost two years clinical training in the Departments of Emergency Dental Care and Oral Surgery.

My ambition is to lead a life that matters. In that regard, I knew that my next step would be to apply for postgraduate studies. During my training years I had contacted a number of world-ranked Universities and I was fortunate enough to be accepted for the Master's programmes in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at both the University of Manchester and the University of Glasgow.

I was careful to choose the best available option. I decided the programme structure, access to the regional hospitals and teaching facilities at the University of Glasgow would enrich my experience profoundly. Above all, the Programme Director, Prof Ashraf Ayoub is a well-known figure in the Arab world. I was delighted to take the opportunity to become his student at the University of Glasgow and study under his direct supervision.

My interest in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery stemmed from the cohort of patients I had already treated in this specialty, especially teenage patients who came to the consultation clinic with concerns about their facial appearance. I am fascinated by the impact of orthognathic surgery, which goes beyond the correction of facial deformity. The treatment helps them regain self-confidence and patients become more socially integrated.

My Glasgow experience

I joined the University of Glasgow as a self-funded international student in September 2014. By 2015 the war in Syria had reached its fourth year and the situation in the country had become a worldwide crisis. As a result of problems with renewing my passport under these circumstances the only option for me was to apply for asylum in the United Kingdom. It was a really tough time and the asylum application process was very stressful. The risk of my deportation was first highlighted by the UK Home Office on the day of my first clinical examination during the Master's programme. I did terribly badly but the support I received from my supervisors, Prof Ashraf Ayoub and Dr Kurt Naudi, was beyond expectation. Professor Ayoub provided father-support. This feeling I had lost since I left Syria and became alive again.

During the course of my Master's programme, the financial burden became extreme as the Syrian currency lost over 75% of its value against the Pound Sterling. Consequently my family was no longer able to cover the tuition fees for my second year of study. I raised concerns with my supervisors and I was advised to contact the Dental School Student Advisor, Dr Zayneb Makki, who was a great help. I was later advised to contact the Dental School Director of Postgraduate Student Affairs, Dr Andrea Sherriff. She was generous with time and support, and referred me to the Head of the Dental School, Prof Jeremy Bagg and Ms Ruth

Donald, an administrator at the School. I felt heard out and supported all the way through, even though there was no obvious solution to my case. I had debated the possibility of taking a year off in an attempt to secure the tuition fees for the remaining year of the course. It was a period of uncertainty.

Among all this chaos, a fee waiver initiative was announced by the University of Glasgow in support of students from the refugee community - this came as a new hope. I applied and I was extremely happy and fortunate to learn of my selection to be the MVLS College recipient of that support. It made it possible for me to continue with my studies - a dream I had thought I was about to lose.

"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person."

Albert Schweitzer

I am now processing my paperwork to be considered for a PhD degree to achieve my research goals and objectives. My ambition is to provide the Glasgow Index of Facial Paralysis.

Forever shall I remain indebted to Professor Anton Muscatelli, Professor John Briggs and to the University of Glasgow.

If you would like to see a BBC item featuring Mahmoud's work it is available at the following link:

www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-38583519



Presentation of David Watson with gifts at his farewell celebration
(L to R: Alison Cairns, Liz Scott, David Watson, Laura Cross and Frank Bonner)



Farewell to David Watson

Late last year saw the retirement of David Watson from his post of Senior Clinical University Teacher in Restorative Dentistry. David, a graduate of the Dental School here in Glasgow (Class of '83), joined the Dental School in 2006 as the first academic lead for the then new BDS 5 adult outreach teaching programme and also took on the role of Course Coordinator for BDS 5. In these roles he achieved great success and was immensely popular with staff and students alike.

Through teamwork with the Outreach Administrative Lead, Frank Bonner and other colleagues within the School, contiguous health boards and NHS Education for Scotland, outreach has become a real jewel in the crown of the Glasgow BDS curriculum.

David will be greatly missed and we wish him a very long, happy and well deserved retirement.

Other Staff News

Welcome to

Dr Andrew Forgie (Senior Clinical University Teacher in Restorative Dentistry)

Dr Maria Tumelty (Clinical Lecturer in Oral Medicine)

Dr Laura Colgan (Clinical University Teacher in Oral Surgery)

Mrs Jessica Brewster (Childsmile Research Secretary)

Miss Leighann Sherry (Laboratory Manager)

Dr Ousama Rhouma (Childsmile Research Associate)

Dr Santhani Selveindran (Research Associate)

Congratulations also to Mr Craig Mather
appointed Clinical University Teacher in Oral Surgery.



The University of Glasgow, charity number SC004401

Dental Mirror

The Dental Mirror can also be found on the University of Glasgow Dental School website - www.glasgow.ac.uk/schools/dental so feel free to click on that and read our online Dental Mirror.

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