



# International College of Dentists

January 2012 Newsletter  
Michigan Section

## WELCOME MESSAGE FROM DEPUTY REGENT RON PALER

I hope all ICD Fellows and their families had a wonderful Christmas/Holiday and spent time with family and friends. As we begin a New Year I wish everyone a healthy, happy, and productive 2012

This issue of the ICD Newsletter is being sent to you electronically rather than by USPS. This will mean you will receive more Michigan ICD news, more rapidly, and more often. In addition it



serves to protect the environment, saves trees, saves postage, and saves printing costs. We will evaluate if you want us to continue to use this method of communication. Send your comments positive or negative to **Gary Asano** at [gasano@aol.com](mailto:gasano@aol.com) **Please save in a folder or print these issues for future reference.**

There are only 25 members who do not have an email address. They will be sent a printed copy and an email address will be requested.

(continued on last page)

## STUDENT FAREWELL DINNER



*From left to right: Ron Paler, IX District Vice Regent, An Nguyen, U of M Exchange Student to University of Sao Paulo, School of Dentistry, Calmina Machado, Carla Ikuta, Dick Shick, Past President, CAL, and USA Section, Saroj Saha, U of M Exchange Student to University of São Paulo, School of Dentistry, Martha Michielin, Oscar Gomes, Dennis Lopatin, Ph.D., Senior Associate Dean, U of M School of Dentistry*

## THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The ISE is a signature program for the ICD. The purpose is to foster an awareness of different models of dental care delivery and education in an international setting. It is a wonderful opportunity to show others dental education and life in the USA within a global environment. The rewards of the ISE can be a lifetime of enriched experiences and relationships with their exchange partners. In 2010 the program supported a total of 26 students nationwide with full or partial stipends.

Michigan ICD provided support for the two Michigan students

to attend the University of São Paulo. **An Nguyen** and **Saroj Saha** recently gave their ISE report to U of M D1, D2 and D3 students at a luncheon meeting on December 9 before an audience of 100 students and faculty.

It is the hope of the Michigan ICD to establish Global Health Student Associations at both U of M and UDM to promote better understanding of cultural and professional issues on a global level.

The International College of Dentists, is an honorary organization of 10,671 dentists from 156 countries. One of its newest collaborations is between the University of Michigan, School of Dentistry, and the University of São Paulo, Brazil, School of Dentistry.

The objective of the ICD Student Exchange is to prepare dental students for future leadership in the global community by sharing cultural and professional experiences with students throughout the world.

The University of Michigan was selected by

the ICD because of the dental school's interest in global oral health, humanitarian outreach programs, and because of the variety of cultural enrichment opportunities on campus. Four dental students from Brazil were hosted by ICD Vice Regent Ron Paler, DDS, (61).

The three week exchange program included attending classes and lectures with other D3 students, reviewing research projects, and observing clinicians in both the student and faculty clinics in the fields of periodontics, prosthodontics, operative dentistry, oral



*The Brazilian students celebrated the 4th of July and Independence Day with Ron Paler at The Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan, and got a taste of America's heritage and Early American history including Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, Harvey Firestone, Orville and Wilber Wright.*

medicine, and orthodontics.

After classes the students enjoyed listening to the daily Musical Festival Program located by Rackham Auditorium, visiting various museums on campus, and the Ann Arbor Art Show. They even had time to go canoeing in the Huron River, and enjoy an American style barbeque.

In addition, on July 4 **Dr. Ronald Paler** served as a guide to the students at The Henry Ford in Greenfield Village, Dearborn, Michigan for an American celebration of Independence Day. While there the students visited the birthplace home of Henry Ford, the Menlo laboratory of Thomas Edison, and the bicycle shop of the Wright Brothers, etc.

## SAO PAULO SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



## THE AMAZING DENTAL EX- CHANGE

### EXPERIENCE IN BRAZIL

*-An Nguyen - D3- University of Michigan,  
School of Dentistry*

When I found out about my invitation to the exchange program at the University of São Paulo in Bauru, Brazil, I was not only excited about having an opportunity to see dentistry practiced in a different part of the world, but I also wondered how I was going to survive for three weeks in a place where English is not the main language. My classmate **Saroj Saha** also got into the program, so we both had a little over a month to prepare everything including the visa, all the paperwork, and buying the airplane tickets. I myself had to make some adjustments to my summer plans so that the three weeks in Brazil could fit into my tight summer schedule.

### DORMS ARE FREE

On August 21st, 2011, I flew out from San Francisco International Airport. I was heading toward the largest city of the western and southern hemispheres: São Paulo! It was quite a journey from start to finish. After the 28-hour-transit with two plane changes and two buses, I finally got picked up at the bus station in Bauru by Oscar, the student coordinator for the exchange program, whom I met prior to my arrival during his exchange at the University of Michigan. Saroj and I were very lucky to be able to stay in the dormitory during our time at the school. Dorms are provided free of charge to students by the university based on a random drawing for those interested, and thus not all students were able to live in the dorm. Each dorm building consisted of 4-6 rooms, and each room snugly fit three people. I was the fourth person in my room! The three girls in my room studied Speech Pathology, and some of my neighbors were dental students. They had to rearrange the room upon my arrival so that we could fit in my twin mattress. Even though it was a little crowded, everyone was very nice to me, and we all respected each other's space. The girls asked a lot of questions about my studies in America and about "America" in general. They all expressed their

love for American products and their dream to go to America to study or travel one day.

After I got settled in my dorm room, I took a warm shower and headed out for lunch at the cafeteria, excited to meet up with the Brazilian friends that I had met back in Michigan. Lunch at the university is subsidized. Students can buy a lunch ticket for \$1.90 Real (about \$1.1 US), and each ticket buys the student a complete healthy lunch consisting of rice, beans, salad, meat, fruits, juice and coffee. My first day at the University was slow, as I was trying to settle in and get acquainted with the people around me.

### STUDENT CURRICULUM

“Bom dia” - That was the first word I learned from my roommates prior to clinics and classes with the Brazilian dental students the following morning. Their day generally starts early at 8am and ends at 6pm with a 2 hour lunch break from noon to 2pm. Each dental class at the University of São Paulo consists of 50 students. Having a small class size allows the students to get a lot of attention from the professors. Lectures are usually in power point format in a small lecture hall, much similar to what we have here in Michigan. Attendance is required as there is sign in sheet and there are no recording of the lectures. The University of São Paulo is one of the best dental

schools in Brazil, and thus the school is very well equipped. Wifi Internet is available throughout the school to help facilitate easy access for researching and exchanging information. Preclinic labs and the actual clinics are very modern. The difference is that the school still use paper form for health records. Clinic attires are strictly white from head to toe. I sometimes find myself complaining that our clinics have too strict rules for clinic attires, until I had to run around stores to stores to buy white shirts, pants, shoes, and put on the white hairnet in the clinic in Brazil! During my stay in Bauru, I was able to rotate through many clinics including Monday/Wednesday Prosthodontic/ Periodontic clinic, Tuesday/Thursday Restorative/ Endodontic Clinic, the Emergency Clinic and the “Centriho”, or the Hospital. During clinic sessions, D3 and D4 students pair up with their classmates as provider/assistant during each clinic session so there are 23 pairs working at the same time. The other four students are rotated to the Emergency Clinic. There are seven faculty members and seven graduate students per Perio/Prosthodontic session and five faculty members and five graduate students per Resto/Endo clinic session, so the students did not have to wait long to have their work checked; plus having an assistant all the time helped speed things up significantly. In general, each student sees two patients and assists for another two patients in a day. The set up of the clinics by differ-



*Above: Oscar, the student that helped us connect with other exchange students.*

*Right: Meeting the Dean at The University of São Paulo Dental School in Brazil.*



ent specialty days help both the students and the faculties to be more focused on one or two subjects, and thus the students are able to do more hands on advanced procedures. While taking out third molars is a big deal at our school's Oral Surgery department, the D3s and D4s in Brazil are allowed to do them all. In fact, the D4s only take out third molars and leave the rest of the extraction cases to the D3s. Similarly for Perio surgery, the D3/D4 students are supervised by faculties to perform bone grafts, soft tissue grafts, implants, etc.! I think the graduating dental students in Brazil definitely have more experience in terms of complicated procedures than the typical dental student from our school.

## STUDENT TUITION AND PATIENT CARE IS FREE

In addition, each dental student spends about two to three weeks each rotating in Emergency Clinic, Pediatric and Orthodontic Clinics. It was fun touring through the Pediatric Clinic as I learned that the very first appointment the kids have with the dentist is actually a very fun appointment because they will get together to sing and play with toys, so that they can get the first good impression with the dentist. This is what we learned in theory, but never see in reality back at home. There are also optional rotations for students at the Hospital during their breaks or holidays.

Dental school in Brazil is all paid for by the govern-



*Children's Clinic*

ment and thus the patients who come to the school for treatment also have the service for free. The only thing the patients have to pay for is cost of materials that are utilized during their treatment such as denture teeth, implants, or bone for grafting. Extractions, filling and emergency treatments are completely free. The students only have to spend money to purchase their own set of equipments. The clinics also have a central dispensing area where students obtain materials and sterilize their equipments. Another interesting thing I learned during my clinic rotation is that before my trip, I was told that we are not allowed to administer Articaine for block anesthetic in the US. However, I was surprised to find out Articaine is the main local anesthetic used at the University of São Paulo even for block anesthetic!

## GOING GREEN

Since the filling materials are provided free of charge to patients and students, everything is dispensed from multiple-use syringes instead of individual capsules to reduce cost. Besides, the students provide their own masks so that they will be more conservative. I also admire everyone efforts' to stay green. Students bring their own mugs to lunch so that less plastic is used. Recycle bins are available throughout the campus and sorted out to various materials. There is also a



recycling bin in each cubicle in the clinic, so that the students can recycle everything including the plastic wrap from sterilization. Reflecting with what is going on at our own school in Michigan, I feel that we sometimes waste too many gloves and materials because everything is so readily available to us!

## HOSPITAL ROUNDS

The Hospital for the Rehabilitation of Craniofacial Anomalies of the University of São Paulo was a very unique place that I had been given an opportunity to go to. This has been the destination of thousands of patients with cleft lip and palate and other craniofacial anomalies who come from the most remote regions of Brazil in search of specialized treatment. The Hospital is an autonomous unit of the University of São Paulo founded in 1967 as a research center linked to the Dental School of Bauru, and for this reason is known in Brazil as Centrinho, which means 'Little Center'. We all had to fill out an application and state the specific reasons we want to see the Hospital. Even though it is a research and clinical institute where the patients don't have to pay and get treated by talented teams of doctors, the Hospital has strict rules so that the patients are not exposed to too many visitors. Families of patients at the hospital are also given a place to stay, and they make hand made products to sell to help fund the hospital. I myself purchased a cleft-palate doll from them for one of my close friends back home because her dream was to work with cleft-palate children. The Centrinho does everything they can to make their patients feel more comfortable. They have a theatre and play room for kids, a cook who makes healthy daily meals for the patients and families, a small park in the middle of the hospital with lots of green trees for everyone to walk around and enjoy the fresh air.

## FUN AND CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

One of the best parts about my trip was my invaluable experience connecting with local friends, eat local food, and immersing myself in the Brazilian cultures. Being able to experience the famous Samba music with the Brazilian friends at the bar after school was truly special. I also got to get away during the weekends to visit my friend's hometown in a different part of Brazil, as well as visit the beautiful



Dental Students from Ecuador

Rio de Janeiro and saw the iconic statue of Rio and Brazil- Cristo Redentor- on top of the Corcovado mountain. This statue was voted one of the "New Seven Wonders" and is currently the fifth largest statue in the world. You can see the statue from almost every corner of Rio de Janeiro. The view from top of Corcovado mountain overlooking the Sugar Loaf and the stretching beaches was one of the most amazing views I have ever seen in my life. Thanks for the opportunity given by the **INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF DENTISTS** and the **SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY GLOBAL INITIATIVE PROGRAM**. Everything in Brazil turned out to be great experience for both Saroj and me. The three weeks we spent passed by so quickly. All the people we encounter had always been so nice and helpful to the both of us. During our meeting with the Dean at his office over Brazilian espresso, despite the differences in the clinics and lectures settings, I came to appre-

ciate what I am given at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. Famous researchers, clinicians, and professors that teaches us in classes and clinics were highly respected and well known in Brazil. After my trip, I feel so much more appreciative of the surrounding world-class researchers and clinicians that we see every day at school. One important thing I learned is that standards of care for dentistry in both Brazil and US are high and very similar to each other. The experiences that I had in Brazil fuel

me to work harder to always keep up and exchange with my colleagues from around the world. Even though the time was limited, I was able to observe how oral health care is practiced in a different part of the world, make new friends, learn some simple conversational Portuguese, pick up a new stamp for my passport, eat the real Brazilian barbecue, see one of the seven New Wonder of the World, etc. and the list of life experiences keep adding on.....

## UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY WHITE COAT CEREMONY--AUGUST 22, 2011

On August 22nd, the University of Detroit Mercy Dental School welcomed the new freshman class of 2015 with their White Coat Ceremony. This was their formal induction into the art and science of dentistry for the new dental, hygiene, and post grad students. Along with the recognition that they have achieved acceptance into dental school they were given encouragement for what is expected of them. The white coats symbolize their acceptance into the dental family of healing arts.

**Dr. Steve Harris** represented the ICD on stage along with other University, AGD, and MDA dignitaries as they recited the Dental Hippocratic Oath with the students. It's was gratifying to see the excitement in their eyes and the look of pride in their parents and families. Looking at the new class makes one wonder who will emerge as the leaders of our profession, specialists or future educators. They are young and full of promise! Good luck to them all.



*Rick Kelley,  
UDM Executive  
Director, left,  
and ICD Treas-  
urer, Steve  
Harris.*

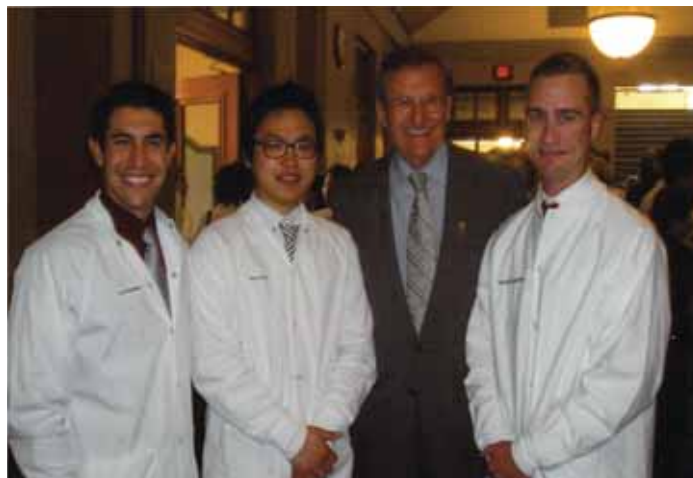


*University of  
Detroit Mercy  
White Coat  
Ceremony for  
the Class of  
2015.*

# UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN WHITE COAT CEREMONY- -JULY 28, 2011

*Speech by Deputy Regent Dr. Ron Paler*

On behalf of the ICD I want to congratulate you and welcome you to the dental profession. Congratulations also on being accepted to the University of Michigan, one of the finest dental schools in the nation. And while I'm on the subject we should not forget to congratulate your parents and family for their support, love, and encouragement, and of course their check-book.



ance from those before you. You will soon realize how deeply indebted you are to those giants in the profession on whose shoulders you will stand. My wish is that you will carry the torch of our profession and be responsible leaders, carrying its flame long after we are gone.

You will find that the University of Michigan is truly one of the "leaders and best." Did you know the difference between a .250 hitter and a .300 hitter is only one more hit every 20 times at bat. The world is full of .250 hitters. In dentistry you will learn that you are expected to get a hit every time you come to the plate.

Here are 5 thoughts for you to remember as



*Deputy Regent Ron Paler and Dean Polverini*

I'd like to share some thoughts with you learned over my 50 years of dentistry. It been said that it's easier to preach a sermon than it is to live one. So I hope this isn't meant to be a sermon

You will be the future leaders of a profession that I love and respect. If you love what you are doing it is not work. But first you must acquire the education, skills, training, and guid-



*Reading The Oath of Aspiring Dentists*

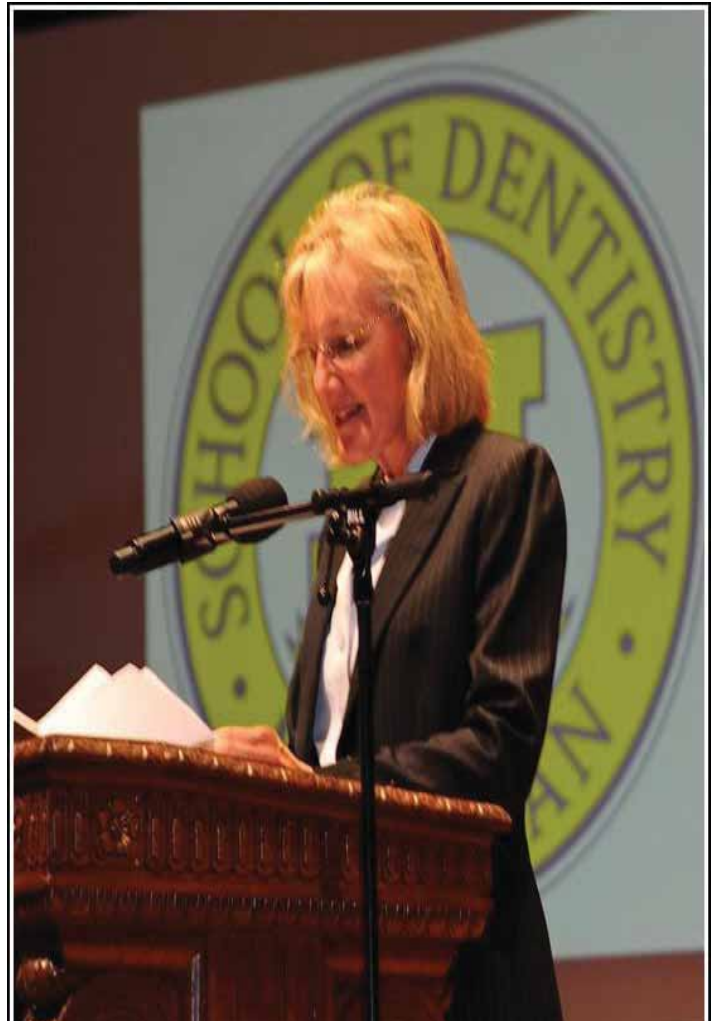
you study: In seeking wisdom, the first step is silence and meditation, the second step is listening, the third is remembering, the fourth is practicing, and the fifth is teaching others.

Today you set sail for a career in Dentistry. A profession based on: science, caring for patients, honesty, integrity, ethics, volunteerism, and self government.

At times you will meet adversity and difficulty in your studies. To reach this place in your career sometimes you will sail with the wind, sometimes against the wind, but to advance you must sail, not drift or lie at anchor. NEVER EVER GIVE UP!!

The ICD wishes for you the very best during the next 4 years and great success in your dental career.

*Below: Dean Polverini and University of Michigan Dental Class of 2015, posing outside Hill Auditorium at the University of Michigan*



*Dr. Connie Verhagen delivered a Welcome speech at The University of Michigan White Coat Ceremony. Dr. Verhagen is MDA President and ICD Counselor.*



## MICHIGAN LEADERS AT ICD LAS VEGAS

The past year was one of unexpected ICD intensity for Fellow **Jack Hinterman** of Flint, Michigan. After serving five years as Editor of *The Globe*, the worldwide publication of The International College of Dentists, Jack was appointed Secretary General of the College At Large. This position calls for him to also be the Executive Director of the College At Large. Jack's duties will be to direct the business and professional affairs of The International Council, ICD's worldwide governing body. Although ICD's world headquarters are located in Rockville, Maryland, modern technology will enable him to conduct his work mainly from Michigan. The first year presented a steep learning curve as Jack assumed his management duties. He traveled extensively including frequent visits to Rockville and participation in the meetings of ICD's European Section in Vienna, Austria, and in the USA Section meeting in Las Vegas. In November, Jack directed the annual meeting of The International Council in New Delhi, India. In addition, circumstances in the Rockville office required an extensive reorganization of ICD business practices and financial management. All in all it was exhausting but exhilarating year that has positioned both Jack and The College at Large for smooth sailing in the years ahead.

Jack Hinterman, who has practiced general dentistry in Flint, Michigan for over 40 years, feels that this new job for ICD will be a good fit for him. Jack has been around dental association work all of his professional life as he was formerly President of The Michigan Dental Association and a member of the Board of Trustees of the American Dental Association. Jack says "Interacting with ICD fellows around the world has been a wonderful experience. They all have one thing in common...the desire to do the noble work of ICD in support of the dental profession and patients worldwide."

*In May, 2011, ICD Secretary General Jack Hinterman presented the ICD Student Leadership Award to University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry, Class of 2011 President, Loren Jefferson. The handsome plaque and \$500 is an annual award donated by the Michigan Section of District 9 of the USA Section of The International College of Dentists.*



*Together with their spouses at the Gala Dinner Dance honoring new ICD Fellows in Las Vegas (October, 2011) are three ICD Fellows and members of the Genesee Dental Society who are all Past Presidents of the Michigan Dental Association. From the left...ICD Secretary General Jack Hinterman and Carol Hinterman, Jill Gist and the 2011 President of The American Dental Association, Ray Gist, Rosemarie Shick and Dick Shick, Past President of ICD Worldwide.*

## UDM STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD PRESENTATION



Michigan Section ICD  
Executive Committee

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(Ron Paler Message from front page)

This newsletter is long overdue and for this I apologize. **Bob Turck** our previous Editor suffered a stroke at the beginning of 2011 and is making a good recovery. **Gary Asano** will be our new editor. **Steve Crocker** resigned as Deputy Regent and I've been wearing two hats as Interim D.R. and Vice Regent of District IX.

In the meantime Michigan ICD has been very active and busy with a plethora of activities and programs. This electronic newsletter will bring everyone up to speed.

Our signature project for the year has been our Student Exchange Program between the University of São Paulo, Brazil, School of Dentistry, and the University of Michigan, School of Dentistry. The Michigan ICD financed and planned the exchange with the U of M School of Dentistry. In addition, ICD attended and financed support for the ICD Student Award presentations at both U of M and UDM, and the White Coat Ceremonies at U of M and UDM. Michigan ICD also financially supported the National Museum of Dentistry Exhibit, "Your Spitting Image" at the Lansing Impression 5 Museum and financially supported Humanitarian Aid to ICD dental clinics in Tanzania and Kenya.

As we begin 2012 its good to review where Michigan ICD has been and where Michigan ICD will be going. That will be the goal of our ICD newsletters.

CONGRATULATIONS



*The following Michigan dentists were inducted into the ICD in Las Vegas on October 10, 2011.*

*L to R: Rhonda Hennessy, Allen Park, Steve Sulfaro, Holly, North Shetter, Menominee, Steve Gusfa, Dearborn, Jim Wieland, Grand Rapids, Scott Meldrum, Birmingham, Marilyn Lantz, Ann Arbor, Steve Forsyth, Gaylord.*

*The Michigan ICD is honored to have these worthy individuals join us with 11,000 other dentists worldwide from 156 countries. They were recognized for their outstanding professional achievements, meritorious service, and for their support and involvement with worldwide humanitarian projects.*

MISSION STATEMENT

The International College of Dentists is a leading honorary dental organization dedicated to the recognition of outstanding professional achievement and meritorious service and the continued progress of the profession of dentistry for the benefit of humankind.