

BRIDGES



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
College of Dentistry
DENTISTRY.USASK.CA

SPRING 2019

Bridges is produced just for you, our donors, highlighting how your contributions make a difference.

Shared in this issue are stories about student heroes in the community, a champion alumnus who is giving back and how a class donation is helping students stay on top of technology trends.

Donor profile: Dental college experience creates foundation for life



Dr. Cam Brauer

From having a self-directed work schedule and a fulfilling family life to being able to explore opportunities for community involvement, Dr. Cam Brauer appreciates the impact his time at the College of Dentistry has made on his life.

"I feel very fortunate and grateful for the foundation that was set," said Brauer, a Class of 2002 graduate. "I can't say enough about the opportunity that was presented to me. My life would be very different if I wasn't provided with the tools to be successful in my education."

Married with two young boys, Brauer works five days a week at his own dental practice in Calgary. He is heavily involved in hockey, including being a coach for his sons. He enjoys travelling with his family and sailing around Vancouver Island whenever possible.

Brauer feels strongly that the University of Saskatchewan and the College of Dentistry set him up with the knowledge and resources he needed in order to have complete freedom over the direction of his life. And he says that he would do it all over again in a heartbeat.

It was a conversation with his father in 2013 that got Brauer thinking about returning the favour. His father asked him to reflect on how

his life would have been different without dental school, and to ponder how he could share part of his success with others. Brauer followed his father's advice and decided to pledge \$50,000 to the college over 10 years.

"My practice is too far away from the college for me to help out as part-time faculty, so I found a way to give back that worked for me," he said.

Over the last four years, Brauer's financial contribution has supported several student clinic initiatives including equipment such as dental chairs, A-dec carts and Clinic 120 materials.

The future of the college and its ability to provide students with a strong educational foundation is something Brauer is excited about. Asked about helping others find opportunities to give back, Brauer recommended that alumni "self-reflect on the life you have and the profession we're in. Take a good look on the quality of life that each of us has because we graduated from USask College of Dentistry. Your life would be very different without this starting foundation and that is a significant thing to appreciate and help maintain for others." ■

Dean's message



Anniversaries are a wonderful time to celebrate while looking back and appreciating how far we've come.

That's what we did last fall when we launched the College of Dentistry's 50th anniversary celebration, and part of that celebration was acknowledging the contributions made over the years by you—our alumni and donors.

You have inspired dental students.

You have enriched their educational experience.

You have been a role model to your future professional colleagues.

You have been a prominent professional in your community.

Thank you for all your contributions over the years and for representing the University of Saskatchewan in so many important ways.

Anniversaries are also an opportunity to turn our minds to the future. Getting where we want to go will require us all to work together, and you, our alumni and donors, play a huge

part in that as you continue to offer gifts of time, talent and treasure as we move forward.

Efforts are already underway to position the College of Dentistry as a leader on several fronts—inclusive community care, expanded educational opportunities like the new Certificate in Dental Assisting program, support for decolonization in all we do and a strengthening of our research capacity. Our aim is to be the college our students, our profession and our patients need.

You can help us achieve this today, and over the next 50 years.

The prospects for change are exciting. Together everyone associated with the college—students, staff, faculty and you, our alumni and donors—will continue to create a legacy. Together, we each have a role to play along the way and I look forward to your support as we move boldly and courageously into our second 50 years. ■

Dr. Doug Brothwell

Heroes among us: students serving the community

As the first year of DIRECT Dental nears its end, the DMD students who established the community-based program to provide free care to people without access to dental services could not be more delighted.

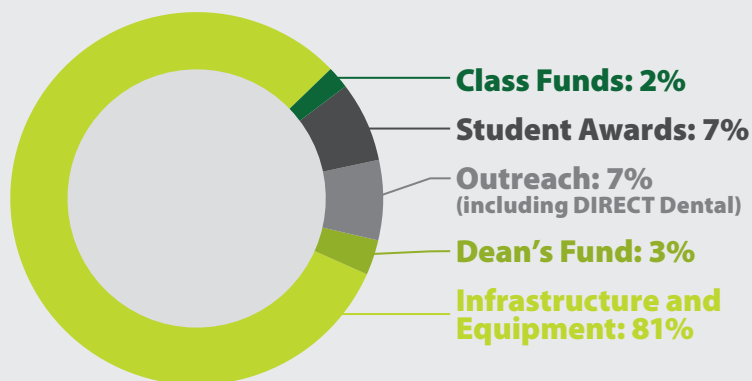
"It's been a lot of work but we've been able to do what we set out to do and that's to use our skills as fourth-year students to help people who need emergency care, but who are uninsured or simply can't afford to see a dentist," said Christy MacPherson who, along with classmates Christopher Bertsch, Kristen Kezar and Mary Tait, nurtured DIRECT Dental along from a simple idea to a reality.

DIRECT (Dental Initiative Rendering Emergency Care Treatments) will hold the last of its 13 half-day walk-in clinics on March 30 in the Saskatoon West Dental Clinic, which has been supplied free of



From L-R: Mary Tait, Kristen Kezar, Christopher Bertsch and Christy MacPherson

HOW YOUR 2018 DONATIONS WERE DIRECTED



\$411,983.56
donated in 2018

109
donors

33
new donors

The College of Dentistry Dean's Fund supports high-priority projects and initiatives such as research, specialized equipment, new programming, student initiatives and more. Your one-time donation, or monthly or annual pledge provides ongoing support to the profession and to training the next generation of oral health professionals.

"The opportunity to work with people in our community who face real barriers to dental care has touched people in a very special way, and we are so very appreciative of their help."

CHRISTY MACPHERSON



DIRECT Dental by the numbers

13 clinics held

150 patients served
(approximately)

Over 500
volunteer hours
contributed by dental
professionals

charge by the College of Dentistry. Each clinic relies on students from all years to handle duties like triaging patients, sterilization and assisting. As its name suggests, DIRECT Dental gives priority to patients with the most pressing needs.

MacPherson pointed out the clinics rely entirely on volunteers, but not just students—practicing dentists along with dental assistants, hygienists and therapists have stepped up to provide support and supervision throughout the year.

"The opportunity to work with people in our community who face real barriers to dental care has touched people in a very special way, and we are so very appreciative of their help," she said.

DIRECT Dental has also benefited from the contributions of corporate sponsors

including dentalcorp, Carlton Dental Labs, Avail Dental Advisory Services, Henry Schein, Sunstar, Sinclair Dental, CDSPI, Colgate, 3M Canada, Dr. Louis Kriel, Dr. Garnet Packota and Dr. Gord Johnson.

The initiative was always intended to be ongoing, and MacPherson said a new board is now in place to oversee the operation in the coming year, and beyond. The original organizers will all graduate this spring "but we have some terrific third- and second-year students willing to continue what we've started," said MacPherson. ■

You can be a DIRECT champion with a gift today. Please consider supporting this student initiative and helping a person in need.

donate.usask.ca/online/dentistry

Your support **builds confidence and motivation**



Ryan Teneycke

Your generous gift of \$500 or more to Student Awards will help Ryan and other dental students achieve their dreams of becoming a dentist like you. Please consider a donation to help your colleagues of tomorrow.

Students in the College of Dentistry appreciate the opportunity to communicate directly with donors, to express their appreciation for the important difference donor support makes in their education. Ryan Teneycke is one such student.

"I'm a third-year student in the College of Dentistry and when I complete my schooling, I hope to have a fulfilling career, just like you.

It's been your support—in the form of financial awards, equipment updates and cards of encouragement—that has given me confidence and motivation to push hard during my studies.

Knowing that you have gone through this same experience and are rooting for

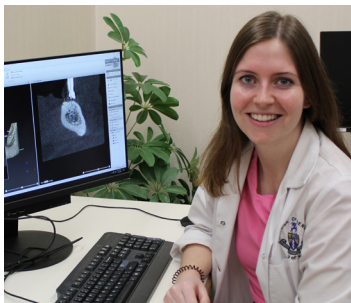
me from the other side helps, especially during the times when my end goal feels so far away.

As a child, I have been fascinated by the science of dentistry. Last year, I spent time learning with Work the World, a program that sends students abroad for health-care placements. I thoroughly enjoyed making a difference for individuals in another part of the world who may not have otherwise been able to receive care.

The generosity of your gift to the profession provides both motivation and encouragement which is worth more than the dollar value of your gift. Thank you for your support." ■

Ryan Teneycke

Keeping up with **technology trends** thanks to a class donation



Rhianna Olson

A donation from the Class of 1977 is allowing students in the College of Dentistry to keep up with the times in new technology.

"The more options students have to learn, the more employable we are once we graduate," said fourth-year student Rhianna Olson. Keeping up with what is new in the industry is a key part of dental education and donor support is one way to make that possible.

Computers purchased by the Class of 1977 to run new software donated by Nobel Biocare allow Rhianna to plan a full implant treatment for her patients using the latest technology, something students couldn't do before. Because of the new computers and software, Rhianna said she is excited for the opportunities other students will have

in the future. She is also grateful for the generosity of both alumni and industry partners.

"I am very thankful for the support I have received throughout my educational journey and I want to encourage donors to continue supporting students and the profession. Every gift is needed and it helps more than you know." ■

You can help dental students like Rhianna use the latest technology with a gift to your class fund or to the College of Dentistry Infrastructure Revitalization Fund today.



As we reflect on the past 50 years and look ahead, I know the future will be exciting, with one of the biggest changes yet to come to the dental school, a new milestone that will create a legacy for years to come. It will require all of us to continue to work together to support a change that will build a bridge to a bright new future. With your continued support, the future holds endless possibilities. Stay tuned!

If you have any comments or suggestions, or would like to contribute to the College of Dentistry, **please contact Stacey Schewaga at 306-966-4001 or stacey.schewaga@usask.ca.**