

### **School of Dentistry Profile**

The University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) School of Dentistry has a long and distinguished history as an institution dedicated to dental education. The School was established as the College of Dentistry by The Regents of the University of California on September 7, 1881 making it the first dental school west of the Mississippi River. The current dean of the School of Dentistry, Charles N. Bertolami, DDS, DMedSc, has been in the position for twelve years.

The School has four academic Departments which house 19 academic Divisions and programs. The School is organized into the Departments of (1) Cell and Tissue Biology, (2) Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, (3) Orofacial Sciences, and (4) Preventive and Restorative Dental Sciences. Each department participates in all aspects of university life, teaching, research and service.

Since the first DDS class graduated in 1882, the core mission of the School of Dentistry has been instruction in clinical dentistry, patient care, and a strong emphasis on public service. For example, following the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire the students and faculty from the School took on the burden of providing oral health care to the city's refugee population camped out in a tent city in nearby Golden Gate Park. The mission statement, last affirmed in 2003 speaks to the core value of the profession, improving the health of the public, and is as follows:

*The UCSF School of Dentistry seeks to improve public health through excellence in teaching, research, patient care, and public service in the dental and craniofacial sciences. We foster an inspired environment where individuals identify themselves as scholars and realize their scholarship through service as clinicians, educators, and scientists.*

The UCSF School of Dentistry has four specific goals approved by faculty and administration. These are assessed and evaluated on an annual basis and are as follows:

1. Continuous development and improvement of the UCSF Educational Program
2. Continuous growth and improvement of the UCSF Research Program
3. Service to the community
4. Maintain financial stability in the face of decreasing state support

The educational offerings include the four-year predoctoral dental education program, a state-mandated international dentist program, and DDS/PhD and MS/PhD degree programs. Student class size in the predoctoral program is 88, with 24 international students joining them in both the third and fourth years. Admission is

extremely competitive with more than 2000 applicants for the predoctoral program and 400 for the international dentist program. In 2006, the School established a concurrent DDS/ MBA program with the University of San Francisco with 5 students currently enrolled.

The School of Dentistry operates 14 clinics at two sites in San Francisco, and provides more than 120,000 patient visits per year. Comprehensive dental care services are provided, including complex oral and maxillofacial surgery, as well as care for special-needs patients. Dental students study with both general dentist faculty, and specialist from all American Dental Association approved dental specialties. The School's clinical income amounts to approximately \$13 million per year, and the UCSF dental students' clinical productivity ranks second among the 36 public dental schools, and third among all 55 U.S. dental schools. (2002/2003 Survey of Predoctoral Dental Education, Vol 5, Table 10a, p 19) In addition, the School of Dentistry has developed a community externship program in multiple sites for third and fourth year dental students that provides 35 days of clinical experience in various dental settings throughout California to provide care to underserved populations, particularly those in rural as well as inner city communities.

The School of Dentistry also contributes greatly to research and advancement in the field. The School is credited with many significant advancements and has been ranked first in federal funding support from the National Institutes of Health for the last 14 years.

UCSF dental graduates have demonstrated commitment to providing health care services; recent data indicated that 94% of School of Dentistry graduates over the last 20 years were in the clinical practice of dentistry, while 23% of them are practicing ADA-recognized specialties.