

The Condenser

Pacific ASDA

November 23, 2015

Dr. Nadershahi As New Interim Dean

By Sara Saber

On July of this year, it was announced that Dr. Nadershahi would be assigned as the current Interim Dean of our school. Recently, I had the opportunity to sit down with Dr. Nadershahi and discuss how his life has been since becoming our new dean.

While Dr. Nadershahi's job demands that he spend hours at a time in meetings and conferences, he expressed to me that his favorite part of being dean was simply to spend time with the students and see us grow as people and practitioners. And we, as first years, have especially noticed Dr. Nadershahi dropping by in Sim Clin simply to say hello, ask us about our week and even joke around with us by dressing up as one of the first year students during Halloween. However, as our dean, he states that his main focus is to make sure that our school continues to provide a great education for all of us.

When asked if he currently has any plans on changing the curriculum or any other aspects about the school's program, Dr. Nadershahi went into detail about some of the major changes that had already occurred in just the last few years. As we all know, we relocated our school to the heart of San Francisco and also implemented the Helix curriculum – two major changes already. So what's next? Dr. Nadershahi explains that he wants to ensure that our humanistic culture and the way relate with one another remains strong. He plans on keeping students and faculty connected through events such as the Mexican Dance, Persian Music Concert and Coffee with the Cabinet.

At the moment, I think it is a very exciting time for us to be part of our dental program as all these changes are being implemented throughout the next few years. Events such as these will facilitate the opportunity to express our opinions and suggestions to our faculty and have our voices be heard. So whenever you see our new Dean Nadershahi walk down the hallway, make sure you give him a warm welcome or a high-five if you haven't already been doing that.



Right: Dr. Nadershahi dressed as student Indy Sappal for Halloween.

Pacific ASDA updates

By Ruidan Ma

Pacific ASDA is proud to have sent 24 chapter members to ASDA District 11 Meeting at Irvine, CA and 22 to National Leadership Conference in Chicago, IL. Also, 10 ASDA officers have just attended the District 10 and 11 Leadership Advance Meeting on Nov 14th in Las Vegas, NV.

We have more exciting trips coming up this year so please keep an eye on emails from Pacific ASDA (asda.pacific@gmail.com) if you are interested in getting involved!

ASDA Annual Session:

March 25, 2016
Dallas, TX

National Dental Student Lobby Day

April 11–12, 2016
Washington, D.C.

To read the ASDA District 11 newsletter, click here: https://issuu.com/asdadistrict11/docs/d11_asda_-_bonding_agent_summer_201/1?e=0

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 11/26/2015 | Thanksgiving |
| 12/2/2015 | SF Toy & Book Festival |
| 12/11/15 | SCOPE Event: Ugly Sweater Party Adopt-A-Family Fundraiser |
| 12/19/2015 | Winter Break begins. You earned it! |
| 1/29/2015 | Lunch & Learn with guest Julliete Boyce |
| 2/27/2015 | Over The Hump: DDS 2017 & IDS 2016 |

Staff Members

Editor-in-Chief: Joseph Hourany
Junior Editors: Sara Saber and Jamie Paychev
Chief of Design: Laura Tsu

Clinic Updates

By Joseph Hourany

Last year the dental school stopped accepting new DentiCal patients to the dismay of many students. The reality is UCSF and Western Dental, the state's largest provider of DentiCal services, made the decision to stop accepting DentiCal patients months before our dental school did. Before the move to the new location approximately 35% of new patients were DentiCal, however after the move nearly 68% of new patients were DentiCal. The decision to stop accepting DentiCal was linked with DentiCal's incredibly low reimbursement rates which translated into the dental school losing money. Due to a lack of new patients, Dr. Sig Abelson, Clinic Director, devised a compromise that allowed us to accept DentiCal patients again by giving priority to private insurance and cash patients while filling in any remaining slots with DentiCal patients. Currently our waitlist for DentiCal patients has decreased to 2 months and most clinic groups are finding that they have an adequate patient pool.

Despite the DentiCal issue, although it's not all about production, our clinics have generated approximately \$2.0 million this quarter compared to \$1.7 million during the same quarter last year. This was accomplished without any increase in fees and can only be attributed to students being more productive. Way to go Pacific Dugoni!

Being so productive in clinic means we've been using the Treatment Support Laboratories (TSL) more than ever. This has resulted in the TSLs being left untidy and doesn't represent

the pride we have for our clinics. Starting last quarter the clinic has implemented a professionalism cleanliness program. Every week two students will be assigned to clean the TSL and Sim Clin. Let's share the responsibility and take care of our school.

There are also plans in place to make the transition from Sim Clin to the clinic floor as seamless as possible. Soon "patients" will be assigned to first years through AxiUm and procedures will be treatment planned and approved by faculty. This will not only get first years accustomed with using AxiUm but will also teach them when and how to ask for swipes from faculty.

Regarding AxiUm, the crashing issues that students have been experiencing in clinic have been addressed. Also during last quarter, students were granted access to AxiUm on their personal computers while connected to the dental school's network. While this was a very welcomed change, many argued that access should be allowed while offcampus as well. This makes sense since it allows students to prepare treatment plans, review patient charts, and schedule appointments from the comfort of their homes translating into more efficient clinic appointments, more patients treated, and ultimately more experience and competency. Our requests have been taken into consideration and according to Dr. Sig Abelson, students can expect to have remote access to AxiUm by the end of 3rd quarter.

A Transition to Canvas

By Jamie Paychev

You may have been wondering what that email we received about Canvas was for. A transition is occurring for Pacific Dugoni to a new online learning system called Canvas. A brief interview with Dr. Daniel J. Bender, EdD Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs and Registrar answers some questions about the new system.

Why switch from Sakai to Canvas?

Sakai has been good, but somewhat limited in what is available to faculty and students. Canvas will allow more student interaction with online content. It also has a more modern and intuitive interface in addition to a more stable platform.

What changes can we expect to see from Sakai?

We will see an increase in the number and type of more modern and student-centered interactive instructional techniques utilized by faculty, even within the first year.

When can we expect this transition to occur?

The transition has already begun for the main campus and law school. Because our academic year started 2 months early, we will transition July 2016. We are working hard to make certain the switch is clean and seamless by the time the academic year begins.



DDS 2017 & IDS 2016
— cordially invite you to —

Masquerade
OVER THE HUMP
Celebration

Join us for an evening of celebration, fun, & drinks

TICKETS - \$70
FEBRUARY 27, 2016

THE INTERCONTINENTAL MARK HOPKINS
999 CALIFORNIA ST, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

MK

University of the Pacific
Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry
155 Fifth St.
San Francisco, CA 94103