

Your Gift Makes a Difference



2016 Donor Impact Report



SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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School of Dentistry
2016 Donor Impact Report

Your Gift Makes a Difference

Dear Friends,

The University of Minnesota School of Dentistry has been an integral part of my life for as long as I can remember. I am a third-generation D.D.S. graduate and have proudly served as a faculty member at this great school for 33 years. I can personally attest that your gifts have a profound impact on the work we do every day. As interim dean, I am truly honored for this opportunity to acknowledge the extensive community of donors that has given so much to our school in years past and in calendar year 2016. On behalf of the School of Dentistry's faculty, staff and students, thank you for your investment. The School of Dentistry benefited greatly from your gifts totaling more than \$4.5 million in 2016.



This *Donor Impact Report* offers a glimpse of the many ways in which your gifts in 2016 made a difference. You'll meet a dental student and learn why she chose the School of Dentistry for her education and the significance of the scholarship support that helps make that education a reality. A faculty member, driven to serve others, reveals the critical importance of donor involvement in the community outreach program. This report also recognizes loyal donors who have steadfastly promoted the School of Dentistry and the University over the years.

You'll also find the 2016 donor list on the School of Dentistry website, dentistry.umn.edu. The School of Dentistry is deeply grateful to each person and organization listed. Your gift makes a difference and enables us to continue to set the standard in dental education.

I hope you will enjoy this report. Thank you for choosing to help make a difference at the School of Dentistry.

With sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary C. Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Gary C. Anderson, D.D.S., M.S.
Interim Dean
Associate Professor

Your Gift Makes a Difference

Cindy and Scott Sundet

Members of the Dean's Circle and Presidents Club

Growing up in rural Larimore, North Dakota, Cindy Trosen Sundet always knew she wanted to be a dentist. She loved working as a dental assistant for her childhood dentist, Charles Gillespie. He served as one of her mentors while she attended Larimore High School as well as the dental school, first in the dental hygiene program and then as she completed the Doctor of Dental Surgery Program.

Having come from a small town, Cindy marvels as she looks back on the day her mother dropped her off at the U of M. It was daunting. But joining the Pi Beta Phi sorority made it work. "There were four dentists and several dental hygienists in my sorority," Cindy recalled. "It created a small network of people that helped make a huge university seem small and family-like."

Cindy met her husband, Scott, at the University. He was also in the Greek system as a member of the fraternity, Sigma Alpha Epsilon. "My husband and his family went to the U of M and enjoy supporting their alma mater," she added. "They live and breathe all things Gopher." Cindy's two children were born while she attended the U of M – Andy in her junior year and Kristin during her residency. "It was a very exciting time," she said.

When she thinks about the School of Dentistry, Cindy believes it's one of the best in the nation. "I've traveled a lot and attended continuing education courses at many universities," she said. "The University of Minnesota's Dental Hygiene and Doctor of Dental Surgery programs are extraordinary. The School of Dentistry is hands-down the best."

Cindy and Scott continue to support the U of M for many reasons, among them, to enable capital investments, reduce the cost of education for students, and further research. Scott also donates equipment from his medical companies to the Medical School and the College of Science and Engineering and College of Veterinary Medicine. "We both enjoy meaningful projects that aid humanity," he said.

"It feels so good to give," added Cindy. "All of our family has helped teach our children about the importance of giving ... whatever our



"It could be a gift of time or money, it's just a good thing to do."

children give, we and their grandparents match. It could be a gift of time or money, it's just a good thing to do. It's important to support your alma mater."

Another way Cindy supports the School of Dentistry is by actively giving of her time. Since 2012, she has served as a board member of the School of Dentistry Alumni Society. From 1986 to 2000 she taught students a couple of days a week at the emergency dental clinic and in other classes. "It not only made me feel 20 years younger, but I learned as well," she said. "So many of my students had earned their Masters and Ph.D.s before they went to dental school. They are brilliant."

It's obvious that Cindy loved the time she spent at the U of M. "I was really well taken care of and received an excellent education," she noted. "It was where I met my dearest friends and my husband. How lucky am I?"



Your Gift Makes a Difference

Leah McComas

Recipient of the C.A.L. and Esther J.E. Anderson Scholarship and the J. Raymond Gill Preclinical Award

For third-year dental student Leah McComas, the School of Dentistry has been an integral part of her life for the past few years. She is grateful for the education and opportunities she's acquired and for the journey that led her to where she is today.

A graduate of Tartan High School in Oakdale, MN, Leah completed a B.A. in biology at Augustana University in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. "It was four wonderful years of my life and helped reaffirm my love of science and guided my path toward a career in dentistry," Leah said. Next, she completed a B.S. in Dental Hygiene at the University of Minnesota. While in that program, she was accepted into dental school. "I applied to dental school with the hopes of challenging myself to provide the very best care for my patients," noted Leah. "Although excited about the dental hygiene program that I was enrolled in at the time, I knew I had the inner drive to push myself even further; to me, becoming a dentist was the goal I wanted to work toward." Leah is on schedule to graduate in 2018.

Choosing the University was a no-brainer for her. "I was attracted to the School of Dentistry's incredible reputation," Leah said. When she shadowed local dentists, they would tell her how much they respected the University's programs. "From its curriculum, location, outreach programs, and alumni reputations, to the positive job placement rate after graduation...I felt confident that the U of M was an excellent choice and that my hard work would pay off in the end," Leah noted.



"These scholarships are such a wonderful gift. They provide both financial relief and recognition of what I've accomplished."



Each day that she spends in the clinic confirms that belief – and teaches her something new. “Some days build my confidence; others really challenge me, making me want to try even harder to improve myself,” she said.

While Leah loves the U of M and its dental programs, she worries about the amount of debt she’s accumulating. Receiving the C.A.L. and Esther J.E. Anderson Scholarship and the J. Raymond Gill Preclinical Award meant a great deal to her. “These scholarships are such a wonderful gift,” she said. “They provide both financial relief and recognition of what I’ve accomplished.”

In addition to the scholarships, Leah offsets some of her educational debt by working Saturdays as a dental hygienist at Children’s Dental Services and on weeknights as the aquatic supervisor for a community education program. “I am lucky to be able to pull from all these experiences when relating to my patients and they help make me a more well-rounded person,” she said.

When Leah has some rare time to herself, she likes to be outside, spend time with her family and friends, or go to her grandmother’s cabin in northern Minnesota. Her classmates have also become like family, and they “play a large role in helping me stay balanced, for which I’m very thankful!”



Your Gift Makes a Difference

Jim and Allison Gaasedelen

Members of the Dean's Circle and Presidents Club

As a 1978 Doctor of Dental Surgery graduate, Jim Gaasedelen was a member of the first class of students to attend the brand new dental school at the University of Minnesota. He believes that the University is Minnesota's crown jewel. "While my connections to the University run long and deep, I feel closest to its School of Dentistry," he said. "One of the most enjoyable parts of my career has been the friendly, collegial nature of my relationship with fellow alumni."

In addition to completing his education at the U of M, Jim met his wife, Allison, there when she was working at a dental school lab. She is a 1983 College of Biological Sciences graduate. "And when we wanted to start a family, the University provided us with successful in vitro services," Allison said. "I often joke that the U of M is in my son's DNA!"

There may be some truth to that. Son Erik graduated from the College of Biological Sciences in neuroscience. He is now a Ph.D. student in the Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Program at the U of M, doing his research in The Visible Heart Laboratory with Paul Iaizzo, Ph.D.

"The University of Minnesota has had an enormous effect on my life and my family and I feel strongly about supporting it," Jim pointed out. Allison agreed, adding, "Jim and I firmly believe in giving back to the University of Minnesota. We are regular donors to the School of Dentistry, the College of Biological Sciences, and the Graduate School."

"I believe that we are not only helping the students," she continued, "but we are making an investment in the future of everyone in the state. I would encourage all alumni to give to the U - a strong University benefits us all."



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Your Gift Makes a Difference

Paul Schulz, D.D.S., M.P.H.

Director, Division of Outreach and Director, Mobile Dental Clinic
Department of Primary Dental Care

For the past 14 years, Paul Schulz has been building the School of Dentistry's Outreach Program. The program provides unique clinical opportunities for students who treat patients under faculty supervision in community-based clinics throughout Minnesota and North and South Dakota. All of the clinics are located in underserved areas where patient access to oral health care is limited.

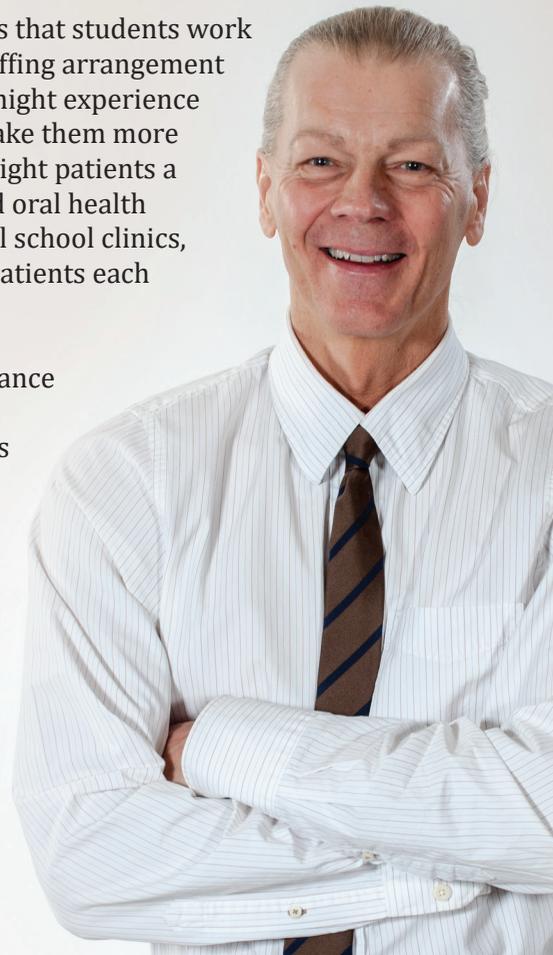
When Paul first joined the dental school faculty, though, no outreach requirement existed for students. Those who did venture into community-based clinics did so as volunteers – at the Hibbing Community College Dental Clinic in northeast Minnesota and aboard the mobile dental clinic. Today, every student is required to complete nine to twelve weeks of community outreach and can meet that requirement at one or more of the school's 16 outreach sites.

One feature of the outreach experience is that students work one-on-one with a dental assistant, a staffing arrangement that more closely resembles what they might experience in clinical practice and one that helps make them more efficient as a provider. "They see six to eight patients a day, and those patients have more varied oral health care needs than do patients in our dental school clinics, where students typically treat just two patients each day," he noted.

The Outreach Program also helps to enhance access to oral health care services for patients around the state, and introduces students to life and practice in rural and urban underserved communities.

"We know that when students have these experiences as part of their education program, they are more likely to consider practice in these communities after graduation."

Schulz oversees everything about the program...from ensuring that



participating clinics have current technology, to gaining the commitment of clinic providers to serve as adjunct faculty, and locating safe, comfortable housing for students while they participate in the program.

But all of this comes with a cost. “Reimbursement rates at most of these clinics don’t cover the full cost of providing services,” Schulz said. “We’re constantly trying to backfill with grants to fill in the gaps.”

A long-term relationship with Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation helps to fill some of those gaps, especially at the Rice Regional Dental Clinic in Willmar, MN, and the Native American Community Clinic in Minneapolis. “We’ve built a relationship with the Foundation based on trust and common commitment to making a difference with underserved populations,” Schulz said. “They have been instrumental in providing financial stability for these clinics.”

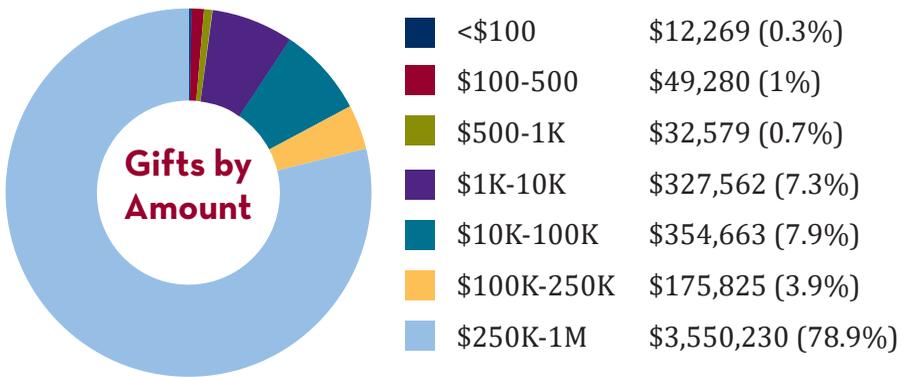
An unexpected phone call opened the door to another funding partner – the Richard Schulze Foundation (Schulze is the former Best Buy CEO). “I was sitting at my desk and got a call from the Foundation’s CEO, who just happens to be my neighbor,” said Schulz. “He said that Richard had read an article about our mobile clinic and wanted to help.” Schulze subsequently came out to visit the clinic to see how his money is being used. “The hour I spent with him made it clear that this was something he valued,” Schulz noted.

Funding partners play a critical role in ensuring that underserved populations throughout the Outreach Program’s service area get the dental care they need. A recent gala held in Willmar, MN, and hosted by the Rice Health Foundation, underscored the program’s importance. The Rice Regional Dental Clinic, where students provide all the dental services, was the beneficiary of this fundraising event.

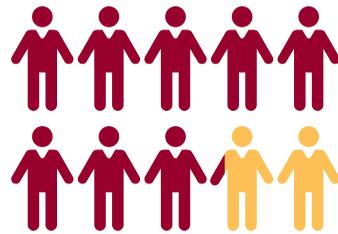
“It was a privilege and a joy to hear people talk about that clinic’s impact on 17 Minnesota counties and the more than 13,000 patients we’ve served,” said Schulz. “The patients are so grateful for the care they receive. Students hear the thank yous and it builds their spirit of wanting to give back. It also builds confidence in their ability.”

An Overview of Giving

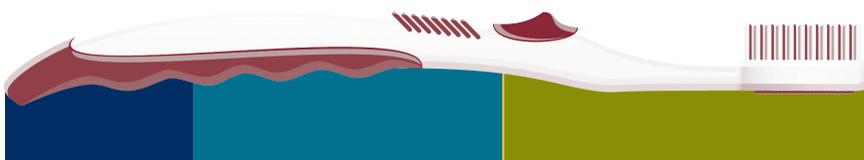
Donors gave **\$4,502,408** in calendar year 2016



82%
of our donors are
University of Minnesota
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Gifts by Type



Cash	\$979,260	(21.8%)
Pledge	\$1,604,950	(35.6%)
Matched	\$10,325	(0.2%)
Planned Giving	\$1,895,537	(42.1%)
In-Kind Donation	\$12,336	(0.3%)

Your Gifts at Work

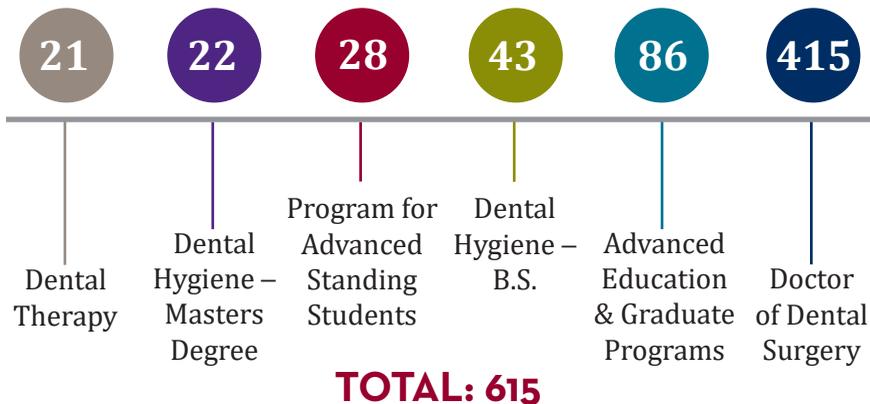


Scholarships & Awards 2015 - 2016*



* Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Summer 2016

Enrollment 2015 - 2016





2016 was truly
a remarkable year.
We are grateful
to our donors
for making
a difference.

Thank you!





Thank you!

To learn more about giving opportunities
at the School of Dentistry, please contact the
Development Office:

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Minneapolis, MN 55455

Phone: 612-625-5751
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dentistry.umn.edu

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