

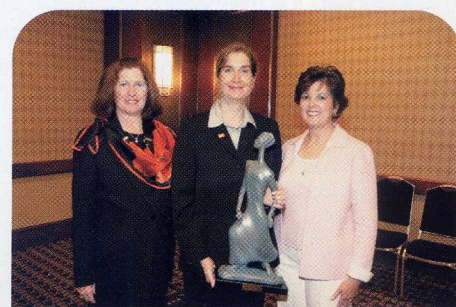
Word of MOUTH

RWJF Grant Brings Benefits

Dr. Caswell Evans, Associate Dean for Prevention and Public Health Sciences, recently provided *Word of Mouth* with information about the various benefits of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant, a \$1.5 million award provided to the College in 2002. The grant is designed to help the College prepare an oral healthcare workforce competent and committed to treating oral diseases of vulnerable urban, rural, and special needs populations, including minority, economically disadvantaged, and/or medically compromised persons.

"The five-year Robert Wood Johnson Foundation "Pipeline and Practices" grant is at its midpoint," Dr. Evans noted. "Since September 2004, under the auspice of the Extramural Education Program, the College has developed relationships with 11 potential community partners. Additional partnerships are being developed.

"As the curriculum evolves, students will increase their community time in urban, rural, and special needs clinics. The clinical service-learning opportunities will result in 60-day rotations for the Class of 2007. The Pipeline Grant Steering Committee is



The YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago's Racial Justice Award, represented by a sculpture of abolitionist Sojourner Truth, was presented to Dr. Linda M. Kaste, Director of Predoctoral Dental Public Health for the College, at the recent 2004 YWCA Leader Luncheon by (left) Carla J. Eyre, senior vice president, LaSalle Bank and chair of the YWCA Circle of Friends. On Dr. Kaste's right is JoAnn Lilek, CFO of DSC Logistics and chair of the Leader Luncheon. The statue now is on display at the College in the Kottemann Gallery. Dr. Kaste was honored for her work in obtaining the College's Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grant.

working with the managing partners so that the transition for student clinicians from the College out into the community is seamless.

"Students will receive education and orientation regarding the community being served, the particular health issues that affect that population, and

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Profile: Barb Krueger

other demographic factors significant to the services that the students will provide. In this way, the students will understand their service-learning role in a broad social and community context.

"The grant activity also includes a non-clinical health-education and service-learning component that works with various local elementary schools and at health fairs to increase awareness and change behaviors related to oral health and disease prevention. The College continues to reinforce its mission statement by addressing community and regional healthcare needs through outreach initiatives, educational programs, and consultative and referral services," Dr. Evans concluded.

Longtime Employees Honored

Several of the College's longtime employees were honored for their years of service at the College's holiday party on December 17.

Honored for **five years** of service were **Lea Alexander**, Restorative Dentistry; **Deborah G. Jones**, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS); **Armando Santana**, IT Dept.; **Catharine Saunders**, Billing; **Deborah E. Carr Woods**, OMS; and **Carol E. Wright**, Ortho.

Those who had served the University for **ten years** are **Virginia H. Buglio**, Research Services; **Paula L. Clemons**, Dental Clinics; **Rosemarie Coogan**, Faculty Practice; **Elnora Cunningham**, Clinic Administration; **Rosemary H. Edwards**, Dentistry Administration; **Evelyn Gaston**, Perio; **Helene F. Levi**, Oral Medicine; **Nikki C. Robinson**, Restorative Dentistry; **Diane Rudall**, until recently with the Center for Molecular Biology of Oral Diseases (CMBOD); **Dorothy L. Sholeen-Modrzyk**, until recently with Oral Biology; **Virginia M. Storey**, OMS; and **Richard E. Swanson**, CMBOD.

Honored for **15 years** of service were **Blanca A. Sanchez**, OMS; **Jerry D. Thomas**, Building Services; and **Sylvester White**, Central Sterilization.

Celebrated for **25 years** of work were **David I. Blaustein**, OMS; **Donald A. Chambers**, CMBOD; **John M. Crawford**, Perio; **Suzanne Kasang**, Restorative; **Barbara J. Krueger**, Dental Clinics; **Geneva L. Mann**, Dental Clinics; **Jamie Peterson**, Central Registration; and **Lidia T. Pomper**, Dental Clinics.

Thirty-year employees were **Kishore Belani**, Perio; **Daniel A. Greenberg**, Perio; **Paul L. McPherson**, Central Sterilization; **Sabyasachi Mukherjee**, Periodontics; **Eva M. Sabaitis**, Restorative; and **Christopher Wenckus**, Endo.

The **35-year** honoree was **Rudolph Burger-Zellinger**, Oral Medicine.

In addition, more than 70 employees received gifts for work they do for the College in "keeping connected," with patients and overall service to the College.

Dr. Grau Joins Ortho Faculty

While a dental student in Madrid, Spain, **Nayra Grau** decided she wanted to pursue a specialty in orthodontics. She therefore did extensive research about programs



Dean Bruce Graham was on hand to honor long-time

employees at the College's holiday party. Top photo:

Among ten-year honorees were (left to right)

Rosemary Edwards, Virginia Buglio, Rosemarie Coogan, Evelyn Gaston, and Elnora Cunningham.

Second photo: Jerry Thomas is a 15-year

employee. Third photo: A 25-year honoree was Lidia Pomper.

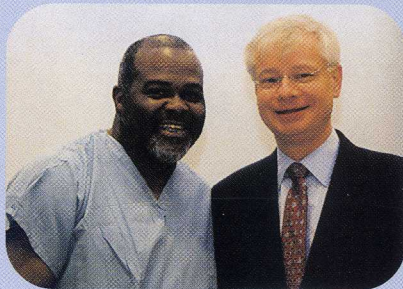
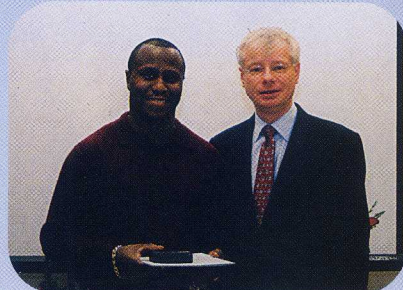
Fourth photo: Paul McPherson has contributed 30 years of service. In addition, several employees

received awards from the College for "keeping connected." Fifth

photo: Dr. Patricia Nihill was presented an award by Bob Bliese for

connecting with elderly patients. Bottom photo:

Amsaveni Ramachandran (left) and Lea Alexander also were honored for "keeping connected."



around the globe and chose the orthodontic program at the UIC College of Dentistry.

Dr. Grau, who recently was hired as a Clinical Assistant Professor in the department, knows she made the right choice. That's one of the reasons she's happy to now be one of the program's faculty. "I'm loyal to my department and thankful for all it provided me with," Dr. Grau said. "I felt I wanted to give something back."

Born in Barcelona, Spain, Dr. Grau came to the U.S. in 2001 to enroll in the College's orthodontic program. She knew some English ahead of time, "but it has certainly improved since then," she noted. Dr. Grau graduated from the program last year.

Dr. Grau works in the department Mondays through Fridays. "I work with undergrad and postgrad students, I supervise clinical orthodontic cases, and make sure that all our digital records are publication quality," she explained. "I'm also overseeing orthodontic patient care in the Craniofacial Center, in the absence of the orthodontist who is on maternity leave."

She also is the Course Director of the clinical course that DDS students take in orthodontics. "My big responsibility is putting together the course that we give to the DDS students in the summer," Dr. Grau said. She also does some research when time permits. "Right now I'm working on some presentations, one for the Moyers Symposium and the European Orthodontic Meeting," Dr. Grau noted.

Being helpful to students is a particular goal of Dr. Grau's. "I want to be someone they can go to when they have questions," she said. "I'd also like to make sure the patients are happy with the service we provide, and I'd like to do more publishing in academic journals, too."

Dr. Grau's hobbies include cooking, enjoying the city with friends, and running by the lake, "but in the winter running is difficult," she noted. "I was told about the winters in Chicago and how they were really cold, but you never imagine to what degree and how it affects your life until you get here."

Accreditation Steering Committee Named

As the College enters a self-study process in preparation for the Commission on Dental Accreditation Site visit in 2006, it is evaluating its current programs as they relate to the College's stated mission and the commission's accreditation standards.

"This will be an open process that engages the College community as broadly as possible," said **Dr.**



Dr. Nayra Grau.

Steve Campbell, Chair of the Accreditation Steering Committee. "Please be prepared to participate in this important process. We need each and every one of you."

Faculty, staff, and patients are encouraged to contact members of the committee with their thoughts on the College. Committee members and their designated subcommittees are **Drs. Dave Clark** (patient care services), **Gary Drahos** (faculty and staff), **Caswell Evans** (behavioral sciences, practice management, ethics and professionalism, information management, and critical thinking), **Jay Kelley** (biomedical sciences), **Bill Knight** (clinical sciences), **Frank Licari** (institutional effectiveness), **Zane Muhl** (curriculum management), **Darryl Pendleton** (admissions and student services), and **Christine Wu** (research).

Dr. John Crawford Becomes American Citizen

It may be surprising to note that **Dr. John Crawford**, Professor in Periodontics, who has lived in the U.S. since 1972, was able to convince authorities he has a clean enough slate to become an American citizen.

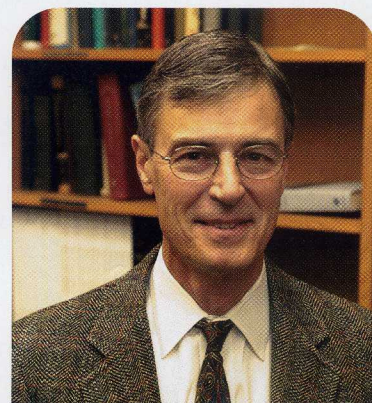
First, though, he endured a rigorous interview, during which he had to be prepared to answer ten questions from a possible list of 100. "You only have to get six right," he said. During the interview, Dr. Crawford also had to write a sentence in English, and swear under oath that he has no affiliations with and has never been a part of a communist or terrorist organization. He also had to swear that he was not a serious drunkard.

"Then I talked to the interviewer about her third molar extractions and gave her some advice on better flossing," he noted.

Dr. Crawford officially became an American citizen on January 5, along with 144 other people from 39 countries.

In honor of his new citizenship, his wife Mary Sue bought him an American flag tie, which he now proudly wears.

—*Felicia Swanson*



Dr. John Crawford.

After 25 Years, Krueger Still Provides Honesty, Sunshine

The 300-lb. muscleman was waiting for a friend in the dental clinic in Room 219, when he spotted the familiar face of **Barbara Krueger**. She didn't recognize him, but