Admissions Update
Randy Jones, DDS, MPH
Assistant Dean for Admissions and Student Affairs
WELCOME TO OUCOD
DEMAND IS HIGH!!

• Population is growing!

• Service per capita is rising!
  Retaining and maintaining teeth longer
  Greater awareness
  High demand for esthetic dentistry
  Advancements in dental technology!

• National emphasis on access to care

• Relationship of oral health care to general health

• Greater number of dentists retiring (2014)

  » 191,200 US dentists
DENTISTS IN THE DENTAL WORKFORCE, 1995 - 2040

• From 2014 to 2027, more dentists leave the workforce than enter it.

Assumptions: Number of graduates remains at 4,850 after 2007 and retirement age is 65.

Source: American Dental Education Association
Favorable Employment Outlook
The 100 Best Jobs
All jobs aren't created equal. In fact, some are simply better than the rest. U.S. News 100 Best Jobs of 2013 are the occupations that offer a mosaic of employment opportunity, good salary, manageable work-life balance, and job security.

#3 Dentist

**Overall Score:** 8.4 | **Median Salary** $142,740 | [See Job Openings]

Ever heard the phrase "Your face is your fortune"? For dentists, our smile is their fortune. They earn their living diagnosing and treating teeth and gums, performing oral surgery, and counseling and educating us on maintaining proper oral health. The profession should grow 21.1 percent by 2020.

#10 Dental Hygienist

**Overall Score:** 7.7 | **Median Salary** $69,280 | [See Job Openings]

Did you know that dental hygienists make yearly salaries of about $68,250, but many only work part-time? Something else to consider: This profession should grow at a breakneck clip as practices hire more hygienists to boost their patient roster.
WHAT’S UNIQUE ABOUT DENTISTRY?

• One of ten most trusted and ethical professions in US

• Flexibility – to balance personal and professional life

• Opportunity to be your own boss

• Personally rewarding (earning potential, service to others)

• Combines art and science
REASONS STUDENTS CHOOSE DENTISTRY

- **Care to Underserve:** 61%
- **Self-employment:** 58%
- **Income potential:** 51%
- **Variety of career options in dentistry:** 45%
- **Enjoy working w/hands:** 32%
- **Control of time:** 23%
- **Service to others:** 20%

Source: American Dental Education Association, 2012
REASONS FOR DENTAL CAREER

• **Range of Options**
  - Practice, Research and Teaching
  - Private Practice, Public/Community Based Facilities, Military
  - General Dentistry or Specialty

• **Personal Benefits**
  – Balanced lifestyle…more control, predictable and compatible with family life
  – Service to others
  – Earning Potential (Highest 5% of US family incomes)
  – Status and Prestige

• **Autonomy**
  – Less impacted by reductions in federal funding
  – Less affected by managed care
  – Self-Employment
DENTAL EDUCATION
BASIC FACTS

• Degree Awarded – Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.)
• Years Required – Four Years
• Graduates – prepared for General Dentistry
  – Immediately eligible to enter practice
• Specialization - Requires additional training
DENTAL SPECIALISTS

OU offers the top three specialties!

191,200 Dentists in USA
80% General Dentists
20% Specialists
ABOUT THE COLLEGE

• Only dental school in Oklahoma

• One of 65 accredited dental schools in US

• 50,000 patient appointments annually $7,190,531 in services rendered

• Three Programs
  – Dental Hygiene (BS)
  – General Dentistry (DDS)
  – Four Specialty/Residency Programs
APPLYING FOR ADMISSION
APPLICATION CYCLE

- Applications Open: June (first Monday)
- Application Deadline: October 1
- Interviews: Sept – Nov
- Decisions Announced: December 1

College students typically apply after their junior year
APPLICATION CHECKLIST

1. Centralized Application (ADEA.org)

2. Dental Admission Test (DAT)

3. Recommendations
   - Pre-dental Advisory Committee OR two science professors
   - Dentist

4. Supplemental OU Application
   - Sent directly to OU College of Dentistry
OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. Shadowing-Observation
   - Self-reported on application
   - 100 hours minimum!
   - Dental practice, clinic or dental lab
   - Experience is ideal

2. International Applicants
   - TOEFL
   - Coursework must be evaluated by World Education Services (WES)
# PRE-DENTAL PREREQUISITES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>SEMESTER HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology with Lab</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Chemistry with Lab</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic Chemistry with Lab</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics with Lab</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TOP CHOICES
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

- Anatomy
- Cell Biology
- Embryology
- General Biology
- Genetics
- Histology

- Immunology
- Microbiology
- Molecular Biology
- Nutrition
- Physiology
- Zoology
APPLICANTS PER SLOTS AVAILABLE

65 US dental schools % Get In!
About one fifth of our applications are from Oklahoma residents for 75% of the slots in the entering class.
ADMISSION BY THE NUMBERS

• Total Applications 754
  - Non-Residents 635
  - OK Residents 119

• Total Interviews 160
  - Non-Residents 75
  - OK Residents 85

• Total Admitted 56
  - Non-Residents 11
  - OK Residents 45
2014 ENTERING CLASS

- Ave GPA – 3.58
- Ave Sci GPA – 3.47
- Ave DAT – 19.96
- 45 Residents
- 11 Non-residents
  - ID 1
  - AZ 2
  - TX 2
  - KS1
  - UT4
  - MN 1

- Female 23 : Male 33

- Ethnicity/Race:
  - Asian/Pacific Islander - 6
  - American Indian - 6
  - Black or African American - 1
  - Hispanic or Latino – 0
  - White - 42
  - International – 0
  - Two or More - 1

- Re-applicants – 27
## COLLEGES ATTENDED

*26 Schools represented*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Name</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma University</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma State University</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Central Oklahoma</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rogers State University</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameron University</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Central University</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Oklahoma State U</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwestern Oklahoma State U</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Christian U</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma City University</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwestern Oklahoma State U</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulsa University</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Univ. of Science &amp; Arts of OK</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BYU</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas U</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ENTERING CLASS

Level of Education

3 years (90-119 hours) 0
4 years no degree (120+ hours) 0
Bachelor’s Degree 56
Master’s or Equivalent 0
Doctorate 0
CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION
“Holistic Review”

50%  50%

ACADEMIC INDICATORS
DAT
Science GPA
Cumulative GPA

INTERVIEWS
Basis For Choosing Dentistry Service
Communication/Initiative
Integrity/Maturity
WHOLE FILE REVIEW

• We look at more than metrics (GPA, DAT, etc.)

• Consider non-cognitive variables (e.g., leadership, ability to sustain academic achievement with competing priorities, volunteerism, communication, social background, and disadvantaged status).
APPLICANT SELECTION CRITERIA

- Non cognitive information revealed in:
  - Applicant’s essay
  - Letters of recommendation
  - Record of community service
  - Listing of extracurricular and leadership activities
  - Stated career ambitions
  - Academic transcripts
    - Evaluation of course load
    - Assessment of quality of courses
    - Note improvements over time (trends)
    - Account for simultaneous major life challenges or changes
    - Consideration of how individual balances other demands on time, employment commitments, or family responsibilities
LABORATORY EXERCISES
CLINICAL SIMULATION
CLINICAL INSTRUCTION
CLINICAL TRAINING
PATIENT CARE EXPERIENCE
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Kids Day
- Oklahoma Mission of Mercy (MOM)
- Good Shepherd Mission Clinic
- Crossings Community Clinic
- Staples Society
- King’s Klinic
STRENGTHS OF OU EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

• Outstanding clinical and practical training.

• Significant opportunities for students to treat patients

• Significant patient contact earlier than most dental schools in America

• Favorable student-faculty ratio (1:3 to 1:8 as student advances in the program)
NEW TECHNOLOGY

• Electronic Patient Records
• Digital Radiography
• Dental Lasers
• CAD/CAM Technology
  (Computer-aided design/computer-aided manufacturing)
GETTING STARTED

1. Meet with Pre-dental advisor
2. Take natural sciences…as per our prerequisites
3. Connect with pre-dental club
4. Volunteer or job shadow in a dental office
5. Visit the College of Dentistry
6. A baccalaureate degree is recommended

If in HS get a broad exposure to science and math…take college prep courses
WHAT ELSE?

GoDental.org

Up-to-date and cutting edge information; blogs; a registration for dental school virtual fairs