

Your Investments in People

Dr. Pamela F. Regimbal (D.D.S. '86, Orthodontics '88)

Dr. Pam Regimbal has taken her affinity for children and her fond memories of her classmates at the VCU School of Dentistry and established funds that will yield positive results for years to come.

At a young age, Dr. Regimbal enjoyed art, and, with a push in the right direction from her mother, she decided to pursue the art and skill of dentistry. She enjoyed the entire dental school experience – especially the camaraderie she shared with her fellow classmates who mutually supported each other through the sometimes grueling days of a dental education.

As graduation drew near, and with a brand new baby in tow, Dr. Regimbal made the decision to pursue a certificate in family-friendly field of orthodontics. During an off-site rotation as part of her residency, she experienced something that would motivate her to take action.

"I realized that here, in our own area, kids desperately need dental care. But they can't always



Dr. Pam Regimbal in the Pediatric Dentistry@VCU Practice.

February 2011

(2/9/11) Former ADA President Encourages Students to 'Do Well While Doing Good' – Dr. Ron Tankersley (MCV D.D.S., '68; OMFS, '71), the immediate past president of the American Dental Association, spoke at the Dr. Cyril R. and Evelyn F. Mirmelstein Ethics Lecture. His presentation focused on the role dental students play in the ethics of dentistry, describing them as the "new guardians of the profession."



Dr. Tankersley fields questions from D1 students



(left to right) Dean David Sarrett, Dr. Ron Tankersley, Dr. Terry Dickinson and Dr. Charles Cuttino.

get the care they need because their parents may not have dental insurance or funding," said Dr. Regimbal.

She saw a need and created a solution. In 2001, after many years of successful practice, she established the Children's Dental Endowment Fund. The fund, which has grown over the years through Dr. Regimbal's continued generosity, provides educational resources for our dental students to teach children about improved oral care.

Importantly, the Children's Dental Endowment Fund was used to create the *Pediatric Dentistry@VCU Clinical Digest*, a reference manual designed to aid students and residents in gaining the knowledge and skills needed to provide dental care for infants, children and adolescents, including those with special health care needs.

"Thanks to Dr. Regimbal, we've been able to create a straightforward, nuts-and-bolts review of pediatric dental content for students to review prior to certain experiences they may encounter in

the pediatric clinic," noted Dr. Tegwyn Brickhouse, Department Chair, Pediatric Dentistry, Associate Professor and Research Director. "And they can use the manual as a quick reference for working with children in their future practices."

"I see kids with crooked teeth, but the vast majority of them are cavity free," added Dr. Regimbal. "They have a head start in life because they had access to dental care. My hope is that we can give other kids a hand to get them started down the right path."

But she didn't stop there. Dr. Regimbal also spearheaded her classmates to establish a scholarship for student support at their recent 25th reunion. The group wanted to do something special, and they chose helping students rather than naming a classroom or an operatory space. "We want to let the students know that we care about them and about the education that they receive."

Dr. Regimbal has confidence that the students at the VCU School of Dentistry will go on to do great things. She did offer a

few pieces of advice: "The most important thing in dentistry is the relationship you develop with your patients and the compassion you show to them. And also keep in mind that the blessings and success you receive come because of the opportunities and support you had here at school, so don't forget to help future dental students."

Dr. Regimbal can be found spreading the word about dental care and straightening teeth at Aloha Orthodontics. She serves as an adjunct faculty member for the VCU School of Dentistry Department of Orthodontics and a member of Dean David Sarrett's Board of Advisors.

February 2011

(2/24/11) New Technology Means Greater Accuracy in Dental Implants – The VCU School of Dentistry is on the cutting edge of technology as one of the first universities in the world to utilize image guided navigation software designed to achieve the

highest level of accuracy during dental implant placement. Image Guided Implantology, or IGI, presents a major breakthrough in dentistry making dental implants much safer and more accurate.



Drs. Duggan and Rodriguez placing an implant with the help of IGI technology.