

OREGON HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY HISTORY PROGRAM

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

INTERVIEW

WITH

*F. James Marshall, D.M.D.*

Interview conducted December 1, 1998

by

Linda Weimer

## SUMMARY

In this interview, University of Oregon Dental School alumnus and former faculty member Dr. F. James Marshall talks about the history of the Dental School, his years as a student in the late 1940s, and his career as an endodontist.

Dr. Marshall begins by giving a bit of biographical information and notes that his father, Dr. Leslie F. Marshall, graduated from the then North Pacific College in 1923. He talks about his decision to attend UODS and about the other dental schools then operating in Canada and the Western United States. He compares dental education and practice in his father's day with the training he received at UODS, and describes changes in the administration of the dental school from the time of Dean Herbert Miller to the time of Dean Harold Noyes.

Addressing the question of student life, Marshall talks about the funding that paid for student activities such as sports and the "senior sneak day." He also talks about the presence of women and minorities among the student body. He describes the physical facilities available at the school when it was located in Northeast Portland, before it was relocated to Marquam Hill in 1956.

Dr. Marshall then moves on to his later years at the Dental School, when he returned in 1972 to become Chair of Endodontology. He mentions some of the research activities going on in the various departments. He also talks briefly about the patient base for clinical activities at the School, noting that a large percentage were elderly patients. He briefly outlines some of the activities of the Endodontology Department and praises his successor, Dr. J. Craig Baumgartner.

Taking a broader view, Dr. Marshall discusses the Dental School's image locally and nationally. He also addresses the advance of dental technology, and notes that the increased use of surgical microscopes has obviated the need for certain types of dental surgery.

Dr. Marshall returns to an historical consideration of dental education as he describes the rise of study clubs, a form of continuing education that he believes was unique to the Northwestern United States.

Finally, Dr. Marshall looks back on his own long career in academic dentistry and praises the ongoing work of the residents and undergraduates he has trained. The interview ends as Dr. Marshall gives suggestions on other prominent dental faculty who might be interviewed for the oral history project.

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Interview with F. James Marshall, D.M.D.  
Interviewed by Linda Weimer  
December 1, 1998  
Site: History of Medicine Room  
Begin Tape 1, Side 1

WEIMER: This is an oral history interview with Dr. James Marshall from the Dental School here at Oregon Health Sciences University. The date is December 1st, 1998, and we are in the History of Medicine Room.

And it's a pleasure to have you here today. We were mentioning earlier that the University has been geared so long towards the Medical School that we forget that the Dental School has had its own rich tradition and history for—I believe you're celebrating your 100th year, and we're happy to talk to someone who is from the Dental School.

What we usually do at the beginning of our interviews is talk a little bit about where you were born and raised, if you could do that for us.

MARSHALL: Well, I was born and raised in Vancouver, British Columbia. My father went to the North Pacific College and graduated in 1923 and married my mother here before he returned to Vancouver. My mother was a survivor, along with her mother, of the *Titanic*, and she grew up in Portland.

My grandfather was an architect here who had immigrated before my mother and grandmother. My grandfather supervised the building of the Pittock Mansion. He didn't design it; a woman in San Francisco designed it. He supervised the building, and during the First World War worked on concrete Liberty ships being built on the Columbia River. They subsequently emigrated to Vancouver sometime after my mother and father set up a home there.

Dad practiced dentistry there until his retirement, and he passed away in 1972.

I came down to the Dental School after the Second World War. Our class was the last class of the accelerated wartime program. We did our first two years of dentistry in sixteen months.

I started in March '46, along with twenty other Canadians. There were 110 that started with our class, and 86 graduated. Of the twenty Canadians in the class, ten of them were Jewish, who found it easier to enroll in Oregon. For me, Portland was the nearest dental school. There was a small school in Edmonton, Alberta, after that the next nearest Canadian school was Toronto. The next nearest school on the West Coast was San Francisco, College of Physicians and Surgeons, now called Pacific University.

Our class also started with a new Dean, Harold Noyes. He temporarily roomed in the house that I roomed in at 828 Multnomah. It's now a twenty-story building.

WEIMER: This is Multnomah in Northeast Portland?

MARSHALL: Yes. The school was taken over by the State in 1946 at the instigation of two of my father's classmates, Collie Wheeler, a fellow Canadian, but he stayed here and finally passed away in his hundredth year; and George Redpath.

Prior to the takeover, the school was a private institution owned by the Dean. He could not support a modern dental program. When my class enrolled, most of the faculty were part-time. When we graduated, some full-time faculty were aboard: Marshall Snyder in bacteriology, Keith Claycomb in biochemistry, and the anatomist Ellis Jump.

Ellis Jump was famous for being the faculty member that came to class on a motorcycle [laughter]. He was an interesting man. A very active member of the Friends' Church locally and an active sailboat operator.

WEIMER: Well, let's go back. We can talk about some of the faculty that you remember, but let's hold that for a moment and go back. I'm interested, first of all, in your dad. I didn't realize before I met you today that he was also a graduate. Did he ever talk to you about his dental school days as compared to what you were going through in the '40s?

MARSHALL: Well, there was little change in the physical plant of the School between my father's time and my time. My father learned dentistry in his time with a foot engine; I learned it with a 4000-rpm sewing machine motor. That was the major change. If the patient wanted suction, they had to pump a little bulb in their lap into a spittoon. If we wanted to wash the tooth cavity, we had to use a water syringe. If we wanted to get rid of the tooth dust, we had to use a chip blower. Water suction and compressed air came later.

All through four years of Dental School I used a headlamp for illumination. Some of the richer men in my class could afford to buy Castle operating room lights that were made available when they started breaking up aircraft carriers at Zidell's. There was always an operating room on aircraft carriers, so spare parts became available.

Patient treatment was emphasized in my dad's time and my time. As I remember, our budget came from one-third student fees, one-third state support, and one-third student practice income.

Student practice income came from the student treatment of patients. We went to school six days a week. In my senior year we were six to seven hours in the clinic Monday to Friday, and Saturday morning 9:00 till 1:00. In the junior year we shared a chair and an operating unit in the main clinic, with another junior. In the senior year we had our own chair. And a chair it was: wooden back, wooden seat, with a spittoon attached. As I said, no running

water, no suction.

WEIMER: Were the students required to clean up, also, or did you have custodial or janitorial people?

MARSHALL: Well, the janitors would sweep the floor, and the rumor had it in my time that the janitors also did the embalming for the anatomy.

WEIMER: Oh!

MARSHALL: Yes, it was a pretty rough-and-ready situation. I mean, we started in March '46, and by the summer of '46, our anatomy specimens were so poorly preserved that all we had left was the head and neck. They decomposed too soon.

WEIMER: And the reasons for that rapid decomposition?

MARSHALL: Well, they weren't properly prepared.

WEIMER: And who did the preparation?

MARSHALL: Well, rumor had it that some of the staff did it. Everything dental was done by the students. I mean, there was no dental lab service for students; they did all their own lab work. They started off their freshman year carving classic tooth shapes on ivorine blocks and practiced some very ancient forms of the dental art.

WEIMER: Your student days were during the war years, although a little bit later—

MARSHALL: It was after armistice.

WEIMER: Were you required to belong to what the equivalent of ROTC was back then?

MARSHALL: No. Although the School was still on the accelerated program, the other requirements had gone by the board—I mean, of being in the ROTC. I don't know when that stopped.

WEIMER: So you weren't required to wear uniforms at that time?

MARSHALL: No.

WEIMER: That was just during the war, I assume. Can you remember your first day, or your first year and go through a day?

MARSHALL: Oh, the School—I mean, we were told the school was built by the Dean with the idea that if it failed as a dental school it could be turned into a factory. We

walked the stairs from the basement lockers to the fourth floor anatomy lab—there were no elevators. Subsequently I think one of the chainsaw outfits were the first people that moved into it after the Dental School moved out.

When the Dean gave the School to the State—and as I understand it he gave it to the State with only one stipulation: that it remain where it was for five years. It remained a little longer than that. But the Dean ran the school and owned the school, and yet when he passed away he left only a modest estate to his son, who was our professor of oral surgery.

WEIMER: So I guess I didn't—I realized it was a private institution before it became affiliated with the State, but I didn't realize that it was almost like a proprietorship in the sense that it was just owned by—

MARSHALL: It was a proprietary school, which were quite common in the early days after the turn of the century.

WEIMER: And this dean that we're talking about, do you remember his name?

MARSHALL: Dean Miller. He was a fine old gentleman. Mind you, I mean, he ran the bookstore—you know, everything you bought through the School. I still had my father's instrument case, which was very handy, when I came to school. Some of us had instrument cases, but most of us worked out of metal tool kits.

But the first year anatomy was the killer, and one of the Jones brothers was our professor of anatomy, the ophthalmologist.

WEIMER: And I think that would be the uncle of Dick Jones?

MARSHALL: Perhaps, I think, it was Lester, one of the people that's on the wall down in the eye clinic. There were two Jones brothers. One was a part-time professor of anatomy, and his assistants, I'm told, were the medical students that flunked anatomy up in the Medical School. For punishment they came down to help dental students learn their anatomy [laughter].

WEIMER: Is there anything else you can tell me about Dr. Jones?

MARSHALL: No.

In our second year there was a Professor Manlove, who was a professor of pathology. And he was part-time, too, and I think he was the City Coroner and a pathologist downtown.

A number of my professors had been my father's professors. The names are a little dim.

WEIMER: The faculty at that time, we mentioned, were part-time?

MARSHALL: Yes. About the only full-time one that I remember was Horace Miller, the Dean's son, who was the professor of oral surgery. There were some others full-time, but the majority of people were part-time.

WEIMER: Do you know what the compensation was at that particular time? Were they volunteers, or do you know if they got paid?

MARSHALL: I have no idea as to that. I know from my recent experience here as chairman of the Department of Endodontology that part-time people, are not well paid.

WEIMER: That's one of our themes on part-time faculty, and I know a lot of them were volunteers.

It's 1949. You have graduated. What happened after that?

MARSHALL: I returned to Vancouver at graduation. I was married here in Portland in 1948. My mother-in-law and my mother had been Campfire Girls together in Portland, and when I came down to dental school, there was a home away from home, with a washing machine, the odd free meal and two daughters. I got trapped [laughter].

After we returned to Vancouver in '49, I practiced with my father for eight years. I left Vancouver to go to graduate school in Chicago and become an endodontist. My youngest brother, Donald, graduated here in dentistry in 1954, five years after me, and he also practiced with myself and my father.

One of the interesting things about the Dental School from the time we became part of the University of Oregon, and to the time we became part of the Oregon Health Sciences University—the Dental School was a separate line item in the State budget.

One of the advantages of becoming part of the University of Oregon was that there were dollars set aside for student activities. Except for a few dollars spent on basketball, most of that money went to what they called a "senior sneak day." When graduation was assured, the seniors would get together and pick a place to go to for a day and take the faculty with them for golf, dinner, and entertainment. Our class went to the lodge at Timberline, and spent the night.

On our way, we stopped halfway up the mountain and golfed. At that time the golf course was nine holes. This event was a moveable feast, seldom returning to the same location. The parties were a little raucous [laughter]. Senior sneaks continued into the early '70s. A trip to Las Vegas was planned that was to include wives; it didn't happen. No further trips came about.

Physically, the old school wasn't grand. The nearest green grass was in front of Sears Roebuck on Grand Avenue. The nearest dental supply store was Patterson's, an old house



across the street from the Dental School, attractive for its free coffee.

WEIMER: You mentioned the annual activity of “sneak day.” What other type of social events did the dental students have?

MARSHALL: There was some kind of party once a year. Right across the street from the dental school was the Delta Sigma Delta House, a fraternity house; and not far away from that was the Psi Omega house; and there was also ZIP’s (Xi Phi). Dean Noyes was a Delt. And Psi Omega fraternity all but lost their national standing because they pledged and took into their fraternity a Jewish man, who went on to become quite prominent locally in dentistry. Danny Haselnus was the man. He practiced on the East Side for many years. And they were quite a bit ahead of their time. There is a national Jewish fraternity, Alpha Omega; they weren’t/aren’t here at the University of Oregon level.

WEIMER: I didn’t realize that anti-Semitism was so evident in the professional schools.

MARSHALL: I don’t believe we were in Oregon.

WEIMER: Another one of our themes, and this would be a good time to bring it up, is women and minorities on campus. So why don’t we explore that a little bit? Let’s start with the women.

MARSHALL: Well, there were no women in my class. There was a woman in the year behind me who went on to notable activity, Evie Strange. Evelyn’s an interesting person. She was born in Vienna. She was one of triplets. They got out of Vienna urgently, I take it, and ended up in France during the war, and subsequently immigrated to this country.

Her dad was a Viennese graduate in dentistry; of course they are also medical people first. He retrained here in Oregon and practiced for many years. Her uncle was a faculty member, Frank Everett, a nationally known periodontist. He was the one that encouraged me to go to graduate school.

Women: I think there was a woman in my father’s class, but they were few and far between. Minorities: a number of Japanese men were in my class. Masuoka, a friend, died recently. His son and daughter were recent dental students. “Mats” was born in Oregon, then went to Japan for education. He came back as a teenager, continued his education, and went overseas to Europe as an Army medic. On his discharge, he entered our class.

There were other Japanese men accepted. If you had the requirements and the money, the Dean, when he was running the school himself, would make the class any size. There were a couple hundred people in my father’s class after the First World War.

WEIMER: So there were no quotas in the sense of class size, “we will only enroll one hundred”; they just made room for anybody to—

MARSHALL: They worked it out somehow. It was interesting: when I came into the School, they had a graduate program in orthodontics, and undergraduate students treated patients orthodontically. That stopped with my class.

Dental hygiene was also taught during my time, but then it stopped, and I don't know when it started again.

WEIMER: So you think there might have been at least a couple of years where there was a course of instruction in dental hygiene before what we know as the program today?

MARSHALL: I don't know when it started. I do know that we had hygienists in school with us because at least one of my classmates married one.

WEIMER: We mentioned earlier that you could become a pharmacist, also, at North Pacific College.

MARSHALL: Pharmacy had stopped long before I got there.

WEIMER: Okay. So that was earlier in its history?

MARSHALL: Yeah. And I don't know when it stopped. The pharmacy building was still on the grounds; it was a big wooden building.

Faculty-wise, it just occurred to me one of my neighbors when I was living in Oswego was a professor of radiology, Cline Fixott. His father was one of the first dental teachers of radiology, nationally, and he taught my dad. Cline Fixott (the son) was rather noted for the fact that he was the dentist in the mountain troop regiment that went to Italy. A number of Oregon skiers were in that regiment.

We seem to be wandering all over

WEIMER: That's alright; we often do that in oral histories.

Let's get back to Dean Harold Noyes. Can you describe the man?

[End Tape 1, Side 1/Begin Tape 1, Side 2]

WEIMER: We are on side two of tape one, and I was asking you if you would talk about Dean Harold Noyes. Describe his personality.

MARSHALL: Well, he was the son of a dental dean in Chicago, and his father was a very well known oral histologist. Harold had a medical degree, a dental degree, and graduate training in orthodontics. He was most notably remembered by my class for his course in growth and development.

[Tape stopped.]

WEIMER: If I can go back for just moment, he was Dean in 1946, but between him and Dean Miller, the School—let's just mention it again—became part of—

MARSHALL: The School, in 1946, went from a private institution, North Pacific College, owned and operated by Dean Miller, to become the University of Oregon Dental School. It had a distant relationship with the University of Oregon, and no relationship with the Medical School. At that time, the Medical School oversaw everything on the Hill, including Nursing. Even then, it was known as "Pill Hill." The School remained at Sixth and Oregon until—1957?

WEIMER: I think it was late 1956, early '57. So after it became incorporated into the State System of Higher Education and you were, at least in name, part of the University of Oregon, what was the relationship between the Medical School and Dental School, if any?

MARSHALL: There was none that I know of. We were a freestanding institution. That continued up through part of Dr. Terkla's time as Dean—because he used to have to go down to Salem and defend the budget. It was a line item in the State budget.

WEIMER: I realize you weren't at the School all during this period because you went back up to Canada, but do you know of the changes that were effected in the Dental School in teaching when they became part of the State System?

MARSHALL: Well, because they had money to hire full-time chairmen, Ellis Jump came; Marshall Snyder came, and he was nationally known for his microbiology research; and Keith Claycomb came. They already had one full-time man, an Indian by the name of Phatak in Pharmacology; there may have been more. With the discharge of the people from the service, Ken Cantwell came to head up Operative Dentistry, plus a full-time in Pedodontics, Ted Suher.

WEIMER: What was Dean Noyes' position in regard to other dentists in the area, in the region?

MARSHALL: I really don't know how Dr. Noyes was accepted locally. I do know that the School has always had a very good relationship with its alumni. During my father's time, it was well known for its annual alumni day lectures. These lectures were the best source of continuing education available down through the years. Our alums were well known nationally for their clinical competence and lectures. This continues to this day.

WEIMER: Dean Noyes was Dean until, I believe, 1967, approximately, and Lou Terkla took over. And you came back to the Dental School in the early '70s?

MARSHALL: Nineteen seventy-two, yes.

WEIMER: Right. Tell me a little about the '70s, what the Dental School was like then. It had obviously moved up to Marquam Hill.

MARSHALL: One of the things that the School was well noted for was, as I say, the clinical competence of its graduates. When I arrived in '72, they had graduate programs in periodontology, oral surgery, orthodontics, and pedodontics. One of the stipulations of my coming from Ohio State, where I was Chairman, was that we would develop a graduate program in endodontology, which we did; and subsequently it's turned out very well.

The School was also well known at the time for the excellence of its continuing education program and its relationship to the practicing dentists statewide and in the Northwest, and continues today. From Terkla's time, the amount and quality of the research has increased noticeably.

WEIMER: Let's talk about research. When you were a student in the '40s, was there any research?

MARSHALL: I'm not aware of the amount of research and publications that came out. I assume that Marshall Snyder continued his research in caries detection. There was an extensive study in the Orthodontic Department that continued for years, under Bhim Savara. I'm sure Dr. Terkla would be able to give more on that.

For many years, the Dental Materials Department, with Dave Mahler as Chair, has been internationally recognized for their research in dental amalgam properties. There was research and there was good research going on in the basic sciences.

WEIMER: Where did the funding come for research?

MARSHALL: I would say the only source I would be sure of would be the NIH, and the NIDR, National Institute of Dental Research, would be where most of it came from. The man [Richard B. Parker] that took over Microbiology from Marshall Snyder left the School and became famous for producing lyophilized lactobacillus that they manufactured locally and shipped by the truckload to the chicken industry in the South. This dried lactobacillus when added to chicken feed, speeds their maturation. The research was done in conjunction with some veterinary medicine people. Some of the research may have been started while he was at the Dental School. The Anatomy Department also worked with Battelle at Hanford, in developing "immature pigs" for research.

WEIMER: Well, shortly after you came back to the Dental School, we became a university: the Dental School, the Medical School, and the nursing department, which was made a Nursing School—became a university. How did that change the Dental School?

MARSHALL: I think it changed the Dental School's search for faculty. People were selected that had ability to do research, and time was allocated for people to do research.

Dental schools, of course, are notorious for the percentage of teaching time that is directly student-related. In the clinical departments, eighty percent student contact time is not unusual. Release time for research became possible.

What else happened? My department started a graduate program.

WEIMER: When the Dental School first became affiliated with the State System, there really wasn't any contact between the Medical School and the Dental School?

MARSHALL: Unless it was a personal contact.

WEIMER: I mean no formal or—

MARSHALL: Not that I'm aware of. I mean, Dr. Claycomb graduated at the Medical School with his Ph.D., and I don't know what contact he had.

WEIMER: But becoming a university, consolidating all the schools under a president, how did that change the relationship between the various schools?

MARSHALL: I don't think it did. I don't think it did.

WEIMER: I'm curious: I know there was a comparison between the two schools at times—and there is no comparison, but they both treated patients. The Medical School had the history of using Multnomah County Hospital, indigent patients only. The Dental School, of course, was a private institution until around 1946, then you became a state institution. How did the treatment of your patients in the clinics change?

MARSHALL: [Pauses.] You'd have to ask somebody else about the change when they came up on the Hill. When I was in school, we did county welfare patient treatment for a very modest fee, and our fees weren't ever competitive with private practice; they still aren't. When the School moved up on the Hill, I'm not sure that all the patients moved with us.

Certainly dentistry changed. During my years in school, extracting teeth and making dentures were an important part of our being. When I got up here in '72, emphasis in these fields was greatly reduced. Compared to other dental schools I've taught at, we have a very elderly patient population. Older patients can afford to spend the time.

I know that they had great difficulties getting adequate numbers of pediatric patients when dental insurance became available. Parents didn't have to take time off from work to bring children to the dental clinic. That made quite a difference.

The amount of bridgework and gold fillings that we placed in my day seems to be more than students are required today.

WEIMER: Let's go back; I would like to finish your career here at OHSU. You came

back in 1972 to start the graduate division?

MARSHALL: Well, I came back as Chairman. The department had a minimal staff. None were graduate-trained. There was no graduate or advanced training available. Endodontology had become a specialty in 1965. It was time for Oregon to recognize this.

I had practiced general dentistry for eight years; had a master's degree in histology, a certificate in endodontology, and broad experience; had been chairman of Histology and Endodontics in Manitoba; taught operative dentistry for two years in Pittsburgh; and then was chairman of Endodontology at Ohio State for five years. It took me two years to get my graduate program passed by the Board of Higher Education.

WEIMER: Is this to be formally approved?

MARSHALL: Yes. It took two years to do that, and we started the graduate program in 1974. At that time there were five endodontic specialists in the state. There are now about fifty, half of them trained in our program.

The man that replaced me in 1990 on my retirement came out of the Army, and I stayed on one year, half-time. Dr. Baumgartner had a Ph.D. in microbiology, and endodontic specialty training on top of his dental degree. Significant research is ongoing in the department.

While I was training specialists, we also granted five students master's degrees on top of their specialty training.

My son has taken over supervision of the graduate program. He's half time, and half time in practice.

WEIMER: And for the record, his name is?

MARSHALL: J. Gordon Marshall.

WEIMER: You have a definite history of dentistry in your family.

MARSHALL: Well, my father was a dentist and one brother, too. I have a black sheep brother who is a physician, and one of my sons is an emergency room specialist in Bellevue, WA. There are bad genes somewhere [laughter].

WEIMER: Another one of our themes is image, both from within and without. How did the Dental School see itself, its image? And you can talk, if you can remember, from your dental school days and from your days here as a professor.

MARSHALL: [Laughs] Well, I grew up knowing that West Coast dentistry was better clinical dentistry than East Coast dentistry. Along with this bias, we were somewhat

apologetic for our lack of, quote, “basic science background,” as compared to the Eastern schools. Whether or not that was true or not is hard to say.

I do know that even to this day the feedback we get from our students that go into the services is that they don't require the supervision that some of the students from other schools do. Our students were better clinically oriented than Pittsburgh students when I taught there.

I came here for three reasons: so that I could practice and treat patients; this wasn't allowed at Ohio. I would teach smaller classes, of eighty, at Oregon. Ohio was going from 150 students per class to 200, and Ohio was also going from a standard four-year curriculum to an accelerated three-year curriculum. This would have left no time for research and graduate students.

WEIMER: Quite a difference.

We have talked about training when you were a student. How did that change over the almost twenty-five years since you had left? Training in the '40s and then training in the '70s and '80s?

MARSHALL: When I went through dental school, the greater emphasis was always on the clinical practice of dentistry. When we graduated, we could practice under all conditions with anybody; and I think that pertains today, even though the mix, the clinical mix, is different. Students seldom get the oral surgery training we had, but the need for oral surgery has changed. When I graduated, I had never done a root canal, and by the time my brother graduated five years later, he had done five root canals. Now the student requirement is up around fifteen.

One of the criticisms that resulted from my teaching here came from the specialists in practice, that undergraduate students were overconfident of their endodontic ability. I don't know whether that's a good or a bad thing.

Certainly, I think the emphasis that the School places on continuing education is an example to our students that their learning must continue. I believe that this was missing in my day because few of the faculty were graduate-trained. People with graduate training especially recognize that their learning continues.

WEIMER: How does the speedup in technology that we have now affect that?

MARSHALL: Well, since I left the department in '90 the expected competency of the residents requires that they be competent in the use of surgical microscopes in the practice of surgery and non-surgical treatments. This has pertained for less than ten years. All our operatories now have surgical microscopes.

The interesting thing is that with the advance of the surgical microscope, the amount

of surgery that specialists do has dropped because they can re-treat failing cases successfully with microscope-enhanced non-surgical treatment. The majority of practitioners now have surgical microscopes in their operatories, and all of the students are being exposed to the treatment of the disabled vis-à-vis the AIDS patients and others.

Their biggest exposure to that, of course, is at the Russell Street Clinic, which is run by the Public Health Department of the Dental School. David Rosenstein, the Chairman of that department, got a big write-up in the paper recently; I don't know if you saw it.

WEIMER: I did read the article in *The Oregonian*.

MARSHALL: The Department and the School are to be commended for accepting the role of being the collection site for many of the AIDS patients. Understand that they go there knowingly and willingly, without having to search out dental care. I think most general dentists are prepared to deal with them when they come to their offices, but they elect this clinic instead.

WEIMER: That's a fine testament to the Dental School and the dentists.

MARSHALL: Well, David Rosenstein must take most of the credit for it, deservedly, I think.

WEIMER: We talked earlier about minorities and women when you were a dental student. How did that change in the later years, in the '70s and the '80s?

MARSHALL: Oh, for the worse [laughter]. Thirty to forty percent now of the students are women. It may be higher than that in the last few years since I've been away.

WEIMER: Big increase, then?

MARSHALL: Yeah, a marked change. We've trained five women in the graduate program to date, two of them during my tenure.

[End Tape 1, Side 2/Begin Tape 2, Side 1]

WEIMER: I should point out this is tape two, side one, and we had just finished talking about women. Then you brought up the presentation that Joan Ash and I did for the Emeritus Faculty Luncheon, and there was an objection. Was it a date or something that we said that was wrong?

MARSHALL: I don't remember now. But I remember speaking to Joan.

WEIMER: The only information I got about Noyes was from a small book on the history of dentistry in Oregon, which could easily have been in error.



MARSHALL: Oh, I'd like to see that book.

WEIMER: Well, I'll show it to you after we finish.

MARSHALL: Why don't we stop here and let me take a quick glance at it?

WEIMER: Okay.

[Tape stopped.]

WEIMER: We have started the tape again. I just went out and got the book, *The History of Dentistry in Oregon* by W. Claude Adams, D.D.S., and Dr. Marshall is looking through it, and he wanted to talk a little bit about the study clubs.

MARSHALL: Study clubs were unique to the Northwest. In my travels through Manitoba, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, one of the things that I would do would be to start study clubs in my specialty. Study clubs were groups of practicing dentists that got together on a monthly basis, usually for the eight winter months, and treated patients and listened to lectures from a mentor. I got interested in endodontics in Vancouver under the aegis of the Chairman of Endo-Perio at Washington, John Ingle, who wrote one of the notable books in the field.

The essence of study clubbing was that we treated our own patients in front of our peers, and then the mentor would comment—we'd go to dinner after an afternoon session, and the mentor would comment on what he had seen practiced and also give a short formal lecture. This was unique to the Northwest; perhaps the West Coast. They hadn't seen this done in Manitoba; they hadn't seen this done in Pennsylvania; and when I started study clubs in Ohio, the dentists thought that it was like discovering sliced bread [laughter].

Lecturing can give motivation, but study clubs give actual changes in behavior. Of course, Kenny Cantwell's study club in operative dentistry was notable, and that's why his name is on the continuing education rooms in the basement of the Dental School.

This study club institution continues to this day. I don't know when they first started. There weren't any in existence when I was in school that I'm aware of—pardon me, there were: after my dad's graduation, there were study clubs in gold foil manipulation in Vancouver, B.C., and I assume that there were, as I say, others perhaps in Seattle and—yeah, there were gold foil study clubs in Seattle. Ferrier was a famous operative dentist in the West. But this was unique.

The only drawback with the study club clinic downstairs in the basement of the Dental School was that we lost our cafeteria. That's another story.

WEIMER: We'll have to hear that one, too.

MARSHALL: Well, the reason we lost our cafeteria originally was that they were all state employees, and as they got automatic raises, the School couldn't afford to run a cafeteria. And this is why, of course, the hospital cafeteria is run by an outside source.

WEIMER: When you lost the cafeteria, what happened to the study club area, then?

MARSHALL: Well, before that the study club area was done somewhere else.

[Pause. Sound of pages turning.]

We've always had a good alumni publication. I think Henry Clarke was editor for a while, if not the present editor. I'm not sure.

WEIMER: What's the name of the publication?

MARSHALL: *Caementum*. Yes, you can see the size of the classes in the '20s there.

WEIMER: Oh, for the record, we're looking at a picture in *The History of Dentistry in Oregon* book of the 1921 class, which to me looks like there are well over one hundred people, minimum.

[Pause.]

MARSHALL: Oh, 1956 was when the School opened up on the Hill.

[Pause.]

Page 224 is a list of the study clubs as of—well, I'm not sure of the date.

WEIMER: I think the Dental School library has a copy of that book, also.

MARSHALL: Well, the Dental School library is all in boxes right now.

Well, I'd have to spend more time on this. You might give this to whomever you interview again. I mean, have them take a look at it and see what triggers their recollections.

WEIMER: I want to get back to your teaching days. You were a teacher here for over twenty years, and of course you were a teacher before that, after dental school.

MARSHALL: Well, I practiced general dentistry in Vancouver for eight years, and then did two years graduate training at the University of Illinois in Chicago; and then I taught six years at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg; and I was Chairman of Oral Histology and Endodontics.

WEIMER: What do you like best about teaching?

MARSHALL: Oh, it's the student interaction. My most enjoyable interaction has been with the residents, and the learning, the continued learning with them, where you don't have to deal with rote so much. And they come with different needs and different experiences than the undergraduates.

I'm still teaching—I mean I'm interacting half a day a week with the residents. But I'm serving without pay, so that if I get a better offer, I don't have to come [laughter].

But I have residents, you know, all over. One of my plans still is to connect the dots and jump in the car with my wife, who was den mother for most of my residents, and visit each one of the residents across Canada and down into Florida and all over, into California. They're all over the place. I have some seventy-five residents that are personal friends.

WEIMER: That sounds like a delightful journey and adventure, to visit them all.

MARSHALL: We haven't got around to it yet, but there's still time.

WEIMER: You've had a long career in the dental field. What do you think is your major accomplishment or what you're most proud of?

MARSHALL: I guess I'm most proud of my residents' accomplishments in pushing the envelope in the specialty, and also all of the undergraduates that have practiced good endodontics and gone on to specialty practice. In my son's class of '79, five of the class went on to become endodontists. One of my undergrads from Ohio State was just in Portland lecturing to the local endodontic study club (named after me the F. James Marshall Endodontic Study Club). The club has four meetings a year. This latest session registered thirty endodontists from B.C., Washington, Oregon, and Montana.

WEIMER: Quite a turnout for that.

MARSHALL: Yes. I'm very proud of the department's continuing education program for specialists. Most specialists have only their annual meetings for their continuing education. We have offered specialists continuing education since the start of the graduate program.

WEIMER: As I mentioned earlier, we haven't done enough interviews for the Dental School history. Could you possibly give me some other names that might be good? As I mentioned, we are going to do Lou Terkla, and we've done Henry Clarke, but we've certainly got a roster to fill.

[Tape stopped.]

MARSHALL: Well, Keith Claycomb, because of his experience with the basic science faculty, and he is available locally. Who else? Norm Rickles, who was in oral

pathology here for many years, is available locally. I saw him at the Emeritus Faculty Luncheon.

WEIMER: Any women dentists from earlier in the history?

MARSHALL: Well, you might try Evelyn Strange.

WEIMER: Is she still well?

MARSHALL: Yes. She was the year after me. She was very prominent nationally in the women's dental association. They have a separate group that meets.

WEIMER: Is she still in Portland?

MARSHALL: Yes. She lives over in Alameda. [Pauses.] Who else?

WEIMER: Well, that will get me started. And you can always let me know if you think of others.

MARSHALL: You know, right now I'm trying to prepare a fiftieth anniversary reunion for my class. You might look into who's coming to the hundredth anniversary. Some of them will be in town and won't be available any other time.

WEIMER: That's an excellent suggestion. I know you're celebrating throughout the year, but when are you doing the main celebration?

MARSHALL: Well, April the 24th and 25th is the all-school reunion

WEIMER: I can certainly make up a list of names and perhaps get the out-of-town people during that period.

MARSHALL: Yeah. There are thirty-six of my class left, and I don't know yet how many of them will be coming.

WEIMER: I want to thank you, Dr. Marshall, very much for sharing your memories and adding to the history of the Dental School.

MARSHALL: Well, Lou Terkla will certainly be able to—I mean, he might not have some of the intimate detail, but he certainly will have some of it. Too bad you didn't get a chance to talk to Dr. Wheeler before he died at age 100.

WEIMER: Yes, we've missed a few, and that is regrettable. I'm thankful that we've been able to get as many as we have so far, and we'll continue to do so.

[End of Interview]

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