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Scholarships for graduate studies in housing

FOR THE 1988-1989 ACADEMIC YEAR

Individual scholarships of \$12,000 each for graduate studies in housing are awarded by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) to candidates of demonstrated ability and high academic promise.

Scholarship winners are chosen competitively by a national committee representing business, universities and government. These awards may be used for studies in such disciplines as engineering, environment, business and public administration, social and behavioural science, architecture, economics, law, planning and history.

A Guideline and Application form may be obtained from your university office responsible for graduate studies or student awards. Or write to:

Administrator, Scholarship Program
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0P7

Your request for a form must reach Ottawa by March 14, 1988. In turn, your application for the 1988-1989 academic year must be sent to CHMC by your university no later than April 7, 1988.

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Dental care on campus

by Roberta Franchuk

A small boy lies in the dentist's chair, eyes tightly shut, as the dentist carefully checks his teeth. When the procedure is finished, the boy hops out of the chair and is presented with a yellow balloon, shaped like a tiger, by the dental assistant.

It is a scene like any other dentist's office — except that the dentist is a fourth year dentistry student. He is working in the General Practice Clinic at the U of A's Dental Health Care program, where students will gain the training necessary before they begin practice on their own.

Over 2000 people are treated as patients by the dental clinics each school year. Work is done by students in second, third and fourth year Dentistry as part of the clinical requirements of the dentistry program, said Dr. Roger Ellis, chairman of the Department of Dental Health Care.

Fees for dental procedures are only 20 to 50 per cent as high as those recommended for private practice by the Alberta Dental Association, because the Faculty of

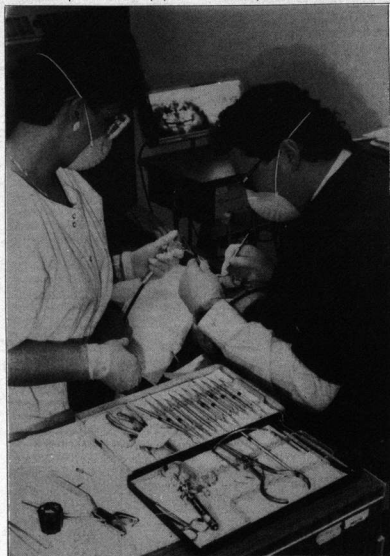
procedure used as a demonstration, the work is done by the head of a clinical discipline while students watch, noted Ellis.

The type of work done is also monitored, in order that each student become familiar with all types of procedures. Some types of work are requested more than others — tooth extractions, for example, are very common. However, sometimes "we don't have enough younger patients to go around," said Ellis, adding that occasionally the faculty is forced to put ads in newspapers

requirement of 798 clinical hours, and fourth year students must fill 828 hours in the clinic, said Dick.

While students spend their second and third years of the dentistry program learning specific procedures, in their fourth year they begin 'comprehensive care' of patients, said Dr. Carl Osadetz, director of clinics.

At the beginning of their fourth year, students are assigned a case load of patients designed to allow them to put together the individual skills they have been taught. The



Dental assistant and student dentist work on patient Jeff Scott

The work that is
done is excellent...

Dentistry provides an educational subsidy for patients. Despite the lower fees, patients are still receiving careful attention.

"Everything the students do here is under very vigorous supervision," said Dr. Henry Dick, Curriculum Committee Chairman. "The staff-to-student ratio is at least one to eight."

The dentistry students can do "nearly everything a general practitioner can do," said Ellis. He noted that the work does take more time because everything is supervised very closely. "The work that is done is excellent, but the patients have to have time. Most appointments run two to three hours."

Patients are screened before being admitted, to "screen out cases which really should be seen by a specialist."

"We tell students it's a sign of maturity that they can say, 'It's not in my capabilities at this point in time,'" said Ellis.

When a situation is complicated and the patient agrees to have the

to find pediatric dental cases. Surgery patients are also in low supply, due to the improved dental health of the general population which makes oral surgery less necessary.

Patient care becomes more important in the dentistry program as the student advances. Third year dentistry students have a program

case load is carefully constructed to give students a mix of patient needs.

In the General Practice Clinic, students work with assistants to help them develop the team skills used in real practice. The productivity of the students is measured by a computer, which allows them to gauge their work against that of other students and gives them an idea of how well they would be doing in a real practice.

According to Ellis, many patients "feel the work that is being done is so good that they put themselves on a recall list."

Besides the on-campus clinics, another part of the clinical training is spent in the Mobile Dental Clinic, three trailers located in more remote parts of Alberta. All dentistry and dental hygiene students must spend two weeks rotation in one of the mobile clinics as part of their final year.

This program, unique to Alberta, is aimed at giving dentistry students a taste of more independent dental practice. "The program allows them to get into a non-institutionalized situation," explained Dick. Students must diagnose and treat unscreened patients as they appear.

The Mobile Dental Clinic program, which began in 1974, encourages dental students to consider setting up a practice in a smaller community. It also helps develop teamwork among dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants.

With both the Mobile Dental Clinic and the campus clinics available for patient treatments, students in Dentistry receive a wide exposure to dental problems even before they set up practice on their own.

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