Howard dental unit expanding

WASHINGTON — The Howard University School of Dentistry has scheduled a $8,891,506 renovation and reconstruction program which will provide the additional space necessary for the increase in scope, nature and quality of its educational program.

The construction and renovation, due to begin this year, involves the addition of two floors and the reprogramming of the existing three floors and basement, officials said.

The U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW), has pledged the bulk of the funding, $7,113,205 and the remaining $1,778,301 is being raised by the administration, faculty, staff and the alumni association of the college of dentistry.

The college of dentistry was organized as an integral part of Howard University in 1881 and has since then graduated more black dentists than all of the other dental schools combined.

After approximately 100 years in the instruction of black dental surgeons, the college has become a leader in providing dental manpower with a keen sense of awareness of the particular needs of its student body to the poor and otherwise disadvantaged people.

The college advises prospective students that the education of a dentist is vastly different from what it was a decade ago. Officials say, "One of the greatest changes is the increased emphasis placed on the preventive aspects of dental care.

Research is an ongoing factor at the college of dentistry. It contributes to teaching and instruction at the undergraduate and the graduate levels.

Research involves studies in the pre-clinical and the clinical sciences and allied fields of health courses with both faculty and students involved in designing, conducting and interpreting programs.

Research projects are developed in accordance with specific interests of faculty and students in oral hygiene related areas. Where feasible an interdisciplinary research is undertaken in collaboration with clinically-oriented research projects.

The college also offers a student research fellowship program which provides opportunities to interested students from all classes to perform individual research projects under faculty leadership.

The dentistry college has a library which serves as the major library for the center for health sciences. Currently, the library contains approximately 85,000 volumes and subscribes to 2,900 dental journals of the U.S., Canada, Europe and Asia.

The college of dentistry offers a program leading to the doctor of dental surgery degree, a course of studies leading to the certificate of dental hygiene, postgraduate studies in oral surgery, orthodontics and pedodontics, and continuing education courses for dentists and dental hygienists.

At Howard, 20 per cent of the entering freshman dental class is now female. The national need for highly qualified personnel in the dental profession and the growing tendency of women to seek employment outside the home provide some of the reasons to encourage qualified women to consider dentistry a career, officials said.

Howard University College of Dentistry has trained women dentists who have proved their competence in general practice and in each of the recognized specialized areas.

The college of dentistry is headed by a woman. She is Jeanne C. Sinkford. The college of dentistry can also boast of women who hold top positions on its faculty and staff. Included among these women is Dr. Juliann S. Bluit, she is the associate dean, and is in charge of the auxiliary and community programs and patient relations functions of the college.

Another woman on the staff of the college of dentistry is Dr. Patricia A. Niles, chairman of the departmental of dental hygiene. She also has a successful private practice.

Dr. Joyce A. Reese heads the college's health education and welfare administration. Dr. F. Camille Lee Young is on the faculty of the department of public health.

WASHINGTON — Unemployment insurance benefits more than doubled during the 1975 fiscal year, with about $12.3 billion paid to approximately 12.1 million persons, according to the annual report of the U.S. Department of Labor.

WASHINGTON — During the 1975 fiscal year, emergency unemployment assistance legislation extended benefits to groups previously not covered and increased the length of time that benefits could be paid, according to the annual report of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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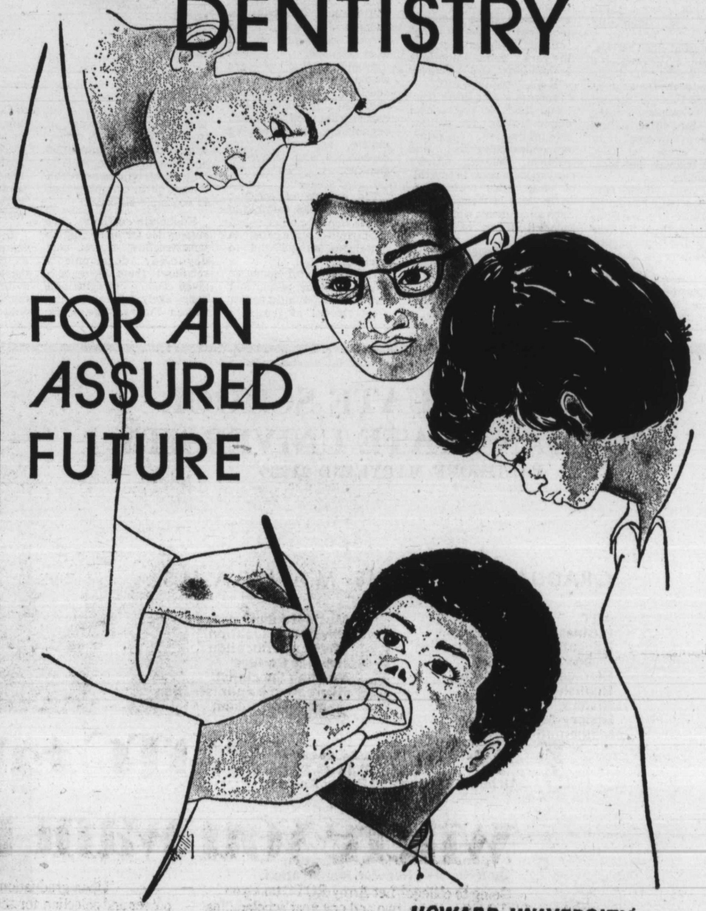

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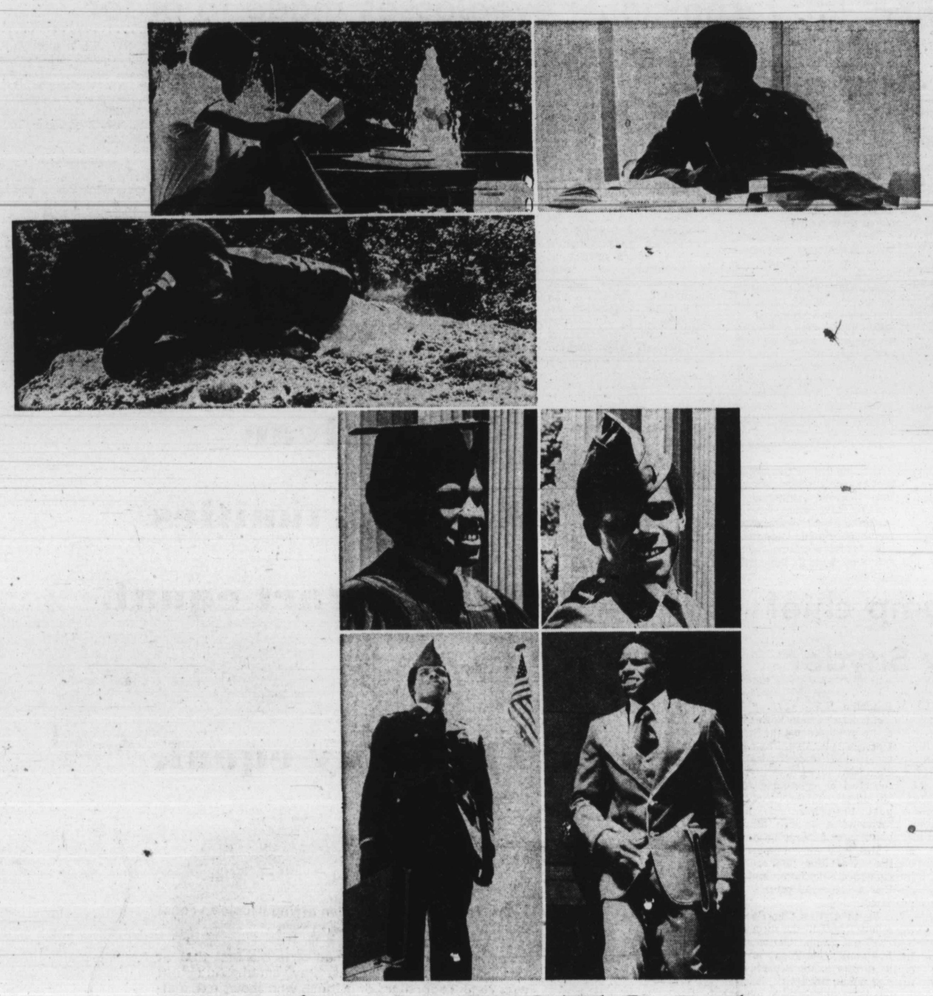

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