1) DEAN'S SEARCH
The search committee met in the Spring and early summer, they took a brief hiatus in August, and resumed interviewing candidates in September. The committee is confident they will be able to recommend an internal and hopefully an external candidate to the President by mid-December.

2) CURRICULUM
The curriculum now in use at the School of Dental Medicine is in large measure the result of major curriculum-building effort in the mid-1970's known as "The Pennsylvania Experiment." It resulted in the "Group System" which attempts to create—as far as is practicable—the environment of a dental practice. The faculty is still enthusiastic about the curriculum, although the process of refining it and updating it continues. Interim Dean Malcolm Lynch reports that as he travels to dental deans meetings throughout the country, he finds that there is considerable interest in Penn's curriculum and several deans have requested permission to send representatives to study Penn's group system.

Our dual degree and cooperative programs elicit a good deal of applicant interest. Within the DMD curriculum, the Hospital Dentistry Program in conjunction with Medical College of Pennsylvania and HUP has made our students who take part in the program highly competitive for admission into advanced post-graduate programs, including general practice residencies and advanced programs in oral surgery. Penn's Dental School offers the following joint degrees: DMD/MD (in oral Surgery, 8) DMD/MS (a Master's degree in oral biology, 5) DMD/MBA (with Wharton, 2); and a DMD/Engineering degree.
Under former Dean Jan Lindhe's leadership, the School completed a planned down-sizing of faculty and student body. This was a planned, measured response to a nation-wide decline in the number of applicants to dental schools—and, in fact, to the health professions generally.

3) STUDENT BODY
With the steady decline in the number of applicants to dental school, Penn is fortunate in still being able to fill its classes, and in continuing to maintain its customary GPA. Nevertheless, this decline will mean that maintaining class size and quality will continue to be a challenge.

For comparison, looking at the past three years, the Dental School accepted virtually the same number of students (292 in 1985, and 293 in 1988). Again, virtually the same number of students matriculated (91 in 1985 and slightly more, 98, in 1988). However, these acceptances and matriculants were drawn from declining pools: 875 in 1985 and 550 in 1988.

4) STRATEGIC PLANNING
The School has begun its second Five-Year planning process. Five faculty committees have been appointed, charged with examining clinical education, curriculum, faculty, funding base, and marketing, in order to develop a strategy for meeting the challenges of the external environment.

5) BOARD OF OVERSEERS
The School of Dental Medicine has aggressively sought increased corporate representation on its Board of Overseers. In the past eighteen months we have added the following representatives: Dr. Morton E. Goldberg, V.P. for Research and Development ICI Americas, Pharmaceuticals Group; David M. Oliver, President & Chief Operating Officer Wyeth-Ayerst International; Dr. Patricia Stewart, V.P. for Research & Development McNeil Consumer Products.
6) DEVELOPMENT

A. CORPORATE CONNECTIONS

As a result of strengthening the Board in the Corporate area, a corporate connection program took place last month to hopefully expand our source of revenue through contracted research programs. This event enabled us to inform 28 corporate representatives about the kind of research that the Centre for Oral Health Research is engaged in—in molecular biology. COHR is an integral part of the University's spectrum of collaborative research in the health sciences.

B. FUND-RAISING REPORT

In FY '88 the Dental School raised $307,349 from 1,580 donors. This was a relatively small increase over FY '87, but a 26% increase in donor participation over FY '86. Recently the School benefitted from a bequest from Dr. Norman Vine that enabled us to establish a chair in Restorative Dentistry.

C. DENTAL SCHOOL PARTICIPATION IN UNIVERSITY CAMPAIGN

The Dental School will attempt to keep in step with the University Campaign timetable. We are strengthening our volunteer network—especially in Washington and New York by screening and identifying major prospects. Further steps toward actual solicitation will await the arrival of the new Dean. We anticipate that the new Dean, after carefully reviewing the case statement will ratify the priority needs of the School which echo the University's needs of student financial aid, faculty support, and facilities renovation.

7) RESEARCH

According to figures released by the American Dental Association, in terms of research dollars Penn is ranked 6th among the 57 Dental Schools in the country. We are ranked 2nd in research dollars among the private Dental schools.
Our school's research program is unique in Dental Medicine in that it is the only Dental School with 3 federally funded research centers; one of them being the Clinical Research Centre. This is the only NIH affiliated Clinical Center in a dental school.

With our unique strengths in the areas of research capability, curriculum innovation and linkages with other health and research institutions, we must continue to emphasize training in advanced clinical specialties while pioneering new ones as we educate dental practitioners in the late 20th Century and beyond.