CONNECTING THROUGH DIFFERENCES

Dr. Vy Do’s (BS ’10) interests and passions span a wide spectrum. While taking science classes in college, he also played in the university orchestra. He even studied abroad with UGA Cortona in Cortona, Italy, learning about local art and culture; it was the highlight of his collegiate career. Vy believes that his varied experiences and interests at the University of Georgia prepared him for his career as a dentist in a unique way.

On a daily basis in his practice, he encounters people from every background and stage of life. “I like variety. I like being exposed to all different people,” said Vy. His experiences at UGA prepared him to connect with people from all walks of life and empathetically interact with them, which has been a huge advantage and reward in his career. “I benefitted from UGA. It means something to me,” Vy stated. Therefore, he knew he wanted to give back.

PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE

Throughout the week, Vy works as an associate dentist at several private practices across Atlanta. He treats everyone from young children to grandparents. He loves the regularity of dentistry and the opportunity to see his patients grow. “Some patients start in kindergarten and now they’re applying for college. You get to see their progress through life,” said Vy.

The challenge of dentistry, though, is learning to have patience with the variety of people and cases that come into the office. “You never know what could be thrown at you.” The unexpected comes with a learning curve, but the reward of helping people with dental emergencies and pain makes the challenges worth it to Vy.

HANDS-ON IMPACT

Giving back to UGA, Vy’s impact is personal and tangible. “I’m seeing what my money does; it is hands-on giving,” Vy said. “My few dollars can help renovate a building or provide scholarship funds for students. There’s a direct benefit.”

Vy often shares with others about his experience at UGA and his passion for giving back to the university. “I hope that telling people will influence them to give back to the University of Georgia.” Additionally, Vy avidly serves his community wherever and whenever he can. Most recently, he traveled to Kikiyu, Kenya to provide dental care services to children with limited access to dental care; their team treated over 1,000 kids. He believes that sharing his “why” with others will inspire them to see how they can make a difference too.
“I know I will be a lifelong supporter of UGA,” Vy said. He hopes his contributions will impact students’ lives for years to come.

Written by Hannah Glass ‘19