During a 75th-anniversary luncheon, a panel of dental public health experts spoke on the past, present, and future of public health dentistry. Panelists included Barbara Gooch, DMD’78, a dental officer at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Joseph Doherty, past AAPHD president and past state dental director for Wisconsin and Virginia; and William Maas, MPH’82, SM’83, past assistant surgeon general and interim director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research of the National Institutes of Health. HSDM’s Brittany Seymour, an instructor in global and community health, concluded the panel discussion, speaking on the growing interdisciplinary and global approaches to addressing oral health disparities worldwide.

The lunch festivities concluded with the cutting of a 75th-anniversary cake, celebrating the tremendous achievements of past experts and the future endeavors of the next generation of dental public health leaders.

Brian Swann, a clinical instructor in oral health policy and epidemiology at HSDM and public health dentist at the HSDM-affiliated Cambridge Health Alliance, was awarded the 2012 National Dental Association Foundation/Colgate Palmolive Faculty Recognition Award in the category of Administration/Service. The faculty awards honor individuals who have demonstrated excellence in professional development and a willingness to support and to help others in their quest for knowledge and advancement.

The award was presented at the Multicultural Oral Health Summit, “Collectively Meeting the Needs of a Diverse Population to Improve Oral Health,” in Boca Raton, Florida, in July. The conference was sponsored by the National Dental Association, Hispanic Dental Association, and Society of Native American Dentists. Swann was a panelist in the Presidents’ Symposium at the conference in the section “Oral Health Center Stage: The Media and Multi-Cultural Messaging,” at which he spoke on the topic of dentists as oral physicians and interprofessional team leaders.

Continuing in his promotion of public health, Swann contributed the chapter “Social Dentistry at Harvard” to the book Odontología Preventiva y Comunitaria: La Odontología social—Un deber, una necesidad, un reto, a work in Spanish devoted to discussion of public oral health. Swann’s chapter, which was translated into Spanish, was cowritten by HSDM faculty member Romesh Nalliah and Enihomo M. Obadan of the HSDM Office of Global and Community Health, and in collaboration with the University of Seville.

Among Swann’s other activities, he is the mentor for Earl Jordan Blanche (DMD 2015), a recipient of a 2012 Paul Ambrose Scholarship from the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research and the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion of the US Department of Health and Human Services. Paul Ambrose Scholars conduct a yearlong community-based health promotion and/or disease-prevention project within their community or at their institution; Swann will oversee Blanche’s project.