



## 2011 Distinguished Alumnus of the Year

Thomas Van Dyke, D.D.S., Ph.D. '73



Currently Vice President for Clinical  
and Translational Research  
and  
Chair of the Department of Periodontology at  
The Forsyth Institute

Dr. Van Dyke's work on inflammation is critical to the link between oral and systemic disease" says T. Roma Jasinevicius, D.D.S., M.Ed. '76 who nominated Dr. Van Dyke.

Dr. Van Dyke is one of the nation's top researchers and is now conducting studies that could revolutionize the way dental professionals treat periodontitis and inflammation-induced bone destruction.

- \* Alumni Board member of CWRU School of Dental Medicine
- \* Directed the Post Graduate program in Periodontology and Clinical Research Center at Boston University
- \* Joined The Forsyth Institute in October '10

Van Dyke's laboratory focuses on basic research, clinical research and bridging the gap between the two through translational research. He says he is encouraged by his current studies of specialized lipid mediators that reduce inflammation, protect from bone loss and actually stimulate tissue regeneration for those suffering from periodontitis and inflammation induced bone destruction.

**"Maybe, I can ride off into the sunset having cured something" says Van Dyke.**