



Our Mission...

We at The University at Buffalo, School of Dental Medicine embrace diversity and strive to foster a welcoming and inclusive environment, where our students, faculty and staff of all backgrounds feel empowered to achieve their greatest potential. It is part of our mission to enhance recruitment and retention of Historically Underrepresented minority students, faculty and staff, to address disparities in health and healthcare, and to train culturally-competent clinicians who are equipped to meet healthcare needs of our increasingly diverse communities.

Committee Members: Dr. Stephen Abel, Dr. Thikriat Al-Jewair, Anusha Atique (D1), Bushra Azhar (D2), Dr. Dian Chin Kit-Wells, Brian Cruz (D3), Katrina Delaney, Dr. Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker, Arian Johnson (D4), Dr. Dana Keblawi, Denise Kennedy, Dr. Elaine Hennie-Megna, Dr. Stefan Ruhl, Dr. Joseph Rumfola, Dr. Othman Shibly, Anisa Tocilla (ASDA Liaison)



KUDOS

Arian Johnson, `21 Creates New Pipeline Program!

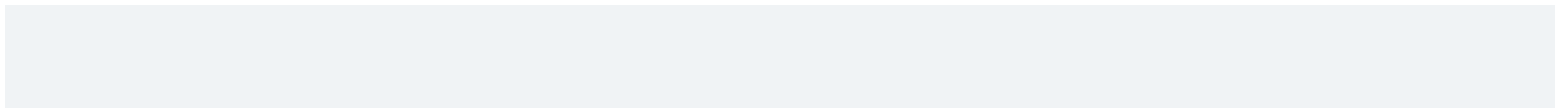
Fourth year dental student, Arian Johnson has created and is implementing a new pipeline program for undergrad students called Destination Dental School (DDS.) She sits on the SDM Equity, Diversity and Inclusion committee.

Destination Dental School (DDS) is an intense gateway experience for under-represented undergraduate students interested in pursuing a career in dentistry.

[Click here to learn more](#)

About Arian Johnson, `21

Arian was born and raised on the east side of Buffalo, NY; a predominantly black neighborhood that is highly impacted socioeconomically. As the first in her family to obtain a Bachelor's degree and pursue a Doctorate, she recognizes her role as an advocate and leader for her community. Due to the lack of diversity in the dental profession, she was inspired to propose a dental pipeline program for under-represented students in an effort to improve resources for those rising from communities like the east side of Buffalo.



Cultural Holidays



All around the world

HOLIDAYS

Cultural Celebrations

Join us as we celebrate all the different cultural and religious holidays that happen during the calendar year!

[Click here](#)

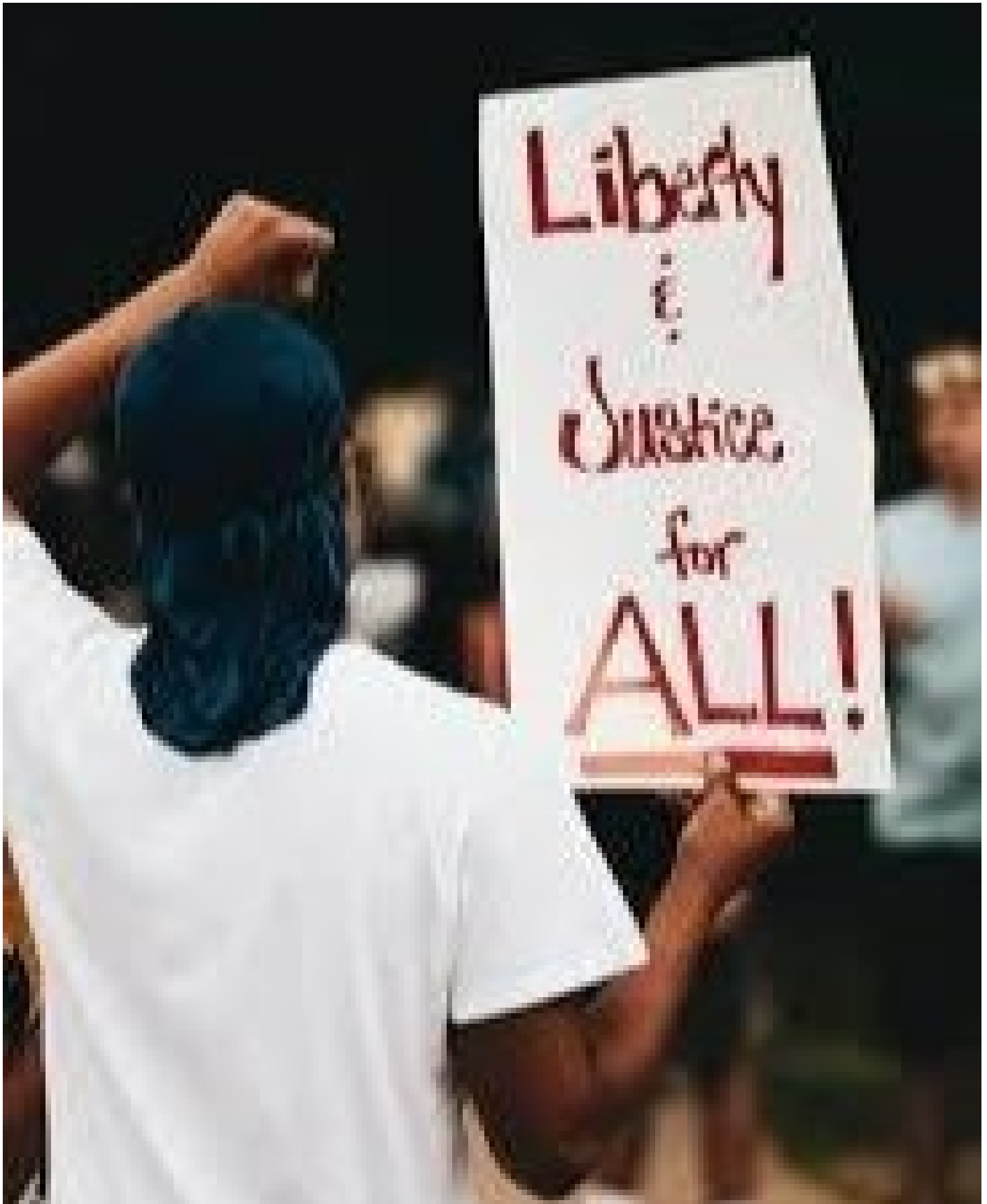


UPCOMING EVENTS

Available EDI Events & Resources

Click below for more information and to register.

[Click here](#)



DID YOU KNOW?

Racial Justice Student Task Force

We are a group of students who have organized together with a common goal of addressing the racial inequalities and systemic racism that affect the daily lives of people of color, particularly within the healthcare field and at UBSDM. We are working in collaboration with the EDI committee, SNDA and HDA to identify and implement initiatives that can be successful in creating positive, sustainable change at UBSDM.

If you are interested in joining our efforts, please reach out to our email at RJSTF.UB@gmail.com or any of the representatives of the EDI committee, SNDA or HDA.



FOCUS

Information for All Faculty and Staff

The *Comprehensive Cultural Competence program* is available for all faculty and staff. The program satisfies the Sexual Harassment Training requirement.

[Click here](#)

Interested to participate in a workshop on Social Divisions and Questions of Identity in Germany and the United States?

[Click here](#)

Suggested Reading

The Health Care Institution, Population Health and Black Lives

By: Christopher J. King, Ph.D., FACHE, Yanique Redwood, Ph.D., M.P.H.

“The ongoing existence of institutionalized racism and discriminatory practices in various systems (education, criminal justice, housing, employment) serve as root causes of poor

health in Blacks Lives...”

[Click here to access the article](#)



Dr. Yoly-Gonzalez-Stucker
Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee

SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker Graduates from SUNY Hispanic Leadership Institute

Recently, Dr. Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker, associate professor, and program director of the TMD and Orofacial Pain Certificate program, Department of Oral Diagnostic Sciences, became a fellow at the SUNY’s Hispanic Leadership Institute.

SUNY’s Hispanic Leadership Institute is a joint initiative of SUNY’s SAIL Institute and Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

The program’s mission is to identify, foster, and support the development and retention of current and emerging Hispanic/Latinx leaders for an increasingly diverse university system and nation.

For years, Dr. Gonzalez has mentored UB's dental students, which includes many community outreach events. She is a well-respected leader within the Western New York Hispanic community.

At the school, Dr. Gonzalez-Stucker established a TMD clinic to care for disadvantaged populations within the pre-doctoral curriculum, which has evolved to form the clinical platform for the TMD and Orofacial Pain graduate program. Dr. Gonzalez has lectured extensively in the US and abroad and has authored and co-authored numerous scientific articles, abstracts and book chapters in her field of expertise. During the last 15 years, she has been involved in clinical research. As co-investigator and principal investigator, she has been involved in NIH-sponsored landmark projects in the field of TMD and Orofacial Pain that include the Validation Study, DC-TMD, OPPERA and TMJ Biomechanics. Also, she serves on the SDM Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Gonzalez!



COLLABORATE

We Want You to Share Your Story

We are collecting anonymous stories of personal experiences with racism, microaggression, or implicit bias, to create a video to be used in a creative learning program targeted for dental/medical professionals. These stories can be from experiences at school or outside of school.

Once we collect the anonymous stories, we will recruit people to read them and share their thoughts on the story.

The purpose of this program is not to have stories interpreted by someone other than the owners, but rather to share an experience with those who may never have had a similar experience.

Your input is greatly appreciated and necessary to invoke positive change in our cultural environment.

[Click here](#)





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