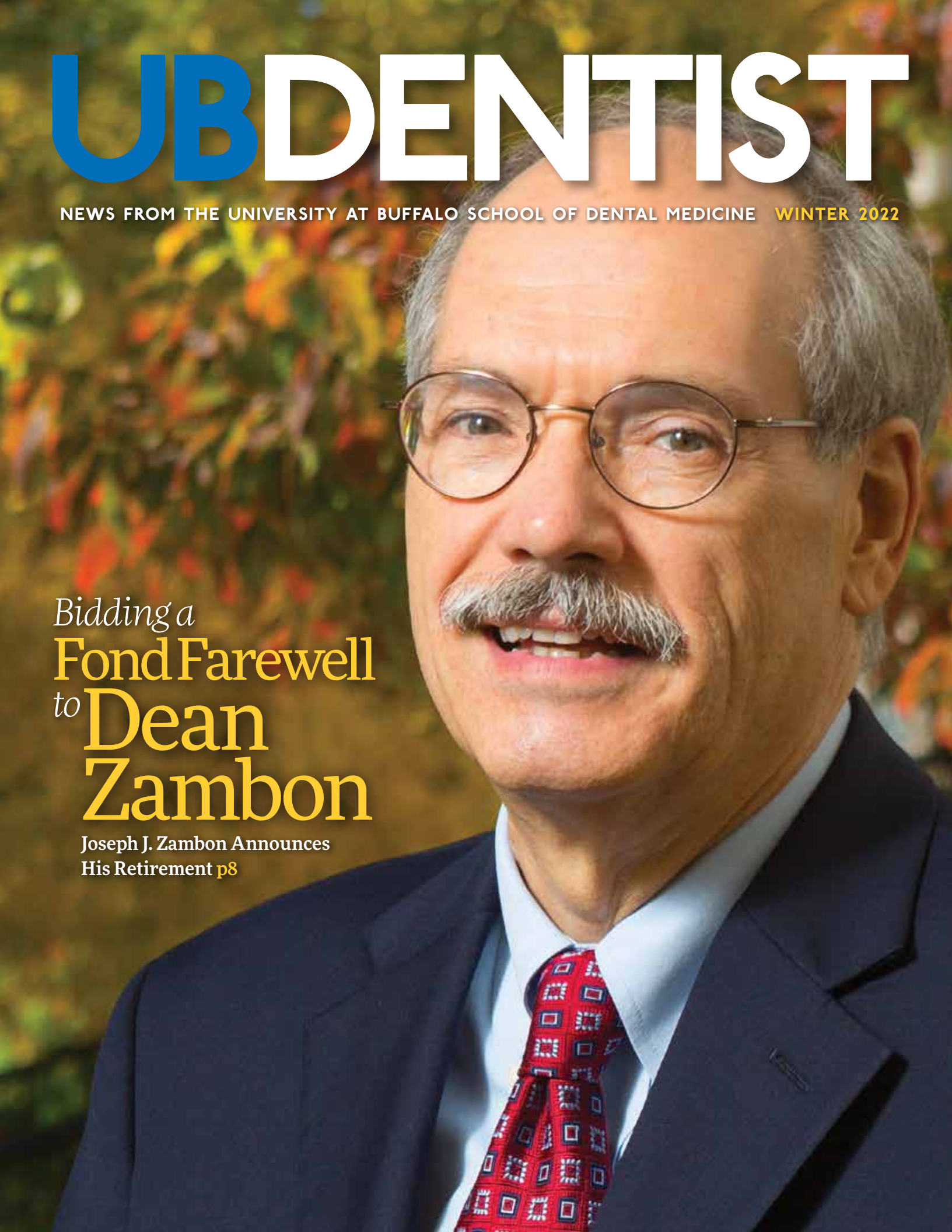


# UB DENTIST

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE WINTER 2022

*Bidding a*  
**Fond Farewell**  
*to*  
**Dean**  
**Zambon**

Joseph J. Zambon Announces  
His Retirement p8



Greetings, alumni, colleagues and students,

As we were preparing this issue of *UB Dentist*, Dr. Joseph Zambon announced that he was stepping down as Dean of the School of Dental Medicine and retiring in early January 2022.

His contributions as a faculty member and the focus of his leadership as Dean of our school are many and some are detailed later in this issue.

We would like to emphasize several of these contributions. First, Dr. Zambon has been an incredible teacher and focused on instructional technology and curriculum development, serving as associate dean for academic affairs for 15 years. He was twice named Educator of the Year by graduating dental students and is a Distinguished Teaching Professor since 2008. Only 36 faculty members at the University at Buffalo since 1970 have achieved this SUNY rank, and only two others at the School of Dental Medicine—Drs. Mirzda Neiders in 2002 and Russell Nisengard in 1991.

Second, he knew us all so well, and this really made a difference. Except for Dr. Nisengard's short tenure as Interim Dean in 2000-2002, Dr. Zambon (13th Dean) was the only graduate of our school in recent history to become Dean. The three others were Daniel Squire, graduating in the first dental class in 1893, (3rd Dean), Russell Groh, 1913 (5th Dean), and Leon Gauchat, 1919 (6th Dean).

Third, having spent his academic career at UB, he has a big heart for the SDM family. The alumni knew him well and he remembered many of them which really made a difference

in how connected they felt to the School. Especially during these COVID years, he was very protective about our SDM family. He was focused on having the latest information in order to make the best decisions with care and concern for faculty, staff, students and patients. It made a difference.

So, as we wish Dean Zambon well on his next journey, we welcome Dr. Stefan Ruhl as the Interim Dean. He also knows the School well, being a faculty member here in Oral Biology since 2007. There are a number of other leadership transitions that are the focus of this issue.

Also, very important was the re-emergence of the in-person Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting, held this past November with over 2,200 attendees. Everyone was so happy to be able to network in person with proper masking in place.

The UBDA also has a leadership transition. We thank and say goodbye to Dr. Carl Embury, '13, and welcome Dr. Genene Crofut, '03, as President.

All the best wishes in the New Year!

Dr. Pamela Jones and Sherry Szarowski, *UB Dentist* co-editors

# FROM THE EDITORS



PAMELA JONES



SHERRY SZAROWSKI

ON THE COVER:

Dean Joseph J. Zambon says farewell after 39 years at UB.

Photo by Douglas Lavere

# IN THIS ISSUE

WINTER 2022

## UBDENTIST

News from the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine

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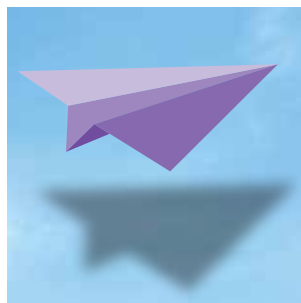
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### A FOND FAREWELL

Dr. Joseph J. Zambon concludes an illustrious academic career of research, teaching and serving five years as the 13th dean of the UB School of Dental Medicine.

# 12

### LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

As two transformative leaders depart the school, inspiring leaders are promoted to positions of influence.

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### BNDM 2021

Finally, after a year hiatus, the Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting returned and drew over 2,000 attendees.

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Publication of UB Dentist is made possible by the generous support of the University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association.

## Ruhl named interim dean of the dental school

Stefan Ruhl, an internationally renowned expert on saliva, oral bacteria and the oral microbiome, will serve as interim dean of the School of Dental Medicine, effective Jan. 6.

The announcement was made December 9th in a university-wide memo from A. Scott Weber, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, and Allison Brashear, vice president for health sciences

and dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Ruhl succeeds Joseph Zambon, who retired after 39 years of service to UB.

"We are grateful to Dr. Ruhl for his leadership and service during this transitional period, during which time we will launch an international search for the next dean of the School of Dental Medicine," Weber and Brashear said in the memo.

"I am humbled by the amount of support I received from colleagues at our school and am incredibly excited for the opportunity that lies ahead for all of us," Ruhl said. "I see great potential for joining forces with the medical school and the other health professions at UB for the benefit of science, student education and serving the underserved in the Buffalo and Western New York area."

A fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Ruhl is a professor and associate chair of the Department of Oral Biology.

A highly prolific scholar, his research seeks to unravel the roles that saliva and microorganisms play in health, including in adhesion to the teeth and surfaces of the mouth, defense against pathogens and colonization of the oral cavity.



STEFAN RUHL, INTERIM DEAN OF THE UB SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE, STANDS IN THE LAB. PHOTOGRAPHER: DOUGLAS LEVERE

“I AM HUMBLLED BY THE AMOUNT OF SUPPORT I RECEIVED FROM COLLEAGUES AT OUR SCHOOL AND AM INCREDIBLY EXCITED FOR THE OPPORTUNITY THAT LIES AHEAD FOR ALL OF US.”

Ruhl investigates the molecular mechanisms of microbial binding to glycans, a common but little understood class of biomolecules that help bacteria attach to host surfaces, including those in the mouth. The goal of his lab is to harness tools that ultimately help scientists examine how the microorganisms bind to glycans in the mouth to form oral biofilms—more commonly known as dental plaque—increasing the risk for cavities and periodontal disease.

He was among the first researchers to catalogue the human salivary proteome, which is the entirety of proteins present in saliva

and in salivary gland ductal secretions. Ruhl has led or participated in recent studies that have identified how saliva is made, tracing each salivary protein back to its source. He helped curate the Human Salivary Proteome Wiki, the first public platform that catalogs data on each of the thousands of proteins contained in saliva. His work also led to the identification of a starch-digesting enzyme called amylase in the saliva of dogs and various other mammals for the first time.

Ruhl has explored saliva to understand the factors that helped shape human evolution and, in particular, the evolution of the human mouth environment. Together with his co-workers, he found genetic evidence in saliva that humans may have mated with a ghost species of archaic humans, and discovered that 2 million years of eating meat and cooked food has led humans to develop a saliva that is now starkly different from that of chimpanzees and gorillas, our closest genetic relatives.

Ruhl joined the UB faculty in 2007 from the University of Regensburg, Germany, where he was a professor of operative dentistry and periodontology, and actively participated in clinical and academic student teaching and patient treatment.

“My colleagues here at UB know me primarily as a scientist, but many don’t know that I worked in private dental practice for two years and was active for more than 12 years in academic clinical dentistry. I know our profession from both sides of the spectrum, and that is why I believe I will be able to bridge these two domains at our school,” Ruhl said.

In addition to his current associate chair role, Ruhl is director of the Advanced Training in Oral Biology program, and previously served as acting chair of the Department of Oral Biology from 2019–20.

He is the former president of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) Salivary Research Group. The IADR recognized Ruhl with the Distinguished Scientist Award in Salivary Research in 2020 and the Salivary Researcher of the Year Award in 2014. He also serves as editor-in-chief of *Clinical Oral Investigations*, associate editor of *JADA Foundational Science*, and an editorial board member of the *Journal of Dental Research*.

He holds a doctor of dental surgery degree and a doctoral degree in immunology from the Georg-August University of Göttingen.

## 2 Lawrence Tabak, DDS, named acting NIH director



The Department of Health and Human Services named Lawrence Tabak, D.D.S., Ph.D., the principal deputy director of the National

Institutes of Health, the incoming acting NIH director effective Dec. 20, according to *The Hill*. Dr. Tabak will be interim director while the agency seeks a permanent replacement for NIH Director Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D., who stepped down from his position in December. Dr. Tabak also has been the NIH’s deputy ethics counselor and has served as the director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. “(Dr.) Tabak has a deep grasp of the most pressing scientific issues confronting our nation, he has earned respect across NIH as a thoughtful and strategic manager and is committed to building a healthier and more equitable America,” said HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra.

Dr. Tabak received his PhD in Oral Biology in 1981 and his Advanced Certificate in Endodontics in 1985 from the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine. In 2015, he received the Honor Award from the UB Dental Alumni Association.

## 3 Dentistry Smiles on Veterans

In honor of Veterans Day, the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine thanked our nation's servicemen and women by providing them free care.

This was the sixth Dentistry Smiles on Veterans Day—a partnership between the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine and the Eighth District Dental Society.

Through one day of free care, the program delivered health services to 178 veterans who lacked dental insurance or did not qualify for dental treatment through the Veterans Health Administration, a benefit reserved only for those who received service-related injuries. In addition to dental services, Nurse Practitioners from the UB School of Nursing treated nearly 70 patients by taking vitals, administering vaccinations, reviewing medical histories and performing preoperative examinations.

After the veterans received treatment, dental school staff assisted those who lacked a primary care dentist with finding a dental home, with UB or with a dentist in the community.

The event opened with a procession led by the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Honor Guard, followed by brief remarks from Dean Joseph Zambon, UB President Satish Tripathi, US Congressman Brian Higgins, NYS



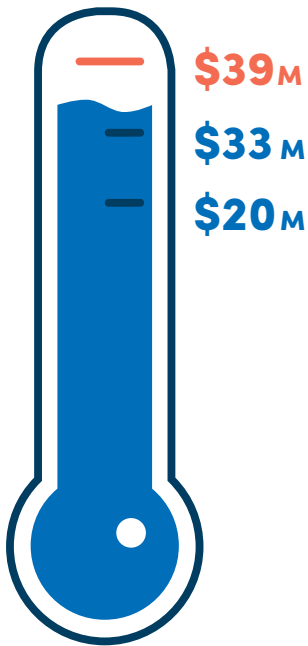
Senator Tim Kennedy and Dr. Brendan Dowd, Assistant Dean, Clinical Operations and event organizer.

"As a former Naval Officer, this event means a great deal to me," says Joseph Zambon, DDS, PhD, dean of the UB School of Dental Medicine.

"I feel great pride witnessing my fellow colleagues within the dental community rally together to help those who served in the U.S. Military. We were honored to host this year's event again and thrilled to have our colleagues from the School of Nursing participate as well."

Hundreds of volunteers from the community, including 27 local dentists and 3 hygienists, 250 UB dental school staff members and dental students, took part in Dentistry Smiles on Veterans Day.

"It was wonderful to help many of our local Western New York veterans with their oral health for a day. It's always an honor to treat the folks of this country who help keep us safe," stated Dr. Dowd. "We hope they can continue their dental care here at the University at Buffalo's School of Dental Medicine."



## Boldly Buffalo Campaign Update

# \$33 million and counting!

**B****OLDLY BUFFALO**, the campaign to raise funds in support of the School of Dental Medicine, eclipsed the \$33 million mark this fall.

The initial goal of \$20 million was quickly exceeded and a new goal—to raise \$39 million for the dental school was announced as part of the university’s \$1 billion campaign this past spring.

“I am in awe of the response from our donors,” says Neil Dengler, senior director of advancement for the school. “Philanthropic support has been key as we renovate Squire Hall. Gifts have enabled us to provide scholarships and even emergency stipends to students, to ease their debt load. We’ve been able to endow chairs and professorships as a result of this campaign—allowing us to recruit key faculty to the school.”

“While we celebrate our successes, there is still a lot of work to be done—and money to be raised! We continue to replace all of our nearly forty year old operatories in Squire Hall. Many of our donors have made commitments to help underwrite and “name” an operatory. Additionally, we have other spaces throughout Squire in need of renovation—those too have naming rights associated with support.”

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For additional information on supporting the Boldly Buffalo campaign, contact Neil Dengler via email at [ndengler@buffalo.edu](mailto:ndengler@buffalo.edu) or by phone at 716-881-7486.

# GOAL \$1 BILLION



“It has been an honor to serve as dean of the School of Dental Medicine and to have worked with an outstanding faculty, staff and student body.”

# Zambon to retire as dean of after 39 years of service

BY MARCENE ROBINSON, *UBNOW*—PUBLISHED 11/8/2021



Joseph J. Zambon, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor of Periodontics and Endodontics and dean of the School of Dental Medicine, announced today that he will retire from UB, effective Jan. 5.

A UB faculty member since 1982 and an internationally recognized authority on periodontal pathogens, Zambon was appointed dean of the School of Dental Medicine in 2016 after serving as interim dean for one year.

He led the school in creating and implementing a new strategic plan focused on growing research capacity; providing transformative educational opportunities; improving clinic operations; recruiting excellent and diverse faculty, staff and students; and enhancing the school's visibility. Under his leadership, the school has significantly increased federal grant proposals and expenditures. And despite increasing competition for the very best students, the school has attracted the highest number of applicants in its history.

The success has earned the School of Dental Medicine recognition as

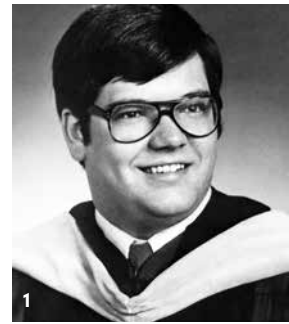
"During Dean Zambon's outstanding tenure, he has significantly advanced UB's educational, research and engagement missions, leaving the school well positioned to build upon its national and international reputation," said a memo from A. Scott Weber, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, and Michael E. Cain, vice president for health sciences and dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Dr. Stefan Ruhl has been named interim dean as the university conducts an international search for the next dean.

"It has been an honor to serve as dean of the School of Dental Medicine and to have worked with an outstanding faculty, staff and student body," said Zambon. "Before and, especially, during this pandemic, they have exhibited a resilience and dedication to serving the needs of our community that have been a continuing source of inspiration to me."

### SCHOOL POSITIONED FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS

During his tenure as dean, Zambon worked to transform the School of Dental Medicine's facilities, including its state-of-the-art dental clinics, to enable faculty and student success. The school created a preclinical simulation center that includes computer-aided design and manufacturing labs, an optical imaging and analysis research core facility, and a clinical dental implant center—the Buhite Dimino



Center for Advanced Education in Dentistry. The school is developing a special needs patient care clinic, and it has implemented a new electronic health record and clinical management system to improve operation of its teaching clinics.

These efforts accompanied a commitment to providing high-quality, innovative educational opportunities for students. The School of Dental Medicine developed new programs to attract students and introduce them to novel technologies and procedures, including a postbaccalaureate program, an enhanced Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) curriculum, an accelerated

## dental school to UB

one of the nation's top dental schools, including being ranked No. 8 in the nation and No. 9 worldwide in the highly influential 2020 Annual Ranking of World Universities.

**PREVIOUS PAGE:** DEAN ZAMBON TOSSES OUT THE FIRST PITCH AT A BUFFALO BISON'S GAME; **THIS PAGE: 1** JOSEPH ZAMBON'S DENTAL SCHOOL GRADUATION PICTURE FROM 1974; **2** SITTING WITH DR. ROBERT SCHIFFERLE, PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF PERIODONTICS AND ENDODONTICS; **3** ZAMBON AND COLLEAGUE, DR. LIBUSE BOBEK, AT AN IADR CONFERENCE.

degree program that combines a DDS with a master's degree in oral sciences, an advanced education program in implant dentistry, and an increased number of remote learning and digital dentistry opportunities.

And the school created the Destination Dental School program to increase diversity in dentistry by helping to remove barriers to careers in dentistry for underrepresented students.

Zambon also collaborated with the other health sciences schools in the Academic Health Center in building UB's nationally recognized Interprofessional Education program.

Under Zambon's guidance, the School of Dental Medicine expanded its footprint of external clinical rotation sites throughout Western New York in an effort to improve both clinical education and access

to dental care for underserved populations. Each year, the school provides millions of dollars of dental care to local residents. The school's annual Dentistry Smiles on Veterans and Give Kids a Smile Day programs deliver free dental care to thousands of patients. Also, the school's S-Miles To Go program significantly increased the patient volume of its mobile dental clinic, and will soon add a second mobile dental clinic, which is expected to further expand the school's outreach by more than 1,000 patients annually.

Understanding the transformative impact of philanthropy, Zambon also led a comprehensive campaign to raise funds to support the school's world-class research and education programs, its clinical facilities and student experience initiatives. The campaign received more than

\$20 million in gifts, including four gifts over \$1 million, to support the construction of new facilities and to establish the Stephanie Mucha Endowed Scholarship. The gifts resulted in the establishment of three new endowed chairs and one new endowed professorship.

## STORIED CAREER IN PERIODONTOLOGY

An internationally recognized oral microbiologist, Zambon has focused his research on determining the role of subgingival microorganisms as risk factors for periodontitis, evaluating the role of oral bacteria in the oral manifestations of AIDS, examining the microbiological safety and efficacy of oral and periodontal



1 ZAMBON TAUGHT PERIODONTOLOGY TO HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS; 2 ZAMBON WITH AMIR KARIMI, '19; 3 PROVOST CHARLES ZUKOSKI AND ZAMBON AT 125TH ANNIVERSARY GALA FOR THE SDM; 4 SPEAKING AT A UB DENTAL SCHOOL GRADUATION.

During his tenure as dean, Zambon worked to transform the School of Dental Medicine's facilities, including its state-of-the-art dental clinics, to enable faculty and student success.

therapy, investigating the distribution of virulence factors within and among oral bacteria species, observing the genetic diversity within species of bacterial pathogens, and exploring the genetic regulation of bacterial virulence factors.

Twice named the Dental Educator of the Year by the School of Dental Medicine, Zambon has authored or co-authored more than 200 scholarly papers—including three of the 100 most highly cited papers in dentistry—and more than two dozen book chapters that have received over 10,000 citations. He holds five patents,

and has been principal or co-principal investigator on more than 60 grants, securing more than \$11 million in grant funding over his career.

Among Zambon's numerous awards are the UB Exceptional Scholar Award; the R. Earl Robinson Periodontal Regeneration Award and the Clinical Research Award, both from the American Academy of Periodontology; and the Richard A. Powell Award for Teaching Excellence, the Alan J. Gross Award for Excellence in Teaching and the Charles Lipani Award for Faculty Service, all from the School of Dental Medicine.

He has served on the editorial

boards of several of the leading academic journals in the field of periodontology, including the Journal of Periodontal Research and the Journal of Periodontology, for which he served as associate editor. He is also a fellow of the American College of Dentists.

Prior to joining UB, Zambon served for four years as a dental officer in the U.S. Navy Dental Corps and held the rank of lieutenant commander.

He received a DDS and PhD in oral biology, both from UB, and a bachelor's degree in biology from St. John Fisher College. [UBD](#)



1 WITH UB PRESIDENT SATISH TRIPATHI; 2 AT THE 2018 DAY OF CARING; 3 WITH STUDENTS OUTSIDE FOSTER HALL IN 2015



## LEADERSHIP **TRANSITIONS**

**t**he *UB School of Dental Medicine* says farewell to two transformative leaders and cheers the appointments of three current school leaders to new roles. The school continues to grow and thrive through the vision and hard work of its leaders, faculty, staff and students. The following pages offer some of their thoughts on their time in leadership.

## BRINGING CHANGE TO AN ALREADY GREAT SCHOOL: DR. DONALD ANTONSON

BY GROVE POTTER

Dr. Donald Antonson doesn't mind shaking things up when he sees something that can be improved, and he brought that approach to the UB dental school during his almost 12 years here.

From helping initiate the inter-professional program among UB's healthcare schools, to driving the inception of the laser course, to simply working to make sure everyone's contributions are appreciated, he worked to have an impact on student learning.

"I tried to let people know they're appreciated," he said. "In the morning, I'd walk in with the custodians and thank them for what they do for us. Everybody in the building makes it work and everybody in the building has value."

Antonson is now helping establish the international dental program at Nova Southeastern University in Clearwater, Fla., hiring faculty, supervising the installation of equipment, and "basically building my own football team."

### A CLEAN ACCREDITATION

At the UB School of Dentistry, he held several positions, including associate dean for clinical affairs, interim associate dean for advanced education, associate dean for faculty development and finally associate dean for academic affairs. He was also chair of the accreditation site visit in 2017, the first time the school had a perfect score.

"I like to say Buffalo hasn't won the Superbowl, but the dental school won the Superbowl of Accreditation," he said.

Among the many changes he saw at the school during his tenure, Antonson said the introduction of minimally invasive and adhesive dentistry was very satisfying.

But he is perhaps most proud of his role in helping initiate inter-professional training among the healthcare schools. He said it all stemmed from watching the care his mother received in an assisted living facility in Florida.

"I noticed no one paid any attention to the residents' oral care," he said. "So I started to train the staff. I'd buy pizzas and milkshakes, and I'd

bring down toothbrushes and show the staff how to complete oral hygiene care and even clean a denture and observe in the mouth for anything unusual. And it started to really work."

When he came to UB, he helped write a \$1 million grant to help train nurses about dentistry, "and now it has blossomed into an inter-professional program with 14 of 15 schools at UB."

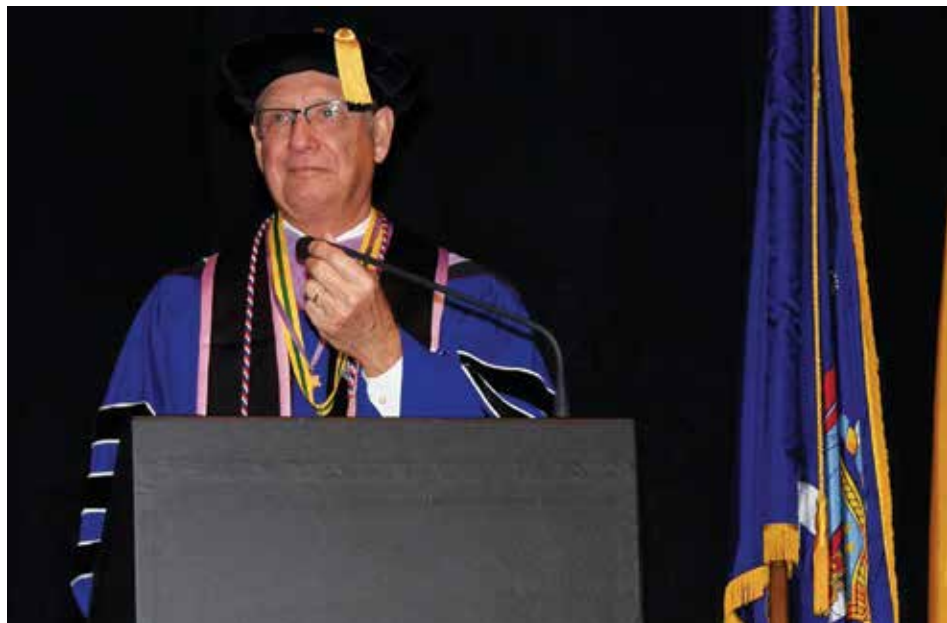
### CLINIC MUST COMPETE IN THE MARKETPLACE

Regarding the dental school clinic, Antonson said the student-staffed facility is actually competing with private dental practices, so it must focus on excellence and efficiency. "When a patient comes to the school in the morning, they should be examined and have a treatment plan and be ready to be assigned in one day," he said. "We have to be competitive in the marketplace and still seek excellence. Our excellent faculty reinforce this everyday."

Antonson said he experienced that excellence at UB. "One of the most enjoyable experiences was working with the staff in Academic Affairs. There is none better. That was the most difficult part of my leaving."

And Buffalo, in a broader sense, has an influence on the school, he said. "Buffalo people are exceptional: family values, caring, and commitment to mission defines UBSDM."

He helped write a \$1 million grant to help train nurses about dentistry, "and now it has blossomed into an inter-professional program with 14 of 15 schools at UB."



DR. DONALD ANTONSON IS HELPING ESTABLISH A NEW INTERNATIONAL DENTAL PROGRAM AT NOVA SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY.

## RESEARCH HELPS STRENGTHEN THE DENTAL SCHOOL: DR. ANNE MEYER

BY ANNE MEYER



As I retire from full-time responsibilities to our dental school, I recall a conversation in the ODS conference room sometime in 2007. ODS chair Scott McCall, a couple of other people and I were in the room. Associate Dean for Research [AD/R] Russell Nisengard had recently announced his retirement from SDM, but there was no word about who would be named as the interim or new AD/R.

As I am inclined to do from time to time, I thought I should speak up and share my view on the lack of an announcement: It was important that SDM maintain its research momentum by having an AD/R, not only to address the flow of research grant applications, but also to be a point of contact for newer faculty, and for faculty, staff, and students interested in, but new to research. Most of these individuals were unfamiliar with UB's many policies, processes, and the people responsible for them. Others apparently thought so, too, although the Dean at that time later asked me "Do you really think we need an AD/R?" Answer: Yes, but as a scientist, I agree that it is good to examine assumptions. Suffice it to say that an ad hoc search committee was formed, applications were requested within SDM, and interviews were held with a few candidates.

I was offered the position on an interim basis in 2007. The interim aspect was removed in 2009. Let's be clear: All of us who serve our school as Associate or Assistant Deans do so on a part-time basis and we do so "at the pleasure of the Dean." To varying degrees, our dossiers also include teaching, research, and service activities that are not part of our "AD" responsibilities. I have enjoyed working with SDM's three Deans over the past 14 years (Drs. Richard Buchanan, Michael Glick, and Joseph Zambon). I have learned a lot by listening to these talented individuals and am grateful for the opportunities that they provided. I hope that the times I challenged certain ideas or plans provided useful counterpoints to help the Deans and others pause to consider different perspectives.

### CHANGES OVER THE PAST 14 YEARS

The Fall 2017 issue of UB Dentist focused on our school's 125 years of research and scholarship [[https://](https://dental.buffalo.edu/alumni/ub-dentist.html)

[dental.buffalo.edu/alumni/ub-dentist.html](https://dental.buffalo.edu/alumni/ub-dentist.html)]. That publication is packed with examples of the vitality and promise of both past and future research by the school's faculty, staff, and students. Since then, we have made even more progress. Examples include: (a) a 10% increase in research funding levels from fiscal years 2017 and 2018 (\$10.5M) to FY 2019 and 2020 (\$11.5M), (b) an increase in the number of publications per full-time faculty of any rank or "track" (Web of Science index), (c) an increase in the number of DDS students participating in the funded Summer Research Program, and (d) an increase in the number of presentations at the annual Student Research Day.

In 2021, we could not hold Student Research Day in person, but it was heartening to see that the number of presentations by clinical residents, grad students, and post-docs hit an all-time high for the history of the event since the first annual "conference" held in March 1994 at the Holiday Inn on Grand Island.

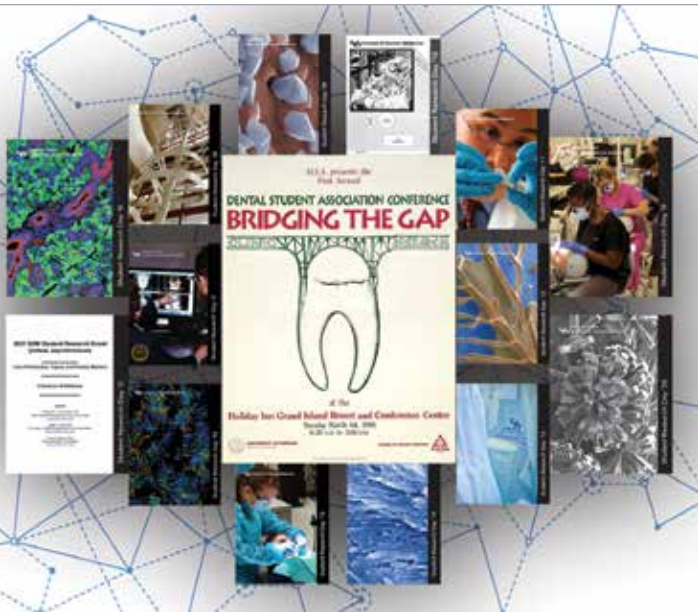
University at Buffalo is focused on excellence and on improving its ranking within the elite Association of American Universities. UB's goal, which is to be in the top 25, has resulted in higher expectations of its faculty's productivity (especially research and teaching) and administrative oversight. To achieve the former, the dental school has been increasingly successful winning support from both UB and SUNY initiatives to attract new faculty with high potential for research.

Higher expectations of administrative oversight are, in my view, a double-edged sword for our researchers. One example is SUNY and UB's introduction of the "CLICK" system of processing grant applications, submitting protocols for review and approval for use of human subjects and animals in research, and submitting conflict of interest disclosures. Learning how to use the new system has been challenging, as our researchers (like many of you, I'm sure) are expected to do more with less admin staff within their departments.

A major change over the past 14 years has been the passing of some of our school's longtime research leaders. I think of them as our "lions." You know who they were. They were highly and widely experienced. They were inspirational and, yes, annoying at times. And they spoke out on important issues which, among their other attributes, should serve as a model for our current faculty, staff, and students. We can always use a few new lions to keep us on our toes.

The dental school has been increasingly successful winning support from both UB and SUNY initiatives to attract new faculty with high potential for research.

THE DENTAL SCHOOL'S FIRST STUDENT RESEARCH DAY WAS HELD IN 1994 AT THE HOLIDAY INN ON GRAND ISLAND.



## EVOLVING RESEARCH PROFILE

Is more, better? Not always, but I propose that more involvement in and leadership of research by more of our clinically-trained faculty and staff is essential if the School of Dental Medicine is to achieve its mission and fulfill its vision of “Defining excellence in oral health.” [<https://dental.buffalo.edu/about-us/our-mission.html>]

Society’s growing commitment to achieving equity, diversity, and inclusion also will have a positive impact on the future of research at UB and within the dental school. More widespread and compassionate application of that research will, in turn, appropriately benefit society. More grants already are supporting our school’s mobile dental units to provide care to underserved populations in the region’s rural and urban areas. Our school’s current plans for a Squire Hall clinic dedicated to patients with special needs is a major step toward entering into a new era of excellent care, teaching, and research for the achievement of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

## SUMMING UP AND SPEAKING UP

To all of UB SDM’s alumni reading this, I hope you are proud of our school’s international and national rankings and the fact that our research plays a primary role in achieving those competitive profiles. You have supported many renovation and construction projects in the school that have strengthened our capacity to do more challenging research and to expand into new areas of research in the future.

Going forward, increasing your support for our DDS student research program and for our recruitment of talented faculty and M.S. and Ph.D. graduate students will bring us even closer to achieving our vision.

Thank you, everyone!



Keith Kirkwood has been named Senior Associate Dean for Research. He is also the Interim Chair of

the Department of Periodontics and Endodontics, and the Director of the Buffalo Oral Research and Specialty Training Program. Kirkwood is a Professor in the Department of Oral Biology holding the Centennial Endowed Chair returning to UB in 2017 after faculty appointments at the Medical University of South Carolina and the University of Michigan. He most recently served at the SDM as Associate Dean for Innovation and Technology Transfer. He received a DDS in 1991 from West Virginia University, and a Periodontics Certificate in 1995 and PhD in Oral Biology from the University at Buffalo in 1997. His NIH-funded research has been focused on innate immune signaling and cytokine biology as it related to inflammation, bone loss, and oral cancer progression.

In accepting this position, he stated, “I look forward to this new opportunity to grow the research enterprise by establishing new research support to help investigators in the clinical departments.” He recently announced the establishment of a new SDM Office of Research Support to be directed by Dr. Lindsay Chakan.

## COLLABORATION IS THE TOOL FOR MAKING PROGRESS: DR. JOSEPH GAMBACORTA

BY GROVE POTTER



Dr. Joseph E. Gambacorta (DDS '93) believes in collaboration, in getting people together to talk things out so that everyone understands the challenges each face. So as the new Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Faculty Affairs, he plans to get everyone talking.

"You're not going to really move things forward if you can't talk to people. You've got to get together. It may be painful sometimes, but it has to be done," he said.

As the dental profession continues to rapidly evolve—from the digital revolution, to implants to inter-professional collaboration—Gambacorta said open dialogue among stakeholders is critical for the university to continue to turn out dentists with sophisticated skills, compassion and the ability to continue learning.

"My goal is to bring everyone together so people have an idea of what is going on," he said.

His plate is plenty full. He oversees course curriculum, will spearhead the school's three-year accreditation process, and takes the lead in faculty mentoring. He said his nine years as Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs helped prepare him.

"The clinic dean job is one of those jobs that really encompasses the entire school. The clinic touches upon everything, and everybody touches the clinic," he said. "You get to know everybody. I feel fortunate in that I can walk around this building and, except for maybe the employees who were hired in the last month, I can call everybody by their first name."

Gambacorta said he focused on enhancing the student and patient experience in the clinic, how to make people more accountable, and how to move treatment along. That third element remains a challenge.

"It's working as part of a collaborative team to provide the best healthcare for a patient. That's something we're trying to develop."

"I think part of it is that we're dealing with students, part of it is we're dealing with a patient population that in some respects may not be the most interested in following through on their dental care. But I think a lot of it is we're running a system that has a lot of idiosyncrasies, so you have to be really good at navigating the systems," he said. "One complicating factor is we might be trying to treat too many people at the same time."

### FOCUSING ON FACULTY AND ACCREDITATION

Overseeing the curriculum at a time when dentistry demands new types of expertise will involve determining what needs to be taught. Overseeing faculty affairs will deal with how those new skills are taught.

Bringing on new courses means dropping others, or perhaps streamlining some classes. Professors may be teaching similar techniques, so identifying where that is happening may provide opportunities to lessen overlap to allow different course content to be introduced.

"That's where the collaboration comes in. Professors need to do this for the sake of the curriculum and for the advancement of our students and patients," he said. "If you take that as your primary rationale for being here, even though you might not be teaching the exact thing, in my opinion you need to make that sacrifice and that compromise because the betterment of the institution demands it."

AT A REMOTE AREA MEDICAL (RAM) EVENT IN GRAY, TENNESSEE, (L TO R), JOSEPH GAMBACORTA, ROBERT DAVIS, '18, SARA PERRONE, '18, LAWRENCE CRONYN, '82, KEVIN D'ANGELO, '81.







He will also focus on how young, tenure track professors are mentored, establishing and strengthening mentoring committees in each department.

Leading the accreditation process will take a sizable portion of Gambacorta's time. The school must provide three years of data, starting in 2022, and outline how it is meeting all of the accreditation standards. It passed its last accreditation process in 2017.

"One of my goals after spring break in March is to have a comprehensive plan on how we will focus on accreditation. The last year before accreditation, I would expect that 75 percent of my time will be spent on accreditation."

## WORKING WITH THE HEALTHCARE NETWORK

Finally, Gambacorta said he will focus on the inter-professional programs his predecessor Dr. Don Antonson helped establish. Understanding the overall healthcare needs of patients, and knowing what different branches of the healthcare system can do can lead to much more profound outcomes.

"We have an inter-professional forum where we present a case scenario about a patient, and you can see how all these individual disciplines can help, whether its social work, public health, occupational therapy, medicine, nursing, physical therapy or dentistry. We can all come and manage a person's overall healthcare," he said. "It's working as part of a collaborative team to provide the best healthcare for a patient. That's something we're trying to develop."

After graduating and working in private practice for almost 20 years, Gambacorta joined the faculty at the dental school, and he couldn't be happier.

"It opened a whole new world for me. That's why I'm so excited. I'm writing manuscripts. I'm collaborating with others. I'm learning things I've never learned before," he said. "My attitude is the glass is three-quarters full. It's a great place. I love it." **UBD**



Another UB alumnus, Dr. Eugena Stephan, Clinical Associate Professor in Restorative Dentistry, accepted the

position of Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs. Her DMD is from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and her certificate in Prosthodontics (1992) and PhD in Oral Biology (1998) are from UB. She brings much experience to the role having recently served as Assistant Dean for Clinical Affairs and a Predoctoral Clinical Group Director as part of her 27 years of teaching experience. Students appreciate her dedication to teaching having named her the 2020 Educator of the Year. She works closely with the axiUm Support Team and Leads Team to continue to evolve our clinic management system. "I hope that the years I have spent teaching in the UB School of Dental Medicine clinics will help me in my new position. Delivering excellent care to our patients and an outstanding education for our students will always be my focus," states Dr. Stephan. "It is an exciting time for the school as the renovation projects move forward to maintain a state of the art facility which complements our missions of providing oral health care services and education."

# CE

School of Dental Medicine Office of Continuing Dental Education

# course calendar

## UB IMPLANT STUDY CLUB SPRING 2022

(THURSDAYS, 6 TO 9 P.M.)

### FEB 17 Controversies in Implant Dentistry

Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS

### MAR 24 Saving Teeth: Role of Periodontist in Team Approach of Complex Multidisciplinary Cases

Anna Paritsky, DMD

### APR 21 Role of Nutrition for Wound Healing

Linda Leisin, Senior Clinical  
Dietitian Rp

### MAY 19 Prama System (hands-on training)

Sweden & Martina

UB School of Dental Medicine

HALF YEAR NEW MEMBER FEE: \$725

SINGLE MEETING, NONMEMBER  
FEE: \$225, LIMITED ENROLLMENT

3 CE HRS/MEETING

## MAY 13

(9 A.M. TO 4 P.M.)

## ANNUAL UB DENTAL HYGIENE SYMPOSIUM

### Oral Pathology & the Assessment Process Cultural Competence for the Dental Professional

Sherri M. Lukes, RDH, MS, FAADH

TUITION: \$125 BEFORE MAY 1;  
AFTER \$145

6 CE HRS



**Annamarie Phalen**  
Associate Director,  
Continuing Dental  
Education

## WEDNESDAY EVENING LECTURE SERIES

(6 TO 8 P.M.)

### APR 6 Oral Manifestations of Head and Neck Cancer Treatments

Charles Matlach, DDS

*Live Zoom meetings  
Watch live or at your leisure  
up to 10 days after lecture.*

*Additional dates/topics - TBA*

DENTIST: \$45  
RDH/DA: \$35

2 CE HRS

## JUNE 3

(9 A.M. TO 4 P.M.)

## JOHN J. CUNAT EDUCATIONAL FUND ANNUAL LECTURE

### It's Been a Long Two Years: Updates in Orthodontics for the Clinician

Glenn T. Sameshima, DDS, PhD

Supported by UB Department  
of Orthodontics

*Westin Buffalo, Buffalo, NY*

UB ALUMNI MEMBER: \$235  
NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$275  
TEAM MEMBER: \$95

6 CE HRS

## SELF-STUDY (PRE-RECORDED) CONTINUING DENTAL EDUCATION

### Implant Success: The Importance of Implant Design (Pub 9/23/20)

Paul S. Mazer, DDS, MSc, DICOI  
(2 CE HRS/\$25)

**Conquering Key Fixed Prosthetic  
Challenges (Pub 9/30/20)** Marshall  
Fagin, DDS (2 CE HRS/\$25)

**Current Infection Prevention  
Protocols and Recommendations:  
Are You in Compliance? (Pub 10/7/20)**  
Renee Graham, RDH, ME  
(2 CE HRS/\$25)

**Tips and Tricks for Better Temps:  
Faster, Easier, Better and More  
Predictable Results (Pub 10/21/20)**  
Marshall Fagin, DDS (2 CE HRS/\$25)

**KISS and Make It Better: The Keep It  
Simple Solutions to Pediatric Dental  
Trauma (Pub 10/28/20)** Mary Beth  
Dunn, DDS (2 CE HRS/\$25)

**Navigating Into the World of Biofilm:  
Are You Ready? (Pub 11/4/20)** Renee  
Graham, RDH, ME (2 CE HRS/\$25)

**Peek-A-Boo: A Dental Look at TOTS,  
TEENS and all the IN-BETWEENS  
(Pub 11/18/20)** Mary Beth Dunn,  
DDS (2 CE HRS/\$25)

**PCO Technology for Dental Office  
Purification (Pub 4/21/21)**  
Jason Field, DDS (2 CE HRS/\$25)

**U Veneers: Simplifying Esthetic  
Solutions (Pub 4/28/21)** Marshall  
Fagin, DDS (2 CE HRS/\$25)

**A 4D Perspective of the Working  
Length in Endodontics (Pub 5/5/21)**  
Lucila Piasecki, MSc, PhD  
(2 CE HRS/\$25)

**Porcelain Laminate Veneers: The  
Devil is in the Details (Pub 5/12/21)**  
Jennifer Kuracina, DDS  
(2 CE HRS/\$25)

**Existing Restorations: Replace,  
Repair or Refurbish? (Pub 5/19/21)**  
John J. Maggio, DDS (2 CE HRS/\$25)

## AVAILABLE BEGINNING JANUARY 1

**Occlusal Concepts Forum: Can We  
Find Our Way Through the Confusion?**  
Marshall Fagin, DDS (2 CE  
HRS/\$25)

**The Worn Dentition: Finding Ways to  
Meet & Treat the Challenges**  
Marshall Fagin, DDS (2 CE  
HRS/\$25)

**The 3 E's of Periodontics in General  
Practice: Evidence-Based, Everyday  
and Excellent** Frank Scannapieco,  
DMD, PhD (2 CE HRS/\$25)

**Flap Management in Regenerative  
Perio Surgery**  
Nicola Alberto Valente, DDS (2 CE  
HRS/\$25)

**Clinical Considerations for Selecting  
Adhesive Cements**  
Robert Yetto, DDS (2 CE HRS/\$25)

**V.I.P. Experience of the Internal  
Anatomy of Teeth: Virtual, Interactive,  
Pertinent** Lucila Piasecki, MSc, PhD  
(2 CE HRS/\$25)

Earn CE credit viewing previously  
recorded lectures featuring Univer-  
sity at Buffalo and guest faculty  
presenting timely topics. Keep an eye  
on our website as we add future  
programs! Find complete course  
information, view the list and register  
online here <https://dental.buffalo.edu/education/continuing-education.html>

Upon receipt of your registration, we  
send an email with a link to the re-  
cording and instructions for earning  
CE credit. Confirmation of credit(s)  
earned are emailed out monthly for  
each program. If you have any ques-  
tions or would like to register by  
phone, please call the Continuing  
Education office (716) 829-2320.

## TRAVEL COURSES

Enjoy travel opportunities with UB and through collaborations with other university dental schools. Please reference UB!

### EDUCATION ON LOCATION—PEIDMONTE, ITALY (tentative) SEPT 30–OCT 8, 2023

Travel with the UB Dental Group to discover the Peidmonte region of Northwestern Italy! CE lectures presented by UB Faculty offered onsite; travel package includes accomodations, most meals, tours and local guides. Watch your email for details or sign up for more information by calling (716) 829-2320.

### JUNE 26–28 NEW SCHEDULE

#### SEBASTIAN G. CIANCIO 42ND CHAUTAUQUA DENTAL CONGRESS

#### JUNE 30, 9AM–12PM **Body Praxis: Physical Rehabilitation Program for Dental Professionals...The Prevention and Reversal of Musculoskeletal Disorders in Dentistry**

Richard Williamson, BS, ACE,  
CPT, Certif. Rehab Practitioner

#### JUNE 30, 1–4PM **Wouldn't It Be Great if Your Annual OSHA and Infection Control Training Could Be Fun, Funny, and Informative?**

Karen Daw, MBA, CECM, "The  
OSHA Lady"

#### JULY 1, 9AM – 12PM **Oral Sur- gery in General Practice...spe- cific topics TBA**

Richard Hall, DDS, MD, PhD

*Chautauqua Suites Hotel and  
Expo Center, Rte. 394, Mayville,  
NY*

DENTIST: \$225  
TEAM MEMBER: \$125

12 CE HRS

### COURSE REGISTRATION

Confirmation notice will be emailed upon receipt of your tuition payment.

#### REGISTER BY PHONE

716-829-2320  
Toll-free: 800-756-0328

#### REGISTER ONLINE

Complete course details and online registration available on the UB dental events course calendar at [BuffaloCE.org](http://BuffaloCE.org)

### ACDE WEBINAR SERIES

In conjunction with the Association for Continuing Dental Education (ACDE), along with 31 of its member schools, we jointly present the "ACDE Webinar Series." This series features university-based key opinion leaders presenting numerous topics on multiple dates and times. Presentations are available to meet every dental health care professional's schedule and interests.

**JAN 29, 11AM–1PM** Didem Dagdeviren, MSc, PhD, FRDCD (C), DIP ABOMR **Variants of Normal Anatomy that May Simulate Disease on Conventional and Advanced Images** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**FEB 2, 11AM–12:30PM** Despoina Bompolaki, DDS, MS, FACP **The Dark Side of the Screw: Complication Management in Implant Prosthodontics** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

**FEB 11, 11AM–12:30PM** Isabel Moreno-Hay, DDS, PhD **Current Concepts in Dental Sleep Medicine** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

**FEB 17, 8–9:30PM** Shaista Rashid, BDS, MS, MPH **Implicit Bias in Dentistry** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

**FEB 25, 11AM–1PM** Jeffrey Price, DDS, MS **Advanced Multi-Disciplinary Uses of CBCT Technology** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**MAR 5, 11AM–1PM** Paras Patel, DDS **Common Lesions of the Oral Cavity: Diagnosis to Management** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**MAR 7, 8–9PM** Vincent Ziccardi, DDS, MD, FACS **Trigeminal Nerve Injuries in Dentistry** (1 CE HR/\$49)

**MAR 12, 11AM–1PM** Nancy Fitzgerald, DMD **Laser Applications for the Dental Hygienist** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**MAR 15, 8–9PM** Frank Scannapieco, DMD, PhD **The Oral-Systemic Connection: an Update** (1 CE HR/\$49)

**MAR 24, 8–10PM** Anuradha Prakki, BDS, MSc, PhD **Minimally Invasive Dentistry Based on Evidence** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**APR 1, 11AM–1PM** Tim Wright, DDS, MS **Pediatric Dentistry and Opportunities for Digital Dentistry** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**APR 6, 8–10PM** Charles Shuler, BSc, DMD, PhD **I Found an Ulcer During My Intraoral Exam, Now What?** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**APR 9, 11AM–12:30PM** Hussain Basma, DDS, DESS, MS **The All-on-X Revolution: A Graft-Avoiding Protocol for Full Arch Rehabilitation** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

**APR 21, 8–9:30PM** Laila Akhlaghi, DDS **How to Manage Patients Before, During and After Cancer Therapy** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

**APR 29, 2–3:30PM** Zaid Badr, DDS, MS, MFDRCSD **Dental Zirconia Explained, From Porcelain-Covered to Monolithic-Multilayered Restorations** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

**MAY 3, 8–9:30PM** William Martin, DMD, MS, FACP **Digital Workflow: Single-tooth Replacement** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

**MAY 12, 8–9PM** Arthur Jeske, DMD, PhD **Hot Topics in Dental Pharmacology** (1 CE HR/\$49)

**MAY 16, 8–9PM** Ana Bedran-Russo, DDS, MS, PhD **Bioactive Materials for Pulp Protection and Pulp Capping** (1 CE HR/\$49)

**MAY 25, 8–10PM** Matthew Messina, DDS **Turning Patient Questions into Opportunities: Effective, Evidence-Based Communication for a COVID-19 World** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**JUN 1, 8–10PM** Georgia Nikoloudaki, DDS, MSc, FRCD(C) **The Art and Science of Endodontic Diagnosis** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**JUN 3, 11AM–1PM** David Brock, DMD, MS **Class II Restorative Complications and Solutions** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**JUN 9, 8–10PM** Jennifer Harmon, RDH, MS **Busting Biofilm: Classic to New Age Solutions** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**JUN 14, 8–10PM** Eraldo Batista, Jr, DDS, MSc, DSc, FRCD(C) **Diagnostic Tests in Periodontics: Concepts and Applications** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**JUN 23, 8–9PM** Albert Chan, DDS, MS **Surgical Microscope Enhancing Periodontal and Implant Treatment Outcomes** (1 CE HR/\$49)

Times are Eastern Standard Time.

**ADA CERP**® | Continuing Education Recognition Program *UB\*CDE is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. UB\*CDE designates these activities for continuing education credits.*

Updated 12/13/21. All information correct as of press time...OUB CDE reserves the right to change tuition, dates, topics and/or speakers as necessary.



# BNDM 2021

44TH ANNUAL BUFFALO NIAGARA DENTAL MEETING WAS HELD ON NOVEMBER 3-5

**H**ELD NOVEMBER 3-5 AT THE BUFFALO NIAGARA CONVENTION CENTER, THE 44TH ANNUAL BUFFALO NIAGARA DENTAL MEETING WAS BACK!

After a COVID hiatus, the University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association welcomed over 2,200 attendees including 580 dentists, 490 hygienists, over 330 dental assistants, dental laboratory technicians and office staff, and hundreds of students from the UB School of Dental Medicine and Erie Community College.

It was a risky undertaking when the Planning Committee had to make the decision much earlier in the year to hold the meeting in person, but the local dental community came

out in support of the event and heard from 25 speakers on diverse topics, and interacted with representatives from 60 companies and organizations on the exhibit floor.

Great fun was had for UB School of Dental Medicine class reunion activities, especially since both this year's reunion classes as well as last year's classes were invited back to celebrate by attending tours of the School, the Remember When Reception, and the Reunion Dinner Dance.

*Please join us for the 45th Annual BNDM at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center, November 2-4, 2022.*



PHOTOGRAPHY BY DON DANNECKER, IZON PRODUCTIONS





AWARD RECIPIENT

**Honor Award**

**Frank C. Barnashuk, DDS '80**

The Honor Award is given to an individual whose enthusiastic and untiring endeavors have helped to promote continued growth, development and success of the UB School of Dental Medicine (UBSDM).

Dr. Barnashuk graduated from Canisius College in '76 and the UBSDM in '80. He completed his GPR at Buffalo General Hospital (BGH) and taught part-time at both the SDM and the Deaconess Division of BGH until 1984, working with both students and residents. Frank practiced briefly in both Kenmore and Buffalo before setting up his practice in his hometown of Lackawanna. There he served many years as a board member of both the Chamber of Commerce and the Community Development Corporation. Since 2009 Frank has served on the Finance Council for Lackawanna's Our Lady of Victory Basilica and National Shrine.

Frank has been actively involved as a leader in organized dentistry since 2001. He has served as 8th District Dental Society President, a member of the New York State Dental Association (NYSDA) Board of Governors; House of Delegates (HOD) and the current Board of Trustees. He has served the past 12 years as a member of their Journal Editorial Review Board. He currently is serving his fourth year as Treasurer. He has also held several positions at the ADA including being a member of the HOD continuously since 2005, a member of the Council on Members' Insurance and Retirement Programs; serving as Chair in 2015, and a Consultant and Site Visitor for the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

Frank returned to teach at the SDM in 2001. In 2008, he left private practice to serve as the full-time director of the Advanced Education in General Dentistry graduate program until 2018. At the SDM, he served as Chair of the Infection and Biohazard Control Committee, a member



of the SDM Executive Council, Chair of the Voting Faculty, and UBDAA Executive Council Member as well as President. Frank continues to teach part-time in the Department of Restorative Dentistry.

Frank has been married to Debbie Potter for 44 years and they live in Orchard Park, NY. They have 3 children: Kelly Raj who is a physician and Associate Program Director in Cleveland, OH; Robert who is an attorney practicing in British Columbia, Canada; and Kimberly Nason who is an Environmental and Land-Use Attorney as well as Partner at Phillips-Lytle in Buffalo.

AWARD RECIPIENT

Humanitarian Award



Joseph E. Gambacorta, DDS '93

The Humanitarian Award is given to the alumnus who best exhibits the following characteristics: unselfishness, concern for others, commitment to dentistry, commitment to and involvement in their community, is of high moral character and is someone who through

their actions has distinguished themselves as a leader in their community.

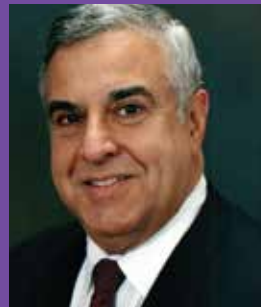
A native of Buffalo, Dr. Gambacorta is a graduate of St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, and the University at Buffalo, with a degree in biology. After graduating from the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine in 1993, he completed a general practice residency at Millard Fillmore Hospital in Buffalo. Dr. Gambacorta began as clinical instructor at the School of Dental Medicine in 2002 along with working in private and community practice. He currently is the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and is an Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry.

In his role as faculty director of Buffalo Outreach and Community (BOCA), a School of Dental Medicine organization initiated by dental students and dedicated to providing care to underserved areas, he has led students on international and domestic missions since 2006. He most recently traveled to Beirut, Lebanon in a collaborative effort with Miles for Smiles to deliver care to those affected by global displacement.

Dr. Gambacorta is the past President of the University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association, and is currently the President Elect and Chairman of the Council on Membership and Communication for the Eighth District Dental Society and a delegate to the NYS Dental Association. He resides in Buffalo with his wife Charlotte and children Sarah, Patrick, Nicholas, and Claire.

AWARD RECIPIENT

Distinguished Service Award



Charles A. Marchetta, DDS '79, FACD

The Distinguished Service Award is given in recognition of outstanding dedication, commitment and

support of the UB School of Dental Medicine and the Alumni Association.

Dr. Marchetta is a 1974 graduate of the University of Notre Dame and a 1979 graduate of the University of Buffalo School of Dental Medicine. Following graduation he took a one year General Practice Residency at the VA Medical Center in Albany, NY.

He first went into private practice in Arcade, NY, with Drs. Bill Knauf and Tim Stanford. In 1982, he ventured into solo practice in Lancaster, NY where his practice flourished. At that time, he also worked part time at the Dental School as a clinical instructor in the Operative then Restorative Departments from 1983-1998. In 1997, he was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Dentists.

In 2003 he purchased land in the town of Lancaster and built the 6000+ square foot office building and established Lancaster Dental Associates, PC. By then his practice had grown to five dentists with an auxiliary staff of 19. There he stayed until his retirement in 2018.

He always maintained his memberships in the ADA, NYS Dental Association, 8th District Dental Society and Erie County Dental Society throughout his career. He served on numerous committees in organized dentistry over the years, ran the chairs of the Erie County Dental Society and served on the Dental Underwriting Committee for MLMIC. But remaining active in the UB Dental Alumni Association throughout his career was one of his greatest pleasures, including serving as Executive Board president in 1996. He is proud to have served as co-chairman of the Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting for many years, helping the BNDM grow to its current size and success. He is honored to have volunteered his time to the Dental Alumni Association alongside his many friends and colleagues including Dr. Stan Zak and Dr. Paul DiBenedetto.

# UBDAA REUNION DINNER DANCE 2021



ABOVE: UB DENTAL ALUMNI EXECUTIVE BOARD

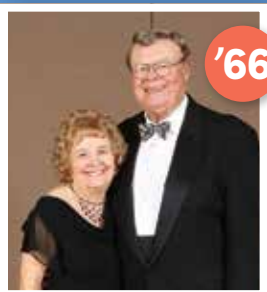


## Celebrating 60+ Years of Reunions!

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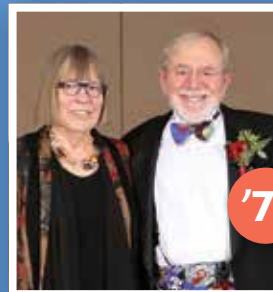
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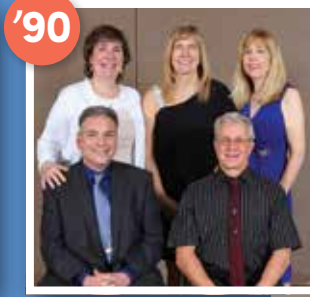




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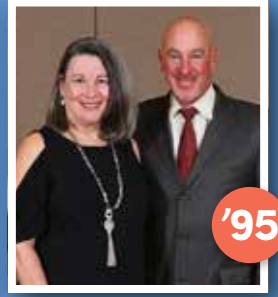
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'22

# THE CUTTING EDGE OF CLINICAL RESEARCH IN ORAL HEALTH:



## A SYMPOSIUM IN THE MEMORY OF DR. SEBASTIAN G. CIANCIO

**U**B'S SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE held a symposium remembering Distinguished Service Professor Dr. Sebastian

G. Ciancio. The symposium was held on September 23-24, 2021 at the Mansion on Delaware, Buffalo, N.Y.

Colleagues, students, present and past, gathered to honor Dr. Ciancio's many contributions to organized dentistry, in particular his field of periodontology. Throughout the two days, presentations and discussions were held on various topics regarding the oral health profession and current research in periodontology and pharmacology.

*"Throughout his over-50-year career, Dr. Ciancio changed the way that we all practice dentistry."*

DR. MIA GEISINGER

"Dr. Sebastian Ciancio was truly a giant in our field," said Mia Geisinger, DDS, immediate past chair of the ADA Council on Scientific Affairs and professor at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry. "Throughout his

over-50-year career, Dr. Ciancio changed the way that we all practice dentistry and gave mentorship and inspiration to so many dentists and dental scientists. In addition to his brilliant work as a researcher, he was a passionate educator and touched so many of his students, residents and fellows, many of whom have gone on to soar to heights, launched from his shoulders."

Marcelo Araujo, DDS, PhD, ADA chief science officer and ADA Science & Research Institute CEO, said Dr. Ciancio was a mentor to many in the dental profession.

"Dr. Ciancio was not just a leader in dentistry, he was involved in the development of many therapeutic agents and devices currently used by many members of the ADA," stated Dr. Araujo. "His latest work with the ADA Council on Scientific Affairs led to the publication of the ADA Dental Drug Handbook: A Quick Reference. During my fellowship in clinical research and teaching in periodontics, I learned a lot of the skills that allowed me to get my current position at the ADA. I will be forever thankful to Dr. Ciancio."

Sebastian G. Ciancio, one of the world's leading figures in periodontology and pharmacology,

and a dedicated UB faculty member for more than 50 years, died unexpectedly October 17, 2020. He was a SUNY Distinguished Service Professor and immediate past chair of the Department of Periodontology and Endodontics, a role he filled for 35 years, the longest serving department chair in all of SUNY.

The symposium was sponsored by Sunstar, Colgate and University at Buffalo's School of Dental Medicine. Education grants were given by Ivoclar Vivadent, Johnson & Johnson, Church & Dwight Co., Inc. and GSK Innovation. **UBD**



1 MRS. MARILYN CIANCIO (LEFT) WITH DR. JOHN AND MRS. PAMELA GUNSOLLEY; 2 DR. ROBERT SCHIFFERLE, PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF PERIODONTICS AND ENDODONTICS, REMEMBERS HIS LONG-TIME COLLEAGUE, DR. SEBASTIAN G. CIANCIO

# AlumniNews



**Dr. Kathleen M. Casacci, '93, MAGD, ABOI/ID**, became the first woman dentist in New York State and the only dentist in Western New York to be named a board certified Diplomate in Implant Dentistry. She received the award on November 13, 2021 at the American Academy of Implant Dentistry meeting in Chicago. She was awarded Associate Fellowship in the AAID seven years ago and will become a Fellow in the AAID in 2022 based on her credentials.



**Dr. Stuart Segelnick, '92** became President of the American Association of Dental Editors and Journalists (AADEJ). He was also recently appointed as one of two at-large member positions to the ADA Library and Archives Advisory Board (LAAB).

Dr. Stuart Segelnick is currently editor of the Second District Dental Society of New York SDDS Bulletin and the Northeastern Society of Periodontists NESP Bulletin. Dr.

Segelnick was the recipient of the ICD Journalism Silver Scroll Award in 2016 and the ICD Journalism Newsletter Award in 2019. He has co-edited five books on dentistry. He is a fellow of the Pierre Fauchard Academy, the International College of Dentists and the American College of Dentists. He is an Adjunct Clinical Professor at NYU Dentistry in the Department of Periodontology and Implant Dentistry.

**Dr. Mark K. Barone, '85**, and his daughter, **Dr. Alicia Hulme '18**, both work at the dental school. He teaches in Restorative and she teaches in Periodontics. "We both teach on Wednesdays in predoc clinic," he said. "I am retired from private practice now, and teach one day a week in clinic. Alicia teaches Mondays and Wednesdays."

**Dr. Ashley M. Mooney, '17**, and her husband, Justin, welcomed their first child, Lincoln James Mooney, on Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2021.



**Dr. Stephen A Chidylo, DDS '82**, former Chief of Plastic Surgery at Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Hackensack Meridian Health Network, and former Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery (plastic surgery) at Drexel University College of Medicine, served as a volunteer physician vaccinator during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, when the vaccination process was just rolling out. "My surgical practice was slow due to the pandemic and shutdown, and serving my local medical center and community as a vaccinator gave me a purpose. Jersey Shore University Medical Center has always been good to me for 30 years, and serving them allowed me to give back to my community."

## 2022 UPCOMING EVENTS

### Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting

Buffalo Niagara Convention Center  
November 2-4, 2022  
BNDMeeting.com

### REUNION EVENTS

#### Remember When Reception

Hyatt Regency Sungarden, Buffalo, NY  
Thursday, November 3, 2022  
5:30-7:00 p.m.

#### Reunion Dinner Dance

Hyatt Regency Ballroom, Buffalo, NY  
Friday, November 4, 2022  
6:30 p.m. Cocktails  
7:30 p.m. Dinner

If you are interested in becoming a reunion leader for your class reunion, contact Sherry Szarowski  
ss287@buffalo.edu  
or (716) 829-2061

## InMemoriam

**John R. Aker, '70**, of Carmel, Indiana, formerly of South Carolina and Buffalo, died April 16, 2021 at age 87. After working as a mechanical engineer in Syracuse for 13 years, he enrolled in the School of Dental Medicine at age 34. He did summer fellowships with Dr. Soren Sorensen in the Department of Dental Materials and designed and built an automatic condenser for studying properties of amalgam. Three of his articles were published in the JADA in October 1982. He was a Clinical Dental Professor for 22 years at UB, retired as an emeritus faculty member, and had a private practice in Tonawanda.

**Gene Cannataro, '60**, died on December 25, 2019.

**Robert J. Connelly, Jr. DMD, Gen Pract Cert. '84**, age 65, died November 4, 2021. He was a 1982 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine. He had a private practice in Amherst. He was the President of the Board of Directors of the Erie County Unit of the American Cancer Society in the 1990's, and was Chair of the Eighth District Dental Society's Committee on Peer

Review and Quality Assurance for 15 years. In 2019, he was awarded the Eighth District Dental Society's Dr. Francis J. Stone Memorial Award for outstanding service to the dental profession and the community.

**Robert Fallone, Jr., '90**, age 56, died suddenly in a construction accident on November 7, 2021. He was an accomplished dentist and owner of RocAesthetix medical spa. Bob was also an innovative commercial and residential contractor whose independent expertise originated in his family's longstanding construction business.

**Terrance J. Fish, '58**, age 87, of Indian Lake in the Adirondacks, passed away. He practiced dentistry in Indian Lake for over 30 years prior to his retirement in 1991. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, coin, stamp and gun collector. He was a life member of the NRA, a member of the Gooley Club and St. Mary's Catholic Church.

**Charles M. Garverick, DDS**, of East Amherst, died on September 20, 2020. He retired in 1998 after 29 years as a full-time faculty member in the Department of Behavioral and Related

Sciences and the Department of Pediatric and Community Dentistry.

**Anthony T. Grana, '54**, died November 21, 2021. He was from Niagara Falls, NY.

**Robert J. Hogan, '71**, age 76, passed away on August 2, 2021 in Wilmington, NC. He served in the United States Army as a dentist from 1971 to 1973 before settling in Binghamton for his career for 40 years. All who knew Dr. Hogan admired his humble generosity and witty sense of humor. He loved golf and traveling with his daughters.

**Franklin E. Koren, '56**, age 89, passed away November 11, 2021. After Dr. Koren closed his dental office in Williamsville and moved to Arizona in 2004, he substituted for other dentists in more than 50 practices in Arizona and on his annual visits to the Buffalo area. After receiving his degree in 1956, he served as a second lieutenant in the Navy Dental Corps in Jacksonville, Fla. He began a practice in 1958, maintaining an office in the Park Lane before moving to Williamsville. He taught in the clinic at the UB Dental School and volunteered on mission trips with the Hope

for Tomorrow Foundation, providing dental services to the poor in Jamaica and Tanzania. He was a member of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Sailing Club and the Youngstown Yacht Club.

**Edward J. Kucio, '57**, age 87, of East Aurora passed away on August 15, 2021. He served in the US Air Force and then started his dental practice in East Aurora, where he lived with his family. He was a member of the Erie County Dental Association and served as its President in 1989. After his retirement, he volunteered at a Buffalo free clinic. He was active in the community throughout his life, a member of the Jaycees and later the East Aurora Rotary.

**Richard E. Loomis, '55**, age 95, died on June 10, 2021 in Bradenton, FL. As an adolescent in Pulaski, NY, he managed a family chicken coop with over a hundred hens, selling eggs throughout the area. He also enjoyed showing his birds at the state fair in Syracuse, where he won the occasional Best of Show blue ribbon. He was devoted to the Boy Scout program reaching the rank of Eagle scout. He was an active musician playing

trombone in band and jazz club. He sang in church and school choirs. He served in the Navy during WWII, stationed at the Brooklyn Naval Yard. He established a successful practice in Hamburg, NY, for 38 years. An avid Kiwanian for over 60 years, he served as President of his club.

**Thomas E. Milano, '66**, of Greece, NY, died December 5, 2019, at age 77. He was a practicing dentist for over 35 years and an Army Veteran.

**Chris Nichols, '63**, age 82, of Commerce Township, Mich., died July 21, 2015. He was an immigrant at the age of 19 from Greece. He was an associate professor at the University of Detroit School of Dentistry until his retirement in 1999 and a proud veteran of the U.S. Army.

**Mindy G. Patcoff-Weinman, '81**, died on October 2, 2021. She also completed a General Practice Residency at Erie County Medical Center in 1982. Her dental practice was with Allentown Dental DDS in Buffalo, and also at Weinberg Campus Rehabilitation Facility. Since 2003, she served as a part-time Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry.

**Alfonso J. Perna, '65**, of Binghamton, died on July 30, 2020. Following his dental internship at the E.J. Meyer Memorial Hospital in Buffalo, he returned to Binghamton in 1966 to practice dentistry with his father and later with his son. He was a past president of the Broome County Dental Society, the Sixth District Dental Society, and the New York State Dental Association. He was Executive Director Emeritus of the Sixth District Dental Association, which he served for over 25 years, retiring in 2016. In addition, he was a Fellow of the American College of Dentists and a Fellow of the International College of Dentists. He was also a Member of the Pierre Fauchard Society.

**Robert F. Rozene, DDS**, Ortho Cert. '62, age 87, of Centerville, passed away on November 6, 2020. He was a board certified orthodontist on Cape Cod for over 50 years. He taught for many years at the Boston University School of Orthodontia. He was honored in 2011 for his half-century of dedicated patient care and compassion by the American Association of Orthodontics. In 2017, he received the Frederick Moynihan

Service Award for his outstanding contributions to the education of Massachusetts orthodontists and stewardship of the highest standards of patient care.

**Russell Sandfield, '68**, passed away January 17, 2021.

**Gerald W. Silverman, '58**, died on March 5, 2019.

**Frank E. Stuber, '67**, a former resident of Skaneateles, passed away on April 29, 2020, at age 87. He served in the Army in the Korean War under a significant duty assignment to the Fourth MICO (API) Korean Intelligence unit. He received the National Defense Service Medal, the United Nation's Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal and the Korean Service Medal. He practiced dentistry for 30 years at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Syracuse.

**Barry L. Zochodne, '05**, age 52, died on July 2, 2018. He completed a residency in emergency dentistry in Burlington, VT. He was an accomplished musician who performed and recorded with his brothers.

**Dye-Jiann Yee, '71**, passed away June 13, 2020.

#### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Submit your classnotes to Sherry Szarowski at [ss287@buffalo.edu](mailto:ss287@buffalo.edu) and let your classmates know what you've been up to!

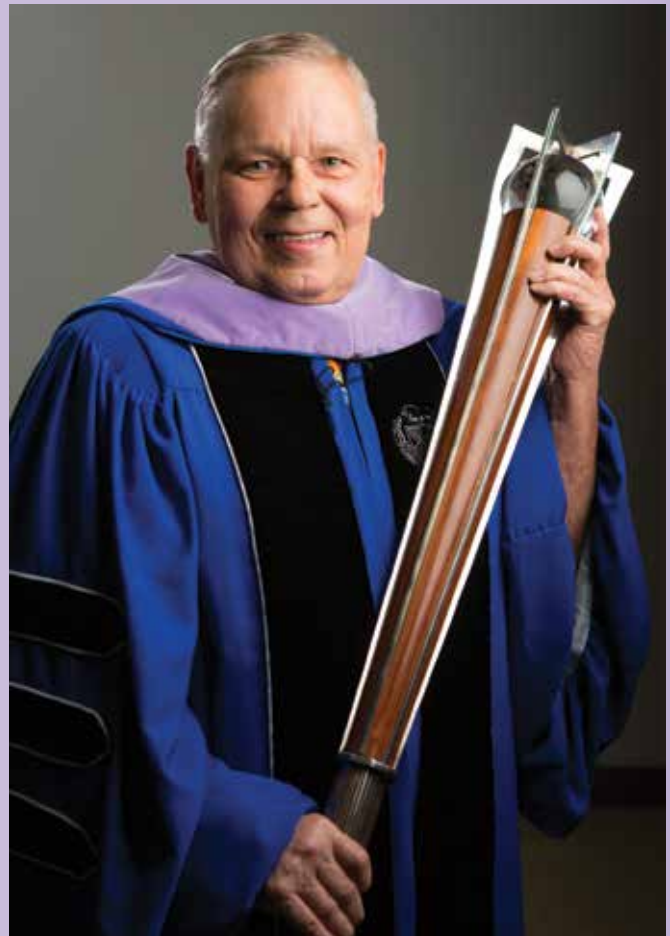
## Davis Garlapo, '68

**Davis Garlapo, '68**, Fixed Pros Cert. '74, Professor emeritus, and a faculty member at the School of Dental Medicine for over forty-seven years died on October 31, 2021. Dr. Garlapo's impact on the education of dental students is evidenced by the number of times he was awarded Educator of the Year by the graduating seniors – 1974, 2008, 2014 and 2016. He also received the Richard Powell Award for Teaching Excellence (2013), the William Feagans Teaching Award (x2), the Dental Student Association Certificate for Teaching Excellence (x3), the Outstanding Alumni Award (from UB-DAA) and the Alpha Omega Dental Education Award (x2).

In an interview shortly before his retirement in 2016, he remarked, "The greatest love that I had as an academic dentist was seeing young professional students grow and mature, becoming competent in patient care, and then going out into the world."

He extended his teaching and mentoring to young faculty as well. "A big part of my life at the university has been the attempt to bring back people who had graduated and were very proficient in restorative dentistry to become colleagues as academic dentists," he said.

Garlapo served the school, the university and the profession with distinction. He was Chair of the Department of Fixed Prosthodontics and then Restorative Dentistry for 20 years. He also served the United University Professions (UUP) beginning in 1971 and was president of Buffalo's Health Sciences Chapter through 1979. He was significantly involved in the initiation and development of a faculty intramural practice system that was developed across the state. He was also President of the American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics in 1999-2000.



In closing his career at UB he said, "While I have been gratified in the treatment of many patients, there is nothing more important to me than to relish in the memories of so many wonderful interactions that I've shared with so many students. On occasion when a former graduate relates that they have been positively influenced by the time I spent mentoring them, I feel my professional life has been well spent."



He left an amazing legacy, and those of us who were taught, mentored and befriended will miss him very much.

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The University at Buffalo is a premier public research university, the largest and most comprehensive campus in the State University of New York system. The School of Dental Medicine is one of 12 schools that make UB New York's leading public center for graduate and professional education and one of five schools that constitute UB's Academic Health Center.



## **Bold means serving our communities.**

Whether it's printing 3-D shields for local dentists during a pandemic, improving the oral health of Western New York residents, or unlocking the potential of new drug therapies, we're not afraid to do what it takes to make an immeasurable impact

on our community and around the globe. The *Boldly Buffalo* campaign provides countless opportunities for students to discover their passions and achieve their dreams. To learn how you can help create a better world, visit [buffalo.edu/campaign](https://buffalo.edu/campaign).