



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.

The Holidays Around the World



Cultural Celebrations

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

[Click here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

What is Inclusive Pedagogy?

Rather than a one-size-fits-all approach, inclusive pedagogy consists of a variety of approaches depending on the course content and the students in the class. To help guide instructors seeking to make their pedagogy more inclusive, panelists from various disciplines at UB will discuss the philosophy that guides their approach to inclusive teaching and course design.

An Inclusive Pedagogy Event

Thursday, October 29, 11:30am-1:00pm

Location: Zoom (online)

Intended Audience: UB Faculty and Instructors

[Register Now](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS (con't.)

Available EDI Events & Resources



2020 ADEA Diversity & Inclusion Workshop on Wednesday, Oct. 28 from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. Eastern Time.

New this year, the ADEA Diversity & Inclusion Workshop presents the first-ever ADEA Tapestry Table—a talk-show style panel with audience engagement and the goal of fostering dialogue and broadening perspectives on diversity, equity and inclusion in dental education.

Our inaugural ADEA Tapestry Table workshop features guest Dominique Jackson, LGBTQIA+ activist and star of the FX network’s groundbreaking television series POSE. The workshop highlights health and well-being issues within the LGBTQIA+ community with an

emphasis on transgender individuals.

[Register today](https://adea.org/diversityworkshop) and learn more about the workshop agenda, speakers and CE credit at adea.org/diversityworkshop.

[Click here for more upcoming EDI events](#)

Spotlight...Dr. Dian Chin-Kit Wells completes a Diversity and Inclusion Certificate program from Cornell University.



Dr. Dian Chin Kit- Wells, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatric and Community Dentistry completed a Certificate Program in Diversity and Inclusion from Cornell University.

The course covered many topics including counteracting unconscious bias, diversity and inclusion at the workplace, fostering an inclusive climate and improving engagement. The course encouraged reflection on challenges related to identity, marginalization, power and privilege and asks that we have those brave conversations regarding the above, while fostering a learning environment sensitive to the challenges described.

Dr. Wells Commented on the course: "My take away is that inequalities continue to be a significant problem, and we can no longer ignore the high value that this travesty deserves. The course presented the many steps to making a positive change. I am pleased to be a part of the team focused on implementing this change".

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Wells!

Kudos...Sehie Koh, `21

The Oral Health Foundation Awards the 2020 Student Scholarship to Sehie O. Koh '21

The scholarship is presented to dental students who have demonstrated the greatest potential for development into outstanding leaders in the dental profession.



"My entire beautiful family lives in Chuncheon, South Korea. I have been an independent student in the United States since high school and as the free spirited girl I am I have moved around alot, open to new adventures. Aside from living in Chuncheon, South Korea for 5 years, I was born in Madison WI and lived in Lawrence KS, Detroit MI, and now Buffalo, NY. Soul searching my new home through road trips is my current mission."

Dentistry for Unity

"Dentistry for Unity is an idea that came to mind during quarantine 2020. My friends (Ernest Aifuwa, Fahad Khan, Jelani Brown, Abdullah Alqaraghuli) and I envisioned bringing awareness and funds for refugee youth in Buffalo at VIVE refugee shelter while also supporting the BLM movement by purchasing pins from a black owned business, Inclusive Randomness."

"During Pre-COVID times, with the help of many other dental students, we were able to bring fun activities to these kids in person. With the current situation we brainstormed a new way to still contribute to their learning experience- by purchasing laptop to video call the kids with mentoring/activities they may want to do and to continue their searches and learning endeavors in the online community!"





PARTICIPATE

Student Committee for Inclusive Excellence

What we do?

Develop student-led events attuned to our social and historical moment÷ and meet regularly with the Vice Provost for Inclusive Excellence and the Associate Vice President for Student Life.

Who should join?

Students from all backgrounds who are interested in and dedicated to improving diversity and inclusion at UB. Find out more at our website

buffalo.edu/inclusion.

Please email studentinclusion@buffalo.edu if you are interested in joining or if you have

questions.

[View flyer](#)



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](#)

SUGGESTED READING

Minority Organizations Strive for More Inclusion in Dentistry
Jessica A. Rickert, DDS

“In dentistry as in society as a whole, there is a deep divide across racial lines. It is the end product of centuries of failure to offer equality and justice for all. But is it deepening further?”

Click here to access the article: Today's Dental News [Today's Dental News](#)



Can you guess who's behind the PPE?

Send your responses to:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/18zd6AGi7IXx_EE7zsfN4S-JhDC-znyeixy_IC1Sb8/edit

BE ENTERED TO WIN A GIFT CARD!



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](#)

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR SDM FAMILY

Interview with Anthony Agosto, Class of 2023 Social Chair



Tell us about your background!

My ethnic background is very broad and something I am greatly proud of. Culturally, I identify mostly as Puerto Rican and Italian. Genetically, I span practically the whole world. I always knew I was a well-mixed human growing up, but after the dawn of genetic ancestry tracing, I found that I am just more than your run of the mill bi-racial person. 23 and Me has uncovered my very colorful background that spans just about every corner of the world.

What does diversity mean to me?

Diversity to me is more than just a blending of skin colors. Diversity is melting all of our cultures together to invite and celebrate one another in to what makes each of our cultures so vibrant and unique.

Growing up as a multi-racial person has definitely been something that has taken quite some time getting used to. Mostly because of my ambiguously Hispanic last name and the color of my skin was not what people stereotyped to be associated with a Latino. I was always forced to have to pick and choose how I identified as a child. I was never able to be both Puerto Rican and Italian at the same time. It was either I was not white/Italian enough or I wasn't Latino enough to fit in to any one friend group, to a point where I had to act differently around groups of people just to feel like I would fit in. As I got older, I realized that being multi-racial shouldn't mean that I have to choose whether or not to be one ethnicity one day and a different one on another. I now embrace my ethnic background as a mixed culture and a way to encourage myself and other people to explore not only their own backgrounds, but other people's as well to enjoy all of the amazing things each culture has to celebrate.

What's one thing you love UB Dental?

I just really love how warm and welcoming people are.

ABOUT THE EDITOR IN CHIEF



Bushra Azhar

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee

I am humbled and honored to be a part of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) committee and the EDI Newsletter at the SDM. To me, being part of the EDI means that everyone at the SDM receives fair treatment, success, opportunities and the feeling of inclusion regardless of the color of their skin, ethnicity, gender, age, religion, sexual orientation, special needs, language, socioeconomic status or marital status (just to name a few). I believe no matter how tight-knit and inclusive of an environment we create at UBSDM, the world outside will remain far different and unjust until WE all fully and truly understand and acknowledge the meaning of the EDI. This includes not being afraid to take action whenever and wherever we see injustice and inequity. As an EDI rep, I am dedicated and will always advocate for the student body of UBSDM.



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)



Hey, would your friends love our newsletter too?
Please share it on your social networks!



© This is some footer text with legal information

[Link to your website](#)

