

UB DENTIST

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE SUMMER 2020



Ciancios are a couple
devoted to UB p10

Bob Carvajal - New Orleans, LA

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ON THE COVER:

Dr. Sebastian Ciano, '61, Perio Cert.'66 and Marilyn Ciano, BA '75, EdM '82 have made UB a focus of their lives.

Photograph by Doug Levere

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SUMMER 2020

UBDENTIST

News from the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine

UB Dentist is published three times a year by the School of Dental Medicine.

Summer 2020 | 20-DEN-001

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A DYNAMIC PARTNERSHIP

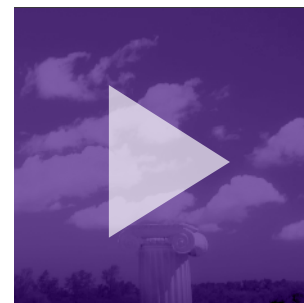
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 **University at Buffalo** The State University of New York

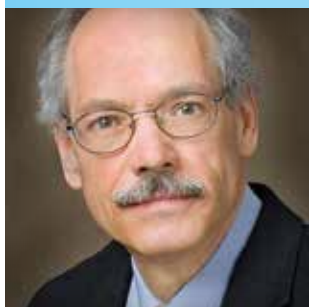
Publication of UB Dentist is made possible by the generous support of the University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association.

To Alumni and Friends of the UB School of Dental Medicine,

Like dental schools across the country, the COVID-19 pandemic brought a number of challenges and changes to our School of Dental Medicine. Many of these are described in this issue of UB Dentist, as is a tribute to Dr. Sebastian G. Ciancio, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor and former Chair of the Department of Periodontics and Endodontics.

In March, it became clear that COVID-19 was spreading rapidly in New York and that traditional instruction could not continue. Over the course of a few days, course directors moved their in-person classes to online, remote instruction. Our didactic courses continue to be offered remotely while scheduling and operation of our preclinical simulation courses and our clinics have been modified to ensure social distancing. We instituted numerous changes in our clinics guided by the CDC, the NYS Department of Health, the NYS Dental Association and the American Dental Association. They include screening for COVID-19, temperature checks, face coverings, splitting classes in our simulation facility, reducing operator utilization by more than 50%, redesigning traffic flows, reducing the number of aerosol-generating procedures, installing plexiglass barriers, renovating the HVAC system, and expanding clinic hours. Special thanks go to our Task Force to Reopen the UB Clinic and Squire Hall which implemented these changes.

FROM THE DEAN



In spite of these changes, our School continues to progress with its strategic plan. Our research slowed but continues as do improvements in Squire Hall. Over the past year, we've replaced over 150 dental chairs with the remainder scheduled in the next six months. The Cunat Conference Room and the Stephanie T. Niciszewska-Mucha and Joseph J. Mucha Patient

Welcome Center will be completed by year end. The Buhite-DiMino Center for Advanced Education and Dentistry, funded by a \$2,000,000 gift from the Frank DiMino Family Foundation is out for bid and construction is expected to start in January.

This issue of UB Dentist pays special tribute to Dr. Sebastian G. Ciancio. Dr. Ciancio's list of accomplishments over his more than 50-year career are unparalleled—an internationally known periodontist, a scientist with over 150 publications including the widely read “Clinical Pharmacology for the Dental Professional” and “ADA Guide to Dental Therapeutics”, and the longest serving department chair in the SUNY system. Both Dr. Ciancio and his wife Marilyn have been tireless supporters of the School and of the University. Their generous contributions are reflected in recent renaming of the Dean's Conference Room as the Ciancio Room. Seb and Marilyn have provided me with invaluable counsel and advice over the years. I know that I speak for our students, faculty and staff in thanking Dr. Ciancio for his leadership over the years.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph J. Zambon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joseph J. Zambon DDS, PhD
*Dean and SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor
University at Buffalo, School of Dental Medicine*

My Esteemed Fellow Alumni,

My original letter to you back in January didn't include dealing with a worldwide pandemic. But here we are, four months in, after a 12-week shut-down. Never in my working career did I think I'd go three months without touching a handpiece or interacting with my patients, and I'm sure most of you thought the same. I hope you have managed to stay clear of the virus. If you or someone you know has contracted COVID-19, we hope that everyone has recovered. Our thoughts are with each and every one of you.

These last few months have been, well, different. Personally, I was able to watch my youngest daughter double in age, from three to six months old, and I realized being a stay-at-home dad isn't all it's cracked up to be. Much respect to the stay-at-home parents out there—it's much harder than being a dentist, in my opinion.

The University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association (UBDAA) hasn't skipped a beat. We were able to hold our meetings virtually with Zoom. I even had to give my commencement address to the class of 2020 on my iPhone wearing a suit from the waist up. We were able to provide \$50,000 in emergency funds for dental students in need. Regretfully, we had to cancel the Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting and reunion dinner dance. We've already begun planning for next year, and by the looks of it, it will be bigger and better than ever and will include this year's reunion classes.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am humbled and honored to lead the best Dental Alumni Association in the world. During dental school, I was involved in the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) as an

officer, took an outreach trip with Buffalo Outreach and Community Assistance (BOCA) to the Dominican Republic, and led the Delta Sigma Delta (DSD) Dental Fraternity as grandmaster. My involvement with those organizations taught me the importance of being involved to help advance and protect our incredible profession. It also taught me how important it is to help those around us.

The UBDAA has made extensive efforts to further the development of endowed chairs to recruit the best and brightest dental minds to lead our departments, most recently in the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Orthodontic departments. We continue to sponsor and help students with their events and scholarships. We also plan and run one of the most successful and largest regional dental meetings, the Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting. Our executive council is growing with many younger alumni joining, a sure sign that the organization will flourish for years to come.

I ask you to email me (c.embury33@gmail.com) or our Executive Director, Sherry Szarowski (ss287@buffalo.edu), any time with questions, concerns and ideas for the UBDAA in order to better help serve you and the students.

Stay healthy, stay safe, stay strong! I look forward to serving you for the next two years!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl M. Embury DDS". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carl M. Embury, DDS '13, *President, UB Dental Alumni Association*

Research Grant Funding to UB School of Dental Medicine

During the period from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, \$3.5 million in research grant funding was awarded to dental school researchers.

During FY2020 (July 2019 through June 2020), **research expenditures** from ongoing and new awards to the dental school totaled \$6.5 million, a reflection of sustained activity from 2018.

Supported by Federal/ State Funds

Abel, S., PI: "School-based dental sealant program"; NYS Department of Health (yr 3).

Arany, P., PI: "UB Center for Advanced Technology in Big Data and Health Sciences"; NYS Department of Economic Development.

Edgerton, M., PI: "Fellowship for Hannah Norris: A novel metal-starvation candidacidal mechanism for Histatin 5"; NIDCR (yr 2).

Kay, J., PI: "Spinning disk confocal microscope"; NIH Office of the Director.

Kay, J., PI: "Fellowship for Sarah Metcalfe: Mechanisms of oral streptococcus macrophage activation"; NIDCR.

Kay, J., PI: "A role for immune cell plasticity in commensal survival and escalation of inflammation"; NIDCR.

Kirkwood, K., PI: "Post-transcriptional control of aging-associated inflammation and bone homeostasis"; NIDCR (yr 2).

Kirkwood, K., PI: "Buffalo Oral-Research and Specialty Training Program (BORST)"; NIDCR (yr 2).

Kirkwood, K., PI: "DUSP1 and sexual dimorphism in periodontitis"; NIDCR (yr 2).

Kirkwood, K., PI: "Bioinformatic approaches for understanding macrophage plasticity and microbiome in oral diseases"; NIDCR.

Kramer, J., PI: "Fellowship for Jeremy Kiripolsky: Analysis of tissue-specific MyD88 activation in Sjögren's Syndrome" NIDCR.

Kramer, J., PI: "Analysis of MyD88-mediated immune activation in Sjögren's Syndrome pathogenesis"; NIDCR.

Maddi, A., PI: "*Candida albicans* glycosidases, Dfg5 and Dcw1, in virulence and pathogenesis"; NIDCR.

Romano, R., PI: "Genomic and genetic analysis of oral stem cells"; NIDCR (yr 2).

Romano, R., PI: "Genomic and functional investigations of the transcriptional regulatory network of salivary gland morphogenesis and stem cell fate choices in defined genetic models"; NIDCR (yr 2).

Romano, R., PI: "Fellowship for Akinsola Oyelakin: Molecular analysis of the oncogenic role of p63 in the development and progression of oral squamous cell carcinoma"; NIDCR.

Ruhl, S., PI: "Advanced Training in Oral Biology"; NIDCR (yr 7).

Ruhl, S., PI: "Microbial recognition of sialic acid diversity in the oral cavity"; NIDCR (yr 7).

Based on data from NIH in mid-July 2020, **total NIH funding** for FY19 (Oct. 1, 2018–Sept. 2019) to UB's dental school researchers increased by approximately \$93,000 from NIH FY18.

UB's dental school moved from a ranking of #11 of 47 dental schools receiving **NIDCR funding** in FY18 to #15 of 47 receiving funding in FY19.

Ruhl, S., PI: "Harnessing the oral microbiome to create novel glycan-binding probes"; National Cancer Institute (yr 3).

Visser-Kay, M., PI: "The role of oral spirochete virulence factors in the impairment of neutrophil response"; NIDCR (yr 2).

Xu, D., PI: "Heparan sulfate – Osteoprotegerin interactions in bone remodeling"; NIAMS (yr 3).

Supported by Industry

Arany, P., PI: "Optimization of sustainable double emulsion microsphere manufacturing"; FuzeHub.

Arany, P., PI: "UB CAT: Preclinical optimization and clinical testing of novel oral health products"; OptiMed Technology, Inc.

Supported by Foundations, Associations or Institutions

Abel, S., PI: "The UB S-miles-to-Go mobile dental unit: Improving oral health in underserved WNY communities"; Mother Cabrini Health Fdn.

Abel, S., PI: "C19: Delta Dental emergency COVID fund"; Delta Dental Community Care Fdn.

Aksel, H., PI: "Characterization and implementation of bioactive colloidal gel with tunable mechanomorphology for angiogenic and odontogenic differentiation of cells"; American Association of Endodontists.

Diaz-Moreno, P., PI: "HDB-3: A novel factor orchestrating microbial persistence in suspicious oral lesions"; Case Western Reserve University.

Gonzalez-Stucker, Y., PI: "Contribution of mechanobehavioral, psychosocial, and physiological domains in the progression of temporomandibular disorders"; Oregon Health & Science University (yr 2).

Kirkwood, K., PI: "IVIS Lumina LT Optical Imaging Platform"; James H. Cummings Fdn.

Scannapieco, F., PI: "Secondary analysis of EHR data to examine relative impact of oral health history on incident pneumonia by settings"; Marshfield Clinic Research Institute (yr 2).

Visser-Kay, M., PI: "Fellowship for Megan Jones: Modulation of aortic endothelial cell signaling and function by oral bacteria"; American Heart Association, Inc. (yr 2).

Xu, D., PI: "In vitro synthesis of recombinant heparin sulfate"; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

2 Give Kids a Smile Day

On February 7, as part of Give Kids a Smile Day, hundreds of children received free oral health screenings, cleanings, fluoride treatments, fillings, X-rays, extractions, wisdom teeth removal and consultations for braces. All children received a free lunchbox, toothbrush, floss and toothpaste, and met Murray the Molar Bear making his debut as the school's new mascot! To date, UB has treated more than 10,000 children through the program.

Over 300 volunteers, including UB dental school faculty, staff and students, as well as private dentists and optometrists and their staff donated their time to provide care.

Faculty and staff in the Department of Communicative Disorders provided hearing screenings; the School of Public Health and Health Professions, offered healthy eating tips; the School of Nursing, consulted with parents on medical conditions; and the School of Social Work, assisted families in identifying a family dentist. The event was held in partnership with the ADA, NYSDA, and the 8th District Dental Society. The program's principal sponsor is Fidelis Care.





Ciancios are a couple devoted

STORY BY GROVE POTTER | PHOTOS BY DOUGLAS LEVERE

Were it not for a friendly family dentist in Jamestown, N.Y., Dr. Sebastian Ciancio may never have been drawn to dentistry. Every time he visited Dr. Herb White, his dentist

as a youngster, Ciancio was regaled with stories about the interesting work and benefits of a dental career. And it worked. He attended UB for two years as an undergraduate and was admitted to the dental school at age 20, something that isn't done anymore.

Fast forward about 65 years, and Ciancio is getting ready to wrap up a career of teaching and dental research that has touched thousands of dental students and countless people who have used products he has researched and tested.

"The studies that give a direct benefit to the patients might be the most rewarding ones," Ciancio said. "They might not be Nobel prize winning research, but it's making life more comfortable for the patient."

Ciancio is a SUNY Distinguished Service Professor in the Department of Periodontics and Endodontics and

to **UB**

director of the Center for Dental Students at UB. He stepped down as department chair July 1, but is continuing to work on ongoing research. When asked why he has not retired, he answered: "It's difficult to stop when you thoroughly enjoy what you are doing," he said.

Ciancio's resume is vast. He is Clinical Professor in the Department of Pharmacology at UB and was a consultant for the VA Medical Center and Erie County Medical Center. He has authored or co-authored more than 150 publications on periodontal

disease and dental therapeutics. He is co-author of "Clinical Pharmacology for the Dental Professional" and editor of the "ADA Guide to Dental Therapeutics."

He is a consultant and past co-chair of the Council on Scientific Affairs of the American Dental Association, past president of the American Academy of Periodontology, the International Academy of Periodontology, and past president of the American Academy of Periodontology Foundation.

As a periodontist, Ciancio has been particularly interested in research into improving oral health care and ultimately regenerating bone to save teeth. Due to that expertise, and his pursuit of research projects, companies touting gum care products have sought Ciancio out. They seek academic proof that their products are effective.

"We've had a few studies where the product just didn't work out," he said. In some cases, a product doesn't do what it is designed to do, but it does something else beneficial. For example, one tooth paste designed to make gums healthier didn't accomplish that, however, it did make teeth whiter.

"So they were not able to make the claim for gum health, but they could make the claim for whiter teeth," he recalled.

University backed

When a researcher discovers negative effects of a product, they are not restricted in publicizing their research. However, companies are granted a three-month period to

consider options, like changing formulas or discontinuing the product. In that way, researchers act as a type of academic R&D department for companies.

"It's all by contract and regulated by the university with safeguards built in," Ciancio said. "The university charges an overhead depending on the type of research. It can run from 26 percent of the study's cost up to as high as 58 percent."

The dental research also has a significant local impact.

"The university benefits from the overhead, plus we create jobs since we employ dental hygienists, dental assistants and study coordinators. And then the patients get paid anywhere from \$50 to \$150 to be in the study," he said. "If you have a study with 300 patients and they all are getting \$100, that's a little extra money going into the local economy."

During its 32-year history, the Center for Dental Studies has completed more than \$15 million in research projects for local, national and international companies.

Wonderful partner

Marilyn Ciancio has been a dynamic partner throughout her husband's career, a powerful fundraiser for the university and an award winning leader in the local arts community. She joined the Women's Dental Guild early in her husband's career, served as its president, and helped raise money to establish a dental scholarship that is still awarded.

“The camaraderie among all the dentists’ spouses was lovely,” she said. “That’s how I started volunteering.”

Through a volunteer job raising money for the Studio Arena Theater, Marilyn Ciancio had the opportunity to guest host an arts television show called Artscope on Time Warner Channel 13. She soon became the permanent host and producer, a job she held for 14 years, winning two international Telly awards. She invited sculptors and painters to display and explain their work on the show.

“The arts community was so grateful,” she said. “To this day I have people come up and say they miss the show so much. They have no one to showcase their work, especially the visual and performing artists.”

The show also drew celebrities who were appearing in Buffalo and Chautauqua, including Carol Channing, Dionne Warwick and the world famous mime Marcel Marceau. “He wouldn’t stop talking,” she said with a laugh. “I finally said we have to stop for a break.”

When Time Warner changed directions and cancelled the show, Marilyn Ciancio devoted her energies to UB as auction chair of the UB President’s Gala for 10 years. When that event ceased, she became chair of the dental school gala. And for the past five years, one of her favorite volunteer activities has been reading on the radio for those who are visually impaired.

And 40 years ago, the Ciancio’s started the Chautauqua Dental Conference, which has grown from 15 attendees to more than 120. The three-day dental congress at the Chautauqua Institution brings continuing education courses to dentists from throughout the region and from as far away as California.

Today Marilyn chairs an annual small arts program through the Chautauqua Womens Club called Celebrate Buffalo Arts, where a number of Buffalo artists bring their work to sell at the institution for a day.



When asked how he keeps up with his wife, Sebastian is succinct; “I get out of breath.”

The couple also has traveled the world as Sebastian has been invited to numerous countries to give continuing education lectures.

Advice for the future

As dentistry advances, and more is discovered about oral health and its impact on overall health, Ciancio advises young dentists to look carefully at their options and understand the impact they can have on overall health.

“You have to look at what’s happening in terms of development of new techniques and new products for treatment, and then examine what types of practices are out there that you might want to join,” he said. “I think the future of dentistry is going to be not the single dentist in his office, but a dentist in a managed group. So I would look for a group that is prevention-minded, that they have good programs for their patients to not have teeth extracted, but rather to restore teeth. And most importantly to maintain a high ethical standard for all types of treatment.” **UBD**



STUDENT RESEARCH DAY

ON FEBRUARY 27, 2020, THE SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE presented its 2020 Student Research Day in Harriman Hall on UB's South Campus. The event was sponsored by Ivoclar Vivadent, UB's chapter of Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU, the national dental honor society), the Dean's office, the Maryann Mather Fund, and the Department of Oral Biology.

Although the weather outside was challenging, the tunnel between Squire and Harriman Halls made the trip very easy for most of the attendees. A total of 67 posters were shown—the

highest number ever—including 31 from DDS students, 3 from UB undergrads, 4 from fellows and post-docs, and 29 from graduate students and clinical residents. More than 30 School of Dental Medicine faculty were involved as mentors of the students' research. Early in the afternoon, many faculty also served as judges for the poster presentations. Dr. Praveen Arany, chair of the Student Research & Honors Committee, and Dr. Jason Kay (committee co-chair) introduced the use of tablet computers for more efficient judging this year.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Oleg Borisiuk* (Praveen Arany)
Asad Tanweer (Arany)
Nicole Walawander (Arany)

DENTAL STUDENTS

Saiema Alam '21 (Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker)
Abdullah Al Qaraghuli '21 (Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh)
Laura Cavallari '22 (Michelle Visser)
Shaina Chechang '22 (M. Margaret Vickerman)
Jaeyoung Choi '22 (Arany)
Eva Gershovich '21 (Elizabeth Stellrecht)
Mohammadreza Ghorbaniparvar '20* (Sebastian Ciancio)
Jacob Graca '22* (Arany)
Rebecca Hojna '22 (Sebastiano Andreana)
Ashley Jimenez '21 (Lucilla Piasecki)
Tyler Laurel '22 (Rosemary Dziak)
Ryan Mancuso '21 (Piasecki)
Simran Marwah '21 (Thikriat Al-Jewair)
Salman Masood '20 (Elaine Haase)
Suzanne McShane '21 (Andreana)

Timothy Moses '21* (David Covell)
Krish Ohri '22 (Donald Antonson)
Nathan Rixinger '22* (Visser)
Shyamali Saha '20 (Stefan Ruhl)
Emilia Scutari '21 (Michael Markiewicz)
Vishavpreet Sharma '20 (Sadid-Zadeh)
Anisha Singh '21 (Andreana)
Rebecca Skaf '22 (Rui Li)
Dam Soh '21* (Ruhl)
Onalee Sortino '22 (Hema Arany)
Melissa Stoj '21 (Andreana)
Anthony Strazzella '20 (Sadid-Zadeh)
Gabriel Valencia '22 (Jill Kramer)
Francesca Velardi '20 (Richard Ohrbach)
Michael Villa '21 (Rose-Anne Romano)
Eric Winnie '21 (Andreana)
Cory Zirkel '21 (Sadid-Zadeh)
Michelle Zou '22 (Lisa Yerke)
ADVANCED EDUCATION STUDENTS/RESIDENTS
Ibrahim Alaugaily – Endo (Adham Abdel Azim)

Sarah Alfadda – Endo (Azim)
Natalie Anselmi* – Oral Biol (Visser)
Shruti Bajaj – Ortho (Covell)
Ryan Brown – OMFS (Markiewicz)
Stephanie Colaiacovo – Ortho (Covell)
Raymond Durham* – Ped Dent (Christopher Heard)
Carl Fusco-Gessick – Ped Dent (Heard)
Matthew Giangreco – Biology (Jason Kay)
Mohammad Jamaledin – Perio/Oral Sci (Thomas Mang)
Jaewon Kim* – Perio/Oral Sci (P Arany)
Jeremy Kiripolsky* – Oral Biol (Kramer)
Anass Koleilat* – Perio/Oral Sci (P Arany)
Faranak Mahjour – Endo (Azim)
Sarah Metcalfe – Oral Biol (Kay)
Sangwon Min – Oral Biol (Romano)
Robert Miskimen – OMFS (Markiewicz)
Hannah Norris* – Oral Biol (Mira Edgerton)

Akinsola Oyelakin – Oral Biol (Romano)
Joseph Park – Ped Dent (Heard)
Belinda Phan – Ped Dent (Heard)
Ariyan Ravangard – Endo (Azim)
Jonathan Sipiior – Ped Dent (Heard)
Brandon Soelberg – OMFS (Markiewicz)
Sohaib Soliman – OMFS (Markiewicz)
Christine Song – Oral Biol (Romano)
Madhurima Vemuri – Biomat (Anne Meyer)
Nicholas Young – Biomed Eng (P Arany)
Xiaoxiao Zhang – Oral Biol (Ding Xu)

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS/SCHOLARS

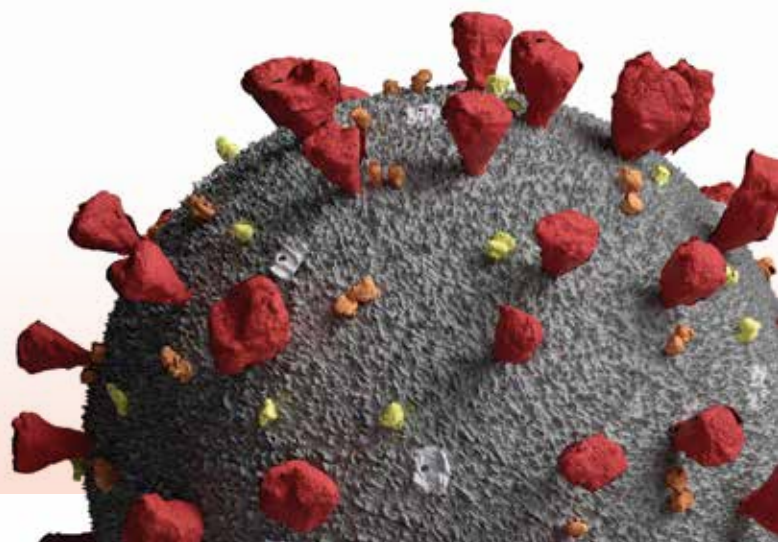
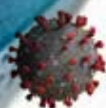
Manab Benton – Oral Diag Sci (Gonzalez-Stucker)
Faraz Tariq – Oral Biol (P Arany)
Benjamin Cross – Oral Biol (Ruhl)
Megan Jones* – Oral Biol (Visser)
Jung-Mi Lee – Oral Biol (Edward Kwon)

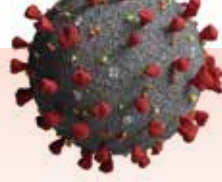
KEY () indicates mentor | * awardee



REDESIGNING DENTAL EDUCATION DURING A **PANDEMIC**

By Grove Potter





THE SHUTDOWN OF almost everything in mid-March due to the COVID-19 pandemic created a monumental challenge for the UB School of Dental Medicine. Its educational mission requires having students treat patients, and its clinics are a vital component of the region's dental care infrastructure.

Procedures and safety precautions had to be reviewed and strengthened, and decisions had to be made quickly. It was a challenge facing all dental schools, and some of the changes put in place will certainly become permanent features of dental education.

A core of people at the dental school and in departments that serve the school met regularly via Zoom to lay plans to open the school. And through it all, emergency care was administered in the clinic.

Here is a rundown from school leaders of some of the work that was done, and some thoughts on what may become the new normal.

REOPENING THE CLINICS



**DR. BRENDAN DOWD,
ASSISTANT DEAN FOR
CLINICAL OPERATIONS
AND LEADER OF THE TASK
FORCE ON REOPENING:**

Squire Hall is unique on the UB campus because it hosts up to 30,000 patient visits a year. Reopening for that kind of traffic during a pandemic raised challenges.

Task Force members started by reading about the plans of other dental schools, "and we've sent information to other schools when they've asked us. We had to work on the entire building," said Dr. Dowd. "Clinically we had a number of things to adjust, including social distancing, signage, equipment and the HVAC system that we are still in the process of adjusting and updating... The number one goal is to make sure everyone is safe when they come to Squire Hall and the dental clinics."

One of the big changes is a greatly improved HVAC system. The UB Environment, Health and Safety department helped the school in revamping its air exchange system. Enhanced filters and improved ducts allow better air cleaning and flow. "We did initial measurements of how many air exchanges were going on in different sections of the clinic," he said. "The goal is to have a minimum of six air exchanges per hour with excellent air ventilation."

Traffic flow in the building has also been changed. Faculty, students and staff enter through doors at the back and side of the building, and patients use the front door. And everyone is checked. "Each person who comes in has their temperature taken and are asked a series of questions, including have they been to any of the states that require a 14 day quarantine because of the executive order of Gov. Cuomo, or if they've been out of the country. If so, they will be asked to go home and quarantine," Dr. Dowd said. "Anyone with a temperature over 100 degrees will be sent home and told to call their physicians for follow up appointments... I would think we're going to be doing this for the foreseeable near future."

Social distancing requirements mean fewer dental chairs are available, so the school expanded clinic hours to be able to treat more people. "We're going to increase night session clinics from two to four evenings a week starting after Labor Day to help the students see more patients and spread it out," he said.

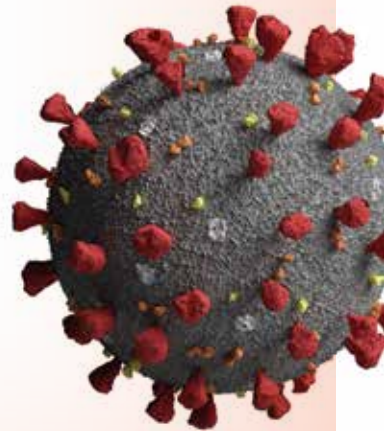
"As long as we take the protocols and recommendations that are out there and implement them, we're comfortable that we're not going to be involved in transferring the virus," Dr. Dowd said. "That's not to say we might not get a few cases, but we've got a quarantine tracing and tracking system set up with the UB EH&S department as well as the Erie County Health Department that we're ready to implement at a moment's notice."

A team of people have worked to keep the school in operation. "An incredibly dedicated group of people have really



"The number one goal is to make sure everyone is safe when they come to Squire Hall and the dental clinics."

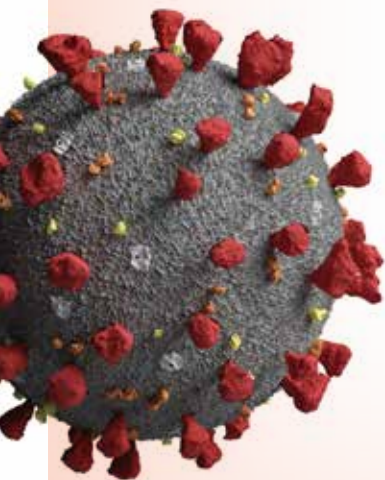
Brendan Dowd





“...the protocol you followed last week wasn’t the same as you would follow this week.”

Joseph Rumfola



helped hold the school together during this time and contributed a lot of the planning to reopen—the people on the task force and a number of people in the urgent care clinic, including AEGD and endodontic residents, who helped with all the patients who needed immediate care,” he said.

EMERGENCY CARE IN SQUIRE HALL AND IN LOCAL DENTAL PRACTICES



DR. JOSEPH RUMFOLA,
PROGRAM DIRECTOR OF
ADVANCED EDUCATION
IN GENERAL DENTISTRY
(AEGD):

When the dental school clinics shut down in March, the AEGD program became the main place for emergency care. Dr. Rumfola asked each of the residents if they would voluntarily accept the responsibility of treating patients. “All of them volunteered, so we set up a rotation where we had two residents assigned per day, and that’s how we covered the clinic during the closure,” Dr. Rumfola said. “There were times when people came in with swollen faces and in pain, and their only other resource was an emergency room.” Non-urgent care resumed at the end of June.

The CDC recommendations for dentistry changed, calling for N-95 masks and face shields and reducing the number of aerosol-producing procedures, “which is most of what we do,” he said. So, teeth are being cleaned by hand rather than using an ultra-sonic scaler. Rubber dams that isolate teeth are also favored. “In addition, we’re supposed to wait 15 minutes before we clean up a room, and every other dental chair is being used,” he said.

Rumfola credits organized dentistry for keeping frontline workers informed. “I was getting regular updates from the ADA and New York State Dental Association and from the local 8th District Dental Association, plus I was checking in on the CDC’s website, because

the protocol you followed last week wasn’t the same as you would follow this week.”

In his private practice, Rumfola had 700 appointments cancelled, so like all dentists, he is facing a substantial backup. “Most people are eager to get in to see a dentist now.”

Rumfola expects many of the precautionary procedures to remain in place and become standard procedure for dentistry. And there have been some other lessons learned. “I think most private practitioners would feel the same, and doctors as well. There were times before COVID-19 when I went to work sick, just because you have a business to run, and the thought of having to reschedule the appointments is not something you look forward to. There was a time when I went to my own doctor and my doctor was sick. I think I would feel differently about doing that now. And that if my employees are sick, rather than putting up with them working through being sick, I think I would just tell them to stay home.”

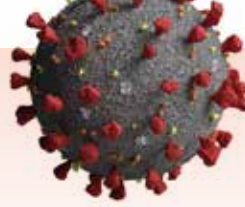
Another lesson has to do with the value of time spent with loved ones. “Maybe at some point, once dentists have recovered from the financial hit, they may be able to value that time a little bit more. For us it was really nice to have the family time.”

WORKING AND TEACHING IN THE HOSPITALS



DR. MICHAEL MARKIEWICZ,
ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR
HOSPITAL AFFAIRS
AND CHAIR OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF ORAL
AND MAXILLOFACIAL
SURGERY:

The COVID-19 shutdown stopped dental and medical students from rotating in the oral and maxillofacial surgery program, but residents continued seeing patients in the emergency room, and performing emergency surgeries. “The residents have always come in. They can’t stop. They never stop working hard and serving our patients,” Dr. Markiewicz said. “Surgeries were



limited to only treating cancers, infection and trauma, and other urgent cases.” Much of his work focuses on treating patients with head and neck cancer and performing reconstruction, as well as treating children with cleft and craniofacial deformities.

The lack of exposure for dental students was unfortunate because deciding to pursue the six-year MD/Oral Surgery certificate program requires a complete understanding of what is involved. “For students I think the hospital training is very important,” he said. “They want to experience what we do and make sure it is the right career choice for them.”

Setbacks aside, one advantage the COVID-19 changes have brought is being able “to get speakers from around the world to speak to us (virtually) every week for our grand rounds. Previously we would have to pay for speakers to come here. So we’ve been able to host good lectures every week from phenomenal speakers who have really piqued the students’ interest.”

The pause in some surgeries created a backlog, with some cases becoming more serious due to delayed treatment. “Unfortunately, even some patients with cancer did not want to come into the hospital,” Markiewicz said. “Now some patients who had non-urgent issues are deemed to be on the urgent side.”

Inside the operating room, as in dental offices, extra safety precautions include increased ventilation, more protective clothing, including N-95 masks, visors, and enhanced surgical suits. And when a patient is intubated, doctors must wait a certain period before entering the room. Following surgery, the room must remain vacant for 20 minutes before cleaning. “It makes it very challenging to schedule cases as we did before the pandemic,” he said. “We have to space out the scheduling. Also, we can’t have a packed waiting room anymore.”

While Markiewicz expects many of the enhanced precautions to be permanent, he hopes things will eventually loosen up enough to allow more contact with patients. “The important thing, for myself, is

interacting with patients, being able to see them, examine them and comfort them when they need more personal interaction.”

THE IMPACT ON STUDENT LIFE

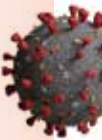
**DR. STEPHEN ABEL,
ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR
STUDENT, COMMUNITY AND
PROFESSIONAL INITIATIVES:**



“Student life changed dramatically during the pandemic shutdown, and some of those changes are here to stay,” said Dr. Abel. Live lectures, the didactic training students receive in their early years of dental school, are migrating to the virtual world. Professors can either broadcast their lectures, or record them, and students can watch them online. “Many students appreciate being able, in an asynchronous manner, to watch a presentation and then view it again,” he said. “Students say this should not be a full substitute for having access to faculty, that there should be scheduled times when faculty are available online to have Q&A sessions allowing for a more engaging experience.”

“But you can’t learn dentistry thoroughly outside of the mouth,” Abel said. “When you have a person and there are nerves and blood and saliva and a person with fears and anxieties, often accompanied by a host of medical comorbidities, much of this can’t be substituted outside of the clinical setting. So we’ll never be able to adequately educate dentists to go out and treat the public without training them to treat the patient in a holistic sense.”

For some students, watching lectures online was a challenge during the shutdown. Living at home, often in smaller apartments, made finding a quiet place difficult. Some, Dr. Abel said, found better internet connections and tranquility in their cars. Many were in the NYC metropolitan area and experienced the impact of COVID-19 within the epicenter. They



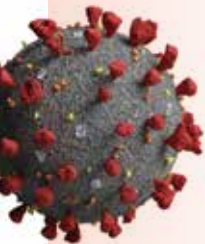
“Student life changed dramatically during the pandemic shutdown, and some of those changes are here to stay.”

Stephen Abel



“Nobody knows what the outcome will be by the end of next April, so I think we need to have a plan in place.”

Mary Bush



understand the severity of the situation and are appreciative of what the SDM is doing to advance their education and patient care.

Getting classes online took quick and expert work by the IT and academic staff, he said. “We had some very bright people who were able to facilitate this. We didn’t have time to wait. These courses were in session. Students needed to develop their clinical and pre-clinical and academic skills.”

However, the transition to more online learning does come at a slight cost, he said. “It’s a little less satisfying when you don’t have that one-on-one with somebody who will just show up at your door, but I believe everybody is probably surprised at how successful we have been at moving dental students through the full spectrum.”

For prospective students, applications remain strong, but interviews are also going online this year. Interviewees will have the opportunity to go into online chat rooms to talk with current students, but the tangible feeling of the school—one of its great assets—may be diluted. “When you ask the students why they chose UB, it is that chemistry. It’s hard for them to describe, but it was palpable.” Abel said. “And it is something that they simply didn’t experience at most other schools. We have to hope that we can continue to transmit that online. I think we will.”

ASSURING COMPETENCY OF GRADUATES

DR. MARY BUSH, ASSISTANT DEAN FOR CLINICAL AFFAIRS:

Getting the Class of 2020 through their final clinical practical exams (CPEs) took some imagination and technical savvy. The tests, which measure students’ ability on specific disciplines, are often observed and graded by two faculty members. But the clinical portions require working

on a patient. “We had to adapt that due to COVID because we couldn’t be in person,” said Dr. Bush. “We got the go-ahead to use our simulation lab in May and were able to bring the students in in small groups.”

The requirements were adapted just for the class of 2020 and reported to the Commission on Dental Accreditation, but discussions are ongoing about what procedures will be needed for the class of 2021. “Nobody knows what the outcome will be by the end of next April, so I think we need to have a plan in place. It may kind of follow the same protocol, which will be more of this simulated type of environment,” she said.

One advantage of the simulated tests is they are the same for every student. “These are actually more stringent than they would be on a patient, and they are much more standardized,” Dr. Bush said. “That’s not the case for actual clinical examinations because it depends on the presentation of the patient.” Overall, the simulated CPEs went well. “I was very, very pleased,” she said, although there was one downside—plastic teeth. “The artificial teeth have a different hardness from real teeth, so it’s not quite exact.” But new plastic teeth have been created with material inside that mimics natural decay. “So now the students can not only prepare a tooth, but they can go on and remove the decay.”

THE MOVE TO DISTANCE EDUCATION

DR. DONALD ANTONSON, ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS:



The COVID-19 virus hit at a time when the dental school was revising its curriculum, and that turned out to be a bit fortuitous, said Dr. Antonson. “The virus has been a vehicle for curriculum revision, where we looked at things and asked, ‘Do we really need to teach students in the traditional

format when lecture teaching cannot be available?' It has been a catalyst for the move to distance learning."

The faculty adjusted quickly, so that when the school had to close in mid-March, professors were able to deliver lectures online, he said. But it wasn't simple. "It is easier to walk into a lecture hall and put up your slides," he said. "But they've caught on... What the students seem to like is a live online lecture, recorded for viewing later, where they can plug in to the computer and have a chat line to ask a question."

The next challenge was designing a fall schedule that adheres to social distancing guidelines. "Our goal for the fall semester was to look at every half-day and pretend that I am a student, and where am I going to be, and am I protected."

"The change in the National Dental Board examination, focusing on case based assessments will start being offered at the beginning of the fourth year. This new examination, along with the virus, has had us rethink what we do and how we do it," he said. "So, I am excited, even after the virus, to be teaching differently. I've had faculty who have taught 40 years say 'This is kind of cool'... We have to make sure we are on top of our game. It makes you reinvent, be more creative, and provide more learning opportunities. And we can do that. So, with our remote learning and with our personalization that we plug in and our caring attitude, not only do we retain our value, we reinforce it."

When a student who needed hand surgery after an injury had questions about classroom timing, Dr. Antonson gave him his cell phone number and counseled him during a phone call. "When we finished, he said 'I'm so happy I came to UB, because I heard they were personal, and this phone call reinforced my decision.' That's just the way we are, that's what we do in Buffalo, we take care of people and we're available 24/7 when necessary. And that's our mantra."

The move to online lectures will also open up the door to having lectures from

other universities and experts so students can have a global learning experience. These experiences reinforce continuous learning after they leave the university, he said.

"It's almost like a buffet table of knowledge today." That is what has happened recently for several of the postgraduate clinical programs with seminars occurring from regional and national locations.

"I couldn't be happier with our school. This COVID stressor will test our mettle, and it will show we can adapt and still satisfy our mission of striving for excellence."

IMPACT ON RESEARCH

DR. ANNE MEYER, ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR RESEARCH:

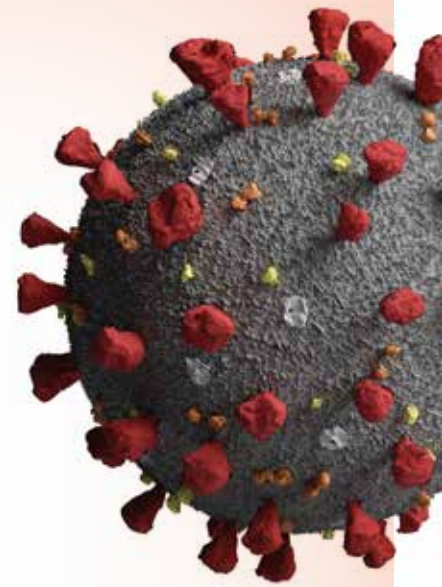


Research was slowed, but not stopped, by the shutdown. While non-essential workers were forced to stay at home, researchers focused on grant applications and manuscripts, said Dr. Meyer. And some were conducting animal studies, so they had to continue, she said.

The grant application process has continued to function well, she said, keeping vital funding intact. "I have to say that the federal agencies that fund that work were as good as gold in moving that paper work and that funding right along," she said.

"It was safe before because when you are doing research, safety is always paramount. There was no question, but now it is. Just like in the clinics, it is a matter of how many people you can have in a particular space. Whether it's a clinic or a laboratory or even a conference room, when you're having a meeting with people to discuss research or review results, the number of people that you can put in that space is greatly reduced."

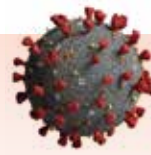
"Because research has become a team-based, global pursuit in recent years, methods already created for sharing information have been helpful during the pandemic," she said. "Somebody commented the other day that if we didn't have Zoom and WebEx, where would we be?"



"Somebody commented the other day that if we didn't have Zoom and WebEx, where would we be?"

Anne Meyer





“It was a sweep across the entire building. We needed everybody, and that was and continues to be a big deal.”

Joseph Gambacorta

But using online communication threatens a subtle but very important part of the research process, she noted. “We’ve lost quite a bit of the spontaneity that’s so vital to making progress in research. I’m not saying we can’t do it, but I’m missing people dropping in and saying ‘Hey, what do you think about this?’ That includes a dental student dropping in and saying ‘Dr. Meyer I have this idea, what do you think?’

“Research is a creative endeavor, and that includes expressing your curiosity and asking questions,” she said. “We need to find a way to make that happen.”

HOW THINGS HAVE CHANGED—AND THE FUTURE

**DR. JOSEPH GAMBACORTA,
ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR
CLINICAL AFFAIRS:**



“Teaching dentistry and providing dental care have been changed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and some of those changes are here to stay,” said Dr. Gambacorta.

“What we do as healthcare workers is work with people in very close proximity, and some of that one-on-one connection has been lost because you have to keep a certain distance,” he said, “even if you are wearing the right protective equipment.”

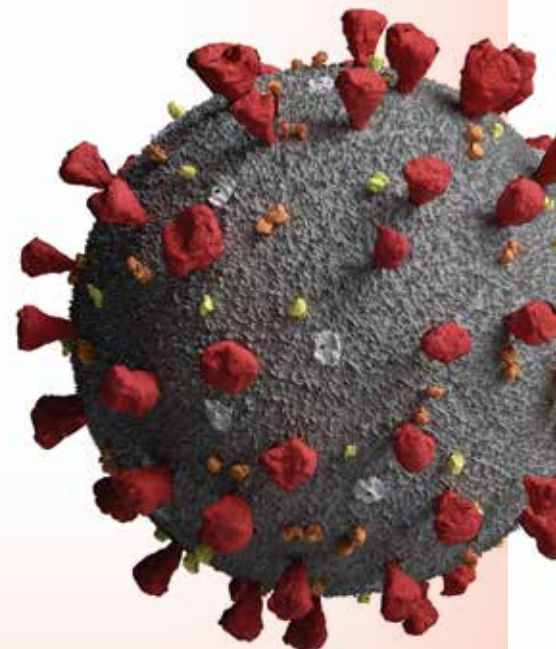
Perhaps that separation will recede in time, he said, but more stringent precautions are permanent. Fewer people will be in the dental school, and providers will be wearing protective equipment more of the time, including wearing masks constantly. “And people won’t be able to bring visitors with them to their appointments,” he said. “The increased personal protective equipment will become standard,” he said, “a change reminiscent of the adoption of gloves and masks during the HIV epidemic... And increased and consistent safety measures will be a

theme in all healthcare education, because future viral outbreaks are predicted,” Dr. Gambacorta said.

Didactic education will involve more remote learning with expanded online opportunities to the point where students will no longer sit in a classroom, he said. “In-person teaching will continue in those disciplines that require simulation or one-on-one work.”

The collaboration across the university has been one positive outcome of the pandemic, Dr. Gambacorta said, and personnel from other departments are coming to the dental school to see what has been accomplished. “The dental school has had to lead the way because our educational programs are highly influenced by our ability to treat patients,” he said. “Dental schools have been sharing their ideas about safety practices including a consortium of New York State dental deans and dental clinic deans plus calls through the American Dental Education Association.”

Battling through the shutdown made clear the interdependence of everyone in the school, he said. “It was a sweep across the entire building. We needed everybody, and that was and continues to be a big deal.” **UBD**





AERIAL VIEW OF FIRST FLOOR, APRIL 2020



INTERIOR PERSPECTIVE, APRIL 2020

Dental Museum to Honor Dr. George Ferry



As Squire Hall continues to be transformed, plans are underway for completion of the new Stephanie T. Niciszewska-Mucha and Joseph J. Mucha Patient Welcome Center. As part of that space we're pleased to announce the re-installation of the Dr. George Ferry Museum. Ferry originally established the first museum (the Centennial Museum) in 1991 as part of the school's Centennial celebration held in 1992. In 2012, the Centennial Museum was renamed in his honor, and he was extremely proud to see the new signage bearing his name. Dr. George Ferry passed away in August 2013.

George was the school's first curator of historical artifacts. He was perfect for this role as a history buff, staunch advocate for our industry and ardent supporter of the school. Robin Comeau and now Joseph Gambacorta have continued his work. Plans are underway to raise the funds required for a proper museum space which would serve as a fitting tribute to such an amazing man.

George Ferry, '78, joined the faculty of the School of Dental Medicine in 1979 as a part-time clinical instructor in the dental team practice program in general clinical dentistry. Two years later, he took a full-time faculty position as assistant professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry (Operative). He was promoted to the rank of clinical associate

professor in 1991. His teaching focused on dental auxiliary utilization, operative dentistry, preclinical technique courses and simulation.

Dr. Ferry said the most rewarding part of his faculty service was his interaction with dental students. He retired with three yearbook dedications, three Alan Gross Excellence in Teaching awards, two Feagans Awards, several DSA teaching citations, and the 2010 UB Dental Alumni Association Honor Award. The William M. Feagans Award, is presented by the Dental Student Association to a distinguished member of the faculty, staff or administration in honor of Feagans, dean of the School of Dental Medicine from 1970 to 1993. Like Feagans, Dr. Ferry demonstrated to students, a concern that encompasses the finest aspects of academic dentistry, tempered with an appreciation of the demands of "real-life" dentistry and the inherent challenges of student life.

"To date, we've secured over \$10,000 in support of the George Ferry Museum," says Neil Dengler, senior director advancement for the School of Dental Medicine. "We continue to seek support from our alumni, faculty and community members, as we hope to raise \$25,000 to build a space to honor our school's rich history, while honoring Dr. Ferry's memory," Dengler adds. **UBD**

To learn more about supporting the George Ferry Museum, contact Neil Dengler via email at ndengler@buffalo.edu or by phone at (716) 881-7486.



COMMENCEMENT 2020

DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

ENTERING GENERAL PRACTICE RESIDENCY OR ADVANCED EDUCATION IN GENERAL DENTISTRY PROGRAMS

Assel S. Alwaqza ♦♦♦
Kings County Hospital Center
Brooklyn, NY

Kathleen Marie Andrews
Rochester General Hospital
Rochester, NY

Leah Marie Baldinger
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI

Andrew W. Barone
Roswell Park Cancer Institute/
SUNY Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Michael Beck
Jersey City Medical Center
Jersey City, NJ

Lauren Catherine Boyczuk
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

James J. Cassin
St. Charles Hospital
Port Jefferson, NY

Peterson Chao
Woodhull Hospital
Brooklyn, NY

Neil Chattopadhyay
Woodhull Hospital
Brooklyn, NY

John J. Choi
Montefiore Medical Center
Bronx, NY

Joseph G. Ciciarelli ♦
Rochester General Hospital
Rochester, NY

Anastasia Mae Cintula
Woodhull Hospital
Brooklyn, NY

Stefanie Katrina Davis
Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Andrew Dobmeier
Veterans Administration Medical
Center
Buffalo, NY

Michael J. Donahue
Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Yegor Dukashin
Coney Island Hospital
Brooklyn, NY

Joseph G. Fallon
Bellevue Hospital Center
New York, NY

Peter E. Finch
Brookdale Hospital Medical Center
Brooklyn, NY

Scott Richard Gergelis
SUNY Upstate Medical Center
Syracuse, NY

David M. Giordano
SUNY Upstate Medical Center
Syracuse, NY

Rin Zhi Go
Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Sukhmeet Singh Gujral
Eastman Dental
University of Rochester
Rochester, NY

Erica Lynn Hartmann
Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Michael Healy
Queens Medical Center
Jamaica, NY

Jessica L. Hillman
Rochester General Hospital
Rochester, NY

Mohammed Hossain
New York Medical College
Valhalla, NY

Anita Kabaria
Veterans Affairs, New Jersey Health
Care System
Lyons, NJ

Eric Katsnelson
Montefiore Medical Center
Bronx, NY

Qays A. Khalfan
Coney Island Hospital
Brooklyn, NY

Borah B. Kim
St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center
Syracuse, NY



Meet the graduates
of the **Class of**

20
20



Emma Kirshenbaum

Woodhull Hospital
Brooklyn, NY

Molly M. Koochekpour

Eastman Dental
University of Rochester
Rochester, NY

Andrew P. Kowalski

Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Ruben L. Krebs

Eastman Dental
University of Rochester
Rochester, NY

Jacqueline Rae Kreckel

The Brooklyn Hospital Center
Brooklyn, NY

Kamil M. Kuflewski

Coney Island Hospital
Brooklyn, NY

Esther Chanha Lee

Veterans Administration Medical
Center
Buffalo, NY

Yung-Hua Lee

New York University Winthrop
Hospital
Mineola, NY

Kenneth Li

New York University Langone
Health
Brooklyn, NY

Ian S. Lieberman

Nassau University Medical Center
East Meadow, NY

Hasham Abdullah Majoka

Eastman Dental
University of Rochester
Rochester, NY

Julia Elizabeth Marrantino

Danbury Hospital Dental Services
Danbury, CT

Salman S. Masood

Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Bethany R. Mattina-Chmiel

Roswell Park Cancer Institute/
SUNY Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Joseph Daniel Meluni ♦♦♦

St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center
Syracuse, NY

Muhaimin R. Moin

Queens Medical Center
Jamaica, NY

Lawrence-Linh Tran Nguyen Jr.

University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Thomas Tuan Nguyen

Bellevue Hospital Center
New York, NY

Danielle Isabella Niderman

Harlem Hospital Center
New York, NY

Katherine J. Orioli

Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Albany, NY

Samantha C. Pajak

Veterans Administration Medical
Center
Buffalo, NY

Kristen M. Parisi

New York University Winthrop Hospital
Mineola, NY

Kristina M. Petrich

Northwell Health
Manhasset, NY

Abigail H. Rapchick-Weidman

The University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM

Matthew James Reuscher

MBA/DDS Dual Degree
SUNY Upstate Medical Center
Syracuse, NY

Astrid Y. Salas Martinez ♦

Woodhull Hospital
Brooklyn, NY

LEGEND

♦ CUM LAUDE | ♦♦ MAGNA CUM LAUDE | ♦♦♦ SUMMA CUM LAUDE



Richard R. Salvagno

St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center
Syracuse, NY

Justin Thomas Sbarra ♦

St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center
Syracuse, NY

Claire Elizabeth Sesson

Ohio State University
Columbus, OH

Jared Benjamin Siegel

Jesse Brown Veterans Affairs
Medical Center
Chicago, IL

Tolulope Stone ♦

Ellis Hospital/McClellan Campus
Scheneectady, NY

Anthony C. Strazzella

Veterans Administration Medical
Center
Buffalo, NY

Yuhan Sun

Maimonides Medical Center
Brooklyn, NY

Deborah Jillian Tirsun

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount
Sinai
New York, NY

Alyssa Victoria Tzetzio

University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Victoria Elizabeth Vaccaro

University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Francesca R. Velardi

University of Alabama
Birmingham, AL

Aimee Werfel

Woodhull Hospital
Brooklyn, NY

Inessa Yusupova

Woodhull Hospital
Brooklyn, NY

ENTERING SPECIALTY PROGRAMS

Syed Mohammed Abdul-Rahman ♦♦

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
University of Florida – Gainesville
Gainesville, FL

Jacob J. Altmire ♦

Pediatric Dentistry
Eastman Dental
University of Rochester
Rochester, NY

Matthew M. Asermely ♦

Pediatric Dentistry
Children's Hospital
Harvard University
Boston, MA

Krystal Baldwin

Pediatric Dentistry
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Michael G. Chernyak

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Molly Antoinette Christie ♦♦

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
University of Rochester
Rochester, NY

Esther Kyung Ah Chung

Pediatric Dentistry
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Brigid C. Daly ♦

Pediatric Dentistry
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Adam G. Drabman

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
Thomas Jefferson University
Hospital
Philadelphia, PA

Ezra B. Goldberg-O'Neil ♦

Pediatric Dentistry
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Ryan Lawrence Koch

Orthodontics
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Benjamin Lantz-Subtelny

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
St. Joseph's University Medical
Center
Paterson, NJ

Ronald Joseph Lowe, III ♦♦

Orthodontics
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Leigha C. Milks ♦

Pediatric Dentistry
Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital
Richmond, VA

Kathleen M. Rusnak ♦♦

Pediatric Dentistry
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Swetha Sathasivam

Pediatric Dentistry
BronxCare Health System
Bronx, NY

Lawrence Shum

Pediatric Dentistry
Interfaith Medical Center
Brooklyn, NY

Daniel J. Thorner ♦

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
Walter Reed National Military
Medical Center
Bethesda, MD

Brendon L. Ursomanno

Periodontics
New York University
New York, NY

Adam M. Zamorek ♦

Pediatric Dentistry
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA

ENTERING PRIVATE PRACTICE

Ridab Alnabhan ♦♦♦

Chicago, IL

Dhwani Kamleshkumar Amin

San Antonio, TX

Kamaldeep Kaur Aulakh

Yawer Bashir

Lane & Associates Family Dentistry
Raleigh, NC

Amir M. Botros

Dallas, TX

Srutha Keerthi Chebolu

Optim Dental
Bloomington, IL

Bimala Gharti

**Mohammadreza
Ghorbaniparvar** ♦♦♦
Connecticut

Vedant Chimanlal Gohil

Kerrville, TX

Sowjanya Gunukula

Optim Dental
Terre Haute, ID

Ramya Hegde

Seattle, WA

Bojana Hristova ♦♦

Chicago, IL





Sarah Jacki
Birmingham, United Kingdom



Sowmya Lakshmi Karamcheti
Texas Dental Group
Navasota, TX



Jyotpreet Kaur
Fresno, CA

Hsin-yi Cindy Liu

Anusha Nagapuri

Chhavi Piplani

Bharath Ramesh Kumar
Farmington, CT

Shyamali Saha
Waco, TX

Deepicca Sathiyabalan
Toronto, Canada

Sarah I. Shafik ♦
Boston, MA

Vishavpreet Sharma
San Antonio, TX

Shruti Singh ♦
Austin, TX

Uttara Suresh ♦
Houston, TX



THESIS HONORS

Andrew W. Barone
"Fabrication and characterization of nanocalcium sulfate/human platelet lysate as a novel synthetic scaffold and growth factor delivery system for bone regeneration"
Primary Advisor: Rosemary Dziak, PhD

Mohammadreza Ghorbaniparvar
"A clinical evaluation of a chlorhexidine containing tooth varnish"
Primary Advisor: Sebastian G. Ciancio, DDS

Shyamali Saha
"Screening for novel bacterial glycan-binding adhesins expressed by *Streptococcus gordonii*"
Primary Advisor: Stefan H. Ruhl, DDS, PhD

Brendon L. Ursomanno
"Effects of proton pump inhibitors and hypothyroidism on bone loss at dental implants"
Primary Advisor: Lisa M. Yerke, DDS, MS



MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREES

BIOMATERIALS

Gema Gempita, BDS
"The evaluation of viable bacterial retention on sutures after three different mouthrinse treatments"
Major Professor: Anne Meyer, PhD

Madelyn Mascaro, BS
"Comparison of dental sealants for antimicrobial effects on three strains of *Streptococcus mutans*"
Major Professor: Anne Meyer, PhD

Madhurima Vemuri, BDS
"Testing physical properties and in vitro cytocompatibility of chitosan-based hydrogel and hydrogel with mustard powder for joint lubrication"
Major Professor: Anne Meyer, PhD

ORAL SCIENCES

Abdulaziz Saud A. Albabtain, BDS
"Shear bond strength between titanium and zirconia"
Major Professor: Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh, DDS, MS

Mohammed Yahya M. Aljabri, BDS
"Evaluation of DNP63 expression in oral epithelial dysplasia and oral squamous cell carcinoma"
Major Professor: Rose-Anne Romano, PhD

Majd Bakheet A. Alsharif, BDS
"Experience and confidence level of senior dental students in performing endodontic treatment: A pilot study"
Major Professor: Elaine Davis, PhD

Manab Muhammad Saleh T. Benten, BDS
"Relationship between oral behaviors and functional limitation in individuals with and without painful temporomandibular disorders"
Major Professor: Yoly M. Gonzalez-Stucker, DDS, MS

Mohammad Waseem Hussein Jaleddin, DDS
"Antimicrobial photodynamic therapy in an ex-vivo peri-implantitis model"
Major Professor: Thomas S. Mang, PhD, MS

Alyaa Hussein Kattoof, BDS
"Effect of two frequencies of ultrasound therapy on pain among females with bilateral myalgia"
Major Professor: W. Scott McCall, PhD

Jaewon Kim, DDS, PhD
"Candida albicans glycosidases, Dfg5 and Dcw1, regulate cell wall chitin synthesis"
Major Professor: Abhiram Maddi, DDS, PhD

Rayan Mohammedfarooq M. Meer, BDS, MS
"Burden of childhood oral diseases in protracted refugee situations"
Major Professor: Othman Shibly, DDS, MS

Harleen Kaur Sohi, BDS
"Role of Candida albicans Dfg5 and Dcw1 in regulation of chitin synthesis under cell wall and morphogenic stress"
Major Professor: Abhiram Maddi, DDS, PhD

Rofida Abdulsattar M. Wali, BDS, MS
"Enhancement of human gingival fibroblast migration by strontium"
Major Professor: Michelle B. Visser, PhD

Jeffrey Alan Willis, DDS
"Fracture toughness of zirconia restorations designed for straight and angulated screw channel applications"
Major Professor: Hyeongil Kim, DDS, MS

ORTHODONTICS

Shruti Bajaj, MDS
"Effectiveness of dental Class II malocclusion correction with Invisalign® as compared to fixed appliances in non-growing individuals"
Major Professor: David A. Covell, Jr., DDS, PhD

Lamia Abdulaziz M. Binhuwaisel, BDS
"Proximity differences of maxillary posterior root apices to the maxillary sinus floor according to different skeletal patterns: A retrospective CBCT study"
Major Professor: David A. Covell, Jr., DDS, PhD

Charles T. Bond, II, DMD
"A cephalometric study of Class II malocclusions treated with the Carriere® Motion™ Appliance"
Major Professor: David A. Covell, Jr., DDS, PhD



Commencement 2020



Stephanie Lynn Colaiacovo, DDS
"Comparison of extraction and non-extraction treatment outcomes in patients with anterior open bites and hyperdivergent mandibular plane angles"
Major Professor: David A. Covell, Jr., DDS, PhD

Chia-Hua Pai, DMD
"Characterization of oral microbiome in clear aligner treatment patients"
Major Professor: Tingxi Wu, DDS, PhD

Al-Shaheen Youssef, DDS
"Comparison of bleaching agent applied to white spot lesions before or after resin infiltration: An in vitro study"
Major Professor: David A. Covell, Jr., DDS, PhD

Robinson Vega, DDS
Andrei Zaharia, DDS

ENDODONTICS

Sarah Saleh A. Alfadda, BDS
Theeb Abdullah H. Alquria, BDS
Faranak Mahjour, DDS, PhD
Maksim Serebro, DDS

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL PATHOLOGY

Adwaa Khalid A. Alhumaidan, BDS
Mohammed Yahya M. Aljabri, BDS

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

Ryan Spencer Brown, DMD
Brandon J. Soelberg, DDS

ORTHODONTICS

Shruti Bajaj, MDS
Lamia Abdulaziz M. Binhuwaishel, BDS
Charles T. Bond, II, DMD
Stephanie Lynn Colaiacovo, DDS
Chia-Hua Pai, DMD
Al-Shaheen Youssef, DDS

PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

Jennifer Branch, DDS
Stephanie Calora, DMD
Raymond Durham, DMD
Carl E. Fusco-Gessick, DDS
Kevin Minsung Kim, DDS
Joseph Park, DDS
Belinda Phan, DMD
Jonathan M. Sipior, DDS

PERIODONTICS

Abdullah Awn S. Alqarni, BDS, MS
Mohammad Waseem Hussein Jamaledin, DDS
Rayan Mohammedfarooq M. Meer, BDS, MS

PROSTHODONTICS

Jeffrey Alan Willis, DDS
Jinghua Zhang, DDS

TEMPOROMANDIBULAR DISORDERS AND OROFACIAL PAIN

Fatima Alawsee, BDS
Alyaa Hussein Kattoof, BDS

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATES

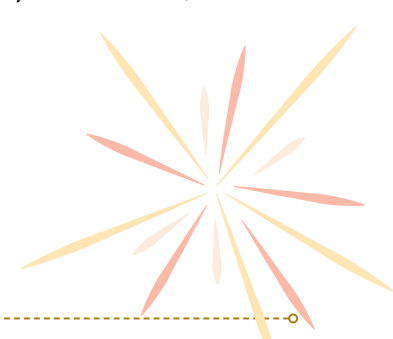
ADVANCED EDUCATION IN GENERAL DENTISTRY

Casey T. DePauw, DMD
Rafael Khavis, DDS
Magdalena Klus, DMD
Derek Lin, DDS
Margareta Sikorski, DMD



HONORS

FOR FACULTY AND STAFF



Dental Student Association Staff Appreciation Award
Matthew H. Blum



William M. Feagans Award
Rui Li, DDS, PhD



Florence Kronson Award
Lisa Durand

SDM 2020

SENIOR AWARDS

Academy of Dentistry for Persons with Disabilities

Ezra B. Goldberg-O'Neil

Academy of General Dentistry

Bojana Hristova
Kristen M. Parisi

Academy of Operative Dentistry

Bojana Hristova

Academy of Osseointegration

Inessa Yusupova

Dr. Joseph A. Accardo Eighth District Dental Society

Claire Elizabeth Sesson
Aimee Werfel

American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry

Samantha C. Pajak

American Academy of Implant Dentistry

David M. Giordano

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology

Francesca R. Velardi

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology

Leah Marie Baldinger

American Academy of Oral Medicine

Assel S. Alwaqza

American Academy of Orofacial Pain

Benjamin Lantz-Subtelny

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Certificate of Merit

Predoctoral Student Award
Esther Kyung Ah Chung

American Academy of Periodontology

Danielle Isabella Niderman

American Association of Endodontists

Jacob A. Altmire

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

Michael G. Chernyak

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Implant Award

Esther Chanha Lee

American Association of Orthodontists

Ronald Joseph Lowe, III

American Association of Public Health Dentistry

Richard R. Salvagno

American College of Dentists

Outstanding Student Leader Award
Alyssa Victoria Tzetzto

American College of Prosthodontists

Astrid Y. Salas Martinez

American Dental Society of Anesthesiology—Horace Wells Senior Student Award

Ayed Mohammed Abdul-Rahman

American Student Dental Association Award of Excellence

Michael Healy

Barrett Foundation Award

Assel S. Alwaqza
Joseph Daniel Meluni

Eleanor Bushee Award

Samantha C. Pajak

Delta Dental Student Award for Leadership

Molly Antoinette Christie

Dental Alumni Award

Kristina M. Petrich

Dentsply Sirona Merit Award in Removable Prosthodontics

Victoria Elizabeth Vaccaro

Erie County Dental Society Chester A. Glor Award

Leah Marie Baldinger

The Pierre Fauchard Academy

Mohammadreza Ghorbaniparvar

Fonzi Dental Study Club, Anthony S. Gugino Humanitarian Award

Jessica L. Hillman

International College of Dentists

Michael J. Donahue

International College of Dentists Student Humanitarian Award

Joseph G. Ciciarelli
Yegor Dukashin
Joseph G. Fallon
Michael Healy
Yung-Hua Lee

International Congress of Oral Implantologists

Joseph Daniel Meluni

Donald Kozlowski Memorial Award

Rin Zhi Go

New York State Association of Endodontists

Sarah Jacksi

New York State Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

Benjamin Lantz-Subtelny



The Northeastern Society of Periodontists

Lauren Catherine Boyczuk

Omicron Kappa Upsilon

Syed Mohammed Abdul-Rahman
Ridab Alnabhan
Assel S. Alwaqza
Molly Antoinette Christie
Brigid C. Daly
Mohammadreza Ghorbaniparvar
Ronald Joseph Lowe, III
Joseph Daniel Meluni
Kathleen M. Rusnak
Astrid Y. Salas Martinez
Shruti Singh
Daniel J. Thorner
Adam M. Zamorek

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Research Award

Andrew W. Barone

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dr. Lata Shenoy Award

Shruti Singh

Pediatric and Community Dentistry Department

Krystal Baldwin
Ezra B. Goldberg-O'Neil

Richard A. Powell Award

Deborah Jillian Tirsun

Quintessence Awards

Research Achievement: Rin Zhi Go
Restorative Dentistry:
Joseph Daniel Meluni
Periodontics: Samantha C. Pajak

Lester Schatz Memorial Award

Brendon L. Ursomanno

The Harvey D. Sprowl Award

Lawrence Shum

St. Apollonia Guild Dental Student Service Award

Joseph Daniel Meluni

Student Affairs Recognition Award

Julia Elizabeth Marrantino

Whip Mix Hanau Prosthodontics Award

Anthony C. Strazzella

CE

School of Dental Medicine Office of Continuing Dental Education

course calendar

UB IMPLANT STUDY CLUB 2020-2021

(THURSDAYS, 6 TO 9 P.M.)

SEPT. 17 Importance of Perio Recalls, Hygiene, and Plaque Control

Frank Scannapieco, DMD, PhD

OCT. 22 Material Selection/Complications in Full Arch Implant Prostheses

Konstantinos Chochlidakas, MS, FACP

NOV. 19 New Regenerative Products

Chris Law, Salvin Surgical Specialties (hands-on)

**DEC. 17 Part I: Transition from Hopeless Edentulous Site to Implant Rehabilitation
Part II: Implant Maintenance and Peri-Implantitis**

George Kotsakis, DDS

SPRING 2021 TENTATIVE DATES: FEB. 18, MAR. 18 APR. 15, MAY 20

UB School of Dental Medicine

IMPLANT STUDY CLUB RETURNING MEMBER ANNUAL FEE: \$660 (INCL CREDIT FOR 2 CANCELLED MEETING IN 2019/2020 DUE TO COVID)

ANNUAL NEW MEMBER FEE: \$1295

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

3 CE HRS/MEETING

WEDNESDAY EVENING LECTURE SERIES

(6 TO 8 P.M.)

SEPT. 30 Conquering Key Fixed Prosthetic Challenges

Marshall Fagin, DDS

OCT. 7 Current Infection Prevention Protocols and Recommendations.

Are You in Compliance?

Renee Graham, RDH, MEd

OCT. 28 KISS and Make It Better: The Keep It Simple Solutions to Pediatric Dental Trauma

Mary Beth Dunn, DDS

NOV. 4 Navigating into the World of Biofilm: Are You Ready?

Renee Graham, RDH, MEd

NOV. 18 Peek-A-Boo: A Dental Look at TOTS, TEENS and All the IN-BETWEENS

Mary Beth Dunn, DDS

DEC. 2 Lotions, Potions, Pastes & More

Sebastian Ciancio, DDS

Live Zoom meetings

DENTIST: \$45

RDH/DA: \$35

Participate in live webinars via Zoom, including interaction with the presenter.

2 CE HRS

OCT. 8

(5 TO 9 P.M.)

Sedation for Treating the Apprehensive, Medically Compromised and/or Phobic Patient

NYS approved mandated 12 hr course for sedation license renewal

Marc Gottlieb, DDS

Live Zoom meeting, plus required self-study 8 hours via pre-recorded lectures

UB ALUMNI MEMBER: \$495

NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$595

TEAM MEMBER: \$195

12 CE HRS

NOV. 13

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

What Am I Missing? The Science of Occlusal Medicine

Ian Tester, DDS, MSc

UB School of Dental Medicine

ALUMNI MEMBER: \$235

NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$295

TEAM MEMBER: \$95

6 CE HRS

DEC. 18

(9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.)

HANDS-ON CADAVER WORKSHOP

Bone Grafting Techniques

Charles Severin, MD, PhD

Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS

UB Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, UB South Campus

UB DENTAL ALUMNI OR IMPLANT

STUDY CLUB MEMBER: \$995

NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$1295

STAFF (AUDIT ONLY): \$225

Limited Enrollment

6 CE HRS

2021

MAY 7

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

UB DENTAL HYGIENE SYMPOSIUM

From Pockets to Pathogens - Maximize Technology for Optimal Periodontal Therapy Success / Eye Health and Pain Prevention

Amber Auger, RDH

Acqua Event Center, 2192 Niagara St., Buffalo, NY

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

6 CE HRS



Annamarie Phalen

Associate Director, Continuing Dental Education

MAY 20-21

(9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.)

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Stress-Free Endodontics

Adham Abdel Azim, BDS

UB School of Dental Medicine

UB DENTAL ALUMNI MEMBER: \$995

NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$1195

Limited Enrollment

12 CE HRS

JUNE 4

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

JOHN J. CUNAT EDUCATIONAL FUND ANNUAL LECTURE

Supported by UB Department
of Orthodontics

Program Speaker: TBA

Location: *Shea's Seneca,
2178 Seneca St, Buffalo, NY*

UB ALUMNI MEMBER: \$235

NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$275

TEAM MEMBER: \$95

6 CE HRS

JUNE 30-JULY 2

(9:00 A.M. DAILY)

41ST ANNUAL CHAUTAUQUA DENTAL CONGRESS

WED Legal 'Pot'pourri: CBD, Vaping, eRisk and Teledentistry

Chet Gary, DDS, JD

THURS Treatment Planning for Ceramic Laminate Veneers

Ramtin Sadid, DDS

FRI Halitosis, Toothpastes, Mouthrinses...A Potpourri of Dental Health Related Topics

Violet Haraszthy, DDS, PhD

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

DENTIST: \$235

TEAM MEMBER: \$125

12 CE HRS

SEPT. 23-24

The Cutting Edge of Clinical Research in Oral Health...

A Symposium in Honor of Distinguished Service Professor Dr. Sebastian Ciancio

THURS., 5-7 P.M. Session One and Welcoming Reception

FRI., 8 A.M.-3 P.M. Symposium Sessions/breakfast & lunch included

Hotel Henry, Buffalo, NY

UB ALUMNI MEMBER: \$225

NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$245

TEAM MEMBER: \$125

7 CE HRS

NEW!

SELF-STUDY (Pre-Recorded) Continuing Dental Education

COVID-19: What You Need to Know

Michael Glick, DDS

NO CHARGE

1 CE HR

COVID-19: Testing and Glossary

Michael Glick, DDS

NO CHARGE

1 CE HR

Little Mouths are a Big Deal

(Pub 5/20/20)

Mary Beth Dunn, DDS

\$45

3 CE HRS

What You Need to Know to Talk to Your Patients about TMD

(Pub 5/27/20)

Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker, DDS, MS

\$45

3 CE HRS

Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) ...Now More Than Ever

(Pub 4/29/20)

Albert Cantos, DDS, John Maggio,

DDS, Rachel Anderson, DMD

NO CHARGE

2 CE HRS

NYS mandated 3 hr course

Prescribing Controlled Substances Program

(Pub 6/10/20)

Marc Gottlieb, DDS

\$45

3 CE HRS

From Risk to Results: Periodontal Instrumentation for the Advanced Practitioner

(Pub 6/17/20)

Renee Graham, RDH, MEd

\$45

3 CE HRS

Earn CE credit viewing previously recorded lectures featuring University at Buffalo and guest faculty presenting timely topics. Some are offered at no cost while others have a nominal fee. 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 recording and instructions for earning CE credit. Confirmation of credit(s) earned are emailed out monthly for each program. If you have any questions or would like to register by phone, please call the Continuing Education office (716) 829-2320.

COURSE REGISTRATION

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

TO REGISTER

PHONE

(716) 829-2320

Toll-free (800) 756-0328

ONLINE

Complete course details and online registration available on the UB dental events course calendar at BuffaloCE.org

ADA CER-P® | Continuing Education UB*CDE is an ADA CER-P Recognized Provider.

ADA CER-P is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CER-P 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 8/31/20. All information correct as of press time...UB CDE reserves the right to change tuition, dates, topics and/or speakers as necessary.

AlumniNews

Dear Alumni & Friends,

As the School of Dental Medicine gets closer to completing construction of the Stephanie T. Niciszewska-Mucha and Joseph J. Mucha Patient Welcome Center, it's time to begin collecting images for the "Wow Wall" to recognize our school's history. See the below example photos of what the Wall might look like.

The organizing committee is extending an invitation for your assistance. Please forward your favorite School of Dental Medicine photos for review and possible inclusion on this feature Wall. The committee will be forwarding updates, and sharing the submitted photos throughout the process.

We greatly appreciate your help. Please forward images to: jeg9@buffalo.edu or send them to Dr. Joseph Gambacorta, 325 Squire Hall, Buffalo NY 14214-8006.

Thank you.

Dr. Joseph Gambacorta
Associate Dean for Clinical
Affairs, Clinical Associate
Professor



Keblawi Named Assistant Dean for Diversity and Inclusion

Earlier this year, Dr. Dana Keblawi, '17, MS Oral Sci., '08, Pros Cert., '08, clinical associate professor in the UB Department of Restorative Dentistry, was promoted to assistant dean for Diversity and Inclusion, replacing Dr. Othman Shibly. Since then, she has represented the school at various university workshops, such as Microaggressions and the Insidious Subtlety of Everyday Bias: How to Create More Collegial, Empowering and Just Working and Learning Spaces and Why Racial Equity and Anti-Racism?

Dr. Keblawi is working closely with Arian Johnson, '21, a fourth-year dental student, who has created a program called Destination Dental School. The goal of the program is to encourage and increase recruitment of under-represented students into UB dental program through exposure, and mentorship.

The program, expected to start in summer 2021, is designed to encompass hands-on experiences and enrichment activities with faculty mentors and dental students. Through collaboration with UB's CSTEP program, the Destination Dental School is expected to invite 20-25 undergraduate students from across the United States each year.

The Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting Committee has made the difficult decision to cancel our 2020 Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting originally scheduled for October 28-30.

Ultimately, the health and safety of our alumni, speakers, exhibitors and attendees is our first priority. The uncertainty of COVID-19, local and national travel restrictions, social distancing guidelines, and not being able to predict attendees comfort levels made the decision to cancel the right decision.

At this moment, we are already working to transition our comprehensive program to 2021. We will be back bigger and stronger next year! Please mark your calendars and plan to attend next year, November 3-5.

Thank you for your understanding. We are stronger together.

Carl M. Embury, DDS, *President, UB Dental Alumni Association*
Sherry Szarowski, *Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting Coordinator*

UB DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOC. BOARD

The University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association strives to provide a link between our members and the School of Dental Medicine, to support student activities, and to improve the quality of student life. Today's students are tomorrow's alumni, and the Dental Alumni Association is proud to support our future colleagues.

On behalf of the alumni association, we would like to welcome five new board members:

- Brooke Kolber '17
- Amy S. Nagai '09
- Laura R. Picano '15
- Ashley M. Scofield '17
- John R. Tibbetts '92

The four above join the following University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association (UBDAA) 2020 Executive Council Board Members:

- Frank C. Barnashuk '80
- Genene Crofut '03
- David P. Croglio '87
- Joseph T. Deluca '07
- Paul R. DiBenedetto '79
- John P. Eberz '03
- Carl M. Embury '13
- Joseph E. Gambacorta '93
- Chester J. Gary '78
- Kevin J. Hanley '78
- Joshua T. Hutter '05
- Brooke Kolber '17
- Richard J. Lynch '83
- Raymond G. Miller '85
- Joseph S. Modica '82
- Laura R. Picano '15
- Joseph L. Rumfola '02
- Ashley M. Scofield '17
- John R. Tibbetts '92
- Stanley L. Zak, Jr. '76

Alumni Officers:

- President: Carl M. Embury, '13
- President Elect: Genene Crofut '03
- Treasurer: Kevin J. Hanley '78
- Ex-Officio: Joseph J. Zambon '74

We welcome and encourage your involvement and suggestions. If you would like to take a more active role within the Dental Alumni Association, please contact Sherry Szarowski ss287@buffalo.edu, (716) 829-6419.

Dear Alumni and Friends,

We sincerely hope that all of you are safe, healthy and regaining your stride as we try to get back to business, and back to living our best lives!

I hope by now you heard from your class reunion leaders that the Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting (BNDM) and the Reunion Dinner Dance have been cancelled for 2020.

The Alumni Dinner Dance and the 5-Year Class Reunions are always an exciting time. As debates continue about what, when and how things can be done, the decision to cancel reunion events for 2020 had to be made. The plan now is to combine reunions in 2021, and we hope to have a huge celebration with the classes from the 00's, 01's, 05's and 06's, as long as stability returns. We believe that people will be eager for the chance to reunite, reacquaint and celebrate after this year's painful shutdown due to the pandemic!

Of course, the UB Dental Alumni Association will assist any class that wants to attempt a responsible get together of their choosing in the Fall of 2020. We can also assist with Zoom virtual platforms. We are here to help you reconnect, so do not hesitate to reach out.

Mark your calendars for the BNDM November 3-5, 2021 and the Mega-Reunion Blowout. It will be epic!

Ray Miller '85, *Chair, 5-Year Class Reunions*; rgmiller@buffalo.edu
Sherry Szarowski, *UB Dental Alumni Association*



1. SEVENTH DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY PRESIDENT, STEPHEN R. BURGART, '82 (LEFT), PRESENTING THE AWARD TO MATTHEW VALERIO, '14; **2.** MATTHEW VALERIO AND HIS WIFE BARBORA HNIZDA VALERIO, '13.

Matthew L. Valerio, DDS '14, received the Frederick J. Halik Award on Saturday, February 1, 2020, during the Seventh District Dental Society's Celebration of Leadership. The award, created in 2005 and named after Dr. Frederick Halik, recognizes a new dentist who has demonstrated leadership and initiative in the profession.

InMemoriam

John P. Asaro, '73, Perio Cert. '77, died May 24, 2020 at age 73 from COVID-19. A periodontist in the Town of Tonawanda, he was also a Clinical Assistant Professor in the UB Department of Periodontics and Endodontics retiring in 2013. He was elected President of the Eighth District Dental Society in 1993 after serving on its Executive Council for seven years. He also served on the New York State Dental Association's Board of Governors for six years culminating in his election as Secretary-Treasurer of the Association. At the national level, Dr. Asaro was a Trustee on the American Academy of Periodontology's Board of Trustees from 2008–2010, and served in the American Dental Association's House of Delegates for fifteen years. In 2014, Dr. Asaro was honored by the New York State Dental Association as the recipient of its Distinguished Service Award.

Steven T. Braunstein, '75, died May 30, 2020. He and wife Teresa had two children, Dr. Blair (Dr. Bryan St. Marie) Braunstein, '13, and Dr. Julian Braunstein, '18. He was a local area dentist, and past International President of Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity.

Guelfo Canali, '53, of Lewiston, NY, passed away on March 2, 2020. After attending Niagara University for one

year, he enlisted in the U.S. Army during the Battle of the Bulge. He was awarded the European African Service Medal with three battle stars, the American Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal and the World War II Victory Medal. He practiced general dentistry in Niagara Falls for 46 years before retiring in 1999. He was the dental consultant at St. Mary's Manor Nursing Home for 30 years. He was a past president of the 8th District Dental Society.

Joseph A. Capuana, '79, MS Oral Sci. '80, of Buffalo, died June 27, 2020. He practiced in the area for over 40 years including serving also as the dentist for the cloistered Dominican Nuns of the Monastery of Our Lady of the Rosary on Doat Street. He was a part-time Clinical Assistant Professor in the UB Department of Oral Diagnostic Sciences for 40 years. He continued to care for emergency patients during the COVID pandemic, and started mailing masks and gloves to those in need. He earned a reputation as an exceptional, family-focused, caring dentist and educator with a heart for those with special needs.

Hugo O. Chaviano, '74, a longtime resident of Hillside, N.J., passed away on May 5, 2013. Dr. Chaviano graduated with distinct honors from the University of Havana Dental School. Upon graduation,

he joined the dental faculty, becoming the youngest full professor at the school, and became chair of the prosthodontics department. He also ran a successful dental practice in Havana, Cuba. Along with his family, Dr. Chaviano immigrated to the U.S. in 1970. He attended the UB School of Dental Medicine to revalidate his professional credentials in the U.S. He established a private dental practice in Elizabeth, N.J., which he ran until his retirement.

Charles R. Clough, '65, age 77, of Orchard Park passed on October 24, 2017. He practiced in the area retiring in 2015.

Thomas E. Degling, Ortho Cert. '70, of Carlisle, Pa., died September 27, 2019 at age 75. He received his DMD from University of Pittsburgh in 1968, before completing Orthodontics training at UB.

Philip A. Galeota, '55, died March 28, 2020 at age 93. He served as a sergeant in the 463rd Bomb Squad and 346th Bomb Group in the postwar occupation in Japan and received the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, Good Conduct Medal and World War II Victory Medal. He was a professor at the UB School of Dental Medicine and former head of the Department of Oral Surgery at Buffalo General Hospital. Dr. Galeota was honored for his lifetime contribution to the profession of oral surgery by

the Western New York Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. He was a life member of the Delta Sigma Delta Fraternity and past president of the Fonzi Dental Study Club.

Robert D. Helmholdt, Ortho Cert. '61, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., died on January 25, 2020 at age 89. He completed his dental degree at Marquette University, and served as Captain in the UB Army prior to completing his orthodontics training at UB. He was very active in the Ft. Lauderdale community associations and foundations. He was recipient of the Broward County Dental Association's Jon R. Adair Award and the Southern Association of Orthodontists Citizenship Award.

Richard F. Higby, '77, age 74, of Croghan, NY, died on November 1, 2019. He served in the US Navy and Reserve and taught biology at Mexico Academy and Central School District, NY, after which he attended UB School of Dental Medicine. Dr. Higby was a long time Beaver Falls dentist, and he volunteered with ARC and Lewis County General Hospital Nursing Home. After closing his practice, he continued his dentistry at the White Earth Reservation, Minnesota.

Robert B. Joynt, '70, of Buffalo, formerly of Medina, passed on December 20, 2019 at age 76. He worked at the UB School of Dental Medicine for 38 years as

full-time Associate Professor of Restorative Dentistry and Director of Admissions for 24 years, retiring in 2008. He was honored many times by the dental school and its students including 2008 & 1990 Richard A Powell Award for Excellence in Teaching; 2006 Alan J. Gross Excellence in Teaching Award; 2002, 1998 & 1983 Educator of the Year Award, 1994 Lipani Award; 2009 Yearbook Dedication; and 2008 UB Dental Alumni Association Honor Award.

Jerome S. Krupp, '57, age 84, of Deerfield Beach, Florida, passed away March 14, 2017.

Thomas J. Kilgannon, '83, age 63, of Valley Cottage, NY, passed on January 15, 2020. He graduated from Boston College in 1979 and went on to the UB School of Dental Medicine. He served on the faculty of Columbia University Dental School and was a dentist in the county for almost 40 years. His favorite pastimes were boating, home improvement projects, and entertaining by his pool.

Paul B. Knapp, '44, passed on December 17, 2019 at the age of 99. Paul was a veteran of WW II and the Korean War, serving in the US Navy. He was a fifth generation dentist whose career spanned 40 years in Binghamton. He was active in and a supporter of the Newark Valley Historical Society. In his earlier years he attained Eagle Scout and later became a scout leader. He also held membership in

the Masonic Lodge and was a member and past president of the Broome County Dental Society.

Joseph A. LaNasa, '57, age 88, a dentist in Amherst for more than four decades, died December 22, 2019. He graduated from Canisius College before attending the UB School of Dental Medicine. He served in U.S. Public Health Service for two years near Albuquerque, N.M., where he provided dental treatment to students at the Albuquerque Indian School and to communities in a 500-square-mile area via a mobile dental trailer. He achieved the rank of first lieutenant. He started his career practicing general dentistry in 1959 and retired at the end of February 2001. He served on the president's council at Canisius College from 1981 to 1983. In 1993, he was presented the Edward J. Doran Award by Catholic Charities of Buffalo.

Michael R. Marfino, '57, age 87, died on March 18, 2020. He received a periodontics certificate from Tufts School of Dental Medicine in 1963. He practiced periodontics in the Buffalo area, and served as the President of the UB Dental Alumni Association in 1979.

Brian J. Miller, '61, age 84, of Bethlehem, Pa., passed away on Dec. 8. Brian graduated from Dolgeville (NY) High School in 1953 and was inducted into the Dolgeville H.S. Hall of Fame's inaugural

class. He held the basketball single game scoring record of 41 points for more than 50 years. He completed his training in anesthesiology and maxillofacial oral surgery at University of Pittsburgh and Presbyterian Hospital in Pittsburgh in 1964. He started practicing in Bethlehem in 1966 and retired in 1987. He served as president of Lehigh Valley Dental Association and the Second District Dental Society.

Paul B. Muldoon, '64, died on February 12, 2020 at age 82 in Charlottesville, VA. After serving two years as a dentist in the Air Force in Tennessee, Paul and his wife Marcia settled in Springfield, VA, where Paul led his successful dental practice over the next 44 years.

John S. Rhoads, '84, of Fort Myers, Fla., age 61, passed away February 2, 2020. He practiced general dentistry for 32 years in Tonawanda, NY. He taught operative dentistry as a Clinical Instructor for 10 years at the UB School of Dental Medicine.

Donald J. Rosinski, '56, of New York Mills, age 86, passed away on December 8, 2019. He ran a private dental practice in New York Mills from 1958 until 2004. He belonged to the Oneida-Herkimer County Dental Society, the Fifth District Dental Society and the ADA. After dental school, he served two years in the US Public Health Service with the US Coast Guard in Cape May, NJ. He later enlisted in the

USAR at the Elihu Root Center. Dr. Rosinski retired after 20+ years in the Army Reserves as Colonel and Commander of the 1205th Dental Detachment in July of 1993.

Anne R. Shear, '91, age 54, passed away on December 15, 2019 after a brief illness. She was employed as the Director of Dentistry at the Chautauqua Center in Jamestown with a heart for patients with special needs, until her passing. When she was not working, Anne was an avid Buffalo Bills and Buffalo Sabres fan as well as a lover of everything Disney, Marvel, Star Wars and other SciFi shows.

Robert C. Sippel, Ortho Cert. '59, age 90, died on April 24, 2020. He graduated from Georgetown University dental school, then served in the Navy Dental Corps before completing his orthodontics training at UB. He joined his father's orthodontic practice in Buffalo in 1959, and worked there and in Lockport with his brother for over 50 years. He was co-founder and past president of the 8th District Orthodontic Academy and past president of the Apollonian Dental Guild.

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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.



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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.