

SDM Shout Out

Weekly News Updates for SDM Faculty, Staff and Students

Remembering Dr. Libuse Bobek, Professor, Department of Oral Biology



Dr. Libuse Bobek, Professor, Department of Oral Biology

I am very sad to report that Libuse Bobek, PhD, a faculty member of the department for 24 years, passed away on Saturday, February 27th, just 2 weeks after her husband Miroslav, both the result of COVID.

Libuse received her BS and PhD in Biological Sciences from UB, and worked as a post-doc with Michael Levine. She became a full-time faculty member in 1993, was promoted to Professor and served until her retirement in 2012.

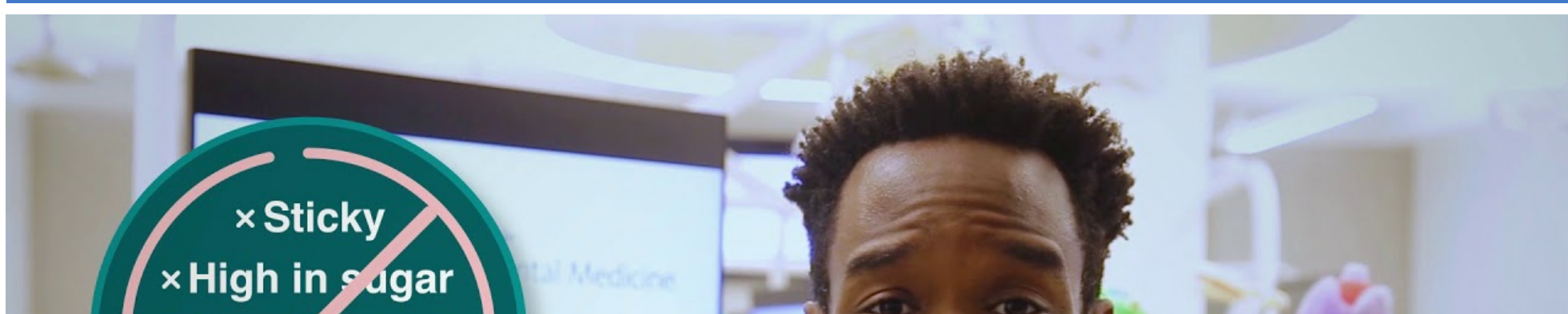
She made significant contributions to a variety of subjects, most notably in the regulation of salivary gland-specific gene expression, and in the characterization of several important salivary components, including Muc7, cystatins and histatins. She devised several anti-microbial peptides derived from salivary components, and held several patents. She held funding from NIH and other agencies throughout her career.

She supervised over 4 dozen dental, MS and PhD students and post-doctoral fellows, and directed the PhD program in Oral Biology for 8 years.

She was very committed to her students. And she was a nice person and good friend. Deepest sympathy to her children and grandchildren.

Frank A. Scannapieco, DMD, PhD
Chair and Professor of Oral Biology, Associate Dean for Faculty and Professional Development

2021 Give Kids a Smile - a Virtual Success





Due to the pandemic, it looked like SDM's annual **Give Kids A Smile Day** would not happen. In previous years the event involved SDM students, staff, faculty, volunteers and brought hundreds of WNY school children and their families to the school for oral health screenings, vision and hearing screenings and tips about nutrition.

This year, during the month of February, which is National Children's Oral Health month, the event was held virtually with SDM students taking the lead and working with Fidelis Care, the event's sponsor, producing several videos about oral health and nutrition. These videos were shared with local schools and health organizations.

Congratulations to Jelani Brown, '21, Lawrence Jesse Camacho, '21, Jennifer Helfer, '21, Tyler Laurel, '22, Vanessa Mareno, '23 and Regina Mathai, '22. Faculty advisor was Dr. Annette Maggie, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatric and Community Dentistry.

[To view all of the videos, click here.](#)

SDM's Hosts First Virtual Student Admitted Day



SDM's Megan Leun, '21, hosts newly admitted students in a student breakout session during 2021 Student Admitted Day

On Saturday, February 27, our school held its first ever virtual DDS Admitted Student Day. While the annual event is in its fifth year, this is the first time offering the event in an online platform. The day consisted of a number of presentations from administration, virtual tours from our current students, and a student panel that took live questions.

We were joined by 76 newly admitted students, and approximately 100 family members. Despite the limitation of offering the day virtually, the event was a great success. Our incoming D1 students, and their families, were able to obtain a realistic preview of our school. Additionally, the event allowed participants to become more confident in choosing UB SDM to pursue their dental education.

It took a lot of coordination to make the day a success and we are thankful to all faculty, students, and staff that volunteered. We are hopeful that this will be the only year we need to offer the event online, but it is good to have an effective and proven model that delivers the information new students and families seek.

If you have any news you would like to share, please contact Kelli at natale@buffalo.edu.

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