

SDM Shout Out

Weekly News Updates for SDM Faculty, Staff and Students

Remembering Dr. Sebastian G. Ciancio



Dr. Robert Schifferle, professor, Department of Periodontics and Endodontics, remembers his long-time colleague, Dr. Sebastian G. Ciancio

The Cutting Edge of Clinical Research in Oral Health: A Symposium in Memory of Dr. Sebastian G. Ciancio

UB's School of Dental Medicine held a symposium remembering Distinguished Service Professor Dr. Sebastian G. Ciancio. The symposium was for two days, September 23-24, 2021 and was held at the Mansion on Delaware, Buffalo, N.Y.

Colleagues, students, present and past, gathered to honor Dr. Ciancio's many contributions to organized dentistry, in particular his field of periodontology. Throughout the two days presentations

and discussions were held on various topics regarding the oral health profession and current research in periodontology and pharmacology.

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

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

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

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

Sebastian G. Ciancio, one of the world's leading figures in periodontology and pharmacology, and a dedicated UB faculty member for more than 50 years, died unexpectedly October 17, 2020. He was a SUNY Distinguished Service Professor and immediate past chair of the Department of Periodontology and Endodontics, a role he filled for 35 years, the longest serving department chair in all of SUNY.

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

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