

# UB DENTIST

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE **SUMMER 2021**

COMMENCEMENT

# 2021

AN IN-PERSON  
GRADUATION  
MAKES A HAPPY  
RETURN **p18**

COMMENCEMENT  
2021



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ON THE COVER:

A year after graduation went virtual due to the Covid-19 pandemic, in-person graduation returned in May, 2021, much to the delight of everyone.

Photo by GradImages

## UBDENTIST

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## ALUMNI LEGACY

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## COMMENCEMENT 2021

A little rain did not dampen the excitement of in-person graduation returning, as many of the graduates trod to the stage.

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

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My Fellow Alumni,

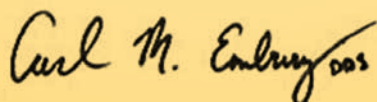
A lot has changed in one year. My last address to you was published in the middle of the worst pandemic the world has faced in 100 years. That address highlighted event cancelations, virtual meetings, uncertainty, etc., etc. Fast forward to the summer of 2021, and we are on the brink of returning to “normalcy.” With the rise in people receiving the vaccine and people with natural immunity, that magical herd immunity percentage is within our grasp. Many states are opening up completely, and the others are very close. It was even just announced that the Buffalo Bills will have 100% capacity for all of their home games! #GoBills

I was able to give a speech to the new graduates of 2021 at the UB Football Stadium in May in less-than-ideal conditions, but even so, it was nice to see many familiar faces from the UB School of Dental Medicine faculty and staff. Sitting on stage in the wind, cold, and rain watching the graduates cross the stage with huge smiles on their faces made those two hours not so bad! I remember how excited I was back in May of 2013 and seeing the new dentists receive their degrees was truly something special.

The University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association has continued to have virtual Executive Council meetings, and the Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting planning committee has been meeting to discuss this year’s meeting—which I am happy to inform you WILL BE IN PERSON! We are combining last year’s and this year’s reunion classes making this reunion the biggest to date. We’re anticipating a great turnout and have an amazing speaker line-up for you to learn from and enjoy without breaking the bank! The Reunion Dinner Dance will be held in the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center Ballroom. We hope you register early and are able to join us for a truly memorable event.

The University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association Executive Council has seen many new members join, and our newest committee on membership has worked very hard. The new recurring payment option saves a lot of time and effort in remembering to pay dues, and we saw a big jump in new and returning alumni members. The \$50,000 emergency fund we provided last year—made possible in part with your donations and dues—was fully utilized to help SDM students in need. I want to thank you all for your continued support on behalf of the entire Executive Council. If you plan to attend the ADA meeting in Las Vegas in October, please join us for the UB Dental Alumni reception, Luxor Hotel and Casino—Aurora Lounge, 3900 South Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89119, Tuesday, October 12, 2021 from 5:30–7:30pm.

I want thank you all again for allowing me to serve you as your President. It has been an honor to represent the UB Dental Alumni these past two years. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to email me at [c.embury33@gmail.com](mailto:c.embury33@gmail.com), or Sherry Szarowski, our Alumni Coordinator, at [ss287@buffalo.edu](mailto:ss287@buffalo.edu).



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

# FROM THE PRESIDENT



Membership is strong,  
and the Buffalo Niagara  
Dental Meeting returns!

# NewsBriefs

## Faculty and Staff Transitions

Recently, the School has welcomed a number of new faculty and staff, said goodbye to some and promoted others.

**Clinical Dentistry** Welcome to: Diane Czosnyka and Jeanette Smith (Dental Assistants)

**Office of Academic and Student Affairs** Goodbye to: Sheryl Harvey (retiring after 51 years)

**Office of Information Resources** Welcome to: Alexandria Goodsell (IT Customer Service Specialist); Goodbye to: Michael Correa

**Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery** Welcome to: Rebecca Godfrey (OMFS Resident Program Coordinator); Goodbye to: Armando Uribe-Rivera and Patricia Kwiatkowski

**Oral Biology** Welcome to: Woojoo Song (Research Scientist)

**Oral Diagnostic Sciences** Goodbye to: Graci Bax Granata, '05, Michael Glick (dean emeritus, and retiring after 12 years), and Mirzda Neiders, Perio Cert. '74 (retiring again after 59 years)

Drs. Jose Luis Tapia, '12, Oral Path Cert. '03, MS Oral Sci. '03 and Guy DiTursi, '86, were promoted to Clinical Associate Professor.

**Orthodontics** Goodbye to: Kathryn Wacker



AL-JEWAIR

Dr. Thikriat Al-Jewair, Ortho Cert., '12, MS Oral Sci., '13, Associate Professor, has been named the Assistant Dean for Diversity and Inclusion at the school replacing Dr. Dana Kebabli, Pro

Cert. '08, MS Oral Sci., '09. She is also Director of the Advanced Education in Orthodontics Program and a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics since 2012.

**Periodontics and Endodontics** Goodbye to: Khaled Katmeh, OS Biomaterials, '19, Perio Cert., '19, Jennifer Mikulski, Michelle Skalyo and Nancy Barletta (retiring after 21 years).



KIRKWOOD

Dr. Keith Kirkwood, Perio Cert., '95, PhD Oral Biol., '97, accepted the position of Interim Chair following Dr. Robert Schifferle, '81, PhD Oral Biol., '93, in that role. He is currently Professor, Oral Biology, and Associate Dean for Innovation and Technology Transfer.



BATTISTA

Dr. Patrick Battista, '09, AEGD '10, Endo Cert., '12, became the Director for the Advanced Education in Endodontics Program, replacing Dr. Adham Azim. Dr. Battista is a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics since 2017, and also directs predoctoral endodontics.

**Restorative Dentistry** Welcome to: Chin-Chun Peng, Michael Danielak and Peter Pawlowski (Clinical Assistant Professors).

Goodbye to: Dana Kebabli, Delia Manke and Patrick Hart, '73 (retiring after 44 years).

Dr. Albert Cantos, '81, was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor.

## 2 Remembering Dr. Libuše Bobek

Libuše Bobek, PhD, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Oral Biology, and a faculty member of the department for 24 years, passed away on February 27, 2021, just 2 weeks after her husband Miroslav, both the result of COVID.

Libuše was born in Paběnice in the Czech Republic, and came to the United States in 1968 with her husband Miroslav Václav Bobek, also a scientist. In 1970, Libuše and Miroslav moved to Buffalo, New York, and soon after became United States citizens. Libuše received her BS, MA and ultimately a PhD in Biological Sciences from UB in 1982, and after worked as a postdoctoral associate with Michael Levine in oral biology. She became a full-time faculty member in 1993, was promoted to Professor and served until her retirement in 2012.

Libuše was a scientist, researcher, mentor, advisor and teacher with a passion for knowledge and learning and a tremendous work ethic. She undertook everything with honesty and integrity. She made significant contributions via numerous publications and presentations 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.

Dr. Giuseppe Intini recalls, "One of the fondest memories I have of Dr. Bobek is about her sincere enthusiasm for research. For instance, I vividly remember her waiting for my phone call one night that, after many

failed cloning attempts, we were finally able to amplify the coding sequence of Bmp2, a gene we were planning to use for bone gene therapy. We were so happy for that result, and I can sincerely tell that that particular experiment made me much more confident in my research abilities. Another fond memory I have of Dr. Bobek is about her dedication to teaching. Every time she had to prepare a course, for instance the one about molecular biology of saliva, she would get anxious. So much she cared about presenting the most significant and updated studies! She would spend hours and hours in preparing her classes. Dr. Bobek truly was a faculty member dedicated to research, mentorship, and teaching. One of the best the University at Buffalo has ever had."

She was teacher, mentor and advisor to 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.



## 3

### Awards and Honors

Four faculty members received 2021 Dr. Alan Gross Excellence in Teaching Awards from predoctoral students:

**David Brown**, '83, Clinical Assistant Professor – Class of 2023

**Dana Keblawi**, Clinical Associate Professor – Class of 2022

**Rui Li**, PhD Oral Biol., '15, Pros Cert., '17, Clinical Assistant Professor – Class of 2021

**Jose Luis Tapia**, Clinical Associate Professor – Classes of 2022 and 2021



BROWN



KEBLAWI



RUI LI



TAPIA



BUSH

**Mary Bush**, '99, AEGD, '00, Associate Professor, Restorative Dentistry, is the first woman to receive the

Reidar F. Sognnaaes Award of Excellence in Forensic Odontology from the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.



SHARMA

**Ashu Sharma**, Professor, Oral Biology, received the 2020-2021 UB Exceptional Scholar/

Teaching Innovation Award—Sustained Achievement. “For over two decades, Dr. Ashu Sharma has demonstrated sustained excellence as an exceptional scholar in the area of oral microbiology and immunology. Dr. Sharma has a long record of outstanding research documented by his remarkable bibliography of published work in excellent peer-reviewed biomedical journals, receipt of numerous peer-reviewed grants from prestigious funding agencies including 22 years of continuous support from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research and his mentorship of a cohort of outstanding young scientists and students. The impact of his work is demonstrated by his nearly 3000 citations as well as invitations to lecture at prestigious universities and scientific meetings.” Joseph J. Zambon, Dean, School of Dental Medicine.



SCANNAPIECO

**Dr. Frank Scannapieco**, Perio Cert., '89, PhD Oral Biol., '91, has been named SUNY Distinguished Professor, the

highest rank in the SUNY system. He was appointed to the distinguished professor rank by the SUNY Board of Trustees at its April meeting.

The rank of distinguished professor is an order above full professorship and has three co-equal designations: distinguished professor, distinguished service professor and distinguished teaching professor.

Scannapieco was named Distinguished Professor in recognition of his international prominence and distinguished reputation within his field. According to SUNY, “this distinction is attained through significant contributions to the research literature or through artistic performance or achievement in the case of the arts. The candidate’s work must be of such character that the individual’s presence will tend to elevate the standards of scholarship of colleagues both within and beyond these persons’ academic fields.”

Scannapieco, chair of the Department of Oral Biology and associate dean for faculty and professional development in the School of Dental Medicine, is an internationally recognized scholar in the field of oral biology. His research focuses on the mechanisms of dental plaque formation and their implications on health

and disease, the interactions between saliva and bacteria, and the relationships between oral and systematic disease. Among his many important research contributions is his demonstration of the association between oral and respiratory infections.

A faculty member in the UB dental school for more than 30 years, Scannapieco has received more than \$13 million in grant funding, mostly from the National Institutes of Health, and has published nearly 200 research articles, books and book chapters.

He is a fellow of the American Association for Dental Research and has received numerous awards, including the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities, the William J. Gies Award for Achievement from the American Dental Education Association and the 2019 Research in Oral Biology Award from the International Association for Dental Research.

Scannapieco received a doctorate in dental medicine and a bachelor’s degree in biology from the University of Connecticut, a doctorate in oral biology from UB and a master’s degree in biology from Northeastern University.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Scannapieco on receiving this prestigious appointment.

## 4

### Research Grant Funding to UB School of Dental Medicine

During the period from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, \$6.5 million in research grant funding was awarded to dental school researchers.

During FY2021 (July 2020 through June 2021), **research expenditures** from ongoing and new awards to the dental school totaled \$8.4 million, a reflection of sustained activity from 2020.

#### Supported by Federal/State Funds

**Abel, S., PI:** School-based dental sealant program"; NYS Department of Health/federal flow-through (yr 4).

**Arany, P., PI:** "IPA for Praveen Arany: Anti-aging strategies with photobiomodulation therapy"; NIA.

**Diaz-Moreno, P., PI:** "Treatment of periodontitis by homing M2 macrophages"; University of Pittsburgh/federal flow-through.

**Diaz-Moreno, P., PI:** Mechanisms of cell death and inflammation in chemotherapy-induced oral mucositis"; NIDCR.

**Edgerton M., PI:** "Fellowship for Hannah Norris: A novel metal-starvation candidacidal mechanism for Histatin 5"; NIDCR (yr 3).

**Homma, K., PI:** Impact of  $\beta$ -glucan metabolism on the development of pathogenic biofilms"; NIDCR.

**Kauffman, A., PI:** "A foundation for the oral microbiome and metagenome"; Forsyth Institute/federal flow-through.

**Kay, J., PI:** "A role for immune cell plasticity in commensal survival and escalation of inflammation"; NIDCR (yr 2).

**Kay, J., PI:** Fellowship for Sarah Metcalfe: Mechanisms of oral *Streptococcus* macrophage activation"; NIDCR (yr 2).

**Kirkwood, K., PI:** "Tumor-associated macrophage reprogramming to improve oral cancer therapeutic efficacy"; US Army.

**Kirkwood, K., PI:** "Post-transcriptional control of aging-associated inflammation and bone homeostasis"; NIDCR (yr 3).

**Kirkwood, K., PI:** "Buffalo Oral-Research and Specialty Training Program (BORST)"; NIDCR (yr 3).

**Kirkwood, K., PI:** "Acid Sphingomyelinase as a target in metabolic syndrome-exacerbated periodontitis"; Medical University of South Carolina/federal flow-through (yr 3).

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

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

**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 3).

**Ruhl, S., Co-PI** (with O. Gokcumen, UB): "RoL: Salivary proteome evolution as a framework to elucidate the mechanisms of functional change involving genomic structural variation"; NSF.

**Ruhl, S., PI:** "Microbial recognition of sialic acid diversity in the oral cavity"; NIDCR (yr 8)

**Ruhl, S., PI:** "Advanced Training in Oral Biology"; NIDCR (yr 8).

**Sabatini, C., Co-PI** (with C. Cheng, UB): "Polymer-antibiotic conjugates as antibacterial additives for dental resins"; NIDCR.

Based on data from NIH, **total NIH funding** for FY20 (Oct. 1, 2019–Sept. 2020) to UB's dental school researchers was approximately \$4.8 million.

UB's dental school moved from a ranking of #15 of 47 dental schools receiving **NIDCR funding** in FY19 to #14 of 47 receiving funding in FY20.

#### Supported by Foundations, Associations or Institutions

**Abel, S., PI:** "Mobile van program"; Mother Cabrini Health Fdn.

**Al-Jewair T., PI:** "Surface qualities and clinical applications of GUM-METAL orthodontic arch wires"; Japan Association of Adult Orthodontics.

**Al-Jewair, T., PI:** "Alignment and discomfort using non-sliding lingual orthodontic technique (BRI-US) and conventional bracket systems: A single-centre randomized clinical trial"; Northeastern Society of Orthodontists.

**Al-Jewair, T., PI:** Long-term effects of the Forsus fatigue resistant device in class II malocclusion patients treated at pre-peak, peak and post-peak growth periods"; Japan Association of Adult Orthodontics.

**Diaz-Moreno, P., PI:** "Influence of scaling and root planing with minocycline microspheres on the composition and functional characteristics of subgingival microbiome communities"; West Virginia University.

**Gonzalez-Stucker, Y., PI:** "Contribution of mechanobehavioral, psychosocial, and physiological domains in the progression of temporomandibular disorders"; Oregon Health & Science University (yr 3).

**Kirkwood, K., PI:** "Suramin for radiation-induced oral mucositis"; Arizona Board of Regents.

**Sharma, A., PI:** "Bacterial sialo-metabolic activity impacts periodontal immunity and microbiota"; NIDCR.

**Visser-Kay, M., PI:** "Fellowship for Natalie Anselmi: Outer membrane proteins of pathogenic oral Treponemes inhibit actin rearrangement and antimicrobial functions of neutrophils"; NIDCR.

**Visser-Kay, M., PI:** "The role of oral spirochete virulence factors in the impairment of neutrophil response"; NIDCR (yr 3).

**Xu, D., PI:** "In vitro synthesis of recombinant heparan sulfate"; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill/federal flow-through (yr 3).

**Xu, D., PI:** "Heparan sulfate - osteoprotegerin interactions in bone remodeling"; NIAMS (yr 4).

#### Supported by Industry

**Arany, P., PI:** "Photobiomodulation for improving transfusion efficacy"; Goldwave Biotechnology

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

**Haraszthy, V., PI:** "A one-year randomized, double-blind, active-controlled multi-center phase 2 clinical trial to assess the safety and the anti-caries efficacy of nonfluoride dentifrices with 1.5%, 4.0% and 8.0% arginine in comparison with 0.24% sodium"; Colgate Palmolive Company.



# NewsBriefs

## 5 Student Activities

### ASDA Sustainability Club

Award for Sustainability Excellence by a Department or Cross-Function Team: UB's American Student Dental Association's Sustainability Club, received UB's 2021 SLICE Award in recognition of the club's collaboration and support of reduction, reuse and recycling of dental-specific equipment and supplies within the clinics at the School of Dental Medicine, including surgical mask, N95 and KN95 respirator recycling bins for dental clinics. In nominating them for the award, Matt Deck and Matt Blum highlighted the following:

"The ASDA Sustainability Club presented to the D1 (first-year) class regarding environmental sustainability in pre-clinic, giving them many tips to integrate into their education. They have also taken the environmental mantra of "reduce-reuse-recycle" to heart. The club is currently working closely with supply representatives to reduce the unnecessary purchase of dental materials; constructing a tooth hand-me-down program for students to encourage the reuse of hundreds of plastic teeth purchased annually; and has joined forces with UB dental administration to introduce TerraCycle Zero Waste Mask recycling bins to our school."

The club also collaborated with a local small business, "Life is Succulent," to raise over \$300 to support new recycling efforts. They have



also sponsored an Earth Day plant sale and are in the process of planning the first "ASDA Sustainability Amazing Race," where teams of students will travel around Buffalo to complete sustainable tasks. To accomplish all this in one year during a pandemic is extraordinary and worthy of honoring."

Sydney Finster, '22, chair of the ASDA Sustainability Club states "This award means so much to me because it's not just today that matters but it's our future. Our ef-

forts now could make a lasting change." She continues, "these initiatives have been on my mind for a long time; it has been so rewarding to see them accomplished this year. We have worked so hard to make a difference and create awareness on our campus. Our thanks to Matt Deck and Matt Blum for helping us achieve all of our goals this semester! We couldn't have done it without them. This past year has definitely been one for the books!"

### SDM Student Art Mural

The SDM Student Art Club completed a mural located in the basement of Squire Hall. The idea of the mural was generated

through conversations between Dr. Stephen Abel, Senior Director of Community and Professional Initiatives, and students Emily Waldman, '21 and Ashley Jarkowski, '21. Once the final sketch was approved, members of the club

and other student volunteers became involved in the process.

"When we began, I don't think any of us realized the full extent of the therapeutic value this would bring," stated Dr. Abel. "I am so proud of the art club members with a very special shout out to Emily and Ashley. Brava, Brava!"

"It was a fun process and students enjoyed taking part of its creation," said Ashley Jarkowski, '21. "We have received many positive responses from staff and faculty as well."

The mission of the art club is to promote a positive atmosphere for mental health while dealing with the stresses of dental school. Mental health issues are very common amongst students and the art club wanted to provide an outlet where people could have

fun and bond with their classmates outside of school.

Art Club officers: Ashley Jarkowski, Emily Waldman, Ani Coaderaj, Mary Njie, Courtney Karek, Fahad Khan, Leeann Le, Marshall Binns, Sehie Koh, Shirin Kashkouli

Mural main coordinators were Emily Waldman and Ashley Jarkowski, photographer and video editor, Leshia Delesline. Volunteers included Lavanya Ankala, Akshaykumar Bhalala, Leshia DeLesline, Cody Gorman, Bailey Haines, Alex Hensler, Ashley Jarkowski, Lubna Joseph, Shirin Kashkouli, Alicja Kazmierowska, Fahad Khan, Danielle Lieberman, Stephanie Loo, Raveena Munnangi, Dinh Nguyen, Mary Njie, Abby Romano, Dr. Lata Shenoy, Emily Waldman and Brianna Yusiewicz.





“Students who struggle teach me a lot of things, because you have to find a way that they can do the best that they can.”

DR. JOSE LUIS TAPIA



# EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR MARKS PINNACLE FOR DR. JOSE LUIS TAPIA

By Grove Potter

**D**R. JOSE LUIS TAPIA has climbed many mountains on his journey to become a professor at the UB School of Dental Medicine, and he said being named Educator of the Year by the class of 2021 is his crowning achievement.

“It is the highest honor of my academic career,” he said.

That’s saying something. The son of parents who did not complete elementary school, he was a gifted student who earned top spots in all his schools, including being the number one dental school graduate at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM).

But getting from Mexico to a teaching position at one of the top U.S. dental schools required earning a rare scholarship from the Mexican government to study oral pathology and earn an MS in oral sciences at UB. He returned to Mexico for two years and then came back to UB to teach and earn his second DDS degree in 2012.

That all came about after Dr. Tapia met Dr. Alfredo Aguirre, director of oral pathology at UB, at a conference in Mexico and asked about coming to the U.S. “He explained to me about the post-graduate

program and I applied.” But Dr. Tapia first had to learn to speak English and secure the scholarship.

Dr. Tapia’s interest in oral pathology is contagious. He calls himself “a basic science guy,” and he teaches D2 and D3 dental students. He was touched that a year after taking his courses, the class felt strongly enough about his teaching to vote him the top teacher.

His experiences and empathy contribute to his ability to reach students.

“Every student to me is different, in every class, so we have to find a way that the students can exceed their potential,” he said. “You have to inspire them, motivate them so you can get the best out of them.”

Teaching in his second language may also provide an unforeseen benefit.

“When they struggle, communication is so important. When you listen to them, you will see what the problems are and you give suggestions and advise them so they can get better,” he said. “Students who struggle teach me a lot of things because you have to find a way that they can do the best that they can.”

In addition to Educator of the Year, Dr. Tapia was also awarded the Alan Gross

Award for teaching excellence by the classes of 2021 and 2022. It’s an honor he has won twice before.

High achieving dental students are quick learners who demand top notch information. Dr. Tapia, an expert in oral and mucosal lesions, provides that, and more. “I think one of the things is confidence. It is a privilege to transfer knowledge to them and promote learning and stimulate interest. At the same time, I think what happens in class is you become involved with them and boost confidence,” he said. “With them, I become a better teacher and a better human being.”

As an international scholar, Dr. Tapia understands things about the world that new graduates are entering, something he works to ready them for.

“It’s a very competitive field, and our mission is to prepare them to go out into the real world and succeed,” he said. “We also have to give them skills so they can continue learning.”

He left the graduates with three points of advice in his graduation speech:

- 1) Do not be afraid of new challenges;
- 2) Always do what you know is best for your patients;
- 3) Stay hungry in your lifelong pursuit of knowledge. **UBD**



# MASTERY IN ORAL SCIENCES

STORY BY DRS. NORMAN MOHL, ERNESTO DE NARDIN AND PAMELA JONES



DR. NORMAN MOHL

**T**HIS YEAR 16 STUDENTS GRADUATED WITH A MASTER IN ORAL SCIENCES DEGREE, second in size only to the predoctoral DDS program at the UB School of Dental Medicine.

Thesis topics ranged from properties of dental adhesive to periodontal pathogens to responses in TMD patients to effects on human osteoblasts. (2021 graduates are listed in the article on commencement in this issue). And students were mentored by faculty from 4 different departments—Oral Biology, Oral Diagnostic Sciences, Periodontics & Endodontics and Restorative Dentistry. So, what is this program and how did it arrive on the scene?

## EVOLUTION

In 1977, **Dr. Norman Mohl**, '56, then chair of what is now the Department of Oral Diagnostic Sciences, Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the School, and, at the time, a Special Assistant to the Vice President for Health Sciences, proposed a new Master of Science Program in Oral Sciences. The initial letter of proposal from Dr. Mohl to then Dean William Feagans is shown in Fig. 1.

The overall scope of the program was to expose to and involve dentists in research in the biology, physiology, and pathology of oral mechanisms. While the program did not have the same goals as the PhD program in Oral Biology, a successful program that has generated some of the best oral scientists in the world, it fulfilled a need

for clinicians who were interested in an academic career to have exposure to basic and clinical research. The history behind this need stems from the late 1950s, when some departments in the School of Dentistry that had accredited post-graduate clinical training programs were considering the idea of offering Master of Science (MS) degrees to their post-graduate students.

Soon after announcement of this program, several post-graduate students submitted applications and were accepted. In addition, the number of applications to dual post-graduate/MS programs increased, especially from foreign students. In addition, several full-time and part-time dental faculty submitted applications. Furthermore, a few dentists in private dental practice also applied and a few joined the dental school faculty after earning their MS degrees.

The program quickly expanded, and in 1994, **Dr. Ernesto De Nardin**, Professor in the Department of Oral Biology, with a PhD in Immunology from the Roswell Park Division of the University at Buffalo, took over as Program Director. To this date, the program has enrolled a total of 390 students; 285 under De Nardin's tenure. It consistently boasts the largest graduate enrollment at SDM and provides training to present and future dentists, allowing their



DR. ERNESTO DE NARDIN

clinical expertise to supplement their background and research in craniofacial biology. It is truly unique and has trained hundreds of research scientists from the US and across the world.



DR. LISA YERKE

Many of its graduates have become successful researchers, chairs, and/or program directors at our own school. These include Alfredo Aguirre, '83,

Sebastiano Andreana, '95, Joseph Bernat, '83, Jane Brewer, '85, Heidi Crow, '91, Mira Edgerton, '84, Catherine Gogan, '95, Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker, '95, Violet Haraszthy, '94, Richard Ohrbach, '89, Lance Ortman, '80, Eugene Pantera Jr., '87, Sandra Shostad, '90, Othman Shibly, '95, among others (MS Oral Sciences degree dates shown).

## MISSION

The mission of the Oral Sciences master's degree program is **to provide a program oriented to scholarship in areas particularly relevant to problems of oral health and disease**. While housed in the department of Oral Biology, the program is interdisciplinary in nature with significant faculty participation across the school. In fact, 39 faculty representing four departments provide support for the program's activities. The majority (74%) hail from outside Oral Biology and include faculty from the departments of Oral Diagnostic Sciences, Periodontics & Endodontics, and Restorative Dentistry. Drs. Elaine Davis, Rosemary Dziak, Jill Kramer, W. Scott McCall, Anne Meyer, Richard Ohrbach, Rose-Anne Romano, and Ding Xu direct the required core courses. As the program grew and evolved, it became clear that the program director needed some help, so in 2019, **Dr. Lisa Yerke**, '06, MS Oral Sci. '16, with a Certificate in Periodontics from the Eastman Dental Center in 2009, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Periodontics and Endodontics, was named Associate Program Director.

The school-wide program supports the mission of the SDM which is to lead innovation in oral health education, patient care, research and service to improve quality of life. As an academic research-oriented program, clinical training is not included. The overall design of the program is to provide background, expertise and current concepts of basic sciences as related to dental research and oral biology. It provides background for conducting research and teaching within the field of dentistry. The program is a mechanism whereby dental graduates can be encouraged to broaden their scientific base and apply it, together

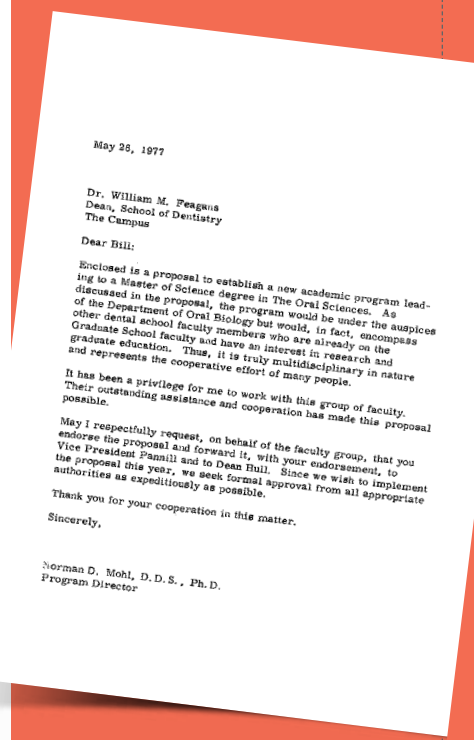


Fig. 1

**Letter to Dean William Feagans from Norm Mohl, dated May 26, 1977, accompanying the proposal of the multidisciplinary MS in Oral Sciences program to be submitted to the University of Buffalo for approval.**





MIRA EDGERTON, '84 (SHOWN AT TOP) AND SEBASTIANO ANDREANA, '95 (BOTTOM LEFT) ARE TWO GRADUATES THAT HAVE CONTINUED ON TO BECOME SUCCESSFUL RESEARCHERS IN OUR SCHOOL; ANDREANA AND ROSEMARY DZIAK (BOTTOM RIGHT) ARE ORAL SCIENCES FACULTY WHO HAVE MENTORED MANY PROGRAM ALUMNI; PHOTOS BY DOUGLAS LEVERE AND JASON CHWIRUT

with their clinical expertise, to clinically relevant dental problems. The program also provides training for non-clinicians by offering sound knowledge of research activities in the field.

A major component of the program's distinctiveness lies in the diverse student body who bring broad career goals focused on dental medicine. While the core student constituency of the past included dentists interested in oral and craniofacial research with an eye toward academia, there are two other distinct groups. Of the initial core group, many graduates start academic positions after graduation. In most cases, this group includes internationally trained dentists who simultaneously enroll in a clinical specialty at SDM. This cohort provides a valuable source of dental educators, both internationally and in the US. They have a solid background in basic sciences related to the oral cavity and substantial knowledge of basic experimental methodology, data analysis, and technical approaches. Many international dental schools do indeed require a graduate degree of their new faculty. Research or other creative activity by all dental faculty has become an essential ingredient of faculty activities, and a requirement for promotion and tenure at most institutions.

The second distinct group comprises traditional post-baccalaureate students who are simply interested in oral and craniofacial research. They may go into the field directly after graduation or more commonly, use the master's program as a springboard to more advanced PhD programs. Some of the required courses in the master's program are shared with our PhD program in Oral Biology. Indeed, several of our graduates have continued on in our Oral Biology doctoral program.

## NEW TRACKS

The third group is new and is composed of traditional post-baccalaureate (college) students who may be interested in both research and a dental career. The program attracts potential applicants who, while interested in clinical dentistry, are also

interested in a future academic career. This group provides another avenue to create the dental scientists and academicians mentioned above. The cohort includes students who are enrolled in either our new 'enhanced curriculum' or MS/DDS tracks. These tracks allow first year master's students to enroll, as electives, in some of the basic sciences courses taken by our dental students in the first year of the DDS program.

The MS/DDS track starts selected students in the research-oriented master's curriculum in the first year with designated DDS courses (as MS electives), and then transitions them into the DDS program. In the summer after first year, the research component of the program should be well underway, with many course requirements of the MS program complete. This sequencing allows students to begin as first year DDS students in fall of year two. The ability to take DDS basic science courses during their first year of master's studies provides time in the first year of dental school for students to complete the MS program's thesis requirement by the end of year two in the program.

Similarly, beginning students in the enhanced curriculum track complete some of the same basic sciences courses taken by first year dental students. Along with the rigorous curriculum, this group gains exposure to research and didactics in a graduate setting focused on dentistry. Students continue in their second year as MS students and must apply to the DDS program should they wish to be considered for admission. If students from the enhanced curriculum track are accepted into our DDS program after their first year, they follow the same curricular pathway as MS/DDS students.

## FULFILLING THE GOALS

Regardless of background, the goal of the program is to train well-qualified candidates in scientific methodology and theory in order to prepare them for careers as leading oral health researchers in dental schools, research institutions and industry. Our program has equipped graduates to

pursue careers in academia and clinical settings as evidenced by current positions of recent (last 3 yr) graduates. More than 20 individuals are employed as faculty members (many as assistant professors), seven are in private practice, four are clinical specialists, three are consultants in medical centers or hospitals and one is a dental school dean.

The program went through a Comprehensive Program Review in 2020 by the University at Buffalo Graduate School, and received very favorable comments from external reviewers. First and foremost, the greatest assets of our program are faculty members who direct courses, train our students, and serve as research mentors and/or graduate committee members. They all provide guidance, patience, wisdom, time, effort, and other resources to our students, and they should be recognized. They are dedicated individuals who see the value in training all of our graduates, and the program would simply not exist without them.

**So what's next:** Up-dating courses based on student and reviewers feedback, improving communication between mentors, students and the program director, and fostering interactions outside the classroom. Dr. De Nardin and Dr. Yerke will lead this process of renewal with help from faculty and staff, especially Debra Stamm, Director of Advanced Education Services.

All data clearly indicate that demands for oral health care will continue to expand in the foreseeable future. The need for an increase in the number, distribution and efficiency of clinical dentists is clear. However, the current purely clinical training of most specialists and generalists will, over time, generally be insufficient to yield new information, new insights and, of equal importance, new applications of advances to clinical problems. It thus becomes important that we develop more basic and clinical investigators, teachers and inquisitive practitioners who can interpret and apply investigative results. This program continues to help the School of Dental Medicine to achieve the goal of creating well-prepared and competent dental scientists and dental academicians.

Norm Mohl's vision was brilliant and resonates to this day. He knew that a program such as this would attract clinicians who may have been interested in research and wanted some exposure to it, but may have been reluctant to commit to a highly demanding PhD program. This approach has been very successful and has produced a large number of diverse academicians and scientists throughout the world. Examples are: Thomas Van Dyke, Vice President of Clinical and Translational Research, Harvard University Dental School; Esra Sahingur, 'MS Oral Sci. '99, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, Penn Dental Medicine; Maureen Gwinn, MS Oral Sci. '97, PhD '01, Director of the Biomolecular and Computational Toxicology Division of the EPA; Giuseppe Intini, MS Oral Sci. '00, Associate Professor of Periodontics and Preventive Dentistry at the University of Pittsburgh, and Associate Editor of the *Journal of Translational Medicine and of Frontiers in Physiology*. While the program may be somewhat different from the original one in terms of size and tracks, its mission and scope remain the same. Norm's legacy lives on and continuously evolves, and we are honored and humbled that we have been allowed to be part of it.

*At his core, Norm had a love for life, people, new experiences, history, and teaching. He was known for his abundant sense of humor and set an example for how to treat people with kindness and respect no matter what the circumstances. "He promoted and supported the academic career of many faculty members not only in Oral Diagnostic Sciences, but throughout the School of Dental Medicine. His vision in dental education impacted the development of many programs in our school and opened the doors for many faculty members. For many of us he was a colleague, a teacher, a mentor and a friend. Although he died earlier this year, he will always be present in our hearts."*—Dr. Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker **UBD**

**"Norm's legacy lives on and continuously evolves, and we are honored and humbled that we have been allowed to be part of it."**

—Dr. Ernesto De Nardin

*The Liebermans*



# Family legacies provide bedrock strength to dental profession

BY GROVE POTTER

**D**ENTISTRY IS MORE THAN A TRADITION IN SOME FAMILIES; IT'S A LEGACY BUILT ONE GENERATION AFTER ANOTHER. Children take notice seeing moms or dads, or both, enjoying their work. They hear dental discussions, go into the office and eventually shadow with a parent.

For some children, the attraction is immediate and strong. Others take a more meandering course to their dental careers.

The UB School of Dental Medicine has had many family legacy students. They bring an understanding of the profession and a family support network that can be a powerful help. And they give strength to the school, becoming a kind of bedrock upon which traditions are sustained.

**For three UB families—the Liebermans, Browns and Adamsons—dental legacies stand in different phases.**

**Dr. Darryl Lieberman**, '91, whose father and grandfather were dentists, knows the pride of continuing a legacy. Siblings **Ian**, '20, and **Danielle**, '22, followed their dad

Darryl Lieberman, '91, into dentistry. He thinks part of the reason is that he truly enjoys the profession.

"I just love doing general dentistry," he said. "I really am that wet-gloved, in-the-mouth guy. I'm happy doing fillings or root canals or posts or implants or restorative work. I do it all."

Seeing him come home each night happy may have subconsciously lured two of his children toward dentistry, but he said he never pushed them.

"My dad loves dentistry," Danielle Lieberman said. "He can talk all day and all night with a smile on his face about anything dental related. You can't deny someone coming home from work, when you're growing up, and having a smile and wanting to talk to you about their day."

For Dr. Ian Lieberman, that early exposure gave him an appreciation for dentistry. "Dad never forced a thing. He never pushed us in any way," he said. But understanding how a dentist treats patients impacted him. After shadowing with his father, "the biggest thing I took away as a high schooler and a college student was that no matter the socio-economic class of the patient, no matter their background, we can always find some way to help them."

Ian said dinner table conversations tend toward things dental, so their mother, a nurse, has a quick response to any topic. "Gutta percha"—the material we use in root canals—that is her answer to any dental question.

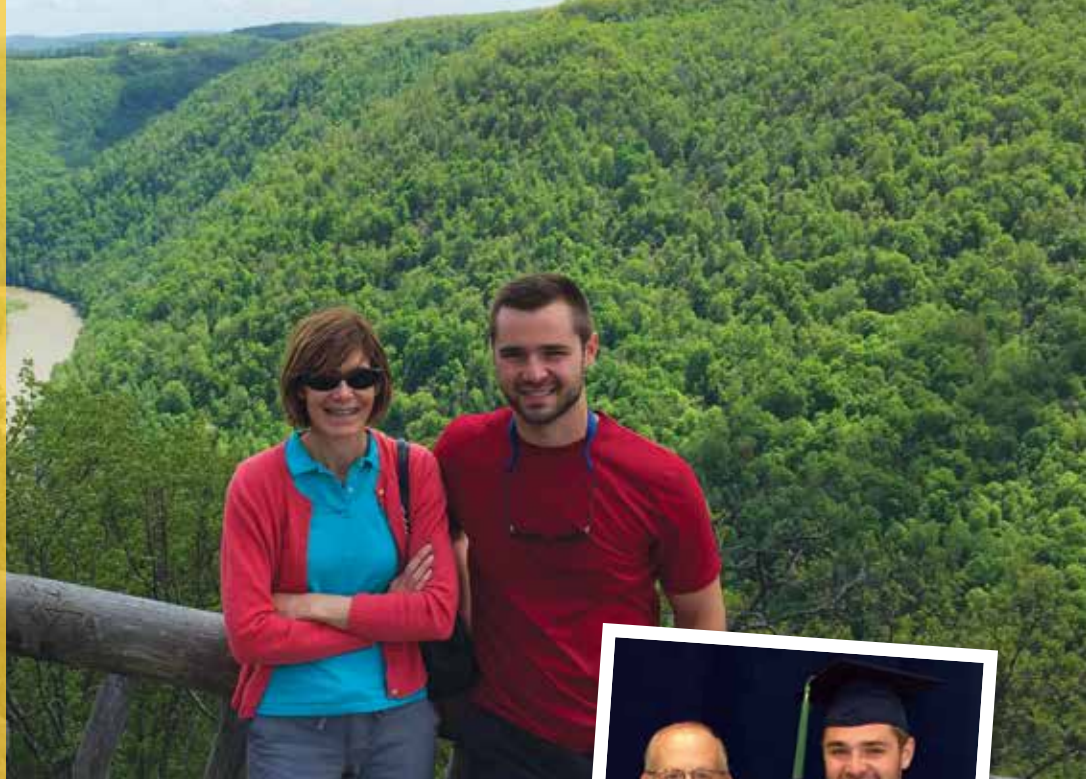
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IAN, DANIELLE AND DARRYL LIEBERMAN.



“I think he saw that as a dentist, you are able to make a difference in somebody’s life.”

Beth Reilly



The Browns



## Anything But Dentistry

For **Dr. David Brown**, '83, and his wife **Dr. Beth Reilly**, '84, it was a welcome surprise when their son, **Sean**, '21, said he was going to pursue dentistry.

“I didn’t know what I wanted to do,” Dr. Sean Brown said, “but I knew it wasn’t dentistry.” That changed during his sophomore year in college when he shadowed his mother at Good Neighbors, a free dental clinic in Buffalo. “The more I did that, I thought there might be something to this whole dental thing. Just to see the impact it made on the patients who were in need of dental care and couldn’t afford it.”

His father recalled feeling the same rebelliousness against following his father, who was chair of the Crown and Bridge Department at UB, into dentistry. “For the longest time, the only thing I did ‘know’ was that I did not want to be a dentist,” David Brown said. That cost him the valuable opportunity of learning more from his father, he said.

Both parents said they never pushed dentistry on their children, and instead let them find their own paths.

Dr. Beth Reilly, a solo practitioner for 30 years, said she recruited Sean to help her at Good Neighbors when he was home from college, but not to entice him into dentistry. “I just needed somebody to help me, and he needed to do some volunteer work for his major,” she said. During those shadowing sessions, “I think he saw that as a dentist, you are able to make a difference in somebody’s life.”

Having a son follow his own circuitous route to dentistry brings a special type of joy to David Brown.

“I know my dad is so, so proud and looking down,” he said. “I truly believe that.”

## A New Legacy in the Works?

The **Adamson family** from Michigan may have started a dental family legacy in one generation with four siblings graduating from the UB dental school. **Catherine**, '12, **Anne**, '16, **Jesse**, '19 and **Will**, '21, all found dentistry and UB to their liking. All four also were presidents of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) chapter while at UB.

Dr. Catherine Nelson, who started the family tradition, did not decide on dentistry until her final year of college. She said she was oriented toward healthcare because their mother is a doctor, “but nothing caught my interest until dental school.”

“I love interacting with people,” she said. “The artistic nature of it and being able to see something through from start to finish is also really special.”

Now a practice owner in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Catherine said she would love to lure one or more of her siblings back to practice with her, but that could take a while. Dr. Anne Adamson just bought a practice in Homer, Alaska, after finishing a five-year stint in the Navy.

MOM, BETH REILLY AND DAD, DAVID BROWN WITH THEIR SON, SEAN BROWN, A THIRD GENERATION DENTIST.



“It’s amazing to be doing something you really enjoy and to have family siblings to share it with.”

Jessee Adamson

*The Adamsons*

“My mother and sister convinced me to go to dental school,” Anne said. After visiting and shadowing, she decided “the dental students I met were a lot happier than the medical students I met, and the dentists I met were a lot happier than most of the doctors I shadowed with. So I ended up making the switch and it’s been a great decision. I absolutely love it.”

She matches her passion with hard work. While in dental school, she started a study abroad program at a dental clinic in Dakar, Senegal. That program has run for six years and she recently started a non-profit called A Simple Smile ([www.asimplemile.org](http://www.asimplemile.org)) to expand its reach.

### Military Scholarships

Dr. Jessee Adamson is serving in the Army at Fort Carson in Colorado. He and Anne and Will all received military scholarships from the Health Professional Scholarship Program (HPSP) to cover their dental school costs.

Jessee started leaning toward dentistry as a junior in college when he realized that as a psychology major who liked working with his hands, dentistry covered most of his interests.

“It’s amazing to be doing something you really enjoy and to have family siblings to share it with,” he said. “They’re

your siblings, colleagues, friends, so to be able to look into the future, having us all do this could open things up to kids and cousins.”

For Dr. Will Adamson, being the youngest of his siblings, choosing dentistry was complicated. “I didn’t want to be that last sibling who just chose dentistry because that’s what everybody else was doing. I wanted to make sure it was something I really, independently, wanted to do.”

After shadowing and learning more about the profession, he was hooked. “I didn’t really know what you could do in the dental field,” he said. “I did a lot of cool oral surgery stuff at UB and I understood that dentistry is much more involved, with implants and other techniques, you can do a whole lot more than fill a cavity.”

### The Right Place

For all the Adamsons, UB provided a perfect learning environment to explore and develop their skills.

“I think we all just found something that makes us all happy and we found a place where we could go to a school that provided a positive environment and made the education process extremely enjoyable,” Anne Adamson said. **UBD**

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THE ADAMSON FAMILY OF DENTISTS: ANNE, WILL, CATHERINE NELSON AND JESSE.



# FOR LITTLEJOHN, SERVICE IS THE KEY TO EXPANDING PRACTICES

By Grove Potter

DR. RODNEY LITTLEJOHN, Ortho Cert., '82, knows how to build a dental practice, and he shares that knowledge with residents in the orthodontics department at the UB School of Dental Medicine.

"I tell them to take off their clinical smocks and put on their business suits, and we talk about what it takes to make a small business work," he said. "We talk a lot about focusing on leadership, on customer service, and marketing."

Dr. David Covell, the L.B. Badgero Endowed Chair of the Orthodontics Department, said Littlejohn's course is very well received by students. "They get a lot of good information that they really appreciate. How to look for a practice, things to consider. And once you have a practice, how to run it, staffing issues, the whole spectrum."

Littlejohn has grown his orthodontic practice in Waterloo, NY, into a regional practice, drawing patients from Geneva to Auburn and along the Finger Lakes, almost to Ithaca. He said much of the growth has come from his focus on service.

"I just think in health care, and even in general, customer service is lacking in almost every arena that I observe. I just think customer care needs to be taken up several notches."

UB is ahead of many orthodontics programs in offering courses in practice management. "I give UB and [former Department Chair Dr. C. Brian] Preston a lot of credit for incorporating that into their program relatively early on," Littlejohn said.

After growing up in Seneca Falls, Littlejohn attended St. Bonaventure University and

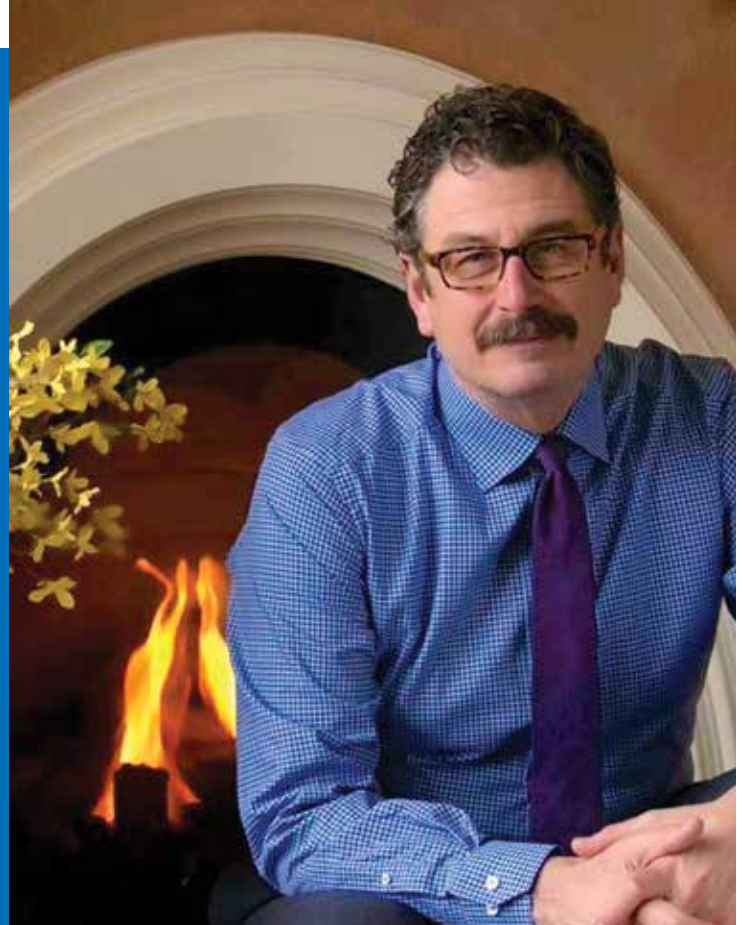
Georgetown University School of Dentistry. He did a GPR program at Rochester General Hospital before coming to UB to study orthodontics. After practicing in East Amherst and Geneseo, he opened an office in Waterloo.

"We're lucky enough to have a fairly large, relatively rural geographical area we are able to draw patients from," he said.

Littlejohn, who also helps the dental school reach out to alumni, recently made a significant gift, saying one of the principles he teaches is leading by example.

"I think UB is a tremendous institution. I think their leadership has been tremendous," he said. "Long term, I think it's vitally important that graduates support the school." The school has a worldwide reputation, he said, "and it needs to grow and maintain those high standards and set a great example for the rest of the country and the world."

Supporting the school reflects his views on service. "From a lot of the reading I have done, I have kind of distilled it down to the fact that my purpose on this earth is all about service. That's why I like giving back to the institutions that were able to provide me with all the education to get me where I am. For me it's the old law about sowing and reaping." **UBD**



**"I tell them to take off their clinical smocks and put on their business suits, and we talk about what it takes to make a small business work."**

**Rodney Littlejohn**



# COMMENCEMENT

AN IN-PERSON GRADUATION MAKES A HAPPY RETURN



Meet the **GRADUATES** of the  
**CLASS OF 2021**

PHOTOS BY GRADIMAGES

# EMENT

## DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

### ENTERING GENERAL PRACTICE RESIDENCY OR ADVANCED EDUCATION IN GENERAL DENTISTRY PROGRAMS

#### Will R. Adamson ♦♦

US Army  
Colorado

#### Thomas J. Adolf

US Army  
South Carolina

#### Ernest Esosa Aifuwa

Veterans Administration  
Medical Center  
Buffalo, NY

#### Abdullah Al Qaraghuli

University at Buffalo  
Buffalo, NY

#### Gino Michael An

US Army  
Fort Campbell, KY

#### Zeehan Azad ♦

Kings County Hospital Center  
Brooklyn, NY

#### Marc Jared Bauman

New York City Health and Hospitals/  
Queens  
Jamaica, NY

#### Kelsey Bergeron

Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, LA

#### Marshall K. Binns

Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, NY

#### Carly Irene Biondi

Maimonides Medical Center  
Brooklyn, NY

#### Christine E. Breindel

Veterans Administration  
Medical Center  
Buffalo, NY

#### Sean H. Brown

Medical University of South Carolina  
Charleston, SC

#### Ani Coaderaj

Montefiore Medical Center  
Bronx, NY

#### MacKenzie Judith Comeau

Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, NY

#### Benjamin R. Crilly

Rochester General Hospital  
Rochester, NY

#### Peter George D'Elia

Rochester General Hospital  
Rochester, NY

#### Danielle C. Detwiler

Medical University of South Carolina  
Charleston, SC

#### Westin A. Doney

University Hospital  
SUNY Upstate Medical University  
Syracuse, NY

#### Brandon C. Drenning

Veterans Administration  
Medical Center  
Pittsburgh, PA

#### Chibueze Roy Egeruoh

Veterans Administration  
Medical Center  
Philadelphia, PA

#### Benjamin Francis Fruce

Bellevue Hospital Center  
New York, NY

#### Holland Burgee Gallup ♦

St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center  
Syracuse, NY

#### Jenny Mary George

BronxCare Health System  
Bronx, NY

#### Cody F. Gorman

University Hospital  
SUNY Upstate Medical University  
Syracuse, NY

#### Jasjot Kaur Grewal

Brookdale Hospital Medical Center  
Brooklyn, NY

#### Andrew H. Haber

US Navy  
Naval Medical Center  
Portsmouth, VA

#### Jennifer L. Helfer ♦♦

Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, NY

#### Caitlin Rose Hewitt

University of Rochester  
Rochester, NY

#### Michelle Hu

University of Rochester  
Rochester, NY

#### Benjamin Michael Hunt

Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, NY

#### Haseeb Hussain

Roswell Park Cancer Institute/  
University at Buffalo  
Buffalo, NY

#### Elizabeth A. Ike

Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, NY

#### Samer A. Isa

Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, NY

#### Ronen Isacharov

New York City Health and Hospitals/  
Woodhull  
Brooklyn, NY



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

Commencement 2021



# COMMITMENT

**Ashley Mae Nacion Jimenez** ◆◆◆

North Shore University Hospital  
Northwell Health  
Manhasset, NY

**Arian Fay Johnson**

Meharry Medical College  
Nashville, TN

**Shirin Kashkoui**

University at Buffalo  
Buffalo, NY

**Opjyot Kaur**

State University of New York at  
Stony Brook  
Stony Brook, NY

**Fahad Gul Khan**

New York City Health and Hospitals/  
Woodhull  
Brooklyn, NY

**Ryan Lawrence**

Kings County Hospital Center  
Brooklyn, NY

**Rebecca Ashley Loring**

St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center  
Syracuse, NY

**Volodymyr V. Luka** ◆

New York City Health and Hospitals/  
Queens  
Jamaica, NY

**Ryan M. Mancuso** ◆◆

Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, NY

**Simran Marwah** ◆

St. Luke's University Health Network  
Bethlehem, PA

**Suzanne Raad McShane**

Veterans Administration  
Medical Center  
Washington, DC

**Mary Njie**

New York Medical College Phelps/  
Northwell Health  
Valhalla, NY

**Martin Joseph O. Okpala**

Howard University  
Washington, DC

**Sean T. Palmer**

US Air Force, Kessler Air Force Base  
Biloxi, MS

**Claudia Jisung Park**

Maimonides Medical Center  
Brooklyn, NY

**Benjamin J. Parker**

Montefiore Medical Center  
Bronx, NY

**Rikin Patel**

Brookdale Hospital Medical Center  
Brooklyn, NY

**Gina Marie Pawlowski**

University Hospital  
SUNY Upstate Medical University  
Syracuse, NY

**Victor Popandopulo**

Kings County Hospital Center  
Brooklyn, NY

**Paul Proios**

New York City Health and Hospitals/  
Woodhull  
Brooklyn, NY

**Andrew Peter Proto**

New York University-Langone  
Marietta, OH

**Stephanie R. Sawyer**

University of Alabama  
Birmingham, AL

**Emily Fran Schultes**

New York University-Langone  
Nashville, TN

**Kennedy Jane Seefeldt**

Veterans Administration  
Medical Center  
Buffalo, NY

**Jonathan Shaya Sessler**

Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, NY

**Anisha Singh**

Roswell Park Cancer Institute/  
University at Buffalo  
Buffalo, NY

**George T. Skevas**

New York City Health and Hospitals/  
Woodhull  
Brooklyn, NY

**Evan M. Spencer**

Rochester General Hospital  
Rochester, NY

**Michelle B. Stevens**

Montefiore Medical Center  
Bronx, NY

**Melissa Lee Stoj** ◆

Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, NY

**Maria L. Vitovsky**

University Hospital  
SUNY Upstate Medical University  
Syracuse, NY

**Eva I. Volman**

University of Rochester  
Rochester, NY

**Emily K. Waldman**

University of Rochester  
Rochester, NY

**Christian S. Westermeier**

New York University-Langone  
Tempe, AZ

**Eric Alexander Winnie**

University at Buffalo  
Buffalo, NY

**JianMin Zhou**

Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, NY

**Cory Zirkel** ◆◆

University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, NC

**ENTERING SPECIALTY PROGRAMS**

**Saiema Jabeen Alam** ◆

Pediatric Dentistry  
Geisinger Medical Center  
Danville, PA

**Jelani O. Brown**

Pediatric Dentistry  
New York University-Langone  
Providence, RI

◆ CUM LAUDE | ◆◆ MAGNA CUM LAUDE | ◆◆◆ SUMMA CUM LAUDE





# CEMENT

**Lawrence Jesse Dela Pena Camacho**  
Pediatric Dentistry  
University of Rochester/Eastman  
Dental  
Rochester, NY

**Michelle T. Frawley**◆  
Pediatric Dentistry  
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, PA

**Omer Rachel Hillel**  
Pediatric Dentistry  
Montefiore Medical Center  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
Bronx, NY

**Marika M. Jagielska**  
Prosthodontics  
Stony Brook University  
Stony Brook, NY

**Ashley L. Jarkowski**  
Orthodontics Internship  
University of Texas Health  
San Antonio, TX

**Courtney Elizabeth Kerek**◆  
Pediatric Dentistry  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital  
Medical Center  
Cincinnati, OH

**Daniel Kuruvilla**  
Pediatric Dentistry  
University of Rochester  
Eastman Institute for Oral Health  
Rochester, NY

**Joseph Michael Molisani**◆◆◆  
Prosthodontics  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Birmingham, AL

**Timothy James Moses**  
Orthodontics  
Georgia School of Orthodontics  
Hudson Valley RMC  
Atlanta, GA

**Ian J. Richardson**◆  
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
Louisiana State University  
New Orleans, LA

**Andrew Rizkalla**  
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
Brookdale Hospital Medical Center  
Brooklyn, NY

**Emilia Michelle Scutari**  
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
Postgraduate Research Fellowship

**Aaron Yair Sigona**  
Dental Anesthesiology  
Stony Brook Medicine  
Stony Brook, NY

**Anthony L. Skrobola**◆◆◆  
Pediatric Dentistry  
Cohen Children's Hospital  
Long Island Jewish Medical Center  
New Hyde Park, NY

**Dam Soh**◆  
Periodontics  
Oral Biology PhD  
University at Buffalo  
Buffalo, NY

**Michael D. Villa**  
Periodontics  
Columbia University  
New York, NY

**Lauren Wager**◆◆◆  
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
University of Florida  
Jacksonville, FL

## ENTERING PRIVATE PRACTICE

**Ahmed Osman Elsadig Abdelhadi**

**Rabeya Afzal**  
Houston, TX

**Ahmed Ayad Alkayaly**  
Houston, TX

**Yatin Arora**  
Detroit, MI

**Akshaykumar Bhalala**

**James Spartacus Capecelatro**  
Salt Lake City, UT

**Mayur Kanubhai Dudhat**

**Peter E. Finch**

**Arsel Hasan**  
Las Vegas, NV

**Hasan Salih Hasan Hasan**  
Los Angeles, CA

**Hafsa Ijaz**  
Ashburn, VA

**Pankhuri Jain**  
Detroit, MI

**Lubna Joseph**  
Canada

**Navneet Kaur Kamboj**  
Houston, TX

**Sehie Olivia Koh**  
Aspen Dental  
Winston-Salem, NC

**Tehmina Mansoor Makhdoom**◆◆

**Ramya Priya Neeli**  
Bloomington, IL

**Dinh Van Nguyen**  
Atlanta, GA

**Mahsa Niakan**◆◆◆  
Orange County, CA

**Harshkumar Kanaiyalal Patel**  
Chicago, IL

**Mitesh Ashokbhai Patel**  
Boston, MA

**Irene Josefina Peraza-Urrutia**◆◆◆  
Houston, TX

**Roma**◆◆◆

**Navneet Singh Sandhu**◆  
Walla Walla, WA

**Pratima Sharma Chandler**  
Leesburg, VA

**Allen Saparzadeh**  
Miami, FL

**Theodora C. Tsatsos**  
Austin, TX

**Rehmatben Salim Ahmed Vohra**◆◆◆  
Chicago, IL

**Mudasir Mohsin Walji**◆◆◆  
Minneapolis, MN

**Pooja Yarlagadda**  
Portland, OR

## THESIS HONORS

**Saiema Jabeen Alam**  
"Associations between painful temporomandibular disorders and systemic medical conditions"  
Primary Advisor: Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker, DDS, MPH

**Suzanne Raad McShane**  
"Peri-implant gingival tissue L\*a\*b\* difference in titanium, gold and zirconia implant abutments under daylight and fluorescent light"  
Primary Advisor: Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS



**Anisha Singh**

*"Specific drill length vs. actual depth of drilling during osteotomy preparation"*

Primary Advisor: Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS

**Melissa Lee Stoj**

*"Effect of implant geometry and thread pitch on primary stability in Type II and IV bone"*

Primary Advisor: Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS

**Emily K. Waldman**

*"Dental topographic analysis in carnivoran mammals"*

Primary Advisor: Jack Tseng, PhD

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ORAL BIOLOGY DEGREES**

**Sangwon Min, BS**

*"The role of ΔNp63 in directing cell fate choices in the salivary gland"*

Major Professor: Rose-Anne Romano, PhD

**Hannah Lynn Norris, BS**

*"Zinc-binding modulates Histatin 5 activity in Candida albicans"*

Major Professor: Mira Edgerton, DDS, PhD

**Xiaoxiao Zhang, MS**

*"Heparan sulfate-protein interactions in inflammation and bone homeostasis"*

Major Professor: Ding Xu, PhD

**MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREES**

**BIOMATERIALS**

**Dalal Saud AlDabeeb, BDS**

*"The effect of strontium on the function of human gingival fibroblasts in the presence of smoking environment"*

Major Professor: Michelle B. Visser, PhD

**Yousef Masoud M. Kareem, DMD**

*"Characterization and properties of nano calcium sulfate/tricalcium silicate composites"*

Major Professor: Rosemary Dziak, PhD

**Aimen Asad Siddiqui, BDS**

*"Correlating physical, chemical and biological properties of commercially available collagen membranes and comparison of differently cross-linked membranes"*

Major Professor: Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS

**Anthony J. Tardibuono, BS**

*"Streptococcus mutans differential retention on dental-related substrata"*

Major Professor: Anne E. Meyer, PhD

**ORAL SCIENCES**

**Russell James Correa Aguilar, BS**

*"Mechanical properties of a dental adhesive modified with polymer-conjugated penicillin additives"*

Major Professor: Camila Sabatini, DDS, MS

**Fatima Alawsee, BDS**

*"Catastrophizing as treatment predictor for response among TMD patients"*

Major Professor: Heidi C. Crow, DMD, MS

**Mohammed Khalid J. Algady, BDS**

*"Mechanical characterization of peek in terms of shear bonding, flexural strength and hardness with and without thermocycling"*

Major Professor: Hyeongil Kim, DDS, MS

**Adwaa Khalid A. Alhumaidan, BDS**

*"Periodontal pathogen peptidoglycan scavenging regulates inflammation via NOD2 modulation"*

Major Professor: Ashu Sharma, PhD

**Sunbl Ihsan Ali, BDS**

*"Relationship between pain intensity, jaw function and oral behaviors on seeking care among individuals with temporomandibular disorders"*

Major Professor: Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker, DDS, MS, MPH

**Marwan Akram Aswad, BDS**

*"Facial and intraoral temperature changes associated with ultrasound-based changes in myalgia"*

Major Professor: W. Scott McCall, PhD

**Bhavneet Kaur Chawla, BDS**

*"Potential effect of proton pump inhibitors on periodontal disease"*

Major Professor: Lisa M. Yerke, DDS, MS

**Bara Hesham Mohamed Abdelfatta Elsayed, BDS**

*"Impact of scanning protocol on the clinical outcome of tooth-borne complete arch rehabilitation"*

Major Professor: Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh, DDS, MS

**Taylor Greenberg, BS**

*"The effect of orange juices on enamel microhardness and natural enamel in the presence of saliva"*

Major Professor: Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS

**Anass Mohd Koleilat, DDS**

*"Effectiveness of school-based community health care program for Syrian refugee children"*

Major Professor: Othman Shibly, DDS, MS

**Brett Crass Lashlee, BS**

*"Effects of nCS and tricalcium silicate on VEGF production on human osteoblasts"*

Major Professor: Rosemary Dziak, PhD

**Yu-Chun Lin, DDS**

*"Effect of connector design on the failure resistance of implant-supported posterior 3-unit Y-TZP fixed dental prosthesis"*

Major Professor: Hyeongil Kim, DDS, MS

**Olla Abdellatif R. Rejjal, BDS**

*"Effects of 1,4-dihydrophenothrolin-4-one-3-carboxylic acid (1,4-DCPA) on osteoblastic cells"*

Major Professor: Rosemary Dziak, PhD

**Matthew G. Strickland, BS**

*"Candida albicans cell wall mutations and their effects on yeast escape and killing by immune cells"*

Major Professor: Jason G. Kay, PhD

**Minh Van, DDS**

*"Flexural strength of 3D-printed and conventional provisional materials"*

Major Professor: Hyeongil Kim, DDS, MS

**Jinghua Zhang, DDS**

*"Comparison of scanning accuracy of PVS impressions of multiple tooth preparations with different tapers using 2 benchtop scanners: an in vitro study"*

Major Professor: Hyeongil Kim, DDS, MS

**ORTHODONTICS**

**Moufida Abufarwa, PhD, BDS**

*"Testing the effect of acid etching enamel surface prior to CPP-ACP fluoride varnish application compared to light-curable fluoride varnish"*

Major Professor: David A. Covell, Jr., DDS, PhD

**Abdullah Ahmad A. Albawardi, DMD**

*"Friction forces generated by esthetic TiNbTaZr (GUMMETAL) orthodontic archwires"*

Major Professor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, BDS, MS, FRCD(C)

**Grace Chung, DDS**

*"Optimal wavelength, working distance, and intensity of UV illumination to discern orthodontic adhesive remnants during debonding"*

Major Professor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, BDS, MS, FRCD(C)

◆ CUM LAUDE | ◆◆ MAGNA CUM LAUDE | ◆◆◆ SUMMA CUM LAUDE



**Mira Nirmala Daljeet, DMD**

*"Association between obstructive sleep apnea syndrome and bone density in adults"*

Major Professor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, BDS, MS, FRCD(C)

**Afra Saleh, DDS**

*"Automated mandibular movement monitoring during maxillary expansion"*

Major Professor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, BDS, MS, FRCD(C)

**Mihai Lucian Urichianu, DDS**

*"A comparison of shear bond strength and morphology of new and rebonded ceramic brackets: a randomized controlled trial"*

Major Professor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, BDS, MS, FRCD(C)

**POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATES**

**ADVANCED EDUCATION IN GENERAL DENTISTRY**

Dalal Saud AlDabeeb, BDS

Lauren Catherine Boyczuk, DDS

Bara Hesham Mohamed Abdelfatta Elsayed, BDS

Joshua Findlay, DDS

Lawrence-Linh Nguyen, DDS

Ajay Kumar Thakar, DDS

Alyssa Victoria Tzetzio, DDS

Victoria Elizabeth Vaccaro, DDS

**ENDODONTICS**

Ibrahim Alaugaily, BDS

Ariyan Ravangard, DDS

**ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL PATHOLOGY**

Fatma Mohamed Alkassimi, BDS

Madawi Faisal N. Alkeheli, BDS

**ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY**

Robert Ivan Miskimen III, DDS, MD

Sohaib Hamdy Soliman, DDS

**ORTHODONTICS**

Moufida Abufarwa, PhD, BDS

Abdullah Ahmad A. Albawardi, DMD

Grace Chung, DDS

Mira Nirmala Daljeet, DMD

Afra Saleh, DDS

Mihai Lucian Urichianu, DDS

**PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY**

Alisha Andrashewski, DDS

Alana Fraser, DDS

Elly Hosseini, DMD

Bolbo Jung, DMD

Elizabeth Lenchner, DDS

Ryann Luther, DDS

Kathryn Michelle Pawlak, DDS

**PERIODONTICS**

Jaewon Kim, PhD, DDS

Anass Mohd Koleilat, DDS

Olla Abdellatif R. Rejjal, BDS

Zena Hazaa Sakka, DDS, MPH

**PROSTHODONTICS**

Hanan Ali, BDS

Yu-Chun Lin, BDS

Minh Van, DDS

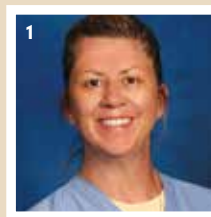
**TEMPOROMANDIBULAR DISORDERS AND OROFACIAL PAIN**

Sunbl Ihsan Ali, BDS

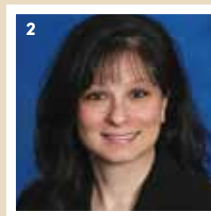
Marwan Akram Aswad, BDS

# Honors

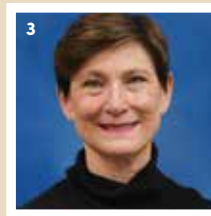
for Faculty and Staff



1 Lisa M. Durand received the Dental Student Association Staff Appreciation Award



2 Mary A. Bush, '99, GPR Cert., '00, received the William M. Feagans Award



3 Eugena Stephan, Pros Cert., '92, PhD Oral Biology, '97, received the Florence Kronson Award



4 Jose Luis Tapia, '12, Oral Path Cert., '03, MS Oral Sci., '03, received the Educator of the Year Award.



5 Latifa Bairam, Rem Pros Cert., '81, MS Oral Sci., '84, received the Richard A. Powell Award

**Not pictured:**

6 Daniel Emmer, PhD, received the Charles S. Lipani Award





# SDM 2021

## Senior Awards

Recognizing  
Achievement,  
Skill and  
Contribution

○ **Academy of Dentistry for Persons with Disabilities Award**

Rebecca Ashley Loring

**Academy of General Dentistry Award**

Mayur Kanubhai Dudhat  
Omer Rachel Hillel

**Academy of Operative Dentistry Award**

Christian S. Westermeier

**Academy of Osseointegration Award**

Suzanne Raad McShane

**Dr. Joseph A. Accardo Eighth District Dental Society Award**

Elizabeth A. Ike

**American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Award**

Claudia Jisung Park

**American Academy of Implant Dentistry Award**

Eva I. Volman

**American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Award**

Mahsa Niakin

**American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Award**

Maria L. Vitovsky

**American Academy of Oral Medicine Award**

Aaron Yair Sigona

**American Academy of Orofacial Pain**

Saiema Jabeen Alam

**American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Predoctoral Student Award**

Michelle T. Frawley

**American Academy of Periodontology Award**

Arian Fay Johnson

**American Association of Endodontists Award**

Volodymyr V. Luka

**American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Award**

Emilia Michelle Scutari

**American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Implant Award**

Joseph Michael Molisani

**American Association of Orthodontists Award**

Timothy James Moses

**American Association of Public Health Dentistry Award**

Jasjot Kaur Grewal

**American College of Dentists Outstanding Student Leader Award**

Will R. Adamson

**American College of Prosthodontists Award**

Melissa Lee Stoj

**American Dental Society of Anesthesiology Award – Horace Wells Senior Student Award**

Andrew H. Haber

**American Student Dental Association Award of Excellence**

Will R. Adamson

**Barrett Prize**

Ashley Mae Nacion Jimenez  
Joseph Michael Molisani  
Anthony L. Skrobola  
Lauren Wager

**Eleanor Bushee Award**

Caitlin Rose Hewitt

**Dean's Award**

Arian Fay Johnson

**Dental Alumni Award**

Benjamin Michael Hunt

**Erie County Dental Society Chester A. Glor Award**

Melissa Lee Stoj

**Dr. Marshall Fagin Prosthodontic Recognition Award**

Joseph Michael Molisani

**The Pierre Fauchard Academy Award**

Cory Zirkel

**Fonzi Dental Study Club, Anthony S. Gugino Humanitarian Award**

Ryan M. Mancuso

**International College of Dentists Award**

Mary Njie

**International College of Dentists Student Humanitarian Award**

Zeehan Azad  
Christine E. Breindel  
Jennifer L. Helfer  
Elizabeth A. Ike  
Emily K. Waldman  
Christian S. Westermeier

**International Congress of Oral Implantologists Award**

Mudasir Mohsin Walji

**Donald Kozlowski Memorial Award**

Sean T. Palmer

**New York State Association of Endodontists**

Stephanie R. Sawyer

**New York State Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Student Award**

Lauren Wager

**The Northeastern Society of Periodontists Award**

Dam Soh

**Omicron Kappa Upsilon Membership**

Will R. Adamson  
Zeehan Azad  
Michelle T. Frawley  
Holland Burgee Gallup  
Jennifer L. Helfer  
Ashley Mae Nacion Jimenez  
Ryan M. Mancuso  
Joseph Michael Molisani  
Mahsa Niakin  
Irene Josefina Peraza-Urrutia  
Melissa Lee Stoj  
Lauren Wager  
Mudasir Mohsin Walji  
Cory Zirkel

**Omicron Kappa Upsilon Research Award**

Dam Soh

**Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dr. Lata Shenoy Award**

Irene Josefina Peraza-Urrutia

**Pediatric and Community Dentistry Department Award**

Cody F. Gorman  
Suzanne Raad McShane

**Richard A. Powell Award**

Peter George D'Elia

**Quintessence Awards**

Research Achievement: Dam Soh  
Restorative Dentistry:  
Ahmed Ayad Alkayaly  
Periodontics:  
Ashley Mae Nacion Jimenez

**Lester Schatz Memorial Award**

Lawrence Jesse Dela Pena Camacho

**St. Apollonia Guild Dental Student Service Award**

Sehie Olivia Koh

**Student Affairs Recognition Award**

Abdullah Al Qaraghuli  
Christine E. Breindel  
Andrew H. Haber  
Haseeb Hussain  
Sehie Olivia Koh  
Simran Marwah  
Emily K. Waldman

**Whip Mix Hanau Prosthodontics Award**

Marika M. Jagielska

## Eighth District Dental Society Provides \$50,000 in Student Emergency Funding

**WHEN OUR STUDENTS** needed it the most, the Eighth District Dental Society answered the call.

This past fall, the Eighth District Dental Society issued a challenge. For every individual who donated \$1,000 or more to the dental school, the Eighth District would donate \$1,000 to the school's student emergency fund – up to \$50,000.

"In working with Eighth District leadership, we launched this promotion in the fall of 2020 with the intention that it would conclude on June

30, 2021, to coincide with the end of our fiscal year," says Neil Dengler, senior director of advancement. By late December, more than 50 donors had gifted \$1,000 or more and the challenge was met.

The student emergency fund, which has been in existence prior to the pandemic, has taken on more importance this past year as students struggle with a number of financial hardships. For information on supporting this fund, please contact Neil Dengler at (716) 881-7486 or [ndengler@buffalo.edu](mailto:ndengler@buffalo.edu).

## Alums Lalor and John Join the Boldly Buffalo Team



LALOR



JOHN

**DRS. ROBERT LALOR AND MARY JOHN**, both Class of 2000 graduates of the school, have joined the ranks as campaign volunteers for the next wave of the Boldly Buffalo fundraising campaign.

Lalor and John, who met at UB, are married with three kids and manage a hugely successful practice with multiple offices in and around the Binghamton area.

No strangers to giving back, Bob and Mary made a gift several years ago to help with renovation of the school's pre-clinical simulation center. The Lalor Family Dental Conference Room is now a high traffic room utilized regularly by faculty and students alike.

They join campaign volunteers Dr. Steven, '69 and Diana Guttenberg, Dr. Murray Rosenthal, '63 and Marilyn Ciancio, wife of the late Dr. Sebastian Ciancio, '61. We thank our volunteers for their tireless efforts.

## Boldly Buffalo—UB's First Billion Dollar Campaign



**MORE THAN 700 PARTICIPANTS** tuned in to a virtual event this spring, to hear UB President Satish K. Tripathi announce the university's plans to extend the Boldly Buffalo fundraising campaign—with a new goal to raise \$1 billion for the university.

Within the dental school, the original goal for the school to raise \$20 million was surpassed. As the magazine goes to press, nearly \$29.5 million has been raised in support of faculty, students, research, and renovations to Squire Hall.

"We now have a very ambitious goal of \$39 million," says Neil Dengler, senior director of advancement for the dental school. "Our donors have stepped up big time in this first wave of the campaign. They've helped students with scholarship money. They have partnered with us to renovate Squire Hall, which believe it or not, we've occupied for 35 years. They've been vital partners in providing emergency funds for many of our students during the pandemic. I cannot thank them enough," Dengler adds.

GOAL  
\$1 BILLION

# CE course calendar

School of Dental Medicine Office of Continuing Dental Education

## SEPT. 23-24

**The Cutting Edge of Clinical Research in Oral Health...  
A Symposium in Honor of Distinguished Service  
Professor Dr. Sebastian Ciancio**  
*Mansion on Delaware, Buffalo, NY*

UB ALUMNI MEMBER: \$225/NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$245/  
TEAM MEMBER: \$125

7 CE HRS

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

**12:45 P.M. Symposium  
Introductions & Welcome  
Remarks**  
Frank Scannapieco, DMD, PhD,  
UB School of Dental Medicine

**1 P.M. Can We Treat the  
Microbiome Imbalances  
Associated with Periodontitis?**  
Patricia I. Diaz, DDS, PhD, UB  
School of Dental Medicine

**1:45 P.M. Novel Approach  
on the Management of the  
Inflammatory Burden**  
Effie Ioannidou, DMD, Univ of  
Connecticut

**2:30 P.M. Grace C Molar Incisor  
Pattern Periodontitis—What  
have we learned so far?**  
Luciana Shaddox, DDS, MS, PhD,  
Univ of Kentucky

**3:15 P.M. Clinical Caries  
Research Studies—Challenges  
and Opportunities**  
Domenick Zero, DDS, MS,  
Indiana Univ

**5 P.M. Cocktail Reception for all  
speakers, guests and attendees**  
**Welcome Remarks**  
Maria Ryan, DDS, PhD, VP and  
Chief Dental Officer, Colgate  
Palmolive

Leoncio Angel Gonzalez, Vice  
President of R&D/ Product Engi-  
neering, Sunstar Americas, Inc.

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

**7:45 A.M. Check in and Breakfast**

**8:15 A.M. Introductions &  
Welcome Remarks**  
Dean Joseph Zambon, DDS, PhD  
and Robert Schifferle, DDS, PhD,  
UB School of Dental Medicine

**Session 1: Moderator: Marcelo  
W.B. Araujo, DDS, PhD, Chief  
Science Officer, ADA**

**8:30 A.M. Novel Periodontal  
Therapeutics:**  
**Host-modulation Agents**  
Lorne Golub, DMD, MS, SUNY  
Stony Brook

**9:15 A.M. Charge, Antimicrobial  
and Pellicle Effects on Microbial  
Colonization of Common and  
Novel Denture Base Materials**  
Andrew Dentino, DDS, PhD,  
Marquette Univ

**10:15 A.M. Path to Precision  
Periodontics: Targeting  
Inflammation to Sustain Health  
in the Oral Cavity and Beyond**  
Sinem Esra Sahingur, DDS, PhD,  
Univ of Pennsylvania

**11:15 A.M. Periodontal Plastic  
Surgery for Smile Enhancement:  
Evidence-Based Art**  
Dimitri Tatakis, DDS, PhD, The  
Ohio State Univ

**11:45 A.M. Lunch**

## UB IMPLANT STUDY CLUB 2021-2022

(THURSDAYS, 6 TO 9 P.M.)

**SEPT. 16 Laser Therapy in  
Periimplantitis Treatment**  
Dolph Dawson, DMD

**OCT. 21 Bio-Horizon Lecture  
and Hands-on**

**TENTATIVE DATES 2021:**  
NOV. 18, DEC. 16

**TENTATIVE DATES 2022:**  
FEB. 17, MAR. 24, APR. 2, MAY 19

*UB School of Dental Medicine*

RETURNING MEMBER FEE: \$995

ANNUAL NEW MEMBER FEE: \$1295

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

3 CE HRS/MEETING

**Session 2: Moderator: Othman  
Shibly, DDS, MS, UB School of  
Dental Medicine**

**12:45 P.M. Novel Multi-  
structural Scaffold for  
Enhanced Bone Regeneration in  
Craniomaxillofacial Tissues**  
Srinivas Myneni, DDS, PhD, SUNY  
Stony Brook

**1:30 P.M. Targeting Prx1  
Expressing Cells for Periodontal  
Regeneration**  
Giuseppe Intini, DDS, PhD, Univ of  
Pittsburgh

**2:15 P.M. The Role of Calprotectin  
in Experimental Periodontitis and  
Implications for Treatment of  
Human Disease**  
Mark Herzberg, DDS, PhD, Univ  
of Minnesota

**3:00 P.M. Closing Remarks**  
Frank Scannapieco, DMD, PhD,  
UB School of Dental Medicine

## WEDNESDAY EVENING LECTURE SERIES

(6 TO 8 P.M.)

**SEP. 29 Occlusal Concepts  
Forum: Can We Find Our Way  
Through the Confusion?**  
Marshall Fagin, DDS

**OCT. 6 The Worn Dentition:  
Finding Ways to Meet & Treat  
the Challenges....from Plan-  
ning to Execution**  
Marshall Fagin, DDS

**OCT. 20 The 3 E's of Peri-  
odontics in General Practice:  
Evidence-Based, Everyday  
and Excellent**  
Frank Scannapieco, DMD, PhD

**NOV. 10 Flap Management in  
Regenerative Perio Surgery:  
Basic Concepts, Biological  
Principles and Flap Design**  
Nicole Alberto Valente, DDS

**NOV. 17 Clinical Consider-  
ations for Selecting Adhesive  
Cements**  
Robert Yetto, DDS

**DEC. 8 Topics in Endodontics**  
Lucila Piasecki, MSc, PhD

*Live Zoom meetings*

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

Watch live or at your leisure up to  
10 days after lecture.

2 CE HRS



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



## COURSE REGISTRATION

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

### REGISTER BY PHONE

(716) 829-2320  
Toll-free (800) 756-0328

### REGISTER ONLINE

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

**DEC 3, 2021**  
(9 A.M. TO 3 P.M.)

### Imaging, 3D Design, and Additive Manufacturing of Medical and Dental Device

Gerald T. Grant, DMD, MS, FACP, FAAMP

Supported in part by the George Ferguson Fund

*UB School of Dental Medicine*

UB ALUMNI MEMBER: \$225

NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$245

TEAM MEMBER: \$125

6 CE HRS

**2022**

**MAY 13**  
(9 A.M. TO 4 P.M.)

### UB DENTAL HYGIENE SYMPOSIUM

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

6 CE HRS

**JUNE 3**  
(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

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

**Implant Success: The Importance of Implant Design (Pub 9/23/20)** Paul S. Mozer, DDS, MSc, DICOI (2 CE HRS/\$25)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Upon receipt of your registration, we send an email with a link to the 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## ACDE WEBINAR SERIES

In conjunction with the Association for Continuing Dental Education (ACDE), along with 30 of its member schools, we jointly present the "ACDE Webinar Series." This series features university-based key opinion leaders presenting numerous topics on multiple dates and times. Presentations are available to meet every dental health care professional's schedule and interests.

**AUG 13, 11 A.M.–12:30 P.M.** Sarah Grafton, DMD  
**Marijuana Legalization and the Modern Dental Practice: Ethical and Medical Considerations for Treatment Planning** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

**AUG 18, 8–9 P.M.** Les Kalman, DDS  
**Digital Dentistry: Novelty or Necessity?** (1 CE HR/\$39)

**SEP 14, 8–9:30 P.M.** Maryam Tabrizi, RDH, DMD, MPH  
**Geriatric Oral Health Platform** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

**SEP 30, 8–9 P.M.** Margherita Fontana, DDS, PhD  
**A Review of Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines for Non-Restorative Management of Caries Lesions in Primary and Permanent Teeth** (1 CE HR/\$39)

**OCT 5, 8–9 P.M.** Benjamin Chaffee, DDS, MPH, PhD  
**New (and Old) Tobacco Products: Health Effects and Helping Patients** (1 CE HR/\$39)

**OCT 20, 8–10 P.M.** Tenzin Dadul, MDS, BDS, MS  
**CBCT for Endodontics** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**OCT 29, 11 A.M.–1 P.M.** A. Omar Abubaker, DMD, PhD  
**Substance Abuse Disorder** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

**NOV 9, 8–10 P.M.** Mary MacDougall, PhD  
**Genetics in Dental Practice, Are you ready?** (2 CE HR/\$69)

Times are Eastern Standard Time.

**NOV 12, 11 A.M.–1 P.M.** Sam Malkinson, DMD  
**Tertiary Implant Stability** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**NOV 17, 8–9 P.M.** Bethany Valachi, PT, DPT, MS, CEAS  
**5 STEPS To a Practicing Dentistry Pain-Free: Evidence-based Strategies for a Long & Healthy Career** (1 CE HR/\$39)

**NOV 18, 8–10 P.M.** Amal Noureldin, BDS, MSD, MS, PhD  
**Silver Diamine Fluoride is the New Black in Medical Management of Caries: What, Why, When, How?** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**DEC 1, 8–10 P.M.** Nader Hamdan, BDS, MSc, MDent  
**Partial Root Extraction Therapy (PET): A tactic to rescue the buccal plate** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**DEC 9, 8–10 P.M.** Augusto Robles, DDS, MS, DMD & Nathaniel Lawson, DMD, PhD  
**Treating Anterior Discolorations: Microabrasions, Resin Infiltration, and Bleaching** (2 CE HR/\$69)

**DEC 14, 8–9:30 P.M.** Scott Peters, DDS  
**Oral Cancer and Premalignancy: Guide to Diagnosis and Management** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

**ADA CERP**® Continuing Education Recognition Program

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

Updated 7/30/21. All information correct as of press time...UB CDE reserves the right to change tuition, dates, topics and/or speakers as necessary.

# AlumniNews

## The Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting is Back.... LIVE!

Now that the “pandemic pause” is behind us, the UB Dental Alumni Association is thrilled to announce the 44th Annual Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting! It will be held November 3–5 this year at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center.

This premier dental event is stronger than ever, and it will be exciting to get out and network with other dentists, vendors, hygienists, dental students, laboratory technicians and others! Think of it as two years of the successful convention amalgamated into one!

New this year will be many updates to the Convention Center, including a modernized lobby and many other esthetic changes to make your experience better than ever.

The meeting features something for everyone, including discussions on risk management, infection control and CPR certification. Speakers include Jon Suzuki, DDS, PhD, MBA, who will update attendees on Contemporary Clinical Periodontology and Oral Implantology. Other topics include sleep apnea, full-mouth rehabilitation, acid-related diseases of the mouth, dental care for those with dementia, CAD/CAM technologies, and social marketing. Also this year, Michael DiTolla, DDS, FAGD, will be discussing the hot trend of all zirconium crowns!

Registration is open, and many levels of sponsorship are still available for this not-to-be-missed event. Please visit our website for a complete list of speakers, programs and events at [www.bndmeeting.com](http://www.bndmeeting.com) or contact Sherry Szarowski at: 716-829-6419.

## THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE “ALUMNI AND FRIENDS RECEPTION” DURING THE ANNUAL ADA MEETING



**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021**

**Luxor Hotel and Casino, Aurora Lounge**  
3900 South Las Vegas Boulevard  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres  
5:30 pm–7:30 pm

All dues paid alumni and a guest are invited to attend. If you are not a dues paying member of the dental alumni association and wish to attend, contact the alumni office today at (716) 829-2061 to renew or join!

Please RSVP to Sherry Szarowski:  
[ss287@buffalo.edu](mailto:ss287@buffalo.edu)

## Fund Established in Memory of Eric J. Murawski, DDS '14

In December 2020, our community was devastated to learn



about the sudden and unexpected passing of Eric Murawski, '14. Originally from Hornell, NY, Murawski earned his

undergraduate degree in Chemistry from Binghamton. He then attended UB School of Dental Medicine, where he excelled and was accepted in the oral surgery program. Eric earned his M.D. degree and was finishing his final months of general dentistry residency before his life was cut short.

Eric's friends and family are quick to point out that he was always laughing, smiling and was the life of the party. Eric was an accomplished botanist and he was an avid fan of the Buffalo Bills and Sabres.

A true testament to Eric, his friends and family quickly rallied to establish a fund in the dental school to ensure that his legacy lives on. The Eric J. Murawski fund will provide an annual award to a student at the school, who like Eric, shares a passion for education, dentistry and oral surgery.

“I was blown away by the response to the Eric J. Murawski Fund,” says Neil Dengler, senior director of advancement for the dental school. “Within a few weeks we had secured over \$25,000 in commitments,” Dengler adds.

A crowdfunding site has been established for individuals interested in supporting Eric's fund. Donations can be made via [EricJMurawskiMemorialFund.com](http://EricJMurawskiMemorialFund.com) or by contacting Neil Dengler at [ndengler@buffalo.edu](mailto:ndengler@buffalo.edu) or at (716) 881-7486.

## 2021 William Knauf Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament another success

The Eighth District Dental Society held the Annual William Knauf Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament on Monday, June 14, 2021. Dr. Knauf, a 1975 University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine graduate, championed a golf tournament as a social activity for the dental society. The event is one of the organization's most successful events. Dr. Knauf served as president of the Eighth District Dental Society in 1985 and passed away shortly into his presidency. The golf tournament memorializes his contributions.

The University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine's own Dr. Raymond Miller '85, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Oral Diagnostic Sciences, provided the group with an educational and entertaining lecture entitled, "21st Century Forensic Odontology." Dr. Miller discussed the many changes he has seen in the field during his 30-plus year forensic dental career. He also highlighted the many contributions of the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine to the discipline which has led to exonerations of the wrongly convicted based on bad forensic evidence.

The University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association sponsors the event each year to support our alumni and friends.

P.S.: Our alumni president, Carl Embury, DDS '13 won the Overall Championship!



1 READY AT THE TEE. 2 THE REFRESHMENT TENT SPONSORED BY THE UBDDA

## THE SUMMER OLYMPICS HAVE OFFICIALLY BEGUN

A look back through the archives of the SDM finds that several alum participated in the Olympics as well as achieving success in intercollegiate and professional sports. (This is not an all-inclusive list, but rather those that could be verified to this point.)

—Compiled by Robin Comeau

**Dr. William Purdy ('86):** Oral surgeon, was granted a year's leave of absence while a student to allow him to row with the United States crew in the 1984 Olympic games.

**Dr. Harold Gulbransen ('80):** Was an Olympic cyclist prior to his dental school days.

**Dr. Roger Lowlicht ('79):** Served as a member of the crew of the Intrepid (the 12-meter yacht that successfully defended the America's Cup in 1970), prior to entering dental school. He was also involved in the layout and design of the yacht Courageous, which won the cup in 1974.

**Dr. James Ailinger ('25):** Played for the Buffalo All Americans in 1924, when the NFL was only in its' fifth season. He played because he needed money to finish dental school; he earned \$50 a game. It was the era of leather helmets, drop kicks and playing both offense and defense. Ailinger's career lasted eight games, including a busy Thanksgiving weekend. Traveling by train, the All Americans played at Cleveland on Thursday, at Philadelphia on Saturday and New York on Sunday. Injury risk, especially a hand injury, prompted his retirement from football. He played against George Halas, and met Vince Lombardi, when he was still a player. From 1925 to 1960, Ailinger worked 425 games as a college referee, including Army-Navy four times and Harvard-Yale three times. The most famous player he played against was Jim Thorpe, who tried to run Ailinger over on a kick return. In a 1998 interview, Ailinger stated, "All I could see were his knees going up and down. I was knocked out cold, but I tackled him." Also in 1998, he was recognized by the Pro Football Hall of Fame as being the oldest living former NFL player. Dr. Ailinger passed away at the age of 99 on March 27, 2001.

**Dr. George Lesser ('39):** Was an intercollegiate champion in fencing.

**Dr. Karl Englert ('60):** Qualified for the USGA Senior Open.

**Dr. Walter Knych ('57):** Qualified once for the USGA Open and twice for the USGA Senior Open.

**Dr. Richard Powell ('49):** Qualified three times for the USGA Senior Amateur.



# ClassNotes

## REUNION EVENTS

The University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association (UBDAA) met on May 26, 2021 with alumni reunion volunteer leaders at the Irishman Pub and Eatery in Williamsville to kickoff reunion planning. The group was excited to be together in person, with 30 eager volunteers in attendance. The upcoming celebration will include reunion classes from 2020 that were unable to celebrate last year due to COVID-19, along with the reunion classes for 2021.

### SAVE-THE-DATES FOR THE FOLLOWING REUNION EVENTS:

**Remember When Reception**  
Statler City-The Palm Court  
Thursday, November 4, 2021  
5:30-7 p.m.

**Reunion Dinner Dance Gala**  
Buffalo Niagara Convention  
Center Ballroom  
Friday, November 5, 2021  
6:30 p.m. Cocktails / 7:30 p.m. Dinner

**Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting**  
Buffalo Niagara Convention Center  
November 3-5, 2021

*If you are interested in volunteering for your reunion, please contact Sherry Szarowski in the Dental Alumni Office at 716-829-6419.*

### REUNION CHAIR LIST

- 1956 Dr. John V. Lucchese Sr.
- 1961 Dr. Roger W. Triffshauer  
Dr. John H. Twist  
Dr. Richard R. Wilson
- 1966 Dr. Joseph P. Rowbottom
- 1970 Dr. Mort Cohen  
Dr. Marshall D. Fagin  
Dr. Robert A. Gianadda  
Dr. Thomas P. Kenjarski
- 1975 Dr. Joseph P. Breloff  
Dr. Theodore J. Jenkins  
Dr. Anthony J. Mastroianni  
Dr. Lawrence E. Volland
- 1976 Dr. Warren M. Krutchick  
Dr. Stanley L. Zak Jr.
- 1980 Dr. Richard F. Andolina  
Dr. Frank C. Barnashuk  
Dr. John C. Buscaglia  
Dr. James C. Matteliano  
Dr. Charles S. Travagliato
- 1981 Dr. Albert Cantos  
Dr. Gerald T. Carlo  
Dr. Kevin A. D'Angelo  
Dr. Samir El-Chehabi  
Dr. Mindy G. Patcoff-Weinman  
Dr. Elizabeth A. Schisa-D'Angelo
- 1985 Dr. Michael D. Ehlers  
Dr. Stewart M. Fenigstein  
Dr. Raymond G. Miller  
Dr. Patricia J. Starring
- 1986 Dr. Samuel D. Carocci  
Dr. Brendan P. Dowd
- 1990 Dr. Mary Beth Dunn
- 1991 Dr. David A. Ball
- 1996 Dr. Jeffrey M. Dolgos
- 2001 Dr. Hubert W. Hawkins  
Dr. Laura S. Kim-Nigalye
- 2005 Dr. Kevin M. Apolito  
Dr. Emily J. Schaefer
- 2010 Dr. Michelle Augello  
Dr. Mary E. Creps
- 2011 Dr. Elizabeth Hargrave D'Angelo  
Dr. William J. D'Angelo
- 2015 Dr. Laura R. Picano  
Dr. Patricia H. Swanson  
Dr. Al-Shaheen Youssef
- 2016 Dr. Amber Shay

## InMemoriam

**Robert T. Carman, Jr., '60**, of Estero, FL, died on June 8, 2019 at age 85. He retired after practicing general dentistry in Endicott, for over 50 years. He achieved the degree of Masters of the Academy of General Dentistry, MAGD. He was committed to a lifelong philosophy of work hard, play hard, from sports, to motorcycles, to airplanes. He was also an accomplished musician, performing in various concert bands.

**Clifford C. Erler, '56**, passed away on April 5, 2020. He was a Navy dentist before practicing for 35 years in Connecticut. A skier and golfer, he had four holes-in-one.

**Harry L. Geiger, MS Ortho '69**, of Jacksonville, Florida, died on December 16, 2020.

**James N. Mitchell, '61**, 85, of Fleming, died on December 27, 2020. He served in the Air Force dental service before opening a private practice in Auburn in 1964, which he ran for several years before accepting a position with the Veteran's Hospital Administration in Syracuse. He cared for the dental needs of veterans for more than 25 years before retiring as the acting chief of dental services. He was an outstanding athlete for Auburn High School in the early 1950's and excelled in track and cross country running. He also loved



**1** UB DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERS MEET IN WILLIAMSVILLE TO START PLANNING FOR THE UPCOMING REUNIONS. **2** ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERS CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS AS THE PLANNING MEETING DRAWS TO A CLOSE.



**2**

tennis and bowling. He was an accomplished pianist as well.

**Thomas Guy Gibbs, '83**, of Rochester, died on May 28, 2021 at age 64. He was born and raised in Avon, where many of his lifelong passions took hold from a young age—space, sports, and biking. Friends, family, and patients remember his unfailingly quick wit and dry sense of humor. A love for space, sparked at the age of 12 by the moon landing, carried on throughout his life as a constant subject of curiosity and wonder. He shared this love with his three sons, waking them in the middle of the night to watch for meteor showers, building model rockets, and visiting the National Air and Space Museum.

**Jean G. Haar, '51, MD**, died on February 15, 2021. Following a career in the Navy, he graduated from UB dental school and medical school with an MD in 1956. He interned at Buffalo General Hospital, did a surgical residency and trained in otolaryngology from 1957–1960. He became head of the Department of Otolaryngology at Buffalo General Hospital, and developed a fellowship in oncologic head and neck surgery. In 2001, he was recruited to become clinical chief of otolaryngology at Kaleida Health. He was a diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, the American Board of Otolaryngology and the American College of Surgeons. Haar was clinical pro-

fessor of oral and maxillofacial surgery at the SDM.

**Michael A. Impaglia, '52**, of Fairmount, died on June 27, 2020 at age 93. He served in the US Air Force Dental Corp, stationed in France during the Korean Conflict. After discharge from the service, he began his dental practice in Fairmount. He was a past president of the 5th District and Onondaga County Dental Societies. He was a Fellow of the International and American Colleges of Dentistry. He served as a clinical instructor at Onondaga Community College, School of Dental Hygiene, as well as a member of the medical staff in the Department of Dental Surgery as a Teaching/Attending in the St. Joseph's Hospital Dental Residents program from 1976 to 2013.

**George B. Keep, '61**, of Hanover, died on March 11, 2020. He practiced general dentistry out of two offices in the Syracuse area for several decades. He was involved in choral music throughout his life, singing with the Cornell Glee Club, Masterworks Chorale of Skaneateles, NY and most recently, the Hanover Barbershop Chorus. He was a gifted watercolor artist, a hobby that he never stopped enjoying.

**Robert B. Martin, '59**, of Canandaigua, died January 2, 2021 at age 92. An Army veteran, he joined the Canandaigua VA Medical Center in 1966 where he served as a dentist for 23 years. Following his retire-

ment in 1989 he participated as a tutor in the Adult Basic Education Program at Finger Lakes Community College until 2013. He also served with the U.S. Army Reserve Medical Corp. from 1965 through 1988.

**Norman D. Mohl, '56**, age 89, died on February 24, 2021. (See Oral Science, page 12.)

**Noel H. Monte, '72, MD**, died on November 4, 2020.

**Richard R. O'Connor, '64**, of Vero Beach, FL, died on April 13, 2021. After retiring from private practice in Eggertsville, he volunteered at the Good Neighbors Dental Clinic in Buffalo.

**Philip A. Peschio, '61**, of Derby, died at age 80 on July 29, 2015. He worked many years in the dental clinic at the Buffalo Psychiatric Center and was a former member of the Civil Air Patrol.

**Bruce M. Renders, '68**, of Rome died on April 17, 2020 at age 76. Active in the Boy Scouts, he proudly earned the rank of Eagle Scout and was elected to the council of the Order of the Arrow. After serving in the U.S. Army Dental Corp, he opened a private dental practice in Boonville, which he ran for 50 years. He enjoyed coin and stamp collecting and spent countless hours boating on Lake Delta and decades of summers vacationing on the St. Lawrence River with his wife and children.

**Myron M. Serling, '56**, died on May 15, 2021. He entered the US

Navy immediately after graduating from Albany High School at age 17. He attended Syracuse University and the University of Buffalo where he received his DDS and Orthodontics Certificate in 1961. He set up a dental practice in Albany, and three years later returned to UB, receiving advanced training in orthodontia. As well as his regular patients, he was proud to initiate care to the children from the Center for Disability Services.

**Gale E. Stranigan, '60**, age 88, of Stuart, FL., formerly of Lakewood, died on Dec. 23, 2020. He practiced dentistry in West Palm Beach, Fla., and Jamestown, retiring in 2018. He enjoyed gardening and raising azaleas. His property was a beautiful sight to behold in the spring.

**William Thompson, 81**, of Fort Myers, Fla., formerly of Akron, Ohio, died on Feb. 2, 2021. He served as a captain in the U.S. Army from 1965 to 1970 and was a dentist in the Akron area for many years.

#### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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

FSC LOGO

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.

Looking ahead to the Fall of 2021, we are planning to host an in-person meeting at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center on November 3-5, 2021. We will also prepare for a virtual or hybrid meeting if circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 Pandemic continue to keep us apart. The safety and well-being of our attendees remains our first priority. We hope that you will make plans to attend the 44th annual Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting whether it be live or virtual.



# Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting

NOVEMBER 3-5

# 2021

[BNDMeeting.com](http://BNDMeeting.com)

PRESENTED BY UB DENTAL  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Keynote Speakers:

- MICHAEL C. DITOLLA,  
DDS, FAGD
- MARK E. HYMAN,  
DDS, MAGD
- MICHAEL NAZARETH,  
MD, PhD
- BRIAN B. NOVY, DDS
- TRICIA OSUNA, RDH,  
BSDH, FAADH
- TODD C. SNYDER,  
DDS, FAACD
- JON B. SUZUKI, DDS,  
PhD, MBA

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