

UB DENTIST

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE **SUMMER 2022**



DR. MIRDZA NEIDERS
is Raising the Ranks
and Paying it Forward

Faculty Profile **p8**

Our people make the dental school special.

During my first weeks in office as interim dean, I took tours of our dental school under the guidance of Matt Deck, Director of Clinical Operations, to get to know the place better and to introduce myself as the new “kid on the block.” While talking with the people working here, I made one amazing discovery. No matter with whom I spoke, all identified with our school and were proud to be part of the place. Of course, I occasionally got to also hear some critical comments, but those were generally communicated in a friendly and constructive way and will help us improve the place as we move forward with our planning for the future. Overall, my impression is that people who work here love our school. Most believe that the dental school is a terrific place to work.

Why is that? Again, the most common answer given is “the people.” The people who fill those busy halls are dedicated, supportive and collaborative. Regardless of the jobs people hold, they concur that if they face difficulty—professional or personal—one colleague or more will lend a hand, or a shoulder to lean on.

This issue of *UB Dentist* is dedicated to our staff, some of them having been employed here for many years, and others who only recently joined our workforce. This issue is also dedicated to individuals having become role models at our school for the next generation.

One such individual featured in this issue is Dr. Mirdza “Mitzi” Neiders, a SUNY Distinguished Teaching

Professor who taught at the school for 58 years, and who recently donated a large amount of money to establish the “Dr. Mitzi Neiders Educational Fund for Women Faculty.” The fund is designed to help women advance in dental school academia. “My goal is to evolve women as role models not only for women but also for men,” Neiders said. What a great statement that is!

Another success story covered in this issue is our Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) program which under the leadership of current program director, Dr. Joseph Rumfola, is now in its 30th year.

Just as things started to move toward normalcy after our school had reemerged from the COVID pandemic, the horrific racist and hate fueled mass-shooting happened in Tops Supermarket on Jefferson Avenue in our city of Buffalo. This abhorrent event has once again shown us that we live in an insecure world. While much of what happens in this world lies not in our power to change, we can make sure that our immediate surroundings remain intact and provide a sense of safety for those who need it. For that, it helps that people enjoy being at the school and being with each other. Let us make sure the school’s supportive, caring culture endures!



Dr. Stefan Ruhl, DDS, PhD
*Professor and Associate Chair, Department of Oral Biology
Interim Dean, University at Buffalo, School of Dental Medicine*

FROM THE DEAN



ON THE COVER:

Dr. Mirdza Neiders is flanked by Dr. Nicole Hinchy (left), Dr. Isolde Rojas-Rudolph and Dr. Lisa Yerke, the first beneficiaries of her academic fund.

Photo by Douglas Levere

UBDENTIST

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IN THIS ISSUE

SUMMER 2022



10

STAFF MAKE THIS SCHOOL GREAT

People really appreciate and enjoy working at the dental school.

14

AEGD PROGRAM THRIVING

The Advanced Education in General Dentistry program has grown and evolved during its 30 years.

18

A GROUP OF PROUD GRADUATES

Meet the class of 2022 and see where they are all headed.

- 4 ALUMNI PRESIDENT'S LETTER
- 5 NEWS BRIEFS
- 8 FACULTY PROFILE
- 9 DEVELOPMENT
- 24 CE COURSE CALENDAR
- 26 ALUMNI NEWS
- 28 CLASS NOTES / IN MEMORIAM
- 30 STUDENT RESEARCH DAY

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

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Dear UB SDM Alumni, Dental Students and Staff,

It is an honor to have been chosen to lead the University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association (UBDAA) as your President for the next two years. As a member of the Executive Council, I learned that all our committee volunteers are dedicated and passionate about our association and our school. All are committed to the tenets of our mission statement to provide a link between our members and the School of Dental Medicine, to support student activities and to improve the quality of student life.

We have all been afforded great opportunities through our dental education. It is our duty to not only respect those who have come before us but to encourage and support those following in our paths. In doing so, we are recognized as one of the more formidable alumni associations within the UB system.

For those of you who don't know me, I was born Genene Jarosz in Buffalo. My passion for alpine ski racing took me to schools and mountains outside of WNY. I have been married for 30 years to Peter Crofut, Detective Sergeant of the Amherst Police Department and we have three children, Hannah, Peter and Tucker who are well on their way to pursuing their own goals (some even living and working close to great skiing). I graduated from UB with a BS in Physical Therapy in 1992, and worked in acute care and geriatric rehabilitation until the dental school led me to the best career decision in my life, DDS '03.

As the COVID pandemic has stretched into its third year, it is encouraging to see a cautious relaxation of the many

protective mandates. Our Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting of 2021 was a great success. We are planning for the BNDM 2022, November 2-4.

Your UBDAA has been a continued beacon of support for the School of Dental Medicine. In our first 100 years, we supported one endowed chair. To date we are working on our fifth. Development continues to be an important arm of the UBDAA. It serves to help recruit some of the best dental educators in the world. This year the UB School of Dental Medicine ranked #8 in the United States and #9 in the world. How proud are you?

During the next two years and beyond, I hope to have greater participation from our youngest alumni members. We encourage diversity and inclusion to make the UBDAA even better than it already is. Consider joining our reoccurring membership plan of the UBDAA (dental.buffalo.edu/alumni). Call a classmate and challenge them to a donation, matching funds or becoming a member of UBDAA.

If you have questions, concerns or ideas for the UBDAA, please contact our Executive Director, Sherry Szarowski at ss287@buffalo.edu.

Professionally Yours,



Genene Crofut, DDS '03, President, UB Dental Alumni Association

P.S. And if there are any takers on the ski hill, hit me up through Sherry too—ski on!

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Strong Alumni
Association Supports
and Strengthens the
Dental School.

NewsBriefs

Faculty and Staff Transitions

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

Clinical Dentistry

Welcome to: Alyssa Hawks (Welcome Ctr. Customer Service Rep.), Oyenike Ologbenla and Omolola Shitter (Sterilization Supply Techs.), Miguel Santiago (Stock Clerk), Joshua Redden (Dental Assistant); Goodbye to: Lauren Arth, Antoinette Williams and Katrina Delaney (retiring after 36 years)

Dean's Office

Welcome to: Valerie Jesonowski (Office Asst.), Lindsay Chakan (Project Admin. Officer), Angela Wilson (Compliance Asst.) and Brandi Bevilacqua (Research Asst. – Microbiome Ctr.); Goodbye to: Carol Mills (retiring after 18 years) and Sarah Augustyne.

MDU Outreach

Welcome to: Nicole Davis (Dental Asst./Intake Coordinator), April Whitfield (Coordinator), Alicia Hulme, '18 (dentist); Goodbye to: Amber Kelder.

Office of Academic Affairs

Goodbye to Carol Tutzauer (retiring after 24 years)

Office of Advanced Education

Goodbye to: Lynn Garguiolo (retiring after 11 years).

Office of Dental Alumni Association

Welcome to: Jessica Nelson (Staff Asst.).

Office of Information Resources

Welcome to: Karol Kagan Chromiak (IT Desktop Tech.), Brent Climenhaga (Instructional Support Assoc.) and Jaclyn Bodack (Application Supprt Spec.); Goodbye to: Michael Brandt (retiring after 25 years), Peter Lyden and Alexandria Goodsell.

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Welcome to: Steven Vukas (FT) and Amy Bryan, '85 (Clinical Assistant Professors); Goodbye to: John Campbell, '81 (retiring after 18 years, including service as Program Director and Interim Department Chair).

Oral Biology

Welcome to: Shikha Jain, Talita Santos (Postdoctoral Associates), Qinghuang Tang (Research Scientist), Kai-On Cheng (Research Support Spec.) and Hummin Jung (Research Tech.); Goodbye to: Benjamin Cross, Megan Jones, Woojoo Song, Eun-Myung Mary Song, Susan Morey (retiring) and Mary Carr (retiring after 16 years).

Oral and Diagnostic Sciences

Welcome to: Nicole Hinchy, '12 (FT) (Clinical Assistant Professor); Goodbye to: Anne Meyer (retiring after 36 years including service as Program Director and Associate Dean for Research), Maureen Donley, '80 (retiring after 34 years including service as Director of Radiology), Heidi Crow, MS Oral Sci., '91, TMD Cert., '91 (retiring after 18 years including service as Program Director, Department Chair, and Associate Dean for Advanced Education).



GONZALEZ-STUCKER

Dr. Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker, '05, MS Oral Sci., '95, TMD, '96, has been named Department Chair after serving as Interim Chair since October, 2020.

Orthodontics

Welcome to: William Tanberg (Biostatistics Asst.) and Kellie Biber (Administrative Asst.).

Periodontics and Endodontics

Welcome to: Lisa Solomon (Dental Hygienist), Mariel Webber, '15, Endo Cert., '19, Joseph Breloff, '75, Sharaschanda Govindool, Endo Cert., '22 (FT), Ryan Shure, Anna Paritsky (FT) (Clinical Assistant Professors)



PANTERA

and Eugene Pantera, Endo Cert., '86, MS Oral Sci., '87 (Clinical Associate Professor and Interim Program Director); Goodbye to: Asal Barem, Michelle Bessinger and Adham Abdel Azim (FT).



YERKE

Dr. Lisa Yerke, '06, MS Oral Sci., '16, was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor and Program Director for the Advanced Education Program in Periodontics.

Dr. Robert Cohen, '81, MS Dent Materials, '82, Perio Cert., '85, PhD Oral Biol., '87, accepted the position of Interim Chair. He is a tenured Professor and has been on the faculty since



COHEN

1986 including service as Program Director. He received the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2008.

Restorative Dentistry

Welcome to: Tyler McClusky (Dental Tech.), Alyssa Tzetzto, '20, AEGD '21, Norman Stoj, '87, MS Oral Sci., '93, Eric Niles, '19, Mary Ricotta, Pros Cert., '85, Sukmeet Gujral, '20, Jordan Blair, '14, Howard Stern, Todd Corbitt and Eiad Elathamna, Pros Cert., '11, MS Oral Sci., '12 (FT)(Clinical Assistant Professors); Goodbye to: Kevin Bolger, '13, Dana Keblawi, Pros Cert., '08, MS Oral Sci., '09 (FT), Tyler Ferguson, Rafael Khavis, '19, AEGD '20, Casey Depauw, AEGD '20, Dennis Blair, '77 (retiring after 15 years), Gary Alexander, '81, Fixed Pros Cert., '83 (retiring after 24 years), Donald Antonson (FT) (retiring after 14 years including service as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs) and David Brown, '83 (FT) (retiring after 34 years including service as Director of Student Admissions).



PATCOFF-WEINMAN

A sorrowful goodbye to Dr. Mindy Patcoff-Weinman, '81, ECMC Gen Pract Cert., '82, who died on October 2, 2021 while serving on the faculty for 22 years. She is greatly missed by her colleagues, students and patients.

2 GIVE RAVEN A SMILE

There is the beautiful story of philanthropy that includes UB School of Dental Medicine alumni and a young patient, Raven Thuman, who uses a wheelchair and has Cerebral Palsy. Raven is a model with Tamara's Models and Talent Agency. Raven's favorite aesthetic for photo shoots is fairy tales, and thanks to the kindness and connections of her favorite dental hygienist at University Pediatric Dentistry, Mariya Rubleva, and UB pediatric dentist and Clinical Assistant Professor Meelin Dian Chin Kit-Wells, '94, Ped Dent Cert., '00, her own fairy tale is coming true.

When Dr. Chin Kit-Wells heard about Raven's concerns through Mariya, she reached out to alumni orthodontists to ask for a volunteer to provide orthodontic work to relieve the pain of her ectopic canines. Both Sunny Leong, '05, and James Gleason, '06, Ortho MS/Cert. '09, stepped up to donate their time and services. As Dr. Gleason resides in Rochester, he is logistically more able to provide the care needed, than Dr. Leong, who is located in Canada.



HYGIENIST MARIYA RUBLEVA, RAVEN THUMAN, AND DR. JAMES GLEASON

Raven recently attended the Dental Carnival at the Give Kids a Smile Event. She greatly enjoyed socializing, but was even more overjoyed by the idea of receiving braces. "Thank you, now I can have no pain!", she said. A hero is nominated for each Give Kids a Smile Event, and this year both Gleason and Leong will be recognized for their generosity of spirit. When asked if she planned on having a celebratory photo shoot once her orthodontic treatment is complete, she replied, "I hadn't thought of that, but now I will!"

BOLD MEANS MAKING SMILES.

At UB, we've proven we can do anything when we come together. Our students have boundless ambition. Our faculty have unstoppable drive. And we're fueling the future with discovery and innovation. The *Boldly Buffalo* campaign is on course to raise \$1 billion. buffalo.edu/campaign

BOLDLY BUFFALO

THE CAMPAIGN FOR UB

3 Research Grant Funding to UB School of Dental Medicine

During the period from July 1, 2021 to June 1, 2022, \$4.8 million in research grant funding was awarded to dental school researchers.

Based on data from NIH, **total NIH funding** for FY21 (Oct 1, 2020–Sept 30, 2021) to UB’s dental school researchers was approximately \$4.6 million.

UB’s dental school ranked #14 of 48 dental schools receiving **NIDCR funding** in FY 21.

Awards during the July 1, 2021–June 1, 2022 period [Yr 1, unless noted otherwise]

Supported by Federal/State Funds

Abel, S., PI: “School-based dental sealant program”; NYS Department of Health (yr 5).

Arany, P., PI: “IPA for Praveen Arany: Anti-aging strategies with photobiomodulation therapy”; NIA (yr 2).

Arany, P., Co-I (with Xia, J., PI): “Development of photoacoustic tomography for non-invasive, label-free imaging of tissue perfusion in chronic wounds”; NIBIB (yr 2).

Diaz-Moreno, P., PI: “Treatment of periodontitis by homing M2 macrophages”; University of Pittsburgh/federal flow-through (yr 2).

Diaz-Moreno, P., Kirkwood, K., Kwon, H., Xu, D., Co-I (with Murphy, T. PI): “University at Buffalo Clinical and Translational Science Institute”; National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences.

Edgerton M., PI: “Candida albicans secreted protease Sap6 engages epithelial protease-activated receptors PAR2 and NLRP3”; NIDCR.

Homma, K., PI: “Impact of β -glucan metabolism on the development of pathogenic biofilms”; NIDCR (yr 2).

Kay, J., PI: “Fellowship for Kiana Bynum: Cooperativity of oral microbes in evading neutrophil-mediated killing”; NIDCR.

Kay, J., PI, Sharma, A., Visser-Kay, M., Co-I: “A role for immune cell plasticity in commensal survival and escalation of inflammation”; NIDCR (yr 3).

Kay, J., PI: “Fellowship for Sarah Metcalfe: Mechanisms of oral Streptococcus macrophage activation”; NIDCR (yr 3).

Kirkwood, K., PI: “Topical Vitamin D and periodontal disease”; University of Louisville/federal flow-through.

Kirkwood, K., PI: “Buffalo Oral-Research and Specialty Training Program (BORST)”; NIDCR (yr 4)

Kramer, J., Co-I (with Bou Ghanem, E., PI): “The role of neutrophils in the age-driven decline in anti-pneumococcal vaccine responses”; NIA (yr 2).

Kramer, J., PI, Romano R., Co-I: “Analysis of MyD88-mediated immune activation in Sjögrens syndrome pathogenesis”; NIDCR (yr 3).

Kwon, H., PI: “Epigenetic regulatory roles of MII4 in palate development”; 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 4).

Romano R., Co-I (with Sinha, S., PI): “Genomic and epigenomic investigations of the transcrip-

tional regulatory network of skin keratinocytes in defined genetic models”; NIAMS (yr 5).

Ruhl, S., Co-PI (with Gokcumen, O., PI): “RoL: Salivary proteome evolution as a framework to elucidate the mechanisms of functional change involving genomic structural variation”; NSF (yr 2).

Ruhl, S., PI, Vickerman, M., Co-I: “Microbial recognition of sialic acid diversity in the oral cavity”; NIDCR (yr 9)

Ruhl, S., PI: “Advanced Training in Oral Biology”; NIDCR (yr 9).

Ruhl, S., PI, Kauffman, AK., Co-I: “A community knowledgebase to evaluate host-microbial salivary proteomics”; Forsyth Institute/federal flow-through.

Ruhl, S., PI: “Fellowship for Patrick Punch: Sialic acid mediated phagocytosis of oral streptococci”; NIDCR.

Sharma, A., PI: “Bacterial sialometabolic activity impacts periodontal immunity and microbiota”; NIDCR (yr 2).

Visser-Kay, M., PI, Sharma, A., Co-I: “The role of oral spirochete virulence factors in the impairment of neutrophil response”; NIDCR (yr 4).

Xu, D., PI: “In vitro synthesis of recombinant heparan sulfate”; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill/federal flow-through (yr 4).

Supported by Industry

Arany, P., PI: “High-voltage electrical stimulator for its ability to improve skin health”; NST Consultants, Inc.

Diaz-Moreno, P., PI: “Testing of anti-plaque agents in subject-specific, clinically relevant, subgingival biofilm models”; Sunstar, Inc.

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 (yr 2).

Supported by Foundations, Associations, or Institutions

Abel, S., PI: “UB S-miles-to Go: Expanding oral healthcare to assist vulnerable populations in Western New York through accessible, team-based, integrated models”; Mother Cabrini Health Fdn.

Abel, S., PI: “Building a collaborative effort to improve the oral health of the special needs communities of WNY”; Delta Dental Community Care Fdn.

Al-Jewair, T., PI: “Detection and management of sleep bruxism with automated mandibular movement monitoring in children and adolescents”; American Association of Orthodontists Fdn.

Ikonomou, L., PI: “In vitro differentiation of parathyroid cells from stem cells”; Massachusetts General Hospital.

Visser-Kay, M., PI, Andreana, S., Dziak, R., Co-I: “Strontium-loaded hydrogel scaffolds to improve soft tissue healing in a rabbit mandible implant model”; American Academy of Implant Dentistry.

A FUND TO HELP WOMEN CLIMB THE DENTAL ACADEMIC LADDER

By Grove Potter

WHEN DR. MIRDZA NEIDERS came to the United States at age 17, she could not speak English. Her family had fled Latvia after World War II and spent six years in a camp in Germany awaiting passage to the U.S.

Her father was a physician, and her mother was a dentist, and she aspired to be a dentist. So a life of hard work in the classroom, learning the language and excelling in math and the sciences, ultimately brought her to the UB School of Dental Medicine, where she taught for 58 years.

At the start of her dental career, there were very, very few women in the profession in this country. There were no women in her University of Michigan dental school class, and none in the UB dental school class of 1962, when she started. But that has changed dramatically, and Dr. Neiders has played a significant role in that transformation as a teacher and mentor.

"I walked into a school in 1962 where the graduating class had zero women. In 1972, we had about five percent, and in 1982 it was 15 percent," she said. "And just look at it now. In 2022, it's 56 percent."

To help women continue to rise in the ranks of dental academia, she recently created a fund to help female professors in the two departments where she taught and did research—Oral Diagnostic Sciences and Periodontology—attain more training.

"My goal is to evolve women as role models not only for women but also for

men," said Neiders, who retired as a SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor. "In academics you have to be up to date. You have to keep improving yourself."

Three UB faculty are current recipients of grants from the Neiders fund: Nicole Hinchy, '12, Isolde Rojas-Rudolph and Lisa Yerke, '06, MS Oral Sci., '16. They have also benefitted from her dedicated mentorship.

"She has had a pretty profound influence," said Hinchy, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Oral Diagnostic Sciences and Director of Radiology at the dental school. "It's nice to have someone like that in your corner."

"She was very intimidating, so if you knew you had to call upon Dr. Neiders, you better be on your game," she recalled of the atmosphere during her dental school years. "But I do think she was appreciated by those of us who understood there was something to gain from speaking with her."

"When I was a senior in dental school, she pulled me aside and gave me an article about women in medicine and how we have to get a stronger voice out there," Hinchy said. "She is definitely more apt to push the female students."

"I hope she knows how much she has been appreciated by everyone she has come across in the dental school," Hinchy said. "She has really touched a lot of lives. Whether or not people are able to recognize that, I believe that is true. It's been great knowing her."



MIRDZA NEIDERS

A COMMON BOND

For Rojas-Rudolph, DDS, PhD, Clinical Assistant Professor, in the Department of Periodontics and Endodontics, being an immigrant from Chile gave her a common bond with Neiders.

"She understands the importance of getting credentials here," she said. "She is inspiring and also strongly influenced me. She helped me believe in myself. For some period I think she believed in me more than I did. That really is a mentor. That really is a teacher."

"She loves the dental school. She believes in the dental school," Rojas-Rudolph said. "She loves the students and the mission, so she wants to make sure that the dental school has the best people. Not only the people who are good academically, but she also appreciates the personal qualities of people."

Yerke, Clinical Associate Professor and Director of Advanced Education Programs in Periodontics, remembers how Neiders helped her as a dental student.

"Everytime I saw her in clinic, she was always, always learning something. If she wasn't talking to a student, she would always have a book," she recalled. "One time she was learning Spanish just for the sake of learning Spanish. I loved it. I loved the fact that she was always learning something and her brain was always busy," she said.

"If you walked over, she would immediately put that down and

Development News

prioritize you and sit with you and listen to whatever your questions were," she said. "She was amazing."

Now pursuing a PhD in Epidemiology, Yerke said Neiders gave her advice that resonated after she graduated from dental school. "She would always tell me that I would have to be much more independent and I would have to prove myself just by being more credentialed. Honestly, in dental school I didn't appreciate it. I always felt during my pre-doc years I was treated very, very fairly. So I assumed that the workplace would be like that, but I saw instead that I was working twice as much but making less than my male colleagues."

PAYING IT FORWARD

The first Neiders grant recipients feel a responsibility to carry on the mission behind the fund, assisting women dental professionals climb the academic ladder.

"I'll never be able to thank Mitzi enough for what she's given me, but I definitely want to pay it forward," Yerke said. "And I know the others feel that way too. There's no way we can do for her what she's done for us, but it's all about passing it on."

"I'm not in a position now to start my own fund, but I'm hoping toward the end of my career, I do want to give back. I do want to pass on that good will in other ways. It would mean a lot to pass it on to women here."

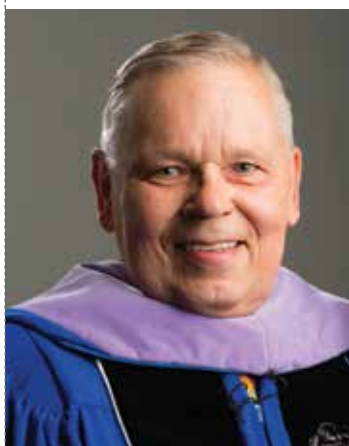
Along those lines, Neiders said she hopes others at the school and in the alumni community consider contributing to her fund to maintain the support for women faculty at the school.

Yerke said Neiders summed up the passion behind that desire when she told her of her plans to help the effort.

"I told Mitzi I was planning to pay it forward, and she said 'Good. That's the way it's meant to be.'"

Anyone interested in contributing to the "Dr. Mitzi Neiders Educational Fund for Women Faculty" can contact Neil Dengler, Senior Director of Advancement at the dental school, at (716) 881-7486 or ndengler@buffalo.edu. **UBD**

Student Award Created in Memory of Dr. Davis Garlapo



DAVIS GARLAPO

For nearly five decades, Davis Garlapo, '68, Fixed Pros Cert., '74, impacted countless students, won numerous accolades—including educator of the year on four different occasions and made a lasting impact on the profession.

Shortly after his passing in Fall 2021, former students and colleagues began to brainstorm about how best to recognize Dr. Garlapo—and ensure that his legacy lives on in perpetuity.

Two of Dr. Garlapo's students: Jane Brewer, '78, Fixed Pros Cert., '82, MS Oral Sci., '85, and Thomas Tobias, '83, Gen Pract Cert., '84, have initiated efforts to raise money in support of creating the Dr. Davis Garlapo Award, which will benefit UB dental students who perform at a high level in prosthodontics.

"Initially, our goal is to raise \$25,000 to create a student award—and we're well on our way" says Neil Dengler, senior director of advancement for the school. "Longer term, we hope to raise \$100,000, hopefully more," Dengler adds, with the plan of establishing an endowed scholarship in Dr. Garlapo's name.

To learn more about how you can support the Dr. Davis Garlapo Award, please contact Neil Dengler at (716) 881-7486; ndengler@buffalo.edu.

"Initially, our goal is to raise \$25,000 to create a student award—and we're well on our way."

Neil Dengler
Senior Director of
Advancement



What makes the dental school such a special place to work?

STORY BY GROVE POTTER

Supportive. Collaborative. Interested. Caring Staff.

TALK TO PEOPLE WHO WORK AT THE UB SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE—IN ANY DEPARTMENT—and those are the words you will hear describing staff colleagues and the culture. For a large, complex institution training hundreds of students and dozens of scientists, those are intangible qualities that can make an imposing place feel welcoming.

“We really have something special here,” said **Annamarie Phalen**, Director of Continuing Dental Education, a 27-year veteran at the school. “I work with good people and I like the faculty we work with. They are dynamic and have good ideas and are excited about what they are doing.”

Barbara Sutton, Administrative Assistant in Periodontics and Endodontics, agrees that the people at the school make it special. “The people are intelligent. Most of them are teachers. If you don’t understand something, they will take the time to explain everything to you. I think in the outside world they don’t do that. They just expect you to know things,” she said. “It’s nice to work with the cream of the crop.”

At the school for 19 years, Sutton said she has recommended working at UB to friends, especially the dental school. She was awarded the Dean’s Award for staff members in 2017, proof of her belief that “they do appreciate you here.”

“They are also open to what you think,” she said. “They always want my opinion. Sometimes my ideas work and sometimes not, but they are always willing to listen.”

The dental school employs about 200 staff in clinical, administrative, research and community outreach positions. Many are local and many have been attracted from elsewhere. And regardless of their areas of expertise, they concur that the school has a culture that attracts people and makes them comfortable and want to stay.

When Phalen started at UB, she took over marketing of continuing education, creating brochures and conducting fax campaigns to dentists’ offices around the region. That has evolved into social media campaigns and email outreach.

The state requires 60 hours of continuing dental education each three years for dentists, which keeps Phalen busy organizing training sessions. UB faculty teach the courses, including about half a dozen that repeat annually plus many other specific programs. There are online courses, but the state also requires attending a live course.

“They are dentists and there are a lot of new things,” Phalen said. “They need to keep on top of it.”

During the Covid pandemic, much of the training went virtual, and UB partnered with the Association for Continuing Dental Education which recruited faculty at various schools to create almost weekly programs at no cost.

“This is the second year and it has been very, very successful,” she said.

Perhaps the glory days for Phalen were the years of “Club Dent” (a play on Club Med), when continuing education ran educational trips to exotic all-inclusive resorts. Dentists could bring their families and staffs and attend classes during the days.

“That fizzled out in the 2000’s when there was a big market crash,” she said. “We just didn’t have enough people to make it work. It ran for 20 years. We had groups as big as 100 people traveling.”

“We really have something special here...They are dynamic and have good ideas and are excited about what they are doing.”

ANNAMARIE PHALEN

ANNAMARIE PHALEN



BARBARA SUTTON



CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

“A lot of our job is failure, so being able to bounce ideas off really smart people who have gone through it too is quintessential to a productive career.”

CHRISTIAN AHERN

CHRISTIAN AHERN



STRONG RESEARCH CULTURE

Christian Ahern is a New Hampshire native who earned his PhD in microbiology and immunology at UB. He is now a post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Oral Biology. “It’s definitely the people,” he said when asked about the best aspects of the school. “I’m super interested in my research and science in general, but what makes coming to work everyday great is the people you get to do your work with,” he said. “A lot of our job is failure, so being able to bounce ideas off really smart people who have gone through it too is quintessential to a productive career.”

He is investigating proteins of oral bacteria that bind to sugars, either in the mouth or on other bacteria. “It’s this complex matrix of binding to the host and to other bacteria for dental plaque and oral biofilm formation. That’s what I am studying now.”

At the recent dental school research day, he had the opportunity to check out the other basic science research being done in the Oral Biology department and also the clinical research being done at the dental school. “That’s a two-way street. What’s going on at the lab bench and how are they applying that to the bedside or at the dentist’s chair.”

Rohitashw Kumar is a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Oral Biology whose research focuses on a specific fungal protease, called SAP 6, and how it can influence proteases in epithelial cells in the mouth. “I want to work developing an inhibitor which can protect you from proteases attacking the oral cavity.”

He applied and was hired to work in Dr. Mira Egerton’s lab in 2010. He had been studying the same fungus that she was, *Candida albicans*, while earning his PhD in India. Since arriving he has helped author four papers and train several PhD students.

ROHITASHW KUMAR



“The research culture here is very supportive,” he said, describing how other scientists shared their lab equipment before he secured his own cell culturing equipment. “And we get good guidance from senior faculty.”

When he arrived as a new international post-doc, he found UB as a whole difficult to navigate, but the staff in Oral Biology were extremely helpful. “They were excellent. You just mention something and they come up with a solution.”

He called the students he has worked with in the lab “incredible... the students here in oral biology are amazing.”

CHALLENGING AND FULFILLING WORK

Theresa Gendron, Human Resources Administrator for the dental school, has grown with her job since being hired in 2006. Handling HR in the dental school is challenging, she said, because of the medical compliance requirements on top of general employment issues.

“We’re a health care facility, an Article 28 health care facility, so the Department of Health can come in and they do... This is just like a hospital. We credential our dentists as if they are working in a hospital,” she said.

That complexity, and the continual changes in NY State labor law, keep the job from getting boring, she said. The toughest part comes when people lose their jobs, particularly because of vaccine regulations.

“That’s the biggest challenge, when you have to let someone go and they are otherwise a good employee,” she said. On the other side, the job can get creative “when the department really wants to hire somebody, and we have to figure out how we can do it and finance it.”

THERESA GENDRON



LOCAL AND LOVING IT

Among the homegrown talent working at the UBSDM, count **Kurt Winter**, Assistant to the Chair of the Department of Oral Biology. He earned his masters and PhD in higher education administration at UB, and his father is a researcher in the Department of Pharmacology.

KURT WINTER



“I was raised by a person who lives and dies by NIH funding. Now I help people who live and die by research funding in this department, almost entirely from the NIH,” he said.

Approaching 20 years working at UB, Winter said he “never expected to stay so long.” He credits his “great boss,” Dr. Frank Scannapieco, and a great staff.

“Our folks have done very well recently getting funded, getting their students fellowships, and Dr. Scannapieco has brought in very good faculty. Everyone has gotten tenure and made full professor,” he said.

Oral Biology has 18 faculty members, plus PhD students, lab technicians, research scientists and postdoctoral fellows that total about 100 people. “Our job is to free them as much as possible so they can do the science,” he said, “That’s the best thing about the job.”

The biggest challenge: “There aren’t enough folks trying to reduce the bureaucracy.”

OPPORTUNITY EVERYWHERE

Jason Chwirut, Instructional Media Specialist, is another family legacy working at the dental school. His mother was a dental assistant at the school for 42 years who noticed the words “Media Center” on a door when walking down a hall. Her son had just earned a digital media degree at Canisius College, so she inquired and learned there was an opening for an assistant. He landed the job, and has been there for 17 years.

“I love the people here. It’s a great place to work,” he said. “It’s like a family.”

He helps everyone in the school with marketing and media assistance, including instructional videos and helping prepare and print about 70 giant research posters for the school’s Research

Day. He was honored at the recent graduation with the Charles Lipani Award given to a faculty or staff member for exceptional service.

He earned a masters in curriculum development and instructional technology and soon will transition into the curriculum manager position.

“The one thing about working at UB is there is the opportunity to grow,” he said. “Even if you have to transfer into a different school or department, there are opportunities all over the place.”

TRULY CARING COLLEAGUES

Judith Taneff, Staff Assistant in Clinical Dentistry, has a vital role in the dental school. She is the go-to person for help with the axiUm health record system that keeps patient records and tracks student/resident experiences in the clinic.

“It’s our electronic health records, so we have all our patients in there, all their data is in there. So when they sit down, they have it all instead of having a paper chart,” she said. “If the students have problems, we go out there and help them maneuver through the operating system.”

Taneff started at the dental school 10 years ago as a dental care coordinator, helping keep track of students’ requirements and making sure the patients needs matched those requirements. She then became a clinical analyst preparing reports for directors and the dean. And when axiUm went online in 2019, she became a “super user” and now helps students and staff members learn the system.

In addition to enjoying working with the students, she said she found true support at the school when her husband passed away in December. “When I lost my husband, the love and the support that came from everyone just carried me and supported me. It’s far reaching and in every department.”

Would she recommend the dental school to friends as a place to work?

“Absolutely,” she said. “I wouldn’t be somewhere that I didn’t believe in.” **UBD**

“When I lost my husband, the love and the support that came from everyone just carried me and supported me. It’s far reaching and in every department.”

JUDITH TANEFF

JUDITH TANEFF



More highlighted clinical staff to come in the next issue.



AEGD:

Not “Just a 5th Year of Dental School”

BY JOSEPH RUMFOLA

THE FOLLOWING ARE SNIPPETS OF FICTIONAL CONVERSATIONS REGARDING A REUNION THAT IS NOT SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE.

“HELLO, my name is Joe Rumfola, and I’ve been asked to interview some alumni of UB’s Advanced Education in General Dentistry program for an article leading up to the 30th year reunion celebration planned for this summer. I’m wondering if you’d be willing to speak with me about your experience.”

“Sure,” said **DR. REILLER**. “It’s hard to believe that it’s been 30 years since I started residency. What would you like to know?”

“Can you tell me a little about how the program started, and why you chose something so new?”

“Yes. I remember speaking with Dr. Cathy Gogan and expressing how I wanted additional training after dental school, but I didn’t see myself working in a hospital setting, and hospital-based General Practice Residencies (GPRs) were really the only option for general dentists at that time. She mentioned that there had been conversations

in her department of Oral Medicine, which was chaired by Dr. Alan Drinnan, amongst faculty including Drs. Stu Fischman, Dan Golder and Terry Thines. Department leadership recognized that dental students didn’t get much exposure to patients that were complex from both a dental and medical perspective. Dr. Thines wrote a proposal and was awarded a HRSA (Health Resources and Services Administration) grant to start the AEGD training program at UB, and he was my program director.”

“How many residents were in the program with you and what was it like?”

“There were three of us—all from UB that first year. Dr. Thines was great to work with. He had a strong background in medicine and infection control, and in fact, over the years, I’d guess that most dentists in Upstate New York have heard him lecture. We had classes on Wednesday afternoons with the other GPR programs in the

SOME OF THE CURRENT AEGD RESIDENTS AND STAFF PICTURED WITH PROGRAM DIRECTOR JOSEPH RUMFOLA: FRONT ROW (L-R): HANADI ABUSHARIFA, BDS, SHIRIN KASHKOULI DDS, AMIRAH ALSHAMMARY, BDS, SOPHIA SHAPIRO, RDH, ERIC WINNIE, DDS, BROOKLYN PETTIGREW, DDS. BACK ROW (L-R): SHAWN SWAGGARD, MARY ERICKSON, TRICIA ZAFUTO, JEANNETTE SMITH, ABDULLAH AL QARAGHULI, DDS, JOSEPH RUMFOLA, DDS, MAHER ALAZZAM, DDS, LI-CHIEH LIN, DMD.

city, Buffalo General, ECMC and the VA across the street, but most of our time was spent on the third floor of Squire Hall treating patients. Have you spoken with Dr. Thines?”

“I’ve known Dr. Thines for many years. He’s at SUNY Upstate now and working on retirement, but he still has his hand on the pulse of dental residency in New York. So I get to speak with him a few times per year. He’s proud to have started the program, led it through its first of many successful CODA accreditations, and to see it still going strong. It’s still a comprehensive care clinic like it was in those days, but the dentistry we provide has gotten much more diverse. Residents are allowed to do whatever their patients need that the faculty are comfortable supervising.”

“Do you feel like your residency year was just like another year of dental school?”

“No. It was really like my first job. I got paid the same as all of the other first year dental and medical residents in Buffalo, but I got to do so much more clinical dentistry in that year than I did all throughout my four years in school.”

“Hello, DR. SILVERSTEIN, I’m Joe...thanks for taking the time to speak with me about AEGD in the late nineties.”

“No problem, Joe, I had a great experience and am happy to share.”

“Why did you decide to stay at UB for residency?”

“Well, I’m from Western New York originally, and my main goal was to own a solo, private, general dental practice in the area. I also had interest in teaching dentistry, ever since helping as a TA in the amalgam course. Of the options available to me at the time, it seemed to be the best fit.”

“Teaching is a great way to give back to the school and the profession in general. It’s part of why I’m doing what I do,” I replied. “Did you know the program has generated more UB faculty than any of the other local general or specialty programs?”

“I didn’t know that, specifically,” said Silverstein, “but it doesn’t surprise me. Two of my co-residents incorporated academia into their professional careers.”

“Tell me about your program director.”

“I had Jude Fabiano as my director. The AEGD Program went through some trying times in the early years. When Oral Medicine was merged into the Department of Oral and Diagnostic Sciences, the program was bounced to Oral Health Services and Informatics with Dan Golder as the program director. Other departments were concerned that the AEGD program would be competition for cases in oral surgery, perio, prosthodontics, endo, etc. Cathy Gogan and even former dean Joe Zambon served brief periods as program director. When Jude took over, the program moved to the Department of Restorative Dentistry. His background was primarily in private practice, and the program’s focus shifted toward clinical excellence at procedures dentists do on a daily basis.”

“Wow! You really know a lot about the history of the AEGD.”

“Well, I am fictional,” he replied. “I was one of five residents. Most of us were graduates of UB, but we had colleagues from Toronto and Pittsburgh.”

“Jude Fabiano was my program director too, and actually, Cathy Gogan works with me currently as faculty in the program” I told him. “I was one of five U.S. or Canadian grads, along with one resident from Saudi Arabia. Jude, along with associate deans Pam Jones and Russ Nisengard, created a program to train International Scholars, who were foreign trained dentists who had received master’s degrees in addition to their AEGD certificates and then returned to their home institutions to share their knowledge with students or use their expertise in patient treatment. He also applied for and received another HRSA training grant that expanded the size of the program to its current eight positions as well as increasing the number of faculty, hygienists and dental assistants. And that’s how I was hired.”

“I got paid the same as all of the other first year dental and medical residents in Buffalo, but I got to do so much more clinical dentistry in that year than I did all throughout my four years in school.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

“Hello, DR. HASSAN...”

“Yes, I fondly remember my years spent training in Buffalo. I had never seen snow before, and the winters were colder than anything I’d ever experienced. The training was top-notch. I’m a department head at King Abdulaziz University now, and UB played a major role in my professional advancement. To this day, we encourage our students to seek out AEGD programs in the United States, and a certificate from UB is a very prestigious addition to a consultant’s CV.”

“DR. EMERSON, what did you like best about your residency training?”

“Without a doubt, the faculty, and I’m not just saying that because you were one of them. The program had just changed to have two faculty members attending for every clinic session. Many other programs had faculty who were busy seeing their own patients, and I know the AEGD briefly experimented with this model. You just couldn’t beat having two people dedicated solely to teaching. I struggled in dental school, and I can’t tell you how grateful I was to be accepted and trained by such dedicated dentists. I received a two-year certificate and couldn’t imagine how I’d have handled the pace of private practice with my limited dental school experience.”

“DR. ZHAO, what brought you to UB for residency?”

“Well, as you may or may not know, McGill University in Montreal strongly encourages its graduates to consider residency programs, even though they’re not necessary for licensure. There are no AEGD programs in Canada, just a few GPRs, and I have family in Toronto, so UB was at the top of my list. I remember being thrilled the day I received notification from the MATCH that I’d be going there.”

“Actually, Tom, I tell prospective applicants to the program every year about your time in the program, and how eager you were to learn and demonstrate what you were taught right up until your last week in the program. Your story and the pride you showed in the anatomy you carved in a five-surface amalgam continue to influence me as an educator. Did people give you a hard time about spending more years at UBSDM?”

“When I was a resident, we had the option of licensure either by taking a clinical board exam, like the Northeast Regional Board (NERB) or by completing a one-year accredited AEGD or GPR program,” I said. “Do you think the extra year of training was like another year in dental school?”

“I had faculty ask me why I wanted a fifth year of dental school. In retrospect, I needed those years to develop my confidence, to develop my skills, and to practice things that I’d been taught. I firmly believe that my patients have benefitted from me gaining this experience. So, although some questioned my decision, I wouldn’t hesitate to do it all over again or recommend it to anyone who asks.”

“No,” said Zhao. “I didn’t really have to study anymore. We took some classes in residency, but I loved learning just for learning’s sake and not because I had to pass a test. I developed life-long friendships with some of my co-residents. So much so, that several of us stayed for an additional year. The training focused on creating educators, and I work part-time at the University of Toronto now. I still keep in touch with my co-residents and come back to Buffalo on occasion to visit. It was a very influential part of my training.”

“Hi JEN, it’s Joe Rumfola. Sorry it’s been so long since we’ve spoken. I’m working on a project for UB...Can you tell me about your residency program with Dr. Barnashuk as the director?”

“We were like family. I remember having holiday parties at the Barnashuk’s house. It was so great to be in that learning environment during the day but to really be treated as colleagues. Dr. Barnashuk started having us do oral surgery right in the AEGD clinic. The streamlined process really allowed me to gain a

“To this day, we encourage our students to seek out AEGD programs in the United States, and a certificate from UB is a very prestigious addition to a consultant’s CV.”

AEGD DIRECTORS

lot more experience. It was great to have access to so many faculty members. I never realized as a student how many different people contribute to residents' education."

"Do you remember anything specifically that he taught you?"

"Actually, it's kind of funny, but he was great at taking impressions for gaggers. He'd yell at the patients to distract them, and it worked every time, and though my current distraction technique is a little different, I'd credit him for getting really good results against almost impossible odds."

"I can relate," I said. "I can think of a few things I learned from Dr. Fabiano. I remember struggling for like 20 minutes to attach a matrix band to a badly broken-down tooth, and it took him less than a minute to accomplish what I couldn't. When I questioned whether I'd ever be competent, he reminded me that he's probably restored thousands of teeth in his years of practice, and to remember that it's called 'dental practice' for a reason."

"Another time, I asked him about scheduling patients based on production and meeting financial goals. His words of wisdom were to just work hard, treat people well, and keep the dental chair full. The financial part will take care of itself. He was right, and I probably could be wealthier but perhaps not happier."

"ANDREW, it's been a couple of years since we've spoken. I'm writing a piece for UB Dentist... do you miss us?"

"Of course, I do, Dr. Rumfola."

"You can call me Joe, now."

"Right, Dr. Rumfola. "You know I had a great experience at UB. Have things changed much?"

"I could probably write another article about it. I've been involved in the program for almost 20 years now, which is hard to believe, and I've always pushed for it to be like private practice but in an educational environment. The faces

have changed, but we still have faculty who are dedicated almost exclusively to resident education. We have more assistants than any other program who really help with keeping residents on schedule. We're doing more with implants, scanning, CBCT, and digital dentistry than ever before. We're going to be moving into a brand-new clinic at some point next year. Collaboration with other post-grad programs at UB has never been better, and we're looking forward to increased collaboration with the other local GPR and AEGD programs as well. Applications are way up and the program continues to have a great reputation. I think administration also has a very favorable view of the AEGD program and has continued to be very supportive. There are over 170 alums out there in private practice or teaching."

"Are you planning to continue as program director?"

"You were part of a special group of residents who took care of the school's patients during the pandemic shutdown. I'll always remember you guys for that. Each group is different and special in unique ways. I've had groups where most of the residents came from outside of UB. I've had groups with many from the top of their dental school class, and others who were closer to the bottom. Groups where several have gone on to specialize and some who have become my colleagues at the school. My senior yearbook quote from dental school challenged the faculty to find a way to do it better. I believe that when it comes to this program, we are constantly doing just that, and as long as residents, patients, and administrators continue to appreciate it, I'll keep myself devoted to it. I never want this program to just be considered a fifth year of dental school."

Author's note: The residents mentioned in this article are fictitious and many of the things I have them saying represent my own opinions and bias toward a great program that I inherited from the hard work of many great program directors before me. The things they "say" have all been said, and they represent composites of the 20 years-worth of residents I have taught. If anyone would like any more information about the AEGD Program at UB, please contact me at rumfola@buffalo.edu. UBD



FROM THE TOP:
FRANK BARNASHUK;
JUDE FABIANO;
CATHERINE GOGAN;
DANIEL GOLDER;
JOSEPH RUMFOLA;
TERRY THINES;
JOSEPH ZAMBON



Meet the GRADUATES of the
CLASS of

**DOCTOR OF
DENTAL SURGERY**

Sydney Claire Finster
Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

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

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Northwell Health-North Shore
University Hospital
Manhasset, NY

Shelby Lyn Adams-Rauh
Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Jacob Antonio Graca◆◆
Tibor Rubin Veterans Administration
Medical Center
Long Beach, CA

Sumayyah Ahmed
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Jonathan Kaszuba◆
New York City Health & Hospitals/
Bellevue
New York, NY

Pedro R. Andrade
Jacobi Medical Center
Bronx, NY

Jacqueline Kim
University Hospital
SUNY Upstate Medical University
Syracuse, NY

Brad Patrick Bailey
New York City Health & Hospitals/
Bellevue
New York, NY

Celeena Marie Berry
Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Olga Kondrya
St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center
Syracuse, NY

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Allegheny General Hospital
Pittsburgh, PA

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Hennepin County Medical Center
Minneapolis, MN

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Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Leeann N. Le
Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

2022

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Rochester General Hospital
Rochester, NY

Megan Leun◆◆
Veterans Administration San Diego
Healthcare System
San Diego, CA

Brian L. Cruz
Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Albany, NY

Danielle Joy Lieberman
Kings County Hospital Center
Brooklyn, NY

Magdelana Curtis◆
Veterans Administration
Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Arianna Kristine Lowney
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, NY

Joseph Danial
BronxCare Health System
Bronx, NY

Morgan Scott Marin
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Metro New York-Upper Manhattan-
Harlem United
Manhattan, NY

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Eastman Institute for Oral Health
Rochester, NY

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Roswell Park Cancer Institute/
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

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Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, SC

Alexis Lynn Marth
Erie County Medical Center
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Abigail Marie Fallon
Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Jenna Rose McCune◆

Veterans Administration
Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Gabrielle Elizabeth Moran

St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center
Syracuse, NY

Loron Anthony Patrick Neil

Community Medical Center
Fresno, CA

Krish Ohri

Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Kenny Pan

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, NY

Julia Marie Pratt

Veterans Administration
Medical Center
Albany, NY

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New York University–Langone
Dental Medicine–Springfield, MO
Springfield, MO

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Rochester General Hospital
Rochester, NY

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Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Lindsay Marie Roberge

Rochester General Hospital
Rochester, NY

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Greenville, NC

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Buffalo, NY

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Erie County Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

Kevin Shum◆

Veterans Administration
Medical Center
Buffalo, NY

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Dental Medicine–Long Island
Mineola, NY

Michael Kevin Simonetti

New York University–Langone
Southern Arizona Pascua Yaqui Tribal
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Flushing, NY

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Pennsylvania State Health–
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University of Rochester
Rochester, NY

Laura Elizabeth Cavallari◆

Periodontics
University at Buffalo
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MaryNell Cella

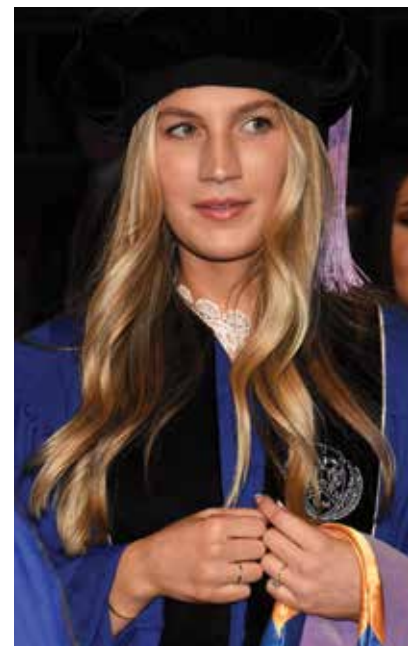
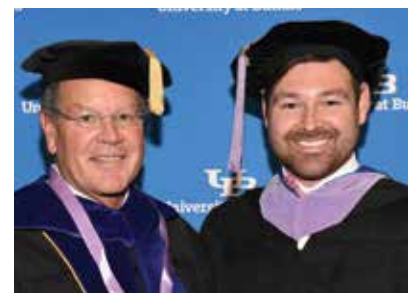
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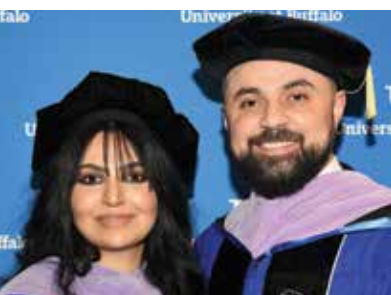
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- ◆◆ MAGNA CUM LAUDE
- ◆◆◆ SUMMA CUM LAUDE



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Gabriel Valencia
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ENTERING DENTAL PRACTICE/ ACADEMICS

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Community Health Center
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Longjie Chen
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Aws Daraldik
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Manoj Kumar
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Pragna Malkaram
Gatesville, TX

Sura Abdulhadi Mujhid
Houston, TX

Ketu Dashrathlal Patel
Atlanta, GA

Khushbu Shaileshbhai Patel
Jersey City, NJ

Lucila Piasecki
Periodontics and Endodontics
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Prabhdeep Kaur Sandhu
Jacksonville, FL

Abshikka Sathiyabalan

Toronto, ON

Mhd Aiham Shaaban

Pittsburgh, PA

Harmanjot Kaur Sidhu

Dallas, TX

Rebecca Seham Skaf

Philadelphia, PA

Andrii Slobodian

Miami, FL

Harleen Kaur Sohi

Springfield, MA

Swetha Thakur

Springfield, MA

Danyelle Jo Walker

Port Angeles, WA

THESIS HONORS**Ahmed Abdulrazzaq Al-Darraqi**

The impact of the designing technology on the accuracy on computer-guided implant surgery.

Primary Advisor: Rui Li, DDS, PhD

MaryNell Cella

Determining the role of fermentable carbohydrates as cariogenic substances in school-age children.

Primary Advisor: Meelin D. Chin Kit-Wells, DDS

Shaina Kristen Chechang

Determining the optical clarity of mylar plastic and polyethylene terephthalate glycol for custom 3D-printed face shields and anti-fog mask study for the COVID-19 response.

Primary Advisor: Praveen R. Arany, DDS, PhD

Longjie Chen

The effects of cabosantinib on osteoblastic cells.

Primary Advisor: Rosemary Dziak, PhD

Jaeyoung Choi

Photobiomodulation therapy to prevent chemo-radiation complications in oral keratinocytes.

Primary Advisor: Praveen R. Arany, DDS, PhD

Jacob Antonio Graca

Custom PMMA composite filaments for 3D-printed dental prostheses.

Primary Advisor: Praveen R. Arany, DDS, PhD

Tyler Jamal Laurel

Nanocalcium sulfate delivery system for 1H-dihydroperanthrolin-4-one-3-carboxylic acid (1,4-DPCA) induced effects on osteoblasts.

Primary Advisor: Rosemary Dziak, PhD

Ana Raffaini Martins Wright

Evaluation of the working length determination using a dedicated software for 3D endodontic treatment planning.

Primary Advisor: Lucila Piasecki, DDS, MS, PhD

Krish Ohri

Identifying caries on bitewing using machine learning.

Primary Advisors: Ronald Boyd, DDS and Maureen P. Donley, DDS

Krupa Panamoottil Thomas

Vesiculoerosive disease in the oral cavity: A five-year retrospective analysis of diagnostic cases and review of the literature.

Primary Advisor: Jill M. Kramer, DDS, PhD

Gabriel Jamie Valencia

Analysis of the Fcγ receptor and CD180 expression in Sjögren's syndrome.

Primary Advisor: Jill M. Kramer, DDS, PhD

Michelle Yuan Zou

Use of systemic steroids is associated with decreased implant survival in women.

Primary Advisor: Lisa Yerke, DDS, MS

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
IN ORAL BIOLOGY DEGREES****Jeremy Paul Kiripolsky, MS**

The role of MyD88 in primary Sjögren's Syndrome pathogenesis.

Major Professor: Jill M. Kramer, DDS, PhD

Hannah Lynn Norris, BS

Zinc binding modulates Histatin 5 activity in Candida albicans.

Major Professor: Mira Edgerton, DDS, PhD

Akinsola Ayomikun Oyelakin, BS

Evaluation of the oncogenic transcriptional program in head neck squamous cell carcinoma.

Major Professor: Rose-Anne Romano, PhD

**MASTER OF SCIENCE
DEGREES****BIOMATERIALS****Hanadi Abusharifa, BDS**

Shear bond strength of different Zirconia generations bonded with self-adhesive resin with and without primer application.

Major Professor: Hyeongil Kim, DDS, MS

ORAL SCIENCES**Haba Abdullah, BDS**

Relationship between jaw functional limitation and mandibular range of motion.

Major Professor: Heidi C. Crow, DMD, MS

Manal Alamri, BDS

Relationship between environmental pH changes and apoptosis in osteoblasts.

Major Professor: Rosemary Dziak, PhD

Rayan Alsuwailim, BDS

Biopsychosocial influences on the diagnostic criterion of 'pain modified by function' for painful TMDs.

Major Professor: Richard Ohrbach, DDS, PhD

Sujay Reddy Busarajan, BA

Candida albicans DFG5/DCW1 mutations affect transcriptional regulation of hyphal morphogenesis.

Major Professor: Abhiram Maddi, DDS, PhD

Paul Anthony Herrmann, DDS

The relationship between proton pump inhibitors and periodontitis.

Major Professor: Lisa M. Yerke, DDS, MS

Cameron Lough Kirkwood, BA

Role of MAP kinase phosphatase-1 in radiation-induced oral mucositis.

Major Professor: Keith L. Kirkwood, DDS, PhD

Zheng Dao Li, BA

Detoxification of implant surfaces with automated devices. An ex-vivo comparison study.

Major Professor: Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS

Heba Mandourah, BDS

Retention force provided by custom-made and native locator abutments –An in-vitro study.

Major Professor: Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh, DDS, MS

Hema Kumar Vuppalapaty, BDS

Role of Candida albicans Dfg5 and Dcw1 in the expressions of negative transcriptional regulators of hyphal morphogenesis.

Major Professor: Jason Kay, PhD



Honors

for Faculty and Staff



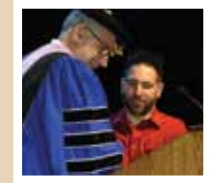
Dental Student Association Staff Appreciation Award
Tishara Montgomery



Florence Kronson Award
Mary A. Bush, '99, GPR Cert., '00



Educator of the Year Award
Richard A. Powell Award
Jose Luis Tapia, '12, Oral Path Cert., '03, MS Oral Sci., '03



Charles S. Lipani Award
Jason Chwirut

ORTHODONTICS

Sukaynah Hadi Al Awami, DDS
Respiratory mandibular movement in pediatric OSA patients with different craniofacial growth patterns.
Major Professor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, BDS, MS, FRCD(C)

Mohammed Hussain Al-Zainal, BDS
Alignment and comfort assessments using non-sliding lingual orthodontic technique (BRIUS) and conventional bracket systems.
Major Professor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, BDS, MS, FRCD(C)

Sarah Anvery, DDS
Inflammatory cytokine IL-6 and the association between obstructive sleep apnea and orthodontically induced inflammatory root resorption.
Major Professor: Pramod Philip, BDS, MSD

Kimberly Fluger, DDS
Mandibular movement analysis during sleep following Class II correction with functional orthopedic appliances.
Major Professor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, BDS, MS, FRCD(C)

Lubomyr Ravlyk, DDS
A comparison between TiNbTaZr (GUMMETAL) and stainless-steel alloy for space closure with sliding mechanics. A pilot randomized clinical trial.
Major Professor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, BDS, MS, FRCD(C)

Alan Zhou, DDS
Esthetic and functional coatings for GUMMETAL orthodontic archwires.
Major Professor: Thikriat Al-Jewair, BDS, MS, FRCD(C)

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATES

ADVANCED EDUCATION IN GENERAL DENTISTRY

- Hanadi Abusharifa, BDS
 - Abdullah Al Qaraghuli, DDS
 - Maher Alazzam, DDS
 - Amirah Alshammary, BDS*
 - Shirin Kashkouli, DDS
 - Li-Chieh Lin, DMD
 - Brookelyn Jade Pettigrew, DDS
 - Sarah Shafik, DDS
 - Eric Alexander Winnie, DDS
- *Two-year program

ENDODONTICS

- Javier de la Fuente Balboa, DDS
- Sharaschandra Reddy Govindool, BDS, PhD
- Bryan St. Marie, DDS

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL PATHOLOGY

- Manal Alamri, BDS
- Azza Alhelo, BDS

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

- Nathaniel Joseph Kronenwetter, DMD, MD
- Thomas K. Mirchel, DDS, MD

ORTHODONTICS

- Sukaynah Hadi Al Awami, DDS
- Mohammed Hussain Al-Zainal, BDS
- Sarah Anvery, DDS
- Kimberly Fluger, DDS
- Lubomyr Ravlyk, DDS
- Alan Zhou, DDS

PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

- Krystal R. Baldwin, DDS
- Esther Kyung Ah Chung, DDS
- Brigid Daly, DDS
- Ezra Benjamin Goldberg-O'Neil, DDS
- Karl Klingler, DDS
- Ayah Koleilat, DDS
- Keturah L. Lowe, DDS

Kelly Plote, DDS

Kathleen M. Rusnak, DDS

PERIODONTICS

- Paul Anthony Herrmann, DDS
- Yousef Masoud Kareem, DMD
- Alaa Mansour, BDS, PhD

PROSTHODONTICS

- Heba Mandourah, BDS
- Ariana Christine Mendel, DDS

TEMPOROMANDIBULAR DISORDERS AND OROFACIAL PAIN

- Haba Abdullah, BDS
- Rayan Alsuwailam, BDS



SDM 2022

Senior Awards

Recognizing Achievement, Skill and Contribution

Academy of General Dentistry Award

Jenna Rose McCune
Kenny Pan

Academy of Operative Dentistry Award

Arianna Kristine Lowney

Academy of Osseointegration Award

Andrii Slobodian

Dr. Joseph A. Accardo Eighth District Dental Society Award

Onalee Sortino

American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Award

Magdalena Curtis

American Academy of Implant Dentistry Award

Ahmed Abdulrazzaq Al-Darraj

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Award

Jenna Rose McCune

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Award

Laura Elizabeth Cavallari

American Academy of Oral Medicine Award

Anisa Tocilla

American Academy of Orofacial Pain

Cody Wiktorski

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Predoctoral Student Award

Katherine Claire Dority

American Academy of Periodontology Award

Jenna Rose McCune

American Association of Endodontists Award

Abdul Altekreeti

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Award

Nikhil Mehandru

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Implant Award

Marco Maronski

American Association of Orthodontists Award

Marissa Elise Erickson

American Association of Public Health Dentistry Award

MaryNell Cella

American College of Dentists Outstanding Student Leader Award

Evan James Conley

American College of Prosthodontists Award

Megan Leun

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

Jaeyoung Choi

American Student Dental Association Award of Excellence

Evan James Conley

Barrett Prize

Rachel Jayne Wheaton

Brasseler USA Esthetic Dentistry Award

Megan Leun

Eleanor Bushee Award

Alexandra Fuller

Dean's Award

Megan Leun

Dental Alumni Award

Tyler Jamal Laurel

Erie County Dental Society Chester A. Glor Award

Nathan Paul Riexinger

Dr. Marshall Fagin Prosthodontic Award

Syed Zaeem Hussain Raza

The Pierre Fauchard Academy Award

Jacob Antonio Graca

Fonzi Dental Study Club, Anthony S. Gugino Humanitarian Award

Annelise Westermeier

Victor A. Fumia Award

1st Prize: Ahmed Abdulrazzaq

Al-Darraj

2nd Prize: Prabhdeep Kaur Sandhu

International College of Dentists (Leadership) Award

Tyler Jamal Laurel

International College of Dentists Student Humanitarian Award

Julia Kollesar

Alexa Paige Pulli

Brittney Reid

Anna Rovetto

Gabriel Valencia

Annelise Westermeier

International Congress of Oral Implantologists Award

Rebecca Seham Skaf

Donald Kozlowski Memorial Award

Pedro R. Andrade

Robert B. Levine Award

Anna Rovetto

New York State Association of Endodontists

Kevin Shum

New York State Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Student Award

Selina Camille Scutari

The Northeastern Society of Periodontists Award

Laura Elizabeth Cavallari

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Membership

Ahmed Abdulrazzaq Al-Darraj

Lavanya Ankala

Laura Elizabeth Cavallari

Daniel George Connors

Marissa Elise Erickson

John Joseph Freda

Jacob Antonio Graca

Rebecca Lynn Hojna

Megan Leun

Marco Maronski

Jenna Rose McCune

Abishikka Sathiyabalan

Kevin Shum

Rachel Jayne Wheaton

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Research Award

Gabriel Valencia

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dr. Lata Shenoy Award

Lavanya Ankala

Pediatric and Community Dentistry Department Award

Onalee Sortino

Lauren Marie Pernick

Richard A. Powell Award

Jenna Rose McCune

Quintessence Awards

Research Achievement:

Jacob Antonio Graca

Restorative Dentistry:

Danyelle Jo Walker

Periodontics: Laura Rose Dixon

Lester Schatz Memorial Award

Daniel George Connors

Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford Student Leadership Award

Brittney Reid

George B. Snows Awards

Fixed Prosthodontics:

1st Place: Katherine Claire Dority

2nd Place: Anupama Bonam

Removable Prosthodontics:

1st Place: Evan James Conley

2nd Place: Jacob Antonio Graca

The Special Care Dentistry Association Student Award

Alexis Lynn Marth

St. Apollonia Guild Dental Student Service Award

Jacob Antonio Graca

Student Affairs Recognition Awards

Robert Forrest Brown

Evan James Conley

Jacob Antonio Graca

Megan Leun

Syed Zaeem Hussain Raza

Brittney Reid

Krupa Panamoottil Thomas

Annelise Westermeier

Cody Wiktorski

Stephen B. Totten Award

Longjie Chen

Whip Mix Hanau Prosthodontics Award

Evan James Conley

CE course calendar

School of Dental Medicine Office of Continuing Dental Education

SEP 30

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

ANNUAL SANFORD B. SUGARMAN LECTURE

In cooperation with Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity & Buffalo Metro Study Club

Implant Treatment Planning Considerations & Techniques in Partially Edentulous Patients & Full-Arch Rehabilitations

Konstantinos Chochlidakis, DDS, MS, FACP

Buffalo, NY Location TBA

ALUMNI/AO MEMBER: \$195
NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$225
TEAM MEMBER: \$95

6 CE HRS

UB IMPLANT STUDY CLUB 2022-23

(THURSDAYS, 6 TO 9 P.M.)

SEP 29 Understanding & Applying the Interaction of Implant Occlusal Concept

Marshall Fagin, DDS

OCT 20 Implants in the Head and Neck Cancer Patient

Vladimir Frias, DDS, MS

NOV 17 Horizontal Augmentation. Techniques & New Products (hands-on for study club members)

Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS

DEC 15: CBCT in Implant Dentistry

Nicole Hinchy, DDS

TENTATIVE SPRING 2023 DATES:
FEB. 16, MAR. 16, APR. 20, MAY 18

UB School of Dental Medicine

ANNUAL NEW MEMBER FEE: \$1295

RETURNING MEMBER FEE: \$995

SINGLE MEETING, NONMEMBER

FEE: \$225, LIMITED ENROLLMENT

3 CE HRS/MEETING

SELF-STUDY (PRE-RECORDED) CONTINUING DENTAL EDUCATION

Current Infection Prevention Protocols and Recommendations: Are You in Compliance

Renee Graham, RDH, ME (2 CE HRS/\$25)

Occlusal Concepts Forum: Can We Find Our Way Through the Confusion?

Marshall Fagin, DDS (2 CE HRS/\$25)

The Worn Dentition: Finding Ways to Meet & Treat the Challenges

Marshall Fagin, DDS (2 CE HRS/\$25)

The 3 E's of Periodontics in General Practice: Evidence-Based, Everyday and Excellent

Frank Scannapieco, DMD, PhD (2 CE HRS/\$25)

Flap Management in Regenerative Perio Surgery

Nicola Alberto Valente, DDS (2 CE HRS/\$25)

Clinical Considerations for Selecting Adhesive Cements

Robert Yetto, DDS (2 CE HRS/\$25)

V.I.P. Experience of the Internal Anatomy of Teeth: Virtual, Interactive, Pertinent

Lucila Piasecki, MSc, PhD (2 CE HRS/\$25)

COMING SOON

Oral Manifestations of Head and Neck Cancer Treatments

Charles Matlach, DDS

The Best Laser for Clinical Dentistry: Myths, Fallacies vs Current Science!

Praveen Arany, DDS, PhD

Roots of Dental Trauma... Approaches for Patients with Previous Traumatic Dental Experience

Elizabeth Doohar-Anthony, RDH

Successful Periodontics... The Body is the Hero

Joseph Breloff, DDS, MS

Let's Get Gingival: Min-Invasive Approaches to Perio Plastic Surgery/Diagnosis and Management of Gummy Smiles

Ryan Shure, DDS, MSc

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.

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



Annamarie Phalen

Associate Director, Continuing Dental Education

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.

Times are Eastern Standard Time.

JUL 13, 8-9:30PM R. Glenn Rosivack, DMD **Nitrous Oxide Analgesia** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

JUL 15, 11AM-1PM Louis DePaola DDS, MS, FAAOM, FACD **Infection Control in the Era of COVID-19 (Not NYS-mandated)** (2 CE HR/\$69)

JUL 22, 11AM-12:30PM Rafael Pacheco, DDS **Simplifying Adhesive Dentistry** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

AUG 1, 8-10PM Anne Koch, DMD **Main Challenges for Recent Graduates Performing Endodontic Therapy** (2 CE HR/\$69)

AUG 11, 8-9PM Michael Pruet, DMD **Pharmacology Update for Today's Dental Practice** (1 CE HR/\$49)

AUG 15, 8-10PM Anne Koch, DMD **Intuitive Endodontics** (2 CE HR/\$69)

AUG 25, 11AM-1PM Maninder Kaur, BDS, MPH, MS **Periodontal Update for the Hygiene Team** (2 CE HR/\$69)

AUG 27, 11AM-1PM Theodora Danciu, DMD & Eleni Gagari, DMD, DMSc **Red, White and Ulcerative Lesions: When Bad Things Happen to Good Oral Mucosa** (2 CE HR/\$69)

SEP 9, 11AM-12:30PM HimaBindu Dukka, BDS, MSD, MPH **Esthetic Concepts in Implant Dentistry** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

SEP 14, 8-10PM David Dean, DDS, MSD **Prevention and Management of Oral Complications in Medical Oncology** (2 CE HR/\$69)

SEP 25, 11AM-12:30PM Gustavo Santaella, DDS, MS, PhD **Cone Beam CT: Technical Aspects to Get the Most Out of it in the Clinics** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

OCT 1, 11AM-1PM Julia Cohen-Levy, DDS, MSc, PhD **How to Practically Manage the Side Effects of Mandibular Advancement Devices in the Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea—sAn Interactive Webinar** (2 CE HR/\$69)

OCT 6, 8-9PM Sarah Glass, DDS **Recognizing and Managing Critical Oral Pathology** (1 CE HR/\$49)

OCT 17, 8-10PM Pamela Alberto, DMD **Alternative Medicine for the Dental Healthcare Provider** (2 CE HR/\$69)

OCT 21, 11AM-12:30PM Aviv Ouanounou, BSc, MSc, DDS, FICO, FICD, FACD **Top 5 Prescribed Drugs: What Do You Need to Know?** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

OCT 25, 8-10PM Feng-Ming Wang, DDS, PhD **Cracked Teeth: Diagnosis and Management from an Endodontic Perspective** (2 CE HR/\$69)

NOV 3, 8-9:30PM Arthur Curley, JD **Implant Dental Malpractice: Avoiding the Inevitable** (1.5 CE HR/\$59)

TRAVEL COURSES

Enjoy travel opportunities with UB and through collaborations with other university dental schools. Please reference UB!

TASTE THE FLAVORS OF PEIDMONTE, ITALY SEPTEMBER 2023

Travel with the UB Dental Group to discover the Peidmont region of Northwestern Italy! For dedicated gastronomes, northern Italy's promise of slow food, long lunches, and bold red wines is too good to pass up. Piedmont (*Piedmonte*) is known for its high quality food and wine by discerning travelers. The Piedmont region is rich in contrasts bound together by a taste for tradition and prestigious wines. Whilst the region is known for its gastronomy and famous wine regions, we will also explore the diverse landscape, from the flat plains of the Po Valley to the mountain peaks of Monviso and Monte Rosa. Piedmont has many points of interest from medieval abbeys, dramatic castles and forts, magnificent baroque towns, and pretty alpine villages.

CE lectures presented by UB Faculty offered onsite; travel package includes accomodations, most meals, tours and local guides. Watch your email for details or sign up for more information by calling (716) 829-2320.



NOV 7, 8-10PM John Featherstone, MSc, PhD **Caries Management in Practice** (2 CE HR/\$69)

NOV 10, 8-10PM Marshall Fagin, DDS **The Worn Dentition: Finding Ways to Meet & Treat the Challenges...From Planning to Execution** (2 CE HR/\$69)

NOV 15, 8-10PM Matthew Messina, DDS **Bad to the Bone: Dental Oncology for the Restorative Dental Team** (2 CE HR/\$69)

DEC 3, 11AM-1PM Mohamed Gebri, BDS, MSc, MSc/Dip (Prosthodontics) **Treatment Planning for Full Arch Implant Rehabilitation (Digitally Driven Implant Dentistry)** (2 CE HR/\$69)

DEC 8, 8-9:30PM Elizabeth Ann Bilodeau, DMD, MD, MSeD **Oral Pathology Review & Updates** (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 6/10/22. All information correct as of press time...OUB CDE reserves the right to change tuition, dates, topics and/or speakers as necessary.

Students Stomp in Hanau Cup Revival



By Dr. Raymond Miller

The Hanau Cup, the legendary ice hockey game pitting UBSDM Faculty and Alumni against Dental Students made a triumphant comeback in March of 2022. The game was played at Riverworks in downtown Buffalo after a two-year COVID hiatus. The rivalry did not miss a beat and picked up right where it left off. The game was a back and forth, hard fought battle with the students eventually coming out on top.

The Faculty and Alumni team was stymied by Jenna McCune, '22, in goal. Dental school did not lessen her goaltending skills and she kept the puck out of the net enough to lead her Student team to victory.

Faculty and Alumni actually outnumbered the students in participation.... but not goals. In answer to the need for more students, the Faculty/Alumni “loaned” Dr. Paul Herrmann, '19, to the student team. That was a mistake. Paul is a hockey force with too much energy and skill. He enhanced the Student team and his absence was felt by the Faculty/Alumni team. Between Jenna and Paul, the Faculty Alumni team was doomed.

As per usual, the post-game party of pizza, wings and beverages was as good as it ever was and made the inability to physically move for the next 48 hours well worth the effort! We look forward to 2023 and keeping this UBSDM tradition alive for years to come.

UB Alumni Association Achievement Awards 2022

On Thursday, June 2, 2022 the UB Alumni Association recognized outstanding alumni during an in-person awards celebration.

Dr. Marcelo W.B. Araujo, MS Oral Sci., '99, PhD Epidemiology, '03, received the International Distinguished Alumnus Award. He is the chief science officer for the American Dental Association and CEO of the ADA Science and Research Institute. As the ADA's CSO, Araujo is at the forefront of emerging scientific issues affecting public health, patient care, dental practice and health programs nationally and globally; he also provides strategic leadership and oversight for the management of ADASRI,

developing collaborative opportunities for the ADA's key scientific initiatives.

Dr. Steven Guttenberg, '69, received the Distinguished Alumni Award for the School of Dental Medicine. Guttenberg recently retired from an almost 50-year career as an oral and maxillofacial surgeon in Washington, D.C. His career included national and international lectures, teaching, and publishing scientific articles, chapters and books. Numerous acknowledgements of his deep commitment to advocacy and education in his field include being named a diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and a fellow of the American College of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and the American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery.



1 DEAN STEFAN RUHL (RIGHT) WITH DR. MARCELO W.B. ARAUJO;
2 DR. STEVEN GUTTENBERG WITH DIANNA GUTTENBERG.



AlumniNews

UBSDM Students and Faculty Support RAM

Students and faculty from the UB School of Dental Medicine travelled to Knoxville, Tennessee, in February to bring much needed dental treatment to the area. Remote Area Medical (RAM) is a non-profit provider of mobile medical clinics delivering free dental, vision, and medical care (as well as veterinary services when available) to underserved and uninsured individuals. The UBSDM has supported these missions for many years and participates in approximately four to six missions a year.

Over three days, the clinic in Knoxville saw 874 patients and provided \$521,821 in services. Students gain significant clinical experiences as well as learning the all-important concept of "giving back." Faculty mentors at this clinic were Drs. Amy Bryan, '85, Robert Cronyn, '82, Kevin D'Angelo, '80, Joseph Gambacorta, '93, and Raymond Miller, '85. Senior Dental Students (D4's) that participated were Adity Aggarwal, Danyelle Walker, Vanessa Mareno, Shaina Chechang, Karleigh Volk, Brittney Reid, Michelle Zou, Nathan Riexinger, Laura Cavallari, Jacob Graca, Celeena Berry, Lauren Pernick, Rebecca Hojna, Rebecca Skaf, Cecilia Horchos, and Regina Mathai.



1 UBSDM DENTAL STUDENTS AND FACULTY AT KNOXVILLE RAM; **2** DR. RAY MILLER ASSISTS DENTAL STUDENTS IN PATIENT CARE.



OMICRON KAPPA UPSILON LAMBDA LAMBDA WELCOMED ITS NEWEST MEMBERS

The Lambda Lambda chapter was excited to welcome its newest members with a dinner and convocation held in their honor. This year, the dinner was held at the Saturn Club in Buffalo on Tuesday, May 3, 2022.

New alumni members, life members and faculty members who were recognized at the dinner include: **Alumni Inductees** Ahmed A Al-Darraj, Lavanya Ankala, Laura E. Cavallari, Daniel G. Connors, Marissa E. Erickson, John J. Freda, Jacob A. Graca, Rebecca Hojna, Megan K. Leun, Marco Maronski, Jenna Rose McCune, Abishikka Sathiyabalan, Kevin Shum, Rachel Wheaton. **Faculty Inductees:** Joseph T. DeLuca, Hema Arany. **Life Members:** Roger Conti, Peter DeMarco, Jr., Jill Fleischer, John Tibbetts. **Honor Inductee:** Denise Lewis.

Billy Barue Golf Tournament 2022

The University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine saw a return of its long-awaited annual Billy Barue Golf Outing for students, faculty, staff and alumni on Saturday, April 23, 2022 at the Fox Valley Golf Club. Each year the dental school holds a golf outing to benefit the Buffalo chapter of the American Student Dental Association. Thanks to donations from participants and local businesses, the event was very successful with over 50 attendees!

After being placed on hold for the past two years due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the UB Dental community was ecstatic to see a return to the annual golf tournament. Student representatives from the UB Dental Alumni Association (Joseph Lippa, '23, Tanner Wakefield, '24 and Tyler Laurel, '22) worked diligently to bring back the tournament, which also included organizing an optional 2.0 Credit CE course by Dr. Jennifer L. Frustino, '09, on oral cancer screening provided by Erie County Medical Center.

The attendees not only enjoyed golfing with friends, but also food, drinks and music. The day concluded with tournament winners being awarded prizes provided by local sponsors. Thank you to all who participated. We can't wait to do this again next year!



PICTURED ARE UB DENTAL STUDENTS OUT ON THE COURSE COMPETING IN THE TOURNAMENT. (LEFT TO RIGHT: JOHN FREDA, '22, MITCHELL RICK, '22, MARCO MARONSKI, '22, MICHAEL SIMONETTI, '22, MEGAN LEUN, '22, ETHAN GORMAN, '22, BRAD BAILEY, '22, AND JONATHAN KASZUBA, '22)

ClassNotes

2022 UPCOMING EVENTS

Alumni and Friends Reception

Hearsay on the Green
Houston, TX
Thursday, Oct. 13, 2022
5:00 pm–7:00 pm

Remember When Reception

Hyatt Regency Sungarden, Buffalo, NY
Thursday, November 3, 2022
5:30–7:00 p.m.

Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting

Buffalo Niagara Convention Center
November 2–4, 2022
BNDMeeting.com

Reunion Dinner Dance

Hyatt Regency Ballroom, Buffalo, NY
Friday, November 4, 2022
6:00 p.m. Cocktails
7:00 p.m. Dinner

If you would like to get involved in planning your reunion, please contact Sherry in the Dental Alumni Office at 716-829-6419.

2022 UBDAA REUNION CHAIRS

1957
Dr. Henry C. Tiberi

1972
Dr. Michael D. Hess
Dr. Peter P. Mascari

1977
Dr. Darlene R. White

1982
Dr. Frances L. DePlato
Dr. Mark E. Mahaney
Dr. Joseph S. Modica

1987
Dr. Robert J. Buhite
Dr. David P. Croglio
Dr. Norman E. Stoj

1992
Dr. John R. Tibbetts

1997
Dr. Julie M. Sheehan Jones

2002
Dr. Samer K. Riad

2007
Dr. Joseph T. DeLuca

2012
Dr. Nicole V. Hinchy
Dr. Maryam Mobarhan
Dr. Jose Luis Tapia

2017
Dr. Brooke Kolber
Dr. Andrew J. Lawson
Dr. Ashley M. Mooney
Dr. Sean (Yong) Park
Dr. Rachel Ducey

InMemoriam

Justin A. Baker, '11, age 42, of Dublin, Ohio, died December 24, 2021 after battling pancreatic cancer. After graduating from the UB School of Dental Medicine, he moved to Columbus, Ohio, where he completed his Oral and Maxillofacial Surgical residency and later became a Diplomat of The American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. He was an avid boater, growing up and enjoying his summers at The Buffalo Launch Club on Grand Island.

Russell W. Bessette, '69, MD, age 79, passed away February 1, 2022.

Joseph T. Corsetti, '61, of Cary, N.C., died January 20, 2022. He practiced general dentistry in North Greenbush, N.Y., for 47 years.

Salvatore J. Chiappone, '44, of Niagara Falls, N.Y., passed away February 22, 2021.

Lee I. Edwards, '59, age 89, died April 13, 2022. He was an orthodontist for 39 years in Brighton and Pittsford, retiring at the end of 2000.

Alfred E. Falcone, '47, MD '50, age 96, of Jamesville, died December 29, 2021. He was a maxillofacial and plastic surgeon for

40 years. He served a two-year stint as a Captain in the United States Air Force stationed as a flight surgeon in Europe. He also organized volunteer plastic surgery teams and traveled six times to the Amazon River. He was past president of the ARC of Onondaga, founder of the Friends of the Retarded, and with his wife, Françoise, founded Parents of Retarded Adults and Youths (PRAY) and Spaulding Support Services. He received the Community Service Award from the Onondaga County Medical Society, Family of the Year Award from Catholic Charities and the Service Award from Eldercare Foundation among others.

Brett W. Goldberg, '83, age 64, of Blainstown, N.J., died February 2, 2022. He was a self-employed dentist and owner of The Blainstown Smile Studio, since 2000. A man of science, he also enjoyed being in the barn with his beloved Chewie, a Great Pyrenees, and all the animals on the farm.

Leonhard M. Hoeglmeier, '55, age 92, passed away March 13, 2022. He practiced dentistry in Manhattan and Dix Hills for 62 years.

Captain Roger Holmes Flagg, '54, age 91, of the Dental Corps, United States Navy died April 13th, 2022. After 31 years in the Navy, he retired to Norfolk, Virginia. He served as a dentist for the Virginia public dental service.

Howard C. Jackson, '72, died December 29th, 2021. He practiced in Scarborough, ME, and served on both the Maine Board of Dental Examiners and the National Board of Dental Examiners. He also volunteered extensively with Habitat for Humanity building homes in Appalachia.

Richard B. "Dick" Myers, '63, age 86, died January 16, 2022. He was an accomplished violinist and developed what became a lifelong passion for photography. He had orthodontic practices in Oneida and Norwich. He was a clinical instructor and professor in the Orthodontic Graduate Program at Eastman Department of Dentistry and a visiting lecturer at the UB dental school from 1992 to 2018.

Edward J. Schreier, '69, age 79, of Hingham, MA, passed away April 6, 2022.

Harry A. Sultz, '47, age 97, died May 11. He established

a dental practice serving the handicapped and later founded the Niagara Frontier Vocational Rehabilitation Center, where he served as board president. He also helped start the Buffalo Citizens Committee for the Employment of the Handicapped and was its first chairman. In 1962, he became the Health Department's research director and joined the UB Medical School faculty, teaching epidemiology and the organization of health care. He was named dean of the School of Health Related Professions in 1979. He was a clinical assistant professor in the UB Department of Family Medicine and an adjunct professor of health systems management in the UB School of Management. He also chaired the UB Medical School's Health Policy Council. He brought the Mini-Medical School program to UB in 1997 and directed until 2002. After becoming a professor and dean emeritus, he continued as an adjunct professor in the UB Law School. He published more than 60 articles and was co-author of a popular textbook, "Health Care USA: Understanding Its Organization and Delivery," written with Kristina M. Young and pub-

lished in 1997. It now is in its 10th edition. The New York State Public Health Association honored him with its Herman M. Biggs Award for lifetime achievement in 1994. The UB Dental Alumni Association presented him with its Alumni Award in 2000.

William J. Tufo, Jr., '72, age 77, died March 9, 2022. After serving in the U.S. Army Dental Corps in Korea during the 1970s, he returned to the Buffalo area to begin his dental practice. After several years, he followed his late father's dream of settling in Arizona, where he opened a dental practice, married, and raised three children.

Benjamin J. Vinciguerra, '66, age 87, passed away February 25th, 2022. A Schenectady native, he taught chemistry and biology at Mohonasen High School before attending the UB School of Dental Medicine. Upon graduation, he served as a Lieutenant Commander with the Coast Guard. He practiced orthodontics for 45 years in the Albany area.

Dr. Richard M. Wright, '66, age 89, died February 18, 2022. He was an orthodontist with offices in Fredonia

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and Jamestown. A United States Army veteran, he served in the Army in Korea during the Korean War.

Robert W. Young, '64, age 83, of Geneva, died May 9, 2022. Following graduation from dental school, he joined the US Army and served as a Captain in Vietnam. After serving, he joined his father in dental practice and practiced for over 50 years. He shared his passion for horses with a lifelong hobby of driving horses competitively and he had an extensive carriage and sleigh collection.



STUDENT RESEARCH DAY 2022

THE SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE 2022 STUDENT RESEARCH DAY was held on March 17th, at the Center for the Arts Atrium on UB's North Campus. Sixty-seven posters were presented highlighting the outstanding research efforts of our students, residents and fellows. Special thanks to organizers – Dr. Keith Kirkwood, Senior Associate Dean for Research and Dr. Lindsay Chakan, Director of the Office of Research Support – and to those who support student research – mentors, research staff, the Dental Student Research Group with faculty advisor, Dr. Praveen Arany, members of the Student Research and Honors Committee and faculty judges.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Khrystyna Adam (Praveen Arany)
UB Pre-Dental Association Award

"Caries detection by targeted chromophore-assisted laser analysis of *Streptococcus mutans*."

Yousef Alhorebi (Arany)

Alaina Bailey (Arany)

DENTAL STUDENTS

Marissa Erickson (Thikriat Al-Jewair)
Maryanne Mather Clinical Research Award

"Comparison of automated mandibular monitoring and parental questionnaires for the detection of sleep bruxism in orthodontic populations."

Victoria Maglaras (Keith Kirkwood)
James English Award for Predoctoral Students

"Towards a standardized bone microarchitecture analysis of alveolar bone."

Charlene Tsou (Lucila Piasecki)
UB School of Dental Medicine, Department of Oral Biology Award

"3D printed models for teaching endodontics—a pilot study."

Gabriel Valencia (Jill Kramer)
Hinman Student Research Symposium Award

"CD180 expression on B cells in primary Sjögren's syndrome mice."

Sumayyah Ahmed (Piasecki)

Ahmed Al-Darraj (Rui Li)

Nadia Basharat (Sebastiano Andreana)

Anshu Chopra (Arany)

Jay Ciano (Arany)

Ankita Garg (Andreana)

Cecilia Horchos (Andreana)

Jason Kim (Edward Kwon)

Tyler Laurel (Rosemary Dziak)

Kevin Lin (Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh)

Waseem Mir (Kathryn Kauffman)

Sania Naqvi (Carrie Wanamaker)

Krish Ohri (Maureen Donley)

Adenike Osinusi (Andreana)

Nidhi Parmar (Andreana)

Abigail Romano (Sadid-Zadeh, Li)

Prabdeep Sandhu (Li)

Yianni Savidis (Michael Garrick)

Kevin Shum (Kwon)

Corey Stein (Kirkwood)

Krupa Thomas (Kramer)

Savannah Tomaka (Arany)

Dennis Verma (Andreana)

Nicole Walawander (Arany)

Cody Wiktorski (Heidi Crow)

Brianna Yusiewicz (Piasecki)

Michelle Zou (Yerke)

ADVANCED EDUCATION STUDENTS/RESIDENTS/FELLOWS

Christian Ahearn (Stefan Ruhl)
UB School of Dental Medicine Award (Postdoc)

"The sweet attraction of oral streptococci to a not-so-human sugar in the human mouth."

Haley Chizuk (Arany)

Maryanne Mather Clinical Research Award

"The effect of physical activity on saliva microRNA biomarkers of sports-related concussion—A pilot investigation."

Jeremy Egan (Richard Hall)

Russell J. Nisengard Advanced Programs Research Award

"Squamous odontogenic tumor: A case report and literature review."

Dayron Leyva Rodriguez (Michelle Visser)

James English Award for PhD Students

"*Treponema denticola*—Oncostatin M interactions promote aortic endothelial cell activation."

Akech Malual (Arany)

James English Award for Advanced Education Students

"Utility of 3D printing technology for craniofacial repair of infant oral mutilation: A public health issue in Africa."

Chih Yean Ong (Ding Xu)

James English Award for PhD Students

"Deciphering heparan sulfate-BMPER interaction in bone remodeling."

Theresa Wrynn (Rose-Anne Romano)

Ernest J. Hausmann Oral Biology PhD Research Award

" $\Delta Np63$ represses canonical WNT signaling to regulate salivary gland branching morphogenesis."

Akber Ali (Hall)

Natalie Anselmi (Visser)

Fatima Bosaid (Hajer Aksel)

Kiana Bynum (Jason Kay)

Monika Che (Romano)

Michael Chernyak (Michael Markiewicz)

Kyung Ah Chung (Christopher Heard)

Javier de la Fuente Balboa (Piasecki)

Ezra Goldberg-O'Neil (Heard)

Aaron Gorsline (Arany)

Erich Horeth (Romano)

Fatemah Husain (Al-Jewair)

Cameron Kirkwood (Kirkwood)

Ayah Koleilat (Heard)

Nathaniel Kronenwetter (Markiewicz)

Kyuhwan Kwack (Kirkwood)

Yin Luo (Xu)

Vinicius Maximiano (Arany)

Sarah Metcalfe (Kay)

Thomas Mirchel (Markiewicz)

Nihar Pillai (Aksel)

Kelly Plote (Heard)

Patrick Punch (Ruhl)

Kathleen Rusnak (Heard)

Philip Sales (Arany)

Bryan St. Marie (Aksel)

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STAFF APPRECIATION NIGHT
Wednesday,
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5:30PM-7:30PM