

UB DENTIST

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

FALL 2018



STEPPING UP TO LEAD

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OF KEY PROGRAMS [p14](#)

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ON THE COVER:

Drs. Joseph Rumfola, Carrie Wanamaker and Justin J. Au are new young leaders in the UB School of Dental Medicine.

Photo by Douglas Levere

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FALL 2018

UBDENTIST

News from the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine

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ART ELLISON: PIONEER OF ORAL BIOLOGY

An intellectual and visionary, Ellison led the nation's first Department of Oral Biology at UB.



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STEPPING UP TO LEAD

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

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The UB School of Dental Medicine holds a singular place in the history of U.S. dental schools as the site of the first Department of Oral Biology. Established in 1960, the Department of Oral Biology has had a major impact on dental research.

Today, most major dental schools have departments of oral biology, where researchers from a wide range of sciences work together to study diseases of the oral cavity. But it was not always this way.

When Dr. James English, then Dean of the State University of New York at Buffalo, School of Dentistry established the Department of Oral Biology, most scientists studying problems related to the oral cavity worked in separate, discipline-based departments, in silos away from each other. Dean English recruited Dr. Solon Ellison to chair this new department, and the New York City native created a place that drew top talent and launched numerous academic and professional careers. In this issue of UB Dentist, Dr. Frank Scannapieco, current chair of the Department of Oral Biology, recalls the intellectual vigor and personal involvement Dr. Ellison brought to the department and to all dental research.

The genius of creating a Department of Oral Biology lay in breaking down the walls between scientists from different disciplines and creating a “critical mass” of research scientists focused not on a specific discipline, but on diseases of the oral cavity.

The list of influential graduates from the Department of Oral Biology is long and includes Dr. Lawrence Tabak, Principal Deputy Director of the National Institutes of Health, Dr. Mark Herzberg, professor at the University of Minnesota and former editor of the Journal of Dental Research as well as numerous department chairs and dental school deans. Long serving

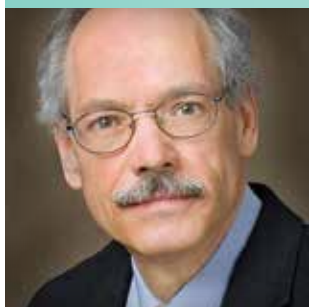
department chair and now director of the UB Microbiome Center, Dr. Robert Genco, remains one of the leading scientists in the field. The collective impact on dental research was and is significant. Prior to the advent of the Department of Oral Biology, it was difficult to recruit top scientists to dental research. But gathering microbiologists, biochemists, immunologists and others to focus their talents on the structures and diseases of the oral cavity has yielded countless breakthroughs—all originating with the vision of Dean English and Dr. Ellison.

Research excellence is one of the hallmarks of our dental school. It continues today with a new generation of talented faculty and students. It’s a proud history upon which we continue to build.



Joseph J. Zambon, DDS '74, Perio Cert. '83, PhD '84
Dean, School of Dental Medicine

FROM THE DEAN



NewsBriefs

Event Held to Recognize Squire Society Donors

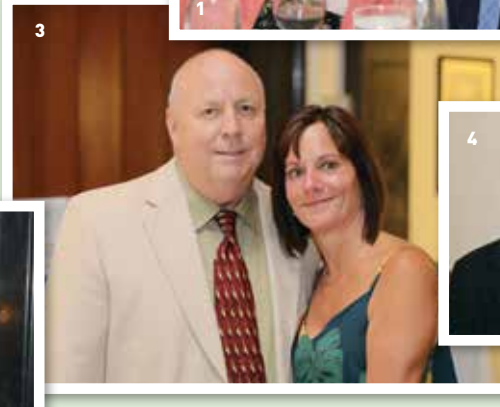
The Buffalo History Museum played host to the 2018 Squire Society donor recognition event. The event, which has become an annual tradition, attracted approximately 70 guests, who enjoyed a tour of the museum, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, and remarks from Dean Joseph Zambon.

The Daniel Squire Society is made up of individuals who have given \$1,000 or more in support of the School of Dental Medicine. "This past year was our best year yet," says Neil Dengler, Director of Advancement and Assistant Dean for the School. "We had a record 157 members who gave at or above the \$1,000 level," added Dengler.

"Gifts to the Squire Society can provide support for renovations to Squire Hall, scholarships and even unrestricted support to the school or a specific department. With support from New York State dwindling, we are grateful to our donors for their generosity," Dengler says.

To learn more about the Squire Society, contact Neil Dengler at ndengler@buffalo.edu or (716) 881-7486.

1 DEAN ZAMBON WITH STEPHANIE MUCHA, DONOR OF FUNDS FOR THE WELCOME CENTER, WHO UNFORTUNATELY PASSED AWAY IN EARLY DECEMBER; **2** DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION STAFF, LISA JEREBKO AND SHERRY SZAROWSKI; **3** RAYMOND MILLER, '85 AND MARIA MILLER; **4** DAVID BROWN, '83 AND JOHN TIBBETTS, '92, MS ORTHO '94; **5** JOSEPH GAMBACORTA, '93, DAVID BROWN, BETH REILLY, '84, GPR '85, VIOLET HARASZTHY, '02, MS ORAL SCIENCES. '93, PERIO CERT. '94, PROS CERT. '97, PHD ORAL BIOLOGY. '99; **6** DEAN ZAMBON, JANE BREWER, '78, PROS CERT. '82, MS ORAL SCI. '85 AND DR. & MRS. GERALD GRASER, '68; **7** BONNIE KUROSOKO AND WALTER KUROSOKO, '77.



2

Squire Hall Renovation Update

The renovations of clinical facilities in Squire Hall have been expanded to include the new Joseph and Stephanie Mucha Patient Welcome Center and the Buhite-Dimino Dental Implant Center. A kickoff meeting was held on January 11, 2018 with Buell Kratzer Powell (BKP) architectural firm, and the project team has been meeting biweekly ever since.

The overall goals are to improve all aspects of the patient experience; to modernize all clinical areas incorporating elements such as CAD/CAM and lasers; to enhance resources for faculty and staff to teach and work, with space for private consultation rooms for better student and patient interactions; and to increase privacy and security using new cabinetry.

The plan is to fit within the existing footprint. This will require reducing the number of operatories from 342 to

around 298. In order to maintain a robust clinic schedule during an extended renovation, the school has implemented evening clinic hours and may alternate summer pre-doctoral or rotation schedules.

The timeline calls for construction of the Welcome Center and Implant Center on the first floor to begin in October 2019 and be completed by April 2020. Drawings (drafts are shown below) and other construction documents are being prepared for the bidding process.

The Welcome Center will consolidate patient check-in and check-out in one space that will include admissions, scheduling appointments, cashiering, and consultations with patient care associates. The Implant Center will be self-contained with surgical suites, consultation and recovery areas.

The next phase of construction, to begin in mid-2020, will focus on the

postgraduate clinics for AEGD, Endodontics, Periodontics and Prosthodontics that will be relocating to the first floor main clinic. In the following year, the clinics for Orofacial Pain will move to modernized operatories vacated by Endodontics, and the Orthodontics operatories will be renovated. Special needs dentistry operatories equipped with wheelchair lifts will be constructed in the area where Orofacial Pain operatories are currently located.

Pre-doctoral clinics along with the Pediatric Dentistry clinic will be moved to occupy the 2nd and 3rd floors with all new operatories and some improved radiology and sedation areas. Urgent care and screening clinics will be located in the area of the current pediatric dentistry clinic.

Lots yet to do, but exciting times are ahead.

1 JOSEPH AND STEPHANIE MUCHA PATIENT WELCOME CENTER; 2 BUHITE-DIMINO DENTAL IMPLANT CENTER



3 UB Dental Students and Faculty Participate in Remote Area Medical (RAM) Event

During the last weekend of October, 2018, UB School of Dental Medicine's faculty and students volunteered to participate in a Remote Area Medical (RAM) event. This fall's RAM event was held in Gray, Tennessee. On site providers treated people who could not afford medical, dental, and vision care. Altogether the students and faculty cared for over 196 patients and donated over \$100,000 in oral health care services.

Unfortunately, Stan Brock, the founder of RAM died earlier in August at the age of 82. A celebration of his life was held in September. His dedication and passion for service was truly remarkable. Through his leadership, RAM has provided free care to more than 740,000 individuals.



1 STAN BROCK, FOUNDER OF THE REMOTE AREA MEDICAL MISSION; 2 UB STUDENTS AND FACULTY CARE FOR PATIENTS IN GRAY, TENNESSEE; 3 (L TO R) JOSEPH GAMBACORTA, ROBERT DAVIS, '18, SARA PERRONE, '18, LAWRENCE CRONYN, '82, KEVIN D'ANGELO, '81.

4 New Students Arrive

In August during the 2018 Orientation Week for the UB School of Dental Medicine, we welcomed 92 new DDS students from all over the country and around the world into the

school with a week of information sessions, social events, and tours. The week culminated with the White Coat Ceremony held on Friday, August 10th, at Slee Hall located on UB's North Campus. The school also welcomed 46 advanced education students starting with a lunch hosted by Dean Zambon at the Marriott.



1,2,3 UB'S NEWEST CLASS OF FUTURE DENTISTS WAS WELCOMED TO THE CAMPUS DURING ORIENTATION WEEK IN AUGUST; 4,5,6 THE WEEK CONCLUDED WITH THE WHITE COAT CEREMONY.

NEW GRANTS & CONTRACTS

Over \$5.9 million in new grants and contracts were awarded in the period from July 2017 through September, 2018 to dental school researchers. This adds to the many continuing active grants from federal, state, industry, and foundation/association agency sponsors resulting in over \$5.3 million in expenditures during FY 2018. Congratulations and thank you for your efforts!

Supported by Federal/State Funds

Abel, S., PI: "School-based sealant program"; NYSDOH.

Abel, S., PI: "Rural dentistry program"; NYSDOH.

Kirkwood, K., PI: "Acid spingomyelinase as a target in metabolic syndrome-exacerbated periodontitis"; Med. Univ. S. Carolina (NIH).

Kirkwood, K., PI, Anders, M., Wilding, G., Co-I: "Metabolic reprogramming of myeloid-derived suppressor cells in post-traumatic osteoarthritis"; US Army.

Kirkwood, K., PI: "DUSP1 and sexual dimorphism in periodontitis"; NIDCR.

Kirkwood, K., PI, Scannapieco, F., Co-I: "Buffalo oral research and specialty training program (BORST)"; NIDCR.

Kirkwood, K., PI, Seldeen, K., Troen, B., Co-I: "Post-transcriptional control of aging-associated inflammation and bone homeostasis"; NIDCR.

Kramer, J., PI, Gaile, D., Co-I: "Analysis of MyD88-mediated immune activation in Sjögren's syndrome"; NIDCR.

Kramer, J., PI, Romano, R., Yu, G., Co-I: "Analysis of the role of IgM in Sjögren's syndrome"; NIDCR.

Kramer, J., PI, Yu, G., Co-I: "Analysis of B cell activation by endogenous mediators of inflammation in Sjögren's syndrome"; NIDCR.

Ohrbach, R., PI, Campbell, J., Cimato, T., Co-I: "Effect of COMT genetic polymorphisms on response to propranolol therapy in temporomandibular disorder"; Univ. N. Carolina, Chapel Hill (NIH).

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

Ruhl, S., PI, Vickerman, M., Co-I: "Harnessing the oral microbiome to create novel glycan-binding probes"; NCI.

Ruhl, S., PI, Scannapieco, F., Co-I: "Advanced training in oral biology"; NIDCR.

Ruhl, S., PI, Vickerman, M., Co-I: "Microbial recognition of sialic acid diversity in the oral cavity"; NIDCR.

Ruhl, S., PI: "Fellowship for Benjamin Cross: Glycan binding of oral streptococci and its impact on phagocyte activation"; NIDCR.

Sharma, A., PI: "Gliding motility in *Tannerella forsythia*"; NIDCR.

Vickerman, M., PI: "Fitness profiling of *Streptococcus gordonii* in oral microenvironments"; NIDCR.

Visser, M., PI, Scannapieco F., Co-I: "Fellowship for Megan Jones: Interaction of *Treponema denticola* virulence factors with neutrophils to modulate polymicrobial responses"; NIDCR.

Visser, M., PI, Sharma, A., Balthasar, J., Qu, J., Wilding, G., Co-I: "The role of oral spirochete virulence factors in the impairment of neutrophil response"; NIDCR.

Xu, D., PI: "Heparan sulfate-Osteoprotegerin interactions in bone remodeling"; NIAMS.

Supported by Industry

Andreana, S., PI, Kim, H., Co-PI: "Implant dentistry fellowship"; Straumann USA LLC.

Arany, P., PI: "Effect of laser acupuncture on rodent cranial microcirculation"; NST Consultants, Inc.

Baier, R., PI, Meyer, A., Co-I: "Dry eye project"; Novartis Pharma AG.

Ciancio, S., PI: "Determination of the effectiveness of adjunctive intraoral electrotherapy on periodontal disease DEEP"; Bioelectrics LLC.

Mang, T., PI, Sharma, A., Co-I: "The in-vitro antimicrobial efficacy of photodynamic therapy with Photofrin against sinusitis related pathogens"; Concordia Lab. Inc.

Meyer, A., PI, Baier, R., Co-I: "Marketed product characterization"; Alcon Laboratories.

Shibly, O., PI: "A clinical trial of the efficacy of pinhole gum rejuvenation compared to connective tissue graft in treatment of gingival recession"; Geistlich Pharma AG.

Supported by Foundations, Associations or Institutions

Abel, S., PI: "Tooth wisdom: Get smart about your mouth"; Oral Health Am.

Abel, S., PI: "Increasing access to dental care for children in Chautauqua County"; Ralph C. Sheldon Fdn, Inc.

Al-Jewair, T., PI: "A longitudinal pilot study of the effects of Invisalign on upper pharyngeal airway dimensionals in adult patients with Class II malocclusions: A CBCT and sleep questionnaire study; 2) The effects of vibrational appliances on maxillary canine retraction"; Am. Assoc. Orthodontists Fdn.

Arany, P., PI: "Examining the need for a novel treatment option to alleviate neck, shoulder and wrist pain affecting clinical dentist's productivity"; ADEA.

Kramer, J., PI: "Fellowship for Jeremy Kiripolsky: Careers in Immunology Fellowship: Analysis of the role of LITAF in Sjögren's syndrome"; Am. Assoc. Immunologists.

Wu, T., PI: "Explore microbiome association with orthodontic complications"; Am. Assoc. Orthodontists Fdn.

In addition, faculty with continuing active sponsored grants include: Abel, Arany, P., Ciancio, Conley, Dziak, Edgerton, Genco, Gonzalez-Stucker, Haraszthy, Kay, J., Ohrbach, Maddi, Piasecki, Romano, Ruhl, Ruttenberg, Sabatini, Scannapieco, Schifferle, Sharma, Vickerman, Visser.



Art Ellison:

PIONEER OF ORAL BIOLOGY

BY

FRANK A. SCANNAPIECO, PERIO CERT. '89, PHD '91
CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ORAL BIOLOGY



Those of us associated with the UB School of Dental Medicine need to remember the pioneers of the modern school who brought novel ideas and vision, and who were not afraid to argue for the resources to realize them. Art Ellison was one of these pioneers, and we mourn his passing, and celebrate his achievements.

I decided to join the Oral Biology PhD and periodontics programs here at the University at Buffalo based on reading about the interesting research conducted here, and learning from my mentors that the programs were well regarded. I did not know much else. Of course, all notable programs begin with the vision and effort of the founders, many who often then go unheralded. In the case of the Oral Biology program, there were two key players who started the ball rolling; Dean James English, who conceived the program, and Art Ellison, who was hired to make it happen. Solon Arthur ("Art"), who passed away on September 3, 2018 at the age of 96, brought a unique perspective and would come to make many decisions that would have great impact on post-graduate dental and research education in Buffalo and around the world.

By the late 1950's, The University of Buffalo School of Dentistry, begun in 1892, was well established as a private institution whose focus was to train competent dentists and to provide excellent dental care for the regional community. However, if a potential patient had a systemic condition, they were considered a "non-teaching case" and were not accepted as a patient. As a result, the excellent basic science knowledge imparted to the dental students by the medical school was rarely, if ever, used or reinforced in the clinic. Furthermore, no research programs existed in any of the dental departments.

In 1962, with the merger of the University of Buffalo with the State University of New York, substantial resources were





made available to expand the scope of the dental school. One of Jim and Art's novel ideas was to organize a substantial research and graduate program within a single department, which they named Oral Biology. This was the first such department in a dental school in the United States.

Art Ellison was born and educated in New York City. He received the DDS (1946) and PhD (1958) degrees from Columbia University. He served in the Army Dental Corps, as an NIDR Postdoctoral Fellow, and as an Instructor and Associate in Columbia's Department of Microbiology. His wife, Rose Ruth Ellison, MD, was an experienced cancer researcher at Roswell Park Cancer Institute. His fundamental studies of herpes simplex infections provided him a thorough grounding in biochemistry, biophysics, microbiology, and clinical medicine. Later, he worked with Irwin Mandel and Paul Mashimo (the latter one of the first members of the Department of Oral Biology) to perform pioneering studies of the biochemical composition of saliva.

He was recruited from Columbia University by Dean English to serve as professor and the founding Chair of the Department Oral Biology (from 1963 to 1976). He recruited full time dentists/scientists from the US and from other countries. Thus, the Oral Biology faculty initially came from such countries as England, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Italy and Japan as well as the US. This gave the department an international reputation, which was greatly enhanced when it began its PhD program, the first in the US. The first laboratories were set up in Farber Hall. The department then moved to 4510 Main Street before moving to its present home in Foster Hall in 1984.

Art made an important early strategic decision to obtain approval for the PhD degree program from the University Graduate School, to be sure that Oral Biology would be held to the same standard as traditional programs. In 1966, he secured funding for an NIH Training Grant that over the ensuing years, and to this day, has supported many PhD students and post-doctoral fellows, many of whom have gone on to make major contributions to dental research and education.

To provide diverse perspective on Art Ellison's contributions to the University at Buffalo and to dental research and education, I invited several of Art's students and colleagues to provide recollections of their interactions with him, and thoughts of his legacy.



1 DR. ELLISON WITH HIS TECHNICIAN, SWASTI MAJUMBAR; 2 DR. AND MRS. ELLISON WITH DR. ROBERT GENCO; 3 DR. ELLISON WITH HIS DAUGHTER AND SON-IN-LAW AT THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UB ORAL BIOLOGY PROGRAM; 4 DR. ELLISON IN THE 1960s.

Michael Levine, DDS '71, PhD '72 (Art's PhD student and Professor Emeritus of Periodontics and Oral Biology, UB):

Ellison was more of a thinker, with a vision for the role of research in the dental school. Ernie Hausmann, Peter Staple, Bill Miller, Chet DeLuca, Paul Mashimo, Todd Evans, Zouhair Atassi, Joseph Gong, and later on Rosemary Dziak and Bob Genco, were the original faculty of the department. In those days, the basic areas were biochemistry, histology, immunology, and microbiology.

He was very tight with the Dean, Jim English. The Dean invested large resources into the department that helped Ellison achieve his visionary goals. Dean English acted as a buffer between Ellison and the clinical chairs. Many clinical chairs were ex-Navy and didn't appreciate the need for basic science integration/application into clinical practice.

At that time, Ellison wasn't one for hands on work in the laboratory. Being an early student in Oral Biology was both fun and challenging. A strong background in basic science was required and fulfilled by 1-2 years of course work in the medical and graduate schools. As a PhD student, most of my mentoring was from

Atassi and Om Bahl in Biochemistry.

The preliminary examination was very demanding. Four original research proposals in different areas of biology were required. These were defended over a two day period; two mornings and two afternoons.

I was the first DDS/PhD student at the dental school, hence in the US. I think there have been 1-2 from UB since, including Jill Kramer.

Author's comment: The department now has 16 full-time investigators. The focus of the department includes microbiology, immunology, salivary research, bone and developmental biology. The preliminary examination is much less demanding, with each student needing to defend only one proposal over one afternoon.

Mark Herzberg, PhD '78 (Mike Levine's first PhD student, and a long-time Professor at the University of Minnesota):

Art was a visionary who really thought that science could benefit people if applied through dentistry and dentists. He showed me an unexpected love for the profession at my PhD admission interview, which was conducted in a shroud of smoke from his pipe (not an infrequent event in those days). He asked me whether I really wanted to be a dentist. Perhaps I sounded indifferent. He then recited a five-minute treatise on the beauty of what a dentist does including an artistic vision of full dentures. I knew Art did not practice (since I did some homework before my interview). He Talmudized me: he had recently made dentures for inmates following the infamous Attica prison riots. Lesson learned.

In my second year, I had moved from Chet DeLuca's lab—where I had hoped to learn the new craft of cell culture—to Art's lab, awaiting the arrival of the wunderkind, Mike Levine, who was to take over the lab. Art nobly wanted to teach me column chromatography techniques. I reviewed the guides from Pharmacia, but Art and Art alone held the holy grail. He mixed and prepared gels and poured the huge column, like a wizard who stirs cauldrons and distains recipes. The column ran and saliva was fractionated but once. Suffice to say, these biochemical techniques benefitted by Mike's arrival.

Art was an insightful observer and offered me advice that I cherish. When I was considering the several tenure-track job offers that I received as I neared completion of my degree, I sought Art's counsel. I explained the several opportunities for tenure-track positions and also a one-year, renewable temporary Assistant Professor position I was offered at the University of Minnesota. Indeed, that was the position that seemed to be the best opportunity for me but I couldn't reconcile that the position was not tenure track. After defining the very narrow scope of my expertise and the research program I could establish, he said, "Good places do not let good people go." In his Talmudic fashion, Art was actually paying me a compliment. I learned that I should have confidence in my knowledge and training and be prepared to take the risk. He was right and my career was launched.

Author's comment: The value of "Talmudic" mentorship is still appreciated by the department, although it is no doubt delivered in a less dramatic and in a more environmentally friendly fashion. Mentorship is more organized these days, with all students and faculty participating in several annual formal mentorship activities.

"Ellison was more of a thinker, with a vision for the role of research in the dental school."

MICHAEL LEVINE

Sebastian Ciancio, DDS '63 (Distinguished Service Professor and Chair, Department of Periodontics and Endodontics):

Although I was not a member of the Oral Biology Department, I participated in many of their seminars and interacted with Art (and Dr. Robert Genco) in establishing a combined program of certification in Periodontics and the PhD degree, funded by a grant from the National Institute of Dental Research. I was at that time involved in some basic science research in the area of acid mucopolysaccharides and their role in the progression of periodontal disease. When I encountered difficulties in laboratory procedures, I would consult with Art and he was most helpful in reaching a solution. However, he never guided me in a “cookbook” way, but more in the Socratic method of teaching. When I would leave these meetings, I had more questions than those with which I came to discuss, but, in answering the issues he raised, I was able to often find the solution I needed. I feel very lucky to have received his guidance in the area of dental research and to this day I use his teaching methods with my students.

Lawrence Tabak, PhD '81 (Deputy Director, National Institutes of Health):

Art was the “Talmudic scholar” in residence; he readily engaged you in highly convoluted and excruciatingly detailed discussions about your experiments. He enjoyed drawing your attention to historical work of relevance—he often tried to link what you were doing with Elvin Kabat’s classical work—this resonated with me since, as a dental student at Columbia, Irwin Mandel had arranged for me to have access to the Kabat lab.

Within a year or so of my arrival in Buffalo, Art returned to Columbia. I would often kid him that we were “traded” for each other and we took turns wondering which school got the better of the deal.

Art embraced interdisciplinary research well before it became fashionable—he was a virologist, biochemist, and immunologist—often combining all disciplines in a single study!

Author’s comment: *By its very definition, Oral Biology is a multi-disciplinary department. Most of the faculty have training in more than one scientific discipline, and often in a clinical discipline as well. Most research projects are conducted by multi-disciplinary teams, often including investigators from outside the school and University.*

Robert Genco, DDS '63 (Distinguished Professor; Chair of Oral Biology 1977–2002):

Art was a gifted scientist, educator, and to me a valued mentor. His contributions to oral microbiology, oral virology, and salivary biochemistry stand today as a foundation for our understanding of these areas. Although he was supportive of the Gies Report recommendations that dental students should have rigorous training in the basic sciences important to dentistry, he had reservations about how this training was obtained. Dr. Ellison realized that although having basic sciences taught to the dental students by the medical departments was efficient and cost less, the medical departments were often not interested in dental research. He then developed the Oral Biology Department, an interdisciplinary group of scientists that carry out research related to oral disease, train students who would become future dental researchers and compete for research funding like their basic science colleagues in medicine.

Dr. Ellison developed rigorous training programs primarily at the PhD level for dentists in the Oral Biology Department. He helped develop guidelines for graduate programs in Oral Biology based on his experiences at UB, which have now become standards for graduate Oral Biology programs worldwide. These principles helped ensure Dr. Ellison’s goal that MS and PhD candidates in Oral Biology graduate programs be well prepared for careers in teaching and research. Dr. Ellison’s goal was fulfilled by the graduation of dozens of students from UB, and hundreds worldwide from programs using his model. I miss his vision, as well as his love of art and music, and his scholarship, kindness, and friendship.

“His contributions to oral microbiology, oral virology, and salivary biochemistry stand today as a foundation for our understanding of these areas.”

ROBERT GENCO

Rosemary Dziak (Professor of Oral Biology):

I was recruited by Art. He had the Oral Biology Program in a great place already by the time I arrived. He had a tremendous amount of insight for the needs of people so trained.”

Thank you Dr. Ellison for providing the foundation of a rich history upon which we continue to build. [UBD](#)



STEPPING UP TO LEAD

**YOUNG DENTISTS ASSUME LEADERSHIP
OF KEY PROGRAMS**

STORY BY GROVE POTTER | PHOTOGRAPHY BY DOUGLAS LEVERE

in *dentistry*, a profession where tradition and respect for those who came before are at the core of its teaching, it's notable when a new cadre of young leaders steps up to take the reins of major post-graduate programs. And that is happening at the UB School of Dental Medicine.

Three young leaders are assuming roles administering and teaching post-graduate students, bringing new perspectives and energy to their departments:

- **Joseph Rumfola, DDS '02, AEGD Cert. '03**, has been named program director of Advanced Education in General Dentistry Program
- **Carrie Wanamaker, DDS '09, Ped Dent Cert. '11**, has been named program director of the Advanced Education in Pediatric Dentistry Program
- **Justin J. Au, DMD, MD, Oral Maxillofac Surg Cert. '13**, has been named program director of the Advanced Education in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Program

All three are eager to keep their programs thriving while bringing some new approaches and points of view.

Advancing General Dentistry

Rumfola, 42, has been assistant director of the AEGD program for 10 years, so his transition has been smooth. He is following his longtime colleague, Frank Barnashuk, '80, GPR '81, who is planning to teach part-time.

"We have nine dentists in our programs currently," Rumfola said. "We have two programs. The traditional program for U.S. and Canadian graduates, and we have another program called our International Scholars Program. That's a two-year program where dentists attend half-time. It's for foreign graduates who will be going back to their home countries."

The one-year general dentistry program offers new dentists a path to licensure in New York State. It's a busy, varied year where dentists do everything from preventive care to implants, and fillings to extractions.

"We're essentially providing advanced training across the spectrum of dental specialties, just not to the same depth," Rumfola said. "While the residents in endodontics do root canals, so do we, but in the context of a comprehensive approach to the patient's care."

The clinic handles all types of emergencies in addition to scheduled dental appointments.

Rumfola hopes to restart the cooperative lectures between the four general dentistry residency programs in the city—at UB, the Veterans Administration Hospital, Erie County Medical Center and Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center.

"We can learn a lot from them, and they can learn from us," he said.

In addition, he hopes to update some of the technology in the clinic to bring some of the newest procedures, like milling crowns and implants, into the program.

"It's sophisticated, he said. "Things have changed in general dentistry."

Children Well Served

Wanamaker, 35, served as assistant/associate program director of the pediatric dental residency program for seven years under Joseph Bernat, '73, Ped Dent Cert. '75, MS Oral Sci. '83, who had run the program for 30 years. She got a deeper understanding of the program and the school last year as a member of the program's accreditation team.

"That was very intense... but the entire school passed with flying colors," she said. "That was a really proud moment for us."

Entrance into the pediatric dentistry program is extremely competitive, with 110 applicants each year for eight spots.

"I think pediatric dentistry is fun... more fun than the other dental disciplines in my opinion," she said. "We get to interact with a complex patient population that really needs our care. A lot of the kids we treat are of lower socio-economic status. They are at high risk for decay. We intervene early, so we do a lot of preventive practice."

The pediatric clinics are very busy and growing. "We have more patients than we can handle," she said. "We have over 110,000 patient visits a year."

The program is building a new two-story clinic downtown, with a sedation program and additional chairs. "We're heading in a great direction of growth."

Residents work in the clinic at the dental school, at the Oishei Children's Hospital, at Mercy Hospital in South Buffalo, and at practices in Niagara Falls, East Aurora and Williamsville.

In addition to working in the clinics, Wanamaker likes the administration of the program, as well. And she credits the department chair, Paul Creighton, '84, Ped Dent Cert. '86, for giving her big responsibilities and the guidance to meet them.

"It's nice to be able to be involved with other areas of the dental school. It's important to be able to have a say in what goes on, and I feel I am given a lot of respect. And I really enjoy working with the other departments," she said. "As a young person you can bring in new ideas that you can really develop."

From Wisdom Teeth to Major Surgery

Au, 37, trained in the program he now leads and was recruited back to UB about six months ago from the Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pa., where he established the nation's newest oral and maxillofacial surgical training program. He now leads a program during which residents, over six years, earn an MD degree in addition to advanced dental training.

"We do everything that is related to the oral maxillofacial field, which is the head and neck. That ranges from children

CONTINUED

born with cleft palates to TMJ (temporomandibular joint) surgery and TMJ replacements,” he said. “We also do a lot of facial trauma. If people have injuries to the head and neck, broken bones in the face, and cuts in the face, we fix them up. We’ll take out tumors and reconstruct areas of the jaw bone or the face. We also do traditional oral surgery, like taking out wisdom teeth and putting in dental implants. We do a lot of sedation, or anesthesia where we put the patient to sleep to do all these procedures.”

Residents also do reconstructions doing nerve grafts or taking bone from people’s hips or lower legs or ribs to help do reconstruction.

The program gets about 70 applications a year for two spots.

Au credits his predecessor, John H. Campbell, ’81, for putting the program on a solid foundation during his 14 years at the helm.

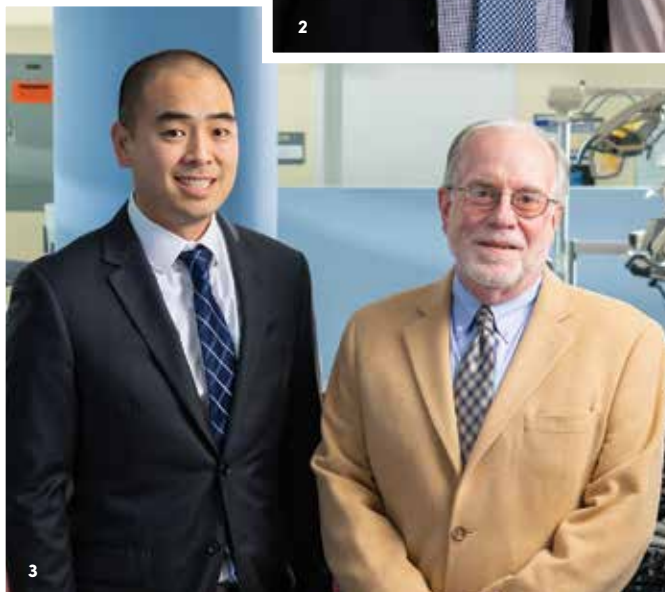
“The profile of what we do has grown. We have done a lot more different types of surgeries, expanding our scope of practice,” Au said. “We’re doing nerve reconstruction and nerve replacements, TMJ replacements. We’re doing a lot more cleft lip and palate repairs with little kids.”

Campbell, who remains interim chair of the department, said he stepped aside to allow a younger person to take over. “My philosophy is that we need to bring in some new blood, some new ideas to maintain the vitality of the organization,” he said. “There comes a time you’ve got to bring up the next generation.”

Campbell, who initiated a requirement that residents publish papers or present at national conferences to help raise the profile of the program, said dental school graduates from across the nation and Canada apply to the program.

“I think it is on good footing, and I think Justin will take it the next step,” Campbell said. [UBD](#)

“There comes a time you’ve got to bring up the next generation.”



-----4
1 DR. FRANK BARNASHUK HAS TURNED THE ADVANCED EDUCATION IN GENERAL DENTISTRY PROGRAM OVER TO DR. JOSEPH RUMFOLA; **2** AFTER 30 YEARS RUNNING THE PEDIATRIC DENTAL RESIDENCY PROGRAM, DR. JOSEPH BERNAT LEAVES IT IN THE CARE OF DR. CARRIE WANAMAKER; **3** DR. JUSTIN J. AU TAKES OVER AS PROGRAM DIRECTOR OF THE ADVANCED EDUCATION IN ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY PROGRAM FROM INTERIM CHAIR DR. JOHN H. CAMPBELL.

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KEEPING DENTAL MEETINGS RELEVANT

THE ANNUAL BUFFALO NIAGARA DENTAL MEETING REACHES ESTABLISHED PROFESSIONALS AND STUDENTS

STORY BY GROVE POTTER | PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAN DANNECKER

Dental meetings, the great gathering places of the dental profession, are feeling the winds of change as online learning and internet marketing emerge as game changers.

But the annual Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting has shown that it can evolve and stay relevant by bringing dentists, dental students, hygienists and other professionals together with speakers, exhibitors and sponsors. The meeting has become a social and educational event that helps build a bridge between the academic and professional worlds.

Approximately 2,400 people, including 600 dentists and 600 hygienists, attended this year's meeting that kicked off on September 26 with a Smile in the Aisle party at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center. The meeting's multifaceted strategy includes combining the social and education components that most meetings have with the class reunions of the UB School of Dental Medicine. In addition, dental students are required to attend and participate in continuing

education classes, so the meeting has a strong cross-generational vibe.

"The meeting is run by the dental alumni association and is our largest income generator," said Dr. Joseph Modica, '82, president of the association. "A lot of the money flows back to the school."

Key to the success of any dental meeting is strong sponsor support, and the Buffalo Niagara meeting has benefitted for many years from a core of powerful companies that view the meetings as more than simply marketing. The companies support speakers, offer classes to practicing dentists and dental students, and they forge bonds built on their shared expertise.

"I think it's one of the best meetings in the country," said Dr. George Tysowski, senior vice president of Technology & Professional Relations at Ivoclar Vivadent, Inc., a global company whose North American headquarters is in Amherst. "It's a very fair value for attending. The continuing education is always top notch. So for a few days of attending with your colleagues, it's a wonderful, wonderful venue."

Ivoclar, which makes materials and equipment focused



on dental restorations, has built a strong relationship with UB, inviting professors and grad students to participate in research at its Amherst R&D center. Three projects launched out of the center recently won awards from the American College of Prosthodontics.

“We have multiple schools that come to visit from around the country, but our partnership with UB is the strongest,” Tysowski said.

Companies Teach and Reach Out

The Medical Liability Mutual Insurance Company (MLMIC), which sells dental and medical malpractice insurance in New York State, sees the meeting as a valuable place to cement relationships with clients, as well as meet potential new ones.

“It has always been primarily to make those personal connections,” said Danielle Zimbardi, vice president of Dental Underwriting at MLMIC. “And we hope to get our message out about who we are and what we stand for and what we have to offer.”

CONTINUED

AWARD RECIPIENT

HUMANITARIAN AWARD



RAYMOND A. NICEFORO, DDS '83

The Humanitarian Award is given to the alumnus who best exhibits the following characteristics: unselfishness, concern for others, commitment to dentistry, commitment to and involvement in their community, is of high moral character and is someone who through their actions has distinguished themselves as a leader in their community.

This year's recipient is Raymond Niceforo, DDS '83. Dr. Niceforo was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, where he attended grammar school at Regina Pacis Elementary School and Xaverian High School. His college years were spent at St. John's University in Queens, NY, where he majored in Biology, graduating magna cum laude, with minors in chemistry and psychology. Dr. Niceforo was accepted at SUNY at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine in 1979 and decided to leave his hometown of Brooklyn for snow country. “The four years in Buffalo were the greatest,” he said. “I've made lifelong friends and am part of one of the greatest classes to pass through the dental school.” After graduation, he became associated with Don Hayes, DDS '51, in East Aurora, bought the dental practice and has remained in Western New York for 35 years. He is a member of the American Dental Association, Eighth District Dental Society and Erie County Dental Society.

Dr. Niceforo runs a missionary trip to Guatemala every year, which has grown from a location without running water, minimal electricity, no heat, and limited supplies to a clinic that has four running operatories, a sterilization area, and is capable of seeing 250-300 patients a week. He also takes care of the elderly at various health care facilities in the Buffalo area on Tuesdays, and is a member of the Apollonian Guild, a charitable organization providing dentistry for those who can't afford it.

Dr. Niceforo is an avid bowler in the Buffalo Dental League, and he is a musician with Central Groove, a band composed of UB Dental Alumni.

◆-----◆
ABOVE: A CAPTION WOULD GO HERE

HONOR AWARD



DAVID H. BROWN, DDS '83

The Honor Award is given to those whose enthusiastic and untiring endeavors have helped to promote continued growth, development and success of the UB School of Dental Medicine.

This year's recipient is David Brown, DDS '83. Dr. Brown has been actively involved in dental education his entire academic career. He graduated cum laude in 1978 from the University of Notre Dame, with a major in Science Concentration Pre-Professional. He received his D.D.S. degree from the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine (UBSDM) in 1983, and completed a general practice residency at the Buffalo Veterans Affairs Medical Center in 1984.

Following his residency, he began practicing general dentistry in the Eggerstown, New York, area. He was hired as a part-time faculty member at the UBSDM in 1988. He received a full-time position in 2002. Over the years, Dr. Brown has received numerous teaching awards, including the Richard A. Powell Award and the Educator of the Year award. He is also a four-time recipient of the Alan J. Gross Excellence in Teaching Award. He has been course director for seven courses, and continues to teach regularly in four pre-clinical courses. He has served as the Director of Admissions since 2008, and has also served on many other school committees, including the Executive Council and the Student Progress and Promotions Committee.

Being a survivor of oral cancer, Dr. Brown was drawn to the Ride for Roswell in 2005. Since then he has raised more than \$200,000 for Roswell Park Cancer Institute. The Ride for Roswell led to his becoming an avid cyclist, and he averages between 5,000 and 6,000 miles annually on his bicycle. More recently, he has also participated in the Empire State Ride (ESR), which is a seven-day 546-mile bike ride from the New York City area to Niagara Falls, New York. He completed his third ESR back in early August, raising nearly \$20,000. All monies raised from the ESR also go directly to the Alliance Foundation at Roswell Park.

Dr. Brown lives in Snyder with his wife Dr. Beth Reilly (UBSDM 1984) and their two children, Sean and Conor.

ABOVE: A CAPTION WOULD GO HERE

The company, which insures about 3,400 dentists in the state, prides itself on fighting frivolous claims in court. "One of our core philosophies is to defend a meritorious case all the way through to trial, if need be. On the other side of it, if there is a meritorious case, we settle that as equitably as possible," she said.

The company offered a lunch and learn for students as well as courses at the event covering informed consent and "what exactly are the legalities of the doctor/patient relationship. We're there to help them navigate that," Zimbardi said.

For Jim Stewart, general manager at Patterson Dental Supply, the Buffalo Niagara meeting gives him an opportunity to meet with dentists, some of whom are customers, outside the office where they can relax a bit and discuss issues.

"It's nice to just get caught up in general," said Stewart, who attends up to 10 dental meetings a year. "It's also very important to reach the new graduates. That's the next generation of professionals, and we work to educate them as they get started on their journeys."

Stewart sees the changing climate around dental meetings, but he urges young people to stay involved and learn from their elders. "They're experienced and knowledgeable. It's great to be able to share in person. The digital age is definitely upon us, but social engagement is critical as well."

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Helping Young Dentists Transition

Dr. David Rice, '94, founder of IgniteDDS, speaks directly to the new generation of dentists. His company has connected with 15,000 young dentists who are looking for advice and practical knowledge about succeeding in an increasingly competitive profession.

"Dental practice is like pharmacy in that there has been a commoditization of dentistry," Rice said. "Big groups own up to 800 practices nationally, so if you want to be a practice owner, you need to know some things that yesterday's dentists didn't have to know."

The online community Rice has created is gaining power in the dental world. "Millennials are attracted to this because it's theirs," he said. "There are a lot of dentists, so in many places you have to work twice as hard to be as successful as 10 years ago. You have to have an A+ game today."

Helping young dentists transition from the classroom to their own businesses remains one of the goals of the meeting. Modica credits four members of the alumni association for helping

run the meeting for years and keeping it vital to young students and to established professionals.

Drs. Charles Marchetta, Stanley Zak, Richard Lynch and Paul DiBenedetto "are the big workers for this event. They are the ones the dentists, students, sponsors and others can thank."

They along with other alumni on the planning committee added some things to the meeting this year. There were some great giveaways including a weekend BMW lease, courtesy of Towne BMW, free registration to next year's meeting, and gifts from the Hyatt Regency, the Hotel Curtiss and UB Continuing Education department.

A "Door-to-Door" shuttle bus service between Buffalo Riverworks and the convention center, sponsored by Patterson Dental and Buffalo Riverworks, improved parking and offered a fun dinner spot after the meeting, and was a huge success.

Mark your calendars for next year's meeting, October 2-4th, and stay tuned for more exciting additions to the Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting. [UBD](#)

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THURSDAYS (6 TO 9 P.M.)

JAN 17: Regenerative Materials Workshop (hand-on; members only)

Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS, Terry Reilly, Astra Dental

MAR 14: Implant Overdentures: Introducing a Novel System for Vertically-Challenged Implants

Tom O'Donnell, Holly Vullo

APR 18: Reality Implant Dentistry Case Presentations: Successes & Failures (members only)

MAY 16: Esthetic Crown Lengthening

Javier Sanz, DDS

UB School of Dental Medicine

HALF-YEAR NEW MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$795

SINGLE MEETING NONMEMBER DENTIST FEE: \$295

3 CE HRS/MEETING

MAY 10

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

UB DENTAL HYGIENE SYMPOSIUM

Marriott Hotel, Buffalo, NY

TUITION: \$125 BEFORE APRIL 10; AFTER \$145

6 CE HRS



Annamarie Phalen
Associate Director,
Continuing Dental Education

MAY 11-12

(THURS 5 TO 9 P.M.;
FRI 8 A.M. TO 4 P.M.)

Treating the Apprehensive, Medically Compromised and Phobic Patient with Sedation

NYS approved mandated 12 hr course for sedation license renewal

Mark Gotlieb, DDS

UB School of Dental Medicine

UB ALUMNI MEMBER: \$395
NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$495
TEAM MEMBER: \$195

12 CE HRS

MAY 17

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

ANNUAL SANFORD B. SUGARMAN LECTURE

In cooperation with Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity & Metro Study Club

Digital Implant Dentistry 360

Mark Ludlow, DMD, MS

Salvatore's Restaurant

ALUMNI/AO MEMBER: \$195
NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$235
TEAM MEMBER: \$95

6 CE HRS

MAY 3-31

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

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP Stress-Free Endodontics

Adham Abdel Azim, BDS

UB School of Dental Medicine

UB DENTAL ALUMNI MEMBER: \$995
NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$1195
Limited Enrollment

12 CE HRS

JUNE 2-28

(8:30 A.M. DAILY)

40TH ANNUAL CHAUTAUQUA DENTAL CONGRESS

Special anniversary celebration events!

WED: Robert Cronyn, DDS, JD

THURS: Richard Hall, DDS, PhD, MD

FRI: Sebastian Ciancio, DDS

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

DENTIST: \$235
TEAM MEMBER: \$125

12 CE HRS

SEPT. 14-22

Travel Course—only a few spots left!

ITALY DISCOVERY TOUR: Emilia-Romagna...The Ultimate Food & Wine Tour

Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS

Milan, Ferrara, Bologna,
Modena, Parma

DENTIST: \$495
ALL OTHERS: \$395

12 CE HRS

LAND PACKAGE: \$4,650 PER PERSON
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UB-ADAPT Hybrid Online and In-Office Dental Assisting—Path to Licensure

With an easy-to-understand approach, the program offers a complete foundation in basic and advanced skills needed to achieve clinical competence. As a complete learning package, the new format includes a companion website with new videos demonstrating key procedures, practice quizzes, interactive games and exercises, and flashcards. Content updates include: Electronic health record; Impact of the new health care law; New hazard communication standard.

In NYS, assistants can become licensed to:

- Provide patient education;
- Take medical histories and vital signs;
- Place/remove rubber dams;
- Select/prefit provisional crowns & ortho bands;
- Remove ortho arch wires and ligature ties;
- Place/remove matrix bands;
- Take impressions for study/dx casts;
- Remove perio dressings.

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Continuous enrollment/ begin anytime

Pre-requisite: DANB-Certified CDA

TUITION: \$995

COURSE REGISTRATION

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TO REGISTER

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

ONLINE: Complete course details and online registration available at www.BuffaloCE.org

TRAVEL COURSE *Highlights*

October 2018

SPAIN/ANDALUSIA LAND TOUR

A great trip to Spain and Portugal was recently enjoyed by 45 travelers including some UB faculty and alumni. The CE program presented by Dr. John Maggio concluded with a lecture given in Spanish at the University of Seville School of Dentistry entitled, “¿Hasta Donde Llegar? Tratamiento de las Lesiones Profundas de Caries” (How Low Should You Go? Treatment of the Deep Caries Lesion). The host at the University of Seville School of Dentistry was Professor Juan José Segura Egea, who himself is an expert on the topic of deep caries lesions. The lecture was also attended by faculty and D3 students from the school. Many thanks to our hosts. The group photo (below) was taken in Ronda, Spain, at Reservatauro, a breeding farm of fighting bulls and pure Andalusian horses, located in a space which is declared biosphere’s reserve by UNESCO, on the Costa del Sol, and where we met the owner and famous bullfighter, Rafael Tejada.



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UUB*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 11/26/18. All information correct as of press time...UB CDE reserves the right to change tuition, dates, topics and/or speakers as necessary.



“As a leader you never look for accolades, but just hope that your leadership style is effective.”

—DR. CALNON ON HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Landscape Architecture’s Loss is Dentistry’s Gain

THE ADA BOARD OF TRUSTEES named Dr. William R. Calnon, of Spencerport, NY, a former landscape architecture student, as the 2018 Distinguished Service Award recipient. He accepted the award during the ADA 2018—America’s Dental Meeting in October in Honolulu.

“Dr. Calnon has had a long and celebrated dental career, having served as president of the ADA and now as president of the ADA Foundation,” said Dr. Joseph P. Crowley, ADA president. “This award is the highest honor conferred by the ADA Board of Trustees, and I am proud that he is being recognized for his countless contributions to dentistry in this way.”

Dr. Calnon was modest when asked about being awarded the honor. “I hope it’s because I have made a difference,” he said. “As a leader you never look for accolades, but just hope that your leadership style is effective.”

According to the Board, the dentist has made a difference since graduating magna cum laude from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry at

Syracuse University and receiving his dental degree from the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine. Still a practicing dentist, he opened his Rochester, NY-based practice in 1981 after a general practice residency at Strong Memorial Hospital at the University of Rochester and two years of being an associate.

Dr. Calnon, president of the ADA from 2011–12, is currently the president and interim executive director of the ADA Foundation. He also is the president of the Eastman Dental Center Foundation, an executive committee member of the National Dental Practice-Based Research Network (a consortium of participating practices and dental organizations committed to advancing knowledge of dental practice and ways to improve it) and a professor of dentistry at the University of Rochester. He is the past president of the New York State Dental Association, Seventh District Dental Society and Monroe County Dental Society. In addition, he is a fellow of the American College of Dentists, the International College of Dentists and the Pierre Fauchard Academy.

Dr. Calnon’s influence extends to his family. Both of his sons are dentists, and his sons are both married to dentists.

ABOVE: BILL CALNON RECEIVES ADA AWARD FROM JOSEPH P. CROWLEY, ADA PRESIDENT, AT THE TOMMY BAHAMA ROOFTOP LOUNGE IN HONOLULU. Photo by EZ Event Photography, courtesy ADA News. © 2018 American Dental Association.

2019 UPCOMING EVENTS

UB Bulls Basketball Alumni Reception

UB Bulls Arena
Tuesday, January 29, 2019
5:30 p.m. Reception
7:00 p.m. Game

Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting

Buffalo Niagara Convention Center
October 2-4
BNDMeeting.com

Remember When Reception

Hyatt Regency Sungarden, Buffalo, NY
Thursday, October 3
5:30-7:00 p.m.

Reunion Dinner Dance

Hyatt Regency Ballroom, Buffalo, NY
Friday, October 4
6:30 p.m. Cocktails
7:30 p.m. Dinner

RSVP

Sherry Szarowski
ss287@buffalo.edu
(716) 829-2061

Dr. Raymond G. Miller, Class of '85, Retires from the Air National Guard

A distinguished military career came to an end on September 1, 2018, when Dr. Raymond Miller retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Air National Guard. Dr. Miller's career spanned 29 years serving with the 107th Attack Wing at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. This service saw Dr. Miller in various missions around the world and in the United States. As a dentist, he saw to the dental health of soldiers before they were deployed into battle. Early in his career he was trained in forensic dentistry with the armed forces. This led to further involvement with other forensic organizations and federal agencies. His expertise led to participation in such catastrophes as the World Trade Center disaster, Hurricane Katrina, and the crash of Flight 3407 in Clarence, NY. He also serves as a consultant to the Erie County Medical Examiner. Dr. Miller has also deployed on humanitarian missions to Honduras, North Dakota, and North Carolina during his career.

Dr. Miller earned the Outstanding Dental Services Officer of the Year in 2006 for the entire Air National Guard. He has received the Meritorious Service, Air Force Achievement, and Commendation Medals. He also received the National Defense Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the Meritorious Unit Award with Valor, the Air Force Outstanding Unit, and Organizational Excellence Awards.

While Dr. Miller has retired from military service, he continues to practice dentistry at his office in Lancaster, NY, is a Clinical Associate Professor at the UB School of Dental Medicine, and is a forensic dentist with the Federal Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team.

We congratulate Dr. Miller on an outstanding career, and thank him for his service!



1 DR MILLER RECEIVING AWARD 2 DR. MILLER AND HIS WIFE, MARIA

ClassNotes



Bruce H. Seidberg, DDS '63 was elected Secretary for the American Association of Dental Boards at the recent

AADB meeting. He is a past president of the American College of Legal Medicine and of the Onondaga County (NYS) Dental Association.



Dr. James R. Predmore Named AACD Accredited Member

MADISON, Wis.— James R.

Predmore, DDS, AAACD, has earned the Accredited Member credential in the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry (AACD). He joins an elite group of dental professionals who have achieved Accreditation in the Academy.

Since 1986, the AACD Accreditation process has provided an opportunity for dentists and laboratory technicians to enhance their professional skills and knowledge in cosmetic and restorative dentistry. Accreditation is an honor requiring a dedication to continuing education and responsible patient care.

Dr. Predmore graduated from SUNY Buffalo School of Dentistry in 1982 followed by a general practice residency at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in 1983. He then moved to Lebanon, New Hampshire, where he practiced general dentistry in a group practice. In 1997,

he opened his own practice in Hanover, NH, which focuses on adult restorative dentistry and occlusal therapy. The teachings of Dr. Peter Dawson and Dr. Bill Strupp have been a major influence on his dental practice. In addition to his love for dentistry, Dr. Predmore enjoys climbing, skiing and biking. Predmore has been a member of the AACD since 2005.

He was honored for this achievement at AACD 2018 in Chicago on April 21.



The American College of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (ACOMS) 40th Annual Scientific Conference and

Exhibition will be dedicated to **Dr. Steven A. Guttenberg** in 2019. An alumnus twice-over, Dr. Guttenberg earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at the University at Buffalo before earning his Doctor of Dental Surgery at the School of Dental Medicine. He is the President of the Washington Institute for Mouth, Face, and Jaw Surgery in Washington, DC and the Chairman of Training and Education Committee, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Washington Hospital Center.

Dr. Guttenberg frequently returns to Buffalo to share his expertise with students and was the recipient of the Samuel P. Capen Award by the University Alumni Association in 2015.

Dr. Guttenberg, a Past President and Life Fellow of the

AEGD Reunion Classes of '06/'07 on August 26 at Leisurewood Campground in Akron. Pictured are Jude Fabiano, DDS '77, former program director, Joseph Rumpfola, DDS '02, former program coordinator and current director; program grads: Emily Schaefer, Mariacarmen Justiniano, Phanith Lim and Angela Ma; and Michelle Gaiser, retired dental assistant.



On Friday, Oct 19, 2018, in Hawaii, **Drs. Matthew Young, '99, Tara L. Halliwell-Kemp, '05, and Joshua T. Hutter, '05, Valerie Venterina '81, and Gagan Bhalla '86** received Fellowship in The International College of Dentists.

The International College of Dentists (ICD) Honors the World's Leading Dentists. Less than 3% of dentists in the US are invited to apply. Membership is granted only in response to outstanding professional achievement, meritorious service, and dedication to the progress of dentistry for the benefit of humankind. The honor is bestowed upon those dentists who have made significant contributions to the profession, their community, and successfully completed a thorough peer review process.



Dentists who have been awarded the prestigious title of Fellow, International College of Dentists are currently located in 122 countries worldwide.

American College of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, has served the organization in nearly every volunteer position over the last four decades. His dedication to the ACOMS has made an indelible mark and paved the way for the organization's growth and success. It is fitting that the ACOMS will

dedicate their annual meeting to this outstanding educator, leader, and surgeon. Please join us in congratulating and thanking Dr. Guttenberg for his service and accomplishments.

The ACOMS 40th Annual Scientific Conference and Exhibition will take place April 7-9, 2019 in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Alumni and Friends Gather in Hawaii During the ADA Meeting

Hawaii was the destination for the University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association's reception during the annual American Dental Association Meeting. Over 50 alumni and friends met on the rooftop patio of the famous Tommy Bahamas in Honolulu on Friday, October 19th.

Dr. Stanley L. Zak, Jr., '76, introduced Dean Joseph J. Zambon. The dean spoke on the tremendous facility changes at the UB SDM and was grateful for the UBDAA support. We continue to be a highly respected dental school both nationally and internationally. Alumni can be very proud of their alma mater!

Such events are made possible by the UBDAA through support from dues paying alumni. We look forward to San Francisco in 2019 and hope to see many of our graduates from throughout the years!



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Submit your classnotes to Sherry Szarowski at ss287@buffalo.edu and let your classmates know what you've been up to!

InMemoriam

Irwin D. Arbesman, DDS '40, passed away on May 24, 2017 at age 100. He and his late wife Peggy lived in Williamsville. They had two children, four grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Martin H. Bell, DDS '61, aged 84, died on October 8, 2018, in Palm Beach, Fla. While at dental school, he met the love of his life, Susan Taggart, who was working as a nurse at the Children's Hospital of Buffalo. They married, and after graduation he joined the US Navy as a dentist. After his service, he opened a dental practice in Palm Beach County, where he practiced for over 42 years, with his wife working as the office manager for more than 20 years. They had three children. An avid runner, he was often seen running with one of his faithful Dalmatians at his side or later running with friends after work at the Palm Beach Gardens Heart Trail.

Nicholas A. DeSocio, DDS '55, of Auburn, NY, passed away Wednesday, July 4, 2018, at age 87. He was a graduate of Niagara University and the University of Buffalo School of Dental Medicine. Upon graduation from dental school, Nick served in the U.S. Air Force as a dentist. He was stationed at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage, Alaska, which is where he met his beloved wife, Lasca Lee Barbee, with whom

he raised four children. Through his dental practice, Nick touched many lives, serving his local community and patients for over 40 years. He loved being a dentist and took care of all as if they were his own. Nick played an active role in the Boy Scouts of America for most of his adult life, sharing his guidance and wisdom with all involved in the organization. He was the recipient of the Silver Beaver Award, one of the highest honors bestowed upon a member of the scouting community.

Philip B. Feinberg, DDS '55, passed away on July 20, 2018 in Jupiter, Florida at age 89. Philip graduated from Catawba College in 1951 and the University of Buffalo School of Dental Medicine in 1955. While in Buffalo he met Elaine Zarin, who became his wife of 64 years. They settled in New Jersey where Philip started a dental practice, which he ran until his retirement in 1997. Philip was the pillar of his family. He was loved and respected by all who met him and will be dearly missed.

Robert B. Nachbar, DDS '51, passed away on September 18, 2018 at age 93. He was the beloved husband of the late Judith Ann (nee Jaeger) Nachbar for 51 years. They had four children, seven grandchildren and multiple great-grandchildren.

125th Anniversary

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

Dr. Joseph Natiella— Distinguished Alumnus and Professor

BY MADELYN MASCARO,
GRADUATE STUDENT IN THE
MS BIOMATERIALS PROGRAM

DR. JOSEPH NATIELLA, A DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE FOR OVER THREE DECADES, is considered a pioneer in regards to dental implants due to the amount of research he

conducted focused on this type of medical device. The research he published on dental implants has had a significant influence on the field of prosthodontics paving the way for other researchers and doctors to increase the success rates of dental implants through modifications to the surface. As a distinguished professor

in the department of Oral Pathology at the University at Buffalo, Natiella taught generations of students and paved the way for the next cohort of professionals to thrive. The accolades Dr. Natiella has received for his excellence in both teaching and research truly demonstrate how influential he has been on this profession.

Dr. Natiella joined the world of dental medicine in 1961 upon receiving his dental degree from Georgetown University. After graduating, Natiella joined a family-run dental office to gain professional experience before enrolling in the UB Oral Pathology post-graduate program at the University at Buffalo. After earning his certificate in 1968, he became a well-established member of the faculty. He served as a clinical associate professor in the Department of Otolaryngology and excelled as a professor in the Department

of Oral Pathology/Stomatology and Interdisciplinary Sciences. Thanks to Dr. Natiella's reputation and intelligence, he was awarded several prestigious awards during his tenure at the University at Buffalo including the Dental Student Excellence in Teaching Award in 1984 and the SUNY Chancellor Award for Excellence in 1996. (4)

Dr. Natiella published dozens of research papers throughout his career that have had a profound impact on the study of dentistry. His research involving dental implants, which was published in numerous journals such as the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry*, is what makes him such a prominent figure at the dental school. His accomplishments in research began in 1979 when he studied tissue response to surface-treated tantalum implants. He discovered, along with other researchers, how important the surface-free energy of the implant is to its success. The results of these studies led to further experiments regarding surface and physical characterization of implant surfaces and how it interacts with the adjacent tissue and interface. (5)

Dr. Natiella continued his research on dental implants throughout his career. In 1982, he joined other researchers at the university to study the unilateral subperiosteal implant in primates. The findings of this research showed that using a conventional cleaning technique on the dental implant did not provide a "clean" surface due to the reduced cellularity at the interface. However, when the cleaning method was switched to a radiofrequency glow discharge treatment, the surface of the implant was clean of both organic and inorganic contaminants. This method also modified the surface energy of the implant, improving the bioadhesion of the material and therefore the success rate. (6)

In 1984, Natiella's work was released in two additional publications which studied how the surface properties of the dental implants determined the bioadhesive effects. In these experiments, he tested the influence of different surface energy states on tissue incorporation of biomedical materials. Implants that have a waxy,

low surface energy coating produced a scar-like tissue that lacked organization of fibroblasts. These implants do not have good strength and therefore are not functional for a long period of time. However, results showed that cleaned, high surface energy materials had up to a threefold increase of fibroblastic-fibrocytic cells compared to low surface energy materials (3). Overall, the surface energy and cleanliness are both important factors to consider for dental implants. (1)

Although Dr. Natiella retired after working at the University at Buffalo for over 35 years, his legacy carries on via his research, through the students he mentored, and by way of the current faculty members who had the honor of working beside him. The university at the dental/medical communities have benefitted greatly from his inquisitive mind and immense curiosity. Notable alumni like Dr. Natiella make me proud to be part of the UB School of Dental Medicine and inspire me to pursue a career in dentistry. [UBD](#)

Work Cited:

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- (4) Joe Natiella retires and is honored. *Dental Report*. 4, 2006.
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