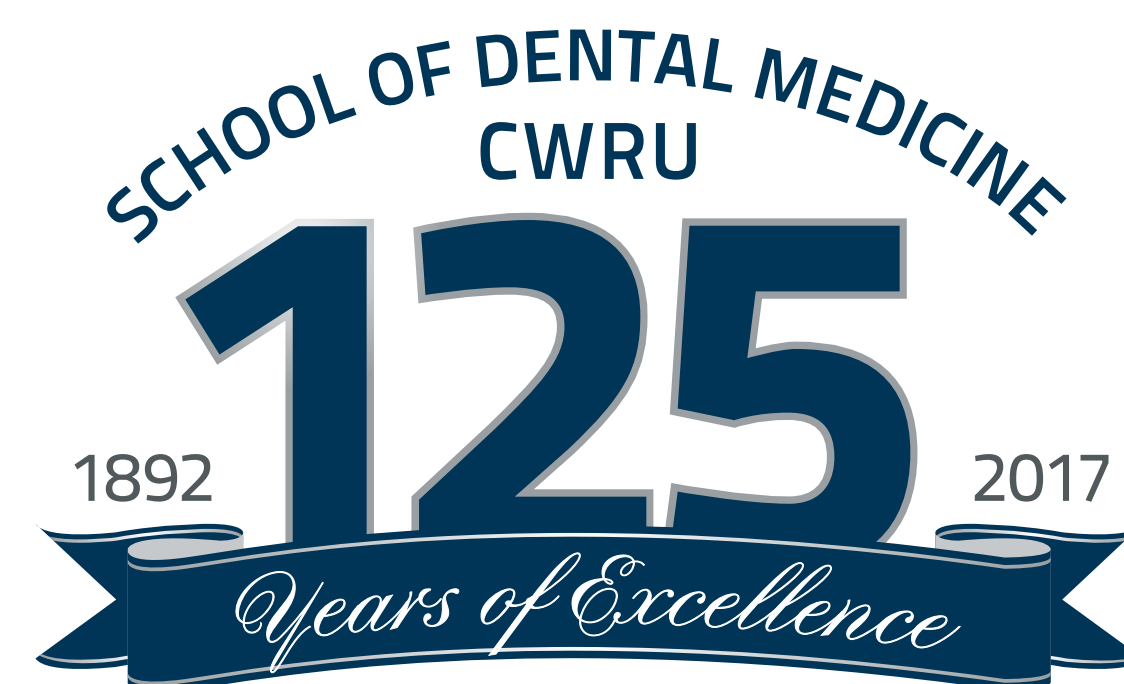


2017 Outstanding New Dentist Award

Alex T. Mellion, DMD '11



- From the very beginning of his dental school journey, Dr. Alex Mellion was highly engaged and active in volunteer work and student advocacy. His passion and involvement stemmed from growing up in a dental family where he was heavily influenced by his father showcasing a passion for his career and enjoying involvement in organized dentistry.
- His involvement in organized dentistry began as the dental school's ASDA chapter President and as a national ASDA trustee. As a student, he was also active as the student representative to the Alumni Board of Directors and the Leadership Development Committee. All of these roles contributed to his passion for leadership positions within organized dentistry.
- He currently serves on committees of the Akron Dental Society and Ohio Dental Association and is the current chair of the ODA's subcouncil to the new dentist.
- For Alex there is a major importance behind organized dentistry and the future of the profession. He believes membership and involvement in organized dentistry allows dentists to control their future by maintaining their professional autonomy.
- Kari Cunningham '10, '12 stated that "Alex practices servant leadership and is a great representation of the Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine."
- He feels fortunate to practice with his father, Joseph Mellion '78, and brother, Zachary Mellion '04, who have majorly influenced his career. He and his wife, Emily, a 2015 graduate of the school's Pediatric Dentistry program, recently welcomed their first child on September 5th and they are looking forward to the excitement and rewarding challenge parenthood will bring.

2017 Special Recognition Award

Murray Stein, DDS, MSc



- Dr. Murray Stein, mentored by Dr. Paul Boyle during his fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania, quickly discovered that his passion for dentistry could be attributed to the wonderful service it provided to patients and the variety of career opportunities it provided. He mentions that it was Dr. Paul Boyle, who was an oral pathologist at the University of Pennsylvania and later Dean of Case Western Reserve School of Dental Medicine, who inspired him to facilitate such an impactful level of service and his connection to CWRU.
- During his career, Dr. Stein developed the foundation for the school's graduate training program in oral and maxillofacial surgery and the division in the Department of Surgery at University Hospitals. This entailed three components, which were: establishing an oral and maxillofacial surgery service at University Hospitals (as the service was nonexistent), developing the oral and maxillofacial residency program to provide advance education to residents, and an administrative component which entailed establishing good working relationships with medical and administrative staff within the hospital.
- Dr. Stein is extremely proud of this accomplishment and mentions, "At the end of my 17-year tenure as director of the division at UH, the scope of services provided was considerably expanded and the foundation for the service was firmly established. The base was provided from which greater expansion and growth occurred under the direction of subsequent department heads." The residency program is now one of the most sought after training programs in its field.
- Dr. Stein is most certain that his greatest career highlights have been his academic role, his role at University Hospitals and serving as a volunteer on a long list of health related associations and organizations, including serving as president of the Ohio Division of the American Cancer Society and serving on the national level of the American Cancer Society for 21 years. He enjoyed most serving as chairman of the Oral Surgery department at the school, working with students and residents and serving as Acting Dean of the school.
- In his long and successful career, he believes he contributed all that he wanted to the dental profession and is quite satisfied with his achievements.
- "The list of Dr. Stein's accomplishments seems to be endless. He epitomizes the requirements for both an honorable and worthy recipient of the 2017 Alumni Board Special Recognition Award," stated Dr. Don Lewis, president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

