

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF

DENTAL MEDICINE

WINTER 2020 | VOLUME 20 | ISSUE 1



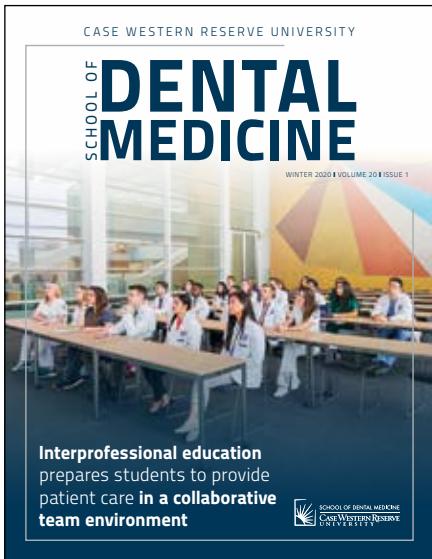
Interprofessional education
prepares students to provide
patient care **in a collaborative**
team environment



SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE
CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY

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on the cover

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Our Next Chapter: From Sustainability to Flourishing

Dear alumni and friends:

We have recently—and joyfully—celebrated our school's 125th anniversary and moved into our remarkable new home at the Health Education Campus of Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic. With the advantage of this momentum, we now must address the need to establish a relevant model of sustainability that will allow us to continue our mission far into the future.

Given the transformative changes taking place across the healthcare delivery system—that affect both dental education and practice—we must put a framework into place that will make us the most fiscally and operationally forward-thinking of schools. In this issue, you will read an interview with Dr. Tyler Reimschisel, CWRU's founding Associate Provost for Interprofessional Education, Research, and Collaborative Practice, who will lead us in integrating dental medicine with the other health professions, a key step in achieving sustainable growth.

Sustainability will also require improvements in our operational processes—clinic services, admissions, and data collection, to name but a few—that together with educational advances must result in efficiencies that will enable the school to remain both financially viable and nationally prominent. Importantly, we must plan and evaluate all that we do using pertinent metrics; never has data been so readily available to guide our decision making.

We are responsible for educating the dentists of the future, but in order to be sustainable, our students, faculty, and staff must be patient centered. As sustainability is being achieved, the opportunity to flourish emerges. Our students, faculty, and staff alike must be able to reflect on how they serve and, just as importantly, to consider it from a patient's perspective. From this comes the satisfaction of meaningful work that transforms competence into fulfillment—this is flourishing.

As we move from our focus on bricks and mortar to creating a blueprint for sustainability, I am intent on keeping you apprised of our progress. With our dedicated faculty and staff, I am confident that we can deliver tangible improvements and better prepare our school to manage change—a requirement for success in the 21st century.

In closing, I extend my sincerest thanks to all alumni and friends who support the School of Dental Medicine with both time and resources. Hearty congratulations go to those who received this year's well-deserved Alumni Association Awards; I know you will enjoy reading about them. Please have my best wishes for a productive and healthy new year. ■



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"We are responsible for educating the dentists of the future, but in order to be sustainable, our students, faculty, and staff must be patient centered. As sustainability is being achieved, the opportunity to flourish emerges."

Give Kids a Smile

Due to the unpredictable Cleveland weather, the annual Give Kids a Smile day moved from February to November, in order to avoid the need to cancel the event due to snow. Through the dedication of a multitude of volunteers and the support of the CWRU School of Dental Medicine and the Greater Cleveland Dental Society, Give Kids a Smile provides comprehensive dental care and education materials, free of charge, to children. The event, held at the new Dental Clinic at the Health Education Campus of Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic, generates excitement and joy in the children we serve.

Give Kids a smile is one morning, one day a year—and, for many underserved families, it's a start. It reinforces the connection between oral health and overall health. This is a positive demonstration of what can be accomplished when the students,



Drs. Daniel Gindi and Amberlee Taylor

faculty, alumni and members of organized dentistry work together for the benefit of the community.

The day is a great opportunity for our dental students to work with area children. We appreciate the leadership provided by the Greater Cleveland Dental Society with alumni Daniel Gindi '01 and Amberlee Taylor '08, '09, '12 overseeing the planning. ■



Cleveland Indians Mascot, Slider, watching as child is examined

Annual Dean's Meeting with Forest City Dental Society



In June, Dr. Kenneth Chance held the annual dean's meeting with Forest City Dental Society (FCDS). During the meeting, FCDS presented awards to dental students to attend the National Dental Association Conference in Washington, DC in July.

Dr. Andre Paes Leads LANAP® Laser Training and Research

Andre Paes Batista da Silva, DDS, MSc, PhD, Assistant Professor in the Department of Periodontics

In recent decades, the laser has emerged as one of the most important tools in many dental treatment modalities, particularly in periodontal procedures. With the opening of the new Zanni Periodontics Clinic, Dr. Andre Paes is taking a lead role in bringing the LANAP® (laser-assisted new attachment procedure) protocol using the PerioLase MVP-7 (a free-running variable pulsed Nd:YAG laser) both created by Millennium Dental Technologies, to the Department of Periodontics.

The LANAP protocol for the treatment of gum disease is a regenerative, minimally invasive treatment with predictable results that offers a less painful, more successful treatment alternative to conventional surgery. It can target the source of the inflammation without hurting or removing any healthy gum tissue, slow or stop attachment loss, and decrease pocket depth, allowing the body to recover from the chronic infection without the need for scalpel or sutures.

Now in training with Millennium to be a LANAP educator, Dr. Paes is currently the only CWRU faculty member authorized to use the protocol. The rigorous year-long training includes three "Laser Bootcamp" sessions, followed by the second phase that offers clinicians an intensive overview of principles of energy intensity and additional PerioLase MVP-7 settings to provide patients with expedited treatment times. The final phase focuses on energy density and examines the management methods of clinically difficult LANAP cases.

In addition to teaching, Dr. Paes is starting to research the effectiveness of LANAP for periodontitis and perio-implantitis in his own practice. While it is clear that there is a benefit to laser treatment, it takes a year to evaluate a patient in order to determine how reliable and sustainable it is.



"There are only about ten dental schools preparing to teach this protocol and so this is quite a distinction for us. I will be one of perhaps 20-plus clinicians who are trained educators."

— Dr. Andre Paes

"One of my goals is to determine how laser treatment can be included in all dental education and create a curriculum to include it," adds Dr. Paes. "The shift from resection to regeneration in our specialty has the potential to be greatly enhanced by the use of lasers in periodontal therapy." ■

Serving the Community

New UH Rainbow Center in Midtown

Includes Pediatric Dental Clinic



Photo credit: Matt Sugerik

With the goal of improving access to both pediatric primary and dental care, as well as obstetrics and social support services, University Hospitals opened the Rainbow Center for Women & Children at East 59th Street (between Chester and Euclid Avenues) in the heart of Cleveland's Midtown. The location provides easy access for the surrounding neighborhoods and focuses on improving the holistic health of Cleveland's families.

"The opening of the Pediatric Dental Clinic at this Center allows us to integrate preventative dental care into the healthcare services provided to the children seen here," explains Erin Glending, MHA, the pediatric dental manager, who worked closely with Dr. Gerald Ferretti to design the new facility.



Erin Glending, MHA and Dr. Kari Cunningham

By offering "one-stop shopping" to meet the healthcare needs of families, many of the barriers are removed by easily referring patients to other departments. For example, if a child is due for a dental check-up, it can be scheduled on the same day that they have an appointment with a pediatrician. In fact, when a child is born, the obstetrician's office can facilitate setting up a dental check-up before the child's first birthday. For those who need immediate assistance, cases can be triaged.

"This really brings a tangible awakening to our residents that they are part of a team of healthcare providers—that they can set the tone that dental health is not only of equal importance, but is the window to a patient's wellbeing."

— Kari A. Cunningham, DMD '10, '12

While the mainstay of the dental clinic is dental screenings and cleanings, children who require further treatment are referred to the School of Dental Medicine's new Dental Clinic that is located due east on Chester Avenue at the Health Education Campus of Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic. Both dental clinics can be easily reached by RTA's Healthline service that runs efficiently down Euclid Avenue between downtown and East Cleveland.

The clinic has six chairs and currently sees an average of 30-40 patients daily, with the capacity for 50-65. To increase the number of patients seen each day, the team is working on improvements in protocol that will allow it to run as efficiently as a private practice—improving the practice management skills of residents is a critical goal. Empowering both residents and staff in real time to determine what is the best way to serve both the patient and the organization is key.

Perhaps the most important attribute of the Rainbow Center is that it not only serves the city's most vulnerable population, but addresses what healthcare largely misses: prevention and education. Plans are currently underway to establish a "Centering Program" for pregnant women that will offer a 13-week curriculum that covers children's health needs, including dental care, according to Glending.

"This is really a wonderful setting for extending our reach into the community. Not only is it convenient to the surrounding neighborhoods, but the atmosphere is friendly and familiar for children and parents alike," adds Dr. Cunningham, whose experience in both private practice and community healthcare makes her a very effective mentor for today's residents. ■

Free Dental Care for Military Personnel Marks Veterans Day



Ali Syed, BDS, MS, Assistant Professor

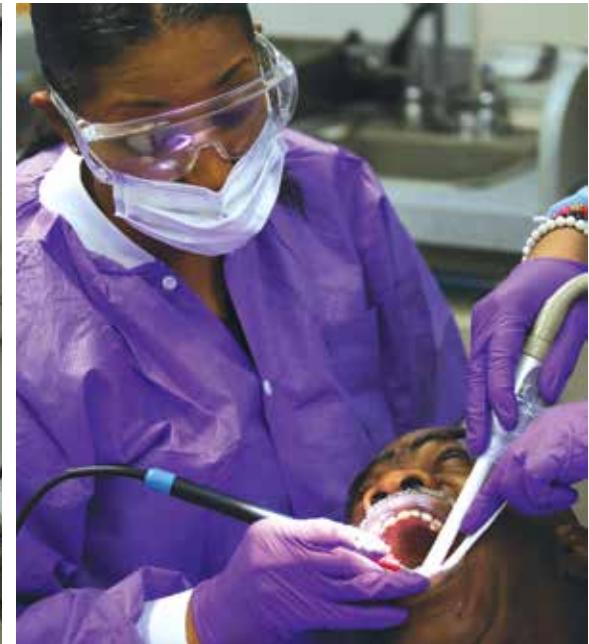
For the second straight year, the dental school marked Veterans Day with free dental care for military personnel. As part of a veteran-outreach effort, free dental exams, X-rays, and cleaning were offered.

Additionally, patients were eligible to receive a \$100 voucher toward future dental services if they signed up for a comprehensive treatment plan. The initiative was made possible by a grant from the Ohio Dental Association Foundation.

"This is our way of saying a special 'thank you' to our war heroes," said Dr. Ali Syed, the admitting clinic director at the dental school. "We want to reach out to the military personnel in our community and offer the care that they deserve, which is not only affordable but also the best dental care."

With supervision from dental school faculty, third- and fourth-year dental students and residents treated patients. For subsequent care, clinic patients can expect discounted services of 30% to 50%, depending on the procedure, compared with standard dental rates. ■

Bringing Oral Healthcare to the Seniors in the Dental School's Neighborhood



Photos by Gus Chan, *The Plain Dealer*

The "Lifelong Smiles" van added a new stop on its tour to deliver high-quality, discounted dental care to Cleveland-area seniors. The geriatric dental van is part of an initiative at the School of Dental Medicine to train dental students to treat older patients and, at the same time, offer needed services to residents of nursing and assisted-living facilities.

Most recently, the van served the residents of Hough Heritage, a low-income housing facility for seniors near the new Dental Clinic. About a dozen patients walked out the front door of their building and into the 38-foot-long mobile dental operatory.

"Some seniors find it difficult to visit the dentist and so our goal is to provide better access to care," said Dr. Suparna Mahalaha, an assistant professor at the dental school and director of the Lifelong Smiles program. "I am pleased to note that some of the patients we saw have already made follow-up appointments at the Dental Clinic."

The vehicle itself resembles an RV that has been converted into a high-tech dental office on wheels—featuring fully functioning dental chair stations, office space, digital X-rays, and a wheelchair lift—with the capacity to treat two patients at a time. Dr. Mahalaha and Dr. Lisa Blackmon, a visiting assistant professor, oversee the third- and fourth-year students who have a clinical geriatric rotation in which they provide dental care, assess patients, and discuss overall treatment plans.

The Lifelong Smiles initiative began in 2015 to help meet the dental school's goal of helping to meet the needs of an aging population. The nation's senior population—ages 65 and older—is expected to surpass 72 million by 2030, according to federal estimates, more than double the number from 2000. The McGregor Foundation has helped fund the program since its inception, dedicating more than \$200,000 to the van.

In addition to Hough Heritage, the initiative works with other Cleveland-area organizations that provide services for seniors, including McGregor PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly), Alyson's Place Medical Clinic at the Jewish Family Services Association, and Eliza Bryant Village. ■

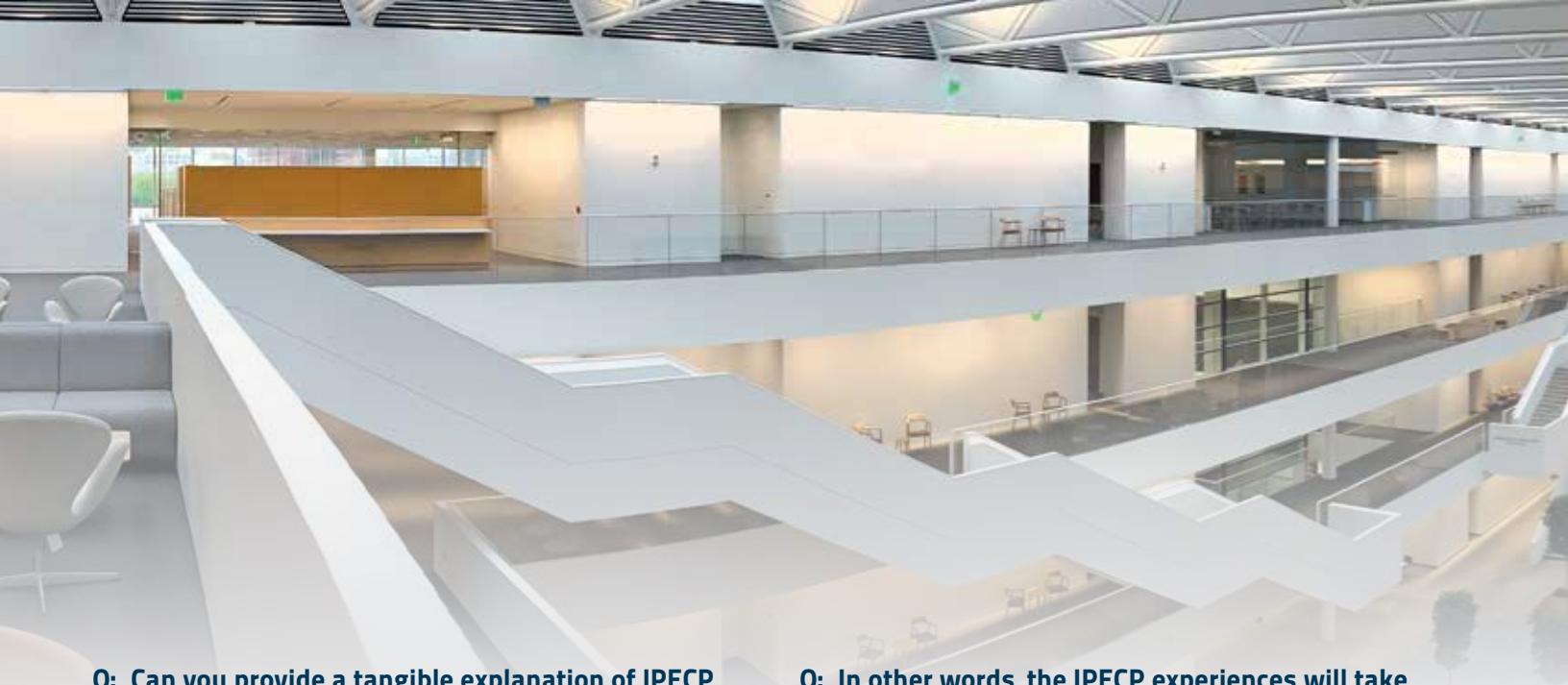


Q & A with Dr. Tyler Reimschisel

Founding Associate Provost for Interprofessional Education, Research and Collaborative Practice

With the completion of the Health Education Campus of Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic (HEC), the schools of dental medicine, nursing, and medicine are now under one roof in a place designed expressly to advance interprofessional education. In September, Dr. Tyler Reimschisel joined CWRU and Cleveland Clinic as the founding associate provost for interprofessional education, research and collaborative practice (IPECP). While the university was already on a strategic path to become a leader in this regard, the completion of the Sheila and Eric Samson Pavilion and arrival of Dr. Reimschisel mark a noteworthy turning point in this endeavor.





Q: Can you provide a tangible explanation of IPECP that illustrates the dynamic that is expected?

A: I often compare the effort to that of a symphony orchestra. While there are many talented musicians—each of whom is an expert player—they must rehearse together before performing. If they were to come together for the first time on the night of a performance, the result would not be optimal. In this same way, we know that healthcare professionals who learn how to work better as an interprofessional team will improve patient outcomes. Similarly, to help students become a part of a highly functional team, it is better for them to learn how to work together across professions while they are still in school.

Q: What role does IPECP play given the significant changes occurring in healthcare delivery?

A: While there is clear evidence that patient care provided in a collaborative team environment leads to better outcomes in terms of quality of care, lower costs, length of hospital stays, and reduced medical errors, IPECP has only begun to be integrated into the educational experience of students in the health professions. Under the leadership of Provost Ben Vinson, the university is already dedicated to becoming an IPECP trailblazer, and the Samson Pavilion certainly distinguishes CWRU and Cleveland Clinic in this regard.

Q: How important is the Samson Pavilion?

A: The Samson Pavilion is very important because co-location simply makes cross-communication between professions easier. In fact, it is incredibly conducive to what we are trying to achieve. For example, the classrooms are big enough to accommodate interprofessional teams, and the simulation center is adjacent to the classrooms so these teams can practice together. But I also want to emphasize that while the building is instrumental, IPECP is not defined nor confined by it since our students will be engaged in interprofessional teams that are helping to address needs or concerns identified by our community partners.

Q: In other words, the IPECP experiences will take place within the HEC and at community sites?

A: Integral to Provost Vinson's strategic plan is the charge to collaborate with the community by doing authentic work in alignment with our educational goals. Next, we envision that all entry-level health professions students, as well as students from other professions who are interested in participating, will be placed in interprofessional teams, and these teams will address needs or concerns that have been identified by our community partners. The classroom work and simulations will help equip students to effectively complete these community-based group projects. Envision future dentists, physicians, nurses, physician assistants, dieticians, and speech language pathologists coming together with social workers, lawyers, engineers, public health officials and others to address the complicated issues that people face every day in Cleveland.

Q: Can you briefly explain the tactical framework for this IPECP experience?

A: A curriculum will be designed to ensure that our students are equipped to serve effectively in an interprofessional team that adds value to the work of our community partners. With the collaborative practice interprofessional projects at the core, course work and simulations will provide the requisite knowledge, skills and attitudes to create productive teams. We are also working to make sure that students receive academic credit for these experiences.

Q: What are the shared attributes that students must develop for IPECP to succeed?

A: First, the IPECP model is built on mutual respect and a low level of conflict. Our students will come to recognize that what they each bring to the team is critical and should not be minimized. In other words, we want them to recognize their own importance. In addition, we want them to appreciate that their own professional expertise is simply not adequate to fully address the needs of the patients, clients, families, communities and populations that we serve, and this is where the importance of effective, interprofessional collaborative practice is crucial.



Q: Will there be a dedicated research component to measure IPECP effectiveness?

A: Absolutely! There is a compelling need to study the impact of IPECP, and we intend to maximize our opportunity to do exactly this. We are currently designing a research program that will be integrated into all our initiatives. It will be important to share our experiences with others through publications and presentations.

Q: What is the role of faculty in IPECP?

A: As always, faculty are integral to our education mission, but most of us were trained within our profession's silo and were not taught team science principles. Accordingly, faculty development is key to our IPECP vision. Also, if you think ahead four or five years from now, current students will be seniors and experienced in the team approach, thus allowing them to serve seamlessly as near-peer mentors. A marker of our success will be when students start advocating for IPECP as the most effective method to deliver care and service to individuals and communities.

Q: What takeaways about IPECP are specific to dental medicine?

A: This is an opportune time for dentistry to help shape the narrative regarding the critical role that oral health plays in patient wellness and systemic health. With the healthcare environment evolving to team-based care, the dental school must prepare its students for careers in dentistry that will include individuals from multiple professions. Because national efforts for IPECP are accelerating, applicants are aware of the need to choose a school that is forward thinking and dedicated to IPECP. Fortunately, CWRU is intent on being an IPECP leader and has put essential elements in place to achieve this—I am honored to be here to lead us to the next level. It is really a very exciting time for dental medicine, and I look forward to working together. ■

About Tyler Reimschisel, MD, MHPE

Dr. Reimschisel earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Chicago and his medical degree at Rush Medical College, followed by residencies in pediatrics, child neurology, and genetic medicine, all at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He then joined the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis as assistant professor of pediatrics and neurology and director of its medical genetics residency program.

In 2008, Dr. Reimschisel became the director of the Division of Developmental Medicine & Center for Child Development at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Shortly thereafter, he also assumed the director role of the leadership education training program in neurodevelopment disabilities and was named the vice chair for education in the Department of Pediatrics. In the ensuing years, he was given several more educational leadership positions spanning programs for first-year medical students to pediatric residents to genetic counseling master's degree candidates.

Dr. Reimschisel earned his master's degree in health professions education in 2016, and in that same year became one of five Macy Foundation Faculty Scholars. His selection for the two-year program, designed to support innovative leaders to advance their IPE initiatives, affirmed his accomplishments and future promise as an educational leader and innovator.

The CWRU search committee that selected Dr. Reimschisel under the direction of Provost Ben Vinson III was led by Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine Executive Dean J. Harry "Bud" Isaacson and School of Dental Medicine Assistant Dean Andres Pinto. ■

How Senior Citizens Perceive Oral Health Makes A Difference in Seeking Treatment

How senior citizens perceive the importance of their oral health might make all the difference in whether they decide to seek treatment or not. Under the guidance of Dr. Suchitra Nelson, professor of community dentistry and assistant dean of clinical and translational research, new research is looking to change the strategy in identifying seniors' perception.

In order to find a correlation between seniors who value dental care and those who seek it out—despite the cost, transportation challenges, and other common barriers—the researchers used an approach known as the *Common Sense Model of Self-Regulation*. This new psychological framework describes a person's perception of chronic issues that drives coping and action-planning. Researchers think that getting this information on the radar of providers and practitioners can help change these perceptions.

"Changing perceptions of dental conditions is a key component for improving oral health quality of life," explains Dr. Nelson, the study's lead author. "First, we wanted to develop a new survey instrument that can measure seniors' perception of oral diseases—once we can measure this, then we can design behavioral interventions to see if they seek treatment."

Researchers surveyed 198 residents age 62 and older from 16 senior housing facilities in Northeast Ohio. A 43-item illness perception questionnaire assessed their cognitive and emotional representation of their dental condition. In addition,



"We speculate that if seniors value dental care, they'll seek it out. Barriers—such as cost, transportation and other medical issues—should not interfere if beliefs about the importance of dental care are high enough."

— Dr. Suchitra Nelson

researchers collected information on their demographics, the perceived condition of their teeth and gums, depression, social support, and quality of life as it relates to their oral health. Participants were then examined for any missing teeth, coronal and root caries, and periodontitis.

Demographics—such as race, marital status, housing, level of education—did not make much difference in the results, meaning that there was something else at work to explain why some seniors have more dental issues than others. According to Dr. Nelson, it came down to perception. She adds that the *Common Sense Model* can be used to design behavioral interventions to change perceptions about seniors' oral health.

Joining Dr. Nelson in the research were: David Selvaraj, Shelley Curtan, and Andres Pinto, also from the dental school; Jeffrey Albert, Yiyi Liu, and Kelli Ryan from Case Western Reserve's School of Medicine; Peter Milgrom from the University of Washington; Farida Ejaz from the Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging; and Christine Riedy from Harvard University. The team's findings were published in the *Public Library of Science*. ■

New Research Urges More Rigorous Standards When Diagnosing Burning Mouth Syndrome



Not all burning mouths are the result of a medical condition known as "burning mouth syndrome" (BMS) and physicians and researchers need better standards for an appropriate diagnosis according to new research being done by Milda Chmieliauskaitė, DMD, Assistant Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences at the School of Dental Medicine.

BMS is a painful, complex condition associated with a persistent or recurring burning, scalding, or tingling feeling in the mouth—sometimes accompanied by a metallic taste or dry mouth sensation. But because other conditions have similar symptoms, diagnosing BMS can be difficult.

"The issues with misdiagnosis depend to some extent on the context, but include resources, money, and patient discomfort," said Dr. Chmieliauskaitė. "If a patient is misdiagnosed with burning mouth syndrome, but actually suffers from burning due to dry mouth, the patient will receive treatment for the wrong condition and the symptoms of burning will not improve."

Often patients see several providers—unnecessarily taking up healthcare resources—simply because many dentists and clinicians are not trained well on the topic. The current method for making a diagnosis is a thorough history and ruling out other disorders. Accordingly, Dr. Chmieliauskaitė advises that appropriately diagnosing BMS is vital to patient outcomes, noting that a lot of the other things that cause burning in the mouth, including diabetes, anemia, and dry mouth, can be easily treated.

While the specific cause of BMS is uncertain, some evidence shows that it may be related to nerve dysfunction. It is estimated that between .01% and 4% of the population is affected, and the condition affects females more. Sometimes, chewing gum or eating certain foods lessens pain symptoms.

In a review of clinical trials run internationally between 1994–2017, Dr. Chmieliauskaitė and the research team found that many of the participants may have had an underlying condition that could have explained their BMS symptoms. She notes that BMS clinical trials need more rigorous standards.

"We need a consensus for a single definition of BMS that includes specific inclusion and exclusion criteria," she said. "This will help us in moving the field forward in understanding of the actual disease."

Dr. Chmieliauskaitė co-authored research recently published by *Oral Diseases* as part of the World Workshop on Oral Medicine VII. ■



Combating Cancer: Researching the Use of the Betel Nut



The research of Aaron Weinberg, DMD, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Biological Sciences at the School of Dental Medicine was included in the Fall/Winter 2020 issue of CWRU's *Think* magazine section entitled "Combating Cancer: Campus Experts Highlight Promising Advances in Diagnoses and

Treatments." Dr. Weinberg, who is also a member of the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center and focuses on oral and oropharyngeal cancers, said the following about his current work:

"In regard to oral cancer, there are pockets of epidemics in the world that have caught the attention of the World Health Organization, and a lot of it is due to the consistent and historic use of betel nut, a stimulant that is very much like nicotine. Close to 700 million people use it. It usually sits between the cheek and the gum tissue.

Between 7% and 10% of people using this develop oral cancer. By the time people have symptoms ... the cancer has metastasized to the lymph nodes, and the prognosis is pretty bad. The survival rate is about 50%, but if people could be monitored on a regular basis, and if the lesion is found early on and removed, the survival rate is greater than 92%.

In a lot of low socioeconomic countries, especially India, where betel nut use is rampant, the monitoring process is nonexistent. Under development right now is a point-of-care device that a field nurse could use to determine if an incipient lesion is cancerous. Within half an hour, it could determine whether cells from a swab are indeed cancerous. It's important both from the perspective of cost and it's a noninvasive approach to a huge epidemic. You can't take the lab into the field, but you can take the device into the field." ■

To see the full "Combating Cancer" article by Andrew Faught, visit case.edu/think.

Celebration of Philanthropy

In October, Dean Kenneth Chance hosted the annual Celebration of Philanthropy at the Cleveland Botanical Garden. The event allowed Dr. Chance and scholarship students to honor and celebrate the generosity and support of the school's donors. Guests were able to enjoy drinks from the Bubble Bar featuring "make your own tropical mimosas" and take a stroll through the vibrant gardens. Dr. Chance described the incredible year the school had with the move to the Samson Pavilion and the new Dental Clinic. He thanked the donors for their generosity and commitment to the work the School has undertaken, explaining that from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 was the second best fundraising year in the history of the School of Dental Medicine.



Dr. Angelo Daprano presents the Inaugural Tony and Louise Daprano Scholar certificate to Christopher Legendre '20



Scholarship recipient, Justin McCray '21 shares how his scholarship has impacted his CWRU journey

Thank You to Our Leadership Donors gifts received July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

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Zyris Donates State-of-the-Art Isolation Systems to Dental Clinic

At the school's new dental clinic, every chair in each specialty clinic, as well as the chairs in the DMD clinic, is equipped with an Isovac® isolation system, generously donated by Zyris, Inc., an industry leader in dental isolation technology. The system is designed to simultaneously provide tongue and cheek retraction, along with continuous suction, allowing control of the moisture and humidity throughout the oral cavity. The units will also be taken on visits to Cleveland schools for the Healthy Smiles Sealant Program.

Dr. Fady Faddoul, chair of the Department of Comprehensive Care, points out that in addition to providing efficiency and safety, the award-winning Isovac® mouthpiece has an integrated bite-block for patient comfort. All these components combine to provide unparalleled control of the oral environment, resulting in improved clinical outcomes.

"It is like having an extra pair of hands," explains Dr. Faddoul when asked about the advantages of the improved technology.

In addition, eight Isolite® systems were placed in each of the preceptor groups. This system provides several benefits including increased visibility through shadowless illumination inside the mouth, reliable isolation, faster procedures, and better ergonomics.

"We are grateful to Zyris for this important contribution that not only serves our patients well, but helps our students become better clinicians," adds Dr. Faddoul who also extends his appreciation to Dr. Jean Iannadrea, assistant professor, who helped plan the implementation of the new systems. ■



DEVELOPMENTS

Developments is a new periodic feature that will highlight philanthropic support to the School of Dental Medicine from alumni, friends, corporations, and other constituents.

Gratitude is extended to all of these generous donors who make it possible for our school to thrive.

An anonymous donor has provided a gift of \$35,000 to support student scholarships at the School of Dental Medicine.

Ormco, a manufacturer of orthodontic appliances and related products, has provided a gift in kind to the Orthodontics Department of brackets and braces. Residents will use this gift in support of patient care.

Michael T. Kim, DDS, MSD has provided the lead commitment of \$10,000 to create the **B. Douglas Amberman Endowed Fund** which will, when fully funded, provide support to the B. Douglas Amberman Prize, which recognizes a graduating DMD student's interest and ability in orthodontics.

For more information about making a gift to the School of Dental Medicine, please contact Paul Wolansky, Assistant Dean for Development and Alumni Relations at 216.368.3923 or paul.wolansky@case.edu ■

WHY I give

William "Andy" Gilbert, DMD '04

Dr. Andy Gilbert did not take the usual route to dentistry, but he is certain that his life was enhanced by his divergent path. His journey began in 1986 when he quit college to run a restaurant, an experience he completely enjoyed that also honed his management skills, before returning to Southeast Missouri State University to earn his BA in 1990.

In 1991, during Desert Storm, he heeded the call for service and joined the U.S. Army. Serving as a pharmacy technician, his exposure to the range of specialties in both medicine and dental medicine informed his thinking about his future. Intending a career in medicine, Dr. Gilbert left active duty in 1998 and joined the National Guard. Following advice from his brother and orthodontist, he changed course and was accepted to CWRU School of Dental Medicine in 2000. During his junior year, he determined to return to active duty and in his senior year was accepted to the U.S. Army Advanced Education in Periodontics program at Ft. Gordon, Georgia. He graduated and achieved board certification in 2008.

His next assignments took him to Hawaii and North Carolina where he both practiced and taught periodontics in two U.S. Army Advanced Education in General Dentistry Programs (he has been named *Mentor of the Year* five times). Currently, he is the Deputy Commander of Dental Health Activity at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington state. Dr. Gilbert is preparing for a final tour of duty, with plans to return to the Northwest for retirement thereafter.

While his military career required multiple moves for his family—his wife, Lucy, and three daughters now aged 25, 22, and 16—it has been rewarding for all. Dr. Gilbert notes that his military service gave him purpose by providing the opportunity to impact the lives of soldiers, particularly



those returning from battle who require dental reconstruction. In addition, he has found great satisfaction in teaching.

Over the last several years, Dr. Gilbert has been a generous and consistent donor to the Annual Fund through the CWRU monthly EZ Giving program. When asked why it is important to him to support CWRU, he explained:

"The foundation I received in dental school enabled me to do things I never thought possible. I thought about how expensive it was as a non-traditional student with a family. Because I was very fortunate to have help, I was determined to give something back to help someone else who might not have those same advantages." ■

Ralph T. and Esther L. Warburton Foundation pledges another \$3 million to Case Western Reserve University for medical, dental and nursing scholarships

Commitment comes as three schools' students come together in newly opened Health Education Campus—expressly designed to advance interprofessional education

The Ralph T. and Esther L. Warburton Foundation has pledged another \$3 million to Case Western Reserve to establish three endowed scholarships—one each in the School of Medicine, School of Dental Medicine and Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing.

"This gift is a transformational catalyst for interprofessional education that will make a significant impact on health-sciences education," said Case Western Reserve President Barbara R. Snyder.

This latest gift follows nearly \$3 million the Warburton Foundation committed in 2015 that built significantly on a smaller earlier scholarship gift—pledged by leaders of the foundation whose parents had a long, extensive connection to the university. The overall support for these scholarships now totals \$6 million.

"We feel that we've honored them properly by this," said Sally Bonacker Warburton, who leads the foundation with her husband Phillip Warburton. "I think it touches the most people we could possibly touch. We also had in mind creating a feeder system to give back to Northeastern Ohio—to continue to produce well-qualified, talented medical people for this area."

The scholarships are intended for students from Stark and Summit counties, with the hope of creating a pipeline of health-care providers to Northeast Ohio hospitals. The scholarships are intended for students from middle-income families who wouldn't qualify for need-based aid, yet don't have other family resources to cover tuition.

"Not only has the Bonacker-Warburton scholarship that I have received provided financial relief," said fourth-year dental student Nathan Andrasik from Hudson, "but the consistent support and confidence that the Warburton family has had in me over the past three years has inspired me to push through the trials of dental school and inspired me to become the best dentist I can be."

More specifically, the Warburton Foundation gift will add:

- \$1 million to the existing Ralph T. and Esther L. Warburton Scholarship Fund for graduate students pursuing a doctor of medicine degree from the School of Medicine;



Bonacker-Warburton Scholars 2019–2020: Justin Kosar '21, Nathan Andrasik '20, Erin Madar '23, Kevin Dobbins '23, and Corey Boss '21

- \$1 million to the existing Bonacker-Warburton Scholarship Fund in Dental Medicine for graduate students pursuing a doctor of dental medicine degree; and
- \$1 million to the existing Lewis-Schlitz Scholarship Fund in Nursing for students pursuing a graduate-level degree from the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing.

The family's connection to the university traces back almost 90 years: Phillip Warburton's father, Ralph, graduated from Case Western Reserve's medical school in 1933; Sally Bonacker Warburton's dad, Herbert Bonacker, earned a degree in dental medicine that year.

Each of their fathers married a graduate of the Mt. Sinai School of Nursing, a university affiliate at that time. Ralph Warburton and his wife, Esther Lewis, set up a medical practice in his hometown of North Canton. Herbert Bonacker's wife, Elisabeth Schlitz, first served as a United Airlines' stewardess (the title used at the time for flight attendants) as commercial air travel was just beginning. Planes then were much smaller and prone to crashes, so United required stewardesses to be nurses—in part to calm passenger fears about the dangers of flight. She ultimately left the job and returned to Northeast Ohio to marry Herbert.

"The fact that both sets of parents, in one way or another, attended the three schools (medical, dental, nursing) is significant and probably very rare," said Phillip Warburton, foundation president. "My parents were very modest, humble people. They were always looking to help other people, and that's what all these (health) disciplines should be practicing. It's service above self, that's what it is." ■

FACULTY NEWS BRIEFS



Anita Aminoshariae, DDS, MS '99, professor, Department of Endodontics, and director, Predoctoral Endodontics Program, was named expert spokesperson on the topic of opioids in dentistry by the American Dental Association. She has brought important attention to this public health issue and its relevance to the dental profession.



Leena Palomo, DDS '00, MSD '04, associate professor in the Department of Periodontics and director of the DMD Periodontics Program, was quoted in a health section article "What You Need to Know about Tooth Extractions" in *U.S. News & World Report* (March 28, 2019).



Two much appreciated faculty members in the Department of Orthodontics recently retired. **Howard Kossoff, DDS, MS '75**, associate clinical professor and clinic director, began teaching at CWRU in

1975 and **Terrence Wenger, DDS '67, MS '69** served as a volunteer faculty member since 2003.



J. Martin Palomo, DDS, MSD '97, professor and residency director in the Department of Orthodontics, was elected Vice President of the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists (GLAO). Together with Walter W. Schratz, DMD, MSD '89, he is serving as program chair for the 2020 GLAO session to be held in Cleveland. Dr. Palomo was quoted in *U.S. News & World Report* (September 23, 2019) in the article "How to Save on Braces."



André Mickel, DDS '91, MSD '94, professor and chair of the Department of Endodontics, was selected for *Who's Who in Black Cleveland 2019* that highlights individuals who help to shape the political, cultural, economic, and educational landscape of the community.



Faisal A. Quereshy, DDS, MD '97, OMFS '99, FACS, received recognition from the Khyber Medical College (Pakistan) Alumni Association of North America for providing *pro bono* reconstructive surgery to Talha Ali, a survivor of the 2014 Taliban terror attack at the Army Public School in Peshawar. With assistance from **Dr. Fady Faddoul**, chair of Advanced Education in General Dentistry, Talha continues to receive ongoing treatment.



Sena Narendran, BDS, DDPH, MSc, is heading up a team from the Department of Community Dentistry where he is an associate professor, to collaborate with colleagues in Public Health Dentistry at Manipal College of Dental Sciences in Mangalore, India. Starting with an exchange of graduate students in dental public health at both institutions, the goal is to expand student knowledge regarding the healthcare systems and dental education in other countries in order to develop a global perspective and gain intercultural competencies.



Robert C. Skillicorn, DDS, MS retired as associate professor in the Department of Periodontics. He began teaching in 1973, the same year that he opened his practice, serving the school for a remarkable 46 years. He recently received the well-deserved *Clinical Educator of the Year Award*. ■

STAFF NEWS

Sara Y. Fields Receives Newton D. Baker Distinguished Service Award

Sara Fields, director of alumni relations who has served the dental school since 2001, received the prestigious Newton D. Baker Distinguished Service Award at this fall's University Homecoming Luncheon. The award honors the lifetime legacy and community endeavors of Newton D. Baker, 37th mayor of Cleveland. Outside of Case Western Reserve University, Sara lends her energy and expertise to community organizations, including Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and The Singing Angels. In 2014, she was honored for her dedicated service by Cleveland's Forest City Dental Society.



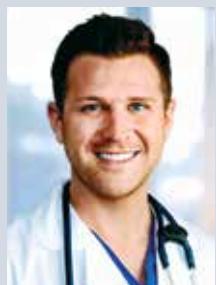
Carolyn Gordon Named Director of Development



Carolyn Gordon recently joined the School of Dental Medicine's Office of Development & Alumni Relations as Director of Development. In this capacity, she will primarily assist in overseeing the dental school's national fundraising programs. After graduating from the University of Dayton, Carolyn earned her master's degree in Public Administration at Wright State University.

She brings a depth of experience to CWRU, having served a number of major institutions as a development officer. A Cleveland native, Carolyn enjoys spending time with her family, the outdoors, traveling, and discovering new places all around the city.

John Hays, RN, Hired to Lead Accreditation for Ambulatory Surgery Center



With the addition of the Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC), the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery hired John Hays to oversee the facility's organization, set up, and accreditation by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC). With a BSN from the University of Central Oklahoma, he served in both the cardiac intensive care unit and interventional radiology department at the Oklahoma

University Medical Center, before joining the Laser Spine Institute in Oklahoma City. John relocated to serve as the director of nursing for its Cleveland location and when the company closed, he was recruited to join the dental school given his extensive experience in managing an ASC.



Kaitlyn Sterl Named Oral Health Trainer for Head Start Program

In partnership with University Hospital's Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, the Department of Pediatric Dentistry makes visits to 250 Head Start centers, schools, and day care sites, as well as to home-based families, with the ambitious goal to reach every child in the broader community who has not seen a dentist in the last six months. In addition to setting up the on-site clinics, Kaitlyn is responsible for all administrative aspects, including gathering data regarding dental reports, demographics, and decay prevalence at the visited sites. She maintains the year-round scheduling system to include the full array of locations in Cuyahoga, Ashtabula, and Stark counties.

Sonya Shelton Becomes First Fulltime Hygienist in Periodontics



Recognizing the important role of the dental hygienist in the treatment of periodontal disease, the Department of Periodontics hired Sonya Shelton, RDH, to serve as its first fulltime hygienist. She is a graduate of the highly respected Dental Hygiene Program at Cuyahoga Community College where she earned her Associate of Applied Science degree. Prior to that, Sonya spent 12 years as an orthodontic dental assistant before working as a hygiene assistant for a general dentistry practice. ■

Welcome New Residents



A common sentiment at the School of Dental Medicine is that we have an outstanding group of residents.

We are happy to welcome the 2019 incoming residents.

Periodontics

Hala AlBarak
Ahmed Alghamdi
Muhammad Sohail

Interns

Neenar Chadaideh
Eman Fekry
Youstina Mikhail

Endodontics

Mona Adams
Moeen AlWashah
Iman Attar
William Smith

Intern

Xingyu Duan

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Kyle Baird
Marawan ElNaboulsy
Hadi Khazaal

Interns

Areej Darraj
Maria DeLeonibus
Bruno Haddad
Janice Jun
Mohammed Louay Taifour

Advanced Education in General Dentistry

Alexandra Fili
Jose Giraud
Leonardo Nassani
Marina Ojaimi

Intern

Rana Reda

Pediatric Dentistry

Natisha Burner
Sarah Curry
Michael Hawk
Amber Sun
Kritika Thomas
Eilish Welsh

Craniofacial, Surgical and Special Care Orthodontic Fellowship

Rahma ElNaghy

Oral and Maxillofacial Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences

Majed Alfarea

Interns

Mariam Alkhater
Andres Martinez

The Dr. Emanuel Meltzer Memorial Scholarship Fund



The Dr. Emanuel Meltzer Memorial Scholarship Fund was established to honor the late Emanuel Meltzer, DDS '32. Dr.

Meltzer practiced dentistry for 40 years before his death in 1973. His son, Dennis D. Meltzer, describes his father as a man dedicated to his family and his practice. In keeping with that spirit, the scholarship was established to help others pursue a career in dental medicine.

This year, two students were selected as recipients of this scholarship:



Julio A. Bermudez, Class of 2022, from Hollywood, Florida, earned his BS in biological sciences from Florida International University where he was a Florida Medallion Scholar in the Bright Futures Scholarship Program that provides scholarships based on academic achievement. Upon graduation from dental school, Julio plans to pursue a residency in pediatric dentistry and aspires to include missions to underserved communities in both the United States and abroad throughout his career.

"I am very grateful to the Meltzer Scholarship Fund and its support for my graduate training in dentistry. This financial assistance will allow me to transition more readily into my career and achieve my goal of including dental mission work."



Anna Ganios, Class of 2020, is from North Canton, Ohio, and earned her BS in biochemistry at the University of Akron and MS in biological chemistry from the University of Michigan. She is

currently seeking an associate position as a general dentist in Northeast Ohio. With the confidence that the dental school provided a quality education, she greatly appreciates that the Meltzer Scholarship made it more affordable for her.

"I am thankful to be part of a community where alumni and their families offer their generous support. I hope to be able to do the same in the future and continue the supportive culture that the dental school has created." ■

Alumni Association Scholarship

To support the aspirations of the next generation of dental medicine professionals, the Alumni Association grants scholarships to students based on achievement. This year's recipients are Lisa Mickey '21, Abigail Weagraff '23, and Nicola Zaboura '21. Learn more about Lisa below.



Cleveland native Lisa Mickey received her undergraduate degree in biochemistry from Kent State University and earned a master's degree in public health at CWRU before starting dental school. Due to her own craniofacial abnormality that caused severe facial asymmetry and temporomandibular joint disorders, she spent a great deal of time in dental offices during her teen years. For Lisa, the experience inspired her to pay it forward and create and restore beauty, symmetry, and function— informed by the golden ratio she first learned about in a high school calculus class. After earning her

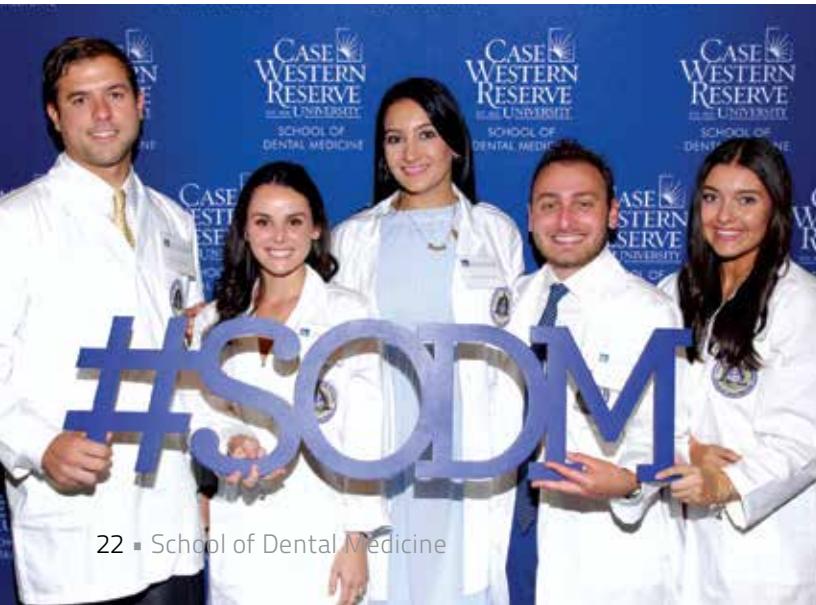
MPH, she realized how much more rewarding her work could be if she targeted populations with the greatest need. Apart from dental school, Lisa is joined by her boyfriend in growing extremely hot peppers (and making their own sauce), camping, and attending music festivals. ■

To contribute to the School of Dental Medicine's Alumni Association Scholarship Fund, contact Paul Wolansky, Assistant Dean, Development & Alumni Relations, at 216-368-3923 or paul.wolansky@case.edu.



White Coat Ceremony Marks First Step in Students' Dental Career

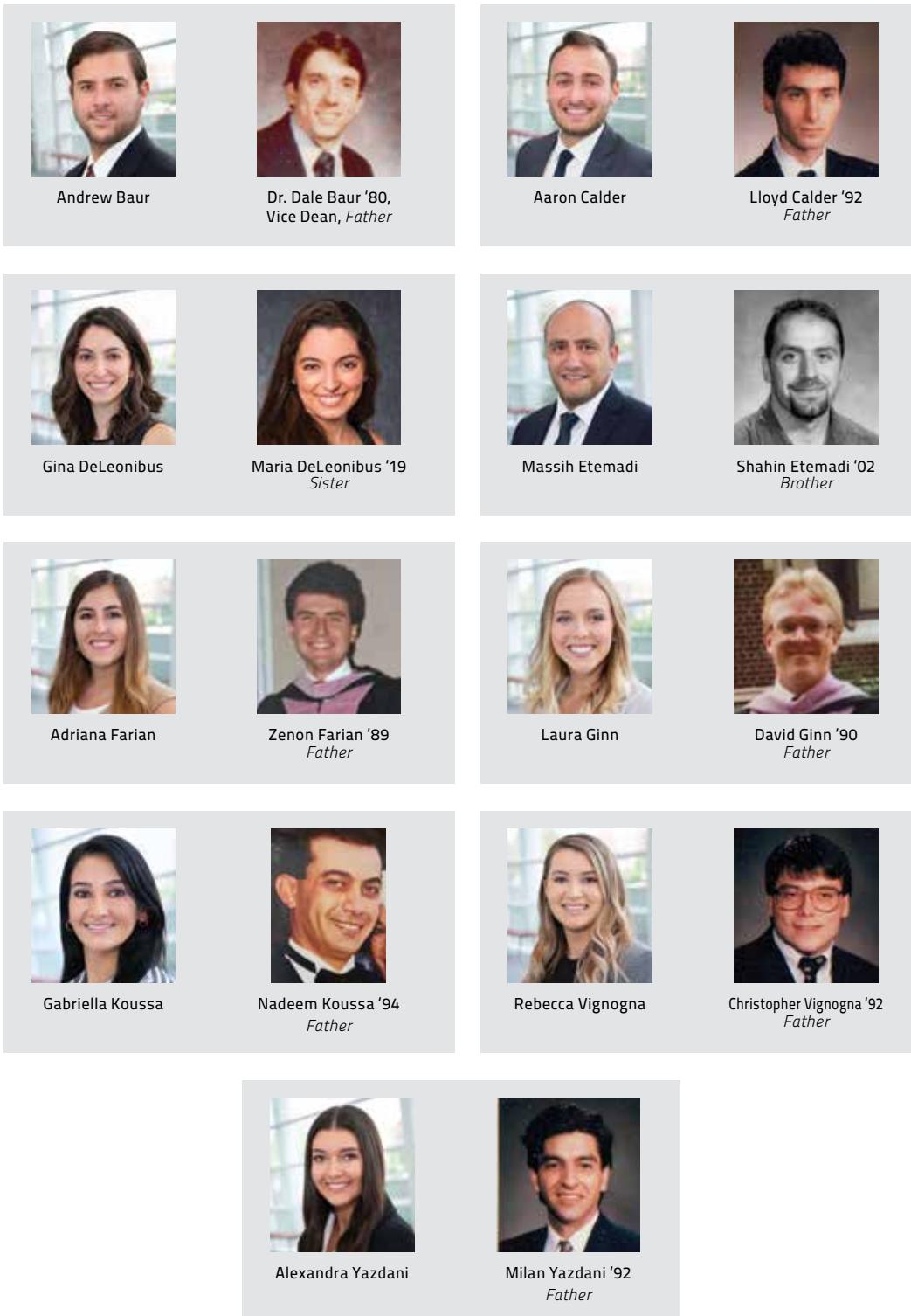
The white coat is more than just a piece of clothing; it's a symbol of the humbling responsibility of caring for patients. On August 2, the Class of 2023 received their white coats during the annual White Coat Ceremony. In front of friends and family, students joined faculty and administrators to receive their white coats – officially marking the beginning of their dental education.





Legacy Students Class of 2023

We acknowledge the talented students who selected CWRU, the alma mater of parents or other family members, in a tradition that strengthens our institution by linking generations and providing a continuity of achievement. Here are family relationships the Class of 2023 shared with us.



Students Making a Difference

Special Care Dentistry Club Prepares to Serve the Community

Three second-year students—Julia Higgins, Dominic Muccio, and Parth Patel—are not only committed to providing dental care to people with special needs, they are intent on having effective care for this often underserved population become a more integrated part of dental education.

To that end, their Special Care Dentistry Club, with the assistance of faculty advisor Dr. Manish Valiathan, formed a partnership with the Special Olympics, the international organization which not only provides sports training and competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, but is the largest public health organization to provide access to free health services for these individuals.

Through the Healthy Athletes® initiative, Special Olympics athletes receive free screenings in a welcoming environment that removes the anxiety and fear that individuals with intellectual disabilities often experience when faced with a visit to the doctor or dentist. Special Smiles® is one of the core components of the initiative, created to increase access to dental care not only for the athletes, but all people with intellectual disabilities. During the screenings, dental professionals provide oral hygiene education and make referrals for follow-up care.

To facilitate the program, Dr. Fady Faddoul and Dr. Suparna Argekar Mahalaha, the clinical faculty for this effort, will attend Special Smiles® training sessions. The CWRU team of students and faculty will then prepare to implement pop-up dental clinics at the local Special Olympics events—a first for Cleveland.

In keeping with the group's advocacy focus to increase the competency of all dental students to serve special needs populations more effectively, the opening of the new Dental Clinic is deemed an opportunity. Plans include forming partnerships with local organizations that address a broad spectrum of special needs—and, ultimately, to position the clinic as the "go-to" provider for people with disabilities.

"I am proud of this student initiative, and look forward to the events they have planned. Their efforts are mission based, compassionate, and a much needed focus in dentistry," said Dr. Mahalaha. ■



(l to r) Parth Patel, Dominic Muccio, and Julia Higgins

Chapter of Hispanic Student Dental Association Established

The Hispanic Dental Association is a national nonprofit organization composed of oral health professionals and students dedicated to promoting and improving the oral health of the Hispanic community and advocating for Hispanic oral health professionals. With the recent creation of the CWRU chapter of the Hispanic Student Dental Association (HSDA), there are now 35 student chapters across the United States.

According to Andrea Ciuró Soñé (Class of 2022), chapter president, the group's mission is to provide support for students and members of the CWRU dental school community by celebrating Latin culture and heritage while providing a voice for Hispanic students dedicated to oral health professions. In addition to promoting discussions between faculty and students, the chapter will focus on collaborative events in Cleveland's westside neighborhoods (home to the city's larger Latin communities) to combat oral health disparities. Its members have already volunteered at events to provide oral health and nutrition instruction and distribute donated oral hygiene products.



From left to right: Brian Johnson, Community Service Representative; Daniela Vilanova, Secretary; Dr. Andrés Pinto, Faculty Advisor; Andrea Ciuró Soñé, President; Ana Perez, Social Media Coordinator; Marcos Rivera, Staff Counselor; Sarra Qadri, Student and Alumni Relations Representative; Dr. Thiago Porto, Faculty Co-Advisor (Not pictured: Meilys Farinas, Treasurer and Alisha Jimenez, Vice President)

"We are also working to empower our non-Latino students to learn basic medical and dental terms in Spanish so that they are better able to treat Hispanic patients," adds Ciuró Soñé who is an

officer in the Army Medical Department of the U.S. Army (AMEDD). "Our goal is to serve as a positive resource to improve the well-being of these patients." ■

Psi Omega Dental Fraternity Is Thriving

CWRU's Epsilon chapter of the international professional fraternity Psi Omega is enjoying one of the strongest memberships in its history, with a focus on academic excellence, leadership opportunities, and a family environment. With the recruitment motto "PsiOorDieO," a number of entertaining rush events were offered, including Kit Distribution that helped new students with the transition to dental school by teaching

them how to organize their instruments at their stations.

Academic events such as Prophy 101, Mock Tooth ID, Head and Neck Mock Practical, and Denture Clinic remain at the forefront of the organization. These events have a high turnout and give students the opportunity to enhance their clinical skills while relieving stress. Under the direction of a new executive

committee, Psi Omega is working to create more social events with the goal of creating long lasting relationships and building camaraderie among members, to add to the traditional Annual Ping Pong Tournament, Friendsgiving, and Halloween at Cedar Point, to name but a few. ■



AWARD-WINNING STUDENT RESEARCH:

Improving Dental Care Access for HIV/AIDS Patients

During the past year, Alisha Jiménez Thompson has made numerous research presentations and garnered awards for her work on improving access to dental care for People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) by training HIV case managers and social workers to assimilate dental care in their case management. To date she has presented posters at CWRU's Professionals Day, Association for Prevention Teaching and Research, and the American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD). In addition, Alisha made an oral presentation to the Ohio Public Health Association (OPHA).

Her awards include: Greater Cleveland Society Community Service Award

(presented at Professionals Day) first place in the AAPHD's Pre-doctoral Dental Student Merit Award competition; and first place for Outstanding Oral Presentation, Academic Section, OPHA. Alisha also received the Excellence in Public Health Dual Degree Award from the Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences. Currently, she is continuing her research by surveying the opinion leaders among PLWHA to identify their perceived barriers to accessing dental care.

"This is a commendable example of the important contributions that our students are making to dentistry," notes Dr. Sena Narendran, associate professor, Department of Community Dentistry. ■



Street of Dreams

The Street of Dreams event gives students the opportunity to tour several dental offices in Northeast Ohio. The program is a collaboration between CWRU, the Ohio Dental Association and the Greater Cleveland Dental Society where students have the opportunity to gain insight into different practice models to help them think about their options post-graduation. Last fall, the Street of Dreams event for third- and fourth-year dental

students was held. Stuart Katz '69 served as tour guide and also allowed the students to tour his office. Jerome Faist '81, Jed Koops '16 and Steven Katz also graciously opened their offices to our students. The tour ended with a networking reception at City Works where the conversations continued and the students were joined by Kenneth Chance '79, Dean, and members of the Greater Cleveland Dental Society. ■

EFDA's New Classroom in the Samson Pavilion



In the mid-1970s, when Dr. Ronald L. Occhionero established the Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary (EFDA) Program, its growth and success seemed an obvious prediction. Fifty years later, the program is indeed thriving, but it would have been hard to imagine the cutting-edge facility in the Samson Pavilion that is its new home.

"Being in the Samson Pavilion certainly raises the bar for us—it automatically creates higher expectations and our students feel an obligation to rise to the occasion," notes Shelly Feiwell, EFDA '92, who has been the director of the program since 1999. "This is my life's work and so I have always been intent on ensuring that our program is top-ranked, but this space and its technology are taking us to a new level."

Here, 20 new workstations with KaVo® patient simulator mannequins are situated in the spacious classroom with floor-to-ceiling windows that offer a panoramic view of the University Circle

area. Avocor®'s interactive technology provides a tablet-like experience on a large format touchscreen—it is the ideal tool to educate the digital generation through group collaboration. With the addition of the Mersive Solstice® software platform that allows screensharing, students will be able to put their own content on the display from their laptops, phones, or tablets.

"I had to re-think my whole way of teaching that moves past whiteboards and PowerPoints," explains Feiwell, who will be creating the training video for the Mersive system as part of her coursework for the master's degree in education she is

pursuing. "In this age of digital instruction, I quickly learned that if you can't beat them, then creatively join them."

The yearlong EFDA program has a total of 40 students; one group of 20 has class on Wednesdays, the other on Fridays. Most students are employed as a certified dental assistant (two years of experience is required) and the majority will stay at their current practice upon becoming an EFDA. In fact, most dentists are eager to have their assistants attain EFDA status and will underwrite tuition with a contractual agreement that they remain in the practice upon completion of the program. ■

For more information about the EFDA program go to case.edu/dental/prospective-students/expanded-function-dental-auxiliary-efda. To tour the EFDA facility, contact Shelly Feiwell at 216.368.3252 or shelly.feiwell@case.edu.

ALUMNI news

Dear fellow alums:

I am honored to have been elected as the president of the CWRU School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association and look forward to serving for the next two years. I am proud to say that I am a '74 graduate of this dental school and a third generation CWRU dentist.

As I reflect on our first alumni reunion weekend in our new home on the Health Education Campus, I truly think that the coming together under one roof of the CWRU schools of dental medicine, nursing, and medicine—as well as the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine—is possibly the most pivotal thing that has happened to Cleveland in my entire life. As I have shared with many of our peers, this surely makes us a leader in revolutionizing (and forever changing) healthcare education in this country.



MESSAGE from the alumni association president

The staff worked tirelessly to make our move and transition into the new facility successful. The complex came in on schedule and under budget!

Made up of alumni from across the country, we have an outstanding board of directors to guide the Alumni Association in this new chapter of our history. I am very proud to tell you that your school is in excellent shape and improving beyond all expectations. The faculty deserves credit for making our students some of the best in the country. During the past year, the dental school received 2,500-plus

applications for 75 spots in the freshman class—a reflection of how highly regarded we are.

If you are like me, celebrating a homecoming reunion is an opportunity to reconnect with your alma mater and each other. Highlights of reunion weekend began with a Blue Block Party on campus led by President Barbara R. Snyder to celebrate the unbelievable success of the university-wide capital campaign. Tours of the Cleveland Museum of Art, a presentation by Dr. Theodore P. Croll, clinical professor of pediatric dentistry, and class dinners were enjoyed by many. This was my 45th anniversary and I truly appreciated reconnecting with classmates—after dinner we moved into the InterContinental's Table 45 restaurant for an "Afterglow" time to continue reminiscing.

On Saturday's "Meet the Deans" at the new Samson Pavilion, Dean Ken Chance gave a marvelous update on his accomplishments and vision for the dental school's future. A tour of the new Dental Clinic followed and the day culminated with the Alumni Association Award presentations.

I extend hearty congratulations to the Alumni Association Award recipients: Distinguished Alumni of the Year, Francis Curd '77 and James Melvin '78, and Outstanding New Dentist, Maemie Chan '09. A Special Recognition award was given to Sara Fields, Director of Alumni Relations for the School of Dental Medicine, who also received CWRU's Newton D. Baker Distinguished Service Award, both well-deserved honors.

I invite all of you to come visit your alma mater. The entire healthcare world is watching and talking about CWRU. Join us as we continue to lead this transformation—we need your participation and support. Let me hear from you.

Thank you so very much,
Scott L. Alperin, DDS '74
scott@alperin-fried.com

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ALUMNI *spotlight*

Samuel C. Muslin, DDS '77

In his 40-plus-year dental career, Dr. Sam Muslin has enjoyed well-earned success, but claims that his biggest accomplishment to date is achieving a satisfying work-life balance. With complete dedication to his patients, he knew from the start that his practice must allow for family time in equal measure—that being a youth soccer coach was just as important as being an innovative professional.



Born in Pennsylvania and raised in California, Dr. Muslin returned to Santa Monica after graduating from the dental school in 1977 and leased space in his own dentist's office to start his practice. Although he was told that it would be a great challenge to succeed in this coastal city, he was undaunted and has thrived there ever since. Even the devastating January 17, 1994 earthquake (6.7 magnitude) that destroyed his office did not deter him. With the help of his wife Cathy, a real estate broker and certified designer, they were able to rebuild in a year and a half.

Dr. Muslin is unequivocal in the credit he gives to the School of Dental Medicine for the academic, technical, and problem-solving training he received that he deems "nothing short of phenomenal." After completing the dental school's requirements in three years, he approached the then-dean, Dr. Thomas Demarco, to ask about early graduation. Instead, Dr. Demarco assigned him to a series of complex cases from full mouth reconstructions to periodontal surgeries—working, in turn, with each of the department chairs. Dr. Muslin's gratitude for the dean's interest in him remains a motivating factor for his success.

At the center of Dr. Muslin's philosophy is that dentistry is first about health and is more than a beautiful smile—it is about the entire face. In other words, he strives to deliver functionality and health benefits, with surprising cosmetic results. To this end, he developed a unique form of non-invasive bite correction dentistry that focuses on jaw position—it is described on his practice website: <https://www.FaceLiftDentistry.com>.

"Many years ago, I gave away my general dentistry practice in order to focus on the non-invasive bite correction method," notes Dr. Muslin. ■

class notes

1945



Albert Lemberger and his wife, Beverly, live in Tarzana, CA, and they have traveled the world by automobile, train, and cruise ship. Following graduation, Albert spent two years in the navy, for the next five years he practiced dentistry in Manhattan, NY, and then moved to Downey, CA until retirement in 2004. Now at 95 he reads a lot, plays golf, and misses dentistry.

1955



L. Gerald Winn and his wife, Virginia, now live at their vacation spot at Cape Neddick, Maine commonly known as "Nubble Light" for its lighthouse with the sea all around. Their daily mission of inviting strangers in to share their joy includes making new friends and having family visits. They have three sons and a daughter, 12 grandkids, and 10 great grandkids. They love making new friends and having family visits. Gerry notes that he has fond memories of his dental school preparation and 44 years of practice.

1960

R. William Cornell and his wife, Chloe, live in Naples, FL. He volunteers at the University of Florida School of Dentistry in pediatric dentistry. They spend their summers at Chautauqua, NY, and he enjoys golfing and sailing.

George Elkowitz and his wife, Ellen, have been married for 55 years and they have two sons and a daughter. George is retired and enjoys photography and model train building. He notes that he continues to appreciate the excellent training he received at the CWRU School of Dental Medicine.

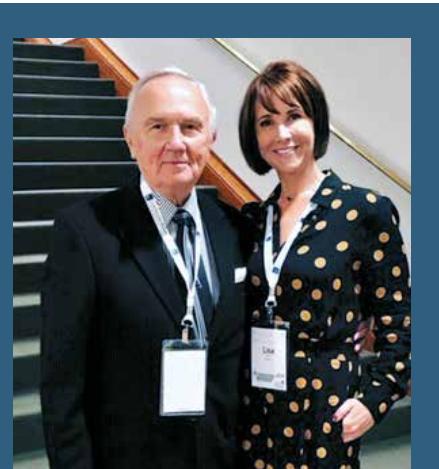
Lloyd Elkowitz and his wife, Deanna, live in the Hamptons, NY and winter in Palm Beach Gardens, FL. They have been married for 59 years and have three children and eight grandchildren. Lloyd practiced dentistry for 46 years in New York and served in the U.S. Army as Assistant Chief of Anesthesiology at Warson Army Hospital.

Robert Krasny retired as a professor in endodontics at the UCLA School of Dentistry. Married for 62 years to his wife, Rita, they conduct weekly singing sessions with Music Mends Minds, a non-profit organization that creates musical support groups for people suffering from dementia, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease, or are post-stroke. Since his graduation they have maintained their close friendships to classmates Jerry Zimring and wife Mellie, and Howard Richmond and wife Esther.

Barry Lazar and his wife, Barbara, live in Lakewood, OH. Barbara and his daughter, Haylee, are body builders and trainers. Barry likes working on cars, models, bicycles, and photography.

Howard Richmond and his wife, Esther, live in Los Angeles, CA, and they have a great family of three children and four grandchildren. They like to travel, and they try to enjoy every day as much as possible. Howard is still in practice, but he also enjoys fishing, walking, and building miniature houses. He notes that he is in contact with Jerry Zimring and Rob Krasny and would like to hear more from other classmates.

David Stevenson and his wife, Suzy, live in South Pasadena, CA, and they have one daughter and one son. David recently completed 50 years as a clinical professor of removable prosthodontics at the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry at USC after spending 15 years with the US Public Health Dental Corps in Alaska as a visiting



Reunion is extra special when you can share it with family. Father Nelson Petrov '64 and daughter Lisa Petrov '94 enjoyed a great Homecoming & Reunion Weekend last fall.

prosthodontist. He and his wife visited the new School of Dental Medicine and he notes that it was a gratifying experience and that they loved it.

William Tuchek lives in Medina, OH. With 20 years of retirement under his belt, Bill stays active by playing golf three to four times a week, and he also spends his time at his cabin in Canada and winters at his home in Arizona.

Alfred Uveges and his wife, Mary Lee, live in Arcadia, FL. They have two daughters and a son that are all doing very well. Alfred shares that in '01 they lost their youngest daughter to breast cancer, and that they all still miss her very much. For their age, Alfred and his wife are doing well and are happy, even though they've had to cut back on some activities younger folks do.

1965

Harvey Chaplin and his wife, Bonita, live in Aventura, FL. Harvey is retired and he says he enjoys traveling, playing tennis, and has lived a good life.

Richard Valentine and his wife, Joann, live in Naples, FL. Richard is retired and enjoys playing tennis.

CWRU ON THE ROAD



Alumni reception at the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Annual Meeting – September 2019

1969

Kevin Meany and his wife, Linda, have been married for 50 years and they have one daughter, two sons, and three grandchildren. Kevin retired from general practice in 2014 in Westlake, OH. He notes that over the years he's enjoyed century biking, kayaking, skiing, traveling, and helping with the grandkids (which is the most fun).



1970



Gerald Wayne Anderson and his wife, Diana, live in Phoenix, AZ. They have four children: Corey, a physician;

Christopher, in technology education and a program developer; Mike, a banker; and Lori, a dentist. In addition to enjoying church, travel, gardening, trapshooting, and sports, Gerald volunteers by providing free dental work to the homeless and veterans, giving scuba lessons to vets and disabled children, and visiting hospitals with Buddy, his West Highland Terrier, to offer dog therapy. He notes that Diana, who was the first surgicenter nurse in the country, retired after 50 years.



Alumni volunteering with N.C. Missions of Mercy Joshua Damesek '98, Michael Stout '84, Van Vagianos '69

CWRU ON THE ROAD



Alumni reception at the Ohio Dental Association Annual Session – October 2019

1975

Darrell Bass and his wife, Mona, live in Westlake Village, CA. He just retired after 43 years of loving his job and his patients and is very thankful to have served in such a wonderful profession.

Greg Davenport and his wife, Beverly, retired three years ago, sold their practice and moved to Greenville, SC. They have three children and three grandchildren. Greg is still as active as ever playing racquetball, snow and water skiing, mountain biking, and swimming. He notes that dentistry has been a terrific career and that it has given them a chance to meet so many outstanding people.

Stephen Nechratal and his wife, Karin, have two daughters, both CWRU dental medicine graduates practicing in Ohio. They also have four grandchildren. Stephen's hobbies include instrument rated pilot, avid Cleveland sports fan, fishing, and concerts.

Robert Sander and his wife, Loni, live in Cincinnati, OH. He is partially retired and is playing about a hundred rounds of golf a year. They are also planning a trip to their final continent, Antarctica.

Don Yeager and his wife, Carol, live in Spencerport, NY. They are both involved in wire fox terrier rescue. Don visits Cleveland often in the summer to enjoy Cleveland Indians games. He notes that after two hip replacements, he has resumed his bowling career and for Frank Ianni, Ira Waspe, Dave Kristal, and Dave Warden to pay attention.

Alumni of our endodontics program who earned their Board certification from the American Board of Endodontics in 2018



Caroline Ghattas Ayoub '15



Martina W.N.
Gerges '17



Mina Rizk '16

1977

Jonathan Kessel worked at a dental clinic in Cleveland for four and a half years after graduation. He always wanted to

live in Israel but wasn't sure how to do it. Through the help of some friends he became a dental volunteer on a kibbutz (communal/agricultural community). It was there that he met his wife, Tzvia. He was a volunteer for two years before he was drafted into the Israeli army as a dentist at the age of 34. He served for two and a half years. Toward the end of that time his oldest child was born and he decided to leave the kibbutz. He joined a dental practice in the city of Rehovot where he is still working today. He has three children and one grandson. He tells us, "Life in Israel can be challenging, but it is rewarding." He is pictured with his former roommate and classmate, **Edward Loftspring '77**.

1980

Bruce Barbasu and wife, Janis, live in Dallas, TX and have two sons. Bruce has a fulltime private practice limited to prosthodontics and maxillofacial prosthetics. He also likes to travel, playing ATP tennis tournaments, international bike tours, and fishing.

Anton Ogrinc and his wife, Susan, have been married for 39 years and have four grown children, three of whom are married. Anton notes that he is still practicing but on a reduced schedule. He thoroughly enjoyed being a basketball official for 8 years which ended a few years ago with knee replacement, but now officiates high school volleyball.

Carl Stefaniak and his wife, Martha, live in Hinckley, OH and they just had their first grandchild in April. Carl plays the clarinet with the Medina Community Band and enjoys woodworking and motorcycle riding.

1985

David Cain, and his wife, Janet, continue to have their solo practices. They enjoy life in Sonoma Valley and traveling to new places. Despite being the fourth dentist sibling in a fourth-generation dental family, none of their many cats through the years has expressed any interest in dentistry.

Thomas Sakshaug lives in Pittsfield, MA and is very involved in local government. He is chair of the Pittsfield Airport Commission, vice-chair of the Conservation Commission, and campaign manager for the Pittsfield Mayor Linda Tyer's reelection. Thomas comments that he is settling into his new life with Patricia and that he is back to gardening and pickle making on a small scale. He also loves hiking and in the past few years he has hiked the Grand Canyon rim to rim, and the Southern Utah "Big 5" National Parks.

1995

Alex Mihailoff and his wife, Daniela, live in Cincinnati, OH, and have twin boys. Alex helps at the Grad Endo Program at CWRU and at the University of Cincinnati Dental Center.

2000

Robert Hull and his wife, Bethany, live in Lexington, VA and have three children. Robert has been in private practice since 2000 and has been voted "Best of Virginia" multiple times. When he is not busy fixing people's grills, he is busy as the RCHS Boys Varsity Lacrosse coach, running one of his many businesses, or relaxing in the pristine beach of Siesta Key, FL. He's loving dentistry and the life it has afforded him.

CWRU ON THE ROAD



Alumni tour of the Narwhal exhibit at the Smithsonian with alumnus and Arctic explorer Martin Nweeia '84 – July 2019

Jay Marley and his wife, Erica, have three boys ages 14, 12, and 8. They all enjoy time together with activities like camping, fishing, and hunting. Professionally, Jay has earned Diplomate status with the International Congress of Oral Implantologists (ICOI) and enjoys a special interest in all aspects of implant dentistry. Most recently he has pursued interest in dental sleep medicine and the treatment of obstructive sleep apnea with oral applications.

2003

Marcus Peterson lives in Burley, ID where he works for Family Health Services, an FQHC.

2005

Shioom Kim and his wife, Julie, live in Bellevue, WA. Four out of their five children are in college now and everyone in the family is doing well.



Amy Richter and her husband, Rob Delo, live on East Amherst, NY. They have a one-and-a-half-year-old son. Amy has a private practice orthodontics in the Buffalo, NY area.

2010



Kari Cunningham (Ped Dent '12) married Vincent Otieno on August 10, 2019 at Garfield Memorial Church in Pepper Pike, OH. The two met in 2014 when she traveled to Nairobi, Kenya to volunteer in a pediatric dental service mission trip. Now that they are finally on the same continent and in the same country for more than 2 weeks, the Otienos are enjoying married life, spending time with family and friends and traveling.



U.S. Army Maj. Michael Kroll '11 and U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Dana Jensen '06 crossed paths recently at a military dental training conference held in Garmisch, Germany.

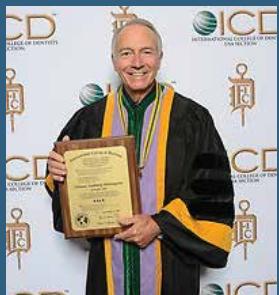
Emily Mellion, (Ped Dent '15) and her husband, Alex Mellion, live in Medina, OH, and have two daughters. After her pediatric residency, Emily worked in private practice for four years. A few months after their second daughter was born, she was able to finalize the purchase of Keystone Pediatric Dentistry, a private pediatric practice in Medina. Emily says that she is so thankful for her education during her pediatric residency that thoroughly prepared her for practice.



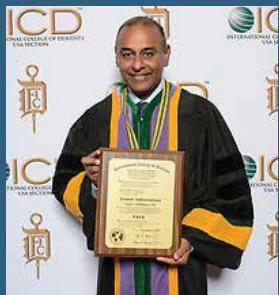
2015

Piotr Karwowski and his wife, Jeannie, live in North Oxford, MA. Jeannie is doing well after being diagnosed with breast cancer in 2015, now she is a breast cancer advocate for young female survivors. After graduation, Piotr completed a one year AEGD residency before becoming a staff dentist at Family Health Center in Worcester; in June, he became an associate dental director at its Southbridge location.

Inducted in the International College of Dentists during the ADA conference in San Francisco in September 2019



Retired faculty member
Thomas A. Montagnese



Kumar Subramanian
(Endo '04)



Manish Valiathan
(Ortho '99)

CWRU ON THE ROAD



Alumni reception at the American Academy of Periodontology Annual Meeting – November 2019



Alumni reception at the National Dental Association Annual Convention – July 2019

IN MEMORIAM *Notices received through October 2019*



Gerhard Berg '51, September 7, 2019 in Milan, Ohio; survived by his four children.

Donald Blanchard '62, January 1, 2018 in Beaufort, South Carolina; survived by his wife, Louise, two children and three grandchildren.



John Dawe '54, February 27, 2019 in Wooster, Ohio; survived by his four children.



William E. Forth '56, July 4, 2019 in Baldwinsville, New York; survived by his wife, Marilyn, daughters Lynn Forth and Dr. Teri Forth-Tromblee, and son, Gordon Forth.



Leonard G. Galicki '64, July 4, 2019 in Avon, Ohio; survived by his wife, Eileen Galicki, children Lisa Tyler '91 and Kevin Galicki, and four grandchildren.

David Hader '61, June 10, 2019 in Wildomar, California; survived by his wife, Shirley.

Martin Krasny '48, Aug. 22, 2019 in Beachwood, Ohio; survived by his two daughters and five grandchildren.



James Lotz '43, August 22, 2019 in Milford, Ohio; survived by his three children.

Susan B. McCollough '84, June 25, 2019 in Alexander City, Alabama.



Willis R. McCune '48, July 7, 2019 in Freemont, Ohio; survived by his son, three daughters, five grandchildren and nine greatgrandchildren.

Archie Moore '50, March 28, 2010.

Remembering Fourth-Year Student Richard McGuire

Richard McGuire, age 27, who was set to begin his fourth year as a student at the School of Dental Medicine, passed away in August from complications of sickle cell disease. A native of Chicago, McGuire was inspired to pursue a career in dental medicine while as an undergraduate at Oberlin College after traveling to Namibia, where he saw first-hand the negative effects of lack of dental hygiene knowledge. He began working toward his degree in dental medicine in 2016, after completing his master's degree in physiology at CWRU.



While a master's student at Case Western Reserve, McGuire was a graduate fellow with the Office of Multicultural Affairs. During that time, he contributed to development of a bias reporting tool and helped build community among multicultural graduate students, regardless of their school. He later went on to serve as a leader of the Black Graduate and Professional Student Association.

"He had so many amazing and unique experiences in his 27 years that most people don't experience in a lifetime," said Morgan Celistan, classmate and friend. "Though his life was short, he truly made the most of every moment. He was loved dearly by so many people and his spirit will not soon be forgotten."



James Pesicek '60, August 23, 2019 in Garrettsville, Ohio; survived by his four children.



Philip P. Taylor '58, May 29, 2019 in Provo, Utah; survived by his wife, LaRene, five daughters and 21 grandchildren.



Paul K. Sakaguchi '57, June 24, 2019 in Clovis, California; survived by his daughter Grace and a grandson.



Terry C. Scotese '81, July 23, 2019 in Euclid, Ohio; survived by his wife, four children and three grandchildren.



Robert E. Trattner '45, May 23, 2019 in Baltimore, Maryland.

James A. Wallace '72, '87, August 6, 2019 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; survived by his wife, Claire, four children and nine grandchildren.



Frank C. Williams '62, July 12, 2019 in Beachwood, Ohio; survived by his children, Frank Jr. and Kristin Williams '89, and five grandchildren.

Ronald S. Stein '77, January 7, 2018 in Bedford Heights, Ohio; survived by his two children.

Edward C. Stibbe Jr. '55, August 11, 2019 in Solon, Ohio; survived by his wife, Jeanette, two daughters and two grandchildren.

John O. Wilson '60, May 1, 2019 in Cedaredge, Colorado; survived by his wife, Patty, four sons, three daughters and 20 grandchildren.

Homecoming Weekend





1954

1959

1974

1979

REUNION CLASSES 2019

1954

Nicholas Boyko with Dean Kenneth Chance

1959

Joseph Humel, Gerald Wahl, Ronald Sveda

1964

First Row: Nelson Petrov, Donald MacKay, Giedra Matas

Second Row: Mike Samuel, Jack McIver, Richard Benveniste

Third Row: William Bart, Lowell Johnson, Norman Mittleman

1969

First Row: Tom Janecek, John Roush

Second Row: Larry Piotrowski, George Vasilakis, Gregg Farwick, Kevin Meany

Third Row: Van Vagianos, Timothy Richards, Stuart Katz

Fourth Row: James Mungo, Walter Grossman

1974

Scott Alperin, Anthony Kestler, Eliot Siegel, William Di Zinno

1979

First Row: Kenneth Chance, Mark Kozlowski, Ansley Sawyer, Timothy Lawrence, Jed Best

Second Row: Tarambakufa Mukurazhizha, William Parker, Heinz Mikota, Eugene Nolfi, Lloyd McDonald

Third Row: Mark Hans, Roger Karp, David Mills, Jane Woods

Fourth Row: Gary Hubbard, Keith Hoover, William Kochenour, Gary Piroutek, Tod Armbruster

Fifth Row: Gary Wolf, Emory Foote, Tom Broderick, Danute Abriani

Sixth Row: James Hovanec, John Shaw, Curtis Hayden, Katharine Rockman

Seventh Row: Joseph Briggle, Charles Canepa, Vince Williams, Laurel Morello

Eighth Row: Tony Ianni, Edward Toolis, Christopher Martin, Carol Martin

1984

First Row: Alan Krantz, Gregory Machnik, James Kozik, Betty Haberkamp

Second Row: Ted Galbraith, Joseph Koehler, Dave Lasalvia, B.J. Showman

1989

First Row: John Damiano, Saeid Motamedi, Stephen Kaufman

Second Row: Syamak Ghiai, Kanthasamy Ragunanthan, David Weidenthal

Third Row: Fabiel Lugo, Albert LaFleur, Kristin Williams

Fourth Row: Mark Armstrong, Zenon Farian, Nigel Camacho, Jennifer Kale, Shelina Amlani

Fifth Row: Barry Sorenson, Bertha Alarcon, Shelly Boss

Sixth Row: James Striebel, Thomas Kelly, Renee Commarato

1994

First Row: Manuel Colaco, Dorothy Sobolewski, Lisa Petrov, Mike Calderon, Pamela Martin

Second Row: Katherine Thokey, Angela Velk, Vinson Vig

1999

First Row: Shawn Kennedy, John Delisimunovic, Hamed Javadi, Franco Garofalo, Gitanjali Thanik

Second Row: Jeff Dryden, Mark Dickerson, Peter Moore, Steven Oltean, Bradley Smith

Third Row: Sunil Thanik (Perio '99)

2004

Lucia Johnson, Ilya Dayn, Maryam Azadi

2009

First Row: Jeremy Wilde, Maemie Chan, Douglas Means

Second Row: Jonathan Walker, Margaret Howell

2014

Ying-Hsien Huang with Dean Kenneth Chance



1964



1969



1984



1989



1994



1999



2004



2009



2014

Alumni Association

2019 Alumni Association Awards

Congratulations are extended to the recipients of this year's Alumni Association Awards that were given during Homecoming and Reunion Weekend.



Dean Kenneth B. Chance, DDS '79, James E. Melvin, DDS, PhD '78, Sara Y. Fields, Director of Alumni Relations, Maemie M. Chan, DMD '09, Francis M. Curd, DMD '77, and Scott L. Alperin, DDS '74



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Francis M. Curd, DDS '77, FICD, FACD

Francis M. Curd, DDS '77, FICD, FACD, has made significant contributions to advancing the profession of dentistry through his dedication to teaching, serving patients, engaging in research, and contributing to curriculum at numerous academic institutions—all while maintaining a focus on mentoring students. Throughout his career, he has been a leader not only in raising awareness of dental health disparities, but in effecting change.

After graduation, Dr. Curd served as a fulltime clinical instructor at The Ohio State University School of Dentistry before establishing a private practice in Youngstown, Ohio where he also served as assistant professor and coordinator of the Youngstown State University Dental Hygiene Program and as the dental director of the Eastside Medical Center and Youngstown Community Health Center. He moved his practice to Cleveland in 1988 and joined the CWRU faculty in 1998 as a preceptor, followed by director of quality assurance and assistant professor of comprehensive care. Dr. Curd's academic journey then took him to the University of Nevada Las Vegas, School of Dental Medicine and then Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM) School of Dental Medicine (Florida), where he served as the assistant dean of clinical education and the assistant dean of diversity and inclusion.

"Dr. Curd is a humanitarian and has had notable community involvement throughout his career. He serves on the board of



Health Legacy of Cleveland that provides scholarships to minority dental and medical students," notes Lucia Johnson, DMD '04 in her nomination letter. "He continues the legacy of Dr. Jefferson Jones by recruiting talented minority dental professionals to provide role models and service to disadvantaged people throughout the community."

Always active in organized dentistry where he has held many leadership positions, Dr. Curd also serves on the board of the CWRU School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association. He is a Fellow of both the International College of Dentists and American College of Dentists and is a dental examiner for the CDCA (NERB). Dr. Curd remains an active mentor to students as a member of the prominent Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity.

"As he continues to recruit and mentor bright minds to careers in dentistry, his goal is to ensure that diversity and inclusion are truly honored in our profession," adds nominator Madge Potts-Williams, DDS '81 who credits Dr. Curd with encouraging her to pursue dental medicine. He recruited her to join him at LECOM as an assistant professor of operative dentistry.

Dr. Curd resides in Bradenton, Florida with his wife, Pam. He takes great joy in visiting with his three adult children and four grandchildren when time allows, as well as singing in his church choir ■



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

James E. Melvin, DDS '78, PhD

James E. Melvin, DDS '78, PhD is an internationally renowned investigator who has made landmark contributions to the field of exocrine gland physiology. After graduating from the dental school in 1978, he rose to the rank of major in the U.S. Air Force Dental Command while earning his PhD in neurobiology from the University of Rochester.

Following postdoctoral training at the National Institutes of Health's National Institute of Dental Research—that would be renamed the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)—Dr. Melvin was professor of pharmacology and physiology in the Center for Oral Biology, School of Medicine and Dentistry, at the University of Rochester where he held numerous appointments including director of the Center for Oral Biology. He received tenure there in 1997 and published more than 125 papers.

In 2010, Dr. Melvin joined the NIDCR where he served as senior investigator and chief of the Secretory Mechanisms & Dysfunction Section, as well as clinical director, deputy scientific director, and



acting chief of the Oral and Pharyngeal Cancer Branch. He is currently the co-director of the Dental Clinical Research Fellowship. An elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, he is the recipient of the National Institutes of Health MERIT Award and the Distinguished Scientist Award by the International Association for Dental Research. During his accomplished career, Dr. Melvin has made numerous contributions to the field of exocrine gland physiology and played a key role in the consortium that decoded the saliva proteome.

"Dr. James Melvin has had a remarkable and distinguished career in dentistry. He chose a career path unlike the majority of the Class of 1978 who chose to treat patients chairside and maintain private practices. Dr. Melvin followed his passion and became a research scientist," notes Dr. Nancy E. Kiesel, who nominated him. "He is instrumental in training the next generation of dental scholars."

Dr. Melvin and his wife, Charlotte, reside in Lakewood, Ohio, and have two married sons and two grandchildren. ■



OUTSTANDING NEW DENTIST AWARD

Maemie M. Chan, DMD '09

After graduating from Purdue University with a degree in psychology, Chicago-native **Dr. Maemie Chan** came to Cleveland to attend the School of Dental Medicine. Upon graduating in 2009, she pursued her general practice residency at St. Vincent Charity Hospital where she studied under Paul J. Priesand, DDS '75 and William Lavigna, DDS '75. Dr. Chan continues to volunteer at its dental clinic located at the St. Luke's Medical Center on Cleveland's eastside.

"Working alongside Dr. Chan allowed me to see firsthand her passion to serve our resident doctors and the community, while taking steps to continually improve herself as a clinician," said Kari Cunningham, DMD '10, '12, who was recruited by Dr. Chan to become a pediatric dental attending and nominated her for this award.

In 2015, after working together in private practice with Dr. Priesand (now retired), Dr. Chan established Mayfield Smiles that has grown to a team of five dentists where she is thriving as both a clinician and entrepreneur. Offering comprehensive dentistry, it garners stellar patient reviews that speak not only to the excellent care, but the kindness, warmth, and friendliness offered by both dentists and staff.



Outside of the dental office, Dr. Chan is active in the community, always striving to improve oral healthcare. She organizes the dental component of the Health Pavilion at Cleveland's Asian Festival and throughout the year makes presentations to the elderly, special needs individuals, and schoolchildren about oral hygiene as well as careers in dentistry. As a board member of the School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association, Dr. Chan helped to raise funds for the school's 125th anniversary.

Active in organized dentistry, Dr. Chan is a member of the American Dental Association, Greater Cleveland Dental Association, Ohio Dental Association, and is pursuing her FAGD through the Academy of General Dentistry, where she is on a path to fellowship. She is currently a fellow of the International Congress of Oral Implantologists.

In 2016, Dr. Chan married David E. Hudec Jr., DMD '11 who owns his own dental office, Anchor Dental, and also practices at Mayfield Smiles. They live in Broadview Heights with their two dogs. ■



SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

Sara Y. Fields, Director of Alumni Relations

In 2001, **Sara Fields** joined the staff of the School of Dental Medicine as the manager of development and alumni operations. Six years later, she was promoted to assistant director of alumni relations and in 2012 was named director of alumni relations. With focus and dedication to each position, her 18-year tenure has provided the continuity that is the foundation of the school's robust alumni engagement.

"Sara has been a rock for 18 years—all of the work she puts into reunion weekends, alumni events, receptions at various dental meetings, and the School of Dental Medicine Alumni Association is amazing," notes Mario Pavicic, DDS '92 in his nomination letter.

After receiving a BA from Baldwin-Wallace University, Sara held several positions that prepared her for her current role, including a long association with the Northcoast Marketing Group that honed her event planning skills. In her capacity as director, she is responsible for providing leadership for the alumni engagement team and implementing programs that not only engage alumni but inspire them. During the school's recent 125th anniversary, Sara directed the milestone celebration that was an enormous success—she also traveled across the country hosting more than 20 alumni groups to include them in the historic event.



In addition to bringing alumni together, Sara provides meaningful opportunities for volunteering and professional development. She is also responsible for the communication efforts, including the twice-yearly magazine and department newsletters.

Upon completing two terms as president of the Alumni Association this spring, Donald P. Lewis, DDS '76, '80, acknowledged Sara in his farewell message as "the heart and engine" of the association. He noted that she brought both a generous spirit and a great deal of hard work to their combined efforts.

In addition to receiving the Special Recognition Award, Sara was the recipient of CWRU's prestigious Newton D. Baker Distinguished Service Award. The award recognizes significant service to the university and is presented by the Alumni Association of Case Western Reserve University.

Apart from dental school, Sara is active with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and is on the board of The Singing Angels and Warrensville Road Community Based Center of Life.

The homecoming celebration was extra special for Sara, as her daughter, Dominique, was crowned Homecoming Queen at Capital University in Columbus, OH earlier that afternoon. ■

2020 AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends of the School of Dental Medicine are invited to submit nominations for these awards which are presented each fall during Homecoming and Reunion.

Only the information you provide will be reviewed and considered for your candidate. The Alumni Office is not responsible for requesting CVs or additional information for your nominee.

AWARD YOU ARE NOMINATING CANDIDATE FOR:
(Only select one)

- Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Award
- Outstanding New Dentist Award
- Alumni Board Special Recognition Award

NOMINEE	GRADUATING YEAR (IF APPLICABLE)
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STREET ADDRESS		
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CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
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HOME/CELL PHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
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NOMINATED BY	GRADUATING YEAR (IF APPLICABLE)
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STREET ADDRESS		
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CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
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HOME/CELL PHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
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Please submit the following documents by **Friday, April 17, 2020**

1. Nomination Letter outlining achievements and why the candidate should be honored
2. Curriculum Vita of Nominee if appropriate
3. This completed Nomination Form noting proposed award

Return the completed form to:

Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine
Alumni Association Board of Directors
10900 Euclid Avenue ~ Cleveland, OH 44106-7342
E-mail: dentalalumni@case.edu



The Alumni Association is hosting a continuing education weekend to benefit dental professionals and their office staff.

Gather your family, office staff, and a few friends for the Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine's Continuing Education Weekend ~ March 6-7, 2020. Don't miss the opportunity for your entire office to earn dental continuing education credits, while your family has a chance to unwind and enjoy the amazing resort amenities at Kalahari Resorts and Conventions in Sandusky, OH.

The tentative schedule has one credit hour being offered the evening of Friday, March 6 and six credit hours being offered Saturday, March 7. Reserve your overnight room by calling 419-433-7759 and asking for the Case Western Reserve University rate. The group rate begins at \$189 a night depending on the style room selected. Event registration will be available soon.



HOECOMING & REUNION WEEKEND

is an exciting tradition for all alumni

HOME COMING & REUNION CELEBRATION

students • alumni • parents & families

OCT. 8-10, 2020

Join us October 8-10, 2020 to celebrate a fun-filled Homecoming and Reunion Weekend with your classmates and friends from Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Class years ending in 0 and 5 will be celebrating a milestone reunion. To get involved with your class committee, please contact dentalalumni@case.edu.

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!

Nominate a classmate or colleague for one of the 2020 Alumni Association Awards, which are presented each year during Homecoming and Reunion Weekend!

The weekend is filled with opportunities to reconnect with classmates, reminisce about your days as a student, enjoy fun events, interact with current students and faculty, continuing education hours and much more.

2020 UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

January 30, 2020

Discussion on Successful Aging
Royal Poinciana Golf Club
1600 Solana Road
Naples, FL
4:30 p.m.

January 31, 2020

Reception at the
Yankee Dental Congress
Westin Boston Waterfront
425 Summer Street
Boston, MA
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

MARCH

March 6-7, 2020

Continuing Education Weekend
Kalahari Resort & Convention Center
7000 Kalahari Drive
Sandusky, OH

March 20, 2020

Reception at the
Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting
Omni Atlanta Hotel
100 CNN Center
Atlanta, GA
5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

APRIL

April 2, 2020

Reception at the
American Association of Endodontics
Annual Meeting
Location: TBD
Nashville, TN
Time: 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

MAY

May 2, 2020

Reception at the
American Association of Orthodontics
Annual Session
Atlanta Marriott Marquis
265 Peachtree Center Ave NE,
Atlanta, GA
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

May 8, 2020

Reception at the Ontario Dental
Association Annual Spring Meeting
InterContinental Toronto
Haliburton Room
225 Front Street W
Ontario, Canada
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

May 15, 2020

Reception at the California Dental
Association South
Annual Meeting
Hilton Anaheim
Coronado Room
777 Convention Way
Anaheim, CA
6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

May 17, 2020

Class of 2020 Diploma Ceremony
Cleveland Museum of Art
1150 East Blvd.

Reception immediately following
ceremony
Kelvin Smith Library
11055 Euclid Avenue

May 23, 2020

Reception at the
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Annual Session
Location: TBD
Nashville, TN
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

JUNE

June 12, 2020

Department of Oral and Maxillofacial
Surgery Continuing Education Course and
Graduation Dinner
Chagrin Valley Country Club
4700 SOM Center Road
Chagrin Falls, OH
3 p.m. – 6 p.m. ~ CE
6 p.m. – 7 p.m. ~ Cocktails
7 p.m. – 10 p.m. ~ Dinner

JULY

July 10, 2020

Reception at the National Dental
Association
Annual Meeting
Hyatt Regency New Orleans
601 Loyola Avenue
New Orleans, LA
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

July 31, 2020

Class of 2024
White Coat Ceremony
Amasa Stone Chapel
2 p.m.

Reception

Tinkham Veale University Center, Ballroom
3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

September 25, 2020

Reception at the Ohio Dental Association
Annual Meeting
Hilton Columbus Downtown
401 North High Street
Columbus, OH
5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

OCTOBER

October 8-10, 2020

Homecoming and Reunion Weekend
Cleveland, OH

For more information, contact the Office of Development & Alumni Relations at 216.368.5758 or email dentalalumni@case.edu



SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE
CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY

10900 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44106-7342

Help discourage waste:

If you receive duplicate mailings, want to be removed from the mailing list or want to change an address, contact 216.368.5758 or dentalalumni@case.edu

INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE— and in the CWRU School of Dental Medicine

A charitable gift annuity pays you and/or your loved ones guaranteed fixed income for life in return for your contribution to Case Western Reserve.

Edward H. Meckler, DMD '74 founded the Sears large-group dental practice nearly 40 years ago—which offered convenient hours, locations, and the ability to use a credit card—establishing the first model of the modern DSO. Now called Dental One Partners, today the organization supports over 2500 employees in 250 locations. "My education at the dental school provided me with not only the clinical foundation for my work, but also a firm understanding of practice management."

To show their gratitude to Case Western Reserve, Ed and his wife, Debbi, funded a charitable gift annuity supporting the School of Dental Medicine. "A charitable gift annuity allowed us to support Case Western Reserve while also having the peace of mind of receiving income on a regular basis."



Now retired, Ed and Debbi enjoy traveling and spending time with their children and grandchildren. "Much of my success in my career is thanks to Case Western Reserve," Ed said. "It's where I was given the skills and confidence that I could use to make a difference."

To discuss a charitable gift annuity or learn how your philanthropy can have an impact on the school, please contact Paul Wolansky, Assistant Dean, Development and Alumni Relations at 216.368.3923 or paul.wolansky@case.edu.