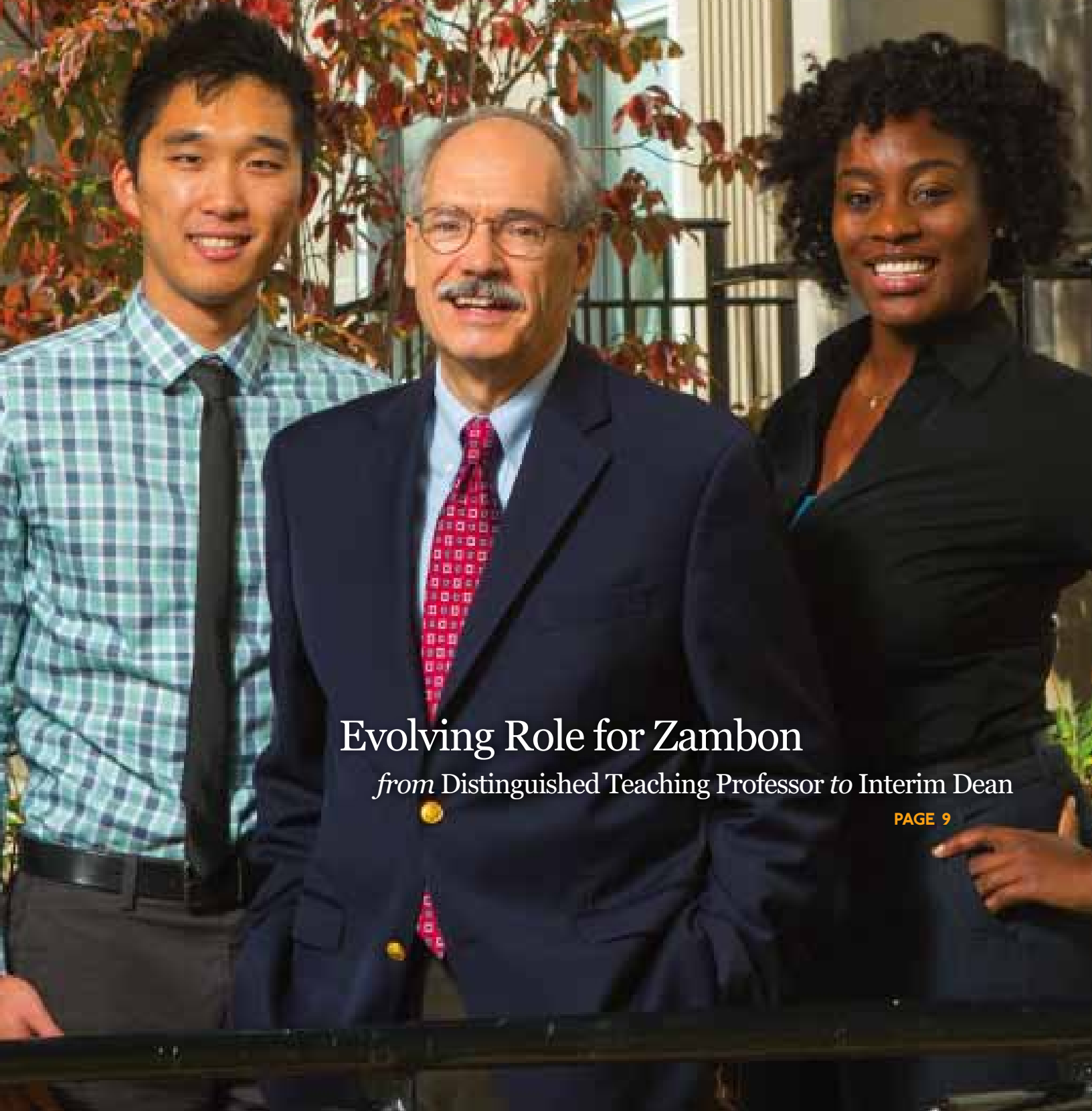


# UB DENTIST

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

FALL 2015



## Evolving Role for Zambon

*from Distinguished Teaching Professor to Interim Dean*

PAGE 9

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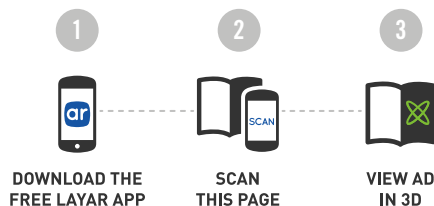
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## ON THE COVER:

Interim Dean Joseph J. Zambon flanked by students Sean (Yong) Park, '17 and Emma J. Guzman, '17. Story on Page 9.

PHOTO: DOUGLAS LEVERE

## UBDENTIST

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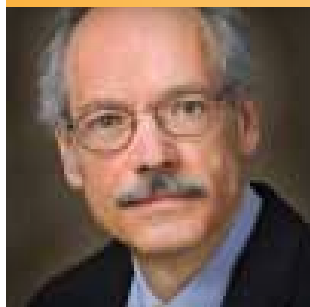
Distinguished award winner, social events well attended.



University at Buffalo The State University of New York | REACHING OTHERS

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# FROM THE DEAN



Greetings, alumni, colleagues, and students. After more than 30 years as a faculty member, it's an honor to lead the dental school. I truly feel we are all tied together in the school's longstanding tradition of excellence.

As I embark in this new role, I see three areas of focus vital to our school at this time: one, continued investment in infrastructure and technology that is critical to attracting the best students and faculty in the most up-to-date environment; two, to be a benchmark for other schools as we prepare for our accreditation in 2017; and three, to create a culture of caring and respect for diverse opinions, making our school a place where not only students want to come but where faculty wish to join.

One's perception of the school is relative to their student years, but much has changed and will change in the next few years at the school. Today's technology, heading into the age of digital dentistry, is better than many alumni may remember, but needs investment to prepare students for the 2020s.

Also, we do more outreach than in the past. We now have a facility in the Erie County Health Mall on Buffalo's East Side providing care to the area's most underserved population. And, our mobile dental unit serving rural counties, the BOCA outreach programs both in the US and abroad, and a new collaboration

with Jericho Road to serve Buffalo's immigrant population demonstrate a renewed commitment to caring for the local and global community.

While providing oral health care to underserved populations, meeting what is unfortunately a growing

need to improve the quality of life, we're able to provide our students with the opportunity to treat and learn from a much more diverse patient population.

I appreciate our students, faculty and staff for all the things that they do to improve the quality of life for our patients. They're a major source of oral health care for people in Western New York.

In this issue of UB Dentist, you'll also meet the new advanced education program directors in orthodontics, endodontics, periodontics and TMD and orofacial pain, quite a diverse group themselves. You'll get a world view of our postgraduate programs and the diversity of our students, both predoctoral and postgraduate, coming from 23 different states, 14 different countries, and speaking 25 different languages. Our first-year class is the most diverse class in the school's history.

This local impact and worldwide reach is integral to our vision of improving global health and building on our 123-year-old tradition of excellence.

My door is always open. I look forward to greeting you, a valued member of the SDM family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph J. Zambon".

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



# NewsBriefs

## Staff members receive Dean's Award at appreciation picnic

Students, faculty and staff gathered outdoors on August 24th to enjoy the 2015 SDM Appreciation Picnic to kick off the new academic year. As part of the afternoon's festivities, Interim Dean Zambon shared his heartfelt appreciation for everyone's contribution and commitment to the SDM and its patients. He also recognized the exceptional work of three staff members by presenting each with the Dean's Award: Carol Sabuda, keyboard specialist I, Department of Periodontics and Endodontics, Judith Taneff, staff assistant, UDPS, Office of Clinical Affairs, and Athena Tsembelis, director of academic services, Office of Academic Affairs. The individuals were nominated by their supervisors and then selected by the dean for their strong work



THE 2015 SDM APPRECIATION PICNIC WAS HELD OUTSIDE OF ALLEN HALL ON UB'S SOUTH CAMPUS.



DEAN ZAMBON WITH EUGENE PANTERA AND RECIPIENT CAROL SABUDA.



THE DEAN WITH RECIPIENT ATHENA TSEMBELIS AND DONALD ANTONSON.



THE DEAN WITH JOSEPH GAMBACORTA AND RECIPIENT JUDITH TANEFF.

ethic, the ability to work well with others, positive attitudes and an "above and beyond" commitment to SDM students, faculty and staff.

## 2 SDM students spotlight community outreach at ASDA District 2 Conference

Each year, one of the five universities in ASDA District 2, a region of student chapters within the American Dental Association, hosts a conference that brings together students from UB, New York University, Columbia University, Rutgers University and Stony Brook University. The conferences are viewed as an opportunity for the host university to showcase the aspect of dental care in which they excel.

As hosts of the 2015 ASDA District 2 meeting, UB dental students decided to share what they do best: community outreach. During the three-day conference, which ran Sept. 11-13, dental students visited several Buffalo community services.

"One thing distinct about Buffalo is how passionate the students are about outreach," says Elizabeth Stanko, SDM student and community outreach chair for ASDA District 2, and also a member of Buffalo Outreach and Community

Assistance (BOCA), a UB dental school club that organizes service activities for students. "Through BOCA, we have a strong community service program for our students, but most dental schools don't offer as many opportunities. Where they have five to 15 outreach programs in a year, we participate in just as many a month."

Stanko worked with Jordan Telin, SDM student and ASDA District 2 trustee, and Chelsea Rajagopalan, a Rutgers dental student and co-community outreach chair, to organize the new volunteering component of the conference. The group also donated more than 1,500 oral health kits filled with toothbrushes, floss and other dental products to the organizations to provide to the community.

"We're immensely proud of our students and what they accomplished," says Dean Joseph Zambon. "They took this great meeting and thought, what else can we do? And they were able to give back to the community. That holds us true to our mission, not only here at the dental school as researchers and educators, but also to the university's mission to support the community."

## 3 New grants and contracts

Over \$5 million in new grants and contracts were awarded in FY2015 to dental school researchers. This adds to the many continuing active grants from federal, state, industry, and foundation/association sponsors, resulting in an annual research budget of over \$8 million. Congratulations and thank you for your efforts!

### Supported by Federal Funds

Edgerton, M., PI, Aguirre, A., Co-I: "Resolution of cytokine-mediated salivary gland inflammation"; University of Utah (NIH).

Ohrbach, R., PI: "Genetic and psychosocial influences on transition to chronic TMD and related pain"; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (NIH).

Romano, R., PI: "Identifying the transcriptional control mechanism of p63 in atopic dermatitis"; NIAID.

Ruhl, S., PI, Vickerman, M, Co-I: "Mining the oral microbiome for novel glycan-binding molecules"; NCI.

Vickerman, M., PI: "Oral epithelial cytokines, *Candida*, and PMN activation"; University of Connecticut (NIDCR).

Vickerman, M., PI: "Streptococcal modulation of *Candida* virulence"; University of Connecticut (NIH).

Visser, M., PI: "Mechanisms of neutrophil impairment by *Treponema denticola*"; NIDCR.

### Supported by State Funds

Abel, S., PI: "Rural dentistry pilot program II"; NYS DOH.

Baier, R., PI: "UBCAT: Xerostomia relief formulation for dry mouth"; UB Center for Applied Technology/You First Services.

Baier, R., PI: "Removal of biofilms from catheters"; UB Center for Applied Technologies/You First Services.

Ciancio, S., PI: "Phase II: Xerostomia dry mouth relief IRB Clinical trial"; UB Center for Applied Technology/You First Services.

### Supported by Industry

Ciancio, S., PI: "Evaluation of a mouth rinse on plaque metabolism and regrowth"; Philips Oral Healthcare.

Ciancio, S., PI: "The determination of the safety and effectiveness of a stabilized chlorine dioxide oral rinse in the treatment of gingivitis"; Rowpar Pharmaceuticals.

Haraszthy, V., PI: "A clinical study to compare the effects of rinsing, brushing, and rinsing using alcohol and alcohol-free mouthwash containing 0.07% cetylpyridinium chloride on oral bacteria versus brushing alone."; Chattem Company.

Haraszthy, V., PI: "The effects of brushing with toothpaste on oral organisms"; Colgate Palmolive Company.

Haraszthy, V., PI: "A pilot study to optimize collection and analysis of oral samples"; Colgate Palmolive Company.

Haraszthy, V., PI: "A pilot study to develop methods to evaluate the effects of brushing with 2 toothpastes on oral malodor & cheek bacteria"; Colgate Palmolive Company.

Scannapieco, F., PI: "Periodontal disease, the oral microbiome and type 2 diabetes in children"; Colgate Palmolive Company.

### Supported by Foundations, Associations, or Institutions

Abel, S., PI: "Healthy smiles, healthy children: Access to care grant"; American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry.

McCall, W.D., PI: "Immediate effect of ultrasound therapy on bilateral masseter myalgia: Randomized single blinded investigative trial"; American Academy of Orofacial Pain.

Sadid-Zadeh, R., PI: "Effect of different metallic interlayer on the fracture strength of Cp Ti-ceramic restorations"; American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics.

## 4 Gambacorta introduces the Buffalo Model of licensure exam format



Joseph Gambacorta, '93, assistant dean for clinical affairs, recently announced the creation and implementation of the newly formed licensure exam—the

Buffalo Model—and the influence the SDM had in its development.

The Buffalo Model is a modification of the traditional licensure exam format, which enables the focus of the exam to shift from the candidate to the patient. This innovative format was piloted at the SDM during the 2015 spring semester to help address some of the concerns expressed over live patient licensure exams. It is a result of a collaborative effort involving the school, the Commission on Dental Competency and Assessments-CDCA, the New York State Dental Association-NYSDA, American Board of Dental Examiners-ADEX, and the American Dental Association-ADA.

The exam is unique in that candidates can register for multiple exam dates, patient treatment is completed as a continuation of an established treatment plan, candidates are allowed to challenge school competency exams, and provide definitive care in cases where the candidate is unsuccessful in challenging the exam.

The Buffalo Model has expanded in 2016 to include the University of Pennsylvania, A.T. Still, Boston University, Midwestern, Nova Southeastern, and Detroit Mercy.

Gambacorta noted that this was another example of how the school remains true to its mission of leading innovation in oral health education, research and service to improve quality of life. "This success wouldn't be possible without everyone's ongoing commitment to excellence. Please take pride in knowing that our efforts are enhancing the student experience while improving patient outcomes—a true win-win!"

## 5 Transcending borders through continuing dental education

Holding true to our mission and vision, the School of Dental Medicine (SDM) continues to define excellence in global health by transferring knowledge and building collegiality through a variety of recent programs and events.

In August, the SDM Continuing Dental Education department (CDE) hosted the 19th annual Advanced Surgical and Implant Training program. The five-day clinical workshop was held at the school and led by Richard Hall, '78, chair, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. This annual event has become a favorite among faculty as well as attendees. Traditionally, the program was attended by dentists from Italy. However, due to its popularity, a former participant, Lucca Stahl, organized 18 additional dentists from Spain to join the group.

The roots of this collaboration date back to the late 1990s when Joseph Margarone, Jr, '62, went to Italy on a sabbatical and stayed with Ugo Covani for three months. They developed the original surgical anatomy and advanced implantology course with SDM faculty members Hall and Sebastiano Andreana, MS Oral Sci. '95. The group continues to come every summer, led by Italian partners Covani and Antonio Barone. At the same time, a group of hygienists from Italy, under the leadership of Carla Beneduce, RDH, began

attending a 'sister' program in collaboration with the Erie Community College Dental Hygiene program.

In addition to the relationships that have been built with our Italian and Spanish colleagues, a new partnership was recently formed with the Dental Academy for Clinical Excellence, in India (DACE). This collaboration led to a unique program, Fundamentals in Implantology, consisting of four modules designed to enable clinicians to introduce implant-related surgeries and restorative procedures into their everyday practice in India.

In summer, the final of the four modules convened at the school. Under the direction of Director of Implant Dentistry Andreana, the CDE hosted an intensive, seven-day workshop for 18 dentists from across India. The president of the Indian Dental Association, Alias Thomas, participated in the inaugural course on campus and sent Andreana the following feedback: "It was very nice for me to be with you [in Buffalo] for the course and learn many good things about the subject from your lectures given in a good, understandable manner."

The SDM's Visiting Scholar program continues to overcome the constraints of geographical barriers by regularly hosting international students for special courses, lasting anywhere from one week to several months. Recently, fourth-year dental students from the University of Ferrara, Italy, joined us to prepare their doctoral theses and participate in implant dentistry



A GROUP OF 18 DENTISTS FROM SPAIN JOURNEYED TO THE 19TH ANNUAL ADVANCED SURGICAL AND IMPLANT TRAINING PROGRAM IN AUGUST.

A GROUP OF DENTISTS FROM ITALY HAVE COME TO THE ANNUAL CLINICAL WORKSHOP HERE SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN THE LATE 1990s.



training. Other departments, including orthodontics, periodontics and restorative dentistry, have offered similar training programs as well.

While each of these distinct programs were formulated to address a different set of needs and achieve a different set of goals, it's clear that they

share a common interest of improving global health through continuing dental education. It's this passion that fuels their desire to question the status quo through the transfer of knowledge and the sustained improvement of the health of multiple populations over an extended period of time.

## 6 Faculty and staff honored for their years of service

A number of SDM faculty and staff were honored for their years of service, by the decades, to the school and the university at a recent luncheon in Squire Hall. Supervisors and the dean presented each participant a jeweled UB pin to thank them for their service.

Sebastian Ciano, Distinguished Service Professor and chair of the Department of Periodontics and Endodontics, was honored for 50 years of service.

Forty-year recipients Marshall Fagin and Joseph Bernat and 30-year recipients Christine Lee, Mary Alice Schroeder, Richard Hall, Alfredo Aguirre, Robert Baier, and Eugene Pantera will be honored by UB Provost Charles Zukowski at an upcoming ceremony.

**Ten year awardees pictured left to right:** John Campbell, Heidi Crow, Lynn Fournier, Karen Collura, Carol Mills, Kristin Yager, Dean Zambon, Heidi Wilson, Martha Boyer, Paul Ziarnowski, Carol Sabuda, Janet Gaczewski and Sarah Augustynek. (not pictured: Sherry Szarowski, Steven Vukas, John Lazarus)

**Twenty year awardees pictured left to right:** Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker, John Maggio, Eileen McIlhagga, Edward Brooks, Dean Zambon, Tirzah Evege-Thompson, Jackie DiMartino, Jennifer Kuracina and Maryann Buffomante. (not pictured: Colleen Perry, Michael Vatrail, James Hoddick, Anthony Kritkausky, Patricia Starring)

TEN-YEAR HONOREES WITH INTERIM DEAN ZAMBON



TWENTY-YEAR HONOREES SURROUND THE DEAN.



## Did You Know: Continuum sculpture symbolizes SDM mission

**THE 43-1/2-FOOT BRUSHED ALUMINUM SCULPTURE** in the front lobby of Squire Hall was a commissioned work completed in 1986 by Francis J. Toole for the dedication of the new home of the dental school. Toole is an internationally recognized artist, sculptor, carver, designer, teacher, and lecturer primarily known for his sculptures in multiple mediums as well as paintings in oil and watercolor. He maintains his studio in Tonawanda where he resides.

The DNA double helix depicted in the sculpture represents the continuous

flow of information central to life itself. Inspired by the DNA molecule, this sculpture symbolizes the continuous flow of information essential to the dental profession. At the core is research from which advancements in oral health care flow. One curving strand represents patient care, the other education, forever wound together as knowledge is passed from one generation to the next. Connecting the double strands of care and education to research are arms bearing plaques commemorating each graduating class since 1893: the continuum of our School of Dental Medicine.

*This is the first in a series of Did You Know features leading up to the school's 125th anniversary celebration in 2017. —Robin L. Comeau*



A portrait of Joseph Zambon, a middle-aged man with grey hair, a mustache, and glasses. He is wearing a dark blue suit, a light blue shirt, and a red tie with a small white geometric pattern. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred image of autumn foliage in shades of green, yellow, and red. The entire image is framed by a thin white dotted border.

# Experience at the Helm

JOSEPH ZAMBON EVOKES FAMILY TRADITION IN HIS  
LATEST POSITION IN A DISTINGUISHED SDM CAREER

By JIM BISCO | Photographs by DOUGLAS LEVERE



**A**fter having held just about every position in the dental school since joining the faculty in the early '80s, Joseph Zambon, '74, Perio. Cert., '83, PhD, Oral Biology, '84, has been appointed to the top job.

**FEW CAN CLAIM** a more thorough inside knowledge of the workings of the School of Dental Medicine than Dr. Zambon, who was chosen to lead the dental school as interim dean after Dean Michael Glick's tenure ended last summer. As a professor, administrator, and researcher, he has built an illustrious career.

A memorable teacher, Dean Zambon was named SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2008 after previously earning the Richard A. Powell Award for Teaching Excellence, the Alan J. Gross Award for Excellence in Teaching and the Charles Lipani Award for Faculty Service, as well as being twice selected by the graduating dental class as UB Dental Educator of the Year. Other honors and awards he has received include the UB Exceptional Scholar Award, the R. Earl Robinson Periodontal Regeneration and the Clinical Research awards, both from the American Academy of Periodontology.

Dean Zambon served as associate dean for academic affairs for 15 years, and more recently, as associate dean for faculty advancement, and associate dean for advanced education. He is a member and former chair of the school's curriculum committee and co-director of its Electronic Curriculum Project, which digitized the school's

educational program. He also led the school's 2003 and 2010 accreditation reviews.

A prolific researcher in periodontics and oral microbiology, Dean Zambon has authored or co-authored more than two dozen book chapters, 200 abstracts as well as nearly 150 scholarly papers, four of which are listed among the one hundred most cited papers in dentistry. He has been principal or co-investigator on more than 60 grants and contracts and holds five patents.

Despite his impressive list of accomplishments, Dean Zambon is a self-effacing, soft-spoken individual who jokes to students that "appearances to the contrary, I was not here when the school started." A firm believer in teamwork and consensus building, he attributes his personal achievements to collaborations with a group of highly dedicated and talented individuals.

As interim dean, he will focus on renewing the school's aging facilities and infrastructure, reforming the dental curriculum to prepare students for the coming digital revolution in dental practice and preparing for the next accreditation which coincides with the school's 125th anniversary, as he notes during a recent conversation.

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INTERIM DEAN ZAMBON STRIKES UP A DISCUSSION WITH A GROUP OF STUDENTS ON A SUNNY DAY ON CAMPUS.

### **“RENOVATING THE SCHOOL’S PRECLINICAL FACILITIES AND DENTAL CLINICS IS OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY.”**

“The life span for a dental unit is about 10 to 15 years. Our units are more than twice that old and well past their useful life. Replacement parts are no longer available. We need to reconstruct both our pre-clinics where students first learn the psychomotor skills necessary for patient care as well as our dental clinics where students use these skills to treat our patients. Our first priority is to renovate the pre-clinical facilities installing dental simulators and state-of-the-art digital technology. With the support of the university provost and the vice president for health sciences, we anticipate starting construction this coming summer of 2016 and at the same time renovate the Squire Hall clinics.”

### **DENTAL CARE FOR THE UNDERSERVED**

“The South Campus dental school clinic is the site of about 150,000 patient visits per year. We also have dental clinics throughout the area. In operating these facilities, the UB School of Dental Medicine is the largest provider of dental care for underserved people in Western New York. Managing these operations is a complex undertaking. We track dental procedures to ensure that our students are competent in different aspects of general dentistry by the time they graduate. We track our patients to make sure that their treatment is progressing appropriately and that they are being seen in a timely manner. Clinic management systems are a major part of our business and clinical operations.”

### **INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**

“Our dental clinic in the Erie County Health Mall at 1500 Broadway on Buffalo’s East Side provides outreach to patients who wouldn’t normally come to the Squire Hall clinics. The clinic also provides an opportunity for interprofessional education, one of the newer dental education requirements and a current focus in health science education. Instead of being isolated in professional ‘silos’, it’s important that healthcare professionals work together. Facilities like our 1500 Broadway clinic provide an opportunity for students in different professions to work together.”

### **FACULTY RENEWAL**

“Our faculty, like dental school faculty across the country, is aging, but we’ve recruited a number of young, energetic faculty over the past several years. Our new faculty members bring with them new skill sets to train our students in

contemporary dental practice. Implant dentistry, for example, is a major focus in the profession as is digital dentistry and laser dentistry. Together with new additions to the faculty, we’re making large investments in new technology to prepare our students for current and future dental practice.”

### **WHAT ESPECIALLY ENTICES YOU AMONG ALL OF THE ASPECTS OF YOUR CAREER?**

“My favorite thing about working here is the opportunity, the privilege, to work with the students, faculty and staff. They are the school’s biggest asset. When we do exit interviews with the fourth-year students, they almost always report that a major strength of our program is the faculty and staff. They are outstanding. They provide oral health care to thousands of people who would not otherwise receive care. They help our students become excellent practitioners who are much sought after for postgraduate dental specialty programs.”

Dean Zambon, a native of Batavia, NY, is a father of four children—an attorney in North Carolina, a physician in Rochester, director of communications for Georgetown University Medical Center, and a PhD atmospheric scientist at North Carolina State University.

As interim dean, he still teaches the same courses he’s taught in recent years—the second-year introduction to periodontics and preventive dentistry course, the second-year introduction of clinical periodontics course and the third-year didactic periodontics course.

Right now, Dean Zambon is fully engaged in advancing the school. “My job is to promote the mission of the school and the university,” he explains. “There are things that need to be done—preclinical and clinic renovations, curricular reform, faculty recruitment. It’s a very exciting time.”



THE DEAN IN THE LABORATORY WITH LONG-TIME RESEARCH PARTNER VIOLET HARASZTHY, '02, MS ORAL SCI. '93, PERIO CERT. '94, PROS CERT. '98, PHD '99.



# Reflections on BOCA mission 2015

STUDENTS LEAVE THEIR HEARTS  
IN SAN FRANCISCO DE MACORÍS

By JOSEPH RUMFOLA



My 2014 article described the BOCA mission trip to Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic, in 1,621 words spread over five pages. This year, I was faced with the dilemma of providing the student perspective regarding an equally significant trip to San Francisco de Macorís, Dominican Republic, but with a two-page limit. Virtually impossible. Unless...we use creative math.

Given the following premises: 24 dental students (primarily new third-years) + only 4 weeks in clinic with patients = not much experience; 5 student volunteers provided 5 particularly compelling photos from the trip; and 1 picture = 1,000 words. Simple mathematical logic can be applied, and an epic conclusion can still be drawn mostly with pictures supplemented by a few words.

## A WINDOW INTO YOUR LANGUAGE - JORDAN TELIN, '17

He wanted to know why they wished to watch outside the oral surgery room. He attempted to communicate in English. One boy claimed to be 14 years old, and his friend called him a liar...in Spanish. Jordan laughed at this, and then both boys knew that he could speak both. He spent some time teaching them English through this window into their world and later said, "It was such a cool moment, because I realized that I could impact people by so much more than just dentistry."

Even four months later, he describes the picture and the experience as

PHOTOS GENEROUSLY PROVIDED BY: ADRIENNE COLLINS, MATTEO BOSISIO, AND BRITTANY SWIDERSKI



“life changing.” He learned the things that he expected he would—“to be more confident and comfortable with dentistry”—but he also learned to “treat people, to not take treatment for granted, like many Americans might, and that being a dentist can give you many more opportunities to make an impact on people’s lives.”

### DOMINICANS PREFER TO BE CALLED “LOCALS” - STEPHANIE HOYOS, '17

The students referred to him as Morgan Freeman. He had no idea who that is. His job was to look after them, to help with their food, and to act as a liaison with his people. He likes dancing bachata and merengue, and was thrilled to dance with Stephanie at the university in front of his friends. It was people like him who made Stephanie feel comfortable and at home, and his smile is so representative of the locals.

She looks at the picture and thinks of the word “connect.” When asked how her BOCA experience compares to dental school, she responds, “It’s the reason I went to dental school.” She would highly recommend the trip and would love to go again as faculty someday.

### POST-TWITCH NAP - SHANNON HASSIN, '17

Dr. Carlos Muñoz introduced the term “twitch” to participants in an orientation session at Squire Hall months prior to the trip. Shannon said “he made it sound like no one really gets sick,” however, Montezuma’s curse extended to BOCA mission 2015. She and Brittany Swiderski, '17, were in oral surgery that day, excited to be doing procedures for the first time. They ran on adrenaline and didn’t really pay attention to how they were feeling, until they had a chance to crash at break time. Then, words like exhaustion and dehydration won out over excitement.

“BOCA is actually the reason I chose UB Dental School,” says Shannon. “No other schools have a program like it.” When asked whether “the twitch” ruined the trip for her, she replied, “No, it was just another thing that brought us closer together, as strange as that may sound.” She related a story about how a classmate, who she didn’t know very well outside of BOCA, asked her if “it’d be too weird to ask her for a piece of gum.” Shannon responded that, after they all bonded over bowel movements, her simple request was definitely not “too weird.”

### THE NEXT PEDRO MARTINEZ? - MARCUS SPERA, '17

“Pelota” is Spanish for wiffle ball. The young baseball players were quick to inform Marcus Spera that “balon” is not the right word...it’s used for a larger ball, like a basketball. Although, the boy in this picture had never seen a wiffle ball, he was quick to learn from Marcus, who provided pitching lessons and balls to each of the kids. Locals in the Dominican Republic play streetball using a bottle cap, so the kids were all thrilled to learn and grateful to receive the gift from Marcus, who played baseball while he was in school.

When asked why none of the students who contributed pictures for this article chose to show “dentistry”, Marcus simply replied that, “It’s not what we remember.” Of course, all of the students learned a great deal of dentistry, but it’s clear that the relationships they built with the people of the Dominican Republic, with their faculty, and amongst themselves, made a significant impact on their young professional lives.

### DEFINING EXCELLENCE IN GLOBAL HEALTH - BRITTANY SWIDERSKI, '17

More words unnecessary...plus,  
I’m out of space.

excitement  
life changing



exhaustion  
comfortable  
global  
at home

# Q & A

A CONVERSATION  
ABOUT FUTURE  
RESEARCHERS IN

## ORAL HEALTH AND DISEASE



Earlier this year UB Dentist co-editor Pamela Jones sat down with UB SDM faculty researchers and mentors Robert Baier, Anne Meyer, Richard Ohrbach, and Violet Haraszthy to get their opinions on how to encourage students in oral health research.

**Let's start the discussion with what inspired you to go into research, particularly oral health research.**

**Anne Meyer:** When I graduated from undergraduate school with a chemistry degree, we were in another deep recession, so as a scientist you looked for whatever job you could find. After a year of searching, I took the one in environmental chemistry—the environmental movement was just where my soul was at the time. A few years into that, I saw this guy down the hall who was doing weird things with barnacles and artificial blood vessels. So I worked my way into his group.

**Robert Baier:** Ever since I was a boy, I had a curiosity about what goes on when Part A meets Part B. I had pursued this as part of my educational plan, all through the years up through postdoctoral work doing environmental research, and research on blood and heart lung machines, and contact lenses. Then I became inspired by one of my contacts in Sweden to work on dentistry as an adjunct to what I was doing. That's how I began to work on dental implants. And then I discovered that dental implant leadership in the world at that time in terms of basic science was right here with Professors Natiella and Meenaghan, and they invited me to join them.

**Richard Ohrbach:** Within the first year of finishing dental school, I had mastered the technical skills to the point that I

wanted to, but I wasn't being challenged in any way on the creative front. And so I became involved in treating what we now call TMD in an Air Force Clinic overseas, and it was absolutely fascinating. Later at the Air Force Base in San Antonio, I was exposed to John Rugh at the dental school who taught research methods in behavioral sciences. I took the course and that hooked me.

**Violet Haraszthy:** I wanted to be a dentist since I was two years old. I can't imagine doing anything else. I was accepted to start in a microbiology lab with Dr. Joe Zambon for my PhD. Now, I'm doing more product testing and clinical research, and I'd rather do more molecular biology like I was doing during my PhD research. But you can't write grants and do the testing. There are just not enough hours in the day.

**So how do we inspire and engage new researchers now, and what are the new factors that are inhibiting students not just on oral research but across the U.S. from going into research careers?**

**Baier:** I would say to have an inspiring mentor. And it doesn't have to be the leading lights in the field. It just has to be the person with the greatest verve, personality, and urge to know. If you really want to inspire this generation, get out there and preach your dreams and you will find some followers who will climb up the mountain higher than you are.

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TOP PHOTO: ROBERT BAIER DISCUSSES RESEARCH WITH RECENT PHD GRADUATE SANTOSH ROHIT YERRABOLU.

**Meyer:** A very practical way is to somehow reduce the loans students have to pay back. By the time they are done with their professional training, that's huge. I wish NIDCR would provide training funds at the Master's level, because I think it would be more fruitful.

**Haraszthy:** And then we make a lot less money than the practicing dentist outside who doesn't have the PhD. You really have to like what you're doing to stay here.

**Ohrbach:** In contrast to the money side, there is the social and lifestyle side that for a lot of people is more appealing on the academic side—the camaraderie, the collegiality, the working ideas, and the fun.

**Some people have said, by the time someone gets to dental school, it's all over; we need to reach them earlier. And yet most of our programs are focused on engaging dental students in research. I heard on NPR the other day, they are starting to teach engineering concepts in preschool. So when do we need to inspire. We haven't had a lot of success in terms of our students going into PhD programs recently, so how do we change that?**

**Ohrbach:** At the institutional level, I don't think we've done a good job at taking DDS/PhDs and putting them in places where they can actually do something. I think too often, they have been sucked into the clinical world and not had the opportunities to do the research.

**Baier:** I think you can get inspired anytime even if you're 50 years old and a long-time worker in the field. It's the opportunity to solve the problem that turns you on. And again what it takes is somebody energetic enough to get you over the hump. You need the mentor, the inspiration.

**Ohrbach:** Bob, you highlighted the mentor part, but you're alluding to another quality now that I certainly find in the students that work with me, where they make decisions to choose

an academic career and they discover that playing with ideas is fun.

**Haraszthy:** The time I find best is as undergraduate students, when they want to go to dental school. Now I have two students who come full-time during the year, and they are very interested in research. One has already started dental school. One is applying. But the first-year dental student is so overwhelmed, he promises to come back, but he can't. The others have been in my lab one to three years and they know what research is about. Some of them finish Masters programs.

**Meyer:** I really look forward to a few students in our Biomaterials Masters program that have desperately wanted to go to dental school. Many are international students already with DDS/BDS degrees. They're using the Masters program, and I think Oral Sciences is similar in this experience, to make themselves look a little better, and get something done while they're marking time. But instead, many get bit by the curiosity bug.

**What specific things can we do here or should we do here to encourage undergrads, dental students and even the students in the advanced graduate programs to consider research?**

**Meyer:** Whenever I'm asked to talk to one of the dental school classes about research, my theme lately has been about maintaining your curiosity. And no matter what you're doing, keep that part of your brain active, to take advantage of some of the things that we've all, in this room, been lucky to experience.

**Ohrbach:** To me, mentoring is where the action needs to be to cultivate people who would say, 'I'm willing to forego the higher income to pursue this other path because I've discovered that it's fun. I love the collegiality better.' But if you don't have the pipeline for them to explore that and experience it during dental school, they don't have an opportunity to make an informed decision.

**Meyer:** I'm not satisfied with the outcomes we have now. It's really nice that we give students an intensive, five-week kind of thing and then they keep going a little bit but...

**Haraszthy:** ...but it lets the students do research.

**Meyer:** No question, and our numbers are increasing, but I'm very pleased to also see that the students presenting at IADR this year are not just from the summer research program. That says to me that there's something happening and that some of our faculty are exciting students about doing things. We do every other rotation in the book, why shouldn't we do a research rotation?

**Ohrbach:** Students have to fight too hard to get the time to do research.

**Frank Scannapieco recommended looking at the University at Michigan Pathways Project. They have a pathway for healthcare delivery, one for leadership and one for research. And a dental student chooses after their first year which path they are interested in. They carry that through all four years, and it's about 10 percent of their curriculum, a half-day a week.**

**Baier:** I don't like that. The students that do the best in the world that I know are the students that independently choose to engage. Failures in my own laboratory are successes in others.

**Ohrbach:** I think anything that provides a pathway is what's important. You still need some kind of a pathway for people to basically get excited about inquiry and discovery. It's when there is no pathway is the problem.

**Baier:** The best thing we could do is what you're doing, putting an article in the UB Dentist so people can read and be inspired and try to take the next step.



THE WHITE COAT CEREMONY TRADITIONALLY WELCOMES STUDENTS INTO THE PROFESSION.

*This August*, 91 dental students joined SDM as the Class of 2019. They are among the most diverse class ever to enroll. The most junior is 22 years in age and the most senior is 36. Thirty-seven percent are women. They hail from 12 different states and several were born in countries such as Canada, China, Columbia, India, Korea, Syria and Vietnam. Many can trace their family back for multiple generations right here in Buffalo, while a few came from families of war-ravaged countries.

*They are among the most diverse class ever to enroll.*

Ten have parents who are physicians and dentists, while another 10 are first in their family to attain a degree beyond high school.

They majored in diverse subjects like anthropology, biology, economics, dental hygiene, sports medicine, public health, physical therapy, engineering and psychology. Among them are athletes of many sports—football, rugby, baseball, golf, tennis, basketball, rock climbing, lacrosse, weightlifting, and cyclists. There are also vocalists and musicians, some accomplished medalists in classical piano and violin competitions,

and some who play in jazz and funk trios. There are also professional musical theater performers. And they speak over 25 languages.

This group of new students joined 25 new International Dental Program (IDP) students who entered the Class of 2017 in May. Both groups of students and their families were welcomed to the profession with a white coat ceremony.

## NEW PROGRAM DIRECTORS WELCOME STUDENTS IN ADVANCED EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Also joining the SDM this year were 56 enrollees in our advanced education programs. Referred to as residents, graduate students, or postgraduate students, they entered our 12 advanced education programs: 2 in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, 6 in Pediatric Dentistry, 8 in General Dentistry, 6 in Orthodontics, 2 in Oral Pathology, 4 in Periodontics, 3 in Prosthodontics, 4 in Endodontics, 2 in Orofacial Pain, 2 in Oral Biology PhD, 5 in Biomaterials MS (3 in January), and 12 in Oral Sciences MS (combined with a clinical program).

Some of these new students are pictured on the following pages as the four new program directors of Endodontics, TMD and Orofacial Pain, Orthodontics and Periodontics are highlighted. Welcome to all!



DIVERSITY IS KEY FOR THE NEW CLASS  
IN THE DENTAL PROGRAM

# NNINGS



ORTHODONTICS NEW STUDENTS, FROM LEFT: BRIAN HOHLEN, XING ZHU, CONNIE LAI, THIKRIAT AL-JEWAIR, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, PAUL ZIARNOWSKI, INTERIM CHAIR, RAWAN NAGSHABANDI, SARAH KAPLAN, '15, MAJD HASANIN

## ADHAM AZIM: EXPANDING THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE IN ENDODONTICS

### UPON HIS ARRIVAL HERE IN MIDSUMMER,

Adham Azim immediately immersed himself in his new role as director of the advanced program in endodontics. With the guidance of soon-to-retire endodontics director Eugene Pantera, Azim is busy carving a broadened path for the program.

“We will be making some major changes to improve the overall position of the program compared to the other programs around the country,” he says. “We are focusing on upgrading the clinic, and getting students to experience more advanced technology in the specialty. There will also be more of a focus on research.”

Azim notes that the eight students currently in the program demonstrate much potential. He began an initiative to create a unified assessment for the students in a collaboration with five different schools—University of Florida, University of the Pacific in California, Boston University, University of Texas in Houston, and an international school in Holland. “These are written exams and case evaluations to prepare students for their specialty board certification,” he explains. “We are initiating the first unified mock written exam in the country in March 2016, and hopefully, in 2017 we will take it nationwide.”

A course change that was made is in Classic Literature. “We integrated it to make it more dynamic so now our students are presenting topics in the form of presentations and we added an oral exam at the end of each semester. This way we can evaluate how well they understood material and if they’re ready for the next parts of the certification process,” he relates.

Azim also shifted the Case Presentation class to an online system that will allow all faculty and fellow students to give their input in a scoring system. And the students are now obliged to evaluate and score themselves, to compare with the evaluations they receive. “A lot of the accreditation criteria has to do with self-assessment and evaluation so we think by adding these things we can actually be in line with the accreditation requirements,” he reasons.

An individualized one-year program will be instituted in January in the department that will accept extra students to collaborate on research and attend classes as well. “This will allow us to have more manpower to do more research projects and clinical studies in addition to some in-vitro lab studies,” Azim notes.

The native of Cairo, Egypt, whose work is centered on stem-cell research, says he is excited to have come to a dental school known for its research. “People here are very encouraging and friendly. I’ve never worked in a more supportive environment.”

# NEW BEGINNINGS



## OTHMAN SHIBLY: ADVANCING THE PERIODONTOLOGY PROGRAM LEGACY

**Othman Shibly, '99, MS Oral Sci. '95**, says assuming the role of director of the advanced education program in periodontology is particularly challenging because its legacy speaks volumes. "Historically, this program was led by some of the greatest scholars in our specialty—Drs. Ciancio, Genco, Zambon, Levine, Cohen. All prominent worldwide scholars in periodontology," he notes. "The reason this program is one of the best is because it's a well-balanced program between clinical practice and research."

To ensure the legacy continues, Shibly has changes in development to bolster the strength of the program. First, he wants to revive the meaning of periodontology in an age where the tendency is to extract more teeth in favor of implants. "I want to remind our profession that the goal of periodontics is to first, save teeth, free them from disease and make them healthy and functional. Second, I want to focus more on the overall health of our patients through their teeth and gums because of the association between periodontal disease and cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, stress, and tobacco use," he says.

After numerous attempts to bring IV sedation training to the program, Shibly has recently secured arrangements for the required hospital training and is awaiting accreditation by the Commission on Dental Accreditation to approve the off-site rotation. He has already started the didactic part of the training.

Shibly has also formed what he calls the program management team comprised of himself and two residents elected from the nine total residents. "We meet monthly to address their needs in a positive way," he explains. "I like to get the residents' opinions and make them part of the process."

Shibly has started a new course, Advanced Periodontal Treatment Planning, based on seven principles. "Originally, we went from diagnosis to treatment, but I felt that we should do

a more in-depth treatment and so we meet regularly to discuss comprehensive cases. We go from diagnosis to analyzing etiology, risk factors, prognosis, treatment, evaluation, and maintenance therapy. The residents have to be prepared to answer all seven principles of the treatment plan."

He also began advanced training in aesthetic microscopic surgery, allowing the residents to conduct periodontal micro-surgery using a specialized microscope. "Only the leading periodontists around the country use these advanced techniques to get optimum results. I want to train the residents to become the best in their field."

A native of Damascus, Syria, Shibly says it was always his dream to study in the U.S. and was grateful when Periodontics and Endodontics Chair Sebastian Ciancio invited him to come to UB as a clinical scientist 23 years ago. "From day one, people supported me here."

Shibly's wife is Sawsan Tabbaa, clinical assistant professor and research director in the Department of Orthodontics. Three of their four children are UB graduates in prominent positions around the world, with a 13-year-old daughter still at home.

## THIKRIAT AL-JEWAIR: FROM ORTHODONTICS PROGRAM RESIDENT TO FACULTY


**Thikriat Al-Jewair, Ortho Cert. '12, MS Ortho. '13**, refers to herself as a daughter of the program she is now running. In September she became a clinical assistant professor and program manager in orthodontics. "I know the program very well," she says. "I was proud to be a resident of this program, one of the first in the U.S. with a lot of history behind it."

There are 19 residents currently in the three-year program, a diverse group from the U.S., China and more.

"What I hope to do is to continue the strong legacy and continue to graduate lifelong learners," Al-Jewair

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PICTURED ABOVE, FROM LEFT: **1** ENDODONTICS NEW STUDENTS: TARIQ AQILI, HAJAR ALBANYAN, ADHAM AZIM, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, ELEN AZ SARSHAR, IOSEF SADYKOV; **2** PERIODONTICS NEW STUDENTS: SHAHAD ALSHARIF, AMARPREET SABHARWAL, OTHMAN SHIBLY, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, TIMOTHY VIOLANTE, '15, DALIA NOURAH; **3** OROFACIAL PAIN NEW STUDENTS: HASEEB HUSSAIN, SEIJI OHTAKE, CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR, YOLY GONZALEZ-STUCKER, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, NISHA SHAROFF, KATHLYN APPLIGATE, CLINICAL CLERK, SEEMA KURUP, ABHIMANYU SHARMA.



*I was proud to be a resident of this program, one of the first in the U.S. with a lot of history behind it.*

—THIKRIAT AL-JEWAIR

emphasizes, “but what I want to focus on is further integrating digital technology into orthodontic treatment.”

Digital technology, she notes, is changing the way that orthodontics is being practiced. “Whether it’s the method of communication between practices or in the teaching field, there is a lot of influence of digital technology on the diagnosis and treatment of patients and the exchange of information between orthodontists. We definitely want to be stronger.” She is pleased by the administration’s support of bringing new technology to the school.

Al-Jewair, whose area of research is primarily in evidence-based orthodontics, also wants the residents to have an even greater understanding of research significance. “We have to insure that they can make solid evidence-based treatment decisions for orthodontic patients after they graduate,” she points out.

Another area on which Al-Jewair wants to concentrate involves residents serving diverse populations in the community. “Most of the residents who graduate will go to different countries and states, so we need to make sure that they’re ready to participate and be active members of their communities,” she relates. “We hope that they go out and will be great ambassadors of the ortho program here in Buffalo.”

She was born in the U.S. but grew up in Saudi Arabia, graduating from dental school there in 2003 and practiced for several years before deciding to continue her postgraduate education, with an interest in research and orthodontics. Al-Jewair received a masters in dental public health from the University of Toronto, then moved to Buffalo to start her residency in orthodontics. After that, she went back to Saudi Arabia to practice orthodontics until receiving the inquiry about her interest in directing the orthodontics program here.

“It interested me very much to come back and give back to Buffalo,” she says. “If it wasn’t for this university, I wouldn’t have been able to call myself an orthodontist.”

## YOLY GONZALEZ-STUCKER: INTEGRATING STUDENT TEAMWORK IN TMD/OROFACIAL PAIN

**After 10 years serving** as faculty in the postgraduate program, Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker, ’05, MS Oral Sci. ’95, TMD Orofac Pain Cert. ’96, Perio Cert. ’02, stepped up to become director of the Advanced Education Program in Orofacial Pain in mid-July.

In her new role, Gonzalez-Stucker is aiming for a greater

emphasis on interprofessional education within the program, particularly in the TMD and Orofacial Pain Clinic, which she founded in 1994, to allow pre-doctoral students to provide care under her supervision. Although the clinic is interprofessional in nature by virtue of offering physical therapy and behavioral interventions to its patients, her goal is to further expand the scope of the clinic in order to be able to treat the patient holistically. Gonzalez-Stucker credits the excellent teamwork of fellow program faculty for the clinic’s success.

“To that end we are currently collaborating with psychiatric nurse practitioners from (UB’s) School of Nursing, and teaching our students how to work with them in teams to address any type of psychosocial issues that patients may have,” she explains. “The fit of the psychosocial aspect into patient evaluation is very important. Our patient population consists mainly of individuals who have chronic pain conditions. It is known that depression increases the risk of chronic pain conditions and impacts their prognosis. If this is not addressed, we are unable to provide good management of the chronic pain condition. Therefore, we do a lot of screenings.”

She refers to this postgraduate program as very unique among others in the U.S. in its integration of nurse practitioners as part of the TMD/Orofacial team.

Gonzalez-Stucker has participated in four different NIH-funded grants over the past decade. “These grants have made a big impact in the diagnosis and identification of the psychological process of TMD and have allowed us to be part of the creation of new diagnostic criteria for TMD, endorsed by the NIH,” she notes. She is involved in translating that new criteria into Spanish for the Spanish-speaking universities of Colombia and Mexico, with whom she has collaborated.

Gonzalez-Stucker has been in a dental environment since she was three years old, tagging along with her grandmother who worked as a cleaning lady in a dental school in her native Venezuela. In order to amuse the tot, her grandmother asked her to help with cleaning the dental chairs and the rest of the clinic. “That early exposure triggered my curiosity about dentistry,” she recalls. “I was the first in my family to go to a university and earn a professional degree.”

Wanting to expand her education in the U.S., she immigrated here in 1991 and settled in Buffalo, where she met Norman Mohl, Chair Emeritus, Oral Diagnostic Sciences, whom she considers her “door” to the SDM. “Dr. Mohl was my mentor and had a pivotal role in helping me establish my professional life here.”

With a husband who works as a radiology technologist at Buffalo General Medical Center and a 15-year-old son and 11-year-old daughter, Gonzalez-Stucker considers herself living the American dream at home and at work. “I love the interaction with my students and seeing the effect of the transfer of knowledge as they provide clinical care; otherwise why teach if you cannot make an impact on somebody’s life?”



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 Richard K. Ohrbach, PhD '96, MA '93, MS '89, CRT '89, and Louise E. Ferretti, PhD '96, MA '93  
 Michele Pakozdi, CRT '11\*  
 Chetan S. Patil, PhD '08, DDS '05  
 Anthony J. Peppy, DDS '95, BA '91, and Kristie Peppy  
 James R. Predmore, DDS '82  
 The Procter & Gamble Company  
 Robert D. Putnam, DDS '67, and Lucille M. Putnam  
 Margaret Raynor  
 Susan B. Goldberg-Rifkin, DDS '82, BA '78\*  
 Christine A. Roalofs, CRT '99  
 Michael J. Romano, DDS '85, BS '81, and Kelley A. Romano, BA '80  
 Michael S. Rosenberg, CRT '92, DDS '91, BA '86, and Alan C. Lemanski  
 James M. Ross, CRT '85, DDS '84\*  
 Anthony D. Sabino, DDS '72, and Susan J. Sabino  
 Patrick J. Sabo, CRT '91, and Sally Sabo  
 Harvey Allen Schenkein, PhD '78, CRT '78, DDS '74, and Catherine Schenkein  
 James J. Schlesinger, MD '86, CRT '80, DDS '79 and Cheryl V. Schlesinger

Dennis M. Seubert, DDS '78  
 Lata S. Shenoy, CRT '82, DDS '77, and Sadashiv S. Shenoy, MD, FACR, FSIR\*  
 Othman Shibly, CRT '03, DDS '99, MS '95, and Sawsan Tabbaa, CRT '03, MS '97\*  
 Charles E. Sinatra, DDS '63 and Nancy Sinatra  
 James R. Snodgrass, CRT '92, and Margaret A. Snodgrass\*  
 Richard S. Sobel, DDS '67  
 H. Sonny Spera III, DDS '89\*  
 Kenneth Sprechman, CRT '93  
 Joan Sprowl  
 David R. Stasiak, DDS '83  
 Julius A. Stephens, DDS '76  
 Stryker Corporation  
 Gary P. Swistak, DDS '75\*  
 James P. Szlyk, DDS '75, and Josephine Szlyk  
 Mark L. Teach, DDS '76, and LuAnn Teach  
 The Commission on Dental Competency Assessments  
 John H. Twist, DDS '61\*  
 George Tysowsky  
 Michael J. Vacanti, DDS '58  
 Laura Van Varick, DDS '03  
 Robert W. Van Wicklin  
 Walsh Duffield Companies, Inc.  
 Christopher R. Walsh, DDS '97, and Jennifer Walsh  
 Robert E. Warner, DDS '81, BA '77, and Paula J. Warner\*  
 Benjamin L. Webber, CRT '09  
 Michael H. Weber, DDS '79  
 Leo Conrad Yang, DDS '97, and Candy Lee, DDS '98\*  
 Leonard Yee, DDS '85  
 Stanley A. Yudelmann, DDS '64  
 Ronald F. Zielin, DDS '64

## REUNION CLASSES GIVE BACK

Last year's "Reunion Class Giving Challenge" at the School of Dental Medicine brought in over \$46,000 for many different critical efforts to strengthen the student experience in Buffalo.

Classes celebrating their five-year reunions last year included the Classes of 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004 and 2009.

Classes competed for three different categories:

- **Most dollars given:** *The class that has the highest donations to UB SDM between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015.*
- **Highest participation:** *The class with the highest percentage of its member making gifts during that period.*
- **Squire Society membership:** *The class with the greatest number of Squire Society members at the end of the period. Squire Society membership recognizes individual gifts of \$1,000 or more (\$500 or more for classes that graduated in the past 10 years).*

This past year, the Class of 1984 won the most dollars given category, with a grand total of \$13,192 raised! Class of 1964 had the highest percentage of their class participate with 22.2% of their class donating, and Class of 1984 won, yet again, in the category of highest number of Squire Society members with 7 donors giving \$1,000, or more.

The School of Dental Medicine is extremely grateful to these and all reunion classes for their support of its mission to define excellence in global health. The school wishes the Classes of 1940, 1945, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005 and 2010 the best of luck during this year's challenge. Look for the winning classes to be announced around this time next year. You can also check on their progress at the reunion giving website: <http://giving.buffalo.edu/give-to/dental-medicine/reunion-competition.html>.

If you'd like to make a donation to any area of the UB School of Dental Medicine, please visit <http://giving.buffalo.edu/dental> or call or email Danielle Moser (716) 881-1403, [dmoser@buffalo.edu](mailto:dmoser@buffalo.edu).

**The following donors have generously designated the School of Dental Medicine as the beneficiary of planned gifts from their estates. We are pleased to welcome them to the Edmund Hayes Society.**

Franklin E. Koren, DDS '56  
 Elinore Lambert\* In memory of Edward T. Lambert Jr., DDS '44

*\*1892 Club – a giving society that honors the upcoming UB SDM 125th Anniversary. These members have pledged \$1,892 annually over the next three years.*

*We strive to ensure that gifts are listed accurately. If any information listed is incorrect, please call Maria Murphy in the Office of Development at (716) 829-3326 or email [kusu@buffalo.edu](mailto:kusu@buffalo.edu).*

# CE

## School of Dental Medicine Office of Continuing Dental Education

# course calendar

**JAN. 21 (6 TO 9 P.M.)**

**UB IMPLANT STUDY CLUB**

**Suturing Techniques for Optimum Results**

*UB School of Dental Medicine*

Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS

**SINGLE MEETING TUITION: \$225**

**3 CE HRS**

**APR. 12 (6 TO 9 P.M.)**

**UB IMPLANT STUDY CLUB**

**Complex Implant Reconstructions: Surgical and Prosthetic Perspectives**

*UB School of Dental Medicine*

Carl Ercoli, DDS

**SINGLE MEETING TUITION: \$225**

**3 CE HRS**

**APR. 13 (6 TO 9 P.M.)**

**HPV: A Cause for Concern**

Associated cancer, risk factors, detection.

*Baldy Hall, Room 200G, North Campus*

Jennifer Frustino DDS, PhD

**TUITION: \$65 (BUF)**

*Distance learning surcharge applies*

**3 CE HRS**

**APR. 15 (9 A.M. TO 4 P.M.)**

**ANNUAL JOHN J. CUNAT EDUCATIONAL FUND LECTURE**

**Virtual Planning in Orthognathic Surgery**

*Hyatt Place, Main St., Buffalo, NY*

Sean Edwards, DDS, MD

University of Michigan

**UB DENTAL ALUMNI MEMBER: \$175**

**NONMEMBER DENTIST: \$225**

**TEAM MEMBER: \$95**

*Supported by UB Department of Orthodontics*

**6 CE HRS**

**APR. 20 (6 TO 9 P.M.)**

**UB IMPLANT STUDY CLUB**

**Opioid Prescribing & Substance Abuse Recognition in Dental Practice**

*Baldy Hall, Room 200G, North Campus*

Richard Hall, DDS, PhD, MD

**TUITION: \$65 (BUF)**

*Distance learning surcharge applies*

**3 CE HRS**

**MAY 4 (6 TO 9 P.M.)**

**Commonly Prescribed Drugs & Effect in Dentistry**

*Baldy Hall, Room 200G, North Campus*

Peter Bradford, PhD

**TUITION: \$65 (BUF)**

*Distance learning surcharge applies*

**3 CE HRS**

**MAY 6 (6 TO 9 P.M.)**

**UB Dental Hygiene Symposium**

*Venue to be announced*

Adham A. Azim, DDS

**TUITION: \$125 BEFORE APRIL 15**

**6 CE HRS**

**MAY 18 (6 TO 9 P.M.)**

**Scientific Implications of a Healthy Smile and a Prescriptive Approach to a Healthier Practice and Healthier Patients**

*Baldy Hall, Room 200G, North Campus*

David Gardner

**TUITION: \$65 (BUF)**

*Distance learning surcharge applies*

**3 CE HRS**

**MAY 19-20**

**ORAL BIOLOGY SYMPOSIUM**

**Innovations and Controversies in Oral Health...Connecting the Dots from Research to Practice**

*Marriott Harborcenter, Buffalo, NY*

*Welcome Reception Thursday Evening/Program 8am-5pm Friday*

Internationally renowned faculty and researchers

**UB ALUMNI MEMBER: \$225**

**NONMEMBER DENTIST/PHD/**

**PHYSICIAN: \$275**

**ALL OTHERS: \$95**

**8 CE HRS**

**MAY 25 (6 TO 9 P.M.)**

**Ortho in General Practice: Critical Case Selection & When to Refer**

*Baldy Hall, Room 200G, North Campus*

Ilaf Mawalidi, DDS

**TUITION: \$65 (BUF)**

*Distance learning surcharge applies*

**3 CE HRS**

**JUNE 1 (6 TO 9 P.M.)**

**Geriatric Dentistry...An Update on the Medical, Clinical and Behavioral Aspects of Treating this Growing Segment of our Society**

*Baldy Hall, Room 200G, North Campus*

Albert Cantos, DDS

**TUITION: \$65 (BUF)**

*Distance learning surcharge applies*

**3 CE HRS**



**Annamarie Phalen**

*Associate Director, Continuing Dental Education*

**JUNE 29–JULY 1 (8:30 A.M. DAILY)**

**37th Annual Dental Congress**

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

Featuring UB Faculty:

**Adham Azim, DDS**

Current Endodontic Treatment Strategies

**John Maggio, DDS**

Notches on Teeth: Evaluation and Treatment  
of Non-Carious Cervical Lesions

**Raymond Miller, DDS**

Forensic Odontology: Where We've Been,  
Where We're Going

*New venue!*

*No gate ticket needed! Free onsite parking!*

**DENTIST: \$225**

**TEAM MEMBER: \$125**

**12 CE HRS**

## COURSE REGISTRATION

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

**TO REGISTER**

**PHONE:** Call 716-829-2320 | Toll-free 800-756-0328

**ONLINE:** Complete course details and online registration  
available on the UB dental events course calendar at  
[www.ubdentalalumni.com](http://www.ubdentalalumni.com)

## TRAVEL COURSES

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

**JUNE 17–26, 2016**

### SOUTHERN ITALY

*Plan now...Travel  
with UB to visit  
Puglia!*



Join UB for a unique CE and travel adventure! Expert  
faculty, Drs. Sebastiano Andreana, Guiseppe Intini,  
and Nicola Valente, present timely topics on-site,  
scheduled to allow plenty of time for tours, excursions  
and an Italian experience like no other...

- Bone regeneration in implant dentistry
- Lasers in general practice for periodontics and  
restorative dentistry
- Wear and tear of dental materials
- Periimplantitis: diagnosis and treatment

**TRAVEL LAND PACKAGE:**

**\$3,299 PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY**

**TUITION: \$495 (COURSE DETAILS COMING SOON.)**

**12 CE HRS**

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or 800-856-8826.

Watch our website for details  
[www.buffaloce.org/travelprograms](http://www.buffaloce.org/travelprograms)

**ADA CERP®** | Continuing Education  
Recognition Program

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

Updated 11/4/15. All information correct as of press time. UB CDE reserves the right to change tuition, dates, topics and/or speakers as necessary.



# 38<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BUFFALO NIAGARA DENTAL MEETING BENEFITS ALL ATTENDEES

HELD OCTOBER 14-16 AT THE BUFFALO NIAGARA CONVENTION CENTER, the 38th Annual Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting had something for every one of the 2,500 attendees.

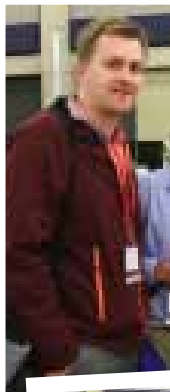
Over 600 dentists, 575 hygienists and many other office staff members and students heard from speakers on topics such as retaining patients – Debra Englehardt-Nash; endodontics for today's practice – Richard Gray; inflammation and chronic diseases of aging – Kenneth Kornman; and immediate implant placement – David Gelb.

Workshops gave participants hands-on experience in such areas as lasers – Scott Benjamin; making better impressions – James Braun; and cementation materials and techniques – Marshall Fagin.

Ivoclar Vivadent and MLMIC were major sponsors for this meeting with over 100 vendors showcased on the exhibit floor.

Fun times were enjoyed at such events as the Opening Night Celebration, the photo booth, and the UB School of Dental Medicine class reunion activities.

Please join us for the 39th Annual BNDM at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center, November 2-4, 2016, featuring Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD.





HONOR AWARD

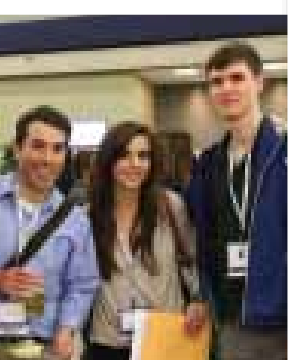
## Lawrence A. Tabak, '81, Endo Cert. '85

Lawrence A. Tabak, '81, Endo Cert. '85, is the principal deputy director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He previously served as the acting principal deputy director of NIH (2009), and prior to that as director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research from 2000-10.

Tabak has provided leadership for several trans-NIH activities, including the Enhancement of Rigor and Reproducibility of Research Findings, strategic planning for health research related to sexual and gender minorities (SGM), development and implementation of Strategic Pediatric Environmental Research initiatives, and the NIH's implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Most recently, he co-chaired the working group of the Advisory Committee to the Director of NIH on the Long-Term Planning for the NIH Intramural Research Program.

Prior to joining NIH, Tabak was the senior associate dean for research and professor of dentistry and biochemistry and biophysics in the School of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Rochester in New York. A former NIH MERIT recipient, Tabak's major research focus has been on the structure, biosynthesis and function of glycoproteins. He continues work in this area, maintaining an active research laboratory within the NIH intramural program in addition to his administrative duties.

Tabak, an elected member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, earned his PhD in the Department of Oral Biology in 1981 after receiving his undergraduate degree from City College of New York and DDS from Columbia University.



## AWARD RECIPIENT

### HUMANITARIAN AWARD

#### *Meelin Dian Chin Kit-Wells, '94*

Meelin Dian Chin Kit-Wells, '94, Ped. Cert., '00, is clinical assistant professor in the Department of Pediatric and Community Dentistry where she has been a faculty member since 2000. Board certified by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, she is also an attending pediatric dentist for the pediatric dentistry specialty-training program.



Wells has been directing the SDM's Give Kids A Smile Day (GKAS) event

from its inception and was appointed an ADA GKAS Ambassador from the GKAS Community Leadership Development Institute in 2012. She is also the director of a didactic course and several projects in community dentistry.

Wells has chaired the Bethel Head Start's Health Advisory Board, been a board member of the Buffalo Perinatal Network, is responsible for the dental aspect of the MEDSTEP program, and other such pre-dental programs that target underrepresented populations. She continues to lecture on the importance of oral health in very young children to community organizations. She is also known for her participation with international service trips to the Dominican Republic, Belize, Mexico, India and her hometown in Trinidad and Tobago.

"Dr. Dian," as she is known, is co-founder of the UB Smile Team which promotes dental education and provides free oral health care in those areas that lack adequate access to such treatment. It also aims to expose dental students to the value of dental outreach and community service.

She has recently added experiences on Apache reservations in San Carlos, Arizona as well as covering practices in Tucson and Cottonwood, Arizona.

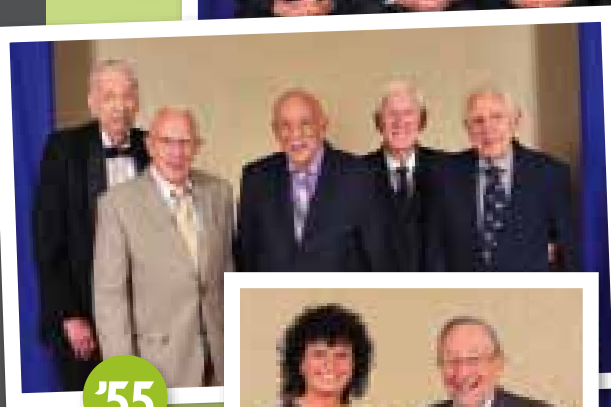


## ENJOYING 70 YEARS OF REUNIONS

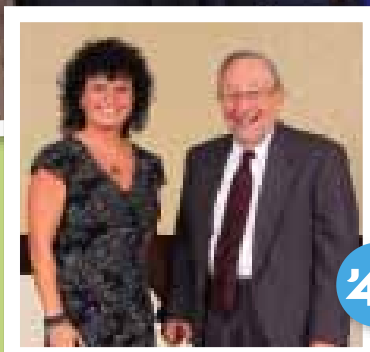
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'05



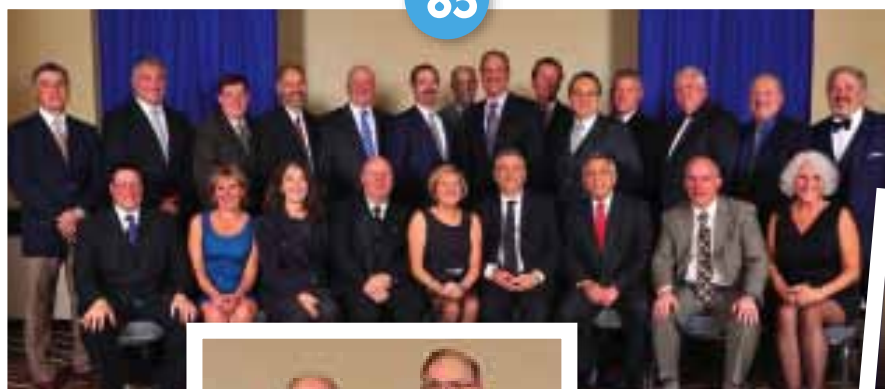
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'80



'85



'10



'60



'16



'75





## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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



### A hole in one and a ring on two

It was a memorable May and June for new dentist **Timothy Violante, '15**. After graduation, he married Molly Kathryn Muraca (above, right) on May 16th in Buffalo. Then on June 8th, Violante shot a 153-yard ball for a hole in one at the 8th District Dental Society Golf Tournament at Brierwood Country Club, Hamburg. He won enrollment in Quick Pay, the event sponsor, a patient-based alternative to traditional dental financing, and \$24,000 of dental lab credit from Evolution Dental Science. Celebrating above left are Andy Jakson, president and CEO of Evolution Dental; JJ Siepierski, vice president of Life Dental, Violante; and Andrew Bacon, president of Quick Pay.

### Class Cheers

SDM members of the **Class of '83** and their sons attended the Buffalo Bills vs. New York Giants game at Ralph Wilson Stadium in October. From left, David Stasiak, Anthony Palombaro, Richard Lynch, William Marusich, and Raymond Niceforo. At top is Lynch's son Richie, and at bottom Marusich's son Will.





## InMemoriam

**Kenneth A. Carroll, '52**, of Brighton, NY, died August 27, 2015. He was 93. A Marine Corps fighter pilot and instructor of the Corsair F4U serving from 1942-45, Carroll had a dental practice in Brighton for more than 50 years, and was a member of the American Dental Society. He enjoyed playing golf and fishing with family and friends.

**Ralph J. Davis Jr., '51**, of Alden, NY, died August 5, 2015. He was 90. Davis served in the Army Air Force from 1943-46 as a navigator and rose to the rank of second lieutenant. After graduating from the School of Dental Medicine in 1951, he joined his father's dental practice in Alden and retired 36 years later. For over 60 years, he was an active member of the Alden Hook and Ladder Fire Company, still responding to calls. Davis originated the Dr. May Memorial Scholarship and assisted in forming the Dollars for Scholars scholarship program. He was a past recipient of the Kiwanis Community Service Award and was the Alden Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Citizen of the Year in 1999.

**Sidney F. Feinberg, '55**, of St. Petersburg, FL, died February 11, 2014. He was 86.

**Edward P. Gannon, '55**, of Lackawanna, NY, died in Albany, October 28, 2015. He was 86. A graduate of Canisius College

and the UB dental school, he served in the U.S. Air Force in Greenland. Gannon practiced dentistry in Lackawanna for over 40 years and was a member of the Eighth District-Erie County, NYS and American Dental societies. He also was a former trustee of Our Lady of Victory Basilica, a member of the Cursillo Movement, Kairos Prison Ministry and the Apollonian Guild, and a 25-year volunteer at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Dining Room.

**Franklin E. Peterson III, '00**, of Port Jefferson, NY, (formerly of Sound Beach, NY), died August, 16, 2015. He was 44.

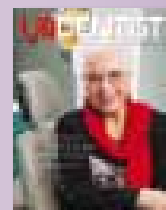
**Donald F. Schwab, '52**, of Clarence, NY, died October 1, 2015. He was 87.

**Albert H. Shaheen, '53**, of Naples, FL, (formerly of Utica, NY), died July 7, 2015. He was 85. He was a proponent of education and spent decades studying and training to become a professional. After graduating from Utica College, he completed dental school in Buffalo and opened his own dental office in Buffalo. While practicing as a dentist, Shaheen began studying oral surgery. He subsequently attended medical school in Buffalo and completed a fellowship in plastic surgery at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, MO. Shaheen returned to Utica in 1963 to open his medical practice where he served as a plastic and reconstructive for over 40 years.

**Howard L. Wolfsohn**, of Buffalo, NY, died June 28, 2015. He was 88. A lifelong Buffalo resident, Wolfsohn attended UB before earning his DDS from the University of Michigan in 1948. He started his career at age 21, working with his father, Myer Wolfsohn, and his brother Robert, in the family's dental office. He was a diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics and retired from practice eight years ago at age 80. Wolfsohn served as a part-time clinical associate professor in Endodontics at UB, teaching both predoctoral and advanced education students, for 30 years.

**Richard Todd Evans**, of Buffalo, NY, died July 16, 2015. He was 82. Evans was a professor and researcher in the Department of Oral Biology for over 40 years, retiring in 2006. He began his career with the National Institutes of Health after earning a PhD in microbiology from the University of Missouri. Evans is best known to dental alumni as the long-time course director for medical and dental microbiology. His research interests included the control of oral infections using immunologic and chemotherapeutic methods, the development of novel vaccines, antimicrobial drugs and delivery systems, and the role of inflammation in oral diseases. During his career, he received eight patents for complex chemical compounds.

**Teresa Paolini**, the subject of a *UB DENTIST* Spring 2015 cover story detailing her longevity as an SDM patient, died October 26, 2015. She was 90. A continuing presence in three different SDM clinic locations since 1943, Mrs. Paolini had a delightful spirit and encouraging manner as she contributed to the education of dozens of dental students across eight decades. She will be missed.



# AlumniNews

## Alumnus receives distinguished UConn award

**J**oseph D'Ambrosio, '80, MS Oral Sci. '86, received the Distinguished Faculty Award by the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine in recognition of his 25 years of service and dedication to the school.

After receiving his dental degree from the UB SDM in 1980, he completed his general practice residency at Erie County Medical Center and served as a UB SDM faculty member from 1981-87, receiving an MS degree in Oral Sciences here in 1986. He subsequently served as vice chairman of the Department of Dentistry at Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center in Chicago.

D'Ambrosio joined the faculty of the UConn SDM in 1989 and served as chair of the Section on Oral Medicine from 2005 until his retirement in 2014. He currently resides in Tucson, Arizona with his wife Marlene, and serves as an adjunct professor at Pima Community College.

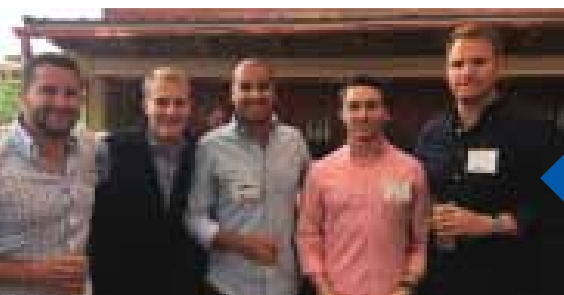


**CALLING ALL ALUMNI:** An all-alumni event happened at HarborCenter in downtown Buffalo in September. Among those attending, from left, Eugene Pantera, Endo. Cert. '86, MS Oral Sci. '87, Carol Pantera, '88, Frank Barnashuk, '80, Jane Brewer, '78, Fixed Pros Cert. '82, MS Oral Sci. '85, Gary Swistak, '75, and UB President Satish Tripathi.

**HAPPY IN ROCHESTER:** From left, Joseph Gambacorta, '94, William Calnon, '78, Richard Andolina, '80, Chester Gary, '78, and Andrew Vorrasi, '80, were among those gathered at the Rochester Third Thursday's Happy Hour Networking Event in August at the West Edge Restaurant and Lounge, co-sponsored by the Dental Alumni Association.



**SQUIRE SOCIETY:** A meeting of the Squire Society in September included, from left, Cole Staines, '17, Samantha Kelly, '17, Arielle Faden, '16, Interim Dean Joseph Zambon, Zachary Rifkin, '16, Adam Gregor, '17, and Spencer Bierlein, '18.



**SOCIAL CALL:** Over 60 UB alumni, including 10 SDM alums, attended the UB Social Young Alumni in the Health Professions Night at the Hydraulic Hearth Restaurant and Brewery in August. From left, Daniel Miller, '15, Richard Ross, '15, Al-Shaheen Youssef, '15, Zachary Teach, '14, and Timothy Violante, '15.

## 2015 Student Scholarship and Award Recipients

*Thank you for your support of our students and thanks to the UB Dental Alumni Association for their ongoing generous support of student programs and events.*



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## School of Dental Medicine

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FSC LOGO

The University at Buffalo is a premier public research university, the largest and most comprehensive campus in the State University of New York system. The School of Dental Medicine is one of 12 schools that make UB New York's leading public center for graduate and professional education and one of five schools that constitute UB's Academic Health Center.



# INNOVATIONS AND CONTROVERSIES IN ORAL HEALTH...CONNECTING THE DOTS FROM RESEARCH TO PRACTICE

MAY 19-20, 2016  
8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.  
MARRIOTT HARBORCENTER  
BUFFALO

### REGISTRATION INFORMATION

For a complete course description,  
visit [www.buffaloce.org](http://www.buffaloce.org). Register by  
calling UB CDE at (716) 829-2320.

The latest in a series of Oral Biology Symposia sponsored by the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine will provide a platform to bring together a diverse group of experts to discuss topics of interest to researcher and dental practitioner alike. The symposium will provide a convenient forum to update information on essential oral health topics, and foster interaction and discourse between researchers and clinicians. This event is generously supported by an educational grant from Colgate Palmolive.

### TUITION

\$175 UB ALUMNI MEMBER/8TH DISTRICT MEMBER  
\$275 NONMEMBER DOCTOR  
\$95 ALL OTHERS

EARN UP TO

8

CE HOURS