



**2023**

---



**University  
at Buffalo**

The State University  
of New York

COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM 2023  
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL



SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE  
**COMMENCEMENT**

Friday  
May 5, 2023  
3:00 PM  
Center for the Arts Mainstage Theatre  
North Campus

Stefan Ruhl, DDS, PhD  
Dean (interim)



*Baird Point is an outdoor, Greek-style amphitheater located on the southern shore of Lake LaSalle. It was a gift to the University from the Baird Foundation and the Cameron Baird Foundation. The marble columns on the concrete platforms were once part of the old Federal Reserve Bank in downtown Buffalo. Following their relocation to the lake, the columns were dedicated as a memorial to servicemen and servicewomen.*

# Program

## Processional\*

Selections from Pomp and Circumstance  
by Edward Elgar

## Academic Mace Bearer and Educator of the Year

Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh, DDS, MS  
Assistant Dean for Digital Technology;  
Associate Professor

## Marshals

Latifah Bairam, BDS, MS  
Jose Luis Tapia, DDS, MS  
Robert Yetto, DDS, MS

## Herald

Joseph Deluca, DDS  
Director of Pre-Clinical Simulation Facility

## Opening Declaration

Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh, DDS, MS

## Welcome

Joseph Deluca, DDS  
Director of Pre-Clinical Simulation Facility

## National Anthem

Emory Redfeare  
Music Theatre, BFA '23

## Introduction of Platform Party

Stefan Ruhl, DDS, PhD  
Dean (interim)

## Greetings

Satish K. Tripathi, PhD  
President

## Dean's Address

Stefan Ruhl, DDS, PhD

## Awards Presentation

Stefan Ruhl, DDS, PhD

## Commencement Address

Dr. Frank Scannapieco, DMD, PhD  
SUNY Distinguished Professor  
Department of Oral Biology  
UB School of Dental Medicine

## Educator of the Year Address

Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh, DDS, MS

## Student Address

Anthony J. Felli  
President  
Class of 2023

## Recommending of Candidates

Dean Ruhl (interim)

## Conferring of Degrees

Satish K Tripathi, PhD

## Readers

Joseph Deluca, DDS  
Debra L. Stamm, PhD

## Hooding

Stefan Ruhl, DDS, PhD

## Dentist's Pledge

Stefan Ruhl, DDS, PhD

## Alumni Address

Genevieve Crofut, DDS '03  
President  
UB School of Dental Medicine  
Alumni Association  
Class of 2003

## Alma Mater

Emory Redfeare

## Closing Declaration

Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh, DDS, MS

## Recessional\*

Triumphal March from Aida by Giuseppe Verdi

## SUNY Trustee and UB Officials

### Eunice Ashman Lewin

*Member of the State University of New York Board of Trustees*



President and co-founder of Impacto Consulting Associates, Eunice Ashman Lewin joined the SUNY Board of Trustees in February 2010. She helped reinstate the Student Life Committee, which she co-chairs. In

this role, she spearheaded the creation of the Food Insecurity and the Mental Health task forces. Lewin serves on the board's Executive Committee and the committees for academic affairs, communications and external affairs, community colleges, and academic medical centers and hospitals.

A former commissioner of the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, Lewin was a founding member of the Roswell Park Alliance and a board member of the Buffalo Urban League and Hispanics United of Buffalo. She is a member of the Hispanic Women's League and the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. Most recently, Lewin was named co-chair of the 5/14 Remembrance Committee to honor the mass shooting victims of the May 14 tragedy in East Buffalo.

A retired bilingual social worker for the Buffalo Board of Education, she is a champion for STEM education.

Born in Guantanamo, Cuba, Lewin immigrated to the U.S. with her family in 1967. She holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Marymount Manhattan College and master's degrees in American and Puerto Rican studies, and in educational administration, from UB.

### Jeremy M. Jacobs

*Chairman of the University at Buffalo Council*



Jeremy M. Jacobs was appointed to the UB Council in 1997; in 1998, then-Gov. George Pataki named him chairman. Jacobs is chairman of Delaware North, a global hospitality company with customers in the United States, Australia,

New Zealand and the United Kingdom. The company's operations include food and retail at airports and sports venues, sports facility ownership and management, operations of parks and major tourist attractions, hotel ownership and management, gaming operations and fine dining.

Jacobs owns the Boston Bruins and serves as chairman of the National Hockey League's Board of Governors. In 2018, he received the sport's highest honor when he was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame.

An alumnus of UB's School of Management and Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program, Jacobs holds honorary doctorates in humane letters from UB, Canisius College, Niagara University and Johnson & Wales University. In 2015, his family donated \$30 million to advance UB's medical school, which was renamed the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Jacobs has served Western New York for more than four decades with his business expertise and philanthropic leadership, and Delaware North has received multiple awards for social responsibility, community service and environmental stewardship.

A longtime friend and supporter of UB, Jacobs has served as chairman, trustee and director of the UB Foundation, chairman of the President's Board of Visitors and adviser to the School of Management.

### Satish K. Tripathi

*University President*



An internationally distinguished researcher and higher education leader, Satish K. Tripathi, PhD, is the University at Buffalo's 15th president.

Tripathi, who served as UB's provost from 2004-2011, was dean of the Bourns College of Engineering at the University of California, Riverside from 1997-2004. Previously, he spent 19 years as professor of computer science at the University of Maryland, including seven years as department chair. A fellow of the IEEE and the AAAS, he has published more than 200 scholarly papers, supervised more than 30 doctoral and postdoctoral students and served on program committees of numerous international conferences.

Tripathi graduated at the top of his class from Banaras Hindu University (BHU). He holds a master's degree and a doctorate in computer science from the University of Toronto, as well as master's degrees in statistics from the University of Alberta and BHU. He has received honorary doctorates from the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, and Brock University in Canada.

Tripathi serves on the College Football Playoff Board of Managers and chairs the Internet2 board of trustees. Previously, he was chair of the Mid-American Conference Council of Presidents and on the boards of NCAA Division I, NCAA Board of Governors, the Association of American Universities, the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. A past member of the Reimagine NY Commission, he was the inaugural co-chair of the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council.

## **A. Scott Weber**

*Provost and Executive Vice President  
for Academic Affairs*



As provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, A. Scott Weber, PhD, serves as the university's chief academic officer, providing leadership across the academic enterprise including

research, scholarship and creative activities; undergraduate, graduate, professional and international education; faculty development; diversity and inclusion initiatives; and university libraries. Weber is leading the implementation of the university's vision to be recognized among the top 25 public research universities in the nation, focused on building on UB's strengths to achieve new levels of excellence in research, scholarship, education, clinical care and engagement.

A member of UB's faculty since 1983, Weber is an innovative scholar and teacher and former chair of UB's Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering. During his time as chair, the department rose significantly in national rankings. Weber has held progressively responsible administrative roles at UB, including senior vice provost and vice provost for academic affairs, where he was instrumental in the creation of the UB Curriculum and the nationally recognized Finish in 4 program; and vice president for student life, where he focused on enhancing the student experience on campus and promoting overall student wellness.

Weber earned bachelor's and master's of science degrees in civil engineering from Virginia Polytechnical Institute and a PhD in civil engineering from the University of California, Davis.

## **Allison Brashear**

*Vice President for Health Sciences  
Dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine  
and Biomedical Sciences*



An internationally renowned neurologist and researcher in movement disorders, Allison Brashear, MD, MBA, joined the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences as vice president for health sciences and dean in 2021.

Over the past three decades, she has made an impact as an expert in ATP1A3-related diseases, a spectrum of rare neurologic disorders, and has continuously been RO1 funded by the National Institutes of Health since 2008. She is currently the principal investigator for the Clinical Genetic and Cellular Consequences of Mutations in ATP1A3 project and has served as the principal investigator on more than 40 clinical trials in cervical dystonia and spasticity, leading to three FDA-approved medications.

Prior to UB, Brashear was dean of the University of California, Davis School of Medicine, as well as a professor and the Walter C. Teagle Endowed Chair of Neurology at Wake Forest School of Medicine.

Brashear earned her medical degree and completed her neurology residency at Indiana University School of Medicine. She earned her MBA at Fuqua School of Business at Duke University. She completed the Association of American Medical Colleges Council of Deans fellowship program in 2014 and has completed leadership programs at Harvard University, Drexel University and UC Berkeley.

Brashear is a trustee of the McKnight Brain Research Foundation and was recently elected to the Association of American Medical Colleges Council of Deans Administrative Board. She has been a lifelong champion of diversity, inclusion and patient-centered care.

## **Stefan H. Ruhl**

*Dean (interim) of the School of Dental Medicine*



Stefan Ruhl is Professor and Associate Chair of Oral Biology in the School of Dental Medicine. Ruhl came to the University at Buffalo in 2007, from the University of Regensburg, Germany, where he was

Professor of Operative Dentistry and Periodontology. He obtained his D.D.S. in 1984, and his Ph.D. in Immunology in 1988, from the Georg-August University, Göttingen, Germany. Following a residency in private dental practice, he pursued post-doctoral studies at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) in oral microbial ecology. In 1995, he joined the faculty at the University of Regensburg, becoming Professor of Operative Dentistry and Periodontology in 2004. At UB he currently studies the molecular mechanisms of glycan-mediated microbial adhesion to host salivary proteins from an evolutionary perspective. He is a past president of the International Association for Dental Research's (IADR's) Salivary Research Group, where in 2015, he was named IADR Salivary Researcher of the Year. In 2020, he received the IADR Distinguished Scientist Award in Salivary Research; UB's Exceptional Scholar Award for Sustained Achievement; and was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. His research has been funded through NIDCR since 2010. He is a member of several major professional societies, Editor in Chief of Clinical Oral Investigations, and Associate Editor of JADA Foundational Science. In January of 2022, he began serving as Interim Dean of UB's School of Dental Medicine.

## Commencement Speaker

**Frank A. Scannapieco, D.M.D., PhD.**

*SUNY Distinguished Professor  
Department of Oral Biology  
UB School of Dental Medicine*



Frank Scannapieco, SUNY Distinguished Professor, has an international reputation in the field of oral biology. His research interests have included studies of basic mechanisms of dental plaque formation and implications in health and disease. His laboratory studied details of the interaction between salivary proteins and bacteria, and how these influence oral biofilms. He is also a pioneer in studies connecting oral and systemic diseases such as pneumonia, COPD, diabetes and cancer.

A member of the University at Buffalo faculty since 1991. Dr Scannapieco served as the Chair of the Department of Oral Biology from 2004 to 2022. Over his career, he has mentored numerous junior faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate, dental and college students. He was awarded numerous research grants over the course of his career, edited several books and journal supplements, and has published more than 175 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters.

A fellow of the American Association of Dental Research, Scannapieco has received several awards, including the State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities, Distinguished Scientist Award in Oral Biology from the International Association for Dental Research, the William J. Gies Award for Achievement from the American Dental Education Association, and the Irwin D. Mandel Distinguished Mentoring Award, from the American Association for Dental Research.

He received a bachelor's degree in biology and doctorate in dental medicine from the University of Connecticut, a master's degree in biology from Northeastern University, and a PhD in oral biology and certificate in periodontics from UB.Bio

## Candidates for Degrees

*Subject to the completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon those individuals listed herein who were identified by May 1, 2023, and upon such others as may meet the requirements of their respective degrees. Candidates are listed according to actual date of degree conferral (February 2023 and June 2023). Degree recipients will come forward to be congratulated during the commencement ceremony.*

### Latin Honors

Subject to completion of all degree requirements and satisfaction of the following minimum criteria, Latin honors may be conferred upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements. Cum laude will be selected from the top 8-20% of the class, magna cum laude will be selected from the top 2-7% and summa cum laude will be selected from the top 1% of the class. Standings for Latin honors MAY change once final grades are posted or degrees conferred.

### Legend

Cum laude is denoted by •

Magna cum laude is denoted by ••

Summa cum laude is denoted by •••

## Shay Bowen Memorial Fund

The School of Dental Medicine gratefully acknowledges the Shay Bowen Memorial Fund for support of our commencement keynote speaker. Mrs. Hazel (Shay) Park Bowen joined UB in 1971 as Administrative Assistant to the Dean of the School of Dental Medicine, a position she held for over 20 years. To that role, she brought the high standards of professionalism, loyalty and thoughtfulness for which she is remembered so fondly by former students, faculty and staff.

One of Shay's lasting accomplishments was the initiative she undertook to refine the School's commencement ceremonies. Through the Shay Bowen Memorial Fund, her family and friends have ensured that the example of her special talents and contributions will live on.

# Doctor of Dental Surgery Degrees

## Recommending Candidates for Degrees

Stefan H. Ruhl DDS, PhD  
Interim Dean

## February 1, 2023

Kapil Jhajharia  
Private Practice  
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Vikas Setia  
Private Practice  
Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada

## Faculty DDS Recipients, June 1, 2023

Hema Arany  
Department of Restorative Dentistry  
University at Buffalo School of Dental  
Medicine  
Buffalo, New York

Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh  
Department of Restorative Dentistry  
University at Buffalo School of Dental  
Medicine  
Buffalo, New York

## June 1, 2023

Adity Aggarwal  
General Practice Residency  
University of Nevada - Las Vegas School of  
Dental Medicine  
Las Vegas, Nevada

Anthony Joseph Agosto  
General Practice Residency  
Woodhull Medical Center  
Brooklyn New York

Sababa Chisty Anan  
General Practice Residency  
Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, New York

Zachary Robert Andrews  
Private Practice  
Bountiful, Utah

Irina Ardelean-Growden ••  
General Practice Residency  
University of Toledo  
Toledo, Ohio

Michael Thomas Augusta Jr  
General Practice Residency  
University Hospital - SUNY Upstate Medical  
University  
Syracuse, New York

Bushra Azhar  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
University of North Carolina  
Kernersville Veterans Administration Clinic  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Nadia Basharat  
Private Practice  
Marlborough, Massachusetts

Nardine Bastawros •••  
General Practice Residency  
Lehigh Valley Hospital - Muhlenberg  
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Kierra Renee Bleyle  
General Practice Residency  
Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, New York

Eleni Nicole Carr  
Private Practice  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Michael George Casab  
Private Practice  
State College, Pennsylvania

Andrew Chan •  
Private Practice  
Palo Alto, California

Justin Michael Chang  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
New York University Langone Dental Medicine  
- Waimanalo, Hawaii  
Waimanalo, Hawaii

Michelle Xiaolan Chen  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
University of California, Los Angeles - Venice  
Los Angeles, California

Anshu Chopra •  
General Practice Residency  
Rochester General Hospital  
Rochester, New York

Nawshin Chowdhury  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
New York University Langone Dental  
Medicine - Baltimore, Maryland  
Baltimore, Maryland

Jason Walter Ciano  
General Practice Residency  
Roswell Park Cancer Institute/SUNY Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York

Andrew John Ciesielski  
Private Practice  
Butler, Pennsylvania

Adam Edward Claffey  
General Practice Residency  
Rochester General Hospital  
Rochester, New York

Lynn Alexandra Copeland  
General Practice Residency  
St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center  
Syracuse, New York

Luis David Cortes  
Private Practice  
Yakima, Washington

Iesha Donyelle DeLesline  
General Practice Residency  
Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, New York

Daniel Joseph DeMauro  
General Practice Residency  
University Hospital-SUNY Upstate Medical  
University  
Syracuse, New York

Pinky Dhariwal ••  
Private Practice  
Massachusetts

# Doctor of Dental Surgery Degrees

Sandy Ding  
*General Practice Residency  
Veterans Administration Medical Center -  
Philadelphia  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

Victoria Marie DiVilio ••  
*General Practice Residency  
Veterans Administration Medical Center -  
Northport  
Northport, New York*

Shane Nicholas Endres  
*Periodontics Residency  
University of Rochester  
Rochester, New York*

Elisabeth Mary Estep  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
U.S. Air Force - Joint Base: Langley-Eustis  
Norfolk, Virginia*

Anthony J Felli  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
State University of New York at Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York*

Ankita Garg  
*Private Practice  
Fresno, California*

Morgan Elizabeth Girardi •  
*Pediatric Dental Residency  
Medical University of South Carolina  
Charleston, South Carolina*

Zachary Steven Gorgone •  
*General Practice Residency  
Northwell Health - North Shore University  
Hospital  
Manhasset, New York*

Jason Tieri Gunther ••  
*General Practice Residency  
Rochester General Hospital  
Rochester, New York*

Gregory J. Guth  
*General Practice Residency  
Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, New York*

Andrew Sherif Hanna ••  
*General Practice Residency  
Morristown Medical Center  
Morristown, New Jersey*

Madeline M Harvey •  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
Veterans Administration Medical Center -  
Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York*

Jafer Sadiq Hasani  
*Private Practice  
Mount Laurel, New Jersey*

Kyle J Hastings  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
East Carolina University  
Thomasville, North Carolina*

Molly Katherine Hatala  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
University of Rochester - Eastman Institute  
for Oral Health  
Rochester, New York*

Jenna Ilana Heitzler  
*Orthodontics Residency  
Hudson Regional Hospital - CTOR Academy  
Hoboken, New Jersey*

Alexandria Barbara Hensler  
*General Practice Residency  
St. Charles Hospital  
Port Jefferson, New York*

Rachel Elizabeth Honard  
*General Practice Residency  
Loyola University Medical Center  
Chicago, Illinois*

Cecilia Claire Horchos  
*General Practice Residency  
Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, New York*

Fariha Kabir  
*General Practice Residency  
One Brooklyn Health  
Brooklyn, New York*

Charles Sherwood Kane  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
NYU Langone Eastern Shore Rural Health  
Eastville, Virginia*

Alicja Emilia Kazmierowska  
*Pediatric Dental Residency  
Children's Hospital Colorado  
Aurora, Colorado*

Anam Khalid  
*Private Practice  
Windsor Mill, Maryland*

Lena Zia Khan  
*Private Practice  
Houston, Texas*

Rachel Anna Knaust •  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
Veterans Affairs Medical Center - Albany  
Albany, New York*

Shreya S Kolar  
*General Practice Residency  
Lehigh Valley Hospital - 17th Street  
Allentown, Pennsylvania*

Hunter Vincent LaRosa  
*General Practice Residency  
University Hospital - SUNY Upstate Medical  
University  
Syracuse, New York*

Linh Thi Le  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
Veterans Administration Medical Center -  
Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York*

Kevin Charles Lin •  
*Periodontics Residency  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

Joseph Charles Lippa  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
University of Rochester - Eastman Institute  
for Oral Health  
Rochester, New York*

Stephanie Caridad Loo  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
University of Tennessee Health Science  
Center  
College of Dentistry  
Nashville, Tennessee

Victoria Maglaras  
University of Michigan  
Oral Health Sciences PhD and Periodontics  
Residency (Dual Degree)  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Divya Malik  
Private Practice  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Vanessa Chelsea Mareno  
General Practice Residency  
Jacobi Medical Center  
Bronx, New York

Olivia Grace Marziale •••  
General Practice Residency  
Veterans Administration San Diego  
Healthcare System  
San Diego, California

Joshua Mathew Matam  
Pediatric Dental Residency  
University at Buffalo School of Dental  
Medicine  
Buffalo, New York

Pallavi Mathur  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
University of Connecticut Health Center  
Farmington, Connecticut

Ellen J Mays  
Private Practice  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Collin Robert Miller •  
General Practice Residency  
Woodhull Medical Center  
Brooklyn, New York

Samna Minhas  
General Practice Residency and Clinical  
Oncology Fellowship  
Roswell Park Cancer Institute/SUNY Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York

Karishma Mitter  
General Practice Residency  
Danbury Hospital Dental Services  
Danbury, Connecticut

Fritz Augustus Mora  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
State University of New York at Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York

Taryn Janetta More  
General Practice Residency  
Faxton - St Luke's Healthcare  
New Hartford, New York

Sania Zehra Naqvi  
Advanced Education in General Practice  
Residency  
Department of Behavioral Health/  
St. Elizabeths Hospital  
Washington, D.C.

Mark A. Nasr  
Private Practice  
Metuchen, New Jersey

Nicholas Endre Nemeth  
Periodontics Residency  
Stony Brook University  
Stony Brook, New York

Emily Nguyen  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
New York University Langone Dental  
Medicine - Tampa, Florida  
Tampa, Florida

Iakov Nikitkov •  
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Internship  
University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Sadaf Lena Noor  
General Practice Residency  
Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, New York

Victoria Mary Olsen  
General Practice Residency  
Erie County Medical Center  
Buffalo, New York

Amir-Eldin Hussni Omar  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
Veterans Administration - Orlando  
Orlando, Florida

Baljot Pannu  
Private Practice  
Boston, Massachusetts

Abhishek Vijaykumar Parikh  
Private Practice  
Boston, Massachusetts

Nidhi Parmar •  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
State University of New York at Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York

Catherine Gissel Payano  
General Practice Residency  
Jacobi Medical Center  
Bronx, New York

Shaman Kenneth Perera  
General Practice Residency  
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
New York, New York

Ryan Michael Prevost ••  
Orthodontics Residency  
University at Buffalo School of Dental  
Medicine  
Buffalo, New York

Aditi Priyamvara  
Private Practice  
Landover, Maryland

Abigail Theresa Romano  
General Practice Residency  
St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center  
Syracuse, New York

Joseph Anthony Saade  
General Practice Residency  
St. Vincent Charity Medical Center  
Cleveland, Ohio

Gabriella Sadek  
Advanced Education in General Dentistry  
New York University Langone Dental  
Medicine - Brighton, Colorado  
Brighton, Colorado

# Doctor of Dental Surgery Degrees

Briana Rose Sambuchi  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
East Carolina University  
Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Yianni Michael Savidis  
*General Practice Residency*  
Rochester General Hospital  
Rochester, New York

Vishal Saxena  
*Private Practice*  
Kitchener, Ontario, Canada

Anna Cassidy Scott •  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
Veterans Administration Hospital - Providence  
Providence, Rhode Island

Bishoy Seliman  
*Pediatric Dental Residency*  
Jamaica Hospital Medical Center  
Queens, New York

Stewart Shabanaj  
*Advanced Education in General Dentistry*  
Veterans Administration Medical Center -  
Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York

Mustafa T Shaghata  
*Private Practice*  
Fairfax, Virginia

Karishma Sheikh  
*Private Practice*  
Dallas, Texas

Yangjee Sherpa  
*Private Practice*  
Lubbock, Texas

Lauren Marie Shine  
*Pediatric Dental Residency*  
University of Rochester - Eastman Institute  
for Oral Health  
Rochester, New York

Prachi Shukla  
*General Practice Residency*  
University of Rochester - Eastman Institute  
for Oral Health  
Rochester, New York

Amir Siadat  
*Private Practice*  
Arlington, Virginia

Preethi Singh  
*General Practice Residency*  
Jacobi Medical Center  
Bronx, New York

Hangi Song  
*Pediatric Dental Residency*  
One Brooklyn Health System -  
Brookdale/Interfaith  
Brooklyn, New York

Ariana Rachela Spagna  
*General Practice Residency*  
State University of New York at Stony Brook  
Stony Brook, New York

Corey Garrett Stein •  
*Orthodontics Residency*  
University of Rochester - Eastman Institute  
for Oral Health  
Rochester, New York

Kassiani Strembenis  
*Pediatric Dental Residency*  
University at Buffalo School of Dental  
Medicine  
Buffalo, New York

Kruthika Swaminathan  
*Private Practice*  
Allentown, Pennsylvania

Rajbir Kaur Takhar  
*Private Practice*  
San Diego, California

Aimee Anne Gabrielle Thomas  
*Periodontics Residency and PhD Program*  
University at Buffalo School of Dental  
Medicine  
Buffalo, New York

Brooke Anne Thornhill ••  
*Pediatric Dental Residency*  
Jacobi Medical Center  
Bronx, New York

Roojul Snehal Trivedi  
*Private Practice*  
Allentown, Pennsylvania

Charlene Tsou  
*General Practice Residency*  
Northwell Health - Long Island Jewish  
Medical Center  
Manhasset, New York

Sujata Tungare •  
*Private Practice*  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Jonathan Conrad Vogler •  
*Periodontics Residency*  
University of Tennessee Health Science  
Center  
Memphis, Tennessee

Marybeth Ward  
*General Practice Residency*  
St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center  
Syracuse, New York

Braden Robert Woodward  
*Pediatric Dental Residency*  
Temple University Hospital - Northeastern  
Division  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Taylor Nicole Wright  
*Pediatric Dental Residency*  
University at Buffalo School of Dental  
Medicine  
Buffalo, New York

Ting Xue  
*General Practice Residency*  
Kings County Hospital Center  
Brooklyn, New York

Samer Yonan  
*Private Practice*  
Taylor, Michigan

Jiaxin Yuan •  
*Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Internship*  
Thomas Jefferson University Hospital  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dominic Zareba

Naz Zijerdi  
*Private Practice*  
Washington DC

## **Doctor of Dental Surgery Special Academic Programs**

### **Thesis Honors**

Anshu Chopra

*"Photobiomodulation modulates normal and cancer stem cells in a cell density-dependent manner via redox and TGF- $\beta$ 1 signaling."*

*Primary Mentor: Praveen Arany, DDS, PhD*

Kevin Charles Lin

*"Fracture strength of screw-retained zirconia crown-implant assembly: A comparison between zirconia and titanium implants"*

*Primary Mentor: Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh, DDS, MS*

Victoria Maglaras

*"Quantitative alveolar bone histomorphometric analyses of heterogeneous stock rats"*

*Primary Mentor: Keith Kirkwood, DDS, PhD*

Divya Malik

*"The effect of relining on flexural strength of digitally fabricated denture base materials"*

*Primary Advisor: Rui Li, DDS, PhD*

Roojul Snehal Trivedi

*"Quality of communication between dentists and technicians regarding fabrication of CAD/CAM all ceramic prosthesis"*

*Primary Mentor: Rui Li, DDS, PhD*

## **Concentrations**

### **Esthetic Dentistry**

Nardine Bastawros

Andrew John Ciesielski

Victoria Marie DiVilio

Anthony J Felli

Shreya S Kolar

Nidhhi Parmar

Charlene Tsou

Ting Xue

### **Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery**

Samna Minhas

Iakov Nikitkov

Jiaxin Yuan

### **Periodontics**

Shane Nicholas Endres

Cecilia Claire Horchos

Victoria Maglaras

Nicholas Endre Nemeth

Shaman Kenneth Perea

Yangjee Sherpa

Aimee Anne Gabrielle Thomas

Jonathan Conrad Vogler

## Doctor of Philosophy Degrees

### Recommending Candidates for Degrees

Stefan H. Ruhl DDS, PhD  
Interim Dean

### Oral Biology

Christine Song, BS  
*"ΔNp63 is a Key Determinant of Functionally Diverse Epithelial Cell Lineages in the Mouse Submandibular Gland"*  
Major Professor:  
Rose-Anne Romano, PhD

## Master's Degrees

### Recommending Candidates for Degrees

Stefan H. Ruhl DDS, PhD  
Interim Dean

### Master of Science

#### Biomaterials

Lolowh Abdulaziz Almogbel, DMD  
*"Evaluation of Mechanical and Surface Properties of Ceramic Reinforced PEEK as a Denture Base Material"*  
Major Professor: Rui Li, DDS, PhD

Jekita Kaenploy, DDS  
*"Fracture Strength of PEEK Hybrid Abutment Restored with Lithium Disilicate Crown"*  
Major Professor:  
Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh, DDS, MS

#### Oral Sciences

Manal Abdullah A. Alamri, BDS  
*"Nanocalcium Sulfate and Tricalcium Silicate: Biocompatibility and pH Studies in Vitro"*  
Major Professor: Rosemary Dziak, PhD

Ibrahim S. Alaugaily, BDS  
*"CBCT Patterns of Bone Loss and Clinical Predictors for the Diagnosis of Cracked Teeth and Teeth with Vertical Root Fracture"*  
Major Professor: Lucila Piasecki, DDS, PhD

Azza Alhelo, BDS  
*"Assessment of GM-CSF and M-CSF in a Mouse Model of Primary Sjögren's Syndrome"*  
Major Professor: Jason G. Kay, PhD

Yahya Sayed Suliman Atassi, BDS  
*"Clinical Trial of the Efficacy of Pinhole Surgical Technique Compared to Connective Tissue Graft in Treatment of Gingival Recession - Patient Reported Outcomes"*  
Major Professor: Othman Shibly, DDS, MS

Saif M. S. H. Haif, BDS  
*"Oral Health Status of Children of Syrian Refugees and Internally Displaced Yazidi in Northern Iraq"*  
Major Professor: Othman Shibly, DDS, MS

Harnoor Kaur, MS  
*"Magnesium doped calcium sulfate: Effect of concentration on physical properties and osteoblastic regeneration"*  
Major Professor: Rosemary Dziak, PhD

Kevin Le, BA  
*"1,4-DPCA Effects on VEGF & CXCL12 Expressions in Human Osteoblastic Cells"*  
Major Professor: Rosemary Dziak, PhD

Zheng Dao Li, BS  
*"Detoxification of implant surfaces with automated oral prophylaxis devices. An ex-vivo comparison study"*  
Major Professor:  
Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MSc

Morgyn Anne Maresco, BS  
*"Acid reflux medications are associated with reduced periodontal disease severity (NHANES 2011-2012 and 2013-2014)"*  
Major Professor: Lisa M. Yerke, DDS, MS

Amrit Mir, BDS  
*"Reliability and validity of clinical characteristics of myofascial referred pain"*  
Major Professor: W. Scott McCall, PhD

Chaoqun Pan, MS  
*"Effective Laser Parameter for Periodontal Pathogens"*  
Major Professor:  
Praveen R. Arany, DDS, PhD

Seyedeh Maryam Razmi, BDS, MS  
*"Cell wall mannosidases, Dfg5 and Dcw1, are required for virulence and pathogenesis of Candida albicans"*  
Major Professor: Rui Li, DDS, PhD

Sara Lynne Rosenthal, BS  
*"Characterization of Major Surface Proteins and Pathogenicity of Oral Treponema Species"*  
Major Professor: Michelle B. Visser, PhD

Kedith Sawangsri, DDS  
*"Effect of sintering cycle on the strength and translucency of multi-layer zirconia"*  
Major Professor: Hyeongil Kim, DDS, MS

# Postgraduate Certificates

Ashima Chanil Sharma, BA  
*"Assessing the effects of lateral orthodontic forces on dental implant stability"*  
Major Professor:  
Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MSc

## Orthodontics

Erik Thomas Gompers, DDS  
*"A Comparison of the Effects of Chlorhexidine Hexametaphosphate and Silver Nanoparticle Antimicrobials on the Mechanical Properties of Elastomeric Chain"*  
Major Professor: Pramod Philip, BDS, MSD

Fatemah A. A. M. Husain, DDS  
*"Influence of Invisalign's Precision Bite Ramp Position on Deep Bite Correction and Root Length in Adults"*  
Major Professor:  
Thikriat Al-Jewair, DDS, MS, FRCD(C)

Ryan Lawrence Koch, DDS  
*"Detection and Management of Sleep Bruxism with Automated Mandibular Movement Monitoring in Children and Adolescents"*  
Major Professor:  
Thikriat Al-Jewair, DDS, MS, FRCD(C)

Ronald Joseph Lowe III, DDS  
*"Teleorthodontics: Perception and Reliability of Virtually Obtained Records for Orthodontic Decision Making"*  
Major Professor:  
Thikriat Al-Jewair, DDS, MS, FRCD(C)

Alexandria Mary Newton, DMD  
*"A Comparison of Class II Correction using the Carriere Motion Appliance versus an In-Office Sectional Appliance: Treatment Effects and Efficiency"*  
Major Professor:  
David A. Covell, Jr., DDS, PhD

Laura Joohee Shim, DMD  
*"Comparing the Effects of Diode Lasers and LED Curing Lights with Topically Applied Fluoride for the Treatment of White Spot Lesions"*  
Major Professor:  
Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MSc

## CODA Approved Certificates

**Recommending Candidates for Degrees**  
Stefan H. Ruhl DDS, PhD  
*Interim Dean*

## Advanced Education in General Dentistry

**June 30, 2023**  
Sumayyah Ahmed, DDS  
Antonela Badan, DMD  
Yi Chen Lu, DMD  
Marc Mariella, DMD  
Ahmad Salah, DDS  
Jenna Sinclair Sauter, DMD  
Anisha Zaman, DDS  
Neya Zingaró, DDS

## Endodontics

**June 30, 2023**  
Fatima Mansour Bosaid, BDS  
Nihar Pillai, BDS  
Mohini Ratakonda, MDS  
Mose Snyder, DMD

## Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

**June 30, 2023**  
Akber M. Ali, DMD, MD  
Jeremy Egan, DMD, MD

## Orthodontics

**June 30, 2023**  
Erik Thomas Gompers, DDS  
Fatemah A. A. M. Husain, DDS  
Ryan Lawrence Koch, DDS  
Ronald Joseph Lowe III, DDS  
Alexandria Mary Newton, DMD  
Laura Joohee Shim, DMD

## Pediatric Dentistry

**June 30, 2023**  
Bryce Donald Church, DMD  
Jihwan Kim, DDS, MS  
Nadia Latifi, DDS, MEd  
Hamilton Pennywell, DDS  
Colby Richey, DDS  
Kaitlyn Taylor, DDS  
Amanda Joan Torsney, DDS

## Periodontics

**June 30, 2023**  
Yahya Sayed Suliman Atassi, BDS  
Saif M. S. H. Haif, BDS

## Prosthodontics

**June 30, 2023**  
Jekita Kaenploy, DDS  
Kedith Sawangsri, DDS

## Temporomandibular Disorders and Orofacial Pain

**July 31, 2023**  
Amrit Mir, BDS  
Shabnam Seyedzadeh Sabounchi, DDS, PhD

## Awards and Presentations Faculty and Staff

### Dean's Award

The Dean's Award is presented to a member of the faculty, staff, student body or community who has made a positive professional impact on a greater than local or regional level.

### The Richard A. Powell Award

This award is presented annually to a full or part time faculty member who, in the considered judgment of faculty and students, is an outstanding dental educator. This individual must be an inspired teacher who promotes in his/her students, the concept of "Let each become all he is capable of being". The recipient of this award demonstrates superior knowledge of a particular discipline, is able to communicate effectively and conveys compassion for his/her students. The awardee appreciates differences in individual students and works with each to realize his/her full potential.

*Robert Cronyn, DDS, JD*

### The Charles S. Lipani Award

This award is presented infrequently to a faculty or staff member, who is chosen by the faculty of the School of Dental Medicine, to recognize outstanding contribution to the School, the faculty or the dental profession.

*Debra L Stamm, PhD*

## Student Awards and Recipients

### Academy of General Dentistry Award

is presented to the graduating dental students who have exhibited the greatest interest, knowledge and proficiency in the field of general dentistry during senior year.

*Zachary Steven Gorgone  
Jafer Sadiq Hasani*

### Academy of Operative Dentistry Award

is presented to the graduating dental student who has best exemplified outstanding achievement in operative dentistry.

*Daniel Joseph DeMauro*

### Academy of Osseointegration Award

is presented to the most outstanding dental student for work in the field of implant dentistry.

*Anthony J Felli*

### Dr. Joseph A. Accardo Eighth District Dental Society Award

is presented to the graduating student who most exemplifies Dr. Accardo's leadership and visionary skills in organized dentistry as well as his political activism.

*Briana Rose Sambuchi*

### American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Award

is presented to a graduating student who has demonstrated the most clinical proficiency and interest in esthetic dentistry during the past year.

*Justin Michael Chang*

### American Academy of Implant Dentistry Award

is presented to the graduating student who has demonstrated the most interest, academically and clinically, in implant dentistry.

*Fritz Augustus Mora*

**American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Award**

is presented to the graduating student who has demonstrated the greatest interest and accomplishment in the field of oral pathology.

*Cecilia Claire Horchos*

**American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Award**

is presented in recognition of exceptional interest and accomplishment in the field of oral radiology.

*Zachary Steven Gorgone*

**American Academy of Oral Medicine Award**

is presented to the graduating student demonstrating interest and outstanding proficiency in the field of oral medicine.

*Preethi Singh*

**American Academy of Orofacial Pain**

is presented to a graduating student who has shown the greatest interest and commitment to temporomandibular disorders (TMD) and orofacial pain.

*Catherine Gissel Payano*

**American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Certificate of Merit Predoctoral Student Award**

is presented to a graduating dental student who shows the most promise in pediatric dentistry.

*Lauren Marie Shine*

**American Academy of Periodontology Award**

is presented to a graduating dental student for interest and achievement in the field of periodontics.

*Aimee Anne Gabrielle Thomas*

**American Association of Endodontists Award**

is presented to a graduating student demonstrating the greatest ability and interest in the field of endodontics.

*Fritz Augustus Mora*

**American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Award**

has been established to recognize the graduating student who has demonstrated exemplary aptitude and achievement in the field of oral surgery.

*Joshua Mathew Matam*

**American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Implant Award**

is presented by the to a graduating student who, in the opinion of the faculty, has demonstrated outstanding achievement and performance related to the placement and restoration of dental implants.

*Stewart Shabanaj*

**American Association of Orthodontists**

is presented to the graduating student who has demonstrated exceptional interest in the development of the Oro-Facial Complex.

*Ryan Michael Prevost  
Corey Garrett Stein*

**American Association of Public Health Dentistry Award**

is presented to the graduating student who has demonstrated a special interest/achievement in community dentistry and dental public health.

*Kierra Renee Bleyle*

# Student Awards and Recipients

## **American College of Dentists Outstanding Student Leader Award**

is presented to a graduating student for outstanding clinical skills in the art and science of dentistry, and is based on clinical achievement, initiative and scholarship.

*Andrew Sherif Hanna*

## **American College of Prosthodontists Award**

is presented to the outstanding graduating student who has shown high academic and clinical proficiency in the field of prosthodontics.

*Fritz Augustus Mora*

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

is presented for outstanding ability and interest in the field of pain control.

*Iakov Nikitkov*

## **American Student Dental Association Award of Excellence**

honors the spirit of volunteerism and recognizes student participation or leadership in service to the school or local community.

*Andrew Sherif Hanna*

## **The Barrett Prize Award**

is presented in Dr. Barrett's memory to the student attaining the highest scholastic average for the entire four years of dental study. Dr. William C. Barrett was the founder of our school and the first dean, from 1892 to 1903.

*Olivia Grace Marziale*

## **Brasseler USA Esthetic Dentistry Award**

is presented to the graduating student for the most outstanding esthetic case completed in the fourth year, as judged by a panel of dentists.

*Olivia Grace Marziale*

## **Eleanor Bushee Award**

is presented by the American Association of Women Dentists to recognize a graduating female dental student who has demonstrated both academic excellence and outstanding leadership.

*Sababa Chisty Anan*

## **Dean's Award**

is presented to a graduating dental student who demonstrates critical thinking and is devoted to the advancement of the dental profession.

*Ryan Michael Prevost*

## **Dental Alumni Award**

is presented by the Alumni Association to a graduating dental student based on academic standing, clinical achievement, personality and participation in university and other activities.

*Joseph Charles Lippa*

## **Dental Student Association Staff Appreciation Award**

is presented to a staff member who has shown dedicated and sincere interest in the education and welfare of dental students.

*Nicole Doria*

*Tyler McCluskey*

## **Educator of the Year**

is the faculty member chosen by the senior class who has executed his or her responsibility as an educator in a most exceptional manner and contributed significantly to the welfare of dental students.

*Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh, DDS, MS*

## **Erie County Dental Society Chester A. Glor Award**

is presented annually by the Society to a graduating dental student who is a long-time resident of Erie County and exemplifies the qualities demonstrated by Dr. Glor. Dr. Glor's commitment to the dental profession spanned over 50 years and was characterized by his love of dentistry, his collegiality and generosity to his colleagues and the community.

*Iakov Nikitkov*

### **The Pierre Fauchard Academy Award**

is presented to an outstanding student who has exhibited leadership and excelled in both the academic and clinical aspects of the dental program. Pierre Fauchard was an 18th century French dentist who has been called, the “Father of Modern Dentistry”. He has been credited with the generation of many new concepts and interventions, and was responsible for developing the scientific foundation of the dental profession.

*Brooke Anne Thornhill*

### **The William M. Feagans Award**

was established by the Dental Student Association. The nominated staff or faculty member is elected annually by the current senior class. Dr. William M. Feagans was dean of the School of Dental Medicine from 1970 to 1993, and like Dr. Feagans, the recipient shall have shown to students a concern that encompasses the finest aspects of academic dentistry, while balancing the challenges of "real life" dentistry and student life.

*Latifa Bairam, BDS, MS*

### **Fonzi Dental Study Club, Anthony S. Gugino Humanitarian Award**

is given in honor of Dr. Anthony S. Gugino by the Fonzi Dental Club of Buffalo to recognize a graduating dental student who has demonstrated those qualities exemplified by Dr. Gugino, namely: unselfishness, total involvement in dentistry, high moral character and helpfulness to fellow students.

*Hunter Vincent LaRosa*

### **International College of Dentists (Leadership) Award**

is presented by the officers and regents of this world-wide honorary organization to honor a graduate who has demonstrated conspicuous professional growth during the undergraduate years.

*Victoria Marie DiVilio*

### **International College of Dentists Student Humanitarian Award**

is presented to the graduating dental students who have demonstrated significant leadership and exemplary character traits when participating in humanitarian service projects.

*Nardine Bastawros*

*Nawshin Chowdhury*

*Lynn Alexandra Copeland*

*Shane Nicholas Endres*

*Abigail Theresa Romano*

*Marybeth Ward*

### **International Congress of Oral Implantologists Award**

is presented to a graduating dental student who has displayed the greatest interest and commitment to oral implantology and/or implant dentistry.

*Kevin Charles Lin*

### **Edwin C. Jauch Award**

is presented in memory of Dr. Edwin C., Jauch, professor of Operative Dentistry and a member of our faculty for over 30 years, until his death in 1965. His contribution to the growth of our school was considerable. Members of the graduating class present completed comprehensive cases to a panel of judges, who determine which of the cases is most outstanding.

*Divya Malik*

### **Donald Kozlowski Memorial Award**

is presented annually to the graduating student who is judged by his or her colleagues as most respected based on overall achievement and attitude during dental school instruction. Donald Kozlowski would have been a member of the graduating class of 1969 at the School of Dental Medicine. Instead, his life tragically ended in his junior year. Because he was extremely popular and highly respected, his classmates dedicated a memorial plaque in his honor.

*Andrew John Ciesielski*

*Madeline M. Harvey*

# Student Awards and Recipients

## **Florence Kronson Award**

was instituted in 1974 to recognize the individual who has executed his or her responsibility in an outstanding manner and has contributed significantly to the welfare of the students. Florence Kronson was a long-time member of our dental school staff. She was a dedicated, compassionate person who showed great concern for, and interest in, students as individuals.

*Yvonne Cox*

## **Robert B. Levine Award**

has been established by his son, Dr. Richard A. Levine, Class of 1972, to recognize a graduating dental student who has been judged, through a competition, to have completed an outstanding clinical case of operative dentistry. Dr. Robert Levine, a member of the Class of 1937 was an outstanding practitioner of Operative Dentistry and an inspiration to those with whom he worked.

*Nardine Bastawros*

## **Eric J. Murawski Memorial Award**

is presented to a graduating 4th year dental student who shows promise in the area of oral surgery. The award is given in memory of Eric. J. Murawski, DDS'14, MD'17.

*Jiaxin Yuan*

## **Dr. Russell Nisengard Award**

is presented in memory of Dr. Russell Nisengard, a longtime faculty member of the School of Dental Medicine, who graduated from the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine in the year 1966. The award winning dental student aspires to pursue a career in an academic setting, participated in community service and had a positive summer clinic experience.

*Rachel Anna Knaust*

## **New York State Association of Endodontists**

is presented to a graduating student who is considered to be the best clinician in endodontics.

*Anthony Joseph Agosto*

## **New York State Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Student Award**

is presented by the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery to the graduating student who has demonstrated academic excellence and clinical proficiency in this discipline. This award is sponsored by the New York State Society of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons.

*Alexandra Barbara Hensler*

## **The Northeastern Society of Periodontists Award**

is presented to a graduating student who has demonstrated sincere interest and proficiency in the study of periodontics and periodontal research.

*Cecilia Claire Horchos*

## **Omicron Kappa Upsilon Membership**

is presented by this national dental honor society. Each year, active members of the local Lambda Lambda chapter elect a maximum of 12% of the graduating class for membership. These students are from among the academic top 20% of the class.

### **Student Inductees**

*Nardine Bastawros*  
*Anshu Chopra*  
*Victoria Marie DiVilio*  
*Morgan Elizabeth Girardi*  
*Zachary Steven Gorgone*  
*Andrew Sherif Hanna*  
*Rachel Anna Knaust*  
*Olivia Grace Marziale*  
*Ryan Michael Prevost*  
*Anna Cassidy Scott*  
*Corey Garrett Stein*  
*Brooke Anne Thornhill*  
*Sujata Tungare*  
*Jonathan Conrad Vogler*

## **Omicron Kappa Upsilon Research Award**

is presented by this national dental honor society, through the Lambda Lambda Chapter of the University at Buffalo, to the graduating dental student who has made an outstanding contribution to the science of dentistry through research activity.

*Victoria Maglaras*

### **Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dr. Lata Shenoy Award**

recognizes a graduating senior student from the UB School of Dental Medicine's International Dentist Program for their scholarship, character, service, and potential promise for future advancement of the profession of dentistry and service to society.

*Nardine Bastawros*

### **Pediatric and Community Dentistry Department Award**

is presented by the faculty of the department to graduating students in recognition of outstanding performance and effort in the field.

*Morgan Elizabeth Girardi*

*Taylor Nicole Wright*

### **Richard A. Powell Award**

is presented to a graduating student who has displayed outstanding service, achievement and dedication to the School of Dental Medicine. Dr. Powell was a Professor and Associate Dean who dedicated his entire professional life to the service of his University, School, profession and patients. It is in his honor that this award is given.

*Anthony J Felli*

### **Quintessence Awards**

are offered by the Quintessence International Journal of Practical Dentistry and are presented to graduating students for outstanding achievement in research, clinical restorative dentistry and clinical periodontics.

*Research Achievement: Victoria Maglaras*

*Clinical Achievement in Restorative Dentistry: Kevin Charles Lin*

*Clinical Achievement in Periodontics: Sandy Ding*

### **Lester Schatz Memorial Award**

is presented by The Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies in memory of Dr. Lester Schatz, who was a member of the Dental School Class of 1944, to a student who has shown excellence in preventive dentistry and periodontics, devotion to the profession and genuine concern for patients.

*Victoria Maglaras*

### **Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford Student Leadership Award**

is presented annually by ADEA to a graduating student who has demonstrated effective leadership, is an advocate for equity, diversion and inclusion, champions access to oral health care for underserved and disadvantaged populations, and shows a likelihood to enter dental education or organized dentistry.

*Vanessa Chelsea Mareno*

### **George B. Snow Awards**

were established by George B. Snow, Professor of the Prosthetic Dentistry and second dean of the School of Dentistry, to honor excellence in prosthodontics. Awards are presented for the best fixed prosthodontics and best removable prosthodontics constructed during the senior year. A panel of distinguished local community dentists determines award recipients during spring competition.

*Fixed prosthodontics:*

*1st place: Anthony J. Felli*

*2nd place: Bushra Azhar*

*Removable Prosthodontics:*

*1st place: Divya Malik*

*2nd place: Roojul Snehal Trivedi*

### **The Special Care Dentistry Association Student Award**

is presented to the graduating student who has demonstrated a sincere interest and concern for the dental needs of persons with disabilities and special patients while a dental student.

*Lauren Marie Shine*

# Student Awards and Recipients

## **St. Apollonia Guild Dental Student Service Award**

is presented by the Guild of Saint Apollonia to recognize a senior dental student who has consistently and humbly dedicated themselves to providing oral health care to those with the least resources.

*Morgan Elizabeth Girardi*

## **Student Affairs Recognition Award**

is presented to students who have enhanced the quality of student life and supported student recruitment efforts at our school in a positive and energetic manner.

*Zachary Robert Andrews*

*Zachary Steven Gorgone*

*Andrew Sherif Hanna*

*Madeline M Harvey*

*Vanessa Chelsea Mareno*

*Olivia Grace Marziale*

*Ryan Michael Prevost*

*Brooke Anne Thornhill*

## **Whip Mix Hanau Prosthodontics Award**

is presented to the graduating student who has excelled in the study and clinical application of prosthodontics.

*Anthony J Felli*

## Retirements

**Frank Barnashuk**  
*Clinical Assistant Professor,  
Restorative Dentistry*

**David Brown**  
*Clinical Assistant Professor,  
Restorative Dentistry*

**Stephen Colombo**  
*Facilities*

**Robin Comeau**  
*Compliance*

**Karen Falkner**  
*Senior Research Scientist,  
Microbiome Center*

**Katherine Gugino**  
*Orthodontics*

**Carol Parker**  
*Oral Biology*

**Mary Pidgeon**  
*Office of Clinical Affairs*

**Charles Travagliato**  
*Clinical Assistant Professor,  
Restorative Dentistry*

## In Memoriam

**Mary Carr**  
*Oral Biology*

**Sheryl Harvey**  
*Office of Academic Affairs*

Sheryl Harvey passed away on April 18, 2023 at age 70. She worked at the University at Buffalo for 50 years, retiring in 2021. For the majority of those years, she served as a colleague in the School of Dental Medicine. She started working in the Office of the Dean and finished her career as an Administrative Assistant and Assistant Registrar in the Office of Student and Academic Affairs. She was promoted several times during her career due not only to her excellence in administrative support, but also her attention to the needs of students, faculty and staff. Sheryl was appreciated for her friendliness, her great sense of humor, and her willingness to give to the team. She especially loved arranging the details of commencement and making sure students and their families had a wonderful celebratory event. So, we celebrate today her life and work among us.

**Edward Monaco**  
*Emeritus Clinical Assistant Professor,  
Restorative Dentistry*

Edward A. Monaco, Jr., who earned his DDS from UB in 1975, passed away August 7, 2022 at age 80. He served for 19 years as a Clinical Assistant Professor, and from 2001 – 2013, he was the Director of the Advanced Education Program in Prosthodontics. He received his certificates in prosthodontics and maxillofacial prosthodontics at the National Naval Dental Center and retired as a Captain in the US Navy after decades of service. His dedication to the school, his residents, and his patients, and his excellence in education is widely acknowledged.

# Academic Regalia

The traditional regalia worn at commencement exercises is a record of academic achievement of the individuals taking part. Its use, which originated at English and European universities during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, came to the United States in 1754 with the founding of what is now Columbia University.

In 1895, the Intercollegiate Commission, a group of leading American educators, met at Columbia to draft a code which would serve to regulate the design of gowns and hoods for various degrees as well as to fix the colors that indicate the various faculties. This code has been adopted by most of the colleges and universities in America. It was revised in 1932 and again in 1959.

The level of degree held is indicated by the gown's cut. Doctoral gowns have full length sleeves, and those worn by Masters have long, closed somewhat fuller sleeves which reach nearly to the wearer's knees. The arm goes through a slit, giving the appearance of short sleeves.

The color as well as cut of the gown varies. Although most doctoral gowns are black, in some cases their color is that of the university conferring the degree. The doctoral gown is trimmed in velvet; three two-inch bars on the sleeves and a five-inch border extending from the back of the neck down to the two sides in front. Although usually black, the velvet may be of a color that indicates the nature of the degree. For the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, the color is dark blue; for Doctor of Medicine, green; for Doctor of Dentistry, lilac; for Doctor of Education, light blue; for Doctor of Science, golden yellow; for Doctor of Law, purple; for Doctor of Social Work, citron, etc. Master's and Bachelor's gowns have no facing.

The hood seems to have had a more practical origin. During the Middle Ages monks wore them to protect their shaved heads in the winter and as a container in which to collect alms. It is the most significant part of the academic dress. Its shape and size indicates the degree of the wearer, the color of the velvet border indicates the academic field and that of the lining the color or colors of the institution granting the degree. The Bachelor's hood is three feet long and has a two inch velvet border, Master's is three and one-half feet long and has a three inch border, and the Doctor's is four feet with a five inch border. The State University of New York at Buffalo hood is lined with blue and gold stripes.

The mortarboard cap has been conventionalized from the skull cap which was worn by monks of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. They are usually black. Tassels are worn over the left front quarter by degree holders; candidates wear the tassel over the right front quarter until the degree is conferred.

## **The Gold Cord**

The University at Buffalo pays special tribute to some of its most accomplished graduates with the conferral of the gold cord. The gold cord is given in recognition of the outstanding achievement of students who are graduating (or are projected to graduate) cum laude, magna cum laude or summa cum laude. A long, braided neckpiece, the gold cord may be worn with the cap and gown at any commencement ceremony.

## **Red, White and Blue Cord**

The red, white and blue cord is being worn by graduating UB students who are reservists, members of the National Guard, newly commissioned officers or veterans of the United States armed forces.

## **Academic Stole**

The Omicron Kappa Upsilon academic stole is a vestment used by OKU to denote academic achievement, and is intended to be worn as part of a member's academic attire. The stole is in the colors of OKU, navy blue with gold embroidery, trimmed in the color of dentistry, lilac.

## Academic Mace

For hundreds of years, the academic mace has been the symbol of authority at official functions of institutions of higher learning. The design and materials of the mace reflect the history of the school, its discipline and its relationships.

The mace of the School of Dental Medicine is made of wood, silver and Steuben crystal. The shaft or body of the mace comes from a piece of timber from Grant Hall in Niagara Falls, where the American Dental Association was founded in 1859. When Grant Hall was razed, a beam was presented as a gift to the School by three Niagara Falls dentists; Doctors Joseph Accardo, Guelfo Canali and Kenneth Reid.

In the mid-point of the body, there are 46 silver vertical ribs representing the original class of 46 students in 1892. The ribs are positioned between 2 silver decagons symbolizing the original 10 members of our first full-time faculty. There are three intersecting silver planes, representing the three charges of the School of Dental Medicine: education, research and patient care.

At the summit of the body held between the 3 intersecting silver planes is the Steuben crystal sphere. This crystal sphere not only symbolizes purity, the lack of disease, it also represents quality. Furthermore, it is uniquely representative of New York State.

The silver base plate of the mace bears the inscription "Gift from the Class of 1961."



## Dentist's Pledge

I, as a member of the dental profession, will keep this pledge and these stipulations.

*"I understand and accept that my primary responsibility is to the oral health of my patients and my community. I shall dedicate myself to render, to the best of my ability, the highest standard of oral health care and to maintain the public's respect and confidence. Therefore, let all patients who come to me, and let all members of the community I serve, be assured that they are safe in the knowledge that their total health and well-being are my first consideration.*

*I shall accept the responsibility that, as a professional, my competence rests on continuing the attainment of knowledge and skill in the arts and sciences of dentistry.*

*I acknowledge my obligation to support and sustain the honor and integrity of the profession, and to conduct myself in all endeavors such that I shall merit the respect of patients, colleagues and my community. I further commit myself to the betterment of my community for the benefit of all of society.*

*I shall faithfully observe the Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct set forth by the profession. All this I pledge with pride in my commitment to the profession and the public which it serves."*

## UB Alma Mater

*Music by Walter S. Goodale, MD, 1903.  
Lyrics adapted by UB students in 2006 for  
contemporary use.*



### **Verse 1:**

The pride of our spirit and tradition,  
Our alma mater's truth and name declare.  
Celebrate our history and wisdom,  
O let us all prepare to sing her glory.

### **Refrain:**

To Buffalo all hail to thee,  
Noble and strong it's our university!  
To blue and white pledge loyalty,  
Singing, I will always remember thee!

### **Verse 2:**

We'll ever keep our standards high,  
And sing UB's praises to the sky.  
Receiving the finest education,  
Our knowledge we impart unto the nations.  
*(Repeat refrain)*

### **Verse 3:**

Our friends we've made with ties that bind,  
A union of our spirit, heart and mind.  
Together we'll continue life's journey,  
O may dear Buffalo forever be.  
*(Repeat refrain)*

# School of Dental Medicine

## Senior Administrative Officers

Mary Bush, DDS  
Associate Dean for Student Affairs

Martha M. Boyer, MA  
Human Resources Officer

Neil Dengler  
Assistant Dean and Director of Philanthropy

Joseph Gambacorta, DDS, MPH  
Associate Dean for Community Engagement  
and Global Initiatives, Interim Assistant Vice  
President of Interprofessional Education

James M. Harris, MBA  
Assistant Dean and Interim Compliance  
Officer

Pamela C. Jones, PhD  
Associate Dean for Advanced Education

Thikriat Al-Jewair, DDS, MS  
Assistant Dean for Diversity and Inclusion

Keith L. Kirkwood, DDS, PhD  
Centennial Endowed Chair, Senior Associate  
Dean for Research

Gunther Kohn, BS  
Chief Information Officer

Michael R. Markiewicz, DDS, MD, MPH  
Feagans Endowed Chair, Associate Dean for  
Hospital Affairs

Edward Morrison, BS  
Assistant Dean and Chief Marketing Officer

Ramtin Sadid-Zadeh, DDS, MS  
Assistant Dean of Digital Technologies

Eugena Stephan, DDS, PhD  
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs

Kenneth Suski  
Interim Unit Business Officer

Tammy Thompson, DDS  
Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs

## Department Chairs

Ashu Sharma, PhD (Interim Chair)  
Oral Biology

Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker, DDS (Interim Chair)  
Oral Diagnostic Sciences

Michael R. Markiewicz, DDS, MD, MPH  
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

David A. Covell Jr., DDS, PhD  
Orthodontics

Paul R. Creighton, DDS (Interim Chair)  
Pediatric and Community Dentistry

Robert Cohen, DDS, PhD (Interim Chair)  
Periodontics and Endodontics

Violet I. Haraszthy, DDS, PhD  
Restorative Dentistry

# Alumni Letter

**Dear Class of 2023,**

**C**ONGRATULATIONS!

On behalf of the University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association (UBDAA), let me be the first to congratulate you on your graduation and welcome you into our profession.

We are very proud of your accomplishments and perseverance to navigate the challenging curriculum that places our program among the top in the country and in the world. You adapted to the challenges and kept your sites on the end goal and here you are. Today, you are officially members of our global network of dental professionals.

The UBDAA and its Executive Council are very aware of your course load, deadlines and the inherent stresses that go along with dental school. It has always been our goal to not only support our members who have come before you, but to support you throughout your school journey. As a matter of fact, we were right there beside you all along the way. Not only were our thoughts with you but our financial support for many of your extracurricular events and programs were present. You may not have realized the support your alumni association provided. Our goal has always been to make your experience here somewhat enjoyable in this rigorous process.

Please keep in mind that the support of UBDAA does not end today at your graduation. We are here in the form of continued mentorship, in CE, in providing contact and networking information and of course, our continuation to support the next students behind you as they manage dental school. We now encourage you to stay connected, stay involved and stay active with us. As your lives change remarkably over the next years, the definition of involved and active may have different meanings for each of you. Please talk to any one of us to figure out what that means for you.

The great news is your alumni association membership is complimentary for the remainder of 2023 and 2024. Dues you will begin to have for 2025 are very low (presently \$75/year) and provide lower prices for CE through the dental school, the Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting and a great opportunity to keep track of your classmates after graduation. Overall, it allows us to continue to support you and our great dental school.

Lastly, you've incurred challenges over the last 4 years, be proud of where you came from, the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine. Congratulations again and best wishes!

Gene Crofut, DDS '03  
University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association President

# The State University of New York

## Board of Trustees

Merryl H. Tisch  
*Chairman*

Cesar Perales  
*Vice Chairman*

Joseph W. Belluck\*  
Courtney E. Burke  
Alexandria Chun  
Eric Corngold  
Marcos A. Crespo  
Robert J. Duffy  
James F. Haddon  
Keith B. Landa  
Eunice A. Lewin\*  
Stanley S. Litow  
Edward M. Spiro  
Cary F. Staller  
Camille J. Varlack\*  
Christy Woods

## System Administration

John B. King Jr.  
*Chancellor*

F. Shadi Shahedipour-  
Sandvik  
*Provost (Interim)*

## University at Buffalo Council

Jeremy M. Jacobs\*  
*Chairman*

Julie M. Bargnesi\*  
Michael W. Cropp\*  
Jonathan A. Dandes\*  
A.J. Franklin  
Scott E. Friedman  
René F. Jones  
Brenda W. McDuffie

## Emeritus Members

Sheila H. Battle  
Roger I. Blackwell  
Robert T. Brady  
Randall L. Clark  
Pamela Davis Heilman\*  
June W. Hoeflich\*  
Gerald S. Lippes\*  
Mary E. Randolph  
Rose H. Sconiers\*  
John N. Walsh III

## University at Buffalo

Satish K. Tripathi  
*President*

A. Scott Weber  
*Provost and Executive  
Vice President for  
Academic Affairs*

## Cabinet Members

Mark Alnutt  
*Athletics*

J. Brice Bible  
*Chief Information Officer*

Allison Brashear  
*Health Sciences*

Beth Del Genio\*  
*Chief of Staff to the  
President  
Government and  
Community Relations*

John Della Contrada  
*University  
Communications*

Jason B. Diffenderfer  
*University Advancement  
(Interim)*

Venugopal Govindaraju\*  
*Research and Economic  
Development*

Brian F. Hamluk  
*Student Life*

Graham L. Hammill  
*Academic Affairs*

Jacqueline Hollins\*  
*Inclusive Excellence  
(Interim)*

Laura E. Hubbard  
*Finance and  
Administration*

Stacy Knapper  
*University at Buffalo  
Foundation*

Lee H. Melvin  
*Enrollment Management*

## Deans

Aviva Abramovsky  
*School of Law*

Keith A. Alford  
*School of Social Work*

Allison Brashear  
*Jacobs School of Medicine  
and Biomedical Sciences*

Ananth V. Iyer  
*School of Management*

Kemper E. Lewis  
*School of Engineering  
and Applied Sciences*

Gary M. Pollack\*  
*School of Pharmacy and  
Pharmaceutical Sciences*

Suzanne N. Rosenblith  
*Graduate School of  
Education*

Stefan Ruhl  
*School of Dental Medicine  
(Interim)*

Robin G. Schulze  
*College of Arts and  
Sciences*

Robert G. Shibley  
*School of Architecture  
and Planning*

Jean Wactawski-Wende\*  
*School of Public Health  
and Health Professions*

Annette Wysocki  
*School of Nursing*

**Academic  
Administration**  
Craig W. Abbey  
*Institutional Analysis and  
Planning*

Ann M. Bisantz\*  
*Undergraduate Education*

Robert Granfield  
*Faculty Affairs*

Graham L. Hammill  
*Academic Affairs;  
Graduate School*

Jacqueline Hollins\*  
*Inclusive Excellence  
(Interim)*

Nojin Kwak  
*International Education*

Evviva Weinraub Lajoie  
*University Libraries*

Lee H. Melvin  
*Enrollment Management*

## University at Buffalo Foundation

Gregory M. Bauer\*  
*Chairman*

Robert E. Denning\*  
*Vice Chairman;  
Treasurer*

Jean C. Powers\*  
*Secretary*

Stacy Knapper  
*Chief Executive Officer*

## Trustees

Mason P. Ashe\*  
Teresa Bair\*  
Jason L. Bird\*  
Helen M. Cappuccino\*  
Gregg S. Fisher\*  
Claudia D. Fosket\*  
Daniel M. Hamister  
Louis M. Jacobs  
Kathie A. Keller  
Dale M. McKim III\*  
James J. Palmisciano\*  
David R. Pfalzgraf Jr.\*  
Thomas S. Quealy Jr.\*  
Nagendra Raina\*  
Steven H. Shepsman\*  
Satish K. Tripathi  
Sujata Yalamanchili\*

## Directors

Ashok G. Kaveeshwar\*  
Anthony B. Martino\*  
Murray S. Rosenthal\*  
Eileen S. Silvers\*  
Daniel A. Sperrazza\*  
D. Scott N. Warman  
Marjorie E. Winkler\*  
Margaret W. Wong\*

## Emeritus Trustees

Randall I. Benderson\*  
Dianne Bennett\*  
Lawrence P. Castellani  
Ellen E. Grant\*  
Jeremy M. Jacobs\*  
John N. Walsh III

\*UB alumnus/alumna/alum





## **ON THE COVER**

The modern seal for the University at Buffalo harks back to a design adopted in 1923 to reflect the evolution of the university from separate schools into a more close-knit organization. Though the seal has been revised several times over the decades, the foundational elements remain: a proud bison signifying the City of Buffalo atop a shield supported by the palm leaves of victory and emblazoned with the flames of wisdom.